

Graphic: "Let My People Go!" Seder in the Streets 1999 Hagaddah. Created by Jewish Study Group, San Francisco.

**How European
Immigrants
Became White
People**



Let My People Go!

seder in the streets 1999 hagaddah

LET MY PEOPLE GO

SEDER IN THE STREETS H A G A D D A H

NOTE: All prayers will be read together - in Hebrew & in English

*Hiney ma tov uma na-im,
shevet achim gam yachad.*

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים
שבת אחים גם יחד:

How good it is for Sisters and Brothers to gather together in harmony.

Welcome to the *Let My People Go Seder in the Streets*.

Tonight is the fourth night of Passover. Passover is the Jewish holiday that celebrates resistance and the struggle for liberation. Each year, Jews gather in our homes to re-tell the story of Exodus — the story of the Jewish peoples' deliverance from slavery in Egypt. Passover is the holiday of remembrance, the holiday of asking questions, the holiday of re-committing to the struggle for the liberation of all oppressed people. We know that freedom comes only through struggle. Although the Jews are no longer slaves in Egypt, we live in a world where liberation struggles are as important as when Moses parted the waters of the Red Sea. So, tonight we remember the sisters and brothers who went before us, and we move forward with the belief that one day all people will taste freedom.

This year, we have taken our seder to the streets. We have opened the doors on our annual tradition to tell two stories that are not usually part of this holiday: the story of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, and the story of Mumia Abu-Jamal. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg are two fallen freedom fighters. They were the last political prisoners to be executed in the United States. They were executed during the McCarthy years in a climate of anti-Communist and anti-Semitic hysteria.

Mumia is a former Black Panther and journalist who is on death row in Pennsylvania. This seder is for Mumia. The task of freeing Mumia has never been more critical. Thousands gathered to mourn the execution of the Rosenbergs when it was too late - we will not let it be too late for Mumia. Tonight we ask everyone to commit time, energy and resources to this struggle — because none of us is free while Mumia is in prison and on death row.

Passover is the holiday of asking questions. Tonight we ask many questions of ourselves and each other: What will it take to free Mumia? What will it take for all oppressed people to work together so that we may all be free? What risks are we willing to take in the coming year to commit ourselves to the struggle for liberation?