

LANDAU Lejb Lejbuś (1861-1934), teacher and school owner. He was born on 13th August 1861 in Opoczno, the son of Szoel Mendel and Ita Rachela née Goldband.

He probably came to Częstochowa in 1887 (at which time he married). He ran a *cheder* at ul. Senatorska 7, the school being in an insufficiently lit, small room on the ground floor. About fifty boys attended here. After the municipal authorities ordered that each school must obtain special permission, it was converted into a licenced *cheder*. Apart from teaching Hebrew, bible studies and Talmud studies, secular subjects were also taught here. At first, he taught the religious subjects - later he employed other *melamedim*. He understood the need for change in teaching, so he also employed a qualified headmaster and other educators.

Landau was the old type of Jewish teacher. He was neither a great teacher nor a great scholar. His merit came from the fact that he educated a large number (thousands) of students, giving them an elementary education and upbringing. Many of them continued their education. Preserved reports say that he terrified students, who feared his dark glasses, his long black beard although, in reality, he was a gentle man, who liked children. Over time, Landau's eyesight deteriorated, which is probably why the community entrusted him with the duties of *gabbai* in the Stary Bejt Hamidrasz [Old Study-Hall].

He died in Częstochowa, as a poor man, on 20th April 1934. He was buried in the local cemetery. His grave has not been preserved.

His wife was Hana Nisel née Altman (18th January 1869 Radomsko - 17th September 1929 Częstochowa), the daughter of Fajwusz and Laja née Oderberg. She was buried in grave No. 135 I in the local cemetery.

They had five children:

- Saul Mendel (25th December 1890 Częstochowa - 1941? Częstochowa), a merchant, who die of typhus in the Częstochowa ghetto. His first wife was Cyrla née Fride, the daughter of Abram Luzer and Estera Hendla née Szwarcbord (26th February 1883 Łęczycza-). After they divorced, on 22nd December 1917, he married Laja Bajla of Kraków (29th July 1892 Turek-), the daughter of teacher → Herman Krak,
- Abram Icek (6th April 1893 Częstochowa-),
- Rejla (13th August 1896 Częstochowa-), wife of Szlama Sułkowski,
- Genia Hana Gryna (23rd December 1902 Częstochowa - 1942?), a teacher married to teacher Jakub Kinas (1902 Lututów –1942?),

- Chaim (13th June 1912 Częstochowa–) who, after the war, lived in Israel.

Czenstochower Jidn, p. LV; Orenstein, *Churban Czenstochow*, pp. 383–385. – USC Częstochowa, death record No. 216/1929 i 88/1934.

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