

**ALEBARDA** Eliaz (Eli) (1880–1944), political and social activist. He was born in Tomaszów (Tomaszów Mazowiecki).

He studied in a *cheder* and later in a *yeshiva* in Łódź. Early in his life, he obtained the right to teach others. At the same time that he was studying Gemara, he became interested in the revolutionary movement and became a supporter of the Bund workers' party.

After marrying (in 1899), he settled in Nowo Radomsko (Radomsko), where he had a large, shop of imported groceries. Despite the fact that he was a wealthy, prominent orthodox Jew, he was active in the Bund all his life. During the revolution of 1905-07, he filled his *tallit* bag with pamphlets, which he distributed amongst the Russian soldiers of the Nowo Radomsko garrison. He participated in a demonstration in Nowo Radomsko. (According to reports, he was carrying a red banner).

He was also a social activist, helping those in most need. In 1912, he helped H. Lejwik, an outstanding Yiddish poet and playwright, to get out of the Russian empire. Prior to 1914, he carried out the most difficult and dangerous tasks for the movement - he was a member of the Bund's combat organisation, he smuggled illegal literature, weapons and party activists across the border. This included the border crossing of delegates to the 8th Bund Congress, which was to take place in 1914 in Vienna. (It did not take place due to the outbreak of war.) His home became a contact point for party members.

In the mid-1930s, he lived in Częstochowa. When the Germans took over the city, he again became active in the underground Bund movement. Following the arrest of the Bund Central Committee's courier, the Germans received information about Alebarda. He became a wanted man. Later, the Germans demanded that the *Judenrat* hand him over. (This occurred shortly after → Motek Kuszniir had been given over into the hands of the Gestapo). The Bund was against the handing over of Alebarda. He was sent to Radomsko. From there, on foot, he reached Piotrków Trybunalski, from where his comrades sent him to Warsaw. There, he worked in a public kitchen. Thanks to the help of Poles, he hid in Warsaw until the outbreak of the uprising in 1944, during which he perished.

Alebarda was married to Mariem Sandomierska, with whom he had five children.

I.S. Szwarc, *Eli Alebarda*, in: *Czenstochow*, p. 153; Brener, *Widersztand*, p. 62; *Sefer yizkor le-kehilat Radomsk ve-ha-sviva*, Tel Aviv 1967, pp. 473, 474, 481.

**Wiesław Paszkowski**