

MARKOWICZ Joachim Chaim (1898–1964), lawyer, Częstochowa city councillor, member of the Częstochowa Jewish Community Council prosecutor. He was born on 25th February 1898 in Częstochowa, the son of Eliasz and Sura Salomea (?) Frymeta née Weksler, the brother of Szymon (2nd December 1909-), who graduated from the H. Sienkiewicz State Gimnazjum (matriculated in 1927), in 1930, a student at the Praga Polytechnic.

He attended the Russian Boys Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. In 1918, he graduated from the local H. Sienkiewicz Royal Polish Gimnazjum. In that same year, he began studying in the Law Faculty of the Jagiellonian University and, from 1923, also in that university's Faculty of Philosophy. In 1922, during his studies, he was co-founder, and later president, of the Częstochowa branch of the "Auxilium Academicum Judaicum" Committee to Aid Jewish Students. He graduated with a Doctor of Laws degree. On 8th July 1931, he was sworn in as a lawyer before the Warsaw Bar Council and, in 1933, was entered on the list of lawyers. As a lawyer, he was connected to Częstochowa, running a legal practice at ul. Wilsona 2. He specialised as a defence lawyer in political matters.

He was a confirmed leftist, but did not belong to any party. → Rafał Federman recalls that, in the 1920's, he was a Bund sympathiser. In 1939, as a candidate of the United Jewish Electoral Bloc, he won a seat on the City Council. In the 1930s, he was a member of the Jewish Community Council. In 1925, he was one of the co-founders of the "Lira" Częstochowa Music and Literary Society.

In the opinion of W. H., "He was a proud Jew. His brilliant legal statements and press articles came out strongly against the manifestation of Nazi ideology".

He survived the German occupation. From April, he acted as a prosecutor in criminal trials. Initially, he was Deputy Prosecutor in the Łódź District Court, later becoming Deputy District Prosecutor. Soon after, he became a prosecutor in the Supreme Court (SN) in Warsaw. In 1949, as an SN prosecutor, he appeared in the cash-settlement proceedings relating to the crimes in Jedwabne. From circa 1951, he served as a prosecutor of the Prosecutor-General's Office in Warsaw. In 1956, in one of the trials, he prosecuted participants in the Poznań events¹. In 1957, he resigned as a prosecutor, but continued to work as a lawyer.

He died on 1st June 1964 in Warsaw and was buried in the Jewish cemetery on ul. Okopowa (sector 10, row 4, grave No. 7).

¹ TN: *The Poznań protests of 1956, also known as the Poznań June, were the first of several massive protests against the communist government. Demonstrations by workers demanding better working conditions began on 28th June 1956 and were met with violent repression.*

He was awarded the Gold Cross of Merit.

Adwokaci regionu częstochowskiego (W. Paszkowski, J. Sętowski), p. 151; *Sienkiewiczacy*, pp. 229, 232 (re: brother). – *Czenstochower Jidn*, p. 391; *Sefer Czenstochow*, vol. I, Jerozolima 1967, col. 708; Szwed, *Radni m. Częstochowy*, p. 50; Malko, *Życie muzyczne*, p. 305; Mizgalski, *Tożsamość polityczna*, p. 263; *Z dziejów Żydów w Częstochowie* (J. Mizgalski), p. 242; *Żydzi – częstochowianie. Współistnienie-holokaust-pamięć*. – “Częstochower Cajtung” 1931, No. 28, p. 5. – *Spis abonentów telefonicznych 1935*, p. 49. – APCz, birth record No. 55/1898; unit No. 1, ref. 8847, No. 830 (re: brother). – Materials from the ODDC collections.

Wiesław Paszkowski, Juliusz Sętowski