

## Exclusion and extermination

Jewish life in Esslingen between 1933 and 1945



Shortly after the Nazi Party's seizure of power, hostility towards Jews began to rise in Esslingen. On April 1, 1933, Jewish businesses were boycotted. In the following years, all Jewish shops and companies had to close.

Members of the SA, the paramilitary wing of the Nazi Party, block the entrance to the Esslingen branch of the department store chain Wohlwert (April 1, 1933)  
(Source: Träger- und Förderverein Ehemalige Synagoge Rexingen)

**April 1, 1933**

Boycott of Jewish businesses in Esslingen

**1939 to 1945**

Numerous Esslingen Jews are killed during the Shoah

**November 10, 1938**

Attack on the synagogue and orphanage

On November 10, 1938, the synagogue and the Jewish orphanage were destroyed, Jews were attacked, and Jewish books and cultural objects were burned. Most Jews living in Esslingen left.

Some were able to emigrate, but many were deported and murdered. The Jews remaining in Esslingen were transported to Riga on November 28, 1941. The exact number of Jews from Esslingen who lost their lives during the Shoah is not known.

*Teacher Albrecht Jonas' report on the destruction of the orphanage on November 10, 1938:*

***"Through my window, I saw a crowd of people, armed with sticks, iron bars, axes and hammers coming through the courtyard [...].***

***I heard and I still hear the children screaming and crying. Some of them only six years old and I couldn't help them. [...] They threw Jewish books and Thora scrolls out of the building and into the fire. They even threatened the children, saying they would throw them into the fire, too."***

Names of deported Jewish orphans from the Esslingen orphanage "Wilhelmspflge" (incomplete)

name	born	date and place of death
Gertrud Adler	07/03/1926	01/12/1941, Riga
Lore Akulewitsch	22/08/1921	unknown, Radom
Martha Aronsohn	10/03/1915	01/12/1941, Riga
Jeanne Bernstein	27/07/1924	14/11/1941, Minsk
Rolf Bonem	11/02/1922	1942, unknown
Ingeborg Brückner	02/10/1921	15/11/1941, Riga
Ruth Cohn	05/05/1917	13/07/1942, Auschwitz
Dora Dreifus	07/09/1923	01/12/1941, Riga
Manfred Dreifus	30/11/1924	01/12/1941, Riga
Doris Einstein	28/11/1928	01/12/1941, Riga
Günther Eisenmann	28/02/1927	11/09/1942, Majdanek

... and at least 39 other children and adolescents.