

The word of the editor

Historians are people who constantly face in the profession with the idea of transience and its crucial symbol – death! From that common sense with the world of dead, arises concept of memory and knowledge both of others and ourselves that we live in heritage.

Tremendous crimes committed in the past, indifference of the living ones that follows it, based in ignorance and lack of compassion, made the historians to take the responsibility for their knowledge of history.

In the name of that responsibility, Historical Archives of Belgrade wishes to remind you of existence of the factories of death on the territory of Belgrade, which, together with the concentration camps in Europe, from Norway to Greece, make unique network of German occupant system. It is about Banjica Camp in Belgrade, which is assumed of getting into prison about 30.000 people, in the period 1941 – 1944.

According to the books of Banjica camp, it is registered 23.244 prisoners, and 4.286 lost their life.

Men, women, children of all age, different nationalities.

Some values exist, which are for the human, in his long historical abidance, permanent. Those values motivates him continuously to improve and question himself, in other word to seek for formula of becoming a MAN in harmony with the humanistic ideal which he proclaimed it. Or, how would explain it, historian Agnes Heller, there is a wish, which cannot be abated by another: us to be participants in the responsibility of our collectiveness. We can live an honest life, why don't we try it?

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