

THE ARMENIAN MASSACRE

TALAAAT'S ORDER

"September 16, 1916. — To the Government of Aleppo. It was at first communicated to you that the Government, by order of the Jemiet had decided to destroy completely all the Armenians living in Turkey... An end must be put to their existence, however criminal the measures taken may be, and no regard must be paid to either age or sex nor to conscientious scruples."

Minister of the Interior, "TALAAAT"

HITLER'S ORDER

"August 22, 1939. — I have given orders to my Death Units to exterminate without mercy or pity men, women and children belonging to the Polish speaking race. It is only in this manner that we can acquire the vital territory which we need. AFTER ALL WHO REMEMBERS TODAY THE EXTERMINATION OF THE ARMENIANS."

ADOLF HITLER

If Hitler was encouraged by the fact that the perpetrators of the Great Massacre of the Armenians were never brought to justice, then those Powers who allowed this to happen must be in part responsible for the Hitlerite Genocide.

THE MASSACRES OF RAS-UL-AIN

While the deportation of the deportees was carried on by railway, Kaimakam Yousouf Zia Bey reported that there was no more room for Armenians in Ras-Ul-Ain; that five or six hundred were dying every day, and that there was neither time to bury the dead nor to send the living further south.

He received an answer to the following effect. "Hasten the deportations. In this way those who are not fit to leave will fall down and die at a few hours' distance from the town, and the town will get rid of both the living and the dead."

The first thing which attracted the attention of Jevdet Bey was the mound at whose base were the thousands of tents belonging to the Armenian Camp.

Jevdet Bey thought that it was a military camp, and asked where those soldiers were going. The Kaimakam answered that those were not soldiers, but Armenian deportees. On hearing this, Jevdet Bey, not dreaming that there was an Armenian amongst his audience, exclaimed —

"Are those dogs still in existence? I command you to slaughter them all!"

DOCUMENT 19.

THEY WERE KILLED OR STARVED TO DEATH.

...At sunset these 500 young men were shot outside the town without any formality. During the following two days the same process was carried out with heartless and cold-blooded thoroughness in the 80 Armenian villages of Ardjish, Adiljevas, and the rest of the district north of Lake Van. In this manner some 24,000 Armenians were killed in three days, their young women carried away and their homes looted.

1070 Armenian-American (Waterbury, M.A.)

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THE MASSACRES OF DER-ZOR

The people were driven out of Der-Zor in batches, under the pretext of being sent to Mou-sul. But they were unable to go beyond Sheddade. Zeki Bey selected principally the deserts of Marat and Souvar on the road to Sheddade, and as it was impossible to wipe out so many people by slaughtering them, he created an artificial famine, during which the people first ate the donkeys, dogs and cats, then the carcasses of horses and dogs. Finally, when there was nothing else left to eat, they began to devour human corpses, more especially corpses of small children.

In the desert some ownerless and hungry children saw a cauldron on a fire at a camp and thought that it was meat cooking; they took off the lid of the cauldron and stole a piece. It was a little child's hand they had stolen.

A girl was ill in bed from having had nothing to eat for several days. Her mother was watching beside her. The smell of cooking meat came from somewhere near. Doubtless they were cooking the corpse of some child.

"Mother, go and ask for a piece, I can stand it no longer," said the girl. The mother went, but shortly returned empty handed.

"Wouldn't they give any?" said the girl. "Mother, if I die, don't give them any of my flesh. Eat it yourself."

In this way the children were accustomed, while still alive, to the idea that their corpses would be eaten after their death.

A chemist who had some poison with him made pills of it, and fortunate people used to buy them, so as to be liberated a moment earlier from those unspeakable tortures.

In order to keep the enthusiasm of the Turks for massacre up to the mark, Zeki Bey would often bend down from his horse, take hold of a small child by its arm, turn it round once or twice in the air and dash it to the ground, killing and breaking it to pieces; and he would say to his followers: "Don't think that I have killed an innocent being. Even the newborn babes of this people (Armenians) are criminals, for they will carry the seeds of vengeance in themselves. If you wish to ensure tomorrow, kill even their children."

And they spared none.

Only a few of the good-looking girls were saved from the massacres. After a week or two, those girls were sent on camels to Ras-Ul-Ain, towards Mardin, where they were often sold for five piastres (two shillings). In this way was completed the massacre of Der-Zor, in which nearly all the Armenians who had been deported into the desert were wiped out — more than 200,000 people.

March 25, 1915.— To the delegate at Adana, Jemal Bey.

"The Jemiet, unable to forget all old scores and past bitterness, full of hope for the future, has decided to annihilate all Armenians living in Turkey, without leaving a single one alive, and it has given the Government a wide scope with regard to this."

To Jemal Bey, delegate at Adana.—

"Nov. 18, 1915.— It is the duty of all of us to effect on the broadest lines the realization of

the noble project of wiping out of existence the Armenians who have for centuries been constituting a barrier to the Empire's progress in civilization."

A cipher-telegram from the Ministry of the Interior, addressed to the Government of Aleppo.—

"From interventions which have recently been made by the American Ambassador at Constantinople on behalf of his Government, it appears that the American consuls are obtaining information by secret means. In spite of our assurances that the (Armenian) deportations will be accomplished in safety and comfort, they remain unconvinced. Be careful that events attracting attention shall not take place in connection with those (Armenians) who are near the cities, and other centers. From the point of view of the present policy, it is most important that foreigners who are in those parts shall be persuaded that the expulsion of the Armenians is in truth only deportation. For this reason it is important that, to save appearances, a show of gentle dealing shall be made for a time, and the usual measures be taken in suitable places. It is recommended as very important that the people who have given such information shall be arrested and handed over to the military authorities for trial by court-martial."

Minister of the Interior, "TALAAT."