

Rediscovered Rashkov: 300 years of Jewish history

Description

In this presentation we are going to tell about a special place in the Jewish history of Moldova – a small settlement called Rashkov situated on the left bank of the Dniester River. For the last 30 years, it is the territory of self-proclaimed Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic.

As many of the shtetles in the region, Rashkov used to be a very Jewish place. However, for centuries it hosted together Poles, Ukrainians, and Moldovans and served as a center of three religions – Judaism, Christian Orthodoxy and Catholicism. Three main local temples were built during the same period – between 1740 and 1750.

In spite there is no Jewish population in Rashkov since 2003, recently it has become one of the most attractive places for tourists and pilgrims as in spring 2022 the grave of the founder of Hassidism in Moldova Rabbi Shabtai was identified on the old Jewish cemetery.

We will tell about Rabbi Shabtai, Big Synagogue of Rashkov, the biggest on the territory of the country, and a miraculous and wonderful combination of history, legends and remembrances that returned Rashkov to the focus place of the Jewish map of Moldova.

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