

# ~ Passover ~

Season of Renewed Energy & Hope



The  
**Survivor  
Mitzvah  
Project**

**To our kind and compassionate Donors,**

Passover arrives with Spring, the season of rebirth and renewal. A time to reflect on our history, and of our place in it. For the Holocaust survivors we help, Passover can evoke their last recollections of large, loving families gathered together.



Fanya Brancovskaya, first row, left, and her family, who were murdered in the mass killings at Ponar.

We are moved by the letters we receive from survivors, who share their treasured family memories with us.

Rachmil Friedmanis from Riga, Latvia wrote:

*"You ask if I remember Passover before the war? Yes! We helped Mother look for chametz and clean the house. We also took our dishes to the synagogue to be kashered. Mother made delicious matzo balls and all kinds of special foods."*

Fanya Brancovskaya from Vilnius, Lithuania remembers:  
*"On the eve of the first Seder we always traveled to Grandma and Grandpa's house in a horse driven wagon which was an event in itself! I was selected to ask the four famous questions, such an honor!"*

But these happy memories were soon overshadowed.

Fanya continues: *"I have another memory of Pesach during the Nazi occupation. Some observant older people tried to bake matzo. Despite the terrible hunger, they refused to eat the so-called 'bread'--the only food available."*

Rachmil adds, *"During wartime we didn't have any Passover celebrations. We were looking for bread, just to survive."*



Fanya, in the forest where she was a teenage Partisan after escaping the Vilna ghetto.

*Many survivors can no longer remember the face  
of a beloved mother or father or child.  
But they do remember Passover.*

Over 70 years ago, our survivors lost parents, siblings and extended family members. They are alone and isolated without emotional support. Now, thanks to your help, they are part of our family.



**As it is written in the Haggadah,  
"We were once strangers in a  
strange land." Now, we are a  
large and loving Family of  
Strangers.**

While we prepare our bountiful Seder tables and look forward to gathering with family and friends, please make a special Passover donation to Holocaust survivors throughout Eastern Europe.

Let them know we remember.  
Let them know we care. Your

gift of \$75 will bring needed aid and warmth to their homes and hearts.

Your gift of \$150 supports a survivor for one month. But your gift in any amount will make a profound difference. Every penny counts!

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you. Your generosity has saved numerous lives, and continues to provide help and hope to many more. From Eastern Europe and from the Survivor Mitzvah Project, we wish you a Happy Passover.

May we always remember our freedom, and may we always save a place at our table for the strangers who survive.

Thank you again from Zane Buzby and the Survivor Mitzvah Project team.

**Donate online at: [www.survivormitzvah.org](http://www.survivormitzvah.org)**

**Or send a check to:  
The Survivor Mitzvah Project  
2658 Griffith Park Blvd., Suite #299  
Los Angeles, CA 90039  
213-622-5050**

*The Survivor Mitzvah Project is a 501c3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowable by law.*

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