

Simcha Rajch



Simcha Rajch (his father was Perec Rajch) was known as an ultra-orthodox Jew who engraved tombstones. Already in his youth, he had joined the *Poalei Zion* movement and, over time, became one of its leading activists and spokesmen.

In 1924 he emigrated to Palestine, together with his wife Lea (née Zajdman) and his little daughter. When his daughter fell ill and physicians determined that the local climate was harmful for her, he was forced to temporarily leave the country and to return to Częstochowa.

Also upon his return he did not abandon his aspiration for Zion and he resumed his Zionist activity with renewed vigour. Simcha Rajch called upon Jewish labourers - and Jewish porters among them, urging them to emigrate to Palestine and to join the Jewish conquest of work at the Haifa port, which was then in the first stages of operation.

In 1935 he was finally able to fulfil his ambition and emigrated to Palestine with his family for a second time.