

Rebuilding Lives: 50 years of Ugandan Asians in Leicester

Migration in Modern Britain (1900 – Present) Scheme of Work

Context

In 2022, to mark the 50th anniversary of arrival of Ugandan Asians in Leicester following their expulsion by Idi Amin, Navrang Arts curated an award winning* exhibition at Leicester Museum & Art Gallery to explore the causes of the expulsion, the experiences of those who lived through it, and its impact on the city and beyond. As part of the project, Navrang created a new website where images of the objects displayed in the exhibition, the family photos donated and the oral histories collected could be stored and shared with the public as a legacy to the exhibition.

* Winner: 2023 Temporary Exhibition of the Year, Museum + Heritage Awards, Winner: 2023 Community Exhibition of the Year, Association of Heritage Interpretation

This Teachers Pack contains suggested activities for 3 lessons and links to relevant resources targeted at the Pearson Edexcel History Paper 1 GCSE topic, Migration in Modern Britain (1900-Present). The activities are a guide only and we recommend that you adapt them where appropriate to the requirements and abilities of your students.

LESSON 1: Expulsion!

Learning Objectives:

- 1) To introduce pupils to, and explore the context of, the expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972
- 2) To introduce key vocabulary linked to the events of the expulsion and resettlement.
- 3) To secure an understanding of the chronology of the key events.

Introduction

In 1972, the leader of the African country, Uganda, decided to expel all of the Indian people (Ugandan Asians) from his country. Over 60,000 people were given only 90 days to leave their homes, their jobs, their possessions and their friends and families behind. Looking for anywhere in the world to go, 27,000 Ugandan Asians were able to come to Britain and over 10,000 of them settled in Leicester, where there was already a growing Indian community.

Activity 1. Uganda Before Expulsion

Work through the powerpoint, Uganda Before Expulsion to slide 9 (download [here](#)). This outlines the context behind the expulsion, including:

- Why there was a large community of Indians in the country
- The social hierarchy in Uganda
- Independence and Africanisation
- Glossary of Key Vocabulary

Activity 2. The Great Debate

Split the class into two groups, Ugandan Africans and Ugandan Asians. With the Teacher as independent adjudicator, the two groups must present arguments as to why the Africanisation Policies of President Obote are un/just.

Plenary

Continue with the Powerpoint from slide 10. Watch the news footage of Idi Amin threatening violence to the Ugandan Asians and listen to some oral histories of Ugandan Asian refugees. Look at how different countries responded to the crises. Discuss.

LESSON 2. Welcome to the UK

Learning Objectives:

- 1) To consolidate the key vocabulary and chronology of the Ugandan Asian Expulsion
- 2) To understand the Political, Economic and Cultural climate in Leicester and the broader UK that the Ugandan Asians arrived in
- 3) To evaluate the reliability and usefulness of a selection of sources

Introduction

For a quick starter, ask pupils to outline key dates and events related to the Ugandan Asian expulsion and check definitions of key vocabulary from lesson 1.

Activity 1. Don't Come to Leicester

Watch the film below about attitudes to the arrival of Ugandan Asians in Britain in 1972.

Welcome to Leicester: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pf58G7Hgbvw> (ITV News)

Stop at 3:26 mins

Activity 2. Source Analysis

There was a mixed response to the arrival of 10,000 Ugandan Asians in Leicester (out of the 27,000 who had come to the UK), some people were welcoming and others hostile. Using the Source Analysis sheets, in groups/pairs examine the sources to identify whether they are supportive or hostile to the arrival of Ugandan Asians and explore where there are political, cultural, economic and/or humanitarian reasons for their attitude.

Activity 3. Diamond 9

Working on your own, use your answers from the previous activity to help you complete the Diamond 9 worksheet, ranking the various factors affecting British people's attitudes and behaviour towards the Ugandan Asians, from most to least influential.

Plenary

Discuss students' answers and reasoning.



LESSON 3. 50 Years On

Learning Objectives:

- 1) To compare and contrast present-day Leicester with the city in 1972
- 2) To reflect on the impact of the arrival of Ugandan Asians to the City of Leicester
- 3) To practice answering exam-type questions

Introduction: Resettlement Camps

Recap attitudes to Ugandan Asians arriving in Leicester explored in the previous lesson.

Activity 1. 50 Years On

In 2011 Leicester became the first ethnic majority city in Europe and annually hosts the largest Diwali celebrations outside of India. Watch the 'Rebuilding Lives' film (7:03 mins) (download [here](#)) charting some of the changes in the city since the Ugandan Asian Expulsion.

Activity 2. Exam Question

On the worksheet provided, look at the 2 sources and use them to help you answer the question: How important to the development of modern Leicester was the Ugandan Asian expulsion of 1972?

Plenary

If time discuss students' thoughts on the impact of the Ugandan Asian community on the modern city of Leicester and/or Britain.