

Set in Motion: The Final Plan to Terminate the Jews

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Abstract

This article reveals, through qualitative research on location, the bureaucratic and organizational efficiency of the Wannsee Conference which initiated the plan for “The Final Solution of the Jewish Problem”, a euphemism to disguise the implementation of total annihilation of the European Jewry. At the Wannsee Conference held on January 20th, 1942, fifteen top Nazi and government officials met zealously to discuss the implementation of the extermination procedures regarding the Jews. The article reveals that the extermination of the Jews was already in progress and that this meeting was held to finalize and accelerate the termination of the Jews in its totality. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Wannsee Conference and the plan to finally rid the world of Jews. It also discusses the paradox of the villa itself — it is placed on a beautiful location on a lakefront and yet the genocide of the Jewish people was put in fruition there. Through the eyes of the Deputy Director and Educational Director of the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Center, it is exposed as a place trying to redeem itself by promoting educational projects and seminars to teach about the dangerous effects of racism, xenophobia, National Socialism, genocide, and their relevancy in today’s world at the original and authentic location. These projects are directed at teachers and pupils. The house is different from other museums, as it is a “museum of the perpetrators”.

Keywords: genocide, extermination sites, euphemism, Holocaust, Final Solution



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The term *Jewish Question* was first used in Great Britain around 1750. According to Holocaust scholar Lucy Dawidowicz (1975), the term, as introduced in Western Europe, was a neutral expression for the negative attitude toward the apparent and persistent singularity of the Jews as a people, against the background of the rising political nationalisms and nation-states. Dawidowicz writes that “the histories of Jewish emancipation and of European anti-Semitism are replete with proffered ‘solutions to the Jewish question’”. The question was next discussed in France after the 1789 French Revolution, before its arrival in Germany. From 1860, the notion of *Judenfrage* (“Jewish Question”), took on an increasingly anti-Semitic tendency: the Jews were described as disrupters to the identity and cohesion of the German nation and as enemies within the Germans’ own country. Many declared it a racial problem, unsolvable through integration, in order to make their demands for the “de-Jewifying” of the press, education, state and economy, culture, along with their demands for the condemnation of inter-marriage between Jews and non-Jews. Using this definition, it assisted in ousting the Jews out of their supposedly more socially dominating positions. The most infamous use of this expression was by the Nazis, culminating in the implementation of their “Final Solution to the Jewish Question” and finding a solution to the problem of the Jews.

More than 65 years have passed since the end of the Second World War, since the world would realize the devastation that befell the European Jewry. They would eventually see horrific photographs that were taken in Nazi concentration camps and extermination camps soon after their liberation. They would be forced to come face to face with the ultimate senseless genocide and perverse cruelty that marked those human tragedies, and they would come face to face with how it is possible that a modern western nation like Germany could commit such atrocities. To say that the Holocaust is an example of 20th-century barbarism is an understatement, for it is more than that, as this article illustrates. Man is not like the animal kingdom. Man has conscious awareness. Man can reason. To imagine the brutality and perverse evil — vehement aggressor against victim — for the purpose of promoting a race thought to be engulfed in superiority is hard enough; but to imagine the deliberate acts of cruelty, the ultimate obsession of man’s inhumanity towards his fellow man with methods that were so ingeniously carried out — managed and organized with efficient precision — is incomprehensible. The most characteristic feature of the genocide of the European Jews is its bureaucratic organization, whereby, besides the SS, state institutions and members of many different professional groups were to varying degrees accomplices on account of their knowledge and responsibility. Most Germans were at least passive observers of the deportations.

The Holocaust was the deliberate, methodical killing of more than six million Jews, whose aim was the complete eradication of the Jews from Europe. From 1933 to 1945, Nazi Germany developed and carried out a cruel and systematic annihilation of more than six million Jews, including one and a half million children.

Those who survived were torn from their families, ripped apart from their communities, with their lives completely shattered. They were left with the memories of a past that once was, the pain of losing loved ones, fragmented and torn from all they had. And Hitler's crime extended beyond the Holocaust, claiming the lives of more than 10 million non-Jews who fell into Nazi hands during World War II. This figure includes the often forgotten six million Poles and the millions of Slavs in the Soviet Union who were killed by the Third Reich, Catholic priests, Gypsies, Jehova Witnesses, Marxists, homosexuals, people with mental and physical handicaps, and anyone considered a political enemy of the Third Reich (Lawliss, 1994).

The explanations of the Holocaust execution are somewhat vague, too simplistic, and misguided considering the management and methodical undertaking involved on such a grandiose scale. Researchers, scholars, and others who attempt to provide rational explanations for why the Holocaust succeeded in implementation should be careful not to shift responsibility and prevent those from facing up to their past. Today, the Holocaust is not just regarded as a Jewish calamity and German crime, but it has transcended itself to become a historical signature of modern society and a measure of its moral life. It is not just a word that means fire and catastrophe, but a graphic representation of the events that took place — the ghettos, slave and forced labor, torture and starvation, concentration camps, crematoriums, ovens, gas chambers, mass killings. According to Haberman (1987, p. 163), "Auschwitz has become the signature of an entire era — and involves us all. Something happened there which no one could possibly have imagined until then."

The Holocaust events, so extreme and unbelievable, defy understanding and plunged the West into an era which closed down innocence, moral reasoning, happiness, and betterment. It brought out the unthinkable human potentialities of management and technology's evil side, and forces us to struggle with a degraded past of bloodshed and passivity. It was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution, and genocide of approximately six million men, women, and children by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. The Germans and their accomplices were most efficient from April to November 1942 — 250 days in which they murdered over two and a half million Jews in mass murder, ovens, and gas chambers. Like fugitives, Jews were hunted down and the Nazis did not leave any stone unturned. They were obsessed with finding any Jew in hiding. Every single one had to be put to death, meant to suffer and die with no chance of reprieve, hope, or alleviation of pain and suffering. The destruction of the East European Jewry brought to an end the thousand-year old culture of the Ashkenazic Jewry that had originated in the Rhine Basin and that by 1939 was concentrated in Eastern Europe. As well, some centuries old once thriving Sephardi communities such as Rhodes and Saloniki were also destroyed.²

² Ashkenazic Jews are those who originated from Eastern Europe. Sephardi Jews are those who originated from parts of Western Europe, and have their roots in Judeo-Spanish origin. It must be

The Wannsee Conference: The final extermination of the Jews

It was not enough that the Jews were deported to the East, dying of disease and starvation, subject to torture, degradation, humiliation, gassed, and shot in mass graves.³ The obsession of the Nazi regime to find a solution to the problem of the Jews in Europe, culminated with the Wannsee Conference. The management of the conference was carried out akin to an urgent business meeting. The beautiful villa, located in the Berlin suburb of Wannsee, would later symbolize the epitome of the evil side of management. The beautiful and serene location by Lake Grosser Wannsee set the stage for the discussion and coordination of the execution of the Final Solution to the Jewish Question in all its managerial and official capacity. Reinhard Heydrich, chief of the Reich Security Main Office of the SS and the initiator of the conference, summoned representatives of a variety of branches of the Nazi regime. This meeting, convening half a year after the systematic murder of the Jews on the Eastern front had begun, was called to coordinate the expansion of the mass murder to include all European Jewry. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate the Reich offices and authorities in implementing the plan to murder 11,000,000 Jews. On January 20th, 1942, fifteen high-ranking Nazi party officials gathered at the villa.⁴

Representing the SS at the meeting were: SS General Reinhard Heydrich, the Chief of the Reich Security Main Office (*Reichssicherheitshauptamt* — RSHA) and one of *Reichsführer-SS* (SS chief) Heinrich Himmler's top deputies; SS Major General Heinrich Müller, Chief of RSHA Department IV (Gestapo); SS Lieutenant Colonel Adolf Eichmann⁵, chief of the RSHA Field Office for the Government General in Krakow, Poland; SS Major Rudolf Lange, commander of the RSHA *Einsatzkommando* (killing squads) 2, deployed in Latvia in the autumn of 1941; and SS Major General Otto Hoffmann, the chief of the SS Race and Settlement Main Office. Representing the agencies of the State were: State Secretary Roland Freisler (Ministry of Justice); Ministerial Director Wilhelm Kritzinger (Reich

remembered that Sephardi Jews also suffered during the Holocaust period and experienced in their countries pogroms called the "Farhud". The Mufti collaborated with Hitler.

³ Babi Yar has become the symbol of the "killing fields". Approximately 34,000 Jews were shot into the infamous ravine on the outskirts of Kiev within a 2-day period starting September 29th, 1941. The figure of 34,000 is of course an estimate. Chelmno was operating with gas vans. It must be remembered that the extermination was already taking place.

⁴ It must be mentioned that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the planning and implementation of the Final Solution in all its managerial and organizational capacity.

⁵ Eichmann was caught and tried for his crimes against humanity and the genocide of the Jews. He was sentenced to be hanged in Israel on June 1st, 1962. He was cremated and his ashes scattered, so that no part of him would be left... This year marks the 70th anniversary of the first and only execution by hanging in Israel since its establishment — a prominent figure in the final solution to the problem of the Jew.

Cabinet); State Secretary Alfred Mayer (Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories — German-Occupied — USSR); Ministerial Director Georg Leibbrandt (Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories); Undersecretary of State Martin Luther (Foreign Office); State Secretary Wilhelm Stuckart (Ministry of the Interior); State Secretary Josef Bühler (Office of the Government of the Governor General — German occupied Poland); and Ministerial Director Gerhard Klopfer (Nazi Party Chancellor). Not present at the meeting were representatives of the German Armed Forces (*Wehrmacht*) and the Reich Railroads (*Reichsbahn*) in the Ministry of Transportation. In late September 1941, Hitler authorized the Reich Railroads to transport German, Austrian, and Czech Jews to locations in German-occupied Poland and the German-occupied Soviet Union, where authorities would kill the overwhelming majority of them.⁶ Regarding the figure of 11,000,000, Heydrich included not only Jews residing in the Axis-controlled Europe, but also Jewish populations of the United Kingdom, and the neutral nations (Switzerland, Ireland, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, and European Turkey). He also included in that figure the Jews of Greece and some countries where Sephardi Jews resided. For the Jews in the greater German Reich and holding status as subjects of the Reich, the Nürnberg Laws would serve as a basis for determining who was a Jew. Taken from the original document of the minutes of the Wannsee Conference, he announced that: “During the course of the Final Solution, the Jews will be deployed under appropriate supervision at a suitable form of labor deployment in the East. In large labor columns separated by gender, able-bodied Jews will be brought to those

Original document photographed on location at the Wannsee Conference Memorial Center showing the infamous 11,000,000 figure representing the amount of future victims of the European Jewry designated by the Nazi killing machine.

Frankreich / Unbesetztes Gebiet	700.000
Griechenland	69.800
Niederlande	166.800
Norwegen	1.300
B. Bulgarien	48.000
England	330.000
Finnland	2.300
Irland	4.000
Italien einschl. Sardinien	58.000
Albanien	200
Kroatien	40.000
Portugal	3.000
Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien	342.000
Schweden	8.000
Schweiz	18.000
Serbien	10.000
Slowakei	88.000
Spanien	6.000
Türkei (europ. Teil)	55.500
Ungarn	742.800
UdSSR	5.000.000
Ukraine	2.994.684
Weißrußland aus- schl. Bialystok	446.484
Zusammen:	über 11.000.000

⁶ Most of the material for the purpose of this paper, although abundant, has been taken and extrapolated from the House of the Wannsee Conference website and on location during a visit there in February 2011. All photos were done on location during that visit. Additional information provided by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Yad Vashem Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes Remembrance Authority.

regions to build roads whereby a large number will doubtlessly be lost through natural reduction. Any final remnant that survives will doubtless consist of the element most capable of resistance. They must be dealt with appropriately since representing the fruit of natural selection, they are to be regarded as the core of a new Jewish revival” (Minutes of the Wannsee Conference).

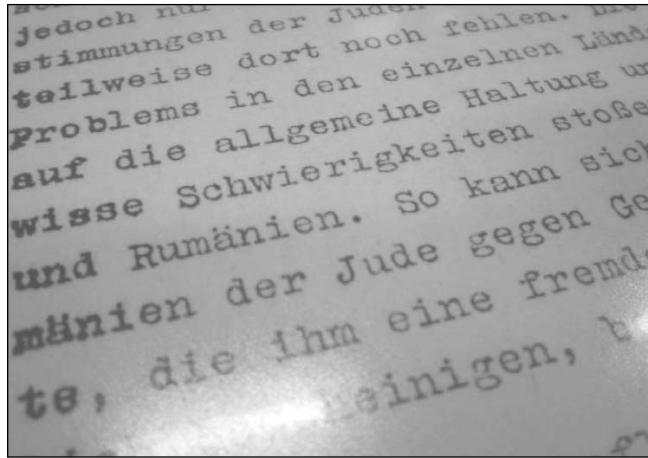
The participants discussed a number of other issues, including the establishment of the Theresienstadt Ghetto and preparatory measure for evacuations. During the euphemisms which appeared in the protocols of the meeting, the aim of the Wannsee Conference was clear to its participants — to further coordinate a policy aimed at the total physical extermination and annihilation of the Jews.

To carry out this judgment designated as the Final Solution, the entire bureaucratic and functional apparatus of the entire German State and the Nationalist Socialist Movement, embarked on the employment of the best available technological means. It was the code name assigned by the German bureaucracy for the annihilation of the Jews. When analyzed, it reveals its fundamental character of finality, the ultimate. The term “Jewish question”, as first used during the early Enlightenment/Emancipation period in Western Europe, referred to the persistence of the Jews as the problem, as a people that did not appear to conform to the state’s new political demands. Since a question demands an answer and a problem demands a solution, many preoccupied themselves with the latter, such as the abandonment of religion, the abandonment of the Jewish language. To this end, the National Socialists are given credit for their addition of the word *final*; definite; ultimate; end; sacrificial with a tone of salvation — almost biblical.

Chelmno was the first extermination site which operated on Polish soil. It operated in two phases from 1941 to 1943 and then again from 1944 to 1945, when the final liquidation of the Jews from the Lodz Ghetto were cited for extermination. Through the use of three gas vans, approximately 300,000 Jews were gassed to death, their bodies buried in mass graves, later to be exhumed and burnt through Aktion 1005, the action for exhumation of the bodies. The Jewish prisoners selected for this horrific scene were themselves exterminated only to be replaced by new ones. After visiting Chelmno, the palace grounds which were excavated and where Jews took their last walk straight into the gas vans, are now visible. It was in 1943 that the last Jews were blown up in the palace (manor) and Chelmno ceased to function. It reopened on June 23rd, 1944, until July 17th, 1944, to receive a tally of 7,000 Jews from the Lodz Ghetto. In order to speed up the process of liquidation from Lodz, the remaining 68,000 Jews were sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau. The Chelmno extermination site was the prototype for stationary gas chambers which were set up at the extermination sites of Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka, Majdanek, and Auschwitz-Birkenau.

According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, it is not exactly known when the leaders of Nazi Germany decided to implement the “Final

Authentic document at the Wannsee Conference and on display taken on visit. It illustrates the Romanian Jewish problem and what the procedure would be. Note the word *Rumänien* and *Jude* for Jew.



Solution”. The genocide, or mass destruction of the Jews, was a culmination of increasingly severe discriminatory measures. After the Nazi party achieved power in 1933, its state-sponsored racism led to anti-Jewish legislation, economic boycotts and the violence of the *Kristallnacht* (“Night of the Broken Glass”), all of which were aimed at isolating the Jews and driving them out of the country. After the September-1939 German invasion of Poland (the beginning of World War II), the anti-Jewish policy escalated and ghettos (enclosed areas designated to isolate and control the Jews) were established in the General-gouvernement (a territory in central and eastern Poland overseen by a German civilian government) and the Warthegau (an area of western Poland annexed to Germany). Polish and western European Jews were deported to these ghettos, where they lived in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions, with inadequate food. Nazi leader Hermann Goering authorized SS General Reinhard Heydrich to make preparations for the implementation of a “complete solution of the Jewish question”.

The code name “Operation Reinhard” was eventually given to this plan, named after Heydrich who was assassinated by Czech partisans in May 1942). As part of Operation Reinhard, Nazi leaders established the three killing centers in Poland of Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka — with the sole purpose of mass-murdering the Jews. The Majdanek camp, just outside Lublin, served from time to time as a killing site for Jews residing in the General-gouvernement. In its gas chambers, the SS killed tens of thousands of Jews, primarily forced laborers too weak to work. In its gas chambers, the SS killed approximately 65,000 Jews. In the spring of 1942, Himmler designated Auschwitz II as a killing facility. SS authorities murdered approximately one million Jews from various European countries in Auschwitz-Birkenau. In the killing centers, the Jews were murdered either by asphyxiation with poison gas or by shooting. The “Final Solution” called for the murder of all European Jews by gassing, shooting, and other means.

It must be mentioned that the Reinhard Sites of Sobibor, Treblinka, and Belzec were established one following the other, with the sole intent of totally exterminating the Jews. They were exterminated upon arrival. Approximately six million Jewish men, women, and children were killed during the Holocaust — two thirds of the Jews living in Europe before World War II.⁷

Extermination sites in Poland (code-name “Operation Reinhard”)	Number of victims (Based on estimations)
Belzec	550,000
Treblinka	850,000
Sobibor	250,000
Chelmno	300,000

Total number of victims: approximately 2 million.

The Final Solution to the problem of the Jews, which is credited with the Nazis, achieved success on a wide scale. Had they not lost the war, they would have succeeded in even greater numbers of victims than the approximate estimation of 6,000,000. It is an example of bureaucratic efficiency, of a well-thought out, calculated, and engineered plan consisting of professionals at the highest levels. No other organizational plan succeeded on such a scale of genocidal evil as the Holocaust. Killing Jews even came at the expense with the shortage of manpower at the end of the war. It did not matter. The slaughter of millions outweighed the commerce of the Third Reich. Yet, the Holocaust is not only the deaths of millions

The Belzec Memorial Site taken on location October, 2011. The darker areas are mass graves. There are about 33 mass graves at Belzec. Estimates range as high as over 1,000,000 victims, but due to lack of documentation (as most were destroyed and there are no survivors) the number of presumed martyrs ranges between 500,000 and 600,000.



⁷ It must be mentioned that gas chambers were used in other parts of Europe, too. In Germany they were used in Dachau, Sachsenhausen, Ravensbruck, and Buchenwald. Mass killings took place all around Europe. The approximate figure of 6,000,000 is only an estimation and must not be taken at face value. However, in the Reinhard extermination sites (Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka), the Jews were immediately exterminated upon arrival. Belzec was the first site which used stationary gas chambers. There are many concentration camps which were in use in other parts of Europe and remain relatively unknown and obscure.

Shoes in Auschwitz 1 taken on location, of victims from all walks of life and all ages. Each shoe belonged to a human being of flesh and blood. Note the white baby shoe and the fashionable lady's shoe. The photo was taken in February 2011 in the Auschwitz Museum. It illustrates the zeal with which the German Holocaust carried out its Final Solution to the problem of the Jews.



of people, each with their own name, family, community — it was the largest economic pillaging of human possessions of all time — and they spared nothing. From the possession of houses and their contents, to the extraction of gold teeth from victims, to human hair used for stuffing pillows, economic plundering and pillaging must be addressed as a separate topic. But the Final Solution in all its totality was a success. More than half of the European Jewry was eliminated... part of a culture that is no more...

From ashes to remembrance: The House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Center today

During the research that was conducted, a trip to the house of the Wannsee Conference seemed surreal. On a beautiful location by the clear and shimmering Wannsee Lake, approximately two hours by train from Berlin, it almost makes one forget what hideous crimes against humanity and plans for genocide and total extermination were discussed there. It is located at 56-58 Am Grossen Wannsee. It was used as a guesthouse for the SS and high-ranking officials and their guests. The beautiful sculpture in the back of the house represents the perfect man, the perfectly built human being. The beautifully kept gardens, the roses, all take one's breath away. The House of the Wannsee Conference has transcended itself from a place that began the ashes of the Jews, to an amazing place of remembrance. It is now serving humanity rather than taking humanity away. For it is a paradox that in such beauty such evil could happen. Today, the house is a memorial and an educational site consisting of a permanent exhibition of the original documents for

all those to see on display — the meeting which took place on January 20th, 1942, and solved the problem of the Jews. Besides the permanent exhibition of original documents, it has a library with collections of over 50,000 items, in addition to newspapers and government records on microfilm. Its collections illustrate the history of the Jewish people, anti-Semitism, persecution, genocide, racism, neo-Nazism, the culture of remembrance and more. It also provides educational opportunities, addressing school-children and other young people, as well as adults. It also has courses for teachers and trainee teachers, seminars, and continues the investigation of how to deal with National Socialism during the lessons in school. It does not replace the lessons taught in school about the history of National Socialist persecution of the Jews. Instead, it provides the opportunities offered by the historical site to gain deeper insights into significant aspects of the genocide of the Jews and facilitates the study of a range of particular topics. There are no rigid curricular guidelines and time schedules, which allows participants to self-reflect and gain insights into the history of National Socialist crimes and their effects on the present. The educational opportunities are designed according to the interests and prior knowledge of the participants. All functions and events can be conducted in many European languages as well as in Hebrew.



Front of the Wannsee Conference Center taken on location, February 2011.

In an interview conducted in February 2011, Deputy Director and Educational Director of the House, Dr. Wolf Kaiser, said: “I hesitate to call it a museum in the narrow sense, because up until 1992, there was no archive here or Holocaust related artifacts. Our artifact is the house itself. It is a museum, and an artifact, a historical site. It can be called a museum, but not in trying to preserve artifacts. We show documentation and, of course, photos in reproductions. In terms of education and confronting the public, we are not so different from a museum. We are less active in preservation, except for the house. Therefore, we call it here a memorial and educational site, though of course the term memorial has also some problems in this case because it is the *site of the perpetrators*. The house has become a symbol for the bureaucratic organization and implementation of the Holocaust.”

When Dr. Wolf Kaiser was asked why the House should be remembered and maintained, he replied that “it is the site in Germany which refers to the *European dimension* of the Holocaust. Although concentration camp memorials in Germany had prisoners from many countries, including Jewish prisoners, their role in the process of the Holocaust is limited. Most of the Jews were sent to Poland. They only came back later on as forced laborers. This site here is where the implementation of the Holocaust all over Europe was really discussed and planned. Therefore, I think it is a central historical site.”

Testimonies of the Generations Hall,
Wannsee Conference Memorial and
Educational Center, taken on location



Interior of the House of the Wannsee
Conference, showing original
documents on display.



The House of the Wannsee Conference is redeeming itself from an infamous site of bureaucratic planning for genocide, to a place for reflection, remembrance, and education against xenophobia, racism, and genocide. It is a unique place — it is the museum of the perpetrators and the house must be preserved. The artifact is the house itself. But one has to have previous knowledge to realize what lurked behind its beautiful exterior and its pastoral view and location. 2012 marks the 70th anniversary of the Final Solution. It marks the 70th anniversary of the systematically engineered construction which culminated in the three death sites of Belzec (March 1942), Sobibor (May 1942), and Treblinka (July 1942). The intent of these three sites was total extermination. More Jews perished on these sites than in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Yet, during the Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony in Israel, they were not mentioned. Many people are under the illusion that before 1942 Jews were not exterminated. They were exterminated through starvation, torture, mass executions in killing fields and at random, slave labor, liquidated from the ghettos etc. 2011 marked the 70th anniversary of the gas vans which operated at Chelmno and set the prototype for the stationary gas chambers in Auschwitz. September 29th (The Jewish New Year) 2011 marked the 70th anniversary of the Babi Yar massacre on the outskirts of Kiev. Again, not mentioned on the occasion of the Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashana). 2011 also marked the 70th anniversary of the Struma episode. Struma was the ship which took off from Constanța in December 1941 and was torpedoed off the coast of Turkey with 769 souls aboard. It originally sailed from Constanța with the Jews who wanted to try and save themselves from the ensuing pogroms in Romania. 2011 also marked the 70th anniversary of the Iași pogrom which took place in 1941 and the necessity for Romania to reevaluate her role in the Holocaust upon discovery of a mass grave in the Popricani forest outside Iași — an ambivalence shattered by this discovery, grateful to those at the Elie Wiesel Institute for Studying the Holocaust in Romania.



Jewish remains of the Iași pogrom victims reburied in the Iași Jewish cemetery. There are many more mass graves yet to be discovered around Romania, Poland, and the Ukraine.

Holocaust remembrance is a tremendous network consisting of Holocaust museums springing up worldwide, Jewish museums, history museums, institutes, institutes for national remembrance, study programs in schools and universities, and the testimonies of those few survivors who remain. Most important of all are those sites where the atrocities actually occurred — the authentic places where the cries of the ashes can still be “heard”. And yet, there are still those who deny that the event occurred — those who say the Holocaust never happened or at least not on the scale that history tells us about. With all that, Jewish communities which once were are experiencing a small revival — the Jewish community in Warsaw (about 5,000 Jews); the revival of the Jewish quarter in Krakow, which attracts tourism from all over; the Jewish quarter in Prague, which is a must-see for those who visit the Czech capital; the Jewish communities in Germany — the largest one in Berlin (approximately 8,000 Jews). The Final Solution, although successful, did not totally wipe out the resiliency of the Jewish people. And although many Jewish communities around Europe are forever gone, traces still remain. Synagogues which once filled the streets with prayers and the streets which were filled with Yiddish dialect are empty. Thanks to the work of many young people and those who have dedicated themselves to doing work for humanity, they are being recognized and studied. It is those monuments that tell us the story of the victims. The House of the Wannsee Conference tells us about the origins of the management and bureaucratic organization of the Jewish genocide and the darkest side of mankind. It tells us about the perpetrators...

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