

SZLEZYNGIER (SZLESINGER) Michał Machel Dawid (known as “Dudek”) (1894-1942), worker activist, city councillor. He was born on 13th March 1894 in Częstochowa, the son of Icek Majer, who owned a ribbon factory on ul. Spadek in Częstochowa. In 1920, he donated 300 Polish marks to the Committee to Aid the Polish Soldier (the Committee operating through the Jewish Community Council).

His mother was Ruda née Goldman. His brother was Alain Romans, actually Roman Abram Szlezinger (26th January 1905 Częstochowa – 19th December 1988 Paris), an outstanding composer of film music, a pianist and jazz musician. He studied in Leipzig, Berlin and Paris. Among others, he worked with Joséphine Baker and Django Reinhardt.

[Michał] studied in Belgium, but did not graduate. He belonged to *Poalei Zion*. From November 1918, representing that party, he was a member of the Częstochowa Council of Workers’ Delegates (CzRDR) and, in January 1919, he joined the leadership of the CzRDR. On 10th December 1918, he was co-opted to the Częstochowa City Council. In the mid-1920s, he was chairman of the Independent Socialist Labour Party (NSPP). He was popular amongst both Polish and Jewish workers. On 8th November 1925, he was arrested by the police during a workers’ meeting (for speaking against the Polish state). In the second half of the 1930s, he worked as a travelling salesman.

He lived at ul. Garibaldiiego 17. On 21st September 1942, he was murdered by the Germans in the Częstochowa ghetto.

His wife was Regina née Graus. They had a daughter who perished, together with her father, on 21st September 1942.

Bąkowski, *Z dziejów walk klasowych*, pp. 148, 149, 232; Brener, *Widersztand*, p. 75; *Czenstochower Yidn*, p. CXLIV (144). – *Oblicza lewicy. Losy idei i ludzi*, Warszawa 1992, p. 145. – B. Drobner, *Bezustanna walka*, vol. II. *Wspomnienia 1919–1936*, Warszawa 1965, pp. 68, 110. – Mielczarek, *Organizacje robotniczych partii żydowskich*, pp. 44, 46. – “Goniec Częstochowski” 1920, No. 204, p. 3. – *Przewodnik gospodarczy województw kieleckiego, krakowskiego i śląskiego 1938*, p. 46. – APCz, MagCz 4998, registers No. 616, 5503, pp. 316, 383, 384.

Juliusz Sętowski, Wiesław Paszkowski