

Szmul Goldsztajn

One of the Częstochowa Jewry's most revered personalities was *Kehilla* President Szmul Goldsztajn.

For two decades, his private life was bound up with his communal activity as president of the *Kehilla*, curator of the Jewish Hospital, representative for Jewish affairs in the Financial Bureau, president of the *Chevra Kadisha* and in an entire array of other institutions. In addition, he was [also] active in the Mizrachi Party.

Following the death of the wealthy industrialist, communal activist and great philanthropist Henryk Markusfeld, Szmul Goldsztajn - the industrialist and co-owner of the *Metalurgia* factory - played the most respected role in the city.

During the War, he was active in the Joint in Warsaw. After a certain time, he left his position and returned to Częstochowa.

Szmul Goldsztajn, the meritorious communal activist, was of the opinion that Jews were not to cooperate with the Germans and, therefore, he did not accept any office in the *Judenrat*. During the time when the Jews were being exterminated, he attempted to commit suicide, but the SS hindered him from carrying out his plan.

He was sent away to Treblinka, where he was annihilated.