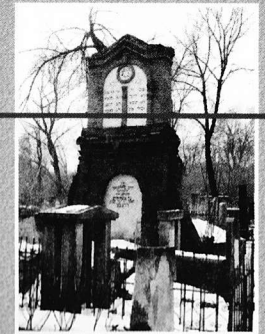
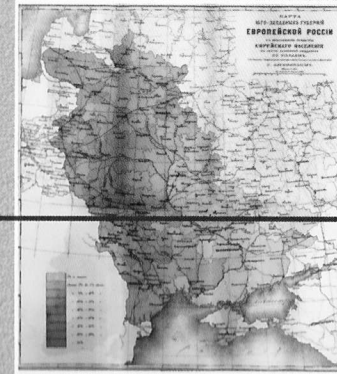


Irina SHIKHOVA



We Will Survive

JEWISH HISTORY OF MOLDOVA
IN IMAGES, MAPS AND PICTURES

БАКАЛЕЙНАЯ ЛАВКА

въ м. Бричаняхъ.

Шимона Герциковича Кишлинского.

ФАБРИКА

ШИПУЧИХЪ ВОДЪ

въ м. Бричаняхъ.

Шимона Абрамъ-Ицковъ ШАРФМАНА.

Поживенный магазинъ

въ м. Бричаняхъ.

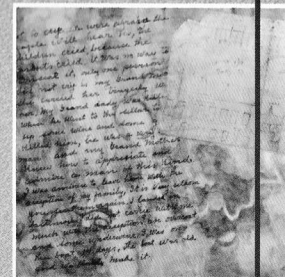
Петръ-Израиловича Юдковича

ШВАРЦА.

Бакалейная лавка

въ м. Бричаняхъ.

Уриша Мееровича ГОЛДШМИТА



Chisinau 2015

This publication was produced on the basis of the exhibition «We Will Survive: Jewish Heritage of Moldova» materials of the Museum and Educational Center *Jewish Heritage of Moldova*, Jewish Cultural Center KEDEM (Chisinau, Moldova), with the financial support of the Rothschild Foundation.

Curator of the exposition – Irina Shikhova, PhD;
Designer – Efim Goldshmidt.

Reviewers:
Damian V., PhD, senior researcher at the Institute of Cultural Heritage of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova;
Kara N., PhD, associate university lecturer, senior researcher at the Institute of Cultural Heritage of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova.

Descrierea CIP a Camerei Naționale a Cărții

Shikhova, Irina.
We Will Survive : Jewish History of Moldova in Images, Maps and Pictures / Irina Shikhova ;
Jewish Cultural Center KEDEM, Museum and Educational Center Jewish Heritage of Moldova.
– Chișinău : S. n., 2016 (F.E.-P. "Tipografia Centrală"). – 32 p.

200 ex.
ISBN 978-9975-53-592-2.
94(=411.16)(478)
S 52

Jewish Cultural Center *KEDEM*
Museum and Educational Center *Jewish Heritage of Moldova*

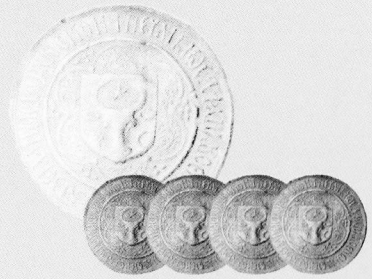
Irina SHIKHOVA

We Will Survive

JEWISH HISTORY OF MOLDOVA
IN IMAGES, MAPS AND PICTURES

Chisinau 2015

ANCIENT TIMES AND MIDDLE AGES



We do not possess absolutely tangible data regarding the time when Jews settled in the region between Carpathians and Dniester or on the territory of the modern Republic of Moldova. There are suppositions that are based on indirect facts, that on the border of the époques (I BC – I AD), in the time of Burebista's and Decebal's rule, on the territory of Dacia existed some kind of Jewish presence. We will have to find out whether these were Jewish settlements or these were only trade points, where from time to time came the merchants from ancient Israel or maybe these were just the representatives of the trade courts.

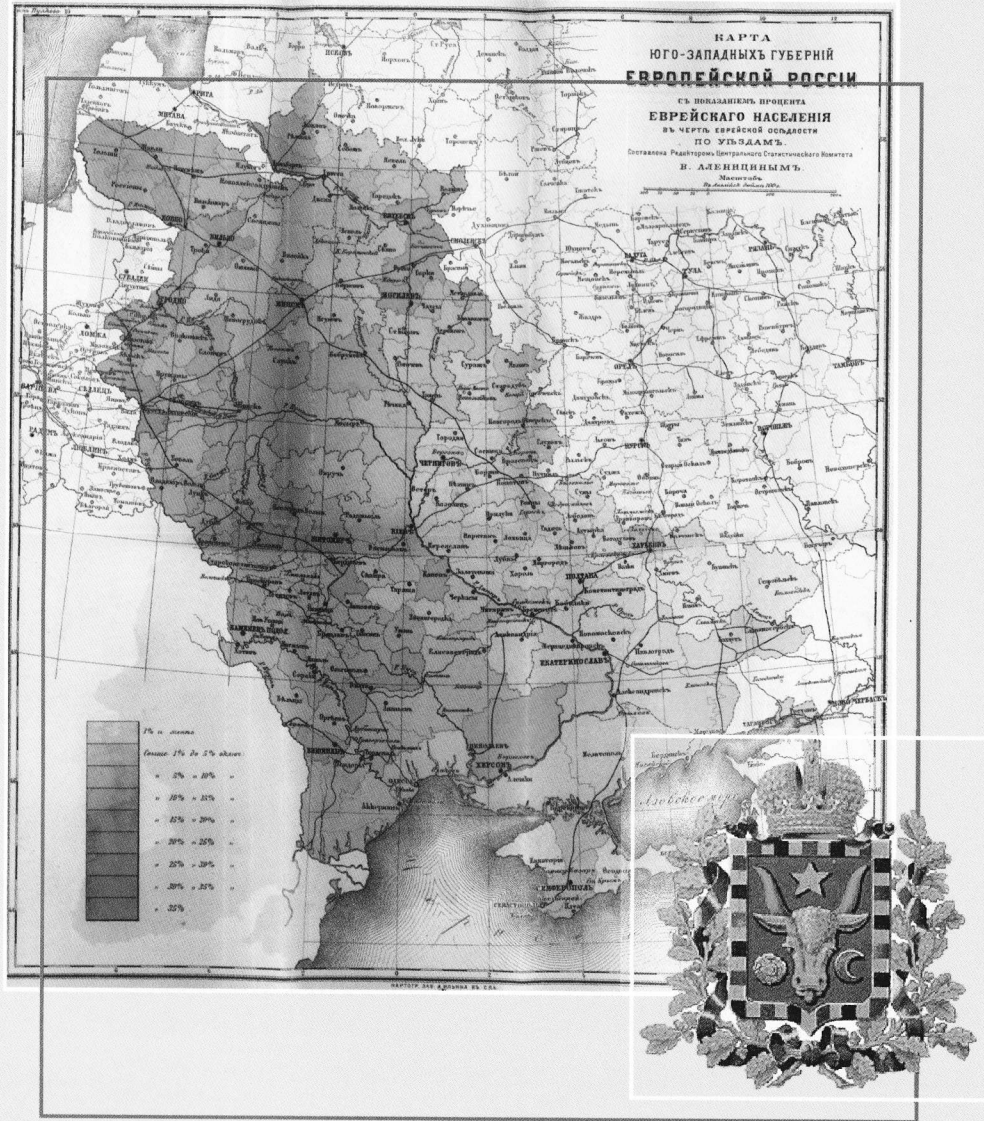


ANCIENT TIMES AND MIDDLE AGES



However, what we can be sure is that at least in the XIV century, when Pontic cities of southern Bessarabia became part of the Moldavian principality, there already existed Jewish communities. So, the Jews of what is today called Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy are mentioned, for example, in the life of the Saint John the New relating to the XIV century. These communities have existed here even before the Moldavian period from the time of the Golden Horde.

PALE OF SETTLEMENT



In 1812, after Russian-Turkish war of 1806-1812, as a result of the Bucharest peace treaty, Bessarabia (the area between the Prut and Dniester rivers) was transferred under the jurisdiction of the Russian Empire - first as Bessarabia region, and from 1873 - the province of Bessarabia, and it was included in the Pale of Settlement.

PALE OF SETTLEMENT

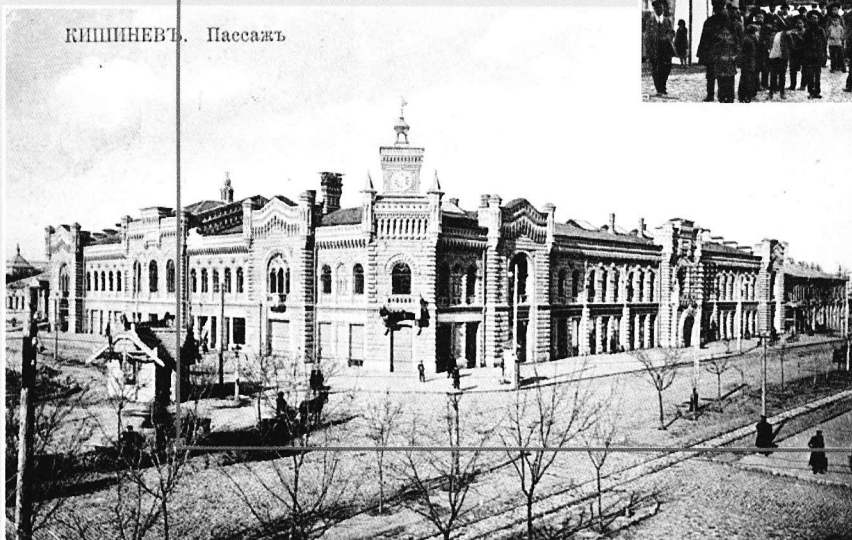
Табл. № 1.

	Еврейск. население			% къ об. нас.
	м.	ж.	об. п.	
1. Кишиневскій уѣздъ	26909	28001	54910	19,6
г. Кишиневъ	24630	25607	50237	46,5
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	2279	2394	4673	2,1
2. Аккерманскій уѣздъ	6050	6282	12332	4,7
г. Аккерманъ	2765	2848	5613	20,0
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	3285	3434	6719	2,8
3. Бендерскій уѣздъ	8295	8330	16625	8,6
г. Бендеры	5326	5318	10644	38,0
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	2969	3012	5981	3,7
4. Бѣлецкій уѣздъ	13537	13767	27304	13,0
г. Бѣльцы	5149	5199	10348	55,9
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	8388	8568	16956	8,8
5. Измаильскій уѣздъ	5839	5914	11753	4,8
г. Измаиль	1392	1389	2781	12,7
г. Болградъ	595	601	1196	9,7
г. Киля	1072	1080	2152	18,6
г. Кагуль	400	400	800	11,4
г. Рени	357	373	730	14,3
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	2023	2071	4094	2,2
6. Оргѣвскій уѣздъ	13272	13427	26699	12,5
г. Оргѣвъ	3476	3658	7144	59,5
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	9796	9759	19555	9,8
7. Сорокскій уѣздъ	15228	15789	31017	13,8
г. Сороки	4276	4507	8783	57,4
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	10952	11282	22234	10,9
8. Хотинскій уѣздъ	23532	24356	47888	15,6
г. Хотинъ	4434	4733	9227	50,1
въ уѣздѣ безъ гор.	19038	19623	38661	13,1
Всего въ Бессар. губ.	112662	115866	228528	11,8
» » городахъ	53932	55723	109655	37,4
» » уѣзд.(безъгор.)	58730	60143	118873	7,2



The Jews of Bessarabia subordinated to all-Russian "Body of Law of the Jews", but in certain aspects were slightly more favorable in comparison to other parts of the Pale of Settlement. Perhaps that is why in 1897 the Jewish population of Bessarabia was almost a quarter of a million people - about 12% of the general population and more than 37% of the urban population of gubernia.

JEWS AND SOCIETY



Moldovan Jews never lived in isolation from the rest of society, including those in power. In the second half of the XV - beginning of XVI centuries, the chancellor and referendary of hospodars Stefan cel Mare (Stephen the Great) and his son Bogdan in the courtyard of Iasi was Isaac ben Benjamin Shor.

JEWS AND SOCIETY

The Jews were a part of the Chisinau City Duma in late XIX - early XX centuries, and a part of Sfatul Tarii (Council of the country) in a short period of independence of the Democratic Republic of Moldova in 1918, and among the so called "Soviet nomenclature". Alas, it did not always give a guarantee of safety.



Свиток Торы, поднесенный еврейской буржуазией и раввинами г. Кишинева Николаю II в 1914 г.




POGROM





Теодор Гериль



„EREZ ISRAEL“
BUREAU DES
ZIONISTEN-CONGRESSES

Wien am 19. Mai 1903.
Z. 20. 1903.

An den verehrlichen Vorstand der Jüdischen Gemeinde
Kischinew!

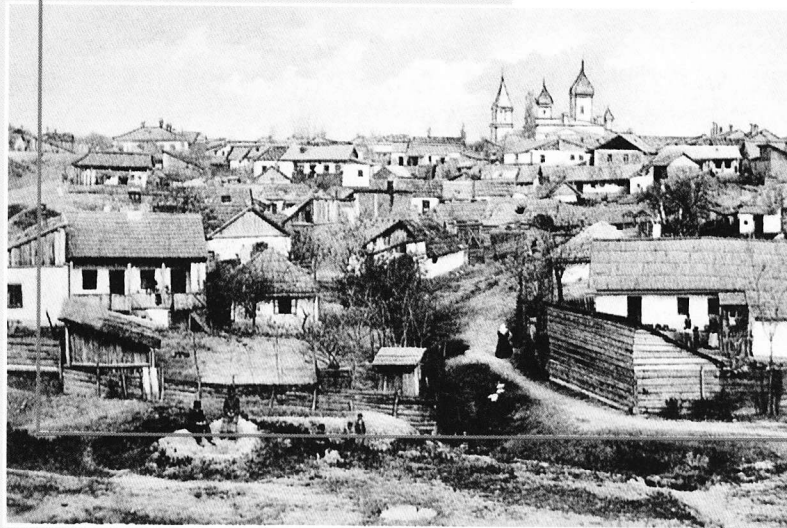
Das ganze jüdische Volk steht unter dem Eindruck der furchtbaren Tage von Kischinew seit Jahrzehnten. Die jüdischen Jugend nicht weniger Mitleid wurden. Schändliche Frauen und Kinder mussten in ihrer Verzweiflung daran glauben lassen.

Tief erschüttert von der Größe dieses National-Un Glückes drücken wir Ihnen im brüderlichen Schmerz die Hand. Denn die Hingegangenen waren unsere Stammes- und unsere Brüder und ihr Grabstein trägt die Aufschrift:

In unserem Schmerz gibt es nur ein Trosteswort: Mögen wir alle in Leid und Freud zusammenstehen, um unser Volk aus seiner Knechtschaft zu erlösen. Mögen diese schweren Tage auch ganze Männer finden, vereint zu einkräftiger und gemeinsamer Arbeit.

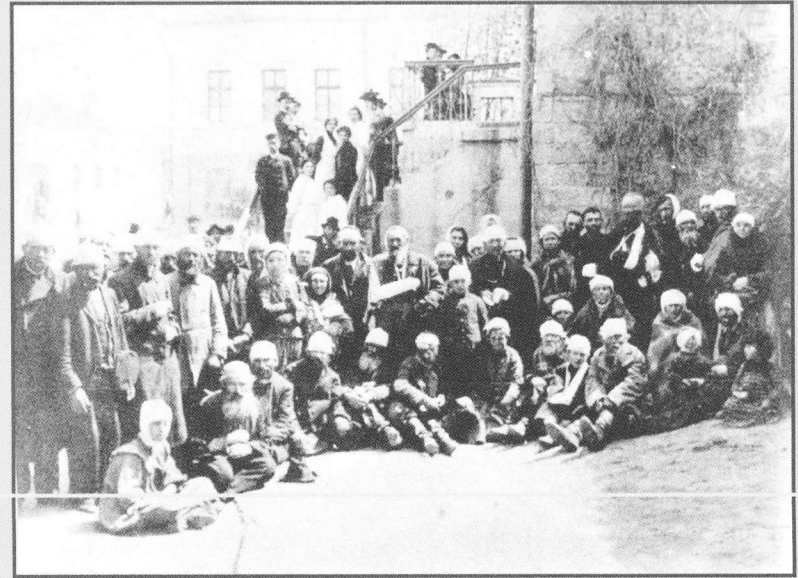
Ant. Zionsgründer
S. Herzl

Письмо Президента Всемирной Сионистской организации Т. Герцля руководству еврейской общины г. Кишинева о солидарности еврейского народа с жертвами погрома

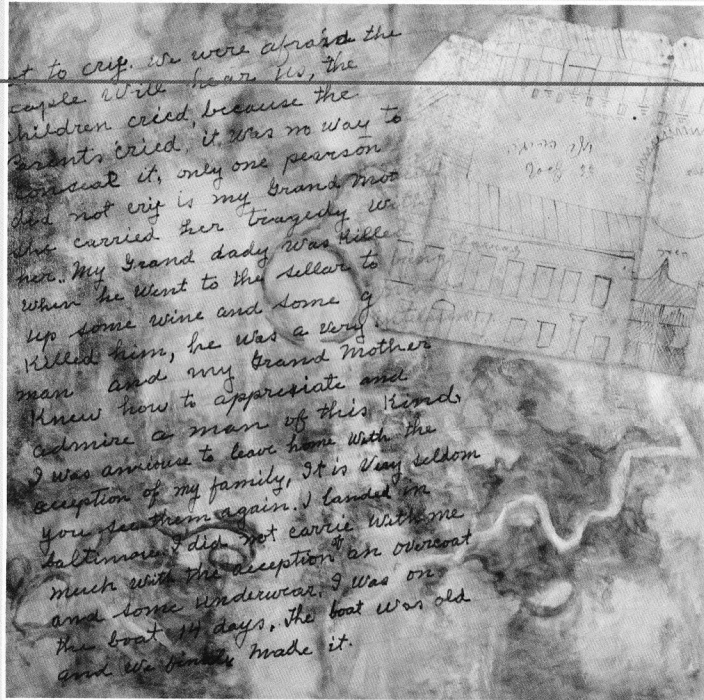


POGROM

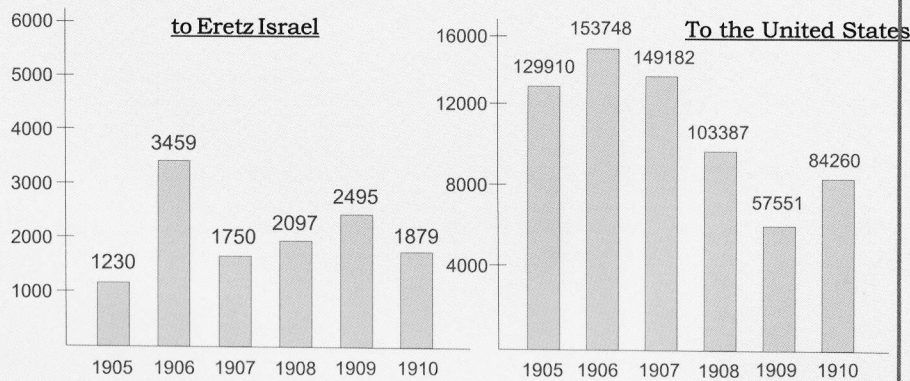
Nevertheless that Jews represented almost a half of the population of Chisinau (the other half consisted mostly of Russians and Moldavians), in the year 1903 took place the bitterly famous Kishinev Pogrom. It resulted in 49 killed and around 600 wounded, the houses, shops and stores were destroyed or damaged, but the key result of the Pogrom was the lost faith in justice and state protection of the citizens.



POGROM: AFTERMATH

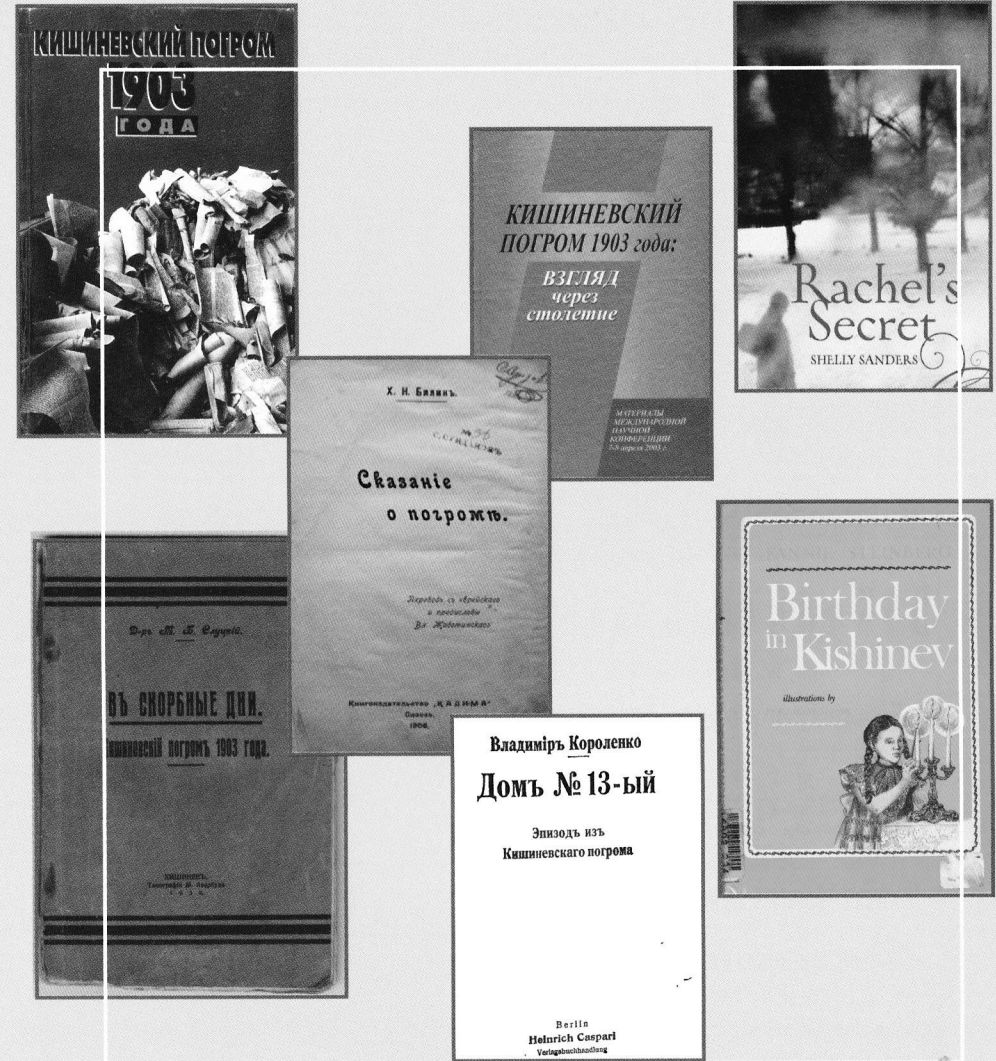


Jewish Emigration From Russia (1905-1910)



From Martin Gilbert. Jewish History Atlas. - Jerusalem: Alia Library, 1990. 80p.

POGROM: AFTERMATH



The Kishinev Pogrom of 1903 was not the first and not the last and even not the bloodiest one in the Russian Empire. However it contributed to the biggest mass reaction within Bessarabia, Russian Empire and the whole world. Nowadays, when you mention Kishinev, especially Jewish Kishinev, the first association that comes is the Pogrom and anti-Semitism.

OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS



БАКАЛЕЙНАЯ ЛАВКА

въ м. Бричанахъ

Шмиля Гершковича Кишлянского.

ФАБРИКА

ШИПУЧИХЪ ВОДЪ

въ м. Бричанахъ

Шимона Абрамъ-Ицкова ШАРФМАНА.

Кожевенный магазинъ

въ м. Бричанахъ

Шейрица Юджовича.

ШВАРЦА.

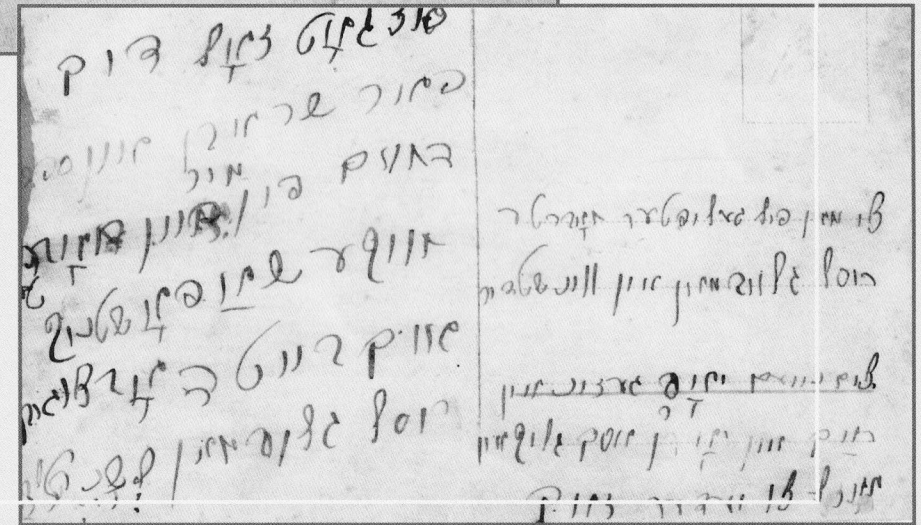
Бакалейная лавка

въ м. Бричанахъ

Урина Мееровича ГОЛДШМИТА



OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS



Despite persistent stereotypes about rich Jews, almost without exception merchants and bankers, in the Moldavian principality, and then in the Bessarabian part of the Pale of Settlement Jews were mainly small shopkeepers and artisans. There was, of course, and their own rich people; so that in the census of 1897 recorded even Jewish merchants of the first guild - one family.

EDUCATION

For Jewish culture throughout the ages was characteristic to give particular importance to the education: the traditional initially and the secular later. Kishinev yeshiva (a Jewish institution of higher education for young men) under the guidance of Rabbi Tsirelson in the first half of the XX century was known throughout Europe; were opened the first in Kishinev vocational ORT schools for boys and girls that gave the most advanced skills at the time; today in Kishinev operate two Jewish Lyceums, which teach modern information technologies and robotics.



EDUCATION



Literacy in Russian

	Грамотныхъ	
	мужчинъ	женщинъ
	въ %	въ %
Православныхъ . . .	16,1	4,2
Старообрядцевъ . . .	29,3	5,2
Римско-католиковъ . . .	51,7	47,7
Иудеевъ . . .	49,6	24,3
Протестантовъ . . .	66,0	66,7

INTELLIGENTSIA

The further in history, the more important role in the Moldavian society plays Jewish intelligentsia: artistic and scientific. Jewish teachers and doctors, researchers and engineers, artists and writers throughout the XX century represented the illustrious part of Moldavian life.



Portrait of the violinist Oscar Dayn (1912-1984) by Moisey Gamburd (1903-1954)

Jubilee envelope dedicated to the writer Yechiel Shraybman (1913-2005)

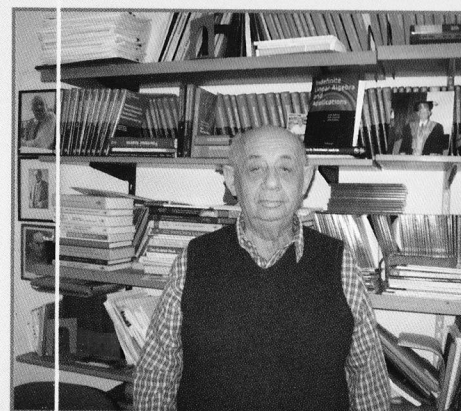


Bust of Boris Perlin, professor of medicine (1912-1995)

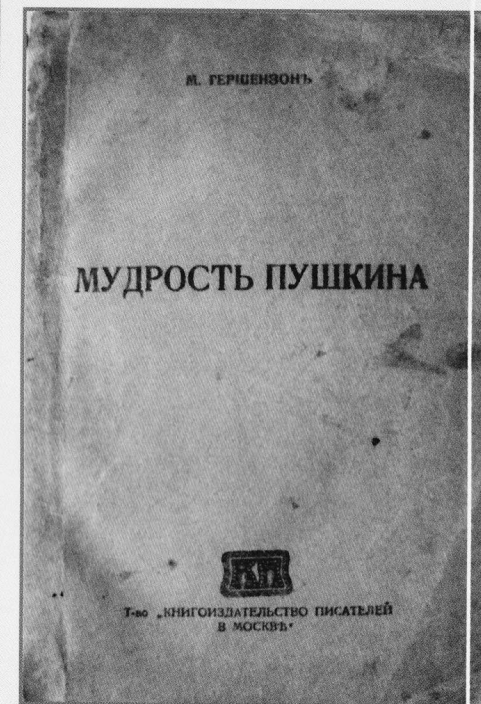
INTELLIGENTSIA



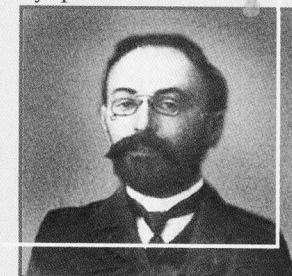
Architect Simon Shoikhet (1931-2010) with the maquette of the JCC KEDEM



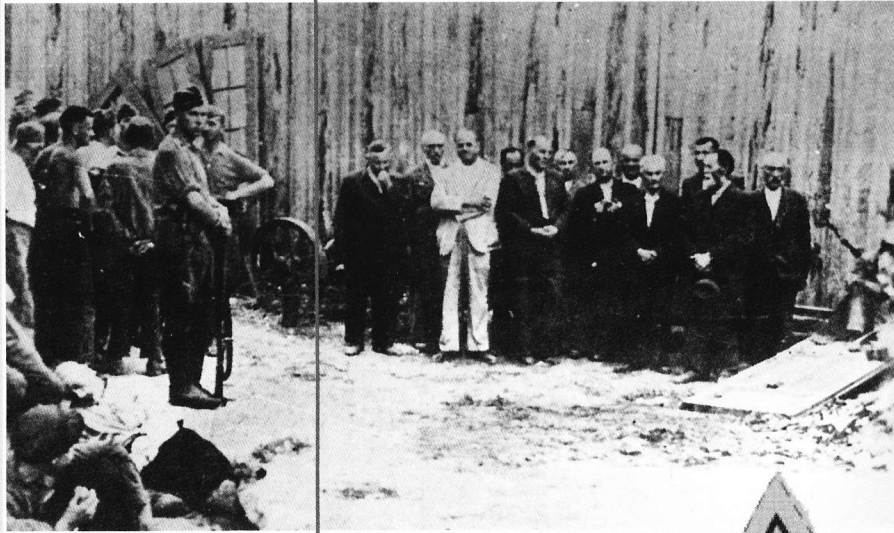
Mathematician Israel Gokhberg (1928-2009)



The cover of Mikhail Gershenzon's (1869-1925) intravivam essays publication



THE SECOND WORLD WAR. MASSACRES



On June 22, 1941 The Second World War came to Moldova. During the first weeks of the war, while the front has not swept to the east, most of the Jews managed to evacuate: some - organized, with plants, factories or hospitals, some - on their own, as refugees. The years in the evacuation, of course, have not been easy, but the fate of those who could not or did not want to leave, was much sadder.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR. MASSACRES



The occupation authorities, consisting of the German Nazis and Romanian fascists tried to implement the idea of the "final solution of the Jewish question": from massacres in Bessarabia to the organized deportation to the other bank of Dniester River, to the ghettos and camps of the Trnasnistian Governorate. However, in the history everything is always challenging, and many managed to survive in merciless conditions of the camps.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR. GHETTO

Kishinev and other Bessarabian ghettos existed for a brief period, just a few months of the second half of 1941, and were more of transit camps, than ghettos in Europe like Warsaw, Prague, Lodz, Terezin, with their few years of history.



Bessarabien judenfrei

Neue rumänische Angaben

Bukarest, 31. Juli

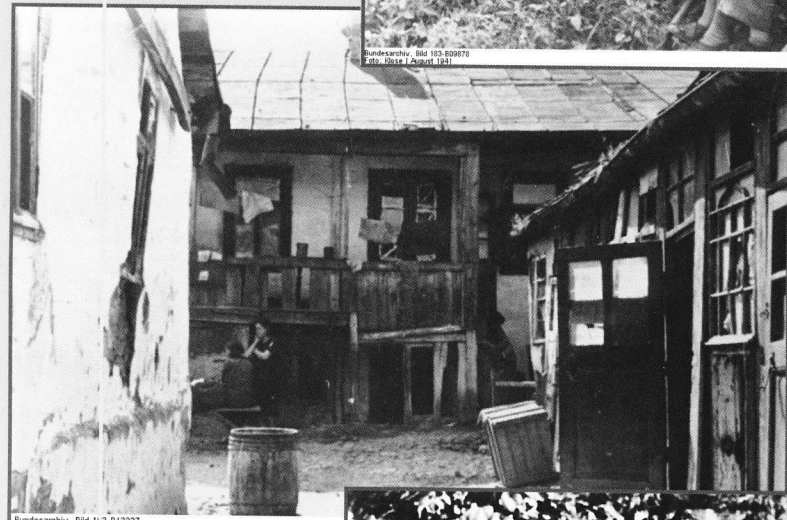
Nach den Feststellungen der in Kischinev erscheinenden Zeitung „Basarabia“ ist Bessarabien jetzt judenfrei. Diese Tatsache, so schreibt das Blatt, sei um so bemerkenswerter, als noch vor knapp 10 Jahren die Wirtschaft Bessarabiens folgendes Bild gezeigt habe, das sich seither noch bedeutend verschlimmert hatte: In der Textilindustrie Bessarabiens waren viermal soviel Juden als Rumänen tätig, und zwar rund 28 000 Juden gegenüber rund 7000 Rumänen. Neunmal mehr Juden als Rumänen hatten das Handelsleben in der Hand: 77 000 Juden und nur 8500 Rumänen. Auch die Banken waren zu drei Viertel jüdisch durchsetzt. Von 7084 Angestellten waren 5221 Juden. Der Lebensmittelhandel wurde von 11 739 Juden betrieben, während nur 5149 Rumänen in diesem Erwerbszweig zu finden waren. „Außerdem“, so schreibt das Blatt, „müsse noch die Tatsache festgehalten werden, daß in allen diesen Unternehmungen die führenden Posten ausschließlich in der Hand der Juden waren, während die Rumänen in untergeordneten Stellungen gehalten worden seien. Erst wenn man diese Zahlen aufmerksam lese, könne man sich über die Bedeutung des großen Wiederaufbauwerkes Antonescus volle Rechenschaft geben.“

„Бессарабия очищена от евреев“.
Газ. „Краковский дневник“ от 31.7.1943.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR. GHETTO



Bundesarchiv, Bild 102 809879
Foto: Dösch / August 1941



Bundesarchiv, Bild 11 3-B 13327
Foto: Wamser / August 1941



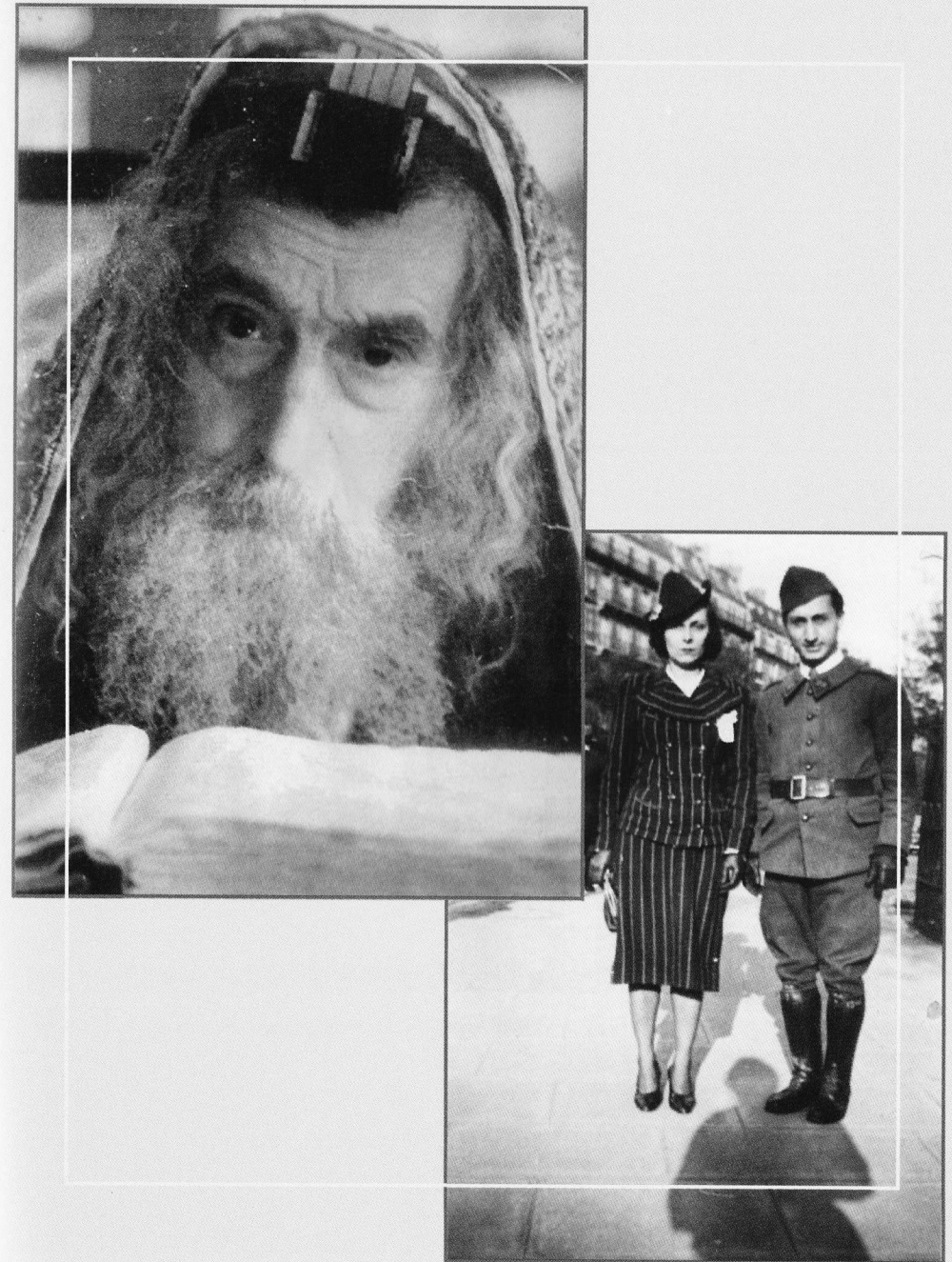
Bundesarchiv, Bild 102 81329
Foto: Wamser / August 1941

THE SECOND WORLD WAR. JEWISH RESISTANCE



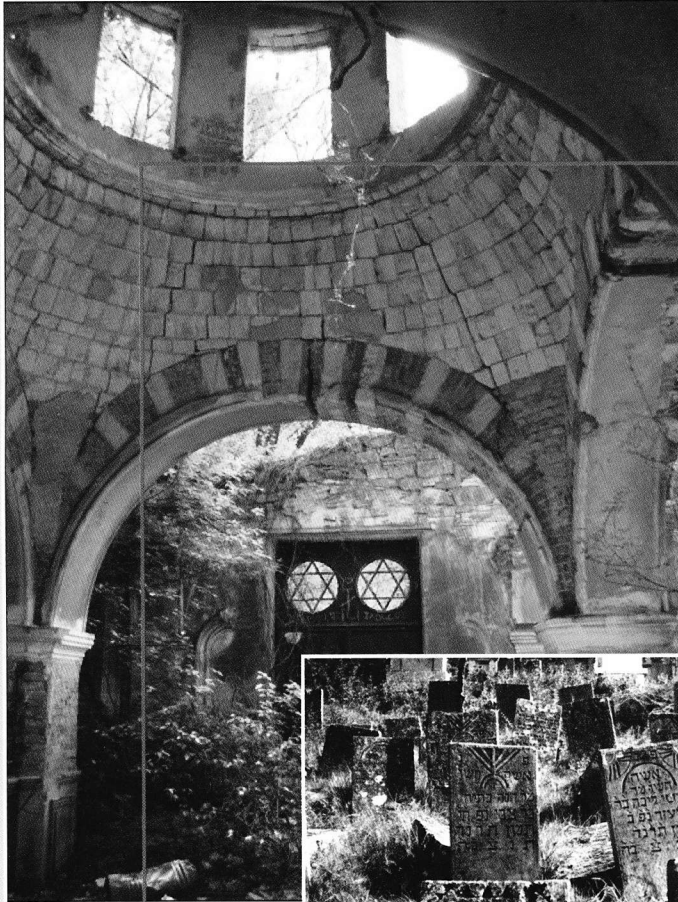
However, it is not right to think of the Jews including the Bessarabian ones as exceptionally spineless victims of the Holocaust. Jewish Resistance takes many forms: from 18 Moldovan soldiers - Heroes of the Soviet Union two are Jews (despite the fact how reluctant the Jews in the Soviet Union were awarded top honors); bright figure of the French Resistance is a talented Bessarabian poet Dovid Knut; and internally unbroken in Rybnitsa ghetto Rybnitser Rebbe (Rabbi of Rybnitsa) Haim Zamvl Abramovich, the legend of the Jewish world, whose power of prayer worked wonders.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR. JEWISH RESISTANCE



CEMETERIES

The cemetery usually is the last remaining reminiscence of the Jewish community. Large and small, urban and shtetl, clean and abandoned – the Jewish cemeteries of Moldova represent a priceless source and dwelling of memory for everyone who cares.



CEMETERIES

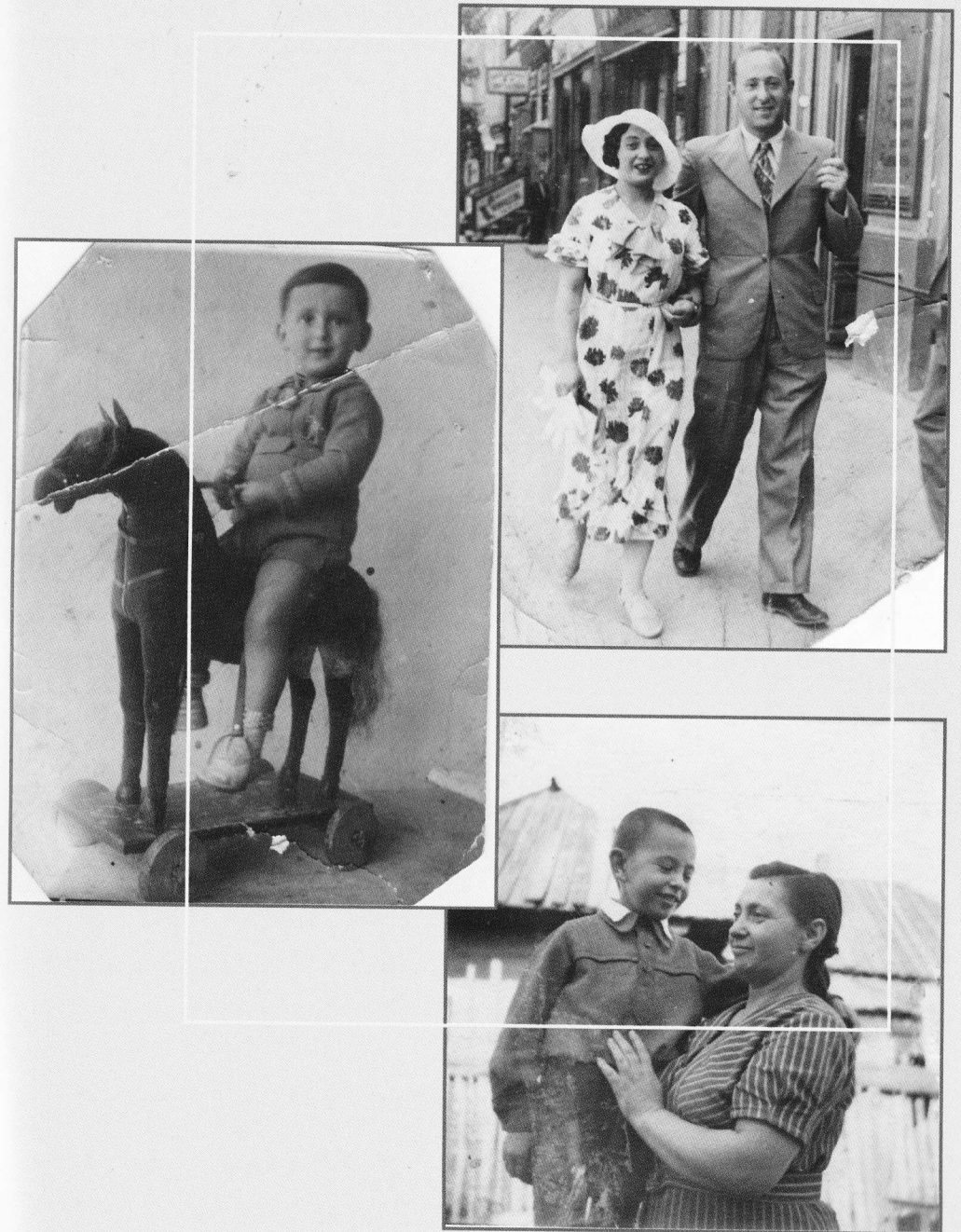


FAMILY DESTINY: THE KLEIMANS

Through the Kleiman family passed the whole history of the XX century. The peaceful and relatively prosperous beginnings at a Jewish colony in Romanovka (now Basarabeasca) was interrupted first by the arrival of Soviet power and Stalinist deportation to Siberia of the older generation in 1941; then with the war and the evacuation; and then with the second deportation of the next two generations (including children of 11 and 1.5 years), in 1949. Miraculously survived almost the whole family, with the exception of the patriarch, who perished no one knows where and when. But all the blame of the three generations was that they sewed shoes for their fellow villagers with their own hands, and thus were dangerous to Soviet power as the small proprietors and exploiters who possess a non-Soviet psychology...



FAMILY DESTINY: THE KLEIMANS

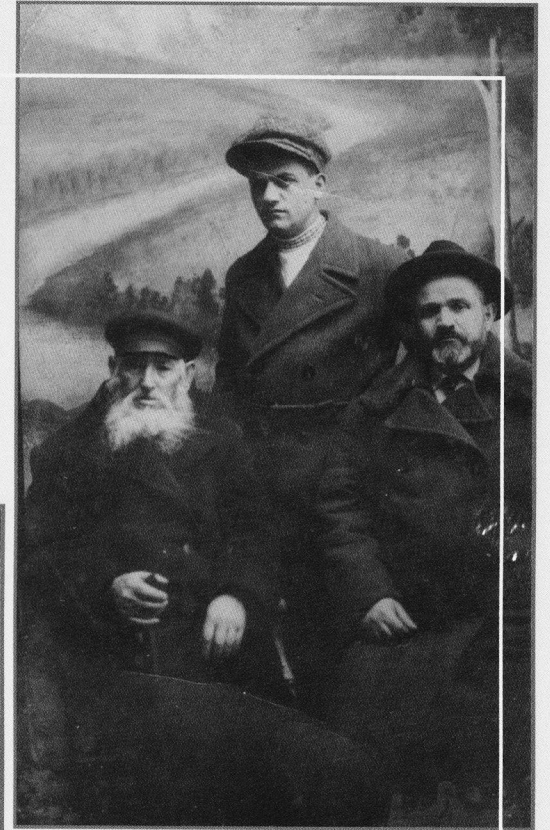
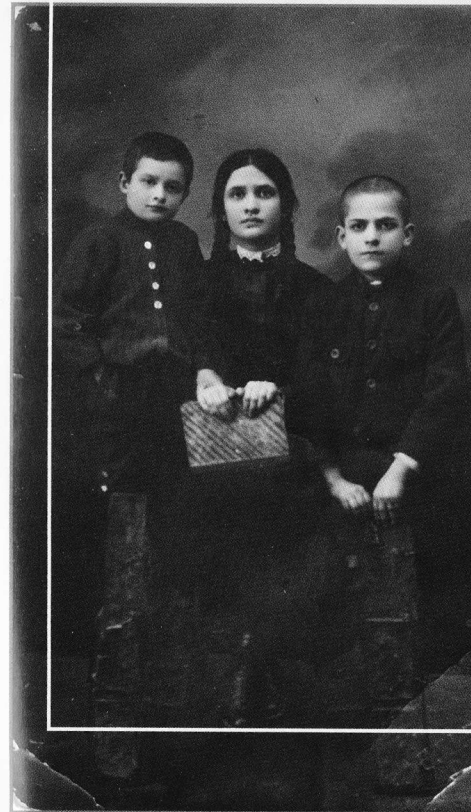


FAMILY DESTINY: THE MUCHNIKS

Muchnik family lived in Orhei. On the photographs of the 1920s - 1930s, we can see how looked and dressed urban Bessarabian Jews and trace the difference of three generations of men of a Jewish family, and one of the photos is especially valuable: it is sent from Hadera, where Haim Muchnik moved in early 1930s, to implement the dream of a Jew, to establish a Jewish state.



FAMILY DESTINY: THE MUCHNIKS



FAMILY DESTINY: THE TUMARKINS

A truly European Tumarkin family is almost not known in the present day Moldova. The founder of the dynasty, merchant and nobleman Paltiel Tumarkin, traces his origins from Mogilev gubernia, but all his adult life he spent in Kishinev; his son, Lazar Tumarkin was the doctor, the founder of Kishinev balnearies; and his daughter was the world-famous Anna Tumarkin, Europe's first female professor, her name was given to a street in Bern.



Кишиневъ.
Водолѣчебница д-ра Тумаркина.

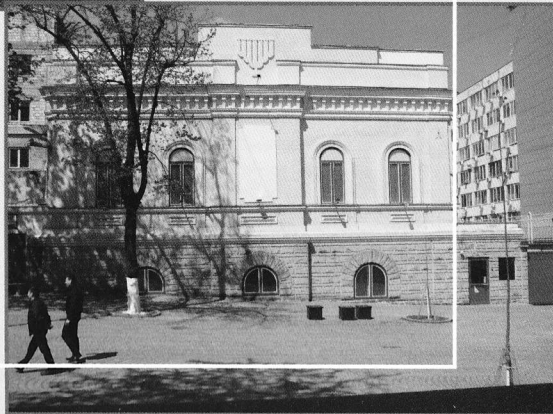
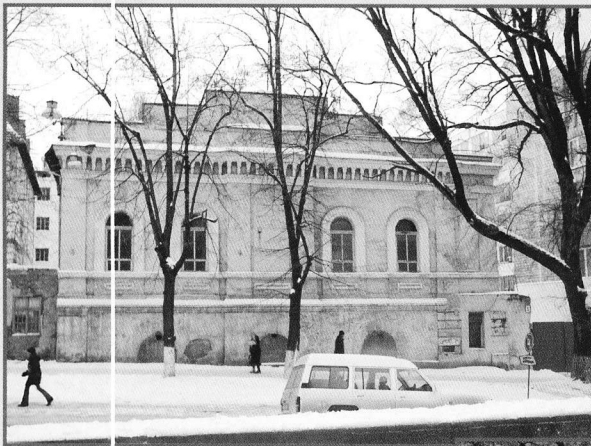


FAMILY DESTINY: THE TUMARKINS



Images:

from the collections of the MEC *Jewish Heritage of Moldova*;
from the forum *My Town Kishinev* (www.oldchisinau.md) and private
collections of Yu.Shvets (Chisinau, Moldova)
and A.-S.Berenshteyn (New York, USA);
from the private collections of I.Shikhova, E.Goldshmidt, R.Safronova,
N.Kleiman;
from the collections of the museum *Yad Vashem* (Jerusalem, Israel,
www.yadvashem.org);
from the collections of *Holocaust Memorial Museum* (Washington,
United States, www.ushmm.org);
from open sources.



Contents

Ancient times and middle ages.....	2
Pale of Settlement.....	4
Jews and society.....	6
Pogrom.....	8
Pogrom: Aftermath.....	10
Occupations and Professions.....	12
Education.....	14
Intelligentsia.....	16
The Second World War. Massacres.....	18
The Second World War. Ghetto.....	20
The Second World War. Jewish Resistance.....	22
Cemeteries.....	24
Family destiny: the Kleimans.....	26
Family Destiny: the Muchniks.....	28
Family Destiny: the Tumarkins.....	30