







Solidarity story –

A life gives lives

During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995) some terrible war crimes has happened and a lot of people have been killed on all involved sides of the war, although some memories has to be repeated as the light at the end of tunnel of lost hopes to show that the hope for joint life still exist.

Captain Amir Reko, a Bosniak Muslim, former captain of JNA (Yugoslav Peoples Army ¹, which, by the beginning of the war at former Yugoslavia, at the 1991 and until the end of it, has been transformed into the Serbian Army instead to be Army of all people from the country, including Bosnaks-Muslims, Croats, Albanian, Slovenians, Montenegrins and Macedonians) had, in 1992, saved 45 lives of Serbs from the village of Bučje, near Goražde, in Eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina.



How that has happened? As a former captain of JNA (Tito's time⁴ within Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) he was trained as a soldier and not as an assassin.

¹ Info (details): https://www.britannica.com/topic/Yugoslav-Peoples-Army

² Radio Free Europe: https://www.slobodnaevropa.org/a/amir-reko-makedonac-gorazdanski-heroj-ljudskosti/27448925.html

⁴ Info (details): https://www.titoville.com/







Although, some of his colleagues on all sides became exactly like that. When he escaped from the Army (at the beginning of 1992) which was not longer Yugoslav Peoples Army but Army of one people only – Serbs, Amir Reko returned back to his own home town-Goražde, Eastern BiH while the war was going on in Bosnia and Herzegovina already. It was in April 1992.

He was organizing a defense of the city, now as the member of the BiH Army, while some Serbian forces (called Serbian Army forces of BiH) was already done some attacks on Muslim villages around Goražde and even in his village(where he was born) Gudelj, already did a war crimes. Burning and killing his grandmother and the members of his family.



Somebody would think that revenge from captain⁶ Reko will come, but he was as a Muslim, due to the Serbian witnesses, the one who was against the killing of innocent civilians during the war, although the President of the War presidency of Goražde, due to the Book "War and Peace of Captain Reko" (written by Budo Simović, writer and journalist from Podgorica from Montenegro), Mr. Hadžo Efendić⁷ wanted to "clean all of them" from the village of Bučje. Meaning, kill them all!

Amir Reko, a person who was raised on solidarity, tolerance and respect to other and

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⁵ Info: http://ba.n1info.com/Video/Pressing/a232368/N1-Pressing-Amir-Reko.html

⁶ Info (details): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKYjDXVQFxM

⁷ Book by Budo Simonović "Rat i mir Kapetana Reka" (War and peace of Captain Reko), published by ŠTAMPAR MAKARIJE, Belgrade, Serbia and OKTOIH, Podgorica, Montenegro, 2018 (pages 85. and 86.)







different one, was against that and he, as a captain he defended them and did not allow this to be done, and he saved 45 Serbs from the classical slaughter planned by some members of BiH Army. Stood against it and saved them. They all lived through the war. Life gives lives. For sure.

Part from the above mentioned book of Budo Simonović (page 165)...Statement of Milivoje Čarapić from the village of Bučje nearby Goražde, Serb from Bosnia and Herzegovina...quote:

"Which kind of human person I would be if I keep quite and forget what Captain Reko has done for us.

I will die, but I will never forget neither will anybody force me to think differently that on that judgment day in Bučje the God himself watch over us and that only thanks to him and to Amir Reko, we stayed alive.

His act of defending somebody from himself and others and his boldness, his humanity and courage, helped to have on that day in the village of Bučje not even a drop of the Serbian blood to be spilled.

It is irrefutable God's truth which nobody of us will never and must not forget, as well the truth that he is not in any way guilty or responsible for all things has happened to us afterwards.

The guilty ones are those who will try to have his head down as well because he did not allow to "clean" village Bučje out of Serbs, the guilty ones are those who called him, because of that, a coward and traitor, those who forced him to, very soon, turn his back to everything, take of his uniform and throw the weapons to avoid to stumble like a human, to spit on himself and to run over his believes, put a blood on his hands with the blood of innocent people and wade into the war crimes like those who were his commanders and those who ordered to "clean" Bučje."..end of quote.

His story which is in the documentary movie as well already: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKYjDXVQFxM will be soon as well on motion pictures, as we heard.

Amir Reko is a very good friend of mine and on regular basis we are meeting in Sarajevo, talking about the movement which will re-unite all positively streaming people from the former Yugoslavia, to re-establish not just a peace and respect, but also mutual love and cooperation on the basis of joint need of the all former Yugoslav Republics, based on solidarity and trust.







Because, on the first place we are all humans, then Slavs, and after that whatever we want to be, as a nation(s).

Author of the solidarity story – translation in English from BHSC – joint language: Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian and Montenegrin by the author

Prof. Sabahudin Hadžialić Assoc. Prof. Dr. & Dr. Honoris Causa 31.7.2019