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Sydney Jewish Museum commends decision to bring 'Bookkeeper of Auschwitz' to trial

Sydney Jewish Museum commends then Lueneburg state court in Germany for its decision to bring the so called 'Bookkeeper of Auschwitz' to trial.

Oskar Groening, the 93-year-old former SS Sergeant is charged with 300,000 counts of accessory to murder on allegations he helped the death camp function in his job sorting cash and valuables seized from Jewish prisoners.

Dr Ari Lander, Education Officer at the Sydney Jewish Museum has noted that the trial is particularly significant for the Survivors and family members who are still haunted by the atrocities committed against them and their loved ones.

"It's a reminder to the world that these crimes should not go unpunished, that they continue to reverberate across the generations. For those who survived, these events have shaped every single part of their lives since."

The decision to prosecute Groening follows renewed efforts to bring Concentration Camp guards to justice, after a 2011 court ruling that allowed prosecutors to charge people with complicity in the Holocaust - not only those accused of mass murder.

Olga Horak, a Survivor of Auschwitz and Survivor Volunteer at the Museum shares this sentiment. "The way I feel is if somebody is a murderer, he is a murderer forever, no matter how young or old he is."

The Sydney Jewish Museum is dedicated to documenting and teaching the history of the Holocaust. The world-class museum challenges visitors' perceptions of democracy, morality, social justice and human rights and places the Holocaust in its historical and contemporary context.

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