

## **Bosnia grave yields 482 Srebrenica victims**

**Reuters**

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SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Oct 16 (Reuters) - Forensic experts said on Sunday they had unearthed the remains of 482 Muslim victims of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre from the third biggest mass grave found so far in the Balkan country.

"We found eight complete and 474 incomplete bodies," Murat Hurtic, the head of the regional commission for missing persons, told Reuters by telephone from the site.

His team completed the exhumations from the fifth and the biggest mass grave found in the village of Liplje after one month of work. The remains will now be taken for identification by DNA analysis.

Hurtic said he believed the five Liplje graves together contained the bodies of about 800 to 1,000 Muslims who were killed by Bosnian Serb forces at the eastern Petkovci dam after fleeing Srebrenica in July 1995.

The Bosnian Serb forces, commanded by their wartime chief Ratko Mladic, slaughtered about 8,000 Muslims men and boys after taking over the former U.N. "safe zone" of Srebrenica on July 11, 1995.

In the days that followed, they intercepted thousands of men and boys fleeing the eastern enclave, killed them en masse and buried them at hidden places in what is seen as Europe's worst atrocity since World War II.

The bodies were later moved to so-called "secondary graves" and bulldozed to hide traces of the crime.

"That's why the remains were so mingled and only a few skulls had been found," Hurtic said.

The U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague indicted Mladic and Bosnian Serb wartime leader Radovan Karadzic for genocide over Srebrenica and the 1992-95 siege of Sarajevo, in which about 12,000 people were killed. Both men are still at large.

Dozens of mass graves containing the remains of the Srebrenica victims have been found in eastern Bosnia over the past nine years. Over 2,000 have been identified until now.

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