

**GALSTER** Maurycy (1887–1943), merchant and mercantile activist, commander of the Jewish police. He was born on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1887 in Zawiercie, Będzin District, the son of Szmul Lejzor and Ruchla née Mic.

Until 1939, Galster ran an expeditionary house<sup>1</sup> at II Aleja 23) in Częstochowa. He lived at al. Wolności 28, later at No. 11. He was a member of the board (as treasurer) of the Industrialists and Merchants Association. From 1935, he was a member (as treasurer) of the Building Construction Committee for Jewish Community Schools.

At the beginning of 1940, he was co-opted to the Council of Elders (*Judenrat*), to replace those who had been dismissed for sabotaging the work of the *Judenrat*. In March 1941, he was appointed by the *Judenrat* to head the Street Traffic Inspectorate (IRU). He also served in that post after the Częstochowa ghetto was created at the beginning of April in that same year, when the IRU was transformed into the Order Service (Jewish police).

In May 1941, he was arrested on the orders of the German authorities. For three days, he was held in a makeshift detention centre on Wały Dwernickiego. Upon release, he no longer returned to his position. He was one of the “strong people” in the *Judenrat*, entrusted with positions where ruthless and energetic people were needed. During the deportations and the liquidation of the ghetto, he ran the field kitchen on the premises of the “*Metalurgia*” factory.

On 4<sup>th</sup> January 1943, he was selected, by the Germans, to be shot. However, he was released through efforts to which the *Judenrat* president, → Leon Kopiński, contributed. Together with his wife, he perished on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943 in the mass executions at the Jewish cemetery.

His wife was Eugenia Rebeka née Mientkiewicz (8<sup>th</sup> August Częstochowa - 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943 Częstochowa), the daughter of Kałma and Estera née Lederman. They had a son → Jerzy.

Paszkowski, *Policja żydowska w Częstochowie*, pp. 159, 161, 166 (biography). - *Spis abonentów sieci telefonicznych 1939*, p. 47. – Materials from the ODDC collections.

**Wiesław Paszkowski**

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<sup>1</sup> [TN: a logistics/storage business]