



The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County*

(* and surrounding areas)

Come and Commemorate Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day)

Sunday, May 1, 2011 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

The Program: The First Massive Jewish Deportation: To Camp de Gurs in 1940



Gurs Camp From Google Images
claude.torres1.perso.sfr.fr

Gauleiters Robert Wagner and Joseph Bürckel, administrative heads of the States of Baden and the Pfalz/Saar, sought to be the first among their Nazi cohorts to make their territories *Judenrein* (free of Jews). They had engineered a massive expulsion of over 6,500 Jews to Camp de Gurs, located in unoccupied Vichy France. The event became known as the *Wagner-Bürckel Aktion* by the *Gauleiters* as their gift to the to the *Führer* on October 23, 1940.

The relocation of Jews to the Gurs concentration camp became only an intermediate step prior to the infamous "Final Solution" which was pronounced in January 1942. This Nazi inspired annihilation program triggered yet a second round of transports that would move the incarcerated from Gurs to the Parisian suburb of Drancy, an assembly point where the victims faced a final deportation to the death camp of Auschwitz.

The story of this little known tragedy is told by Frank, who delves into the background of the historical events that led to the *Aktion*, recounts the impact of this cataclysm on his hometown of Eppingen and relates the tribulations and ultimate fate encountered by his widely located family in the State of Baden.

Speaker: Werner Frank is a founding member, former board member and former newsletter editor of JGSCV, and a member of JGSLA. He was one of the founders of GERSIG (the German Special Interest Group of JewishGen, Inc.), and has written articles for *ROOTS*, *Maajan*, *Avotaynu* and *Stammbaum*. Frank has been researching his family's history, amassing a genealogical database of over 33,000 names, resulting in the publication of the history of his family, *Legacy: The Saga of a German-Jewish Family over Time and Circumstance*, published by Avotaynu Foundation in 2003. He has spoken at numerous IAJGS conferences and other venues.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques and research tools with anyone interested in Jewish genealogy and family history. (www.jgscv.org)

Meeting co-sponsored by Temple Adat Elohim.

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV.

For more information contact: information@jgscv.org Jan Meisels Allen@ 818-889-6616