

## Dr Raphael Mahler

Born on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1899 in [Nowy] Sącz, western Galicia. He studied at *yeshiva* to the age of fifteen and, in 1918, completed the *gimnazjum* in Kraków. He studied history and philosophy in Vienna, where he received his doctorate in 1922. After returning to Poland, he taught general and Jewish history, at first at the Hebrew Jawne Gimnazjum in Łódź and afterwards at the Askola Gimnazjum and Lyceum in Warsaw. Here, he began to research the history of the Jews in general and of the Jews in Poland in particular. Starting from his youth, he belonged to the left-wing *Poalei Zion* movement. He published articles in the weekly *Arbeiter Zeitung* and in *Freie Jugend* [Free Youth] and was active in the youth and student movements.

In his scientific work, he was connected with YIVO since its founding in 1925 and was nominated member of its historical department.

At the end of 1937, he arrived in America and settled in New York. He was engaged as a teacher at the seminary of the Jewish National Workers Alliance, the Jefferson School of Social Science and the newly-founded School of Jewish Studies.

In America, he continued his scientific work in connection with YIVO. In his communal work, he is active in the [American] Committee of Jewish Writers, Artists and Scientists (established in 1941 for the union of Jewish groups throughout the globe) and in YKUF [*Yiddisher Kultur Farband*, or Jewish Culture Association].

He publishes articles in *Zukunft* [Future], *Yiddishe Kultur*, *Einikeit* [Unity] and in *Tog* [Day]. His particular fields of research work include the history of the Jews in Poland, the economic development of the Jewish people, religious-social movements among Jews (Karaites and *Chassidim*) and the development of Jewish historiography.

In Poland, he was editor of the publications *Young Historian*, *Pages for History* and *The Scientific Life*. Dr Mahler has published dozens of treatises in the *YIVO Pages*, *YIVO Historical Writings*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Miesięcznik Żydowski* [Jewish Monthly], *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, *Jewish Social Studies* and *Historia Judaica*.

[Some of] Dr Mahler's published works are:

- *Sources on the History of Jews in Poland in Medieval Times*, Warsaw, 1930 (co-authored by Dr Emanuel Ringelblum);
- *The Battle Between Chassidism and Haskala in Galicia*, YIVO Library, New York, 1942;
- *Jewish Emancipation – A Selection of Documents*<sup>1</sup>, publication of the American Jewish Committee, New York, 1942;
- *Jews in Public Service and Liberal Professions in Poland 1918-1939*<sup>2</sup>, publication of the American Jewish Committee, [New York, 1944];
- *History of the Jews in Poland (Until the 19<sup>th</sup> Century)*, published in the Land of Israel in Hebrew by Sifriat Poalim [Workers Library], 1946 – soon to appear in Yiddish published by YKUF.

Dr Mahler's work *Karaites – A Mediaeval Jewish Movement for Deliverance* (publisher Elias Schulman, New York) is to be published in the coming days.

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<sup>1</sup> [TN: Series of pamphlets in English.]

<sup>2</sup> [TN: Also in English.]



*Dr Emanuel Ringelblum  
one of the initiators of a historical  
book on Częstochowa*

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**Some of the Contributors to the Book *Czenstochover Yidn***



*J.Sz. Herc*



*Gina Medem*