then they were shipped to a death camp and died there. Spiritually I don’t think a lot of people thought God was on their side because of what they saw happening to their own people and wondered how God would allow this to happen. Physically they were beaten up, tortured, malnourished and starving. They were broken down physically before any other part.

Mass Murder

Starting in December 1939, the Nazis introduced new methods of mass murder by using gas. Large vans holding up to 100 people were used in a similar way since November 1941, yet the gas did not come from a cylinder but directly from the engine’s exhaust. These vans were introduced to the Chelmno concentration camp in December 1941, and a further 15 of them were used by the death squads in the then occupied Soviet Union. These gas vans were developed and run under supervision of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Main Security Bureau), and were used to kill about 500,000 people, primarily Jews, but also Romani and others.

With so many people dying in so many different ways grieving was part of everyday life. Everyone allowed themselves to grieve for lost family and friends and mourn their loss as well.