

in July 1998. Before the war, Shefqet, Visar, Bekim and Abdullah lived outside Kosovo for some time. Visar returned to Kosovo in late May, Shefqet and Abdullah in June 1998, and Bekim in early July. They immediately joined the KLA.

On **17 July 1998**, around 02:00h, Bashkim, Adem, Agron, Ilmi, Nazmi, Abdullah, Shefqet, Visar, Nimon, Bekim, Arton and a large group of KLA fighters crossed the Albanian border at the spot called *Rrasa e Zogut/Ptičiji Kamen (Birds' Rock)* [**Koshare/Košare**]. Their mission was to bring weapons from Albania for the KLA. They fell into an ambush by Serb forces, who opened heavy fire on them, killing Bashkim, Adem, Nimon, Ilmi, Nazmi, Visar, Agron, Abdullah and Arton on the spot. Their bodies remained at the scene. Ilmi's sister, accompanied by a man from Junik, found Ilmi's body on 23 August 1998 and buried it the following day in Kotradiq/Kotradić. After the war, on 24 August 1999, his body was transferred to the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Glllogjan/Glodane. Visar's body was found in December 2001 and, after being identified, handed over to his family. He was buried in the village of Zakut [Podujevë/Podujevo municipality]. Yugoslav Army members retrieved the other bodies and had them buried at the cemetery in Gjakovë/Đakovica. After the war, in September 1999, Arton's, Nimon's, Agron's and Nazmi's mortal remains were exhumed. Arton and Nazmi were reburied at the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Orrobërdë/Orno Brdo; Agron was reburied on 18 September 1999 at the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Negroc/Negrovce, and Nimon was buried on 20 September 1999 at the cemetery in Vrellë/Vrelo. Abdullah's remains were exhumed by his family on 12 August 2000, and transferred to the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Prishtinë/Priština. Bekim's family was informed on 25 August 2003 that Bekim's remains had been discovered at the Pejë/Peć Cemetery. Bekim was reburied the next day at the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Grabanicë/Grabanica [Klinë/Klina municipality].

Bashkim's, Adem's and Shefqet's bodies

have not been found to date. In June 1999, Adem's father Ramadan found Adem's shoe and sweat-suit with a human rib inside it, in the forest of *Gjeravica/Đeravica*, near Junik. Bashkim's disappearance is listed on the ICRC list under BLG-804808-01 [the ICRC removed Shefqet from its list of missing persons in 2008, but his family has not received his body to date]. Adem's disappearance has never been reported to the ICRC.

**Sources:** statement of R.A, HLC-29792; statement of T.K, HLC-31833; statement of N.S, HLC-11407; statement of R.K, HLC-29574; statement of H.A, HLC-18753; J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092; ICRC, *Persons missing...*, HLC-9795.

### Abaz (Bajrush) Hoti

(born 1/04/1945, Albanian from Piskotë/Piskot, Gjakovë/Đakovica municipality, driver, seven children)

Abaz worked as a driver for the *Metalik* factory in Gjakovë/Đakovica. He lived in the village of **Piskotë/Piskot** with his family. From early July 1998, Abaz and his family would leave home every night for fear of the Serb police, and go to the *Çabrat/Čabrat* neighbourhood in Gjakovë/Đakovica, where they stayed over with Ahmet Kola's family. They would return home every morning. On **18 July 1998**, around 16:00h, Abaz took a cow to the pasture, some 600 metres away from his house near the *Erenik* factory in Piskotë/Piskot. Two hours later, his family heard a shot from that direction. Abaz's wife Rukije and son Bajrush went looking for Abaz, but a neighbour, a Montenegrin woman, urged them to go back, saying that Abaz had been killed and it was too dangerous to go there. Later that day, police took Abaz's body to the morgue in the Gjakovë/Đakovica hospital. The following day, Bajrush and his relatives were told by police that Abaz had attacked some policemen, so they had been forced to kill him. However, the Montenegrin neighbour said that Abaz was killed by a Serb from the village [his identity is known to the HLC]. The Hotis recovered Abaz's body from the morgue in Gjakovë/