

Rabbinical Judges



*The judges Reb Nachman Grinfeld z"l [L]
and Reb Dobrisz Kaufman z"l [R]*

• Of the famous judges who served in our city and who, sometimes, also replaced the Rabbi and Head of Court for the years during the periods between the appointment of one Chief Rabbi and the next, we may mention, as great Halachic authorities and outstanding in Torah:

- the rabbi Reb Natan Oderberg, who was from Germany
- the rabbi Reb Szlojme Stencil (the grandfather of the rabbi Reb Jona Stencil, a member of the Tel-Aviv Rabbinate)
- the judge Rabbi Dawid Weksler and
- the judge, the rabbi Reb Berisz.

And, during the period Rabbi Nuchem Asz ztz"l was the Chief Rabbi:

- Rabbi Majer Henech Ben-Ishai, who was Rabbi Asz's brother-in-law and who excelled in his sagacity and greatness in Torah, who later emigrated to the Land of Israel and served as rabbi of the "Neve-Sha'anan" neighbourhood in Tel-Aviv
- the rabbi Reb Józef Prokosz, or Rabbi Józef "Kira" [Yid. "Austrian"], as he was nicknamed, who was known for his shrewdness and expertise as a Halachic authority and in the knowledge of general religious laws, and [his] excellent judging skills
- the pious rabbi, Rabbi Józef Klajnplac (the son of the Prodigy of Pławno).

And also those who served with distinction as judges and Halachic authorities in the last period prior to the Holocaust:

- Rabbi Wolwiz Borensztajn, the young prodigy from Sochaczew and a relative of the [author of] "Avnei Nezer"¹ ztz"l
- Rabbi Bencion Wdowinski (the son of the Rabbi of Radzymin)
- Rabbi Benjamin Rubin (the son-in-law of the *Rebbe* Reb Awigdor'l [Szapiro] ztz"l)
- the Halachic authority Rabbi Dov Berisz Kaufman z"l and
- the judge Reb Nachman Grinfeld z"l*.

¹ [TN: *Stones of the Crown*, by Rebbe Avrohom Borenstein, the Rebbe of Sochaczew.]

* **Editor's note:**

We've been able to find the photographs of the decisors Reb Dobrisz Kaufman and Reb Nachman Grinfeld z"l, who are mentioned in Mr J.Ch. Plai's article. The photographs of the rest of our rabbis z"l, are published with the articles dedicated to their blessed activities and memory.