

Jakób Landsman

## Reb Leizer Landsman *hy''d*

My father was already a *melamed* in Częstochowa in the period prior to the First World War. His *cheder* was among the best in Częstochowa. (It was located in the Hampel house at ul. Spadek 12.) The *cheder* already then stood on a high level. Besides him, the *melamdim* Berisz Wajnberg, Eksztajn [and] Mojsze Dawid Landsman also taught there. The secular studies teachers were Messrs Leder and Awner. They also taught Hebrew and music. With the outbreak of the First World War, the *cheder* closed down and we moved to Praszka.

Although my father *z''l* yearned to return to Częstochowa after the War, he was unable to do so. He therefore travelled to Kłobuck, where he was appointed headmaster of the local "*Yessod Ha'Torah*" [Foundation of the T.] *cheder*. However, he found it difficult to adapt to the local rabbi's methods and returned to Częstochowa to re-open his *cheder* and, until the years of the German occupation, he continued teaching children in Częstochowa.

He was a Torah scholar who fulfilled the precept of "[*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth;*] *but thou shalt meditate thereon day and night*" [Joshua 1:8]. He also had a secular education at the level of four years in a high school.

(In the last days before the "*Akcja*", he asked me to say the "*Kaddish*" for him [after his death] and to study chapters of the *Mishna* to commemorate him, as if he had foreseen that I would remain alive.)

