

**POPE FRANCIS**  
**GENERAL AUDIENCE**  
*Paul VI Audience Hall*

8 February 2017

[Link](#)

**Special greetings:**

[...] I return to today's celebration, *the Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking*, which is celebrated today because today is the Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita [he shows a leaflet that speaks about her]. This young woman enslaved in Africa, exploited, humiliated, did not lose hope, and ended up coming to Europe as a *migrant*. Here she heard the Lord's call and became a nun. Let us pray to Saint Josephine Bakhita for all migrants, refugees, the exploited who suffer so very, very much.

In speaking about migrants being driven away, exploited, I would like to pray with you today in a special way for our Rohingya brothers and sisters: driven out of Myanmar, they go from one place to another, because they are not wanted.... They are good, peaceful people. They are not Christians; they are good; they are our brothers and sisters! They have been suffering for years. They have been tortured, killed, simply because they carry on their traditions, their Muslim faith. Let us pray for them. I invite you to pray for them, 'Our Father who art in Heaven', everyone together, for our Rohingya brothers and sisters. [...]

Lastly, I greet *young people, the sick and newlyweds*. May today's commemoration of Sr Josephine Bakhita, who from childhood was a victim of trafficking, grow in you, dear *young people*, attention for your peers who are most disadvantaged and in difficulty. [...]