

two daughters lived in the same household. When Serb forces on 25 May 1998 commenced the shelling of **Deçan/Deçane** from the direction of *Podi i Gështenjave/Dolina kestenova* (Chestnuts Valley), Besnik's wife and children left the town and Haxhi, Tahir, Besnik and their neighbour Hasan stayed together in the house. On **29 May 1998**, at around 16:00h, members of Serb forces surrounded the house. Haxhi told Besnik and Hasan to hide on the attic, saying that he and Tahir would stay in the house. Because of their old age no one would hurt them, he believed. From the attic, Besnik and Hasan heard soldiers [or policemen] barge into the house, yelling at Haxhi and Tahir and then take them out. Then they torched the house and the barn. Besnik and Hasan managed to escape from the burning house. Haxhi's and Tahir's fate remains unknown. They are listed on the ICRC list of missing persons under ICRC Nr BLG-803247-01 and BLG-803247-02 respectively.

Sources: statement of M. I, HLC-17037; ICRC, *Persons missing.*, HLC-9795.

Xajë (Curr) Kuçi

(born 1/01/1949, Albanian from Deçan/Deçane, forester, three children, member of KLA)

Xajë and his brother Mustafë decided on 27 May 2010 to take their parents and respective families out of town and go the village of Isniq/Istinić, where other Albanian families from Deçan/Deçane were also taking refuge. They set off in the early morning of **29 May 1998**, at about 03:00h. When some forty minutes later they got to the bridge *Ura e Demes* over the *Bistrica* River [**Deçan/Deçane**], members of Serb forces opened fire on them, killing Xajë on the spot and wounding Mustafë and Zejnije. Serb forces transported the wounded to the hospital in Pejë/Peć but did not allow Xajë's father to take his son's body. After the war, when Kuçi returned from exile, they reported disappearance of Xajë's body to ICRC, which was registered under BLG-803251-01. KLA declared Xajë killed in action.

Sources: statement of M. K, HLC-17038; statement of NN, HLC-12057; statement of NN, HLC-12085; ICRC, *Persons missing.*, HLC-9795; J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092.

Nagip (Muharrem) Cacaj

(born 2/02/1959, Albanian from Deçan/Deçane, four children, worker, member of KLA)

Nagip worked at the Furniture Factory in Deçan/Deçane. He joined the KLA on 15 April 1998. The next day, he went with a group of KLA fighters to Albania to get weapons. A month and a half later, on **29 May 1998** Nagip was killed during clashes with Serb forces in **Deçan/Deçane**. His body has not been found. He is registered as disappeared on the ICRC list of missing persons under ICRC Nr BLG-803249-01.

Sources: J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092; H. Hasani, *Dëshmorët.*, HLC-25596; ICRC, *Persons missing.*, HLC-9795.

Hate Lataj

(born 1948, Bosniak woman from Carrabreg i Epërm/Gornji Crnobreg, Deçan/Deçani municipality, housewife)

Hate was born in Velika Kladuša [Bosnia and Herzegovina]. She was married to Sadik Lataj from Carrabreg i Epërm/Gornji Crnobreg. They did not have children. She lost her life on **29 May 1998**, when Serb forces shelled **Carrabreg i Epërm/Gornji Crnobreg** from the direction of *Kodra e Loshit*. A grenade hit her house and killed Hate on the spot. Later that evening, Hate was buried by her husband and several cousins in the yard of her house. In October 1998, when the situation calmed down a little, Hate's family reburied her mortal remains in the village cemetery.

Sources: statement of S.L, HLC-17909; statement of NN, HLC-12145; statement of A.N, HLC-12188; statement of NN, HLC-12-201; statement of A.D, HLC-17898.

Zekë (Hajdin) Dautaj

(born 1960, Albanian from Carrabreg i Epërm/Gornji Crnobreg, Decane/Deçani municipality, farmer)