

Interviewee: Natalia Avramenko, born on February 25, 1929 in the village of Tymoshivka, Mankiv raion, Cherkasy oblast

Interviewer(s): Ariadna Okhrymovych:

Date: February 17, 2009

Description: Bogdana Torbina

00:00:36 – Interviewee introduces herself.

00:01:20 – Interviewee describes her village.

00:01:38 – Interviewee describes the dekurkulization of her family.

00:01:48 – Interviewee recalls people of her village fleeing to the mines of Donbas.

00:02:40 – Interviewee explains what happened to her family members during the Holodomor.

00:03:00 – Interviewee recalls seeing her aunt dead after eating cherries.

00:04:40 – Interviewee says that she was 4 years old at the time of the Holodomor.

00:05:43 – Interviewee says that the only thing she remembers from the famine was feeling hungry.

00:06:20 – Interviewee recalls what her mother gave her to eat during the famine.

00:07:45 – Interviewee talks about her father being arrested and prosecuted during dekurkulization.

00:09:10 – Interviewee talks about members of her family dying during the famine.

00:11:00 – Interviewee talks about food requisition.

00:11:26 – Interviewee talks about villagers hiding grain in the ground.

00:11:55 – Interviewee talks about her grandparents eating poison ivy and roots to survive after dekurkulization.

00:12:45 – Interviewee talks about what villagers ate during the famine.

00:13:20 – Interviewee talks about people trying to catch cats for food.

00:14:20 – Interviewee talks about her mother walking 150km to Kiev to exchange her possessions for food.

00:16:30 – Interviewee talks about her neighbors dying of hunger.

00:17:00 – Interviewee recalls seeing dead people loaded onto carts by burial brigades.

00:18:25 – Interviewee says that her father told her a lot about the Holodomor.

00:19:35 – Interviewee talks about anti-Kolhosp protestors being prosecuted and deported to Siberia.

00:20:11 – Interviewee talks about Komsomol members torturing villagers for their gold.

00:22:03 – Interviewee talks about Komsomol members from the village being crueler than those from outside of the village.

00:24:00 – Interviewee recalls how many people died of famine in her village.

00:24:48 – Interviewee recalls grain requisitions being stored in a church.

00:26:57 – Interviewee talks about priests being deported.

00:28:33 – Interviewee talks about people exchanging gold for food.

00:29:55 – Interviewee recalls witnessing the collection of deceased people.

00:30:00 – Interviewee talks about children dying during the famine.

00:32:04 – Interviewee talks about the condition of her mother during the famine.

00:32:28 – Interviewee mentions search brigades collecting not only grain, but also clothes.

00:34:04 – Interviewee talks about hunger in Donbas.

00:35:20 – Interviewee talks about children and elderly begging for food.

00:36:25 – Interviewee talks about fishing being illegal and punishable by imprisonment.

00:38:40 – Interviewee talks about returning to her village from Donbas after Stalin announced that kurkuls were permitted to return.

00:40:18 – Interviewee talks about others returning to the village after the famine.

00:42:25 – Interviewee talks about authorities throwing out possessions from houses when expelling people from their homes.

00:43:50 – Interviewee talks about one of her neighbors breaking a window of a church and stealing rushnyk cloths.

00:45:52 – Interviewee recalls her grandparents teaching her how to pray.

00:46:16 – Interviewee talks about religious censorship.

00:48:08 – Interviewee talks about villagers defacing statues of Lenin.

00:49:50 – Interviewee talks about people eating wild birds, eggs, and roots.

00:52:02 – Interviewee recalls her aunt eating unripe cherries and dying under the tree.

00:53:40 – Interviewee talks about the German occupation during World War 2.

01:02:25 – End of interview.