

הארגון העולמי של יהודים
יוצאי זאקרפטיה - טרנסקרפטיה (ע"ר)



Bulletin number 139 - October 2025

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ve2pyAxG1vc> The Sound of the Shofar - by Leonard Cohen

1. Sukkot Gathering in the Ben Shemen Forest – Reminder

We remind you that our Sukkot gathering will take place in “Ben Shemen Forest” on Sunday, **October 12, 2025**, the fifth day of Chol HaMoed Sukkot, 20 Tishrei 5786. In Waze, enter: Ben Shemen Forest, via Kfar Daniel and Gimzu.

2. Questionnaire for Registration of Holocaust Survivors and Refugees [From the Yad Vashem Website] Note ♥ Not Murdered!

Yad Vashem has collected approximately 80,000 questionnaires to register Holocaust survivors and refugees since 1998. The questionnaires serve a dual purpose: to provide historical documentation about Holocaust survivors, and to allow a better understanding of the fate of Jews during the Holocaust.

The questionnaires must be filled out for every Jew who lived under Nazi rule or occupation, or under the rule of regimes that collaborated with them during the war, was in danger of death, and was alive at the end of October 1945.

They must also be completed for Jewish refugees who barely managed to escape their homes before the Nazi invasion.

The form includes fields related to biographical details before, during, and after the war, including: name, place, camps, ghettos, living under a false identity, details of liberation, displaced persons camps; and also, a short personal description of Holocaust events as they influenced the survivor/refugee's life.

Forms may also be filled out for survivors/refugees who are no longer alive.

Since January 2021, Yad Vashem has provided access, via the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names, to most of the survivor names originating from these questionnaires and from other sources, with privacy protections applied as required by law. Yad Vashem intends to continue adding names of survivors from additional sources.

Please send completed questionnaires to: Yad Vashem, Hall of Names, P.O. Box 3477, Jerusalem 9103401, Israel, together with a copy of any identifying document from the post-war period, and if possible, with a photograph of the survivor.

Online completion of the form for survivors <<<

Downloadable versions of the registration questionnaire for Holocaust survivors and refugees are available in various languages: Download a questionnaire for registering Holocaust survivors and refugees in different languages

- [Shoah Survivors Registration Form \(אנגלית\)](#)
- [Holocaust túlélők kérdőíve \(הונגרית\)](#)
- [Fragebogen für Holocaust-Überlebende \(גרמנית\)](#)
- [Опросный лист для переживших Холокост \(רוסית\)](#)

3. New Synagogue in Khust

This photograph was shared by our friend, Vize Ziso, who visited Khust in August 2025. The synagogue was built near the old cemetery in the city by the granddaughter of Rabbi Moshe Grünwald, author of the responsa work “Aruget Habosem” (see below). On the front of the synagogue is written: “Ohel Feiga – In the merit of Mrs. Feiga Koenig, may she live long, granddaughter of the author of Aruget Habosem, of blessed memory.” Rabbi Menachem Mendel Wilhelm, residing in Uzhhorod, added that the site also includes a study hall, dining room, and mikveh. He also noted that descendants of the Maharam Schick were partners in the construction of the synagogue.

Who was the Rabbi, author of Aruget Habosem?

According to Wikipedia: “Rabbi Moshe Grünwald (11 Shevat, January 1853 – 7 Av, August 12, 1910) was one of the great rabbis of Hungary in the late 19th century, known for his responsa ‘Aruget Habosem’. In 1893, Rabbi Grünwald was appointed as rabbi of the city of Khust in Hungary (today western Ukraine). Many great Hungarian rabbis served in Khust, most famously the Maharam Schick. Rabbi Grünwald expanded the Khust yeshiva, which became one of the largest yeshivot of Hungarian Jewry. Many Hungarian rabbis in the 20th century were his students. Students also came from outside Hungary, even from the United States. Rabbi Grünwald was a prolific author, but his main fame came from his responsa work ‘Aruget Habosem’.

Rabbi Moshe Schick (known as the Maharam Schick, born 21 Adar I, 1807 – died 1 Shevat, 1879) was the Chief Rabbi of Khust and head of the city’s large yeshiva, the greatest halachic authority in Hungary in his time, and the leader of Orthodoxy during the schism with the Neologs. He was a foremost disciple of the Chatam Sofer. He is known mainly for his responsa “Responsa Maharam Schick,” containing over 1,000 halachic responses on all areas of life. He is buried in Khust.

And since we are already in Khust... our friend from Uzhhorod, Baruch Huber, posted in the Facebook group “All Carpathian Yiden” a picture of a gravestone and wrote: “While searching in the Khust cemetery, I came across the gravestone of Moshe ‘Teicher’ Rosenfeld. According to the Khust memorial book: ‘R’ Moshe Teicher was a very respected community member. He was a wealthy landowner and also engaged in import and export businesses. A Torah scholar who dedicated time, wealth, and money, he was also popular among non-Jews, with influence over authorities. His home was full of visitors seeking his advice or asking him to intercede with the government.’”



4. Visit to Feketeardo [now: Chernotisov, Vynogradov District]

And more information from our friend from Uzhgorod, Bailo/Baruch Huber, who posted the following information in the Facebook Group "All Carpathian Yiden" on 5.9.2025:

"While doing genealogy research in Fekete Ardo (Чернотисово), found a memorial to the local partisans. It bears two names — one of them is Samuel Weiss.

I also visited the Jewish cemetery. Although a new fence was recently built around it, the cemetery itself is, sadly, not maintained and very overgrown.



On the Yad Vashem website, there is information about Shmuel Weiss from the same town from two different sources.:

- A testimony page filled out by the granddaughter, Geida Stern. It states that Shmuel was born in 1890 and was murdered in Auschwitz.

- A memorial book for the community of Salish and the surrounding area. Tel Aviv, 1976. The documentation is: Father's name: Leibisch; Wife's name: Hermina.

It is unclear whether this information refers to the partisan Shmuel Weiss. Does anyone have additional information?



5. Transfer of a synagogue from the village of Velyki Komiaty to Uzhhorod

Our friend, Robert Drob, had sent me the following exciting information:

The only wooden synagogue in Ukraine will be moved to Uzhgorod: the synagogue from the village of Velyki Komiaty, Vynogradov district. This is the only surviving building of its kind in Ukraine and one of the few in Europe. It was not restored for decades and was used as a warehouse. The synagogue will be moved to an open-air museum, restored and transformed into a place for the cultural life of the Jewish community.

I found an article on the subject on the Jewish Heritage Europe website from September 19, 2025:

<https://jewish-heritage-europe.eu/2025/09/19/ukraine-skansen/> I will summarize the information in the article:



“...It will be restored and form part of the Transcarpathian Museum of Folk Architecture and Life, an open-air skansen. Once restored and in place, it will also be able to be used for religious services. ...It said that the transfer would take place this year, and the restoration and furnishing of the interior in accordance with religious traditions will begin. In the future, it said, the synagogue will function not only as a museum exhibit, but also as a space for the cultural and spiritual life of the Jewish community.

The synagogue is a small, simple rectangular building that dates from the late 19th or early 20th century. From the outside looks like a house, but its arched windows and some interior details remain. In recent decades it was used as a barn or warehouse or stood empty. It is one of the few wooden synagogues to have survived in eastern Europe. Before WW2, the region boasted hundreds of often large and elaborately ornate wooden synagogues.

The move is fruit of a memorandum of cooperation signed by the representatives of four institutions, it said. These were: the director of the Department of Culture of the Transcarpathian Regional Military Administration Yevhen Tyshchuk; the Consul General of Hungary in Uzhhorod Jozsef Bachkai; the **rabbi of Uzhhorod and Transcarpathia, Mendel Wilhelm** [1st from right]; and the Acting Director of the museum Vasyl Kotsan.

The synagogue was first studied in the 1980s by the Hungarian synagogue researcher Aniko Gazda. After her death in 1990, architects from Lviv continued her research. Detailed architectural drawing and description were made. The building measures 13.83 × 7.92 meter

Photo: Uzhgorod skansen



6. Righteous Among the Nations in Carpatho-Rus

Herskovits Hermina and Gizella {Roth} – Uzhhorod. The rescue was made in Homok

Markus Herskovits owned a store in Ungvár (now Uzhhorod, Ukraine), an area of Carpathian Ruthenia that was transferred to Hungarian control in 1938. Hungarian rule brought with it increased persecution of the Jews and anti-Semitic legislation, including expropriation of Jewish-owned businesses. To avoid the loss of his business, Herskovits's good friend János Minyó registered himself as the owner of the store.

After the Germans occupied Hungary on March 19, 1944, they rounded up the Jews and put them in ghettos before deporting them to concentration camps. In April, Markus's brother Benjamin received permission from his commanding officer in a Hungarian military labor service company to take a few days leave to visit his mother. When he arrived home, he found his mother, Hermina, and his sister, Gizella, in the Ungvár brick factory, along with thousands of other Jews, awaiting deportation. Late one night, under cover of darkness, he accompanied his mother and sister on foot from the ghetto to the nearby village of Homok, where János lived with his wife on their farm.

János hid the two women in the pigsty, providing them with food and other necessities. They remained there until the Red Army liberated the area in October 1944.

After the war, the women moved to the United States, from where Gizella (later Roth) sent the Minyós packages until the 1960s.

On October 21, 2012, Yad Vashem recognized János Minyó as Righteous Among the Nations.



Janos Minyó



The Hershkowitz
Family
1923-1924

*The town of **Homok** is now called **Cholmok**, Uzhgorod District; in the 1941 census there were 65 Jews.



Hermina Hershkowitz
1878-1966

Gizsla Hershkowitz (Roth)
5.11.1918-18.1.1992
Lived in the Bronx, New York

From Pages of Testimony documented by the brother Binyamin Hershkowitz, who lived in New York (recorded in 2000), additional details emerge about the family.

Hermina's husband was

Emanuel-Menahem. Her maiden name was Korn.



Who were their other children?

- Melan Schatten, born 1905, murdered in Kamianets-Podilskyi in August 1941 together with her husband Yosef and their four sons: Arno (11), Mordechai (9), Tibor (7), and a 5-year-old boy.
- Schwartz Szeren, born 1907, a seamstress, married to Herman. She was murdered with her two sons (ages 5 and 3) in Auschwitz.
- Markus, born 1909 – survived; died in 1991.
- Aladar, born 1911 – survived forced labor; died in August 1973 in New York.
- Lajos / Ludvik, born 1914, merchant, murdered in 1943 in a labor camp.
- Gizela, born 1918 – survived; died in 1992.
- Binyamin – probably born in 1921; died in 2008 in New York.

Link to the "Yad Vashem" website:

<https://collections.yadvashem.org/en/righteous/6594278>

Alexander Family – Jozef and Hana with their daughters Zsuzsana and Vera – Drahova
The rescue of the family took place in Drahova, although the family was originally from Moravská Ostrava in Slovakia.

Ján Ďulovec and his wife, Katarina Ďulovcová, lived in the village of Drahová, in the Húšť'a district of southern Slovakia. The wanderings of the Alexander family – Jozef and Chana and their two daughters, Zuzana, aged eleven, and Vera, six – began after the outbreak of the Slovak National Uprising in late August 1944, when the Vyhne labor camp, where they had spent the previous three years, was retaken by the Slovak Fascists and the Germans, who suppressed the uprising. After lengthy wanderings they arrived at Drahová, where they were taken in by the Ďulovec family. Knowing that the Germans and their local henchmen were scouring the villages in search of partisans and Jews, the Alexanders wanted to build a shelter in the nearby forest. Ján helped them find a suitable place, and he and Jozef dug and built a dugout. After spending ten days in the Ďulovec home, the Alexanders moved to the dugout, which was about a half-hour walk from the village. In addition to the Ďulovec family, other villagers also provided them with food. The Alexanders, who were destitute, repaid their benefactors by knitting sweaters

for them, an activity undertaken mainly by Chana and Zuzana. Jozef arrived under cover of dark to take the food the villagers had prepared and give them the finished sweaters. The survivors deeply appreciated the fact that the villagers did not inform the authorities of their presence.

In February 1945, after they had been in the dugout for seven weeks, the area was liberated at last. The Alexander family continued to be guests in the Ďulovec home until the liberation of Moravská Ostrava, their earlier hometown.

On February 11, 2001, Yad Vashem recognized Ján and Katarina Ďulovec as Righteous Among the Nations.



Zuzana Skácelová – with Righteous Among the Nations, Katarina Ďulovec

From the testimony of Zsuzsana: "Partisans once found us in that bunker. Suddenly they appeared at the window with a machine gun pointed at us. They came in and asked what we were doing there. We told them that we were Jews hiding from the Germans. They warned us to be more careful. My father spent those seven weeks in the bunker doing the heating and cooking, and I and my mother - I was eleven years old - were in charge of food so that somehow, we could manage. One day, when my father was putting fuel into the stove, he knocked a bit too hard on the iron door, and the partisans heard it - that is how they found us. One was Slovak and the other was

Russian. By the end of February, eastern Slovakia was liberated, so we could leave the bunker, though we remained in Drahova before eventually returning home.” By the end of February, eastern Slovakia was liberated, so we could leave the bunker, but we still stayed in Drahovo before we could return home, hiding in a bunker in the Slovak village of Drahová. [Úkryt v bunkru u slovenské obce Drahová](#)

Skácelová Zuzana (née Alexanderová) was born in 1933 in Vítkovice. She came from a Jewish family. Her father had been arrested and imprisoned in 1939 because of his origin, first in Prague and later in Sosnowiec, Poland. From 1940 onward, the whole family lived in the labor camp in Vyhne, Slovakia. She remained there until the outbreak of the Slovak National Uprising, when the camp was dismantled. After the suppression of the uprising, the Alexander family fled from the German army to the Slovak Ore Mountains, where they were helped by Ján and Katarina Ďulovec in the village of Drahova. Until the end of the war, the family hid in a hastily built forest bunker.

Zsuzsana never forgot her rescuers, and later worked to ensure that Israel would recognize them as Righteous Among the Nations. After the war, she had to undergo several months of medical treatment. She completed her studies at a university in Prague, where she received a degree in philology. After her marriage, she and her husband moved to Havířov, a town in Slovakia, where they taught foreign languages in high schools. She is now retired and still lives in Havířov.

The older sister's name [pictured, with her father] after her marriage was Zuzana Skácelov. Vera's name after her marriage was Rolkov.



The Alexander Family: Josef and Chana with their daughters Zuzana and Vera

Link to the "Yad Vashem" website:

<https://collections.yadvashem.org/en/righteous/4064955>





6. **Israelis born in Carpatho-Rus: R' Yissachar Dov (Berish) Weiss (Veretzky/Vorota)**

In my internet searches under the heading "Israelis born in Hungary," I found several names connected to the Carpatho-Rus region, which at various times belonged to Austria-Hungary or Hungary. One of these names is Rabbi Yitzchak Dov (Berish) Weiss. I bring the information as it appears in the Wikipedia entry :

"He was a public activist, Mizrachi leader, and the first Director General of the Ministry of Religious Affairs .

He lived between August 23, 1886 (22 Av) and January 27, 1963 (2 Shevat).

Weiss was born in the town of Alsóverecke (Vorotsky), near Munkács in Hungary (today Nyzhni Vorota, Ukraine, in the Volovets district). He was the son of Rivka Miriam (née Rosenberg) and Shmuel Zvi, son of Rabbi Yitzchak Isaac Weiss, rabbi of Svalyava, later rabbi of Munkács, and author of the books "Beit Yitzchak" and "Divrei Yitzchak". He belonged to the Spinka Hasidic dynasty, founded by Rabbi Yosef Meir Weiss, a cousin of his father .

He was educated in cheders and yeshivas in Hungary.

He was the only Zionist activist in his family of thirteen, and thanks to his immigration to Israel, he was saved from the Holocaust .

Before World War I, he served in the Austro-Hungarian army.

He was a national activist before the establishment of the State of Israel and a public figure after it.

In 1912, he moved to the city of Stanislavov (today Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine) and married Rivka-Rachel, daughter of Rabbi Yaakov Shomer. He settled there and served as head of the community.

From a young age, Weiss aspired to immigrate to the Land of Israel and was connected to the Zionist movement.

Because of his parents' opposition, he studied Hebrew secretly, and later moved to Stanislavov. When he arrived, penniless, he used the synagogue as a shelter at night. There he asked the worshippers to help him find a match, and thus he met Rivka-Rachel.

With her father's consent, he married her. In the following years, he served as head of the community and established Hebrew educational institutions .

Weiss was a member of the **National Jewish Council in Western Ukraine**, a member of the national council of **Mizrachi in Eastern Galicia**, and head of **Mizrachi in Stanislavov** .

In 1924/25, he was invited to the **opening of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem**. That same year, he bought a plot of land in Israel for part of the Jews of Stanislavov.

He represented Mizrachi at the 15th, 20th, and 22nd Zionist Congresses.

In 1933/34, he immigrated to Israel alone, officially as a tourist, in order to deal with land matters of the Jews of Stanislavov. He decided not to leave the country. He remained in Israel illegally until his wife and daughters could immigrate legally.

His son, Yisrael, received an immigration certificate because of his membership in a Zionist youth movement. They first lived in Tel Aviv, later in Jerusalem.

In the early years of the state, **Weiss served as the first Director General of the Ministry of Religious Affairs**, and later as **chairman of the Complaints Committee in the Prime Minister's Office**.

He was also treasurer and member of the board of the Torah enterprise .

Weiss authored a book of collected commentaries on the weekly Torah portions, published posthumously by his family in two volumes (only the first volume was commercially published, edited by his son-in-law Meir Medan). He also published Torah articles.

Weiss was the father of three children: Yisrael Weiss; **Leah Medan** (wife of the Hebrew linguist Meir Medan, and mother of Rabbis Baruch and Yaakov Medan); and **Bella Amiram**".

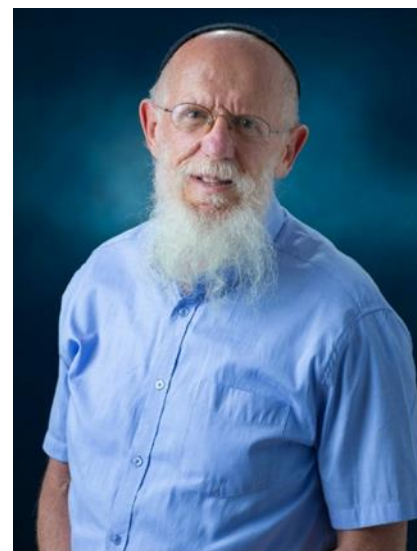
From the "Srugim" news site, May 1, 2022: "On Shabbat, Mrs. Bella Amiram passed away. Bella, a woman of kindness, opened her home to **Esther Pollard** (of blessed memory) during the years when

many were unaware of the struggle for Jonathan Pollard's release, allowing her to live there for about 20 years. Jonathan Pollard eulogized her: 'Bella was an inseparable part of the struggle to bring me home. She was an inexhaustible source of love for Esther and for me. Above all, she represented what a true patriot is: love for the Land of Israel, love of God, and love of our people. She was, and always will be, a source of inspiration to all who knew her'. I have no doubt that Esther is welcoming her at the gates of heaven''.



7. Ours: Elisha Medan (Vorota)

It is only natural that after we learned about Rabbi Yitzchak Dov (Berish) Weiss, we should also get to know his great-grandson, the Israeli hero, Elisha Medan. Elisha is one of seven children of Rabbi Yaakov Medan, head of Yeshivat Har Etzion in Alon Shvut. Yaakov is the son of Leah (pictured) and Meir Medan, a Hebrew linguist and one of the editors of the Koren



Bible.

Leah was the daughter of Rabbi Yitzchak Dov (Berish) Weiss – making him Elisha's great-grandfather.

[From Yeshivat-Har-Etzion]

On November 11, 2023, journalist Hanoch Daum wrote on his Facebook page: "Elisha Medan, a brave fighter and an exceptional and rare person, son of Rabbi Medan, was severely wounded in the battles in Gaza and is in

great need of strength. I searched his name online, and of course the first result was connected to another act of heroism. At the request of his many friends – please pray for Elisha Yehuda ben Ruti."

I first heard Elisha's name at the funeral of Yosef (Yossi) Hershkowitz HY"D, son of our friend Yaakov Hershkowitz and his wife Ruchama. Yossi fell two years ago (26 Cheshvan, November 10, 2023). At the funeral on Mount Herzl, I still recall the request/prayer of Yossi's family, through tears, asking to pray for the healing and recovery of Elisha Medan, Yossi's close friend – in life and in arms.

**המשטרה העניקה תעודת הוקרה
למתנדב אלישע מדן על מציאת
הנעדר בן ה - 70 מרחובות אשר
שכב בשדה פתוח במשך 3 לילות
דיווח וצילום - דוברות יחידת חילוץ עציון**

אבי בר | 19:25 08.01.19 | תגובות: 14



Yaakov Hershkowitz, Yossi's father, told that Yossi and Elisha had been childhood friends from age 12 in the Bnei Akiva youth movement, and that they also served together in the army.

In the severe event in which Elisha was critically wounded, four of his reserve comrades were killed and six were injured. Elisha was hospitalized for a long series of treatments at Shaare Zedek, including surgery, plastic surgery, and orthopedics. Despite his critical injury, Elisha insisted on speaking and strengthening the people of Israel, constantly **calling for unity among the nation**. **Elisha lost both his legs and was critically wounded**. Through a long, emotionally and physically difficult rehabilitation journey, he now stands and walks with advanced prostheses, taking his first steps once again.

On Independence Day this year, Elisha was one of the three who lit the eighth torch, "The Torch of Healing and Rehabilitation," together with Yarin Ilovitz and Jenny Sibidia. From his words at the ceremony: "I am Elisha Medan, son of Ruti and Rabbi Yaakov Medan, and husband of **Miriam, the bravest woman in the world**. I light this torch in honor of the wounded of war, those with injuries of body and soul, who go through a long and painful journey of rehabilitation, determined to return to life and to once again be equal and contributing members of the country for which we fought. In honor of our spouses, families, and friends, who give us the strength to overcome and to continue. In honor of the devoted medical teams in hospitals and clinics, the IDF Disabled Veterans Organization, the Beit Halochem centers, and all who help us endure this long journey. In honor of Kibbutz Kramim, a place that is a bridge between religious and secular, between left and right. In honor of the shared journey of Israeli society, which – like us – also needs healing and rehabilitation, and which – like us – will rise, will overcome, and will prevail. **In honor of the understanding that we are in this journey together – and that we must not, must not, let anything divide us.**"



Elisha is one of the founders of the settlement of Avigail in southern Mount Hebron. He is 46 years old, married to Miriam, and they have six children. (Source: YouTube – “Shavim: Fighting Together”)



Elisha and his family before the injury [From You Tube “Equals Fight Together”]

Kol Hakavod, Elisha – a true hero of Israel!

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Thanks to Gita Berkowitz for helping with the English translation