

BADASZ Józef (1898-1985) cantor in the city's synagogue. He was born in Grodno, the son of Lejb and Chasa. He sang with the best cantors, but he was considered a student of the famous Piotrków cantor Kamieniecki. He was a soloist in the Białystok synagogue choir and, later, the city cantor in Tomaszów Mazowiecki. Disputes within the local community made him leave, as a result of which he sought employment in Częstochowa.

Following the death of cantor → Zyskind Ber Rozentel, for a long period, the Częstochowa *gmina* could not appoint his successor. It was only after several trials and the holding of a type of competition on 26th July 1926, the *Gmina* board decided to employ Badasz in the city synagogue.

Badasz lived at ul. Spadek 10 [now ul. Garibaldi]. At the beginning of 1935, with his family, he moved to South Africa, where he had accepted the position of cantor at the Jeppe Synagogue in Johannesburg. He died in 1985 in Cape Town.

His wife was Chaja née Ponimoński, with whom he had four children - Szlama, Maks Moszek, Filip Efraim and Dora Debora (23rd January 1928 Częstochowa -). All his sons became cantors.

Sefer Czenstochow vol.1, col. 716. – “Częstochower Cajtung” 1926, No. 24, p. 4; No. 32, p. 4; 1927, No. 7, p. 2; 1935, No. 39, p. 1; “Nasz Głos Powszechny” 1936, No. 1, p. 3.

Wiesław Paszkowski