

Muslim Responses during the Holocaust

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Overview

- The Holocaust was a European phenomenon: organized in Europe, carried out by Europeans, occurring mostly in Europe.
- Yet, some Muslims encountered the Holocaust along with their Christian counterparts.



Anti-Semitism *less* common in Muslim lands

- Belief (from time of Muhammad) that Jews and Christians, like Muslims, are “Peoples of the Book”
- Ottoman Empire’s tradition of tolerance was the historical tradition of Arabs, Turks, and Balkan Muslims (Albanians, Bosnians)

Hajj Amin Al-Husseini

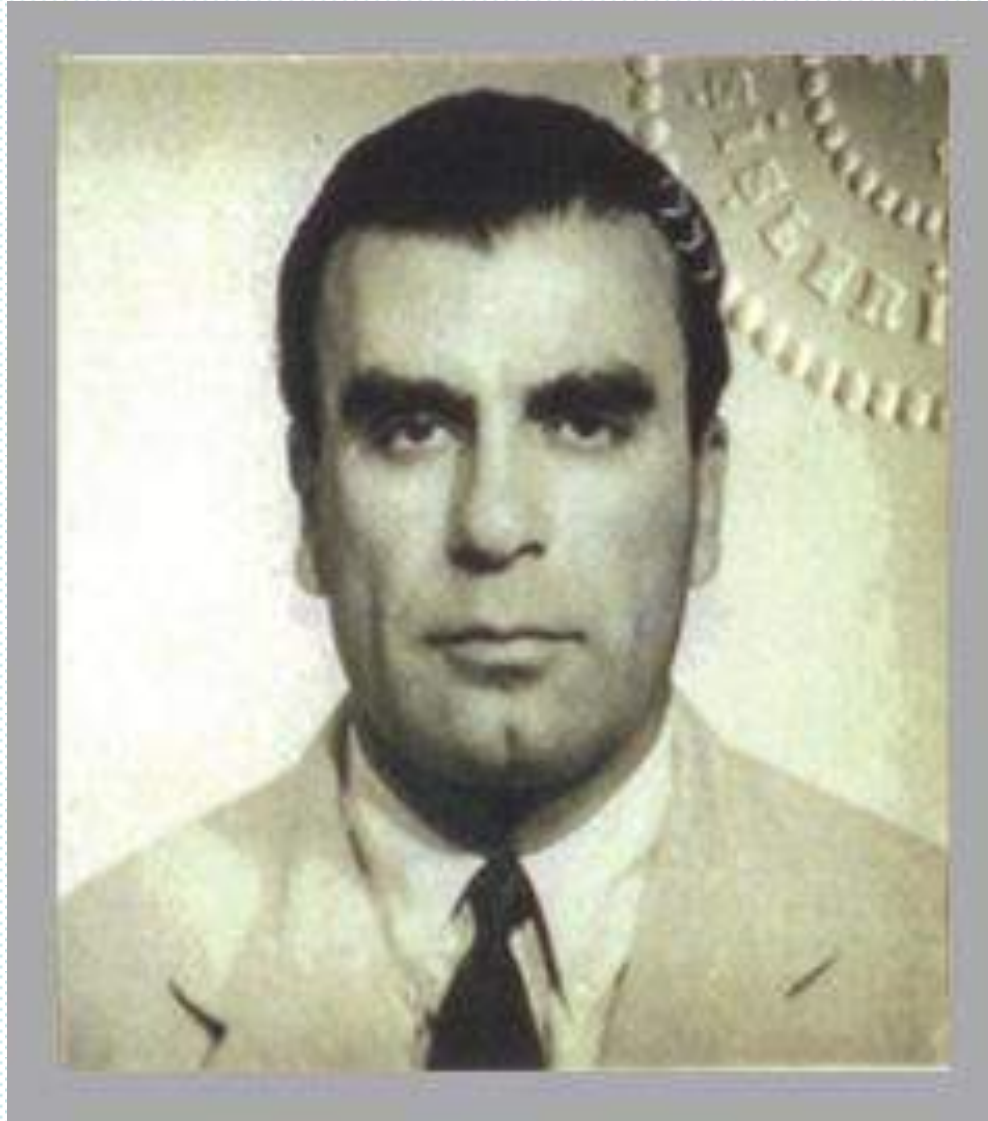


Abdol-Hossein Sardari, an Iranian diplomat who rescued Jews



<http://www.thejc.com/news/world-news/61852/irans-schindler-who-saved-aryan-jews>

Ismail Necdet Kent, Turkish diplomat/Holocaust rescuer



Selahattin Ulkumen, “Righteous Among the Nations”



Israeli stamp picturing Selahattin Ulkumen and four other diplomats who are Righteous Among the Nations



The Grand Mosque of Paris



<http://www.docbrown.info/docspics/paris/> 10
paris2006nov084.JPG

Two of the “Tehran Children” (Jewish refugees)



U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum photo archives



Tunisian Jews en route to do forced labor



Robert Satloff, *Among the Righteous*

Khaled Abdelwahhab, the first Arab nominated for Righteous Among the Nations

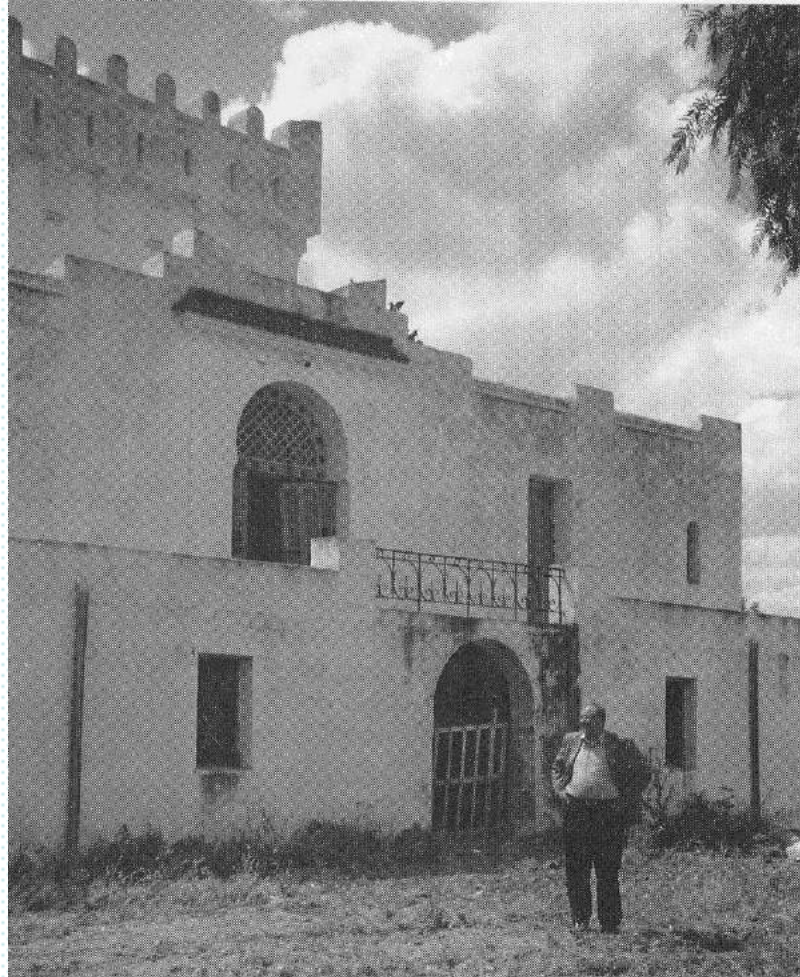


Si Ali Sakkat in Tunis



Robert Satloff, *Among the Righteous*

Home of Si Ali Sakkat, where he sheltered Jews





Albania as a haven for Jews

- Began the war with 200 Jews, but took in 800-1,000 Jewish refugees.
- Why?
 - Little anti-Semitism.
 - Code of honor (*besa*): everyone seeking assistance was a guest sent by God, and Albanians were bound by honor to protect these “guests” and care for them without taking anything in return.

The Franses family, Jewish refugees, with the Albanian family (the Kasapis) that sheltered them



U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum photo archives

Refik Veseli with Gavra Mandil, the Jewish child he is hiding



U.S. Holocaust Memorial
Museum photo archives²⁰





U.S. Holocaust Memorial
Museum, photo archives

The Handžars: Muslim SS?



U.S. Holocaust Memorial
Museum photo archives

Public Protests

- Jan. 1942: public demonstrations in Travnik against deportation of the Jews to “work camps.”
- Letters protesting “religious persecution” – signed by Muslim leaders
 - Between Aug. and Dec. 1941, protest letters sent from notables in Prijedor, Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Mostar, Bijeljina, and Tuzla.
 - Many signers ended up in concentration camps.



Tito (Partisan leader) with
Jewish Partisan Moshe Pijade.



Zejneba Hardaga, recognized with her husband and parents as “Righteous among the Nations.” (Note in the top picture, her arm is covering the Jewish marking on her friend’s clothes.)

בני משפחת הרדאגה

MUSTAFA & ZEJNEBA HARDAGA

IZET & BACHRIYA HARDAGA

AHMED SADIK

BOSNIA

דסנייה

Dervis Korkut



וַיִּשְׁוֹרְתָהּ
כִּלְאֵחַד כּוֹס וַיַּעֲשֵׂה י"ח הַסֵּדֶר כ
כִּאֲשֶׁר כִּתְּוֹב "
וּמְכַרְכֵּן כֹּאֵי אִמָּה אֲשֶׁר
קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתַי וַעֲזַבְנוּ יַעַל
נְטִילַת יָדַיִם "
יִקַּח אַחַת מִמֵּטֵי הַמִּצְוֹת הַשְּׁלִי
וַיִּנְדֹּךְ עָלֶיהָ כֹּאֵי אִמָּה הַמּוֹצֵא
נְטִילַת יָדַיִם
הַמּוֹצֵא

The Sarajevo Haggadah

Questions?

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