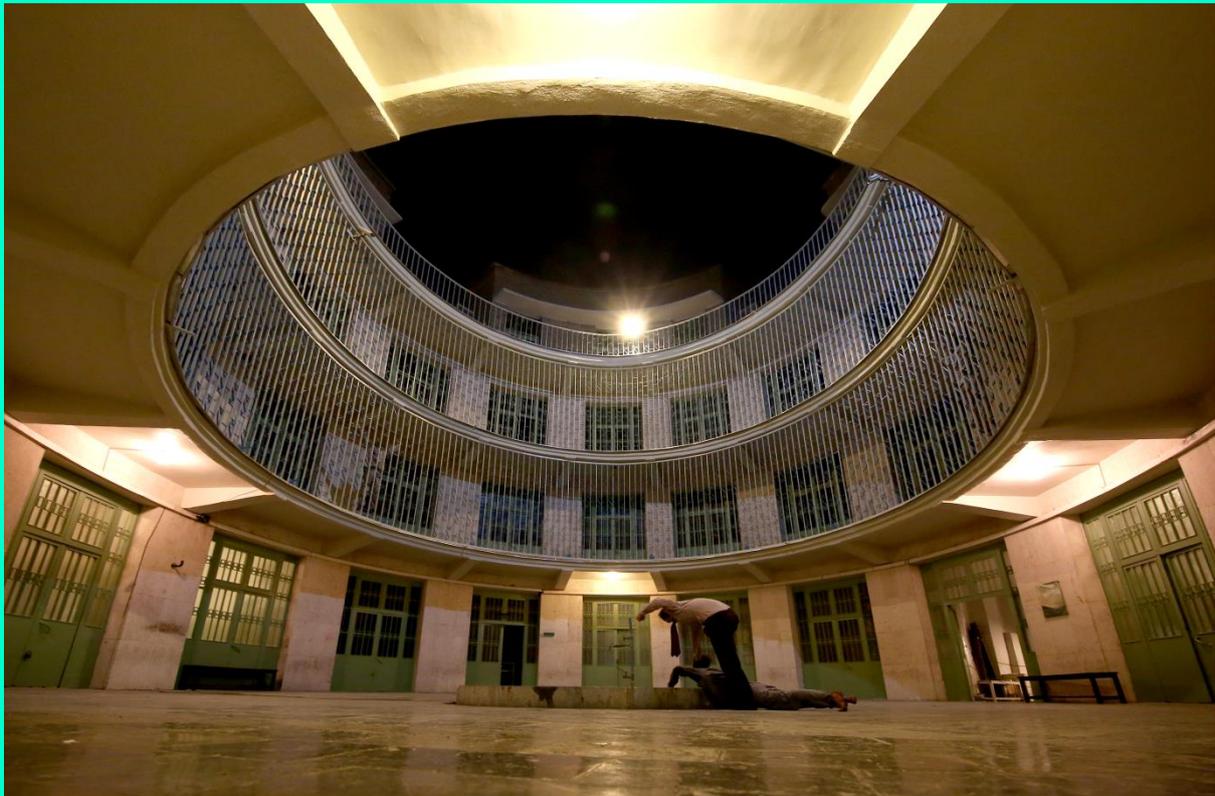


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One of the locations in Ebrat Museum of Iran

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# E

Vents

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### 12Farvardin, Islamic Republic of Iran's Day

The Iranian nation, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, made the historic and decisive choice of voting for the establishment of an Islamic Republic system through a two-day referendum held in March 1979.

Over 98.2 percent of Iranians in the referendum voted “Yes” to the Islamic Republic form of government, and since then April 1 has been observed every year as Islamic Republic Day.

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2

### Declaration of the Islamic Republic of Iran

On the 1st of April 1979 , 98.2% of the Iranian people voted for an Islamic republic. Imam Khomeini issued a statement on this auspicious day declaring Iran as an Islamic Republic, and thanking the people for their extensive participation in the referendum. The following is the Imam’s statement:

## **In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful**

**"And we wish to be gracious to those who were being oppressed in the land, to make them leaders in faith and make them heirs ".**

**I would like to congratulate the great Iranian nation, who had been humiliated by the monarchial despotism throughout the course of its history. The Exalted God has blessed it with an able hand, the power with which the oppressed people crushed the despotic regime and made our great nation the leader and guide of the oppressed nations, and with the installation of the Islamic republic, it will be endowed as the legitimate inheritance of this nation. On this auspicious day, which is the day of the Islamic community's leadership and victory, I would like to proclaim the Islamic Republic of Iran. I would like to announce to the world that in the entire history of Iran, there has never been such a referendum in which people swarmed into polling places to cast their votes affirmatively in ballot boxes and bury the regime of taghouti in the dustbin of history forever.**

**I am thankful for this unique solidarity by which all people, except a handful of adventurers and God-ignorant elements, responded almost unanimously in the positive to this Divine call" and hold fast, all together, by the Rope which God stretches out for you and be not divided among yourselves," » and gave their votes to the Islamic Republic and demonstrated their socio-political growth to both the East and West. Blessed be this day when you ripped to shreds the ghoulish and Pharaoh like adversary after the martyrdom of your youths leaving bereaved mothers and fathers nursing unbearable pain in their hearts and announced the setting up of the just Divine Islamic government with your decisive vote, a government in which all strata of the people are considered equal and the light of divine justice shines upon all the people with no discrimination and where the graces of the Qur'an shower on everyone. Auspicious be a government in which there is no discrimination against any ethnic groups be they white or black, Turk, Persian, Lori, Balouchis, etc. All people are equal and are brothers. Nobility may be achieved only through piety, and superiority derives from righteousness and moral deeds.**

**Blessed be this day when all strata of the people attain their rights. There is no difference in implementing justice between and among men and women, religious minorities. The satanic regime had been interred after which insurgence and rebellion against God will also be buried. The country will be emancipated from the claws of domestic and foreign enemies, looters and plunderers. Now, it is you, the brave nation, who are the guards of**

Islamic republic. Now, it is you, who should safeguard this divine heritage with might and decisiveness and allow not the lurking putrefied enemies, who are the supporters of international thieves and oil spongers to infiltrate your closed ranks. Now, it is you, who should take the reins of your fate and give the opportunists no chance. Take the next steps with the divine might, which is manifested in the community of people who will have ratified the constitution of the Islamic republic by sending erudite individuals and those whom you trust to the constitution parliament. You should give your votes to those whom you trust with the same love and enthusiasm with which you voted for the Islamic republic.

The dawn of April 1, which is the first of Allah's government, is among our religious and national holidays. Our nation should consider this day a cause of celebration and keep its flame alive and burning. This is a day the parapets of the 0052- year palace of the satanic) monarchial (rule collapsed and Satan's domination left this country for good, and a government of the oppresses, which is a divine government, replaced that of the taghout.

Oh, dear nation, which reclaimed your right, endear this right and safeguard it, and implement divine justice with your support under the banner of Islam and the Qur'an. I shall be at your service with all my might and this is serving Islam. This is how I will spend the rest of my days. I expect the nation to defend Islam and the Islamic republic with all its power. I ask the government to purge the country of the remnants of the taghouti regime whose stigma has tainted every aspect of the nation with an independent thought and determination and transform the country's education, justice administration and other departments and offices, which have been set up based on Western concepts and westernization, into a system of an Islamic nature, and demonstrate to the world social justice, educational, economic and political independence.

I implore the Exalted God for the grandeur and independence of the country and the Islamic community. May God's peace and mercy be upon you.

**Rouhullah al-Mousawi al-Khomeini**

**Date: April 1, 1979, Farvardin 12, 1358 AHS/ Jamadi al-Awwal 3, 1399 AH**

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# **P** rison Museums

## **The Museum Of Genocide Victims**

### **History**

**The Museum of Genocide Victims was established by the Order dated October 14, 1992 of the Minister of Culture and Education of the Republic of Lithuania and the President of the Union of Political Prisoners and Deportees. It is housed in the same building where from the second half of 1940 even until August 1991 the Soviet security services, best known in the world as KGB, operated. For the Lithuanian nation this building is a symbol of the 50-year-long Soviet occupation, therefore it is of special importance that here the museum is founded to remind the present generation and to tell the future generations about the years 1940-1991, difficult and tragic for Lithuania and its people.**



Former KGB building

**In 1997, the museum was reorganized. By the Resolution of 24 March 1997 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania “On the Transfer of the Research Centre for Reprisals in Lithuania and the Museum of Genocide Victims to the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania“, the rights of the Museum founder were taken over by the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania (LGGRTC). Now the Museum is part of the Memorial Department of the Centre.**

**In 1999, young and creative architects together with the museum employees devised a project for museum expositions. Since the museum is located in the historic building, the former layout planning was left in preparing expositions; it was attempted to preserve the surviving authentic details, somewhere to recreate the former premises or their fragments. The former KGB inner prison remained totally authentic, to be more precise, as it was left by the Soviet security men when moving out of the building in August 1991.**



Cell of the former KGB inner prison

**Already in 2000, a new exposition was opened in the former execution chamber following the prepared project.**

**In 2002, expositions were started to be prepared on the ground floor of the museum – in November an introductory exposition “Lithuania in 1940–1941: Losses Starting...” was opened. It is housed in the former office of the deputy chief of the MGB (KGB) inner prison, therefore alongside expositions showing the country’s occupation and Sovietization, it is possible to view the interior of that office. The preparation of expositions on the ground floor of the museum was completed at the end of 2004, after expositions, dedicated to the partisan war of 1944–1953, were arranged.**



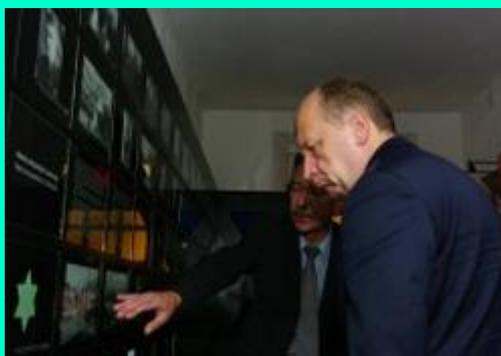
Eugenijus Peikštenis, director of the museum, introduces the exposition “Lithuania in 1940–1941: Losses Starting...” to President Valdas Adamkus. 27 November 2002.

**In 2006, the first floor of the museum housed expositions, devoted to the imprisonment of Lithuanian residents in the gulag in 1944–1956, deportations in 1944–1953 and KGB activities during 1954–1991. In 2007, the last exposition on the first floor, dedicated to the civil (unarmed) anti-Soviet resistance in 1954–1991, flung its doors open to the visitors. In two premises of the first floor the former interiors will be also recreated – behind glass partitions a KGB photolaboratory and the room for listening to telephone conversations are displayed.**



Eugenijus Peikštenis, director of the museum, introduces the first floor expositions to EP member Vytautas Landsbergis. 7 April 2006

**When the expositions telling about the Soviet occupation were finished, an opportunity to arrange an exposition about the period of the Nazi occupation in Lithuania was found. It should be mentioned that after polychrome studies were completed in the 3rd cell of the former KGB prison, signs made by Gestapo prisoners in 1942–1944 were discovered. Since restoration and conservation work was in progress in the cell at that time, it was only possible to open the exposition in 2011.**



Eugenijus Peikštenis, director of the museum, introduces the latest museum exposition to Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius. 20 October 2011.

**On December 31, 2008, the Tuskulėnai Peace Park with the buildings sited therein was transferred under the auspices of the LGGRTC. – the Memorial Complex of the Tuskulėnai Peace Park became a subunit of the Museum of Genocide Victims**

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**These are the photos of political prisoners in Joint Committee of Savak**



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