Rabbi Mojsze Halter hy"d



[Rabbi Halter was] one of the prominent figures of the religious-nationalist movement in Częstochowa. He was a disciple of the prodigy, Rabbi Majer Jechiel HaLevi ztz"l, the Rabbi of Ostrowiec, and of the prodigy Rabbi Szaul Mojsze ztz"l, the Rabbi of Wieruszów and, later, in Tel-Aviv. He was one of the best public speakers and a fine interpreter of Halacha and Aggadah [Jewish Babylonian Aramaic tales; lore]. He did as he preached. He was well-respected and people heeded his words attentively. Many attended his lectures and Torah lessons, for he explained well and, in his special way, made his words pleasant, be it at an "Oyneg Shabbes¹" at "Machzikei Hadas" or in a lecture to the "Ha'Mizrachi" circles, his words were sensible and measured, and built on solid foundations.

He was respected by our townspeople, both for his merits as a great scholar and as a God-fearing man and as well as for his brother-in-law – Our Teacher Rabbi Nuchem Asz z''l.

He visited the Land [of Israel] with the intention of settling there, but was unable to do so, which he always regretted. In all his speeches and appearances, he would stress the obligation of every true Zion-loving Jew to visit, at least once during his lifetime, the Land of Israel, to see its beauty and magnificence "and favour the dust thereof" [Psalm 102:14].

In 5680 [1920] he published his first book, "Nofach Misheli" ["A Touch of my Own"], which contains all the sermons which he preached on Saturdays and holidays in Częstochowa.

In 5689 [1929], he published a eulogy for his teacher, the prodigy Rabbi Majer Jechiel HaLevi ztz"l, the Rabbi of Ostrowiec, named "Amudei Sheish" ["Pillars of Marble"], which also included two of his sermons.

In 5696 [1936], he published the booklet "Areylim Umetzukim" ["Angels and Righteous Men"] - a eulogy for his brother-in-law Rabbi Asz z"I, and, in 5698 [1938], he published "Tziun LeTziyunei Moharan" ["A Tombstone for the Tziyunei Moharan"] - the eulogy he delivered for his brother-in-law on the day his tombstone was erected.

(He left many Torah innovations in manuscript form, but they shared his own bitter destiny; the accursed enemy put an end to his glorious and praiseworthy life.)

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¹ [TN: See above, p.262.]

² [TN: See above, p.329.