

Reclaim and Remember:

“We will always be there - again and again”

25th ANNIVERSARY IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE RACIST ARSON ATTACKS IN MÖLLN 1992

IN MEMORY OF BAHIDE ARSLAN - AYŞE YILMAZ - YELİZ ARSLAN

MÖLLN SPEECH IN EXILE 2017

*Sunday, November 19th 2017 at 4 pm in Berlin
at HAU1 Hebbel am Ufer, Stresemannstr. 29, 10963 Berlin.*

SPEAKERS:

*Esther Bejarano - Auschwitz survivor and active antifascist
Relatives of the Arslan family and the Yilmaz family*

November 23rd 2017 will mark the 25th anniversary of the racist arson attacks in Mölln. In 1992, two known Neo-Nazis set fire to the home of the Arslan family and in this process murdered 51 year-old Bahide and 10 year-old Yeliz Arslan, as well as 14 year-old Ayşe Yilmaz. Other family members were partly badly injured. The Neo-Nazis had already committed an arson attack on another house nearby, where also people of Turkish origin lived. Nine of them were heavily injured. Although the racist motivations for the crime were immediately clear, the investigating authorities focused their attention on the grieving Arslan family. In their time of sorrow, they were harassed by accusation and suspicion: The victims were made criminals.

For four years, the “Möllner Rede” (“Mölln Speech”) organised by the Arslan family and the “Freundeskreis in remembrance of the racist arson attacks of Mölln 1992” was included in the official commemoration events of Mölln. In 2013, the “Möllner Rede” was cancelled from the official commemoration events of the city of Mölln. The speech always served as an important component of the remembrance shedding a light on issues of racism, neonazism as well as remembrance in society.

Since then, the “Möllner Rede im Exil” or “Mölln Speech in Exile” was established by the Arslan Family and Friends and took place in different cities. In observance of the 25th Anniversary, the event will take place in Berlin and is organized together with the „Initiative zur Aufklärung des Mordes an Burak Bektaş” („Initiative for Justice for the Murder of Burak Bektaş”).

To reclaim remembrance at all – of that which happened, of the forgotten, of the silenced, of that which is swept under the carpet, of the origins and the consequences, of the before and the thereafter. Those demands are still current.