



**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF**  
Remembrance of and Tribute  
to the Victims of Terrorism



**Stories of Victims of  
Terrorism**

“LEGACY: Finding Hope and Building a Peaceful Future”  
21 August 2023

**ABOUT INTERNATIONAL DAY**

The General Assembly, in its resolution [72/165 \(2017\)](#), proclaimed 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The main focus of the International Day is to honour, remember and pay tribute to the victims of terrorism by standing in solidarity and promoting and protecting their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

This year will mark the [sixth](#) commemoration of the International Day under the overarching theme of “**LEGACY: Finding Hope and Building a Peaceful Future**”. The theme recognizes the way victims and survivors use their experiences to create meaningful change.




To mark the day, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) will launch the “**Legacy Project**”, a documentary gallery on Instagram featuring victims and survivors of terrorism from across the world who share their stories. The Legacy Project seeks to inspire others and to pay tribute to those whose lives have been lost or forever transformed by terrorism, and to reach out to new generations to deepen and transform their understanding of the long-lasting impact of terrorism.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, on 19 August 2003, which killed 22 UN staff and humanitarian aid workers, including the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sérgio Vieira de Mello. In recognition of the 20th anniversary of this attack, and its proximity to 19 August as World Humanitarian Day, the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism will include a tribute to those affected by the Canal Hotel bombing.


## STORIES OF VICTIMS

The pre-recorded event to mark the sixth commemoration of International Day will feature testimonies of victims/survivors of terrorism from India, Uganda, the United States and the United Nations, who will share their experiences.

### 1. Pre-recorded high-level event, 21 August 2023, 10:00 EDT [UNWEBTV](#)




	<p><b>KARAMBIR SINGH KANG, INDIA</b></p> <p>Mr. Kang was the General Manager of the Taj Mahal Palace Mumbai at the time of the terrorist attack on the hotel in which his wife and two sons were killed. He and his team received global accolades for saving many guests.</p> <p>Mr. Kang spoke in the 'Call to Action' in the first <a href="#">United Nations Global Congress</a> of Victims of Terrorism in 2022 and at the dedication ceremony of the <a href="#">United Nations Victims of Terrorism Solidarity Tree</a> at UN Headquarters in New York in June 2023.</p>
	<p><b>GRACE ACAN, UGANDA</b></p> <p>Ms. Acán was fourteen when she was kidnapped from her school's dormitory by fighters of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in northern Uganda. She was held in captivity in South Sudan for nearly eight years, during which she endured forced labour and a forced marriage.</p> <p>Ms. Acán managed to escape the LRA camp and returned to school. She co-founded an organisation called Women's Advocacy Network Uganda and works with women and children affected by war.</p>
	<p><b>SARA TUMULTY, USA</b></p> <p>Ms. Tumulty was three years-old when she lost her father, Lance Richard Tumulty, aged 32, in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. She has a younger sister who was a newborn at the time.</p> <p>Ms. Tumulty has participated in Project Common Bond, a programme that brings together children from across the world affected by terrorism. This project is led by Tuesday's Children, a non-profit set up to assist the children who lost a parent in the 9/11 attacks.</p>












	<p><b>Darko Mocibob, UNITED NATIONS</b></p> <p>On 19 August 2003, a bomb upended the office where Darko Mocibob was working at the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq. The attack killed 22 people, including the United Nations' Special Representative in Iraq, Sérgio Vieira de Mello, and wounded over 100.</p> <p>The experience of living through the war in his native country, Bosnia, helped the senior UN official to cope in the aftermath of losing so many treasured colleagues and friends.</p> <p>Mr. Mocibob is currently the Director of the Middle East Division of the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs in New York.</p>
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## 2. Legacy Gallery

The Legacy Gallery is an interactive testimonial gallery based on Instagram featuring 12 victims and survivors of terrorism from across the world. **Follow, like and share their legacy stories on our [Instagram account](#)**

	<p><b>NIDHI, INDIA</b></p> <p>Nidhi is a survivor of the Da'esh bombing at Zaventem Airport in Brussels, Belgium on 22 March 2016. She was a cabin manager for the Indian airline Jet Airways.</p>
	<p><b>SUDIRMAN, INDONESIA</b></p> <p>Sudirman is a survivor of the September 2004 attack on the Australian Embassy in Indonesia. He suffered extensive injuries and trauma from the attack.</p>
	<p><b>IMAN, IRAQ</b></p> <p>Iman was abducted with hundreds of Yazidi girls after Da'esh attacked her village in Sinjar, Iraq in August 2014. Iman was tortured, traded and forcibly married numerous times.</p>

	<p><b>ASHRAF, JORDAN</b></p> <p>Ashraf and his wife survived a series of bomb attacks at the Radisson SAS Hotel in Amman, Jordan, on their wedding day in November 2005. Twenty-seven people died, including Ashraf's father, who passed away whilst holding his rosary.</p>
	<p><b>SOAD, MOROCCO</b></p> <p>Soad lost her husband and her 17-year-old son in the 16 May 2003 attacks that killed 33 people in five synchronized bombings in Casablanca, Morocco.</p>
	<p><b>IMRANA, NIGERIA</b></p> <p>Imrana faced a traumatic experience on 6 June 2010 while he was on his way to the University of Maiduguri in Nigeria. Boko Haram stopped his bus, searched passenger's belongings and kidnapped several of them.</p>
	<p><b>VILJAR, NORWAY</b></p> <p>Viljar is a survivor of the 22 July 2011 attack at the Utøya summer camp in Norway. Viljar was severely injured during the attack and faced a long road to recovery.</p>
	<p><b>MAYSOON, PALESTINE</b></p> <p>Maysoon lost her son Atta Elayyan in a violent extremist attack that hit two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. Atta and his father were in the Al Noor Mosque when a gunman opened fire, killing 51 people and wounding 40.</p>
	<p><b>SHAZIA, PAKISTAN</b></p> <p>Shazia is a member of the Hazara community from Quetta, Pakistan, and a victim and survivor of terrorism. She lost her brother in a Taliban attack when she was a child, and later she lost a cousin in a bomb blast in her community. In 2002, she and her mother managed to escape a deadly bombing in her town's market.</p>

	<p><b>IRENE, SPAIN</b></p> <p>Irene survived an ETA terrorist attack in Madrid, Spain on 17 October 1991, when she was twelve years old. She and her mother, who was dropping her off to school, suffered severe injuries.</p>
	<p><b>AHMED, UGANDA</b></p> <p>Ahmed was watching the 2010 FIFA World Cup final match at the Kyadondo Rugby Club in Kampala, Uganda, when an attack carried out by Al-Shabaab took place. The attack left 74 people dead and 75 injured.</p>
	<p><b>JOSEPH, USA</b></p> <p>Joseph was the first Fire Chief of the New York City Fire Department on the scene of the 9/11 attacks on the Twin Towers. He took command of the operation in the North Tower, during which he lost his brother — Lieutenant Kevin Pfeifer.</p>

**Thank you for standing in solidarity with victims of terrorism**