

# JEWISH CEMETERY

**BELTS,  
MOLDOVA**



**FORMELY IN  
BESSARABIA,  
USSR**

Tucked away in Moldova, part of the former Soviet Union, is a city named Belts. Years ago, it was a large Jewish shtetl. There is even a song written about it: "Main shtetale Belts". Now, only a few hundred Jews live in Belts. However, many thousands of Jews are buried in the Jewish cemetery.

After the Iron Curtain was drawn back, nearly all the Jews left the city of Belts. There has been no one to care for the cemetery. It has become overgrown with weeds, bushes and trees. Those who have come to visit the graves of relatives have not been able to find them in the jungle that the cemetery has become.

To help save the cemetery, we have started an initiative group in America; a non-profit organization to raise money and allow us to reclaim and restore our burial grounds. We have already collected \$17,000, but it is not enough to restore the cemetery and monuments that have been damaged by vandals.

Currently, the cemetery with our help is refining the existing burial lists and creating photographs of restored tombstones in the postwar graves. There are about 6,000. (There is another pre-war cemetery, where thousands of graves that remain unrestored due to lack of funds). All of these data after photographing monuments and refine the lists will be transferred to **JewishGen** Online Worldwide Burial Registry.

We urgently need your financial support to complete these projects: restore the cemetery and make the names and photos of grave stones who buried available at **JewishGen.org**.

Please visit our website, see old photographs from Beltsy, and new from the cemetery, learn Beltsy's history and about our projects at <http://shtetlbelts.ru>. Some pages are in English - [http://shtetlbelts.ru/cemetery/eng\\_cemet.html](http://shtetlbelts.ru/cemetery/eng_cemet.html), but even Russian pages you could translate with Google.

Details about our Fund: **JP Morgan Chase Bank**  
**Routing Number 044000037**  
**Account Number 2928822655**  
**Name: "Beltsy Cemetery Fund"**

We desperately need your support. Please donate today, and help save the Jewish Cemetery in Belts.

Sincerely,

Arkadiy Verzub, founder of "Beltsy Cemetery Fund" [ark.verzub@gmail.com](mailto:ark.verzub@gmail.com)

Yefim Kogan will be present at this conference and can be reached for questions at: 617-417-1629