

Interviewee: Kateryna Shcherban, born on October 24, 1918, in the village of Svaromya (no longer exists), Vyshhorod (Vyshchodubychanskiy) raion, Kyiv oblast.

Interviewer: Ariadna Ochrymovych, Orest Zakydalsky

Date: August 23, 2008

Description: Bogdana Torbina

00:00:47 – Interviewee introduces herself.

00:01:20 – Interviewee introduces her family members.

00:01:43 – Interviewee recalls the foundation of kolhosps and the beginnings of pro-kolhosp propaganda.

00:02:51 – Interviewee recalls her father signing up for kolhosp.

00:05:07 – Interviewee talks about going to school.

00:06:05 – Interviewee introduces her siblings.

00:07:51 – Interviewee describes her family's social class and her father's job as a fisher.

00:09:33 – Interviewee recalls her teacher, who was also a kolhosp promoter, get attacked by villagers.

00:12:08 – Interviewee discusses kolhosp propaganda.

00:13:15 – Interviewee returns to discussing her teacher promoting kolhosp propaganda.

00:14:09 – Interviewee states that her family was resettled to Kharkiv in the winter of 1933.

00:14:22 – Interviewee discusses pro-resettlement propogandists who were sent to convince villagers to resettle to Kharkiv.

00:17:27 – Interviewee describes the resettlement to Kharkiv.

00:17:51 – Interviewee describes the living conditions and famine in Kharkiv.

00:20:26 – Interviewee explains that her family was resettled to the village of Kolomok, Valkovskiy Raion, Kharkiv Oblast.

00:20:35 – Interviewee describes the size and demographic of her home village and the village of Kolomok.

00:23:26 – Interviewee discusses the church and school in her home village.

00:25:01 – Interviewee mentions that the church was destroyed in 1934.

00:25:17 – Interviewee talks about famine mortality in her home village.

00:27:26 – Interviewee recalls her mother's mother dying of starvation.

00:30:18 – Interviewee recounts her grandmother's burial.

00:31:54 – Interviewee states that her village was artificially flooded.

00:33:30 – Interviewee recalls her father's parents dying of starvation.

00:35:26 – Interviewee discusses her siblings' lives after the Holodomor.

00:38:16 – Interviewee discusses the authorities in her village.

00:39:43 – Interviewee recalls collecting and eating acai flowers.

00:40:51 – Interviewee discusses the head of the kolhosp and the village.

00:42:00 – Interviewee states that the kolhosp was established in 1927.

00:42:37 – Interviewee explains that villagers willingly joined the kolhosp since those that refused were deported.

00:44:01 – Interviewee recalls people surrendering property to the kolhosp.

00:44:58 – Interviewee returns to the subject of kolhosp propaganda.

00:48:19 – Interviewee explains that search brigades confiscated grain.

00:50:28 – Interviewee recalls her mother asking authorities for seeds.

00:52:15 – Interviewee describes her father's various jobs during the Holodomor.

00:55:50 – Interviewee talks about joining and working in the kolhosp.

00:57:57 – Interviewee recalls buying clothes in stores and bazars.

00:59:56 – Interviewee states that no one in her immediate family died during the Holodomor.

01:00:45 – Interviewee recalls collecting wild garlic for soup as well as berries and apples.

01:03:46 – Interviewee mentions that her father gave away their only cow when he joined the kolhosp.

01:04:06 – Interviewee recalls that the kolhosp provided people with money to eat at a cafeteria after the Holodomor.

01:04:27 – Interviewee continues describing her work at the kolhosp.

01:04:52 – Interviewee recounts how they were almost sued for quitting the kolhosp and wasting the money and resources that were put into her training.

01:06:01 – Interviewee describes being sent to take a sales representative course in Kharkiv.

01:07:54 – Interviewee discusses the dekurkulization and deportation of villagers.

01:12:15 – Interviewee recalls witnessing authorities drag out a priest from a funeral service.

01:14:08 – Interviewee talks about authorities arresting villagers.

01:15:17 – Interviewee explains that the Holodomor was never discussed in her family.

01:15:30 – Interviewee recalls authorities confiscating religious icons and questioning her family about their religious beliefs.

01:18:00 – Interviewee discusses famine mortality in her village and states that one fourth of her village died out.

01:18:42 – Interviewee recalls children disappearing from her school due to illness or death.

01:19:59 – Interviewee recalls witnessing deceased people on the streets.

01:20:34 – Interviewee recalls her brother being arrested and imprisoned for stealing potatoes as a child.

01:23:09 – Interviewee discusses her peers who died during the Holodomor.

01:26:51 – Interviewee discusses deportations.

01:28:12 – Interviewee explains that people were arrested and imprisoned for collecting stalks of wheat.

01:30:56 – Interviewee recalls villagers rebelling against the kolhosp.

01:33:28 – Interviewee recalls an order which prohibited villagers from cooking butchered meat since all animals belonged to the kolhosp.

01:39:08 – Interviewee recalls witnessing people going door to door begging for food.

01:40:24 – Interviewee discusses child cannibalism.

01:41:28 – Interviewee discusses famine mortality in her village.

01:44:02 – Interviewee recalls how people went to the local market (Torgsin) to exchange valuable metals for food.

01:47:14 – Interviewee recounts women rebelling against the kolhosp.

01:48:26 – Interviewee describes gathering and eating wild roots and weeds.

01:52:49 – Interviewee talks about other villages which were impacted by the Holodomor.

01:53:31 – Interviewee continues describing the different weeds that she ate.

01:57:22 – Interviewee expresses her feelings about the Holodomor.

01:58:45 – Interviewee describes what she looked like during the famine.

02:00:41 – BREAK IN INTERVIEW

02:00:44 – Interview about Holodomor ends.

02:00:44 – Interviewee recalls the start of the war.

02:02:00 – Interviewee recounts how her family was evicted from their village during the German retreat.

02:04:09 – Interviewee recalls being taken to the city of Pineh in Germany.

02:05:21 – Interviewee states that her family worked at the railway station.

02:07:45 – Interviewee recalls giving birth to her child.

02:10:02 – Interviewee discusses the end of the war and American liberation.

02:10:14 – Interviewee describes living in the Lisenko displaced persons camp.

02:12:57 – Interviewee discusses her family's move to England in 1947.

02:13:50 – Interviewee mentions that her husband went to Scotland for work.

02:14:17 – Interviewee describes moving to live with her godfather in Bradford, England.

02:15:06 – Interviewee recalls her family buying a house in England.

02:15:48 – Interviewee describes her family's move to Canada in 1951.

02:17:13 – Interviewee mentions that her husband worked in Toronto as an electrician.

02:22:29 – Interviewee describes finding work.

02:23:11 – Interviewee recalls buying a house in Canada.

02:24:22 – Interviewee describes finding her second partner.

02:24:00 – Interviewee describes her life in Canada and the death of her two sons.

02:29:25 – End of Interview.