

Estonian Jewish Museum



MUSEUM CATALOGUE



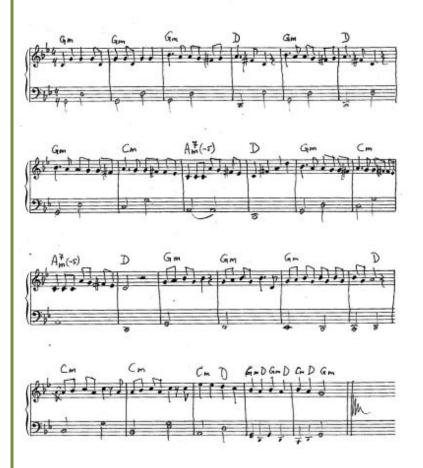
The museum was created by:

- Mark Rybak
- Oleg Mellov designer
- Siima Tiitus preparation of the showcase graphics
- "John Berger Eesti OÜ" showcases
- "Macroprint" printing of the showcase graphics
- "Seden" room preparation
- and all those, who helped in deed, with exhibits, or financially.

While entering the room one hears a drinking-song in Yiddish, which was sung and is being sung in jewish homes of Estonia and other countries. The song was recorded at home in Passovs' family in Tallinn in 1993.

The guests welcome Arik Passov who was 13 years of age then (the age of becoming mature and responsible for one's deeds).

Dear visitor, the Jewish museum of Estonia welcomes you!



לו מיר אלע אינעיינעם, אינעיינעם (......) מקבל פונים זיין. לו מיר אלע אינעיינעם טרינקען א גלעזאלע וויין. און לו מיר לוסטיק זיין, און לו מיר פריילאך זיין אז יעדער ייד זאל זיין פאר זיך א באלאבאם.

Lov mir ale ineinem, ineinem (.....) mekabel ponim sain.
Lov mir ale ineinem,
trinken a glesale vain.
Un lo mir lustik sain,
un lo mir freilach sain,
as jeder Jd sol sain far sich a
balabos!

Let's welcome (...) all together, Let's raise our glasses to him (her)! Let's be happy and enjoy ourselves all together. Let every Jew be the master of his (her) fate.

The sources:

EAA	Estonian historical archives (Tartu)
EAM	Estonian history museum (Tallinn)
EFA	Estonian film archives (Tallinn)
EOM	Museum of occupations (Tallinn)
ERA	The National archives of Estonia (Tallinn)
ERR	National Library of Estonia
ERM	Estonian National museum (Tartu)
ESM	Estonian museum of sports (Tartu)
ETM	Estonian theatre and music museum
	(Tallinn)
LRAA	Latvian National archives
PK	Private collection or the archives of the
	museum
TFM	The photo museum (Tallinn)
TLA	Tallinn City archives
TLM	Tartu City museum

PK is the source by default.

Abbreviations:

BR – Baltic railway

EJK – The Jewish Community of Estonia

EV – Estonian Republic

TJG – Tallinn Jewish gymnasium

TJK – Tallinn Jewish school

TÜ – The University of Tartu

 $TPI-Tallinn\ Polytechnical\ Institute\ (now\ TT\ddot{U})$

TTÜ – Tallinn Technical University

Jews in Estonia – the main dates

1333	First reports of Jews in Estonia (Johannes Jode)
23.12.1791	Pale of Settlement - the region of Imperial Russia, along its western border, in
(13.06.1794) -	which Jews were allowed permanent residency. Estonia (Estonia and Livonia)
22.3.1917	were outside the Pale of Settlement.
1828	Decree issued by Nicolas I ordering forced conscription of Jews. All Jewish
	children over the age of 12 were ordered into military service (became
	Cantonists). One of the three garrison (military) schools was in Tallinn.
1830	Jewish congregation in Tallinn
1845-1856	Opening of the Jewish cemetery on Magasini street; the funeral home <i>Hevra</i>
	Kadisha and house of prayer on Wismari Street.
1846	Jewish cemetery in Tartu is opened (Raadi).
	Certain Jews, e.g., First Guild Merchants, long time tradesmen, people with
	higher education, discharged soldiers (<i>Nicolas soldiers</i>) and their family
1856-1867	members and descendants were given the right to live outside the Pale of
	Settlement. As a result, the Jewish population in Estonia rose sharply.
1867	Jewish congregation in Tartu is formed. The synagogue.
1869	Jewish congregation in Pärnu is formed.
1871	Jewish congregation in Valga is formed.
	First Jewish organization in Estonia, the Mutual assistance fund of Jewish
1874	Students opens.
1874	Jewish elementary school in Tartu opens
1876	Jewish congregation in Viljandi is formed.
1877	Jewish congregation in Narva is formed.
1880	Jewish elementary school in Tallinn opens.
1882	Jewish congregation in Saaremaa
30.10.1883	Literary and Music Society established in Tartu
1884	The Big Synagogue opens in Tallinn on Maakri Street
1884	Society of Science (until 1907) established in Tartu.
1004	The "Academischer Verein für jüdische Geschichte und Literatur", the Jewish
1884	Academic Society for History and Literature established.
1887	Jewish congregations in Rakvere and Võru formed.
1893	Mass deportation of Jews from Tallinn ordered by Alexander III.
1895	Tartu Roosi str. cemetery is opened
19.09.1901	Foundation laying of the Big Synagogue in Tartu on Turu Street
1903	Tartu synagogue opening
1907	, , , ,
	Drama Club opened in Tallinn.
1909	New Jewish cemetery in Rahumäe (Tallinn)
1917	Drama clubs opened in several cities including Tartu, Viljandi and Narva The Bielik Literature and Drama Society established in Telling
1.1918	The Bjalik Literature and Drama Society established in Tallinn
24.02.1918	Creation of the Estonian Republic.
24.11.1918	Representatives of all Jewish organizations meet. A temporary, national-political
	committee was elected to represent the Jews until the Congress of all
	congregations in Estonia could take place. Chairman - Hirsch (Grigory)
	Aisenstadt
10.12.1918	First Estonian Jewish Congress in Tartu elected. The Tallinn delegation was
	unable to travel due to World War I.

11-17.05.1919	First Congress of all Estonian democratic congregations in Tallinn (second congress of the Jewish congregations). The <i>Estonian Jewish National Committee</i> was elected. The committee included the following members: Makovski (Chairman), Blumberg , Kljatchko , J.Gens , Zelmanovitch , Levinovitch , Pajenson and Kolovski .
1919	Achdus Society formed in Tartu
1919	The Jewish congregation in Tallinn opened an elementary school with a full
1920	scholarly program at Raua str. 16.
	The Estonian War of Independence. 187 Jewish soldiers fought in the war, 68 of
1918-1920	them voluntarily
1920	Sport Club Maccabi formed.
1920	Estonian Zionist Organization established.
02.06.1921	Union of Estonian Jewish Congregations formed.
05.10.1923	Student Society <i>Hasmonea</i> established.
03.02.1924	Opening of the Jewish Gymnasium in Tallinn on Karu Street.
25.02.1925	Law recognizing the cultural autonomy of minorities
27.02.1925	Women's Student Society, Hazfiro created
	Corporation <i>Limuvia</i> established as a continuation of the <i>Jewish Literature</i> ,
23.09.1925	Drama and Music Society, founded in 1883.
1925	Zionist youth organization <i>Hanoar</i> formed
12.1925	Fraternitas Ossidia in Tartu – schoolchildren organization formed by Limuvia
1926	Left oriented political organization <i>Licht</i> is formed.
	Jewish Cultural Autonomy Council formed in Estonia. The Chairman of the
06.06.1926	Board of Jewish Cultural Autonomy was the irreplaceable Hirsh (Grigori)
	Aisenstadt.
22 25 06 1026	Elections held by the Jewish Cultural Autonomy Council. Only Jewish-Estonian
23-25.06.1926	citizens (67% of all Estonian Jews) had the right to vote.
02.01.1928	The Hebrew Cultural Enlightenment Society <i>Tarbut</i> formed.
19.04.1928	Society "Fraint von Jidish" established. On 24.5.1939 the name changed to
17.04.1720	Jewish Cultural Society Shalom Aleichem.
27-29.05.1928	First Congress of Jewish school teachers
28.06.1932	The Tartu Univercity allows opening of a Judaica chair.
1934	Judaica chair opened in the Tartu univer-ty. The chair – prof. Lazar Gulkovitsch
05.05.1933	David Ben-Gurion visits Estonia
05.03.1935	"Silent Period," restrictions placed on media and political activities.
02.05.1939	Zeev (Vladimir) Zhabotinsky visits Estonia
23.08.1939	Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact
24.10.1939	First Soviet military bases in Estonia.
16.06.1940	Soviet occupation of Estonia.
06.08.1940	Estonia is annexed by the Soviet Union.
29.08.1940	32 Jewish organizations were closed.
14.06.1941	First mass soviet deportation from Estonia
22.08.1941	The start of Nazi Germany's occupation
28.08.1941	Soviet troops leave Estonia.
11.00.10.11	Order restricting human rights - Jews were not allowed to use mass
11.09.1941	transportation, attend schools or walk on sidewalks. All Jews were forced to wear
	the Star of David. Estonia was declared "Judenfrei" at the Wannsee Conference in 1942. This
20.01.1942	
	concluded the first phase of the Holocaust in Estonia. Almost all Jews remaining
I 	in Estonia after the German Occupation (approximately 1000) were murdered. Mass killings of Jaws from Czechoslovakia, Germany and other European
05.09.1942	Mass killings of Jews from Czechoslovakia, Germany and other European countries at the Kalevi-Liiva concentration camp.
	600 Jews were transported to Kohtla and 400 to Viivikonna to work in the mines.
20.07.1943	800 were brought to Slantsy for road work and 200 to Kivioli to dig trenches.
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25.09.1943	Approximately 3,300 Jews were sent to the Vaivara concentration camp. They were used in the oil shale industry	
October 1943	The Vaivara concentration camp becomes the basis for creation of a network of camps, which are located near mines and industrial facilities.	
09.03.1944	Bombing of Tallinn. The Big Synagogue is destroyed	
06.06.1944	450 French Jews are shot in Metsakalmistu, near Tallinn.	
	Prisoners from the Ereda and Kohtla camps (part of the Vaivara concentration	
	camp network) are evacuated to Lageda. From there, they are sent, via Tallinn,	
28.07.1944	to Stutthof concentration camp. Nearly 3,000 Jews were killed in Vaivara during	
	the evacuation.	
19.09.1944	Close to 2,000 European Jews are killed in Klooga concentration camp.	
22.09.1944	The Nazi army leaves Tallinn. Second Soviet occupation starts	
Autumn 1945	Opening of a synagogue in Tallinn at 23 Kreutzwald Street.	
14.05.1948	Establishment of the State of Israel	
25.03.1949	Second mass deportation from Estonia.	
Second half of	Jewish cultural activities begin to operate openly, including an Yiddish	
1960s	community theater in Tallinn.	
1966	Opening of synagogue in Tallinn at 19 Magdalena Street	
10.67	The "Six Day War" in Israel and the start of Soviet Jewry's fight to emigrate to	
1967	Israel.	
1970's	Beginning of massive emigration to Israel.	
20.02.1000	Meeting of the Estonian Jewish Cultural Society (EJCS). Samuel Lazikin is	
30.03.1988	elected as the first chairman.	
05.05.1988	EJCS official registration with the city of Tallinn	
29.05.1988	First meeting of the Jewish community, organized by the EJCS, at The Russian	
27.03.1700	Drama Theater, followed by a concert.	
21.09.1988	Forum of the Peoples of Estonia. Chaired by Hagi Shein .	
Autumn 1988	Sports section established as part of EJSC, which became the predecessor of the	
	revived Jewish sports club Maccabi in Estonia. Chairmen – A. Glückmann	
16.10.1988	First Hebrew classes started.	
16.11.1988	Declaration of Estonian Independence.	
19.11.1988	Opening of the Jewish Cultural Society in Tartu	
20.11.1988	Opening of the Jewish Cultural Society in Narva	
27.11.1988	Reunion of the alumni of the Jewish Gymnasium, dedicated to the 100 th birthday	
	of the Jewish Gymnasium's former Principal, Samuil Gurin.	
22.12.1988	The first edition of the Jewish newspaper "Ha-Shahar", Editor-in-Chief Gidon	
	Pajenson. Opening of the Jewish Cultural Club in Kohtla-Jarve, Chairman Samuil Velitski.	
18.02.1989	Renamed in 1996 as the "Jewish Congregation of East-Virumaa."	
02.04.1989	The first conference of the EJCS at Tallinn Technical University	
11.04.1989	The first communal celebration of <i>Pesach</i>	
11.04.1909	First public meeting in Tallinn since WWII, dedicated to the memory of	
02.05.1989	Holocaust victims.	
	Kindergarten # 35 in Tallinn opens a class for Jewish children. Principal -	
10.1989	Svetlana Nirman.	
29.12.1989	Establishment of the Tartu University Jewish students organization "Leida"	
1990	Gennadi Gramberg is elected as Chairman of EJCS	
05.04.1990	Establishment of the Estonian – Israeli Friendship Society.	
25.06.1990	Opening of the exhibition "Jewish Minority in Estonia" at the Maarjamäe History	
	Museum.	
08.1990	The first Jewish-youth summer camp in Laulasmaa	
02.09.1990	Reopening of Jewish day school at 16 Karu Street in the former Jewish	
	Gymnasium which was being used as a vocational school. The school started	
	with grades 1-9.	
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01.01.1991	Opening of the Jewish Sunday school in Narva
20.08.1991	Re-establishment of the Republic of Estonia.
03.1992	First broadcast of the radio program "Shalom Aleihem."
12.04.1992	Decision creating a unified Estonian Jewish Congregation (EJC).
14.06.1992	The first memorial service dedicated to memory of the mass deportation victims.
02.04	"The Historic Legacy of the Tartu Jewish Congregation" exhibit at the History
11.05.1993	Museum of Tallinn.
1993	Creation of Jewish WW II Veterans Union
06.06.1993	Second Congress of Baltic and Scandinavian Jewish congregations.
03.02.1994	Celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Tallinn Jewish Gymnasium
01.09.1994	Unveiling of monument in Klooga in memory of Nazi victims.
14.12.1994	Presentation of the book "Holocaust" by Eugenia Gurin-Loov.
4.1995	Cilja Laud is elected as the chairman of the EJC.
	The building adjacent to the Jewish School was purchased to house the estonian
1995	Jewish congregation
July 1998	"The Role of Tartu University in Jewish Cultural History" Exhibition.
1998-1999	Jewish congregation administrative offices and social services offices open
	Rabbi Efraim Shmuel Kot is appointed as Estonia's Chief Rabbi. Synagogue
21.12.2000	opened on the second floor of the Jewish Community Center in Tallinn
16.09.2001	Jewish Community Center opens in East Virumaa
22.09.2001	Jewish youth center "Dor-va-Dor" opens. Coordinator, Maksim Melamed.
	Unveiling of a memorial tombstone inside the former Tallinn Patarei prison,
10.12.2001	dedicated to the Estonian Jews who perished inside the walls of this prison.
	Memorial Architect - Tauno Kangro ; Commissioned by - Avi Dobrõsh .
18.07.2002	Monument dedicated to victims of the Holocaust opens in Tartu
Autumn 2002	Family club "Gesher" ("The Bridge") opens.
	The Jewish Community Center adds a 3 rd floor to house a computer classroom, a
2002	play room and a youth center
15.01.2003	The Jewish kindergarten "Aviv" in Tallinn opens at 50A Pae Street
29.08.2003	"Maccabi" tennis club in Tallinn reopens under the supervision of Avi Dobrõsh
2004	"Anne Frank" traveling exhibition opens.
22-24.11.2004	First Jewish Cultural Festival, "Ariel," organized by Ilja Sundelevitch .
07.12.2004	The President of Estonia Mr Arnold Rüütel visits the community and lights the
07.12.2004	first candle of Chanuka.
2004	Creation of the dance company "Gesher."
2007	Five-monument memorial built to honor the memory of Holocaust victims who
2005	perished in Estonia.
23.09.2005	Alla Jakobson is elected as Chairwoman of EJC
January 2007	Opening of 4 th floor addition to the Jewish Community Center.
16.05.2007	Opening of the new Synagogue in Tallinn at 16 Karu Street.
17.10.2007	First "Jahad" forum ("Together") in Laulasmaa.
	Celebration of the 90 th anniversary of the Estonian Republic, 60 th anniversary of
04.04.2008	the State of Israel and the 20 th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Estonian
	Jewish Congregation.
17.12.2008	Opening of the Estonian Jewish museum in Tallinn.
18.11.2009	Opening of the Estonian Embassy in Tel.Aviv Israel
06.06.2011	Exhibition ,,85 years to the Jewish cultural autonomy in Estonia" in the
06.06.2011	Parliament building in Tallinn
14.06.2011	A new memorial (with names) to estonian Jews who perished at soviet
	deportations time opened at Rahumäe cemetery.
27.01.2012	Opening of the Remembrance Gallery at the 3d floor of the Community.
13.05.2013	Historical conference "95-65-25" (95 years of Estonia, 65 years of Israel and 25
	years od Estonian Jewish Cultural society
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

08.09.2013	Opening of the "Aviv" kindergarten at Suve str. 5 in Tallinn
10.04.2014	History conference Exceptional Estonia: "Jewish Academic Life and Cultural Autonomy in the Republic of Estonia between the two World Wars (1918-1940). Tel-Aviv.
22.09.2014	Conference and exhibition "80 years of the chair for Jewish studies in Tartu university" (Tartu university).
05.06.2016	New Sefer Torah for Tallinn Synagogue.
17.06.2016	Seminar "Aliyah of Estonian Jews in the 20th century". From Estonia to Israel with love for both. Tel-Aviv, the Estonian embassy.

1.1 From the first record to the World War I

- **1**. The Tallinn City Hall registry has an entry dated 1333 for one Johannes Jode, apparently a Jew. In translation, the entry reads: "The baker Johannes Jode must pay 5 marks in silver." [*TLA fond 230, nim. 1, s. Aa 2*].
- 2. From the beginning of 18th century, Estonia was a part of the Russian Empire. In 1742, Russia issued a decree ordering the final expulsion of Jews from the territory of Russia; however, as soon as in 1772, upon partition of Poland (between Germany and Russia), hundreds of thousands of Polish Jews found themselves within Russia. In 1794, Pale of Settlement was established that allowed the Jews to live in certain provinces. Estonia was not a part of Pale of Settlement. Jews were prohibited to settle in such cities as Kiev, Nikolaev, Yalta, and Sevastopol regardless their location within Pale of Settlement.

The Jewish community in Estonia was founded (Tallinn, 1828) by so called "Nikolai soldiers," or cantonists. Tallinn (Revel) had one of the three cantonist schools. The Nikolai soldiers and their families later were allowed to settle beyond the Pale of Settlement, and some of them settled in Estonia.

- 3. Nikolai soldier David Epshtein and his wife.
- 4. Nikolai soldier Markus Meiertahl and his family.

A very important part of the Jewish community constitutes the Tartu (Derpt) University students that came from Ukraine, Byelorussia, Lithuania, Latvia and other places. In 1882, there were 115 Jewish students in Tartu. The number of Jewish students increased after the 1881 pogroms, and their ratio significantly increased after the University russification in 1889 when many German students left.

5. A group of Jewish medical students in 1885 [*EFA 0-56618*].

In 1870, the construction of Baltic Railroad was completed. Some Jews participated in this project, and several of them stayed in Estonia.

- **6**. A group of construction workers in front of the Revel-Port station, beginning of 20 century [*EAM*].
- 7. In 1856-1867, Alexander II granted a permit for some categories of Jews to settle throughout the Russian Empire. These categories included: the Nikolai soldiers and their families, certain certified professionals and craftsmen, merchants of the top guild, and professionals with university diplomas.

A residence permit for Tartu issued in 1895 to Chaim Gens, a merchant [Inna Gens, Moscow].

- **8.** A residence permit for Rakvere (Wezenberg) issued in 1914 to Rachel Voitinski, a dentist.
- **9**. The Goldmann family in 1901 in Pärnu [Roza Brashinski, Israel].
- **10.** The Shimshilevich family from Tallinn. This photograph and other interesting items were found by Rimma Soboleva and Anti Jurgenstein under their floor covering in 2008. Apparently, these items were hidden there before the beginning of World War II [Rimma Soboleva, Anti Jürgenstein].
- 11. The Shein and Citron family history [Harri Shein, Israel].



1.2 From the beginning of World War I to the creation of Estonian republic

- **1.** Estonian Jews fought in the battles of the World War and, later, during the Estonian Liberation War in various military units. Cezar Malkin served as a volunteer in the Prince Liven First Regiment, a part of Yudenich White Army [Beata Dorin (Malkin) Israel]; Hirsch Band was a soldier in Alexander Nevski 198 Regiment, and later in the Estonian military [Guido Pant].
- **2.** The 12th Army Jewish-soldier newspaper published in Valga where the Army Headquarters were located [*ERR*].
- **3.** A postcard sent from the Russian Front on Feb. 10, 1917, informing that Abram Sheskin had been killed in the battle with the Austrians on July 12, 1915 [Margalit Shats (Katz) Israel]
- **5.** Times change, and so do the doorplates.

At least 178 Jews participated in the Estonian Liberation War.

- **4, 6.** A private/volunteer of the Tallinn Student Battalion, Abram Chazak, and his medal [*Reuven Hazak Israel*].
- 7. Hirsch Band serving as a medical attendant during the Estonian Liberation War [Guido Pant].

Even in difficult times, they acquired necessary occupations, participated in international exhibits, and helped the less fortunate.

- **8.** Milliner diploma issued to Shlomo Shimshilevich in St. Petersburg, March 24, 1917 [*Rimma Soboleva, Anti Jürgenstein*].
- **9**. A winner certificate in the international fashion show in Paris, issued to Lyuba Shimshilevich, 1912 [*Rimma Soboleva, Anti Jürgenstein*].
- **10**. Permit for wearing a silver medal for helping poor children, issued to Zalek Kofkin, 1900 [*Aleksandr Kofkin*].

1.3 Revival of the national and cultural life

- 1884 Academic society in Tartu
- 1907 Theater group in Tallinn
- 1917 Theater societies in Tartu, Viljandi and Narva
- 1918 The First Jewish Congress in Tartu
- 1919 "Ahdud" Association in Pärnu

and many others

1. Estonian Jewish newspapers [*ERR*].

The largest cultural/educational organization was Byalik Literary and Drama Society established in 1918.

- 2. Byalik club on Narva Road in Tallinn.
- 3. Byalik in Tallinn in 1932.
- 4. Byalik Society board members (left to right: Tamarkin, Band, Rochlin, Druk, Goldshtein).
- 5. Commemorative button for the Byalik Society's 20th anniversary. Some other buttons of the same period [*Nurit Baksht, Israel.*]..

- **6**. The Byalik Society seal impression.
- 7. The folk chorus and orchestra concert, May 25, 1929.
- **8**. Purim carnival poster [*EAA.3742.1.119 lk 42*].

1.4 Cultural autonomy 1926-1940

1. On February 24, 1918, the Estonian Salvation Committee published a historic document, "Manifesto to All Estonian Nationalities," pronouncing that Estonia, which for centuries had been under foreign rule, was to become an independent democratic republic [*ERA.1962.1.56 lk 4*].

On May 11-16, 1919, Estonian Jewish communities held a congress where they elected their National Committee. They formed 4 sections: Socialist (Paenson, Rochlin), Unaffiliated (Aisenstadt and Gens), Zionist (Boruchov and Selmanovich), and Religious (Bakscht and Rabbi Epstein).

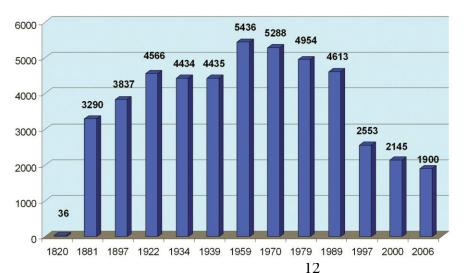
- 2. Oath of allegiance for the Estonian Republic citizen.
- 3. Invitation to a meeting for proclamation of Jewish cultural autonomy, June 6, 1926.
- **4**. List of voters to select the 1st Cultural Council in Tartu, 1926 [*ERA.1107.1.138*].
- 5. Five years of Cultural Autonomy.
- 6. Unchallenged leader of the Cultural Council, Hirsch (Grigory) Aisenstadt.
- 7. Album devoted to the 10th anniversary of Jewish cultural self-government in ER.
- **8.** Certificate for Estonian government and people confirming the inclusion of Estonia into the JNF Golden Book (1927) for "granting a cultural autonomy to Estonian Jewish minority... the first in the history of Jewish people." [*ERA.31.5.1893*].

"Estonia is the only East European country where Jews are not discriminated either on the government level or in the every-day life. ... The cultural autonomy is in full force and gives the Jews lead free and dignified life, according to their national and cultural principles." ("The Jewish Chronicles", London, 1936)

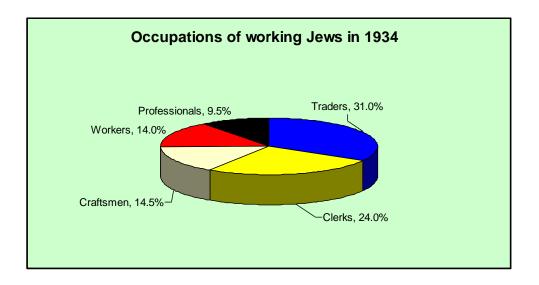
9. Life is beautiful!

Perfume set from the beginning of the XX century [Roni Kuznetsova (Shein)], french lorgnette that belonged to Zina Lourie [Boris Lourie, Israel], jewellery of Shimshilevitch family [Rimma Soboleva, Anti Jürgenstein], album presented to Rebekka Lopatnikov in 1933 filled with her poems [Ronni Feinstein, Israel], french opera glasses Chevalier [Eli Sheberstein].

1.5 Life during authonomy. Some statistics



Jewish population of Estonia



- 3. Honorary members of Tartu community (1930s).
- 4. Theater group of the Pärnu "Ahdut" (1934).
- 5. Viljandi Jews members of a fire brigade.
- 6. A group of Narva Jews (1938).
- 7. The last Cultural Council (1940). Left to right: sitting Samuil Gurin, Heinrich Gutkin, Hirsch (Grigori) Aisenstadt, Elhonon Händel, Haja Itskovitch, standing Isak Bahmat, Josef Hirschhorn, Julius Gens, Mottel Zitomirski, Sverdlov, Rafael Jakobson, Tevje Abram.
- 8-9. Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the 1st Tallinn Jewish school (1939).
- 10. Ceremonial address to Estonian people presented by the Estonian Jews living in Palestine (1935).

1.6 The Zionist movement. Emigration to Palestine

By the end of the 20th century, it became clear that so called "Jewish question" could be solved in two ways:

- through emancipation, granting the Jews their citizenship rights (full emancipation of Russian Jews was proclaimed in February 1917)
- through accepting Jews as a nation. Some sought the solution in a cultural autonomy in the country where they lived (in Estonia since 1926).

There was also another way – establishing an independent Jewish state within specifically designated territory (Erez Israel). Thus, the Zionist movement was born (the Zionist movement in Estonia began in 1898).

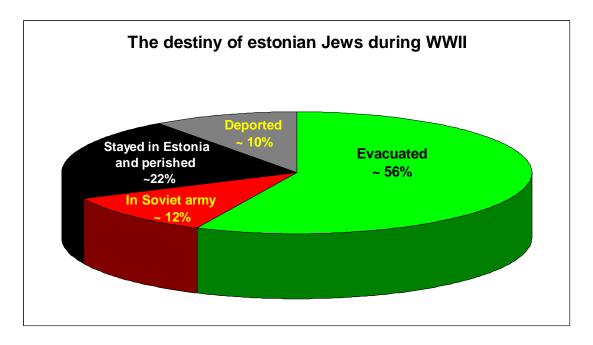
- 1, 8. Jewish youth preparing for agricultural work in Palestine (hachsharah).
- 2. Working camps (*hachsharah*) took place in different locations in Estonia (Luunja, Saaremaa, etc.). In 1935, participants worked on the Sangaste farm. Two pages from Dov Maizel (later Dov Hameiri) diary. Its second page contains a commitment to establish a permanent agricultural kibbutz to continue the *hachsharah* efforts [*Itai Hameiri, Israel*].
- 3. The Itzokh nephews serving in Estonian army and navy [Riva Nesher (Itsoh), Israel].
- 4. Israel Itzokh (later Israel Ben-Shmuel) was born in 1910 and immigrated to Palestine in 1931. He was a member of the military organization Haganah, and he was killed by a British soldier's bullet in 1936.

- 5. Asher Itzokh (later Asher Ben-Shmuel) was born in 1913 and immigrated to Palestine in 1936. He served in the Israeli navy and died in 1995.
- 6. A honorary certificate awarded to Alexander Borochov, the chairman of Estonian Zionist Fund "Keren Kayemet," on occasion of his departure to Palestine. Signed by representatives of almost all Estonian Jewish organizations [Varda Ben-Shabtai (Boruhov) and Gila Zuller (Boruhov), Israel].
- 7. Receipt for 1 shekel payment to the Estonian Zionist organization, 1939 [Nosson Gens].

2.1 Establishing a Soviet rule over Estonia

- 2. As a result of actual occupation of Estonia by the Soviet Union in June of 1940 and establishment of the Soviet rule, almost all Jewish organizations and societies were liquidated (over 30). A list of organizations to be liquidated was prepared by a leftist Jewish organization "Licht."
- 3. A headscarf worn by Roni Kuznetsova (née Shein) in exile in Vavilovka (Bakchar region, Tomsk oblast) in the beginning of 1950s [Roni Kuznetsova].
- A "Broken Cornflower" pin was handed in 2001 to Genrieta Kaplan (Bakscht), 1903-2009. Her father, Solomon (Shlomo) Baksht, was the last Tartu Jewish community leader before World War II. On June 14, 1941, Genrieta Kaplan was sent into exile to Narym and later to the North Urals. She returned to Estonia in 1957 (by that time she was blind), and later emigrated to Israel. The pin was given by the Estonian President, L. Meri, to her older son, Jakob Kaplan, in Elva [Jakob Kaplan].
- 4. Private homes and businesses were nationalized. Sometimes, a factory owner stayed at work, even as a part of administration. The Baltic navy and army officers moved into the houses, and the owners were given a couple of days to find a new place to live [Eli Sheberstein].
- 5. The first deportation took place on June 14, 1941. The new regime exiled about 10% of the Jewish population of Estonia. It is the highest percentage for any of the Estonian nationalities. The heads of the families were sent to the NKVD camps, and other family members into exile to Siberia or the Urals. Among the NKVD operatives were also Estonian Jewish communists, and some of them were active in compiling the lists of Jews to be arrested. A photograph of an indictment. Ber Shocher is accused of being a dyeing shop co-owner, and consequently a public enemy. "Agree" conclusion of the ESSR NKVD investigation department deputy head, Idel Jakobson [*ERA 130 SM*, *1*, *132*].
- 6-7. Many members of Zionist organizations were arrested and convicted. On August 28, 1941, the following members of the Estonian Zionist organization Pinchas Katz, Vulf Girshanovich, Tuvya Maiofis, Solomon Sverdlov, Abram Gilinov, and Zelik Frank were convicted for "being the organizers and leaders of the Zionist revisionist organization, …they tried to establish a Jewish capitalist state in Palestine… recruited new members and assisted resettlement in Palestine." P. Katz (6) and V. Girshanovich (7) were executed; the rest got 10 years of labor camps.
- 1, 8-10. A photo camera was rare in exile. Some pictures from that period [*Isidor Goldmann, Roni Kuznetsova (Shein), Haim Gordin*].

2.2 The World war II in Estonia (1941-1945)



- 2. The Jews evacuated mainly to the Ural Mountains and along Volga river as well as to the Western Siberia. They worked in agriculture and, later, also at the defense plants.
- 3. The Hazak and Manoim children in 1944 (Plast, the Urals).

At least 130 Estonian Jews perished or went missing serving in the Soviet military.

- 4. "Killed in battle" notice for Lev Jerichov (Jan. 20, 1941) [Basja Jerihov].
- 5. A soldier Fyodor Grodinsky's (1919-1997) photo camera [Eli Sheberstein].

This small suitcase belonged to Maryasha Sorkina (1901-2007) and was with her during the stay in Chuvashia [Roni Kuznetsova (Shein)].

Small Torah scroll, given to Lia Levartovskaya by her father, was kept by her through the evacuation years [*Lia Levartovskaja (Erenstein)*].

- 6-8. Tsemach Shapiro (1917-1949) honorary certificates for capturing Berlin and Reichstag [Bella Kulman (Shapiro)].
- 9-10. Moshe Michelson from Tartu (1914-2007) during the war in 1943 and not long before his death [Moshe Michelson].

2.3 Holocaust in Estonia (1941-1944)

Stage One – Extermination of the Local Jews

About 1000 Jews ether did not or could not evacuate. These were people who feared Bolsheviks even more than Nazis (for example, those who had relatives or friends arrested, those who lost their property to Soviet nationalization, or those who had spent some time in Germany before Hitler came to power), some participants of the Liberation War, some religious Jews, sick and old people.

1. Among the killed were over 120 children. Pictures of some of them:

Ralli ja Hanni **Ratenberg**, Jacob ja Iisrael **Vseviov**, Shaike, Isaak ja Abram **Bam**, Lenja ja Beata **Brashinski**, Ruth **Rubin**, Dolli **Mirvits**

Tallinn, middle of July – Sept. 10, 1941.

Jews, among other people, are being arrested in the framework of the general home front "cleansing" immediately after German invasion. The Jews, however, were kept separately. Mostly men were taken at this time. Each prisoner had his "case" file. The arrests were carried out by the German military command orders. The "forest brothers," Omakaitse members and police participated, along with Germans, in the arrests and the following killings.

Sept. 11, 1941

The rights limitation decree: Jews can no longer use public transportation, go to school, or walk on sidewalks. They have to wear the yellow star of David (Magen David). In reality, this decree came too late – many estonian Jews had been already killed. The "Jewish question" solution becomes the responsibility of Special Command, headed by Martin Sandberger.

Tallinn - men

Majority of the arrested men were kept in Tallinn Central (Battery) Prison. 200 were executed before October 6, 1941; the rest – later (before January 20, 1942). There are conflicting data about the precise location. Most likely, they were shot in Männiku forest, near Tallinn.

Tallinn - women and children

Women and children were kept in Harku camp near Tallinn (as of October 15, 1941, 400 people were there). Apparently, all of them had been killed before January 20, 1942. Probably in Männiku forest, near Tallinn. According to some sources, some of them were transferred to other places (Pskov, Riga ghetto). However, this is very unlikely and there is no reliable evidence to prove this.

Tartu

German forces entered Tartu on July 10-11, 1941. On July 12, 1941, the forest brothers' commander, Kurg, ordered to arrest all local Jews. They were placed at Kuperyanov barracks, later – a concentration camp. 54 Tartu Jews were killed before September 19, 1941. Most of the killings took place in an antitank ditch on the Tartu-Riga road.

Pärnu

Between July 13 and October 28, 1941, 46 men, 2 women and 2 children were executed in the Reju woods and at Papiniidu station. 25 men were killed in the Raeküla woods on October 30,

1941. On November 2, 1941, 33 women were killed in the Raeküla woods; 28 children were brought to the local synagogue and poisoned there.

Narva

32 people killed.

Rakvere

22 people killed.

Viljandi

The Jews were arrested and put into the police castle prison. The men were shot to death soon after. The women and children were killed in the fall of 1941. Total of 20 people were executed.

Valga

7 Jews were killed in the Priimetsa woods.

Pechory

At least 5 people were killed.

- 2. A list of Tallinn Jews condemned to be shot before October 6, 1941 (first sheet, total of 205 men and 2 women) [*ERA R-64.1.100*].
- 3. Regina Dannenhirsch (née Jakobson) converted to the Lutheran faith in 1904. At home they spoke only German and Estonian. The daughter Elsa socialized only with Germans and Estonians. All this did not stop the Germans from arresting her and sending to a concentration camp [Aino Villand].
- 4. The Tallinn Security Police file: Movsha Rybak. Open September 1, 1941; closed September 3, 1941 to put in the central prison. Charge: a Jew. M.Rybak was executed before October 6, 1941 [*ERA R-64.4.672*].
- 5. A map from the Latvia History archives [LRAA, fond 1026.1.3]. Estonia is free of Jews (Judenfrei)

2.4 Holocaust in Estonia (1941-1944)

Stage Two – Extermination of the Foreign Jews in Estonia

Hitler's goal was to exterminate all Jews, but he preferred to avoid doing it in West-European countries. Therefore, Jews were transferred from these countries to so called "labor and training camps" in other countries, including Estonia. Some of the Jewish prisoners of war were also transferred to these camps. In 1943, decision was made to expand the Estonian shale production to compensate for the shortage of oil. For that purpose, Vaivara camps were built for Jewish labor from other countries.

September 1942

Concentration camp Jagala. Kalevi-Liiva. A trainload of prisoners from Czech city Terezin (Teresienstadt). Second trainload with German Jews. On the very first day about 1600-1700

prisoners were killed in Kalevi-Liiva. The rest worked in the camp. A total of over 2000 people perished there (according to some sources – significantly more).

Fall 1943

Concentration camp Vaivara.

About 10,000 Jews from Kaunas and Vilnius ghettos. According to some sources, also from Riga and Bystritsa in Transylvania. They worked at the shale production and performed other jobs. Some 3000 were killed in the camp when it was being evacuated in 1944.

June 6, 1944

Tallinn Central Prison

Approximately 450 French Jews were transported there. They were executed at Metsakalmistu near Tallinn.



September 19, 1944

Klooga (part of the Vaivara camp system)

About 2000 Jews from Kaunas and Vilnius ghettos were executed during the camp liquidation.

4. A burnt diploma (Klooga camp) issued in 1929 to Aron Berenshtein (1903-1944) by the Vilnius University (formerly, Stephan Bator University) medical school (a copy). [*EAM F150/1/2*]

A high school diploma (Klooga camp) issued in Vilnius in 1925 to Liza Aroni.[*EAM F150/1/2*]

A sketch album from Klooga camp. [EOM]

A knife that was with Ella Hirschhorn in 13 concentration camps, the last one being Stutthof.

[Margalit Šats (Kats), Iisrael]

- 2-3. Jewish prisoners in Kiviyli camp [Pekka Erelt].
- 5. The Soviet Army representatives examine the remains of burned corpses in Klooga (fall of 1944).
- 6. Kalevi-Liiva, 1992.

2.5 We will never forget those who saved or helped the Jews

They saved local Jews from being arrested or helped them

- 1. **Prof. Uku Masing** (1909-1985) and his wife Eha (1912-1998) saved Isidor Levin.
- 2. **Elvine Hinsberg** (1909-1995) repeatedly brought food to the Klooga prisoners and mailed their letters home. For this, Omakaitse arrested her on Feb. 23, 1944 and sent her for two years to the women's labor camp Ellamaa. She was freed on Sept. 15, 1944.

Bezhanitskaja K. N. (1889-1979)

Saved Ilana Klompus.

Dr B. Voogas (1897-1973) **and Dr P. Teas** (1895-1980)

They were hiding their colleague, Dr. Veera (Dveira) Pärsimägi (née Lipkovski) (1893-1981) in Nymme.

Elmre (Eimre?) from Rakvere

A husband saved his wife, Rachel. No exact data.

Joann Jemeljanov (1914-1992)

Was hiding his Jewish wife, Elena (née Dobrysh) (1913-1980) on the farm in Keila-Joa. His classmate (name unknown) worked at the registry office and retrieved all her documents identifying her as a Jew.

Helene Epstein (nee Domandat)

A divorced German wife asked to release her ex-husband, Solomon Epstein. As a result, instead of immediate execution, he was sent to a concentration camp.

Ferdinand Gruber

Hid documents proving that his arrested classmate, Guido Pant, was Jewish.

Hans Michelson (1907-1943)

Tried to save his wife, Hashe Passov (1901-1943), and their child Dorrit (1935-1941).

Bertram Neitsov

Working at the police headquarters, learned about an anonymous letter informing that his relative was hiding a Jewish woman, Broha Roolan (née Katzin) at his farm. He destroyed this letter and informed Broha about it.

The **Panov** family

The Panov family helped Dr. Naum Golubov from the Seaport Hospital who claimed to be a Tatar.

Alfride Pikk

An Estonian Communist Party member from Viljandi. Personally visited Jews at their homes trying to convince them to evacuate.

Põld family.

Dr. Ella Pyld (née Binmann) (1903-1943) was hiding at her husband's relatives' home in Pärnu.

Veiberg

An Estonian woman who followed her Jewish husband (Ilja? Veiberg) to the camp.

Aleksander Willemson (1881-1942)

Served in Gestapo. His wife Sara (1892-1970) hazak

was Jewish. She was arrested 3 times, since there was always somebody reporting on her. This information has not been confirmed.

| Dr Emil Laur (1888-1971)

| Managed to change the documents of his wife Theresa (Rasja Ita) Laur (Savelwolf) (1889-1948) and saved her | in the cellar of their home at Nõmme.

An estonian man testified that the two smal girls of the Jewish father Wulf Saltsmann (1909-1942) and the estonian mother (Hilda Sarapuu) (1908-1994) were actually his children (Miriam and Siiri), thus saving their lives. Name uknown.

Two young Jewish men (Kahn from Tallinn and Blumberg (from Viljandi or Tartu) fought in Estonian corpus of the Soviet army. Were captured by Germans and placed in jail together with lother Estonian prisoners of war. Noone from their Estonean army men betrayed them knowing that they were Jews.

These are the people we know, who saved the life or helped european Jews from the concentration camps

Feldman

Brought food to the prisoners.

Keila village elder at war time

After the Klooga tragedy, a former village elder came with a sack of bread to feed the survivors.

Karl Koppel

Saved the lives of two Polish prisoners in Klooga bringing them food to their hiding place.

Kraak

Brought food to the prisoners.

Elviine Laherand (1895-1956)

Saved Hillel Seidel (1920-1999) - a prisoner of Klooga camp, hiding him at their farm.

Marta Loide (1901-1997) and Nikolai Loide (1899-1981) - forest warden in Kohtla. Brought food and helped the Jewish prisoners.

Ida – Miralda (1921-2002) and Valter Milt (1904-1985) from the Otto farm in Kloogarand Gave food to the prisoners

Erna Möhlmann (1884-1984)

Saved a young Jewish woman.

Narusing

Lived in Sompa near Ereda camp. She saw Jews hiding in the woods and started bringing them food.

Laine Peep (1932-2001)

A Lithuanian Jewish woman (Lifshits) from Kiviõli or Kohtla-Järve camp gave her young daughter to Laine, and she hid her.

Arnold Peets (1904-1971)

Saved Dina Lindeberg, a Jewish woman from Riga. Mr Peets, who was a street supervisor in Tartu, wrote in the ID of Mrs Lindeberg that she was Latvian, thus probably saving her life.

Elmar Preimut

Brought food to a Czech prisoner, Gita Mashova and others, and, together with friends from the ship "Pärnu", planned for them an escape to Finland.

Richard and Tatjana (?) Raudam

Saved the lives of two Jewish girls from Klooga giving them shelter, food and clothes.

Reinert

Gave food to prisoners.

Remmelgas

Gave food to prisoners.

Tõnissoo

Gave food to prisoners.

Uibo

The estonian guard of the Klooga camp, who had a very negative attitude towards nazis, planned to escape together with a Jewish woman prisoner. He was betrayed by his colleagues and executed together with a woman. (Testimony of Helga Verleger).

Uuetoa

Gave food to prisoners.

Veidermaa

Gave food to prisoners.

Villem Vist

Saved an escaped prisoner. No precise information.

A young Jewish woman escaped from Kalevi-Liiva and was hiding at a farm near Pirita river. No additional information.

3-4. The State of Israel awarded Uku and Eha Masing with a "Righteous Gentile" medal. A tree was planted at Yad Vashem Museum in their honor.

2.6 1946-1987

- 1. A night pass for Tallinn (1946) [Ljuba Rosenberg (Turetskaja)].
- 2. On January 13, 1953, the "Pravda" newspaper published an article denouncing a group of doctors-saboteurs who wrongly diagnosed and mistreated members of Soviet leadership condemning them to an untimely death. The article claimed that the group's participants were connected to the international Jewish capitalist/nationalist organization named "Joint" and that they all are CIA agents. This was followed by a wave of arrests and by increased anti-Semitic

atmosphere. These accusations were reversed after Stalin's death in March 1953. This period in Estonia was less intense than in other places; however, some doctors lost their jobs, and there was a general sense of fear [ERR].

- 3. 1961 New Year celebration at Jankovskis'.
- 4. In 1968, members of Tallinn religious Jewish community asked for permission to erect a memorial to Holocaust victims at the Rahumäe cemetery, but their request was refused. An unofficial dedication of this memorial took place in 1973.
- 5. The sense of Jewish identity and Jewish cultural activities experienced a boost after 1967 war in Israel (The Six-Day War). Some Jewish artist came to perform; one of them was a very popular singer, Nehama Lifshitsaite, from Lithuania. This period saw rebirth of Jewish amateur performing groups. In 1971, a performance of "Anna Frank Diary" in Yidish was a great success.

A musical record of Nechama Lifshitsaite [Lia Kaplan (Berkovitš)], the personal file of Lev Jerichov from the "Dvigatel" factory [Basja Jerichov], the certificate given to Erna Goldberg for being an advanced communist worker, a soviet times "avoska" that was always carried in a hope to buy some goods or food.

- 6-7. March 1971: celebrating the 50th anniversary of the new Jewish theater founder and actor, J. Shaikevich, following the "Anna Frank Diary" performance.
- 8. 1987: the first "Purim Spiel" after the WW II. Alla Manoim, Boris Manoim, Jakov Grinstein

3.1 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Scouts (Tsofim)

Jewish scout units were part of the Estonian Scout Squad. Later, some independent Jewish organizations emerged.

- 1. Scouts at the Pühajärve camp in 1923.
- 2. K. Treffner greats the parade of Jewish scouts in Tartu in 1924.
- 3. Tartu Bar-Kohba legion in 1926.

"Two Jews – three parties" – this joke was very appropriate during the autonomy years, since Estonia had close to 50 various organizations.

4. Impressions of seals [TLA – partly].

Beitar

The right-wing Zionist organization, Beitar, was established in 1923 in Riga and very soon after – in Estonia.

5-6. Membership card of Rafail Gershovich (Beitar, Tartu, 1940) [Zhabotinski Institute, Israel, archives]

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- 7. With the portrait of the Beitar founder and leader Vladimir (Zeev) Zhabotinsky (1937). Left to right: upper row: Haim Resnik, Lea Balonov (Heimann), Rudi Himmelhoch, Alter Pevsner, Lei Marienburger, Nonni Zeitlin, Misha Gelb, Shloma Sochatchevski. Middle row: Hana (Anni) Aronovitch (Eidelkind), Perle Levin, Jasha Sverdlov, a person from Latvia, Leo Blumenfeldt, Hene Gens. Bottom row: Lidia Morein (Ivanovski), Pessi Mendelev, Jenja Feinmann (Teitelbaum), Lea Eidus (Heimann)
- 8. Z. Zhabotinsky in Tallinn on May 2, 1939.
- 9. A group of Beitar members in 1937.
- 10-11. Beitar camp, 1932.

3.2 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Hashomer Hatsair (Netsah)

The left-wing youth movement Hashomer Hatsair (Young Guardsman) was founded in 1913 and began in Estonia in 1932. Both organizations, Beitar (right-wing) and Hashomer (left-wing), were Zionist movements, i.e., they both saw the solution of the "Jewish question" in building a new Jewish state (Eretz Israel – Land of Israel). They were preparing themselves to hard agricultural labor in Palestine. While Hashomer was seeking peaceful ways to establish a new country, Beitar was prepared to use force.

1. Yosef Trumpeldor (1880-1920) was a Zionist hero who was killed defending a Jewish settlement in Palestine. The name *Beitar* is actually a Hebrew abbreviation of "Trumpeldor Union." One of the Hashomer units was named after Trumpeldor.

Trumpeldor detachment – the first anniversary (1932). Left to right. Upper row: Lasar Rosenberg, Herman Migdal, Mendel Grinstan, Basja Baskin, Ber Passov, Henni Ditman, Dina Danzig, Itche Maisel.

Second row from top: Ditman, Monja Shmotkin, Zvi (Hirsh) Kit, Frieda Shats, Meri Josselson, Isi Goldmann, Delski, Golda Kit.

Second row from bottom: Mirjam Hirschmann, Beba Sher, Dov Maisel, Bekka Haitov, Musja Shimshilevitch, Sima Slosin, Ljuba Piel, Shloma Girshanovitch, Nechemia Levanon (Levitan). Bottom row: Naum Smolenski, Gutti Raichman, Isi Gordon, Kopel Koslovski, Hinzi Gershanovitch, Isaak Haitin.

- 2. A photo album of Hashomer unit named Kvutsat Ha-bone, 1934. Belonged to Dov Hameiri (Maizel) [*Itai Hameiri*, *Israel*].
- 3. First meeting, 1934.
- 4-5. Kuresaare camp, 1934/1935.
- 6. Hashomer group in Sangaste, 1935.
- 7. The future first Israeli prime-minister David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973) in Tallinn with a Hashomer group, 1933.



3.3 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Emuna

A Zionist organization of schoolchildren (between the leftist Hashomer and rightist Beitar)

- 1. 1929.
- 2. 1930.
- 3. 1932.

Akademischer Verein (Academic Society)

Academic Society for Jewish Culture and Literature was founded at Tartu University in 1884.

- 4. Invitation to 50th anniversary celebration.
- 5. 50th anniversary celebration.
- 6-9. Academic Society lectures.
- 11. A group portrait of the society members. 11. 24.2.1938. Left to right.

Bottom row: Emanuel Nodel, Sirotinski, Isidor Levin, Moissei Lapidus.

Middle row: Petja Belostotski, Bussi Epstein?, Kofkin, Misha Sher, Berta Kaplan, ?, Boris Baksht.

Top row: Petja Pats, Misha Sverdlov, Jossi Uzhvanski, Gidali Michelson, Jakob Gabovitch.

Student Loan Society

The Student Academic Loan Society was established in Derpt (Tartu) in 1874.

- 10. A pin commemorating 50th anniversary of the Student Loan Society (1924). (1924) [*Ruth Kantor*].
- 11. The Loan Society Board in 1924. Left to right. Standing: Shmuel Goldberg, Boris Kropman, Pesja Kruskal. Sitting: Haim Ring, Boris Baksht, Jakob Dobrushkes, Bljum, dr. Jachnin.

3.4 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Hasmonea

The Tartu University Student Zionist Fraternity, Hasmonea (Hashmonaim) was founded in 1932. Hashmonaim (Maccabim) is the collective name of the Jewish uprising leaders who fought Seleucid Syria in 167 B.C.

- 1. Knitted coat of arms [Iris and Shaul Levin, Israel]
- 2. Part of the Hashmonaim pendant [Indrek Ilomets].
- 3. Hashmonaim pendant [Indrek Ilomets].
- 4. The Hashmonaim 4th anniversary.

- 5-6. Celebrating the 7th (1930) and 12th (1935) anniversaries.
- 6A. Hasmonea cap [Boris Krigman (Ilja Sundelevitch), Sharona Levitan (Israel)], knitted Hasmonea coat of arms [Iris ja Šaul Levin (Iisrael)], Hasmonea sword hilt presented to "dear Abram for his wedding day from M. Rubin 1935" [TLM], Hasmonea sash [TLM], fraternity band [Sharona Levitan (Israel)].
- 7. The former Hashmonaim members celebrate their 20th anniversary in Tel Aviv (1943).
- 8. Coming together in Tel Aviv in 1984.

3.5 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Limuvia

The Tartu University Student Fraternity, Limuvia, was founded in 1883 as a Literary & Music Society. In 1925, it was changed to Limuvia Fraternity (from Literärisch-Musikalischer Verein).

- 1. Limuvia pendant.
- 2. Coat of arms (1925), flagpole tip (~1930), 50th anniversary pin, color shield (~1930) [TLM, Indrek Ilomets].
- 3. Celebrating Limuvia 45th anniversary in 1928.
- 4. Limuvia in 1930.
- 4A. "Limuvia" coat of arms (1925 Γ.), Limuvia wooden figure, paperweight presented to Limuvia by Vetaris fraternity in Kaunas in 1928, the upper part of the flagstaff (~1930 Γ.), Limuvia china plate. A present from A. Scheer (1939) [*TLM*].
- 5. 50th anniversary in 1933. The Tartu University student newspaper.
- 6. Signing an agreement with sister organizations Vetaria and Vetalia on June 3, 1933 [Indrek Ilomets].
- 7. A group of students, ~ 1929.
- 8. Time off, beginning of the 1930s.

3.6 Youth organizations and fraternities before the WWII

Hatsfiro

The Tartu University Jewish Women's Student organization, Hatsfiro (Dawn) was established in 1924.

- 1-3. Celebrating the Hatsfiro 10^{th} anniversary in 1934.
- 4-5. Celebrating the Hatsfiro 5th anniversary in 1929.
- 6. A letter wishing a happy New Year sent from Tartu to Palestine in 1936 [Lia Gens (Blumberg)].
- 7, 8, 10. Hatsfiro students in various years.
- 9. The Hatsfiro anthem text [EAA.2100.19.150].

4.1 The rebirth of Jewish community in 1988

In February 1988, it was decided to organize an Estonian Jewish Culture Society (JCS). The steering committee, that included A.Bam, E.Belchikov, Sh.Saltzman, E.Gurin-Loov, B.Manoim, G.Manoim, D.Slomka, and S.Sher, held its organizational meeting. On March 30, 1988, there was a general meeting in Tallinn with 85 people participating. It was decided to establish a JCS, the first organization of this kind in the USSR. The JCS was affiliated with Estonian Association for Protection of Historical Monuments. The first board of directors included A.Bam, E.Belchikov,

H.Blumberg, A.Gelb, Sh.Saltzman, E.Gurin-Loov, S.Lazikin, B.Manoim, G.Manoim, A.Nedzvetsky, and D.Slomka. Samuel Lazikin was elected the JCS Chairman.

- 1. First Jewish community meeting organized by JCS, May 29, 1988.
- 2. Samuel Lazikin is giving an interview.
- 3. The JCS membership card 1988 [Ljuba Rosenberg].
- 4. The first annual JCS conference held on April 2, 1989, at Tallinn Polytechnic Institute (currently Tallinn Technical University).
- 5-7. Evgenia Gurin-Loov (1922-2001), long-term Deputy Chair and the spiritual leader of the community. She authored two important books on the history of Estonian Jewry: "Holocaust" about the extermination of Jews in Estonia (1994); and "Tallinn Jewish Gymnasium" (1998).
- 8. Symbols of rebirth. Priit Herodes, designer.
- 9. The first issue of "Hashshar" (Dawn) newspaper, Dec. 22, 1988. Gidon Paenson, editor.
- 10. First lectures and concerts.

4.2 The Jewish community life, part I

- 1. Gennady Gramberg, Chairman of the Jewish community, 1990-1995.
- 2-4. Passover celebration in the Union House, 1990.
- 5. The annual JCS conference at the "Sakala" Culture Center, 1991.
- 6. Humanitarian aid provided by Baltic Jewish Forum in Sweden, 1991.
- 7. Charity foundation "Tsdaka Gdola" established by Lia Kaplan in 1991 [Lia Kaplan (Berkovitch)].
- 8. Charity bazaar.
- 9-10. Celebrating Tu-bi-Shevat and Purim [photo F. Kljtchik].
- 11. A 1991 issue of "Horisont" entirely dedicated to the Estonian Jewry.

4.3 The Jewish community life, part II

- 1. Tsilya Laud, the Jewish community Chair in 1995-2005.
- 2. Construction of the community building's third floor, 1999.



- 3-4. Meetings of the family club "Gesher" (Bridge).
- 5-6. Social Center "Warm Home" program meetings in Sillamäe (1999) and Pärnu (2006).
- 7. Opening ceremony for the monument to Tartu Jews perished fighting the Nazis, 2002.
- 8. "Anna Frank Story" exhibit, 2002.
- 9. Lighting the Hanukkah candles, 2002.
- 10. Celebrating Hanukkah in Narva, 2002.

Since 1993, the community has had a WW II Veterans Association.

- 11. The meeting of veterans in 1999. A festive concert.
- 12. From left to right: Abram Shor, Yakov Libman and Abram Hopp at the 1999 meeting.
- 13-14. 2008. The Veterans Association Chairman, Mikhail Girshovich (b. 1919), honors Pinchas (Petr) Mihlin (b.1909) on the occasion of his 99th birthday.

4.3 The Jewish community life, part III

- 1. "Warm Home" in Viljandi, 2007.
- 2. Alla Jakobson, the Community Chair since 2005.
- 3. A tram with Hanukkah decorations on the streets of Tallinn in 2006.
- 4. A meeting to mark 90th anniversary of ER, 60th anniversary of Israel and 20 years of the reborn Jewish community in Estonia.
- 5-6. "Yahad" (Together) forum in Laulasmaa, 2007.
- 7. Members of the "Golden Age 2008" meeting...
- 8-9. .. and its organizers.
- 10. 100 years anniversary of Ethel Kagan, 2003.
- 11. Larisa Simonova prepares food packages...
- 12. ... and Stanislav Zinovyev delivers them to the people in need.
- 13 Social Center distributes eye glasses.
- 14. The Jewish New Year celebration in 2008.

4.5 Our youth

- 1-2. A summer camp in Laulasmaa, 1990.
- 3. Purim. 2002.
- 4. Chess tournament, 2003.
- 5. Youth camp "Olameinu" (Our World), 2006.
- 6-8. Celebrating Lag Baomer in Nelijärve, 2006.
- 9. Purim poster, 2008.

4.6 The community 2008 - ...

1-8. "Yahad 2008" forum in Laulasmaa.

This forum chose "A Jewish Community Person of the Year 2008" – the Tallinn Jewish School teacher Lev Kempa.

- 9. Lev Kempa with his family.
- 10-11. Awarding the lecturers and organizers.
- 12. Our community *A-team*. From left to right:

Juka Samogina (the Secretary),

Julia Lansberg (the Director of community programs),

Lina Turovskaja (the Editor of the radio program «Shalom Aleichem»),

Julia Korobova (the former coordinator of the Social Center),

David Šlik (the former coordinator of the cultural activities program),

Zoja Tšepkasova (the coordinator of the program "Our children"),

Josef Katz (the Chief Editor of the community's newspaper "Hashachar"),

Alla Jakobson (EJC Chairwoman),

Vadim Rõvlin (EJC Managing Director),

Mark Rybak (the Director of the Estonian Jewish museum),

Lena Blum (the Director of the Social Center),

Rita Blumberg (the President of WIZO Estonia, coordinator of the Social Center),

Nata Ring (the Secretary of the Social Center),

Marina Astanovskaja (the representative of JOINT in Baltic countries).

Sitting: Aljona Gabovitš (the coordinator of pre-school programs),

Tatjana Ovsjankina (the chief Accountant), Larissa Simonova (the coordinator of the Social Center).

The unchallenged librarian since 1990 Regina Pats is not on the picture.

- 13. Wedding ceremony in Tallinn Synagogue, 2008.
- 14. Brit Milah (circumcision) of Yossi Kot in Tallinn Synagogue, 2008.
- 15-17. "Golden Age 2008", Pärnu.

5.1 Jewish education before World war II

The "Nikolai soldiers," craftsmen and petty traders who constituted the Jewish community in Estonia in the middle of 19th century were mostly uneducated and poor. With exception of boys studying with a rabbi at the synagogue cheder, children didn't get any general education. By the end of century, some better educated and well-to-do Jews settled in Estonia, and they wanted their children to receive secular education. Jewish schools opened in Tallinn, Tartu and Valga. Some children attended Jewish schools, others studied at Estonian, Russian and other schools. In the rest of the Estonian towns, children attended various schools.

TALLINN

The first Jewish elementary school in Tallinn, "Genrietta Izraelson Elementary School," opened on Maakri Street in 1880. The subjects were languages (Hebrew, Russian, German) and arithmetic.

In 1919, the Jewish community opened its elementary school where all required subjects were taught.

- 1. Elementary school at 16 Raua Street in the house of a teacher, Gildenbrandt.
- 2. Rebbekah Lopatnikov (1863-1940) was one of the Tallinn school founders.
- 3. The Tallinn Jewish elementary school principal, Shmarya Tamarkin (1881-1952).

In the fall of 1923, Tallinn Jewish Gymnasium opened its doors (TJG). Before completion of the new building at 16 Karu Street in 1924, it was located in small rooms at 5 Maakri Street, next to the synagogue.

- 4. A lottery ticked issued in 1923 to raise money for the TJG construction.
- 5. 4 TJG graduates' pins (top: X 1936 graduates; the first graduating class with Hebrew curriculum, 1937; vocational school (9 grades) pin, 1939; VII graduation 1933; the pin of teacher Lifschits (1939/40. Bottom: The Narva Russian gymnasium pin and 2 XX jubilee of the reopened TJG (2009) [Isidor Goldmann, Rezi Goldmann (Wasserman), Hanni Mäevee (Pines), Bella Kulman (Shapiro)].
- 6. An article in the "Vaba Maa" newspaper (Feb. 1, 1924) about the opening of TJG.
- 7. The TJG 7th grade in 1924. In the center is the school's second principal, Rafail Vydrin The first one was its acting principal, Sh.Tamarkin.

- 8. Samuil Gurin (1888-1956), the TJG principal from 1925-1941. In 1940, TJG was transformed into public school #13.
- 9. Chemistry class (~ 1927).
- 10. In one of the classrooms (~ 1929).
- 11. Berta Frank diploma on the TJG graduation in 1936.
- 12. The year 1931 graduates in Kadriorg.
- 13. At the school yard (1938/39).

5.2 Jewish education before World war II

TARTU

The first Jewish elementary school in Tartu opened in 1875. The students were taught Russian and German languages, mathematics, geography and Jewish history. The teachers were mostly the university Jewish students.

- 1. The first Tartu Jewish school on Kalevi Street (the small dark building on the left).
- 2. The Tartu Jewish elementary school at 49 Alexandri Street.
- 3. A teacher certificate issued to Leib Levitin in 1909 giving him "the right to teach only members of his own religious faith." [Noemi Levitina].
- 4. The Tartu Jewish elementary school (~1933).
- 5. The Tartu Jewish elementary school (1938/39). The teacher Aino Värv-Sulg with children.
- 6. The Tartu Jewish high school in 1930. Sitting (left to right): Ezriel Shaput, Yankiel Nadel and Leib Levitin.
- 7. The school committee (1932).
- 8-11. The Tartu Jewish elementary and high school principals: David Solomon, Leib Levitin,
- S. Stein, and Yankiel Nadel.

VALGA

- 12. The Valga Jewish elementary school principal, Isak Bahmat (1907-1061).
- 13. The Valga school in 1936/37.
- 14. The Valga school in 1934/35.

5.3 Jewish education before World war II

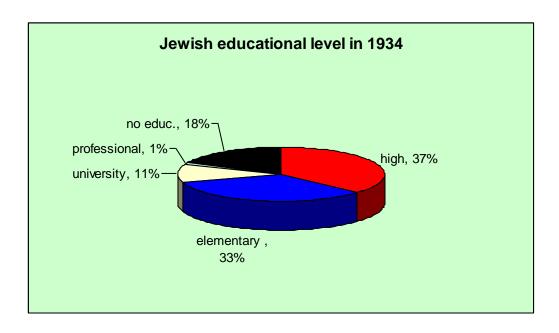
HIGHER EDUCATION

- 1, 3. One of the first Tartu University Jewish graduates, Alexander Wulfius and his Law School diploma (1845). [EAA.402.1.5441].
- 2. Jewish students at the Tartu University, 1900.
- 4. A group of Tartu students, 1939.

Establishing a Judaica Department at the School of Philosophy on June 28, 1932, became a very important event. It was founded by Prof. Lazar Gulkovich (1899-1941).

- 5. A stamp of the L.Gulkovich seminar [EAA].
- 6. Prof. Gulkovich with his students.

7. One of Gulkovich's students, Dina Mihelson – a student certificate.



JEWISH PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN TALLINN

- 9. The first Hebrew language kindergarten (1926-1929). Ms. Hait, the teacher.
- 10. The Hebrew language kindergarten in the 1930s. Miriam Schulkleper, the teacher.
- 11. The Yidish language kindergarten circa 1938. Its director Fanya Dubovsky and teacher Basya Shneeberg.

5.4 Jewish education in the soviet time

There was no Jewish education under the Soviet rule. Teaching the Hebrew language was strictly forbidden. Jewish children attended either Estonian- or Russian-language schools. The choice of schools was usually determined by the language spoken at home; however, in many cases the school closer to home was preferred. Sometimes children attended an Estonian-language kindergarten and a Russian-language school, or vice versa. There was no place for Jewish studies at the Tartu University.

- 1. The Tallinn school #13 (formerly, TJG) in 1940.
- 2. The Tallinn school #13 graduation certificate, June 7, 1941.
- 3. Certificate of Excellence of a 2nd grade student, the Tallinn elementary school #7 (formerly, the Jewish elementary school), issued on May 28, 1941.
- 4. A kindergarten "certificate" 1952.
- 5. A gold and a silver medals of high school graduates [Shein brothers], a TU cap [Hagi Shein].
- 6. Birthday parties and friendship circles of Jewish children whose parents or relatives had been friends before WW II often were the only way to preserve any sense of Jewish identity in the children. A birthday party in 1952, under a calendar with Stalin's portrait on the wall.
- 7. Alla Jakobson's student ID (1960).
- 8. On November 28, 1988, the TJG alumni gathered to mark Samuil Gurin's 100th anniversary.

5.5 Jewish education after 1989

One of the goals of the Estonian Jewish community is raising its young generation to be knowledgeable in the Jewish history and culture. Planning to develop possibilities for Jewish education started in the first year of the reborn community existence.

- 1. A list of the first children attending the Jewish kindergarten, October 1989.
- 2. Kindergarten, 2008.

In 1989, a Sunday school opened where the students were taught the Hebrew, Estonian and English languages, Jewish history, etc. The classes took place in the building of the former TJG at 16 Karu Street (at that time, this was a home for a Vocational School #1). The grand opening of the Tallinn Jewish School (TJS) took place on September 2, 1990.

- 3. An announcement about the Sunday school new classes (1992).
- 4. The TJS principals, A.Gluhovskaya (1990-1993) and M.Beilinson (1993-2009).
- 5. The TJS student ID (1992) [Sima Kipnis].
- 6. Invitation for the school's 70th anniversary (1994).
- 7. At the school assembly in the beginning of 1990s: left to right the community chairperson,
- G.Gramberg, the deputy chairperson and the TJG graduate, E.Gurin-Loov, the TJG graduate,
- A.Dantsig, the head of the curriculum department, L.Ogurkova, and the school principal, A.Gluhovskaya.
- 8. "Karu 16" the TJS student newspaper (1993).
- 9. Tartu Jewish youth newspaper "Stairs," issue #1, 1997.
- 10. Mikhail Beilinson, the TJS principal (1993-2009).
- 11. The TJS conducts an Estonian song competition.



5.6 Science & research

HUMANITIES

- 1. Karl Morgenstern (1770-1852), classicist, the first director of Tartu University Library.
- 2. Lazar Gulkovich (1899-1941), the head of Judaica Program at TU.
- 3. Bentsion Levin (1906-1990), a law scholar.
- 4. Isidor Levin (1919), a folklore and Biblical scholar.
- 5. Yuri Lotman (1922-1993), a literary and semiotics scholar, the Academy member.
- 6. Larisa Volpert (b. 1926), a literary scholar, chess player.
- 7. Mikhail Bronstein (b. 1923), an economist, the Academy member.
- 8. Pavel Reifman (1923-2012), a literary scholar.
- 9. Rem Blum (1925-1989), a philosopher.
- 10. Zara Mints (1927-1990), a literary scholar.
- 11. Michael Heltzer (1928-2010), an orientalist.
- 12. Simon Levin (1928-2008), a lawyer.

13. Leonid Stolovich (1929-2013), a philosopher.

Who says that scholars are always serious? (L. Stolovich book "Jews lauging")

- 14. Victor Fainshtein (b. 1929), an economist.
- 15. Yuzef Livshits (b. 1932), a lawyer.
- 16. Hanon Barabaner (b. 1933), an economist.
- 17. Gabriel Hazak (b. 1938), a law and political science scholar.
- 18. David Vseviov (b. 1949), a historian.

5.7 Science

TECHNICAL FIELDS

- 1. Samuil Faingold (1918-2003), a chemist.
- 2. Shimshon Baron (1929-2013), a mathematician.
- | Ljubov Rebane (Shagalov) (1929-1991), a physicist.
- 3. Evgeni Gabovich (1938-2009), a mathematician, historian.
- | Izold Pustylnik (1938-2008), an astronomer.
- 4. Gabriel Jakobson (b. 1941), a computer scientist.
- 5. Aleksei Sherman (b. 1950), a physicist.
- 6. Mikhail Matskin (b. 1956), a computer scientist.

MEDICINE, AGRICULTURE AND BIOLOGY

- 7. Isidor Brennson (1854-1928), a medical scientist, medical historian.
- 8. Akivo Lentsner (1927-2012), a microbiologist.
- 9. Alexander Jakobson (1926-1992), an agriculturist.
- 10. Olga Volozh (1927-2005), a cardiologist.
- 11. Natan Elshtein (1929-2005), a medical scientist.
- 12. Adik Levin (b. 1940), a pediatrician.
- 13. Aleksei Turovski (b. 1946), a zoologist.

6.1 Study of art, bibliography, architecture

- 1. The Library of Julius Gens drawing by D.Bette-Punga [Inna Gens].
- 2-3. Nosson Gens (1885-1972), a bibliographer, historian of Estonian Jewery.
- 4-7. Julius Gens (1887-1957), an art critic, art collector, bibliophile and bibliographer.
- 8-10. Luis Kan (1901-1974), a world known architect. Born in Estonia.
- 11-13. Leo Gens (1922-2001), an art historian and an art critic.
- 14-16. Boris Bernstein (1924-2015), an art historian, theorist and critic. Portrait by Nikolai Kormashov.
- 17-19. Harry Shein (1947-2013) and Reet Shein (b. 1946), architects.

6.2 Music

- 1. Aby Zeider (1920-1999), a trombonist.
- 2-3. Nikolai Lopatnikov (1903-1976), an American composer. Born in Estonia.
- 4-6. Anna Klas (1912-1999), a pianist and a teacher.
- 7. Aron Tamarkin (1915-1969), a director of the Theater and Music Museum, celebrating his 50 anniversary.
- 8. Zelma Slonim-Tamarkin (1919-2006), a pianist and teacher.
- 9. Ester Klas-Hanson (1919-2013), a ballet accompanist.
- 10. Josif Shagal (1922-1993), a violinist.
- 11. Frida Bernstein (1924-2015), a pianist and a teacher.
- 12. Conductors' baton (Eri Klas) and a vinyl record (Anna Klas).
- 13-14. Renata Goznaya (b. 1929), a pianist and a teacher.
- 15. Moissey Alperten (1930-2005), a violinist.
- 16. Yuri Alperten (b. 1957), a conductor.
- 17-18. Eri Klas (1939-2016), a conductor.
- 19-20. Avi Benjamin (Nedzvetsky) (b. 1959), a composer.
- 21. Jaan-Eik Tulve (b. 1967), a musician, conductor, and a musical activist.

6.3 Theater and movies

- 1. Leo Eberg (1891-?), an actor.
- 2-3. Moissey Judeikin (1906-1972) and Chaya Raidna-Judeikin (1919-2000), the 4th on the right in the Vanemuine Theater..
- 4-5. Anna Ekston (1908-1992), a ballerina, stage manager, and a teacher.
- 6. Larisa Sklianskaya (b. 1942), a ballerina
- 7. Eino Baskin (1929-2015), an actor, stage manager, and the chief of theater.
- 8. Roman Baskin (b. 1954), an actor and stage manager.
- 9. Haim Drui (1909-1970), an actor..
- 10. Ben (Benjamin) Drui (1924-1975), an actor and stage manager.
- | Sofia Blücher (b. 1927), actress.
- 11-13. David Sur (b. 1933), a dancer, stage manager and a teacher.
- 14-15. Lilian (Lilja) Malkina (b. 1938), a theatre and movie actress.
- 16. Sergei (Saja) Levin (1913-1975), a specialist in drama study and a critic.
- 17-18. Dorian Supin (b. 1948), a scenarist, cinema operator and director.
- 19. Lilja Blumenfeld-Luhse (b. 1958), a theatre designer.
- 20. Boris Tuch (b. 1946), a movie and theatre critic, translator and writer.



6.4 Painting, graphic arts, sculpture, photography

- 1-2. Eguda Leiba (Leibo) (1904—1958), a doctor and a sculptor.
- 3.Benno Shots (1891-1984), Irish sculptor, lived in Estonia during 1893-1921.
- 4-5. Dora Gordin (1895-1991), a sculptor, lived in Estonia during 1911-1928.
- 6. Samuil Migdal (1918-1981), a photographer.
- 7. Solomon Rosenfeld (1911-1983), a photographer.
- 8. Faivy Kluchik (1933-2008), a photographer.
- 9-11. Sima Shkop (1920-2016), a book pencil artist, poster artist and water colorist.
- 12-14. Leo Rohlin (b. 1939), a ceramist.

15-17. Benjamin Wasserman (b. 1949), a painter, pencil artist.

6.5 Literature. Mass-media

- 1. Grigori Skulsky (1912-1987), a writer.
- 2. Ella Vilenskaya-Amitan (1893-1995), a children writer Israel.
- 3. Naftoli Bassel (1932-2016), a literature critic.
- 4. Ita Saks (1921-2003), a journalist and a translator.
- 5-6. Dagmar Normet (Rubinstein) (1921-2008), a children's writer.
- 7-8. David Samoilov (1920-1990), a poet.
- 9. Yelena Skulskaya (b. 1950), a writer and a playwright.
- 10-11. Mikhail Weller (b. 1948), a writer.
- 12. Hagi Shein (b. 1945), a journalist and a mass-media specialist.

Exhibitions, festivals, amateur performances

- 13. Jewish art exposition organized by Julius Gens at the Tartu Art School "Pallas" in 1924.
- 14-15. J.Gens. The Jewish graphics exhibition catalogue, 1938.
- 16. Concert of the young soloists in the Jewish club (1938). Josif Shagal (violin), Faivy Grodinsky and A.Shenderov (grand piano). Hilda Aronovich also participated (grand piano).
- 17. Collection of poetry by Rebecca Feinstein (1863-1940), published by her children for her 75th anniversary.
- 18. Tartu Jewish theater in 1938.
- 19. Jewish theater in Valga in 1934.
- 20. Pärnu's club "Ahdut" ("Unity") orchestra in 1937.
- 21. The Bialik's club theater in Tallinn (1939).

6.6 Exhibitions, festivals, amateur performances

- 1-4. Tallinn Jewish Theater in the end of 1960-s, beginning of 70-s.
- 5-7. Performance of "Diary of Anna Frank" play in 1971.
- 8-9. The Tartu Jewish ensemble "Shiri" ("The Song"), founded in 1988 by Moshe Michelson.

The Jewish culture festival "Ariel"

- 10-13. The festival has been conducted since 2003. Directed by Ilya Sundelevich, Jaan Lepik and Jaan-Eik Tulve.
- 14. Ariel 2006. Ensemble "Davka" (USA), accompanies the German classical movie "Golem" with their original soundtrack. At the Russian culture center.
- 15. Ariel 2006. Folk ensemble "Bnei Teiman from Kyriat Ono", Israel. At the hall of Kanut guild.
- 16. Ariel 2005. At the opening of photo exhibition by Ilya Sundelevich "Nahalat Banjamin" at the DECO gallery.

Sports

7.1 The first years of Jewish sports in Estonia

- 1-3. Tartu students before the official creation of the Maccabi at the end of 1919. The Estonian Jewish sports association Maccabi was created in 1920. It was registered in Tartu at the end of 1919, in Valga in 1921, in Tallinn in 1921, in Narva in 1922, and in Pärnu in 1925.
- 4. The Journal of the Tartu Maccabi, circa, 1920. Editor M.Kruskal. Editors' board: Josif Uzhvansky, Abram Kropman and Egad Jakobson.
- 5. Flag of the Maccabi. Tallinn.

The first and the most popular sport in the Maccabi was gymnastics. Celebrations of rhythmic and artistic gymnastics took place beginning 1922. A very great event was the celebration of May 6 1920. There were many speeches and greetings. On the small but very comfortable stage of the Bialik club, almost 80 gymnasts performed in groups one after another.. The gymnasts performed floor exercises, exercises with sticks, on gymnastic apparatuses, as well as dances and acrobatics.

- 6-11. Gymnastics groups from Tallinn and Tartu.
- 12. Reprint of the Maccabi seal.
- 13. The Prize of the Maccabi (1930). Prewar Maccabi badge [Nurit Baksht, Israel].
- 14. Poster of gymnastics event in 1933, Tallinn.
- 15. Poster of gymnastics event in 1938.

7.2 Maccabi before WWII



- 1 The Maccabi group. Tartu, 1922.
- 2 The Maccabi group of female gymnasts in Tallinn, 1923. In the center sports teacher and Maccabi coach Vladimir Sergeevich Utehin.
- 3 Maccabi athletes in the first line at the games of 1934. Maccabi athletes participated in the 1st dancing and gymnastics events of the Estonian Games in 1934 and the 2nd Sports Games in 1939.
- 4-7. Maccabi at the parade of 1939.
- 8. A copper plate given for "our dear leader S.Judeikin and his family on the 10th wedding anniversary" from the colleagues at the board of the Maccabi directors. 7.10.1938 [*Nelly Judeikin, Israel*].
- 9. The honorary diploma, given to Pesse Kruskal in 1930 on the 10th anniversary of Maccabi, Tartu.
- 10. Invitation to the 10th anniversary celebration of the Tartu Maccabi.

7.3 Teams, competitions

- 1-5. Soccer teams 1922-1939.
- 6. Estonia vs. Latvia Maccabi basketball competition.
- 7. Bowling team 1934-1935.
- 8. Famous female gymnastics team.
- 9-10. Maccabi team in Helsinki...
- 11-13. ...and in Kaunas.

7.4 Estonian champions

- 1. Maks Oley (1903-1941), an Estonian weightlifting champion in 1931.
- 2. Savel Kletzky (1905-1941), the repeated moto-sport champion of Estonia in the 1930th.
- 3, Rubin Teitelbaum (1907-1941), the seven times weightlifting champion of Estonia.
- 4-7. Sarah Teitelbaum (1910-1941), a track and fielder, volleyball and basketball player. Member of the Maccabi since 1928. 17 times Estonian track and field champion. She has established 28 records of Estonia.
- 8. Leo Peel (1931-1993), an Estonian fencing champion. Coach Leo Peel with the team of TPI.
- 9. Georgy Zazhitsky (b.1946), the seven times fencing champion of Estonia.
- 10. Juzef Luvishchuk (b.1944), the fencing champion of Estonia in 1964.
- 11. Boris Joffe (b.1950), the four times fencing champion of Estonia.
- 8. Rudolph Rot (b.1937), the two times weight lifting champion of Estonia.
- 9. Anita Shechtman (b. 1947), a basketball player.
- 10. Alexander Veingold (b. 1953), the chess champion of Estonia in 1983.

7.5 Prominent Jewish sports public men in Estonia

- 1 Herman Meiertal (1907-1967), a soccer player, goalkeeper of the Maccabi.
- 2 Abram Kaplan (1912-1943), a boxer.
- 3 Kopel Kozlovsky (1917-1941), a soccer player and a member of the Estonian national team.
- 4 Yakov Gabovich (1914-1980), a mathematician and a chess theorist.
- 5 Isai Rosenfeld (1920-1990), a chess player and a chess journalist.
- 6-7. Izi Trapido (1921-2003), a basketball player and a sports photographer.
- 8. Harri Mazkin (1945-1999), a journalist and a sports commentator.
- 9. Avi Dobrysh (b. 1934), a tennis player, tennis referee, and a president of the Maccabi Estonia.

7.6 Revived Maccabi society

As early as 1988, Jewish cultural society organized a sports branch that preceded the Maccabi. In 1991-1995 Maccabi's soccer and mini-soccer teams, leaded by Alexander Fuki, played successfully in Estonia and abroad.

- 10. Diploma for first place in mini-soccer competition Maccabi USSR in Tallinn in 1992.
- 11. Diploma of the participant in the 14th Maccabi Games in Israel in 1993, given to the Estonian mini-soccer team.
- 12. Michael Luvistsuk's certificate. He was a participant in the 14th Maccabi Games in Israel in 1993
- 13. Maccabi's mini-soccer team, that participated in the competitions in Riga in 1991. Standing (from the left to the right): A.Pil, B.Rubanovich, coach A.Fuki, V.Bikritsky, E.Savchenko. Sitting: A.Kogan, V.Kogan, M.Luvishchuk.
- 14-16. Estonian athletes in the USSR Maccabi team during the European Maccabi Games in Marseille in 1991 the second place.

7.6 Revived Maccabi society

1-4. Tallinn's Maccabi mini-soccer team during the Estonian national minorities Games in 2008 (the third place).

The team's captain Alexander Ageev (in the center) with the cup, the coach Semen Lerman (on the right), the chairman of the Students' Maccabi Alexander Zdankevich (on the left).

- 5-6. Our team on the Maccabi Games in Lithuania in 2008.
- 7-13. Estonian Maccabi team in Rome games 2008.
- 11. Semen Brener 2 golden medals in badminton (individual and pair ranks).
- 12. Nadia Shein (on the right) golden medal in tennis in the pair rank.

8. 1 Jewish business before WWII

- 1. Ladies tailor certificate, given to Abram Pesin in Mstislavl (Belarus) in 1900 [Boris Meyler, Israel].
- 2. Narva, 1903. Haim Manoim was allowed to open a boot and shoe upper shop and put on a respective sign [Manoim family, Israel].
- 3. Joseph Ginovker's (1875-1944) and Sons. Tallinn chocolate and confections factory "Ginovker" [*Otto Kubo*].
- 4. Eli Wesset's Pärnu chocolate factory "Progres".
- 5-6. Efraim Lerenmann (1888-1942) established a lace- and thread factory "Rauaniit" in 1918 (during the soviet times "Punane Koit", later a stocking factory "Cotton" and glove factory "Simplex" [Zeev Lerenmann, Israel]..
- 7-8. Abram and Isaac Fürst's Tallinn button factory "Merkur" (Tartu m., 13).

8.2 Jewish business before WWII

1-3. Benjamin Beilinson's (1888-1953) printing plant in Tallinn.

- 4-5. Betty Besprosvannaya's (1885-1941) textile factory of Besprosvanny's family (established in 1905), later transformed into a well-known knitwear factory "Marat".
- 6. Solomon Epstein (1885-1941) the owner of Tallinn's clothes store the "Jockey Club".
- 7-9. Eliahu-Mendel Uzhvansky (1862-1929), owner of the Tartu tannery "Uzhvansky and Sons".
- 10-11. Dr. Julius Kan (1868-1936), owner of the Tartu sawmill.
- 12. Elias Brisk's textile store in Põltsamaa.
- 13. Alexander Rubin's jewelry store on Viru st.



9. Antisemitism in Estonia

Antisemitism has never been a mass or at a state level. There were no pogroms, ghettos, antisemitic and pro-nazi movements have not found many adherents. Estonia has managed to remain an island of tolerance even during the Soviet era, when many Jewish specialists found work only in Estonia. However, some level of anti-semitism was always present at a personal communication level or in the mass media.

- 1. A 1919 White Army leaflet [ERA. 1107.1.205.lk.5]
- 2. Anti-Semitic newspaper "Juudid (Jews)" #3, 16.12.1922.
- 3-5. Anti-Semitic magazines of the 1920th [ERR].
- 6-7. Vandalism at the Tartu Jewish cemetery in 1992.
- 8-9 Elchonen Saks (1927-2014) and "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" 10-11 Anti-Semitic photos in 2001.

10. Fight for the right to emigrate to Israel

- 1. Poster "Let my people go" [From the archive of the "We'll remember and preserve" association, Israel].
- 2. Documents from the L.Kravtsov's file in KGB [L. Kravtsov].
- 3-4. L. Kravtsov's photos in 1972 and 2006.
- 5. To the Secretary General of the UN from E.Jakobson 1971 . [Петиции, письма и обращения евреев СССР: 1968—1978. Т. 1–10. Иер., 1973—1980.].
- 6. Frequentative refusnik B.Gurfel.
- 7. A telegram of the eight Estonian Jews to the Israeli people 1973 [Петиции, письма и обращения евреев СССР: 1968—1978. Т. 1–10. Иер., 1973—1980.].
- 8. A letter of the US representative in the UN senator P.Moinihen from a Mother of a refusnik (1975) [B. Gurfel].
- 9. Emigration to Israel from Estonia [data from the press and the Ministry of Absorbtion, Israel].
- 10. An Israeli visa of Avigail Levitin.
- 11. A tablecloth and a wooden plate with the names of the friends, given to Rybak's family in 1972 in occasion of their departure to Israel [M. Rybak].

In 2007 in Tel-Aviv took place an exhibition "40 years of the fight", dedicated to the fight of the soviet Jews for the right to emigrate to Israel. Souvenirs from the exhibition.