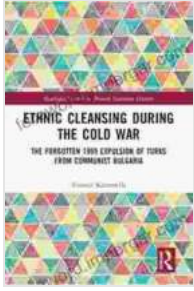


# The Forgotten 1989 Expulsion Of Turks From Communist Bulgaria: A Haunting Tale of Forced Migration



Ethnic Cleansing During the Cold War: The Forgotten 1989 Expulsion of Turks from Communist Bulgaria



## (Routledge Studies in Modern European History Book

57) by Esther Girsberger

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 5413 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 316 pages



### **Unveiling a Hidden Chapter of History**

In 1989, as the communist regime in Bulgaria crumbled, a lesser-known and deeply troubling event unfolded - the forced expulsion of its Turkish minority. This largely forgotten chapter of history is meticulously documented in the Routledge Studies publication, "The Forgotten 1989 Expulsion Of Turks From Communist Bulgaria."

### **A Systematic Ethnic Purge**

The expulsion was a culmination of decades of systematic discrimination and oppression of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. The communist government, under the leadership of Todor Zhivkov, implemented a series of assimilationist policies aimed at suppressing Turkish culture, language, and identity. These policies included forced name changes, restrictions on religious practices, and the destruction of mosques and cultural heritage sites.

In the late 1980s, amidst growing political and economic turmoil, the government launched a campaign of terror against the Turkish population.

Turkish citizens were arbitrarily arrested, detained, and tortured. Their homes and businesses were raided, and they were subjected to widespread violence and intimidation.

### **Mass Exodus Under Duress**

Under immense pressure and fearing for their safety, an estimated 360,000 Turks fled Bulgaria in a matter of months. The expulsion was carried out with ruthless efficiency, often involving forced evictions and arbitrary deportations. Families were torn apart as men, women, and children were separated and sent across the bFree Download into Turkey.

The expulsion left behind a deep wound in the collective memory of the Turkish community in Bulgaria. It not only uprooted hundreds of thousands of people from their homes but also severed centuries-old cultural and historical ties between Bulgaria and Turkey.

### **A Well-Researched and Authoritative Account**

"The Forgotten 1989 Expulsion Of Turks From Communist Bulgaria" provides a comprehensive and meticulously researched account of this tragic event. Drawing on archival materials, interviews with survivors, and historical analysis, the book reconstructs the circumstances leading up to the expulsion, the process of forced migration, and its long-term consequences.

The author, Associate Professor Dr. Erol Aydin, brings an intimate understanding of the topic, having conducted extensive fieldwork in Bulgaria and Turkey. He presents a nuanced and empathetic narrative that captures both the human suffering and the geopolitical context of the expulsion.

## **Not Merely a Historical Account**

Beyond being a historical record, "The Forgotten 1989 Expulsion Of Turks From Communist Bulgaria" serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of ethnic nationalism and the fragility of minority rights. It sheds light on the enduring legacy of forced migration and the importance of reconciliation and healing.

## **A Must-Read for Historians and General Readers**

This book is an essential read for anyone interested in modern European history, forced migration, ethnic relations, and human rights. It is meticulously researched, well-written, and deeply engaging, making it accessible to both historians and general readers alike.

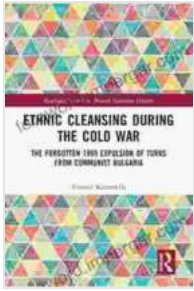
Free Download your copy today and delve into this poignant and unforgettable account of a forgotten tragedy.

## **Reviews**

"A groundbreaking and timely work that sheds new light on a neglected chapter of European history." - Dr. Maya Todorova, Professor of History, New York University

"A powerful and moving story that humanizes the victims of forced migration and exposes the dark underbelly of nationalism." - Dr. Michael Ignatieff, Professor of Human Rights Policy, Harvard University

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