NATIONAL FGM CENTRE

Developing excellence
in response to FGM and
other harmful practices

Sierra Leone Association
of Persons with Albinism
Embrace Inclusion and Say No to Discrimination

UNDERSTANDING ALBINISM ONE WORD AT A TIME

This resource has been created by the **UK's National FGM Centre** and **Sierra Leone Association for People with Albinism (SLAPWA)**. The National FGM Centre aims to achieve a system change in the provision of services for children and their families who are affected by Female Genital Mutilation, child abuse linked to spirit possession, witchcraft and ritualistic abuse.

SLAPWA was founded in 2015 by Mohamed Osman Kamara, also known as Jay Marvel. He is a dedicated advocate and entrepreneur committed to improving the lives of individuals with albinism in Sierra Leone. SLAPWA works to create a society where people with albinism have their rights met and are included in all national and international development initiatives. As an Association of people with lived experience, they aim to raise awareness of experiences of discrimination and stigma, and to generate support for the specific health, education, employment and general welfare issues faced by people with albinism in Sierra Leone.

SLAPWA is a membership organisation that welcomes everyone who can benefit from being a member: People with albinism, parents, carers, family members and allies. There is no charge for membership. Members register with the Association and share telephone numbers and addresses where they can be contacted for activities and practical support.

The Association's staff team of nine include the Director, a Finance Officer, a Programme Officer, a Gender Officer and a team of support workers who are based in Bo and Makeni. Volunteers are based in other locations across Sierra Leone (e.g. Port Loko, Kabala, Kono), offering local support, information and access to free sunscreen.

Visit SLAPWA here: https://albinismsierraleone.org/

Introduction

Welcome to our word search book dedicated to raising awareness about albinism. Albinism is a genetic condition characterised by a lack of melanin, the pigment that gives colour to our skin, hair, and eyes. This condition affects people of all ethnic backgrounds and can lead to various challenges, including vision problems and sensitivity to sunlight.

Our goal with this book is to educate and inform readers about albinism in an engaging and interactive way. Through a series of word search puzzles, you'll not only have fun but also learn important facts and terminology related to albinism. Each puzzle is designed to highlight different aspects of the condition, from medical terms to famous individuals with albinism who have made significant contributions to society.

How to Use This Book

1. Find the Words: Each puzzle contains a list of words related to albinism. Your task is to find and circle these words within the grid. Words can be hidden in any direction: horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

2. Learn and Reflect: As you find each word, take a moment to read the accompanying description or fact. This will help you understand more about albinism and the experiences of those who live with it.

3. Challenge Yourself: Some puzzles are more challenging than others. Don't be discouraged if you can't find all the words right away. Take your time, and enjoy the process of discovery.

4. Share and Discuss: Use this book as a conversation starter. Share what you've learned with friends and family, and encourage them to join you in solving the puzzles.

What is Albinism?

Albinism is a rare, non-contagious genetic condition that affects people worldwide regardless of ethnicity or gender. It is a permanent condition affecting melanin production - the pigment responsible for colouring skin, hair, and eyes. People with albinism have little or no melanin, resulting in very light hair (typically white or pale blonde, though sometimes brown or red), very pale skin that burns easily, and vision problems. While the condition lasts for life, it does not progressively worsen.

There are **2 main types** of albinism:

Oculocutaneous Albinism (OCA)

The most common type, affecting the skin, hair and eyes

Ocular Albinism (OA)

a rarer type that mainly affects the eyes

Autosomal recessive inheritance: Albinism is inherited in a way that requires a child to get two copies of the gene (one from each parent) to have the condition. If both parents carry the gene, there's a 1 in 4 chance their child will have albinism and a 1 in 2 chance their child will be a carrier. Carriers don't have albinism but can pass on the gene.

X-linked inheritance: Most types of OA (ocular albinism) are inherited in an X-linked pattern ,affecting boys and girls differently. Girls who get the gene usually become carriers only, while boys who get it will have albinism.

When a mother is a carrier of X-linked type of albinism, each daughter has a 1 in 2 chance of being a carrier, and each son has a 1 in 2 chance of having albinism. If a father has X-linked albinism, his daughters will be carriers, but his sons will not have albinism or be carriers.

Find the following words:

Albinism
Genetic
Ethnicity
Melanin
Pigment
Condition
Oculocutaneous
Ocular
Autosomal
Inheritance

Albinism

O	C	O	N	D	I	T	I	O	N	U	A	G	U	Z
I	C	L	S	V	H	C	K	R	Z	P	X	M	P	E
Q	N	U	O	M	Z	M	F	U	K	I	G	E	C	A
K	F	H	L	A	H	B	I	X	L	G	Y	L	F	L
K	X	U	E	O	U	I	T	F	N	M	F	A	W	B
O	K	O	V	R	C	T	N	X	K	E	O	N	C	I
G	M	X	K	J	I	U	O	G	R	N	H	I	S	N
X	G	L	Y	B	M	T	T	S	O	T	A	N	T	I
G	E	E	T	E	Y	U	A	A	O	C	J	L	C	S
W	N	G	F	A	W	N	E	N	N	M	U	Y	C	M
E	E	V	K	W	J	V	G	O	C	E	A	L	H	J
J	T	W	A	M	L	R	V	C	O	E	O	L	A	H
E	I	L	V	A	X	A	M	M	F	O	F	U	G	R
U	C	L	T	U	D	H	G	H	C	W	P	F	S	X
T	K	E	T	H	N	I	C	I	T	Y	S	K	Q	X

Prevalence

Using data, especially prevalence data, is crucial for making decisions in health care systems. Prevalence data helps understand how common a disorder is, shapes health care policies, encourages discussions, and raises public awareness. However, there is a lack of good prevalence studies and makes it challenging to develop effective public health measures, provide adequate medical and social support, and allocate resources properly.

People with **oculocutaneous albinism** are found in all populations. For African countries without prevalence data, the estimated range of persons with albinism is **1 in 4,000 to 7,000**. In some African countries the range is higher e.g. in Namibiai it is as high as 1:1755 and in Tanzania is it 1:1400.[i]

For **European countries** without data, the range is **1 in 12,000 to 15,000**. Two European studies found that oculocutaneous albinism occurs in about 1 in 14,000 people in Denmark[ii] and 1 in 12,000 people in the Netherlands.[iii]

Data from the Far East are limited, but estimates from China[iv] and Japan[v] suggest lower rates of albinism compared to Europe. In **China**, the prevalence rate in the Han population in Shandong province is estimated to be **1 in 18,000**. In **Japan**, a study on consanguineous mating (mating between relatives) estimated the rate of albinism to be **1 in 47,000**.

Find the following words:

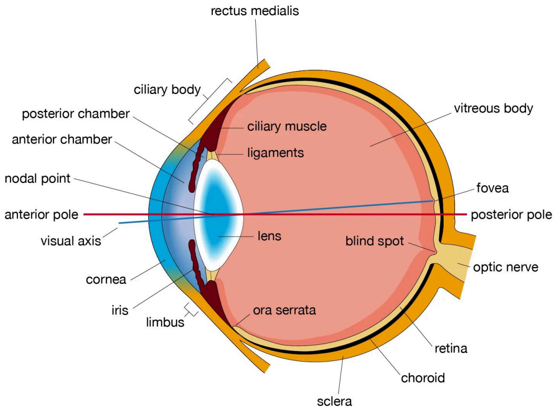
Prevalence	Denmark
Populations	Netherlands
African	China
Namibia	Japan
Tanzania	Shandong

Prevalence

C	H	I	N	A	A	J	P	J	J	F	D	X	P	X
E	V	N	R	G	S	S	H	A	N	D	O	N	G	J
X	N	H	G	F	H	T	A	N	Z	A	N	I	A	A
E	N	E	T	H	E	R	L	A	N	D	S	O	B	P
B	A	C	I	C	P	O	Q	Y	J	N	X	W	P	A
W	F	W	N	L	O	F	D	H	G	W	E	T	R	N
J	R	R	A	O	P	W	W	O	V	D	M	O	E	Y
S	I	C	M	M	U	S	A	Y	K	J	R	L	V	R
Z	C	G	I	W	L	H	G	F	F	J	H	D	A	L
D	A	K	B	Q	A	X	P	S	Q	T	I	E	L	X
O	N	E	I	B	T	I	F	S	T	D	Y	N	E	N
Q	N	C	A	V	I	Q	I	F	I	L	Y	M	N	V
F	J	F	N	W	O	J	K	A	E	E	S	A	C	L
S	L	K	F	B	N	J	P	E	Q	O	U	R	E	P
H	G	C	L	D	S	Z	C	B	T	G	W	K	T	A

Anatomy of the Eye[vi]

Most people with albinism have vision problems due to irregular growth of the retina and nerve connections. Many complex eye issues are common in albinism, so understanding the different parts of the eye is important



Iris: The iris is the coloured part of the eye. It surrounds the pupil and controls how much light enters it. Tiny muscles in the iris change its shape, making the size of the pupil larger or smaller too.

Pupil: The pupil is a hole at the centre of the iris. The amount of light which enters the eye depends on the size of the pupil, which is controlled by muscles in the iris.

Cornea: The cornea is a dome shape covering the front of the eye. The cornea helps protect the eye from external damage. Together, the cornea and the lens bend light that comes into the eye, which is one stage of the process of giving us vision.

Lens: The lens is transparent and sits behind the iris. Its job, along with the cornea, is to focus light on the retina at the back of the eye. The lens is suspended in the eye by fibres which are attached to the ciliary muscle. This muscle changes the shape of the lens so you can focus on objects at different distances.

Retina: The retina is a transparent structure situated behind your pupil at the back of the eye. It is enclosed in a thin transparent capsule and helps to refract incoming light and focus it onto the retina. It contains millions of cells that are sensitive to light. Light passes through the eye and reaches the retina, which converts the light into electric signals which are then sent to the brain. The brain processes these signals to create an image, so that we can understand what we are seeing.

Vitreous: The vitreous is a jelly-like material that fills the middle of the eye, between the lens and the retina. After light passes through the lens, it shines straight through the transparent vitreous to the back of the eye. Vitreous helps give the eye its form and shape.

Optic nerve: Carries signals from the retina to the brain.

Optic disc (the 'blind spot'): It identifies the start of the optic nerve where messages from cone and rod cells leave the eye via nerve fibres to the optic centre of the brain.

Find the following words:

Anatomy
Iris
Pupil
Cornea
Lens
Retina
Vitreous
Optic
Nerve
Disc

Anathomy of the Eye

B	J	M	M	N	C	C	L	Z	S	Z	M	H	U	Q
W	O	A	Q	N	V	G	M	Q	Z	O	P	T	I	C
R	N	Z	B	T	H	H	X	U	I	I	X	X	B	S
K	L	W	D	I	S	C	O	I	W	Y	M	F	V	R
W	E	H	F	A	H	B	V	P	L	W	L	N	V	J
I	N	K	P	V	X	B	V	I	T	R	E	O	U	S
G	S	N	H	E	V	A	I	S	C	X	R	N	J	N
F	S	I	C	Q	P	P	I	P	Y	O	L	E	S	P
T	N	O	I	O	L	X	P	R	M	P	A	R	H	D
M	P	Y	J	M	R	P	K	D	I	L	N	V	S	R
C	U	O	K	E	E	N	I	E	I	S	A	E	R	I
P	P	A	M	D	T	U	E	U	X	F	T	O	J	D
A	I	P	F	W	I	J	A	A	Y	N	O	C	O	M
F	L	I	Z	U	N	Q	F	M	G	Z	M	F	K	O
H	A	U	C	F	A	S	N	M	H	A	Y	N	Z	N

Health challenges: Eye problems and treatment

The reduced amount of melanin can cause eye problems. This is because melanin is involved in the development of the retina, the thin layer of cells at the back of the eye.

Possible eye problems linked to albinism include:

- ***poor eyesight*** **–**either short-sightedness or long-sightedness, and low vision (sight loss that cannot be corrected)
- ***astigmatism*** **–** where the cornea (clear layer at the front of the eye) is not perfectly curved or the lens is an abnormal shape, causing blurred vision
- ***photophobia*** **–** where the eyes are sensitive to light. Sunglasses, tinted glasses and wearing a wide-brimmed hat outside can help with sensitivity to light.
- ***nystagmus*** **–** where the eyes move involuntarily from side to side, causing reduced vision; you do not see the world as "wobbling" because your brain adapts to your eye movement. There's currently no cure for nystagmus. However, it is not painful and does not get worse. Certain toys or games may help a child make the most of the vision they have. An ophthalmologist will be able to provide further advice. Surgery, involving dividing and then reattaching some of the eye muscles, may sometimes be an option.
- ***squint*** **–** where the eyes point in different directions. The main treatments for squints are glasses, eye exercises, surgery and injections into the eye muscles.

Some young children with albinism may appear ‘clumsy’. This is because problems with their eyesight can make some movements difficult for them, such as picking up an object. This should improve as they get older. Although there's no cure for the eye problems caused by albinism, there are a number of treatments, such as glasses and contact lenses, that can improve vision. A child with albinism may also need extra help and support at school. The following vision aids may help:

- large-print or high-contrast books and printed materials
- magnifying lenses
- a small telescope or telescopic lenses that attach to glasses to read writing in the distance, such as on a school whiteboard
- large computer screens

- large computer screens
- software that can turn speech into typing or vice versa
- tablets and phones that allow you to magnify the display to make writing and images easier to see

Find the following words:

Sightedness
Astigmatism
Photophobia
Nystagmus
Involuntarily

Wobbling
Squint
Eyesigh
Movements
Treatments

Health Challenges: Eye Problems and Treatment

A	T	N	H	H	T	S	I	V	N	F	E	Y	T	N
T	D	X	X	Z	I	F	N	E	A	R	K	Y	K	R
R	X	P	H	Y	K	P	V	V	I	I	Y	H	M	B
E	U	P	O	R	J	N	O	J	A	S	H	L	V	N
A	A	P	A	Y	P	Y	L	B	K	Q	B	E	K	J
T	S	H	E	K	Z	S	U	I	Q	U	O	M	W	E
M	T	O	P	U	L	T	N	V	C	I	V	O	O	Y
E	I	T	C	N	L	A	T	N	J	N	T	V	B	E
N	G	O	M	R	E	G	A	V	X	T	A	E	B	S
T	M	P	Y	S	Q	M	R	I	H	W	K	M	L	I
S	A	H	N	B	F	U	I	S	R	C	Z	E	I	G
C	T	O	B	M	J	S	L	J	W	Y	B	N	N	H
V	I	B	B	I	J	R	Y	L	K	C	J	T	G	T
A	S	I	P	M	Z	A	T	T	C	X	L	S	A	S
G	M	A	T	N	Y	U	U	Q	L	O	F	N	M	B

Health challenges: skin problems and treatment

The lack of melanin makes people with albinism highly vulnerable to skin cancer and getting sunburn. Climate change is dangerously affecting people with albinism worldwide, leading to high rates of skin cancer deaths in some areas, according to a UN expert.

"The profound impact of climate change on persons with albinism is one of the most overlooked aspects of the issue. In Africa alone, it is estimated that persons with albinism are up to 1000 times more likely to develop skin cancer than those without, with many dying by the age of 40," said Muluka-Anne Miti-Drummond, the Independent Expert on albinism.

However, skin cancer is highly preventable if they have access to regular health checks, sunglasses, and sun-protective clothing. Unfortunately, in many countries, these essential resources are unavailable or inaccessible to them.

People with albinism should also wear sunscreen with a high sun-protection factor (SPF). An SPF of 30 or more will provide the best protection. They should also spend time in the shade when the sun is strongest.

It's also a good idea to look out for skin changes, such as:

- a new mole, growth or lump
- any moles, freckles or patches of skin that change in size, shape or colour

Get Regular Skin Check-Ups. Have a dermatologist check your skin regularly for any unusual moles, spots, or changes. Early detection of skin cancer can save lives.

Find the following words:

- Cancer
- Sunburn
- Climate
- Danerously Preventable
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Mole
- Freckles
- Protection

Health Challenges: Skin Problems and Treatment

O	P	S	O	C	N	B	O	H	Z	H	E	P	P	P
A	D	M	U	I	N	N	I	R	F	V	A	R	R	M
O	E	A	H	N	K	F	M	I	T	F	U	E	O	K
J	B	F	N	M	S	K	J	L	E	A	D	V	T	C
C	K	O	S	G	H	C	R	U	W	J	F	E	E	L
A	H	G	L	O	E	J	R	F	H	L	G	N	C	I
N	W	F	D	N	I	R	F	E	Z	O	C	T	T	M
C	C	F	K	P	T	M	O	R	E	U	B	A	I	A
E	Q	Q	K	K	B	C	M	U	E	N	E	B	O	T
R	F	C	Y	G	U	W	V	O	S	C	G	L	N	E
Y	S	T	P	M	A	M	Y	Z	L	L	K	E	H	K
O	H	S	U	N	B	U	R	N	T	E	Y	L	I	S
C	H	D	U	P	E	E	T	A	O	H	P	C	E	U
S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	F	G	P	U	S
S	Q	B	Z	E	Y	W	M	O	Y	Q	U	G	Q	G

Sun Protection

If you have albinism, protecting yourself from the sun is crucial to prevent sunburn, skin damage, and skin cancer. Here are some key sun protection strategies:

1. Wear Sunscreen Daily

- **Use broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF 50+)**
- **Apply generously to all exposed skin 30 minutes before going outside.**
- **Reapply every 2 hours, especially after sweating or swimming.**
- **Choose zinc oxide or titanium dioxide-based sunscreens for better protection.**

2. Wear Protective Clothing

- **Choose long-sleeved shirts and long trousers made of tightly woven fabric.**
- **UPF (Ultraviolet Protection Factor) clothing provides added protection.**
- **Dark-coloured clothing can offer more protection than light colours.**

3. Wear a Wide-Brimmed Hat

- **A hat with a brim of at least 3 inches can shade your face, ears, and neck.**
- **A flap hat provides extra coverage for the back of your neck.**

4. Use UV-Protective Sunglasses

- **Choose wraparound sunglasses with 100% UVA and UVB protection.**
- **Polarised lenses can reduce glare and improve vision.**

5. Seek Shade

- Avoid direct sunlight between 10 AM and 4 PM, when UV rays are strongest.
- Stay in the shade under trees, umbrellas, or awnings whenever possible.

6. Be Cautious Near Reflective Surfaces

- Water, sand, and concrete can reflect UV rays and increase exposure.
- Even on cloudy days, UV rays can still cause damage.
- Choose zinc oxide or titanium dioxide-based sunscreens for better protection.

7. Use Lip Balm with SPF

Your lips can also burn, so use a lip balm with SPF 30+.

8. Educate Others

Help your family, teachers, and community understand your need for sun protection so they can support you. By following these precautions, you can reduce the risk of skin damage and stay safe in the sun while leading an active life!

Sun Protection for People with Albinism

If you have albinism, protecting yourself from the sun is essential to prevent sunburn, lesions, and skin cancer. Here are some key strategies to stay safe in the sun.

One of the most important steps is to **wear sunscreen daily**. Choose a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 50+ and apply it generously to all exposed skin at least 30 minutes before going outside. Sunscreen **should be reapplied every two hours,** especially after sweating or swimming. For better protection, opt for sunscreens containing zinc oxide or titanium dioxide, as these offer a physical barrier against UV rays.

Wearing protective clothing is another effective way to shield yourself from the sun. Long- sleeved shirts and long trousers made of tightly woven fabric provide good coverage, and clothing with a high Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF) offers additional defence. Dark- coloured clothing tends to block more UV radiation than lighter shades.

A wide-brimmed hat can provide extra protection by shading your face, ears, and neck. Ideally, the brim should be at least three inches wide. Alternatively, a flap hat can help cover the back of your neck, offering full coverage from direct sunlight.

UV-protective sunglasses are also essential. Wraparound sunglasses with 100% UVA and UVB protection are the best choice. Polarised lenses can further help by reducing glare and improving vision in bright conditions.

Whenever possible, it is advisable **to seek shade,** particularly between **10 AM** and **4 PM**, when the sun's rays are strongest. Staying under trees or umbrellas can significantly reduce UV exposure. Additionally, be mindful of reflective surfaces such as water, sand, and concrete, which can amplify sun exposure. Even on cloudy days, UV rays can penetrate the clouds and cause skin damage. The skin on the lips is delicate and can also get sunburned. Using a lip balm with SPF 30+ helps protect them from UV damage. Finally, it is important to educate others about the unique sun protection needs of individuals with albinism. By raising awareness among family, teachers, and the community, you can ensure a supportive environment that prioritises safety and inclusion.

By following these precautions, you can significantly reduce the risk of skin damage and continue to enjoy outdoor activities safely. Taking proactive steps to protect your skin will help maintain long-term health and well-being while minimising the risks associated with sun exposure.

Find the following words:

Sunburn
Lesions
Sunscreen
Titanium
Ultraviolet
Protection
Factor
Sunglasses
Polarised
Exposure

Sun Protection for People with Albinism

H	D	S	W	F	P	V	T	N	U	Z	T	L	V	T
H	C	U	J	S	L	R	I	O	U	W	K	E	C	I
E	Y	N	P	K	U	B	O	V	H	O	B	S	H	T
X	S	S	Q	B	L	N	Z	T	L	D	T	I	A	A
P	U	C	S	P	H	K	G	C	E	H	T	O	T	N
O	N	R	S	F	O	Y	G	L	B	C	L	N	L	I
S	B	E	F	Z	O	L	E	M	A	Z	T	S	J	U
U	U	E	I	F	S	L	A	O	W	S	L	I	C	M
R	R	N	J	I	P	K	U	R	X	Y	S	C	O	G
E	N	F	U	L	T	R	A	V	I	O	L	E	T	N
E	K	A	D	A	H	I	J	B	Q	S	S	U	S	U
P	O	C	I	X	N	Y	S	R	M	P	E	Z	U	B
H	D	T	L	K	R	W	P	T	H	U	G	D	D	S
W	Y	O	P	A	O	F	F	O	J	A	P	V	Q	N
H	O	R	U	Z	K	O	P	B	T	O	R	R	V	N

Social impacts of albinism

Albinism brings **social** and **emotional** challenges. Difficulty in holding eye contact and reading facial expressions can make social interaction challenging. This can easily be mistaken for shyness, rudeness or inattention. Myths and superstitions about albinism suggest that those with albinism have special powers (for good or for evil). This is not the case. The only difference in people with albinism is in the amount of pigment they produce. Some families reject children with albinism, believing them to be cursed, leading to neglect or abandonment. In communities with strong misconceptions, parents may struggle to protect their children or advocate for their rights. In contrast, supportive families and communities can play a crucial role in empowering People with Albinism PWA).

Social stigma may lead to bullying and isolation in schools, causing many to drop out. Discrimination in the workplace can result in high unemployment rates, limiting economic opportunities. Constant stigma, bullying, and discrimination can lead to low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression. They may have experienced trauma in their life which can have long lasting effects including low confidence. Women and girls with albinism face stigma because of their gender so may suffer from low self-esteem.

Despite challenges, awareness campaigns and advocacy groups like SLAPWA are working to combat stigma and promote inclusion. PWA who become activists, role models, and professionals are challenging stereotypes and inspiring future generations.

ACTION: It is everyone’s responsibility to help make a change for the better. We must all help to end name-calling and the use of disrespectful labels. Call persons with albinism by their name, not their condition. Encourage the community to meet with other people with albinism and their families to encourage peer support, positive identity and celebration of albinism.

Find the following words:

Emotional
Challenging
Abandonment
Misconceptions
Bullying
Discrimination
Trauma
Advocacy
Inclusion
Activitists

Social Impacts of Albinism

R	D	K	J	M	P	Z	Z	X	N	L	S	W	E	A
C	M	I	R	Y	R	D	B	T	O	D	V	B	R	B
U	H	I	S	B	K	K	K	L	O	Q	A	U	T	A
A	V	A	S	C	U	E	R	B	K	U	S	L	R	N
D	Q	V	L	C	R	W	M	A	B	L	G	L	A	D
V	A	G	R	L	O	I	A	O	G	Y	P	Y	U	O
O	C	T	I	K	E	N	M	W	T	N	T	I	M	N
C	T	R	T	N	A	N	C	I	X	I	M	N	A	M
A	I	W	R	R	C	B	G	E	N	M	O	G	V	E
C	V	K	S	D	T	L	T	I	P	A	N	N	F	N
Y	I	Z	D	O	Y	A	U	S	N	T	T	G	A	T
X	S	Z	D	X	T	R	Q	S	J	G	I	I	S	L
J	T	Z	Z	S	G	X	Y	R	I	D	R	O	O	R
I	S	O	F	Z	M	E	A	V	Z	O	K	Z	N	N
Q	Y	G	P	O	R	S	A	R	I	W	N	S	D	S

Myths and Albinism:

Albinism is often **misunderstood**, leading to myths and social exclusion in some parts of the world. In some parts of the world, the appearance of people with albinism has led to false beliefs and superstitions, resulting in their marginalisation and social exclusion.

In some cultures, people believe that supernatural rituals can bring them fortune or power. These rituals can involve violent acts against specific individuals, such as forced mutilation, dismemberment, and sexual assault. In certain traditional practices, like 'muthi' in southern Africa or 'juju' in west Africa, some believe that charms, potions, and amulets are more powerful when made with human tissue or fluids, especially from people with rare characteristics like albinism.

To dispel myths associated to albinism, it is important to create and distribute accurate information about the condition, like this resource. People with albinism also have an important role to play, as they can share personal stories. **Raising awareness in schools by integrating information into the school curriculum to educate children from a young is also necessary, including providing training for teachers.**

Find the following words:

Emotional
Challenging
Abandonment
Misconceptions
Bullying
Discrimination
Trauma
Advocacy
Inclusion
Activitists

Myths and Albinism

M	R	L	Q	F	O	P	T	L	E	M	U	T	H	I
D	A	S	U	P	E	R	S	T	I	T	I	O	N	S
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Famous people with albinism

Salif Keita - A renowned Malian singer-songwriter known as the "Golden Voice of Africa"

Connie Chiu - The world's first fashion model with albinism

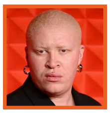
Thando Hopa - A South African model and lawyer

Nastya Zhidkova - A Russian fashion model

Peter Ogik - one of the founders of Source of the Nile Union of Persons with Albinism, a non-profit organisation in Jinja, Uganda, which advocates for human rights and access to quality services for people with albinism.

Robdarius Brown, stage name Roben X – rapper and activist

Winston "Yellowman" Foster – Jamaican reggae artist and dancehall performer



Shaun Ross - American model and actor, first male professional model with albinism, appeared in Beyoncé's "Pretty Hurts" video

Refilwe Modiselle - South African entertainer and model

Al-Shymaa Kway-Geer - is a member of the parliamentary body, the National Assembly, of Tanzania

Find the following words:

Keita
Chiu
Hopa
Zhidkova
Ogik
Robdarius
Winston
Ross
Modiselle
AlShymaa

Famous People with Albinism

B	M	P	A	U	M	R	P	B	H	L	M	R	V	L
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H	O	I	B	I	C	H	I	U	D	Q	P	R	Y	G
I	D	N	M	Z	K	L	Y	U	U	A	K	A	P	U
D	I	S	J	L	C	A	R	M	H	D	R	T	P	L
K	S	T	X	K	E	I	T	A	A	E	O	I	U	L
O	E	O	E	V	Y	I	Q	M	B	A	Y	B	U	S
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Human rights[vii]

People with albinism face multiple and more severe forms of discrimination and violence worldwide, particularly where the majority of the general population are relatively dark- skinned. In the past decade, hundreds of attacks and killings of people with albinism have been reported in 28 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. These attacks are driven by ignorance, stigma, poverty, and harmful practices linked to beliefs in witchcraft. Unfortunately, these violent practices continue today. Discrimination against people with albinism varies by region. In North America, Europe, and Australia, it often involves name-calling, teasing, and bullying. In regions like Asia, South America, and the Pacific, there is less information, but some reports indicate that children with albinism in China and other Asian countries may face abandonment and rejection by their families.

Since 2013, there has been increased international attention to protecting the human rights of people with albinism, prompted by a rise in attacks against them. Key developments include:

- ***2013-2014:*** The UN Human Rights Council and African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted resolutions to prevent attacks and discrimination.
- ***December 2014:*** The UN General Assembly established June 13 as International Albinism Awareness Day.
- ***March 2015:*** The UN Human Rights Council created the position of Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism. This mandate: **1.** Reaffirms basic human rights and freedoms for people with albinism **2.** Helps raise awareness **3.** Provides annual reporting on specific concerns **4.** Offers advisory services to Member States **5.** Assists countries in implementing protective measures
- ***June 2015:*** Ikponwosa Ero of Nigeria was appointed as the first Independent Expert in this role. In August 2021, she was succeeded by Ms. Muluka-Anne Miti-Drummond.
- ***In 2021,*** the UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on the elimination of harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks, recognising the need to combat that phenomenon.

- **November 2021:** The African Union launched its Plan of Action on Ending Attacks and Discrimination against Persons with albinism (2021 to 2031). In July 2019, the African Union (AU) adopted a continent-wide Plan of Action to end attacks and discrimination against people with albinism. This plan is part of the AU's efforts to implement its Disability Strategic Framework and Disability Protocol, which specifically addresses the unique challenges faced by people with albinism over the past twelve years.

These measures represent a significant shift from previous sporadic attention to more focused, systematic protection of people with albinism's human rights at an international level.

Find the following words:

Discrimination
Stigma
Poverty
Harmful
International
Rights
Resolution
Elimination
Witchcraft
Disability

Human Rights

I	Q	W	G	Z	K	M	M	D	C	D	Q	W	L	N
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International Law

There are several international laws that protect the rights of people with albinism to the right to – 1. Life and security 2. Non-discrimination 3. Health 4. Education 5. Work 6. Participate in cultural life protection against harmful practices and access justice.

Key international laws and instruments that protect people with albinism:

1. Primary UN Human Rights Treaties:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Convention on the Rights of the Child

2. Specific Regional Instruments:

- African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa
- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

3. Key UN Resolutions:

- Human Rights Council Resolutions 23/13, 24/33, and 26/10 (2013-2014)
- General Assembly Resolution 69/170
- Human Rig

4. Protection Against Discrimination:

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

5. Protection Against Violence:

- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or
- Punishment
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Find the following words:

- International
- Elimination
- Resolutions
- Council
- Instruments
- Convention
- Treaties
- Declaration
- Covenant
- Charter

International Low

Q	O	I	K	T	B	F	T	H	B	O	E	V	F	C
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Organisations across the world supporting people with albinism

These organisations work tirelessly to support individuals with albinism and raise awareness about their needs and rights.

1. ***Sierra Leone Association for People with Albinism (SLAPWA):*** They work to raise awareness, provide education, and advocate for the rights and well-being of people with albinism in Sierra Leone.
2. ***National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation (NOAH):*** Based in the USA, NOAH provides support, education, and advocacy for people with albinism
3. ***Global Albinism Alliance (GAA):*** This organisation unites over 250 albinism associations worldwide, aiming to improve the quality of life for people with albinism through support, knowledge sharing, and global advocacy.
4. ***Under the Same Sun:*** Focused on ending discrimination and violence against people with albinism, particularly in Africa.
5. ***Albinism Society of Kenya (ASK):*** Provides support and advocacy for people with albinism in Kenya.
6. ***Standing Voice:*** Works to improve the lives of people with albinism in Tanzania and other parts of Africa through health, education, and advocacy programmes.
7. ***Albinism Foundation of East Africa (AFEA):*** Supports individuals with albinism in East Africa through various initiatives
8. ***Albinism Society of South Africa (ASSA):*** Offers support, education, and advocacy for people with albinism in South Africa
9. ***Asociación de Ayuda a Personas con Albinismo (ALBA):*** A Spanish organisation that supports people with albinism through awareness and advocacy.
10. ***Albinism Fellowship UK:*** Provides support and information for people with albinism in the UK.
11. ***Albinism Society of Nigeria (ASN):*** Focuses on advocacy, education, and support for people with albinism in Nigeria.

Find the following words:

Association
National
Hypopigmentation
Global
Society
Voice
Foundation
Albinismo
Fellowship
Advocacy

Organisations Across the World

V	S	W	Q	H	N	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	C	A	Q	S	V	X	D
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K	Q	H	Y	P	O	P	I	G	M	E	N	T	A	T	I	O	N	N	E
P	Z	Z	M	J	B	W	A	A	S	S	O	C	I	A	T	I	O	N	Z
W	R	A	D	K	A	G	D	X	C	F	J	X	Y	S	P	P	H	B	F
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C	W	R	X	Q	I	L	C	F	B	W	G	D	G	X	B	M	N	K	Q
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O	R	F	N	Z	M	L	Z	Q	N	J	S	F	A	O	F	B	Z	V	F
G	X	O	M	P	U	P	I	P	D	C	K	W	W	I	H	H	R	Z	P
K	G	L	O	B	A	L	G	K	A	C	K	S	A	C	A	V	G	V	R
B	P	U	D	T	S	M	J	O	T	D	J	O	B	E	N	L	J	X	A
R	Y	X	T	O	C	Y	D	U	I	T	U	X	F	C	N	J	J	E	Y
Z	L	V	H	X	D	V	V	E	O	E	C	Q	I	I	X	S	Q	W	C
D	B	K	Y	O	B	M	P	J	N	C	R	Z	F	O	C	K	T	K	Q

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Certificate of Achievement

AWARDED TO

Has successfully learnt about albinism and will use their knowledge to try to raise awareness

Rohma Ullah
Head of National FGM Centre

Date

NATIONAL FGM CENTRE
Developing excellence
in response to FGM and
other harmful practices

NATIONAL
FGM
CENTRE

Developing excellence
in response to FGM and
other harmful practices

Sierra Leone Association
of Persons with Albinism
Embrace Inclusion and Say No to Discrimination