



## Babi Yar

Ravine located in northwestern Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine, where some 50,000 Jews were murdered in 1941.

The Germans captured Kiev on September 19, 1941. A week later, they decided to massacre the city's Jews. On September 28, the Jews were ordered to assemble the next morning for resettlement. They were marched to the ravine, and as they reached the site, were forced to surrender any valuables. They were then made to take off their clothes, and move towards the edge of the ravine in groups of ten. As they reached the edge, they were shot by *Einsatzkommando 4a* and German and Ukrainian police. At the end of the day, the bodies were covered with a thin layer of dirt. After two days of shooting, 33,771 Jews were dead.

Over the next few months, thousands more were murdered at Babi Yar, including Jews, Gypsies, and Soviet prisoners of war. In all, some 100,000 people were killed there. Those who attempted to hide were turned over to the Germans by the Ukrainians. In July 1943 the Germans returned to destroy the evidence of mass murder as part of *aktion 1005*.

A memorial to those who died there was finally erected at Babi Yar in 1974.