

## From the Testimony of Laura Varon on the Disinfecting Showers at Auschwitz-Birkenau

So then they told us to go to the shower. No, first of all, they shaved us and then they told us to go to the shower and then they took us to this huge barrack, you know, the clothes were high like that. All the clothes they took from the people they cremated. And then was some sadistic, sarcastic - on the front of the barrack was "disinfected clothes". How nice they were. They disinfected clothes. So while I was looking for clothes, I touched something hard and I look. There was a little body, baby, dead. My sister started to cry. I said, "Don't cry." I said, "Be careful because we must be strong from now on. Everything we're going to see now, we're going to be strong if we want to survive." And then I took a little clothes for her and for me - little shoes, like sandals, and we went out. Then they took us someplace. There was a man sitting in some kind of chair and they tattooed us. You see? A24467. And we started to walk. Now we were entering Birkenau and there was, a Polish woman told us in the barrack after that, there was written, "This is only way. You cannot come back." This meant Birkenau was a one-way trip. So the ones who survived Birkenau was by miracle.

**Source: Yad Vashem Archives 0.3- 10423**