People used to call him “Reb Icze-Majer Krel”. He was one of Częstochowa’s worthies. He was involved in public affairs, in religious educational institutions and in charitable institutions. He was also Chairman of the cheders [?] and one of those active in the maintenance of the “Machzikei Hadass” school.

Reb Icze-Majer Krel - in whom honesty, wisdom and kindness were combined - was popular not only among the Jewish residents, but also amongst the Gentiles. As head of the municipal Credit Association (“Towarzystwo Kredytowe”), he succoured the needy and saw to it that their possessions not be auctioned off due to arrears in payments.

He was a Torah scholar, the pride of the Gerer Chassidim. He dedicated time to Torah study in public and also gave lessons in these institutions. Reb Icze-Majer Krel served as Vice-Chairman of “Agudas Yisroel” and always knew how to find solutions to its complicated problems. He represented “Agudas Yisroel” both in the Kehilla Council and on the City Council. He carried his duties out in a committed manner and was generally well-liked by the public.

He was also known for supporting the Land of Israel and, on behalf of “Agudas Yisroel”, was a member of the delegation which travelled there in 1925. He was a central figure at “Agudah’s” large conferences and participated in the delegation that welcomed the President of Poland, Mościcki, when he visited Częstochowa.

(On his way to the death-train, he took his shoes off and asked those marching with him to say “Sh’mah Israel” together with him, as they were marching to be martyred.)