

TATIANA TAUBA BRUSTIN-BERENSTEIN COLLECTION, circa 1922-circa 1952 1999.212.1

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive summary

Title: Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein collection

Dates: circa 1922-circa 1952

Accession number: 1999.212.1

Creator: Brustin-Berenstein, Tatiana Tauba.

Extent: .5 linear feet (1 folder)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The collection documents the pre-war, wartime, and post-war experiences of Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein, originally of Szczecbrzeszyn, Poland. Included are diplomas, certificates, a marriage certificate, a repatriation certificate, and photographs. Also included is script issued in the Łódź ghetto.

Languages: Polish, Russian

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein collection (1999.212.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Dina Berenstein. Dina is the granddaughter of Tatiana Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: updated by Adam Fielding, January 2021

Biographical note

Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein was born in Szczeczeszyn, Poland on November 29, 1906. She had a younger brother, Marek Brustin, who survived the war with his sister in Soviet Union, and an older sister, Bluma Sara, who together with her two sons, Daniel and Jakub, were deported from the Warsaw ghetto to Treblinka where they all perished. Tatiana graduated from high school in 1924 and four years later received certification to teach in elementary schools. Her family lived in Warsaw at that time. In 1932 Tatiana graduated from the Warsaw University with a degree in history and a year later she finished High School Teachers Seminary in Warsaw, Poland. From 1933 until 1939 Tatiana taught history on high school level. In November 1939 Tatiana fled Warsaw to Krzemieniec (now: Kremenec, Ukraine) which was under the Soviet administration and in April 1940 she married Jonathan Berenstein. In June 1941, after the German invasion of the Soviet Union, Tatiana, who was pregnant at that time, was separated from her husband and evacuated to Fergana, Kyrgyzstan. Jonathan Berenstein volunteered to the Soviet Army and was killed in action in 1941. On January 1, 1942 Tatiana gave birth to her son, Vitali. During the next four years she taught school to Polish and Jewish children in Uzbekistan. Tatiana and her son repatriated to Poland in 1946 and settled in Łódź, where she started to work for the Jewish Historical Commission. After its transfer to Warsaw, Tatiana worked as a director of archives of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw. She published many academic papers relating to the Holocaust. In 1969 Tatiana Brustin-Berenstein and her son, Vitalyi Witek, left Poland for Denmark. In Copenhagen Tatiana Brustin-Berenstein continued to research issues relating to the Holocaust and published her articles in "Yad Vashem Studies" and other publications.

Scope and content of collection

The collection documents the pre-war, wartime, and post-war experiences of Tatiana Tauba Brustin-Berenstein, originally of Szczeczeszyn, Poland. Included are diplomas, certificates, a marriage certificate, a repatriation certificate, and photographs. Also included is script issued in the Łódź ghetto.

System of arrangement

The collection is unprocessed.

Indexing terms

Corporate:
Łódź (Ghetto)

Topical Subject:
Jews--Poland--Warsaw.

Geography:
Warsaw (Poland)
Farghona (Uzbekistan)

Genre/Form:
Photographs.
Certificates.
Script.

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY

- 1 **Matriculation diploma;** notarized copy from an original, issued to Taube Brustin, certifying that she completed her studies at the teachers seminary of the Jewish Community and is authorized to teach in elementary schools; black typewritten text; red ink stamp of the notary; red ink round stamp of the notary; black ink inscription and signature; dated: July 12, 1928; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 2 **Diploma;** issued by the Humanities department of the Warsaw University to Tauba Brustin and stating that she graduated with the Masters degree in history; black preprinted form; black ink inscriptions of name and subject of studies; red ink stamps stating locality and department; red ink round stamp of the Warsaw University with a Polish eagle; dated: January 15, 1929; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 3 **Diploma;** issued by the Humanities department of the Warsaw University to Tauba Brustin and stating that she passed her MA examination in general and Polish mediaeval history with grade: excellent; black ink preprinted form; black ink inscriptions of name and subject; blue ink stamps stating locality and department; blue ink round stamp of Warsaw University with Polish eagle; dated: January 9, 1930; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 4 **Diploma;** issued by the Humanities department of the Warsaw University to Tauba Brustin and stating that she passed her MA examination in ancient history with grade: excellent; black ink preprinted form; black ink inscriptions of name and subject; red ink stamps stating locality and department; red ink round stamp of Warsaw University with Polish eagle; dated: June 27, 1930; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 5 **Diploma;** issued by the Humanities department of the Warsaw University to Tauba Brustin and stating that she passed her MA examination in general and Polish modern history with grade: excellent; black ink preprinted form; black ink inscriptions of name and subject; blue ink stamps stating locality and department; blue ink round stamp of Warsaw University with Polish eagle; dated: January 12, 1931; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 6 **Certificate;** issued by the examination board of the Humanities Department of the Warsaw University stating that magisterial paper written by Tauba Brustin received excellent grade; black typed text; black ink inscription of name and subject of study; dated: October 3, 1932; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 7 **Certificate;** issued to Tauba Brustin by the Warsaw University stating that she successfully completed academic year 1932/1933 and submitted paper on following subject: "What is school of work"; Polish eagle on top; black preprinted form; black ink inscription of name, subject of studies and signatures; red ink stamp with date and name of secretary; red ink round stamp of Warsaw University with Polish eagle; dated: July 5, 1933; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 8 **Marriage certificate;** of Jona Berenstein and Tauba Brustin issued by Ministry of Internal Affairs of USSR; black ink preprinted form; blue ink inscription of names; blue ink stamp: "passport issued in 1940"; blue ink round stamp with Soviet symbol; dated: April 15, 1940; location: Krzemieniec, Poland (Kremenec, USSR); in Russian

- 9 **Certificate;** stating the Tatiana Berenstein is employed as teacher in high school; blue ink inscription; black ink stamp; black ink round stamp; dated: September 21, 1941; location: USSR
- 10 **Certificate;** stating the Tatiana Berenstein is employed as teacher in Polish high school in Fergana; blue ink inscription; black ink stamp; black ink round stamp; dated: March 31, 1945; location: Fergana, Uzbekistan, USSR; in Polish and Russian
- 11 **Certificate;** stating the Tauba Berenstein was as history teacher in Polish high school in Fergana from December 20, 1943 till April 27, 1946; blue ink inscription; black ink stamp; black ink round stamp; lined paper; dated: April 25, 1946; location: Fergana, Uzbekistan, USSR; in Polish
- 12 **Repatriation certificate;** issued to Tauba Berenstein and her son, Witalis, allowing her return to Poland according to Polish Soviet agreement from July 6, 1945; green paper; black ink preprinted form; blue ink inscribed names; black ink round stamp with Polish eagle; red ink stamp certifying that she received sum of 500 zloty; blue ink stamp of Jewish Committee in Lodz; verso; blue ink stamp of repatriation office in Lodz, Poland; two blue ink triangular stamps of the repatriation committee in Lodz, Poland; dated: March 19, 1946; location: Fergana, Uzbekistan, USSR; in Polish
- 13 **Photographic print;** black and white image of portrait of young woman (Tauba Brustin); dated: c. 1926; location: Warsaw, Poland
- 14 **Photographic postcard;** black and white image of six young women in scout uniforms and young woman seated in middle (Tauba Brustin stands first on left); dated: c. 1922; location: Warsaw, Poland
- 15 **Photographic print;** black and white image of three teachers and group of children wearing kerchiefs around their necks (Witek Berenstein, donor's father is seated second from left in first row); verso: graphite inscription: "Witek with his class"; black ink inscription: "J.Skrzypkowa"; dated: c. 1952; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 16 **Photographic postcard;** black and white image of schoolchildren in classroom (Witek Berenstein, donor's father, is seated second from left in first row); portrait of Stalin on wall behind children; verso: graphite inscription: "Witek and his class"; dated: c. 1952; location: Warsaw, Poland; in Polish
- 17 **Photographic print;** black and white image of group portrait of men and women (faculty of Polish school in Fergana, USSR; Tauba Berenstein, donor's paternal grandmother, stands second from right); Polish flags and state symbol on wall; dated: c.1945; location: Fergana, Uzbekistan, USSR
- 18 **Photographic print;** black and white image of men and women seated around table (faculty of Polish school in Fergana, USSR; Tauba Berenstein, donor's paternal grandmother, is seated second from right); Polish flags and state symbol on wall; dated: c.1945; location: Fergana, Uzbekistan, USSR
- 19 **Photographic print;** black and white image of group portrait of men and women (Tauba Berenstein, donor's paternal grandmother, is seated first from right);

- 20 **Photographic print;** black and white image of portraits of three young men (Jona Berenstein, donor's paternal grandfather among them); dated: before 1941; location: Poland
- 21 **Photographic print;** black and white image of group portrait of men and women (participants in the archivists course; Tatiana Brustin-Berenstein, donor's paternal grandmother is standing third from right); verso: graphite inscription: "1949; archivists course in Otwock"; dated: 1949; location: Otwock, Poland; in Polish
- 22 **Photographic print;** black and white image of group of children, wearing winter coats, walking in snow; two women accompany them (Children's home for Jewish children); verso: "February 1947, Szklarska Poręba"; dated: February 1947; location: Szklarska Poręba, Poland; in Polish
- 23 **Scrip;** "Eine Mark" banknote from the Lodz ghetto; dated: May 15, 1940; location: Lodz ghetto, Poland