

D.K.

Szmul Niemirowski *hy''d*

Szmul Niemirowski, an active social and political activist, came to Częstochowa in the first years of the 20th century and, together with his wife, opened a hatter's workshop. After the First World War, together with Abram Baum and H. Winer, he managed a large iron business. He took his first steps in communal life early on and he was active in political, financial and sports institutions. Besides this, he also actively took part in the Retailers' and the Craftsmen's unions, in the "Craftsmen's Bank" and especially in the "Craftsmen's Cooperative".

He was the leader of the Zionist Revisionist Party in Częstochowa. He donated his time and money to communal affairs.

(In September 1939, Szmul Niemirowski was arrested by the Gestapo, together with eight other hostages - members of the *Kehilla* council and the rabbinate. He was held until November of that year. During his imprisonment, he was ill and was also beaten. Although he was released a little later, the Nazis shortly afterwards sent him to Dachau, where he was tortured to death.

His family also met with a very tragic end. One of his sons was literally beaten to death by the Gestapo. His wife and his only daughter, Mrs Markowicz, were able to hide from the Gestapo for quite a long time and even lived in the "Small Ghetto" under false names. In January 1943, they attempted to leave the ghetto in order to hide in a bunker on the "Aryan side". They were caught and shot to death by a Polish policeman.

In the summer of 1945, following Liberation, I helped the young Markowicz - who had survived - to transport the bones of his wife and mother-in-law and bring them to a Jewish grave).