

## Municipality Zubin Potok

### **Murtez (Haxhi) Hajra**

(born 1/05/1943, Albanian from Rakinicë/  
Rakitnica, Skënderaj/Srbica municipality,  
construction worker, ten children)

Murtez worked in Italy. On 10 August, he arrived in Kosovo by bus. In **Zubin potok** the bus was stopped by Serb police. The police checked the passengers' identity documents and ordered two of the passengers off the bus. Murtez asked them why they were taking the men off, in reply to which they ordered him out of the bus too. According to what he later recounted to his wife, the policemen beat all three men outside the bus with truncheons and rifle butts. After an hour, they let them continue their trip. Murtez went to Skënderaj/Srbica. He stopped by at his sister's to take a rest. His son Avni came to pick him up. On arriving home, Murtez

passed out. He had a wound on the back of his head. He decided to return immediately to Italy and go see a doctor. He boarded a bus on **10 August 1998**. Police stopped the bus on the main road leading to Skënderaj/Srbica, outside the village of **Lubavec/Ljubovac**. Murtez was beaten again. In a bad condition, he arrived in Bergamo [Italy], where he lived and worked. He spent a month in hospital, where doctors told him that his vein had been damaged and they could not help him. His brother Zenel, who also worked in Italy, brought him home to Kosovo on 9 October 1998. Murtez died two days later, on 11 October 1998. He was buried the same day in the village cemetery.

**Sources:** statement of I.H, HLC-40676; J. Osmani, *Krimet...*, II, 296.

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