

Dr Hipolit Gajsler

A practising physician, he treated bodily ailments. Concurrently, he was a communal activist, who intervened for the benefit of the public. He stood at the head of the craftsmen's organisations and defended their interests. He was fond of the people, the working segments, who earned their daily bread arduously and honestly.

The Jewish craftsmen suffered extensively from the taxes, which squeezed their hard-earned *grosz* from them. More than once, it happened that the taxmen came to the craftsmen to take the last of their last possessions and goods - but Dr Gajsler stood guard, interceding to prevent his brethren from being ruined.

Before the holidays, and especially before Pesach, this was Dr Gajsler's "high season", because the craftsmen, after a whole year of toil, did not have with what to celebrate the holiday. Therefore, he saw to it that each should celebrate it as much as possible and to not be sad.

The craftsmen clamoured around Dr Gajsler with affection and with their full loyalty and put him forth as a candidate to the City Council. In the *Kehilla*, he was the representative of the craftsmen for many years.

Dr Gajsler perished along with Dr Bram in Katyn¹.

¹ [TN: Presumably ref. to the massacre of nearly 22,000 Polish prisoners which was carried out by the Soviet Union in the Katyn forest, Russia, in April and May 1940. However, according to Dr Gajsler's brief biography in *Sefer Częstochowa*, Vol. I, col.696, his exact fate is unknown, and it is only certain that he was murdered by the Nazis.]