

Genocide

From 1915 to 1945

8,500,000 dead

The Armenian Genocide

- **Who:** **Christian Armenians** living in the Ottoman Empire were targeted by the **Young Turks** (A political group heading the Ottoman Empire)
- **What:** On April 24, 1915, several hundred **Armenian community leaders and intellectuals** in Constantinople (modern day Istanbul) were arrested, sent east, and put to **death**. Other Armenians were sent into the Syrian Desert.
- The **adult and teenage males** were separated from the deportation caravans and **killed** under the direction of Young Turk functionaries.

- Women and children were driven for months over mountains and desert, often **raped, tortured, and mutilated**.
- **Result:** Ultimately, more than half the Armenian population, 1,500,000 people were **annihilated**. In this manner the Armenian people were eliminated from their homeland of several millennia.
- **How it ended:** The leaders of the Young Turks were tried for war crimes. Many were eventually found guilty and put to death.



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Byzantine Armenia
 Cilicia (Little Armenia)
 Greater Armenia
 Soviet Armenia
 Woodrow Wilson's boundary for the Treaty of Sèvres, Aug. 10, 1920



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THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE: 1915-1923



Massacre sites: The marker size represents the number of deaths.



Death March Routes: Turkish troops forced Armenians into the desert, without food or water, to die of starvation and heat exhaustion.



Concentration Camps



Deportation Checkpoints



Present day regional country borders



Historic Armenia borders



Current Armenia borders

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The Ukrainian Genocide/the Holodomor

- Who: Ukrainian people living in Ukraine were starved by Stalin while in control of the Soviet Union.
- Holodomor: literally means "death by hunger" in Ukrainian.
- What: Stalin implemented new economic policies in the Ukraine including the collectivization of farms.
- Ukrainians were forced to work on farms but were not given food in return.

- The outcome in the Ukraine was an estimated 7,000,000 dead in this farming area, known as the breadbasket of Europe, with the people deprived of the food they had grown with their own hands
- Because all crops were now property of the government anyone caught stealing an ear of corn or a stubble of wheat could be shot or imprisoned for at least 10 years
- Starvation occurred quickly in the Ukraine
- Children and elderly were the most vulnerable-
The once-smiling young faces of children vanished forever amid the constant pain of hunger

- **Result: By 1933 25,000 people died per day**
- Anyone within the Soviet Union could be arrested for saying the words, “Famine”, “Hunger”, or “Starvation”
- How it ended: In November of 2006 Ukraine recognized the Holodomor as an official Genocide
- To this day Russia still denies the Holodomor/Ukrainian Genocide.



The Rape of Nanjing 1937-1938

- Who: Chinese mostly in the city of Nanjing were tortured, raped, and eventually killed by Japanese soldiers invading.
- What: The Japanese soldiers first targeted the army that was stationed in Nanjing. They were taken to the outskirts of Nanjing and killed using various methods. (burning alive, burying alive, shot, bayoneted, etc.)
- After the army was taken care of the Japanese soldiers returned to Nanjing and begun their 6 week killing spree of all Chinese living in and around Nanjing. Women of all ages were raped and then killed.

- When Japanese soldiers came across whole families it was common practice for Japanese soldiers to make fathers rape their daughters and sons to rape their mothers before they killed the whole family.
- Even pregnant women were not spared. They were often times raped and then their bellies were split open and their fetus was ripped out.

- Result: 300,000 out of 600,000 citizens and soldiers in Nanjing were murdered in cold blood.
- How did it end: A war crimes trial was held. None of the members of the imperial family were convicted including Prince Asaka who was in charge of the Japanese troops in Nanjing.



The Roma Genocide

- Occurred at the same time as the Jewish Genocide- both were part of the Holocaust
- Who: Roma or gypsy is a specific ethnic group that has historically been nomadic and originated in India.
- What: The Romanis were hated in Europe just as the Jews were. Their ethnic background made them an “other”
- Prior to being deported from Germany Romanis were forced to live in organized camps.

- After the camps in Germany many Romanis were deported out of Germany and were put into concentration camps and worked to death.
- Many Romanis were eventually put to death in extermination or death camps.
- Results: While exact figures or percentages cannot be ascertained, historians estimate that the Germans and their allies killed between 25 and 50 percent of all European Roma.

- How did it end: Nazi officials and soldiers were put under investigation for war crimes
- Hatred of the Romanis continued throughout Europe
- They are still a people without a homeland

The Jewish Genocide

- Who: people of Jewish decent living in and around Europe were killed en mass by Hitler and the Nazis.
- What: Jewish people's rights as citizens were taken away (especially in germany)
- Soon they were forced to live in Ghettos awaiting deportation.
- Towns and Ghettos were eventually emptied of all Jewish people

- Once Jews were deported they endured long train rides cramped into cattle cars without food or drink.
- Upon arriving at concentration camps the weak, young, and old were immediately killed off using various forms.
- Those that were able to work were forced into labor until they died or were unhealthy enough to be selected for death.

- Results: Approximately 6 million people of Jewish decent were murdered and exterminated during the Holocaust.
- How did it end: After WWII and the defeat of Germany head commanders in the Nazi party were put on trial for war crimes. Many were found guilty
- Eventually the Jewish homeland was founded in Jerusalem- many Holocaust survivors moved to Jerusalem, the United States and other areas of the world.



“Work will set you free...”

We study the injustices of history for the same reason that we study genocide, and for the same reason that psychologists study the minds of murderers and rapists... to understand how those evil things came about.

Jared Diamond