

Bohorodczany (Brotchin) - Jews in the interwar period

Bohorodchany (Brotchin) **Community:**

Vladimir Levin **Author:**

During the First World War, Bohorodchany was occupied by the Russian army in 1915. An intense battle took place in the town itself and the front line went for some time along the Bystritsa (83). As a result of the fighting and poor conditions, ["Istoriia Bohorodchaniv."](#) Solotvinska River (). The [Momot. "Istoriia Bohorodchaniv"](#) typhus and cholera epidemics broke out in the region (Russian occupation was a disaster for the Jews of Bohorodchany, like other places in Galicia. The Russian Cossack forces entering the town perpetrated an anti-Jewish pogrom. Several Jews, including children, were murdered, women were raped, and a large amount of property was plundered. , [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) Several women were brutally raped in a synagogue where they sought refuge (). [CAHJP. HM2/9446.4](#) 71;

At the end of the war, Bohorodchany became part of the short-lived West Ukrainian People's Republic, the capital of which was situated in Stanislawow. However, in May 1919 the town was conquered by the Polish army. After an unsuccessful attempt by the Red Army to conquer Galicia during the Soviet-Polish War of 1920 the region became a part of the newly established independent Polish State.

During the wars of 1915-1921, the population of Bohorodchany dropped significantly. According to the Polish census of 1921, there were only 2,615 residents in the town, of them 1,286 Greek Catholics (Ukrainians), 730 Jews, 593 Roman Catholics (mostly Poles), and 6 Protestants (Germans) (). [Momot. "Istoriia Bohorodchaniv"](#) , 6; [Misto Bohorodytsi](#) (

The interwar years witnessed constant tension between the Polish authorities and the Ukrainian ["Istoriia"](#) population. In April 1921 and in the summer of 1929, large anti-Polish strikes broke out (84-5). [Bohorodchaniv."](#)

In the 1930s, the majority of Hasidic Jews in Bohorodchany were divided between two Hasidic courts, , 7). One of the descendents of the Stretin dynasty, [I Shall Not Die H. Hasten](#), Vizhnits and Stretin (, even established his court in Bohorodchany. However he later moved to Rohatyn [Shlomo Langner](#) R. , 7). [I Shall Not Die H. Hasten](#), 1:350). There were also non-Hasidic Jews in the town ([Alfasi](#) (

Groyse In the interwar era, there were five synagogues in Bohorodchany: the Great Synagogue (), the Vizhnits Hasidic synagogue *Algemayner shul*, the "General" Synagogue (*Beit Midrash*), *shul* (synagogue courtyard) *shulhoyf* and the Stretin Hasidic synagogue. All of them were situated in the , 346, map after p. 17). [Mark My Words M. Hasten](#), which also included the Jewish bathhouse (

which granted loans without interest was [Gmilut Hasadim](#) In 1929, a charitable organization , 72). [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) established, however, its functions were limited (

In the interwar period, there were two state schools in the town, a six grade school for boys and a seven grade school for girls. In both of them the language of instruction was Polish. A petition that ["Istoriia"](#) demanded the introduction of Ukrainian into the schools in 1925 was rejected (84). Some Jews studied in these schools where classes in the Jewish religion were [Bohorodchaniv."](#) , 7-8). Most Jewish schoolboys attended a [Mark My Words M. Hasten](#), taught there by Nadler (, 8). Additionally, classes in general [Mark My Words M. Hasten](#), in the afternoon (*heder* traditional *Pinkas* studies were held by the Jewish Union of Public and High Schools of Lwow in 1923-1924 (, 72). In the mid-1930s courses in Hebrew were offered in Bohorodczany by a local teacher *Hakehilot*

, 8). [Mark My Words M. Hasten.](#) , 72; [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) Landau (

Zionist activity of different kinds continued in Bohorodchany in the interwar period. In 1923, a , [Pinkas Hakehilot](#)-Poalei Zion was established, and in 1934 it had 36 members ([Hitahdut](#) branch of , 72). In 1939 the [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) appeared ([Revisionist movement](#) 72). In 1931, a branch of the , 72). In the 1930s, a Zionist [Pinkas Hakehilot](#)(*Brit Ha-Haya*/Revisionists established a branch of the , 72). In the 1935 elections to the nineteenth [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) youth group functioned in the city (31 votes, and the Eretz Israel [Mizrachi](#) received 31 ballots, the [General Zionists](#) Zionist Congress, the , 47). [Misto Bohorodytsi](#), 72). There existed also a soccer team Maccabi ([Pinkas Hakehilot](#) List, 96 (

In 1920, a local organization of the Communist Party of Eastern Galicia was established in 85). It was active in the 1920s and 1930s and had an "[Istoriia Bohorodchaniv](#)," Bohorodchany (influence on the local population. A number of young Jews in Bohorodczany were among its members and sympathizers. In a trial against the Communists held in Stanisławów in 1938, several , 72), were accused of belonging [Pinkas Hakehilot](#) people from Bohorodchany, among them one Jew (85). "[Istoriia Bohorodchaniv](#)," to the outlawed party and were sentenced to jail (

[Bohorodczany \(Brotchin\) - Holocaust](#) See:

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