

# A Bitter Road: Britain and the Refugee Crisis of the 1930s and 1940s: Exhibition catalogue


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## A BITTER ROAD: Britain and the Refugee Crisis of the 1930s and 1940s

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**The Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust Genocide : A Bitter Road: Britain and the Refugee Crisis of the 1930s and 1940s: Exhibition catalogue** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Bitter Road: Britain and the Refugee Crisis of the 1930s and 1940s: Exhibition catalogue:

At a time when violence and upheaval in Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq and elsewhere have created an upsurge in the number of refugees, many look to historical examples for potential continuities and solutions. Conflict and war, political, religious and ethnic persecution have always caused the displacement of populations. Civilians are forced from their homes, fearing for their safety and future. This catalogue accompanies a temporary exhibition hosted by The Wiener Library in London from October 2016 - February 2017. The exhibition examines responses to Jewish and other refugees in Britain during the 1930s and 1940s. Built on the rich collection of refugee sources held by the

Wiener Library, the exhibition explores a number of themes, including governmental policy on asylum and assistance offered by humanitarian aid organisations at the international, national and local level. 'A Bitter Road' also looks closely at the myriad experiences of Jewish refugees in Britain, including of surveillance and detention, poverty, separation and isolation. It highlights their resilience and means for coping with the hardships of integrating into a new society. Through the voices of refugees, 'A Bitter Road' explores how refugees negotiated the road to safety and attempted to rebuild their lives. This timely exhibition and catalogue raise important questions about historical examples of forced migration and Britain's response in the past and how the past can inform our responses to refugees today.

About the Author The Wiener Library is one of the world's leading and most extensive archives on the Holocaust and Nazi era. Formed in 1933 by Dr Alfred Wiener, the Library's unique collection of over one million items includes published and unpublished works, press cuttings, photographs and eyewitness testimony. The Library provides a resource to oppose antisemitism and other forms of prejudice and intolerance. Its reputation rests on its independence and the scholarly objectivity of its activities and publications. Our mission is: To serve scholars, professional researchers, the media and the public as a library of record. To be a living memorial to the evils of the past by ensuring that our wealth of materials is put at the service of the future. To engage people of all ages and backgrounds in understanding the Holocaust and its historical context through an active educational programme. To communicate the accessibility, power and contemporary relevance of our collections as a national resource for those wishing to prevent possible future genocides. The Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust Genocide 29 Russell Square London WC1B 5DP United Kingdom [www.wienerlibrary.co.uk](http://www.wienerlibrary.co.uk) [info@wienerlibrary.co.uk](mailto:info@wienerlibrary.co.uk)