

Izaak Zander

## ***Shoichet* Reb Mojsze Zander**

He was born in 5649 [1889] to his father Ze'ev [Wolf], in the town of Gorzkowice. He studied with the Head of Court of Pławno, author of "*Yad Ha'Levi*" ["Hand of the Levite"]. He trained in ritual slaughter and examination [of the carcasses] with Reb Leibale, the *Shoichet* of Bełchatów, and was ordained as a *shoichet* and examiner by Reb Isuchor Dov [Ber] Graubart, the Rabbi of Będzin, author of "*Divrei Yisoschor*" ["The Words of Issachar"].

He gained renown as an expert slaughterer with a wonderfully skilled hand. He first served as *shoichet* in Starczów and Kłobuck. In Kłobuck, he was also active in public matters. He gave Torah lessons to young and old, arranged the town's *eruv*<sup>1</sup>, kept the books for the charity fund founded by the "Joint" and was a committee member of the "*Yessod Ha'Torah*" *cheder* and "*Beis Yaakov*".

In 1929, he was appointed *shoichet* and "second cantor" in our city's Main Synagogue.

My father, Reb Mojsze, had a pleasing bearing and received each and every person cheerfully. In his conversations with people, he would intercalate Torah undertones. He was naturally humble and distanced himself from conflicts. He was chosen as a council member of the "*Shoichets' Organisation*" in Poland. He was called on to rectify [differing] practices and to mediate in conflicts that arose between *shoichets* and rabbis and *Kehilla* leaders in different localities.

He was a Radomsko *chassid*, and, when he came to visit his *Rebbe*, he was honoured with leading the prayer service, as well as songs at the "tables".

Of his seven offspring, his son (the writer of these lines) and his daughter Naomi (Zysel) have survived and are both in Israel.

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<sup>1</sup> [TN: A technical boundary made of wire which allows Jews to carry in public areas on Shabbes.]