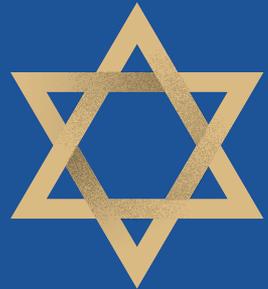


HIAS

**Increase the Light for
Refugees this Hanukkah**



INCREASE IN LIGHT, INCREASE IN HOLINESS

Centuries ago, our sages debated how it was that the *hanukkiyah* should be lit.

The House of Shammai said: On the first day, we light eight lights, and, from then on, we take one light away each night, decreasing in light.

The House of Hillel said: On the first day, we light one light, and, from then on, we add one light each night, increasing in light.

Indeed, it is our practice to follow the House of Hillel. For, as he taught us, we are to increase in holiness and increase in light, never to decrease.

We light the *hanukkiyah* together as a Jewish community – each of us intensifying the light in the world, fighting against injustice and hatred.

Ha'nerot ha'lalu, kodesh hem. The light we create together is holy. It is light that repairs the world and reflects our commitment to ensuring that the more than 65 million displaced people and refugees across the globe find safety and can rebuild their lives with dignity.

In a world in which the forces of darkness threaten those who are most marginalized and oppressed, including refugees everywhere, Hanukkah reminds us of our shared obligation to brighten not only our own lives but also the lives of others.

In a world in which the forces of darkness lead some to persecute others because of who they are, Hanukkah reminds us that we can be a beacon of tolerance and understanding.

In a world in which the forces of darkness seek to close the doors of the United States to those looking for refuge from violence and persecution, Hanukkah reminds us that we must strive for justice together so that our country continues its rich legacy of welcoming the stranger.

May the growing brightness of our Hanukkah lights give us the strength to ceaselessly advocate for the world's refugees. May our light also serve as a ray of hope to all those searching for refuge on their journeys to safety.

FOR WAYS TO TAKE ACTION
FOR REFUGEES VISIT [HIAS.ORG](https://www.hias.org)

HIAS Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.