Cross of Honor of the German Mother

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Mutterkreuz

The **Cross of Honor of the German Mother** (German: *Ehrenkreuz der deutschen Mutter* or more colloquially *Mutterkreuz*), but often referred to simply as the **Mothers Cross**, was an award of the Nazi regime.

This award was instituted on December 16, 1938 as part of Hitler's initiative to encourage Aryan population growth, and so only women with pure Aryan families could achieve such awards. Women from absorbed Germanic countries (such as Austria and Danzig) were also eligible. A mother could be awarded a bronze, silver, or gold cross depending on the number of children she had born. Eight would entitle the woman to a gold cross, six for silver, and four for bronze.

There was even a Golden Cross encrusted with Diamonds which was awarded to a small number of women who bore between twelve and fourteen children.

The crosses were awarded annually on August 12 (Hitler's mother's birthday), and the second Sunday in May (Mothering Sunday), hence the first of these were not awarded until 1939.

First recipent of the Cross of Honor was 61 year old Louise Weidenfeller († 1948) from Munich, who gave birth to eight children.

References

External links

- Image of the medal

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