



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New York State joins to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and the intolerable crimes committed by the Nazi regime; each year, pursuant to a 1980 Act of Congress, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the "Days of Remembrance" of the victims of the Holocaust and the International Day of Remembrance, known as *Yom Hashoah*, and this special observance offers the opportunity to learn and understand more about such a critical period in history; and

**Whereas**, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. works tirelessly to preserve the legacy of those who endured intolerable pain and suffering during this dark chapter and to educate younger generations about the lessons of the Holocaust and we value its efforts in sponsoring the annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration; and

**Whereas**, this year, the Museum has chosen the theme, "*Justice and Accountability in the Face of Genocide: What Have We Learned?*" commemorating the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the verdicts handed down at the first Nuremberg Trials that brought to worldwide attention the reality of World War II and its origins of hatred and prejudice, as these trials became the standard for justice in Nazi war crimes and all matters regarding human rights violations; this year also marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the trial of Adolf Eichman, an SS Lieutenant Colonel in the German Nazi Party and Chief of the Jewish Office of the Gestapo during World War II, who administered the concentration camps where millions of Jews were murdered; after fleeing to Argentina in 1946, Eichman was captured and transported to Israel in 1960, where he faced trial in an Israeli court and was indicted on 15 criminal charges, including crimes against humanity, war crimes, crimes against the Jewish people, and membership in an outlawed organization; these landmark events were among the first that taught mankind the importance of justice for victims of the Holocaust; and

**Whereas**, the world has a responsibility, to those who perished as well as those who survived, to ensure that the memory and legacy of the precious human lives lost in this horrific event is never forgotten; today, when the world is again threatened by dictators and terrorists, the need to teach future generations about the Holocaust is more important than ever and, through education, we rededicate ourselves to conveying the history of the Holocaust and its impact on the world; and

**Whereas**, in solemnly observing this occasion, the citizens of the Empire State join the world to remember the tragedies that befell the victims of the Holocaust and we pause to honor their lives and legacies, as well as their courage; furthermore, we remain outspoken in our condemnation of intolerance, bigotry and racism of any form, as they contradict the very core principles of freedom and democracy upon which this Nation is founded;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2011 as

## YOM HASHOAH DAY

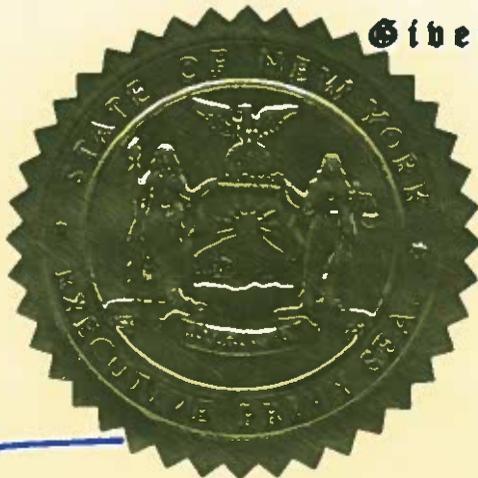
and May 1-8, 2011 as

## DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE WEEK

in memory of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and further proclaim that we as citizens of the Empire State should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

**G i v e n**

under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-seventh day of April in the year two thousand eleven.



Governor

Secretary to the Governor