



BUKOLINK

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,Hello friends

The month of holidays, the holiday atmosphere and the smell of spring are all around us. You are probably like all the people in Israel busy preparing for the .holiday; cleaning, shopping and choosing gifts for your loved ones

I remember with longing the excitement and preparations for the holiday in my parents' home in Chernovitz: cleaning, re-plastering of the house, airing out of the bedding, the crisp sound of dishes placed in barrels of boiling water in the .synagogue's courtyard to be purified

We give special importance to continuing to remember the exodus from slavery into freedom; since in our forefather's generation too, an exodus from the horrors .of the Holocaust to freedom in our own country and new homeland took place

A Journey on the Path of the Holocaust: The registration of participants continues. We view this journey as an important milestone in our efforts to expose and educate others about the "Silent Holocaust" of the Jews from Bukovina, Serbia and Dorohoi, murdered in the tens of thousands on death marches to Transnistria, and in Transnistria itself. Therefore, there is a great importance to the journey by our being present where these events took place to preserve the memory of the !"murdered and proclaim the unequivocal statement: "The Jewish people are alive

It is especially important for us to share and communicate with future generations the stories and culture; in order to preserve the spark of the glorious community .that was Bukovina Jewry before World War II

We are very active within the framework of AMIR (The United Organization of Romanian Jewry), and together we will participate in the Organization's Second Annual Assembly, "Memorial of the Holocaust of Romanian Jewry", which will take place on 9.7.17 at Yad Vashem. (Further details will be published prior to the event.)

It leaves me only to wish you all, the members of your families, and the people of .Israel, a very happy and healthy Passover holiday

,With warm regards

Yochanan Ron Singer, Chairman and President

**".....And There Were Also Those Who"
,Righteous Among the Nations, Ioan Popescu
:Lawyer and gendarmerie officer**

Ioan D. Popescu was born in Horodnik de Sus, Romania. His father was killed during World War I. He studied in high school in the Radautz district and then studied law at the University of Bucharest. In 1939 he successfully graduated from the Gendarmerie Officer's Training School

On June 22, 1941, as Romania entered the war, he was in the 5th Battalion, and his unit reached Tiraspol. Tiraspol was conquered by the Germans on August 8, 1941 and most of the city's Jews were murdered by the Nazis during the first days of the occupation. In September 1941, a ghetto was set up from which Jews and Gypsies from Romania were sent to Transnistria

As a captain, he was ordered by his superiors to transfer 4,300 Jews from the ghetto to the banks of the Dniester and there put them to death

Popescu refused to carry out this order despite the risks involved. His superiors turned to the High Command and offered to remove him from his post and send him to the front. Fortunately for him, his superior was replaced and the disciplinary process was discontinued

After the defeat of the Germans in the Battle of Stalingrad in early 1943, a gradual change in the views of members of the Romanian government took place and the government took steps to open negotiations with the Allies, while attempting to disengage from Nazi Germany

According to decisions taken by Ion Antonescu, the exiled Romanian Jews were returned to Romania from Transnistria. Popescu was appointed commander of the local 'kastura' and given the task of organizing the Jewish Sabbath in Tiraspol. This role was faithfully fulfilled, while ensuring provision of basic food to the starving Jews and organizing more human habitation for them as well

Chronology of the Holocaust" - March 1939"

March 23, 1939 - An agreement was signed between Germany and Romania binding Romania's economy to the needs of the German economy

Baking Preserved Matzah for Passover

From the experiences of day-to day life in Siret

A family that wanted to have preserved matzah for Passover had to prepare them by themselves at home. In the home of my grandfather, Reb Katz, of .blessed memory, only preserved matzah was used

What is the difference between just regular matzah and preserved matzah? Matzah made of from flour that is preserved, God forbid, will never mix with chametz, and will not get wet, from the time the grain is ground into flour. Preserved matzah is made of flour from grains which were ground and kept from the time of the wheat harvest. Chassidim were very strict and ate .only these kinds of matzah

Grandpa, peace be upon him, organized the whole family, women and men, into "Operation Baking Matzah". Before that, he took care to collect money for the purchase of flour for unleavened bread from the community house in the Vizhnitzer Kloiz synagogue, as well as to finance the rest of the holiday .needs for the poor

The baking of the matzoh was done in a special oven at the entrance to the Vizhnitzer Kloiz synagogue. Of course, it was necessary to get an appointment for the use of the oven for baking and to have an expert baker. Clean tables were prepared at the entrance to the synagogue and all the .members of the family, men and women, were recruited for the operation

The dough; the "meira" as it was called, was divided it into bits and pieces. The women of our family rolled the pieces of dough into a round matzah; (waltgharhalach). On the matzah, a Dreidel (a gear wheel) moved over the dough so that the matzah would not swell up in the oven. From there, the matzah was taken by the children on the "Walgherhalach" and brought to the baker, who took great care in placing it into the oven and not keeping it in .for too long, so that it would not burn

The day of baking the matzot was a holiday for all of the family, whose participation was considered a great mitzvah. On this day, stories, comments, jokes and words of Torah flew through air. Grandfather had succeeded in his mission with great enthusiasm! In the corner stood clean crates lined with special paper where the matzot were placed very carefully, tightly packed and sealed. The boxes were brought to the ."Boidem" in the corner that was designated for Passover food

It was forbidden to touch the matzot, or taste them, until Passover seder night. Before the holiday, dividing the matzot was done according to .families; each person receiving his allotted portion

A PASSOVER HAGGADAH PRINTED FOR JEWISH EXILES IN CYPRUS



A Passover Haggadah received by a Holocaust survivor from the Bukovina region, Eliahu Ben Zvi, in 1947, in a Displaced Person's camp in Cyprus, from the hands of Golda Meir, then a representative of the Jewish Agency. The Haggadah was produced by the Committee for the Exiles of Cyprus and was distributed to the detainees together with a package of holiday items organized by the Jewish Agency in cooperation with the Joint Distribution Committee.

Recipe corner - from the Bukovinian kitchen: Apple Cake for Passover

Ingredients

large eggs 3

3/4 cup sugar

cup oil 1/2

3 large apples grated on a grater or cut into small cubes - soaked for a few minutes in sweet wine

3/4 cup matzah flour

2 tablespoons potato flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon cinnamon

cup chopped walnuts 1/2

Preparation

.Mix in a bowl: Matzo flour, potato flour, apples, cinnamon and nuts

Whip the whole eggs with sugar to create a fluffy mixture, add oil, dry ingredients and the soaked apples (unsqueezed) - blend into a uniform mixture. Oil baking mold No. 26; pour the mixture into it - Recommended: sprinkle a few chopped nuts and cinnamon and then bake at 160 degrees for about 45 minutes

ENJOY and HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Shifra