

**ROTBARD** Zelig (1893-1943), political activist, city councillor, social activist. He was born on 27<sup>th</sup> May 1893 in Częstochowa, the son of Berek and Szprynca née Karmazyn. His parents ran a leather and tanning goods shop (at Stary Rynek 23) in Częstochowa. His brother was → Alter Pinkus Rotbard. Rotbard helped his parents run their shop and, before 1939, became the shop's owner.

Prior to 1914, he belonged to Social Democracy of the Polish and Lithuanian Kingdom (SDKPiL). Later, he became a Zionist.

In 1934, he ran as a candidate for the city council, representing United Jewish Business Bloc (ZŻBG). He became a Deputy Councillor. Presumably, in 1934, he became a City Councillor, replacing one of the ZŻBG councillors. He worked on the Opinion and Regulatory Committees. In June 1935, he resigned from the City Council, due to his numerous business trips. He was replaced by → Maurycy Faust.

In 1936, he was a member of the Council of the Committee for the Building of a Jewish Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. He belonged to the Jewish Literary Society.

During the German occupation, on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1939, he was selected to serve on the Council of Elders (*Judenrat*). At the beginning of 1940, he was a member of the new seven-person Council of Elders. He was murdered by the Germans (together with his wife and younger daughter Fela) on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943 at the Częstochowa Jewish Cemetery. He is buried there in a mass grave (28–31 III).

His wife was Cesia Cutla née Szajn (13<sup>th</sup> July 1893 Częstochowa - 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943 Częstochowa). They had two daughters – Lola and Fela.

Brener, *Widersztand*, pp. 101, 102; Szwed, *Żydzi w samorządzie*, p. 169. – “Częstochower Cajtung” 1935, No. 3, p. 2; “Nasz Głos Powszechny” 1936, No. 3, p. 4. – APCz, MagCz 5503, 5582, books 4, 9.- Materials from the ODDC collections.

**Wiesław Paszkowski**