

Resumé

This thesis titled „Legal aspects of persecuting Jewish citizens in Nazi Germany” discusses a fairly brief period in history in relation to a specific group of individuals. It provides the viewpoint of the persecution of the Jewish citizens by the Nazi State from a predominantly legal aspect, focusing on specific laws and regulations accepted in relation to the Nazis’ anti-Semitic policy.

The goal of this work was the endeavour to summarise this brief period of Jewish history, point out the most important legal aspects of separation of German Jews from society and prove that assumption of power by the Nazis and implementation of the anti-Semitic policy had a legal basis.

This work is divided (not counting the introduction and conclusion) into six chapters, which are further divided into sub-chapters, possibly into additional parts.

The first chapter is an excursion into the general concept of human races, racism and racist ideology, essential for understanding the reasoning of society at the beginning of the 20th century. The Nazis were convinced of the existence of higher and lower races and the danger of their mixing, on which they based their anti-Semitic policy, chiefly directed in the interests of maintaining “racial purity”.

The second chapter focuses on defining the concepts of anti-Semitism and the causes and development of anti-Semitism during the Nazi period.

The following chapter views the situation in Germany after the Second World War, the issue of German dissatisfaction with the Weimar Republic, the rise and role of the National Socialist German Labourer’s Party, together with assumption of power by the National Socialists after 1933.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the issue of separation of German Jews from society after the Nazis assumed power, the first anti-Semitic oriented laws and the general concept of law in the Nazi State. Emphasis is placed on the Nuremberg Laws, which made second category citizens of German Jews and withdrew their political rights and the Crystal Night, the pogrom in 1938, which was followed by the definitive removal of Jews from the economic sphere of life in Nazi Germany.

The next to last chapter deals with the situation of the Jewish citizens as a result of the Second World War, their displacement and deportation from Germany, leading to the definitive decision concerning the fate of the Jews at the conference in Wannsee,

where coordination of the “final solution to the Jewish issue“, was discussed, i.e. actual liquidation of the Jewish inhabitants.

The last chapter concerns a post-war assessment of the persecution of the Jews in Nazi Germany. Emphasis is placed on the fate of the main actors of this persecution, who were judged within the terms of the Nuremberg and Osvetim processes and the process with Adolf Eichmann, which was held in Jerusalem.