

The news got us surprised that the last year's murder perpetrator got six years of prison. To be more precise he got five years and eight months for the murder that he committed and upon this more four months because he didn't have a gun-license. For us this light sentence is shocking. If we put this case in parallel with the "Temerin case," \* we face with an enormous injustice. With this attitude, Serbia makes fun of the right equality principle and is not willing to have respect for all its citizens' fundamental human rights. Shortly about the case: the murder was on the 24th September 2005 in "Kanjiza/Magyarkanizsa" at the café called "Bounty." The name of the murderer was "Goran Tijovic". He was from a village "Srpski Krstur/Szerbkeresztúr". He ended his victim's "Sarnyai József" life with strange cruelty.

During the trial, they went through the conflict and its physical manifestation's moments with attention. Like how did "Sarnyai" give two slaps although they did not deal with what might have caused it! The Human Rights Center has information about how did the police have a relation to this murder. That evening when the murder was the police got some registration that "Tijovic" went home for his gun and he is up to something. About this, a driver informed "Goran's" brother (who works for the Belgrade home affairs). He called the "Novi Knezevac/Törökkanizsa" police who forwarded this registration to the police in "Kanjiza/Magyarkanizsa". At this time they could have prevented the murder however the police didn't do anything till a registration about a murder has arrived. Moreover they asked who will guarantee them about that "Tijovic" won't shoot them?! In this case, we ask those competent who are at the highest position: "Does negligence happened at the night of the murder? ". If yes, then did they find responsible the police officers on duty that night?

At the trial "Tijovic" said, that he does not recall anything, how he got home for the gun, how he got back, he does not recall about the shooting. The only thing he recalled was that he told his mother that he would come back soon. How could he remember this? How did he call up his brother after the murder to tell him what happened if he does not recall the shooting? Did they consider these contradictions?

Further we have objections with that that during the whole trial the family did not get any minutes of meeting and that the family got an attorney whose voice couldn't be heard at the trial and who passed beside the family members at the court's hallway and did not even greet them. According to us, it was a big mistake to advise the family not to have their own attorney but only then if they would not be satisfied with the judgment. Naturally, now the family by rights is not satisfied with the sentence although the problem is that the family of the murdered cannot give in an appeal against the sentence. The head attorney (this is the opinion of an expert that we have asked) can only make this! Therefore because of this situation we-the citizens who are sympathizing, the parties, the civilian organizations-it is our obligation to ask from the head attorney to appeal against the light sentence, to have a second degree trial where the perpetrator should get a sentence which goes with this cruel murder.

In the next few days, we will give out a statement in connection with this case and our further seeing and plans toward the public and to the touched.

## **The Human Rights Center**

\* Five young men altogether got a sentence of sixty-one year because they beat up a Serb man. Many think that the aim of this heavy sentence was to intimidate the Hungarian community and to balance more dozen violence carried out against Hungarians. The boys are sitting in prison more than two years now. At the beginning of their sentence in prison, they went through brutal physical insults and psychological terror (for example they could not speak on their mother tongue with their relatives).

Particularly we worry about the experienced during the trial: concealed evidence, manipulation with evidence, the court's partiality etc.

The Supreme Court of Serbia denied all the boys' request to try again the case including the extraordinary appeal request.