



List of Holocaust Victims from Fürth (Bavaria): Introduction

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Introduction and Acknowledgements

We all are the guardians of a special heritage. We have a moral obligation and a sacred trust to safeguard the memory of the Fürther victims of the Shoah. We are the conscience of history.

Our loved ones have been commemorated in stone and print. This compels me, to go a step farther, to reach deep into the 21st century and cyberspace.

With the concept of presenting a Fürther Memorial website on the internet, we are able to inform the whole world about the destruction of the many lives of the members of the Jewish community in Fürth.

We cannot stop here, we have to prepare and guide our future generations about their family history. To this end, I refer to a famous German Jewish woman of patrician stature. Her name is Glückel von Hameln (1646-1719). In her family chronicle and memoirs Glückel appeals to her children: "My dear children, I am writing this to inform you about the people of your root, when to-day or to-morrow your dear children or nephews arrive and do not know their family" (in the German original: *Meine lieben Kinder, ich schreibe euch dies auf, damit ihr Bescheid wisst, von was für Leuten ihr herkommt, wenn heute oder morgen eure lieben Kinder oder Enkel kommen und ihre Familie nicht kennen.*).

We will be able to enlarge and update this web site at will. Future generations will be able to carry on with this noble task without any difficulties.

Legal considerations forced the project team to by-pass the data contained in the "Fürth Gedenkbuch." We had to establish a data base obtained from records and sources in the "Public Domain". This will be an ongoing task.

I invite relatives and friends of Fürther Shoah victims, to come forward with names and pictures of loved ones to be added to this Yizkor list.

My heartfelt thanks to the team of Mr. Gerhard Jochem and Ms. Susanne Rieger who, with their support and technical expertise, made the launching of this web site possible.

I am most grateful to Mrs. Gisela Naomi Blume for her kind help in providing her special knowledge and valuable support.

My appreciation to Mr. Frank Harris for providing us with the publicity for this endeavor in his famous and world wide Fürth/Nuremberg Newsletter.

Many thanks to Ms. Janice Rosen, Director National Archives, Canadian Jewish Congress for helping me to formulate the initial ideas of a Memorial website.

Willie Glaser, St. Laurent Quebec, Canada.

August 2001

A brief history of the Jewish community of Fürth

Official name: "Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Fürth," also known by many as "Kehilla Kodesh Fürth." (*Die heilige Gemeinde Fürth*)

This community (*Gemeinde*) has a history dating back to the 15th century, with its many centuries old institutions, the „Old cemetery," dating from 1604, filled with „stones that speak“.

Over the years, the community maintained six synagogues and several prayer rooms (*Gebetsstuben*).

In the early 1600s, Fürther Jews were represented by two community officials (*Parnasim*) on the municipal council. In About 1682, a religious court (*Beth Din*) was established. It was recognized by secular officials as having jurisdiction over Jewish matters.

On the lighter side, there was a „beadle“ (*Schulklopfer*) with his early morning cry: „Awake, it is time to go to Synagogue!“ (*Aufstehen, es ist Zeit in Schul zu gehen!*)

An orphanage (*Jüdische Waisenanstalt*) was founded in 1763, an efficient hospital (*Jüdisches Krankenhaus*) was established in 1864.

In 1863, the Jewish community was able to establish an elementary school (*Jüdische Volksschule*) and a high school (*Jüdische Realschule*), many of us owe so much.

The year 1850 saw the community divided into two camps, the liberal and the orthodox movements.

From the beginning of the 17th century until 1824, Fürth was an important center of Jewish learning, housing a famous Yeshiva. Fürth also was the home of many renowned and famous rabbis and scholars for many years.

Since 1691 Fürth had a long revered history of printing Hebrew books and tracts. Many Jewish printing establishments printed over 600 titles. Many of these tracts show the official City of Fürth logo, a clover leaf (*Kleeblatt*) on the front page.

Fürther Jews contributed much to the economic, cultural and political development of the „City of Fürth.“

The 1900s saw the influx of Polish Jews (*Ostjuden*), who greatly enriched the community.

Willie Glaser, St. Laurent Quebec, Canada.

August 2001

The Holocaust Period in Fürth

The year 1933 saw the beginning of the systematic destruction of Jewish existence in Fürth.

Late October 1938 saw the mass deportations of some 18,000 Polish Jews by train from all over Germany to the Polish border, many of them born in Fürth. This action inflicted untold misery upon the people affected and, on the other hand, provided the Nazis with experience in mass deportations by train transport.

At this point in time our people could not see the rising, dark searing clouds of an imminent catastrophe, the Holocaust.

This led in the years 1941 to 1943 to the „evacuation to the east“ of the remaining Fürther Jews to Riga, Izbica, Theresienstadt and Auschwitz. It is assumed, that the final destination of the Izbica transports was the extermination camp Belzec.

The deportations of Fürther Jewry were accomplished in three large scale actions:

- November 26-27 1941: some 90 people deported to Riga.
- March 22, 1942: some 230 people deported to Izbica.
- September 10, 1942: some 160 people to Theresienstadt.

Many Fürther Jews committed suicide.

June 18, 1943 a day that will go down in infamy, the Jewish community in Fürth officially ceased to exist.

Willie Glaser, St. Laurent Quebec, Canada.

August 2001

At Dedication of a Gravestone

Psalm 1

Happy is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
 Nor stood in the way of sinners,
 Nor sat in the seat of the scornful,
 But his delight is in the Law of the Lord;
 And in His law doth he meditate day and night,
 And he shall be like a tree planted by streams of water,
 That bringeth forth its fruit in its season,
 And whose leaf doth not wither;
 And in whatsoever he doth he shall prosper.
 Not so the wicked;
 But they are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgement,
 Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
 For the Lord regardeth the way of the righteous;
 But the way of the wicked shall perish.
 As for man, his days are grass; as the flower of the field, so he flourisheth.
 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof knoweth it no more.
 But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and
 his and His righteousness unto children's children.
 Oh that they were wise, that they understood this, that they consider their latter end!
 For at man's death he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.
 Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace.
 The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servant; and none of them that take refuge in Him shall
 be desolate.
 How precious is Thy loving-kindness, O God! and the children of men take refuge under the
 shadow of Thy wings.
 They sate themselves with the fatness of Thy house; and Thou givest them to drink of the
 river of Thy pleasures.
 He shall enter into peace; they shall rest on their beds-each one walketh in His uprightness.

rijo's Introduction

When Mr. Willie Glaser entrusted us with the task of compiling and designing an online list of Fürth's victims of the Shoah, the first step necessary was to define the latter term in order to find a framework for this project. Thus we decided on including the following individuals into the memorial list:

- Jews who resided in Fürth prior to their deportation
- Jews born in Fürth but been deported from or killed elsewhere
- Fürth Jews who committed suicide after January 30, 1933
- Jewish victims of „euthanasia“ from Fürth

- Jewish victims of politically motivated murdering and others killed by the Nazi juridical apparatus

This definition also includes people who were not born in Fürth but lived there at least for five years.

Founded upon this definition we compiled a list in alphabetical order of the last names from various sources which at this point of time contains 752 Holocaust victims.

The dates are given in the order day-month-year.

An asterisk (*) earmarks the first name by which the respective individual has been called.

Finally we like to extend our special gratitude to Nuremberg City Archives for making available to us most of the victims' photos without charging any fees. Additional photographs were contributed by Mr. Joach Freimann (Israel), Mr. Willie Glaser (Canada), Mr. Herbert Kolb (USA), Msr. Gérard Langlois (France), Mrs. Jennie Moret (USA) and Mr. Harold Reissner (USA).

rijo

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