



MAKE A PAPER CHAIN TODAY

Make a chain today and add your voice to the chorus calling for just policies for the world's most impoverished.

Join Jubilee USA this fall in sending messages to our leaders declaring the importance of debt cancellation and economic justice by making paper chains. Jubilee supporters across the country and from the Global South will be making chains to deliver to your members of Congress as we begin to reintroduce the Jubilee Act.

Why Paper Chains? A Glance into the Jubilee Movement

In the late 1990s, citizens of forty countries joined together to form the first truly international movement to call for the cancellation of debt that impoverished many countries in the Global South.

On May 16, 1998, 70,000 protesters gathered in Birmingham, London, outside of the G7 meetings and formed a human chain. The chain represented the burden of debt that enslaved many of the world's poorest countries and called on leaders to break the chains of debt. Their linked arms also represented the hope and unity of those all over the world calling for the Jubilee vision of right relationships and economic justice.

Out of the Jubilee 2000 Campaign came the first 100% debt cancellation agreement. In 1999, the G7 (G-8 financial ministers, excluding Russia) meeting in Cologne, Germany agreed to the debt cancellation and Jubilee continued to push for the US to make good on its promises. Congress responded to the growing pressure to address debt relief issues in 2000 by committing \$769 million to bilateral and multilateral debt relief. The strength of the call for debt cancellation without harmful conditions continued to grow, and in 2005, the richest countries and financial institutions agreed to expand debt cancellation. Today over \$120 billion of debt has been cancelled in 32 countries.

In 2012, Jubilee USA Network will continue to be a strong voice for debt cancellation and real structural change. This fall, we will once again form a chain to call on our world leaders to answer the call of Jubilee. With the international debt crisis spreading from the Global South to the Global North, our work is even more urgent.

On October 14th, Jubilee USA will be joining hundreds of organizations from 60 countries in the Week of Action against Illegitimate Debt. We will lift our voices in solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the globe, and we ask that you join us.

Instructions:

1. Print off the attached document, front and back on colored paper. Cut into three sections.
2. Distribute the chain links at your Jubilee Sunday or Jubilee Action event.
3. Set up a table in your church and include them in the worship bulletin. Have individuals write messages on the back to their members of Congress, urging them to support the Jubilee Act.
4. You could also host a chain making party where you gather a group to assemble paper chains in large quantities.
5. As soon as possible send your chains or flat chain links (and pictures of your chain making party) to Jubilee USA Network (212 E. Capitol St NE, Washington, DC 20003).

We look forward to carrying your chains into the halls of Congress to send a strong message to our leaders calling for a Jubilee!