

## Visit to Dachau Concentration Camp

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The Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site guide book says :

The Memorial Site on the grounds of the former concentration camp was established in 1965 on the initiative of and in accordance with the plans of the surviving prisoners who had joined together to form the Comité International de Dachau.

On March 22, 1933, a few weeks after Adolf Hitler had been appointed Reich Chancellor, a concentration camp for political prisoners was set up in Dachau. This camp served for a model for all later concentration camps and as a "school of violence" for the SS men under whose command it stood. In the twelve years of its existence over 200,000 persons from all over Europe were imprisoned here and in the numerous subsidiary camps. More than 43,000 of them died. On April 29 1945, American troops liberated the survivors.

The Jourhaus was the only entrance to the prisoner camp. "Work sets you free" was set in the middle of the gate.

Located in the maintenance building (today the site of the exhibition, the movie theater, administration offices, archive, library and study rooms) were kitchen, the clothing store, workshops, and the baths. Written in large letters across the roof of the building was: "There is one path to freedom. Its milestones are: Obedience, honesty, cleanliness, sobriety, diligence, orderliness, sacrifice, truthfulness, love of the fatherland."

Although started as a political prisoner, the camp turned to be much more than that after the Nazi SS took over in 1935...

Reading about concentration camps in History books or at few of the websites is one thing, but visualising the same, at the exact location of execution is entirely different feeling. For some its depressing, for some its full of anger, its a pale of sadness, or for some its just unbelievable.. How can anyone be so cruel to his fellow human counterparts?

Gas chambers where prisoners were taken in disguise of Brausebad (shower room), the roll-call area, the barracks, the fencing, all gives you a gloomy impression of what happened at this location some 60 years ago....

One can find many writeups on Dachau on net, but this memorial at the Appellplatz, in the roll call square of the Dachau Concentration Camp in Hebrew, French, English, German, and Russian is most apt reaction when you think of History.. "Never Again"

Sharing a couple of pictures from the album. Pictures are few as you get involved in reading the stories of those prisoners, that you forget to click the camera. Besides, it was raining as well...

To start with, the architectural map of Camp :

The Nazis presence, the swastik flag at Munich Town Hall, and a poster saying Hitler, you are our only hope. Clicked from the museum.

Two of my pictures, one in front of memorial and other in front of furnace

And finally the gas chamber, shower room entrance...