

**FRANK** Icchak Majer (1868-1931) merchant, prayer-house owner. He was born in Truskolasy, the son of the great Kock Chassid, Mosze Aron Frank, *shochet* (ritual slaughterer) and Fajgla née Frydman.

In 1885, he married a woman from Częstochowa, but remained living in Truskolasy. The family moved to Częstochowa at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They took over his father-in-law's house at ul. Garncarska 59. Frank then added a larger house (with twenty rooms), which housed the *shtiebel* (Chassidic prayer-house) of the Rozprza *tzaddik*. Frank led the services and his sons formed the choir.

By profession, he was a trader in raw animal hides. By 1914, he was a wealthy man thanks to his successful business. However, war requisitions and speculation deprived him of his fortune. Battling his competition brought about fatigue and then illness. He devoted himself to his work and his religion until the end of his life. In the memory of Częstochowianiń, he remained as a deep thinking, strong man, with a violent temper. (When one of his sons angered him, he received such a strong blow, that he lost a tooth.) He died in January 1931 and was buried in the local cemetery.

His wife was Chaja (actually Ałta Chaja) née Berkowicz (1867 Częstochowa - 1942? Częstochowa), the daughter of the famous *melamed* Ejzyk Berkowicz (known as Ejzyk Mirza) and Frajdla née Kurczbart. She died while hiding in the "Small Ghetto" and was buried in the mass grave on ul. Kawia. She gave birth two nine children - seven sons and two daughters. Their son Josel (circa 1887-1919), the second teacher at the *cheder* of Herszel Besserglik Wolbromer and a teacher at the *Agudas Yisroel* school, was considered by local Jews as a genius. (His son was Izrael, one of the best chess players in Poland.) Frank's most well-known son was → Szmul Frank.

R. Federman, *Szmul Frank un zajn miszpoche*, w: *Czenstochow*, pp. 147–151. – "Częstochower Cajtung" 1931, No. 5 (30<sup>th</sup> January I), pp. 1, 2 and 7; 1931, No. 37, p. 5. - APCz, unit No. 58, marriage record No. 52/1885.

**Wiesław Paszkowski**