

# **Exhibition**

## **Karl Plagge – Righteous Among the Nations**

The exhibition is dedicated to the memory of Karl Plagge, and to the victims and survivors of the Holocaust in Lithuania. Karl Plagge was a Major in the German Wehrmacht and was given command of the vehicle repair unit (HKP Ost/562) in Olandu Street in Vilnius from 1941 to 1944. Polish workers and numerous Ghetto prisoners were employed as forced laborers at the HKP. Karl Plagge was awarded the honorary title ‘Righteous Among the Nations’ by the Israeli Holocaust Memorial Yad Vashem in 2005, for his part in saving the lives of over 250 Jews in Vilna.

The exhibition comprises twelve exhibition boards, each made up of pictures and text. Among other things, two boards give a biography of Karl Plagge and show how he developed. Another board outlines the history of Lithuania and the specific history of Jewish Lithuania with Vilna the spiritual capital. This segues into the attack of the German Wehrmacht in June 1941, the beginning of the systematic annihilation of Lithuanian Jewry, and the ‘Final Solution’ as, for example, executed in the Vilna Ghetto. Board 7 is dedicated to Jewish Resistance which was decisively influenced and partially operated from out of the Vilna Ghetto. The remaining boards depict Karl Plagge’s direct rescue acts as commander of the HKP Ost/562, as well as examples of other rescuers of Jewish lives. Short biographies of the survivors and an illustration of the honoring bestowed on Karl Plagge conclude the exhibition.

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A booklet to accompany the exhibition contains all the written text, text and picture credits, glossary, further reading and references to audio-visual media – available in English, Lithuanian and German.

For further information ([info@darmstaedter-geschichtswerkstatt.de](mailto:info@darmstaedter-geschichtswerkstatt.de); [www.darmstaedter-geschichtswerkstatt.de](http://www.darmstaedter-geschichtswerkstatt.de)). Responsible for content and substance of exhibition and guidebook: Darmstaedter Geschichtswerkstatt e.V. Editors: Hannelore Skrobliès, Christoph Jetter. Exhibition design: archetmedia GbR, Darmstadt ([www.archetmedia.de](http://www.archetmedia.de)).