Books About Jews in Lithuania
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IN LITHUANIA
There are few things that reflect society’s needs, interests, and changes in the way of thinking or expectations better than a book. The close relationship between readers and publishers in the modern world, it seems, is not only pragmatic or commercial in nature. It is a much more complicated mechanism of communication, balancing between business and social, intellectual and emotional needs of the readers, the interests of the authors, and the ability to perceive relevant subjects that move society. However, the publisher plays a multi-functional role: the publisher is the one who attempts to understand the subjects of the readers’ interest that they are not acquainted with yet and satisfy their curiosity, as well as the person who is able to present a challenge to society using a book – introduce the readers to a new subject and make it popular, hopefully, in order to educate and enlighten society. In this case the book is a powerful intellectual tool which not only reflects the reader’s needs, but also shapes his opinion, allows him to see his surroundings and the past in a new light, and discover new forms of relating to it.

The appearance of publications about Jews in Lithuanian book shops is a combination of the above-mentioned reasons. It seems that it could be acknowledged as one of the best examples of the social and educational effects of books: when the issues of evaluating the past and giving meaning to it gained a political dimension and induced the appearance of numerous academic research and educational projects, the variety of subjects about Jews and the need to get acquainted with Jewish culture and understand it increased due to the disclosure of unknown past events, and the gradual cultivation of readers’ tastes and needs.

The past two decades in Lithuania have seen a boom both in the variety of themes and genres as well as in the number of books about Jews, the history, culture and heritage of this community, which has been living in Lithuania for more than 600 years. The readers enjoy the fiction of contemporary authors with Jewish roots, the publishers republish earlier works, and the seminal works of foreign authors are being translated into Lithuania. However, the majority of authors and compilers of these books and original research are scientists, writers, museum workers or individual enthusiasts who work in Lithuania or have a direct connection to it (usually by origin). Another important social trend is the un-
derstanding of Jewish heritage and history. It is now understood as a part of the history of Lithuanian society, an inseparable element of its colorful cultural mosaic. This process is linked primarily with the positive changes taking place in Lithuanian society and the perception of their own history as multicultural and multi-confessional. These new points of view, which were a discovery to some Lithuanians, have shaped new historical and cultural vistas in Lithuania. Thanks to these, Jewish discourse can now be observed in unexpected areas as part of a general trend. Such books and unexpected discoveries are the things that challenge old beliefs reconstructing one’s general viewpoint and enable one to compare and observe phenomena from numerous angles.

Today’s situation, when at least a few academic studies or books for the wider public about Jewish issues are published every year, people hurry to buy the fiction of Jewish authors, and every book shop has a special shelf for books about Jews, which is new phenomenon, and different from earlier periods in the development of Lithuanian society. Indeed, during the interwar period in Lithuania the first steps were made towards overcoming the isolation and towards a mutual Jewish-Lithuanian cultural awareness. Although the degree of change could not be compared to the situation today, they had an indirect impact on modern society through the social experience, those who were witnesses to this in those days and especially the Lithuanian emigrants who formed a favorable view towards Jewish culture. It is interesting that the move towards this awareness was mutual: the Jews were eager to know more about Lithuanian culture, learned Lithuanian (in this particular case the factor of social integration into the nation state was a deciding factor), and constant communication with Lithuanians. The process of mutual awareness (there has yet to be any consistent research on it), which started in the interwar period and was just beginning to gain full speed, was a new level in Jewish-Lithuanian relations. The rapid evolution of this mutual awareness can be said to have started in the 1930s when the practical aim to present a history of the Jews in Lithuania to the public led law professor Augustinas Janulaitis to prepare the first Lithuanian, although only partly original, study (1923) of the history of the Jews in Lithuania from their settlement in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania to the end of the 19th century.

Even though there were not many people involved in this process yet, both parties applied quite various methods: works about the history of the Jews dedicated to Lithuanians, translations of fiction from Yiddish to Lithuanian, Yiddish-Lithuanian dictionaries and even specialized textbooks for Lithuanian as well as conversation dictionaries, and translations of Lithuanian authors’ works and even folklore into Yiddish. The factor of Jewish

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1 Usually the reference is made to a separate publication of this work – Žydai Lietuvoje: bruožai iš Lietuvos visuomenės istorijos XIV–XIX a. (Jews in Lithuania: the Features from the 14th–19th Centuries of the History of the Lithuanian Society) (Kaunas, 1923), but it was first published in several issues of the Švietimo darbas (The Work of Education) journal (1921, no. 7-8; 1922, no. 1-2).
culture and religion during the attempt to win Vilnius back from the Polish armed invasion was also used. In the Lithuanian context, Vilnius as the Jerusalem of Lithuania (Jerusalem de Lita) was presented by Jewish intellectuals (e.g., Professor Nachman Shapira2 of Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas) who stressed the importance of the historical capital city as the cultural centre for the Jewish community as well as for the young country of Lithuania. The Union of Jewish Soldiers, which were for the independence of Lithuania started publishing a weekly newspaper in Lithuanian called Apžvalga (The Review) (1935–1940). With the appearance of the Jewish periodical press in Lithuanian, it was a sign of change in the conscious of the community. The majority of the publications and individual articles in the press, pieces of literature and translations which were meant to foster cultural contacts had a practical sense, which was to help understand Jewish culture and traditions. One could say that for this reason there was a more active presentation of Jews to Lithuanians, which involved not only Lithuanian intellectuals, but also Jewish intellectuals. Without the interest, co-operation and support of the latter, some of these initiatives (especially translations from Yiddish into Lithuanian) would never have been brought to fruition. The teaching and learning of Lithuanian among Jews, stipulated by the change of political and social circumstances, had no less of a practical sense. It is worth noting that small books providing information about the Jews began being published at the same time as anti-Semitic texts inciting intolerance and hatred for the Jews were being published. The publications promoting cultural contacts and lessening isolation became the opposing alternative to the latter publications.

As the substantial result of intellectual co-operation and the idea not only of providing knowledge at an academic level, but also encouraging scientific research, departments of Jewish studies were founded during the interwar period at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas and later on at Vilnius University: three departments – semitology, Yiddish language and literature and Jewish history were founded at Vytautas Magnus University, and later a department of Yiddish philology was established at Vilnius University. Although the departments did not function well at the beginning, as they lacked professors who could teach about Jews in Lithuanian, the realization of the idea of having a university level Jewish studies programme in interwar Lithuania was not stifled. It was a huge step forward for the recognition of Jewish culture and a potentially quicker way of becoming acquainted with it, but most important was the aim of promoting and disseminating knowledge about various aspects of the Jewish culture and educate the scientists able to work in these areas. The prospect of this was underlined by Professor Mykolas Biržiška, the rector of Vilnius University: “much interesting and useful material is kept at the Jewish Science Institute (YIVO – J.Š-V.) which is the scientific centre not only of Lithuania, but of the whole world.

I would like some of our students to learn at least a little Yiddish and get acquainted with this material” (1940).1

It is obvious that the atmosphere in the Republic of Lithuania in the interwar differed a great deal from the censure, intolerance and absolute isolation common to view towards Jews during earlier periods of Lithuanian history. The solutions for overcoming the isolation of becoming acquainted with other cultures were just at a beginning stage during the interwar period, educating society to identify and understand Jewish culture. These changes were gradual, and time to dig deeper into a culture that was formerly ignored was not enough.

Though positive changes in the understanding of Jewish culture took place only among a small group of intellectuals at first, they later influenced a post-Holocaust reflection on Jewish culture in exile, and through this a reflection of today’s society. On the other side of the Soviet “Iron Curtain” beginning in the 1960s, Lithuanian emigrants (Mykolas Biržiška, sociologist and political scientist Julius Šmulkštys, professors of history Zenonas Ivinskis and Adolfas Šapoka, and Tomas Venclova) were the first to begin public debates about the Holocaust as well as social and cultural Lithuanian-Jewish relations. These debates mentioned the image of Vilnius as the Jerusalem of Lithuania for the first time in Lithuanian historiography since the literary research works by Professor Nachman Shapira of the interwar period. It was precisely in this atmosphere of exile that after having assessed the tragedy of the Shoa and the experience of coexistence during the interwar period, and having overcome the massive amount of foreign historiography, the need to research the unfamiliar but already famous culture of the Jews in Lithuania was identified. They attempted to distinguish the problems of cultural communication that had existed up to that time, and the first texts on this subject appeared in the emigre press.

In Soviet Lithuania the only remaining instrument for making a positive impact culturally was the chance to talk about tragic experiences and the past, which was different from reality through the fiction of Jewish authors: the subject of Jews was covered by Ichchokas Meras in Lithuanian and Masha Rolnikaitė and Grigoriy Kanovich in Russian. The translation at the beginning of the 1980s of the novel Meier Ezofowicz (written in 1878) by Positivist Eliza Orzeszko (Orzeskowa)4, which discussed the decision of the Jews about the Haskala and emancipation, was unexpected. Fifteen years later the translation from Yiddish to Lithuanian of Shalom Aleichem’s short stories was published in one volume as part of the World Literature Library series5.

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The history and heritage of the Jews gained recognition in the humanities and social sciences soon after overcoming the prevailing mono-national point of view, where multi-nationalism had not been recognised at all, and where the history of Lithuania had become a past of Lithuanians only. Meanwhile the history of Jews and other ethnic and religious communities and their integration into the general historical narrative provided a new aspect for Lithuania's past and its understanding. However, as soon as the political situation changed, the Lithuanian Jewish community began to talk more openly about their past, achievements and tragedies. The celebration of the 200th anniversary of Vilnius’ Gaon El’ijahu in 1997 attracted much attention and endorsements.

The above-mentioned situation created the base for Jewish studies in Lithuania. More than twenty years ago the first academic conferences were held, the history of the Jews became a subject at universities, and the readers awaited the first books. The post-Holocaust turning point in the understanding and evaluation of Litvak culture is not an exception; it is the road for the majority of European societies towards seeing the light. The view on the Jews (as well as on the other ethnic and religious groups) and their history as an integral part of the history of Lithuania and its society that is entrenched in modern Lithuanian historiography is the result of a changed model of the history of Lithuania and how it is interpreted. This created conditions conducive for Jewish studies to appear in Lithuania, for Lithuanian books about Jews to established themselves, and for a circle of readers of books on this theme to form.

The main goal of the publication you are holding in your hands is to introduce the books of various types and genres covering the subject of Jewish culture and history published in the last two decades; to present the widest possible spectrum of publications, enabling both Lithuanians as well as English speaking readers to become acquainted with the conclusions drawn by Lithuanian scientists in their research, and the most impressive pieces of literature and art in order to see the delicate connection with Jewish culture and its losses. To make the publication handy, systematic and easily navigable through the original aspects of the books presented, the books are divided into five groups:

- Contemporary Jewish Studies
- Literature
- Heritage
- Memoirs and sources
- Translations
- Guides and reference books

The group representing Contemporary Jewish Studies is the richest in terms of number of books and their content. It includes not only studies covering different aspects of Jewish
culture and history as the main object of the authors’ interest but also innovative books integrating Jewish discourse with different socio-cultural areas. Foreseeing that the potential readers of this publication will be foreigners, more attention was paid to books written in English and translations of books written in Lithuanian into English. English translations take up the main part of the bibliography, along with information about the Lithuanian originals. Most of the presented publications were first published in Lithuanian, and only then introduced to a wider audience of English readers.

This publication was led not only by heuristic goals, but also practical and empiric goals, which were to reconstruct the dynamics of the publishing of books about Jews in Lithuania: from the first books that made their mark alone based on the fact they appeared and the ideas they held for at least a section of society who recognised the vital importance of these books, all the way to the new attractive, well-designed publications which meet the needs of today’s society and are devoted to the wider public or particular groups within it. Presenting the publications in each of the five groups in chronological order is rather unorthodox for such reviews. This method was chosen to enable the curious reader to discover the trends of interest in the publishing of Lithuanian books about Jews himself: the increase in the number of books, the change in the subjects and aspects that are covered, from the Holocaust and the studies of the preconditions of it to original research on cultural heritage and various social relations; to enable one to observe the period of a gradual shift from the translations of publications known worldwide into Lithuanian, which had to satisfy the need of knowledge about the Jews (and especially the Holocaust), to the studies prepared by Lithuanian authors. Next to the bibliographical references, information about the number of editions and translations is also included. These facts allow one to create an impression of every book in terms of popularity and its impact on society. It is hoped that the concept to combine the bibliographical information of each book along with additional information, which can be found with relative ease due to this publication’s structure, will work effectively and will not be considered just a dry collection of bibliographical data, but will entice the reader not only to open the books presented, but also seek new discoveries while getting acquainted with the trends and patterns of the representation Jewish culture and history in the present-day society of Lithuania.

Jurgita Verbickienė
Contemporary Jewish Studies

Solomonas Atamukas

Žydai Lietuvoje

Jews in Lithuania

Separate editions in Lithuanian, Russian and Yiddish

In this book Solom Atamuk gives the history of Jewry in three languages. The detailed presentation offers an overview of this subject of special significance in the context of the multi-cultural landscape of Eastern and Central Eastern Europe to a broader audience. The book describes the difficulties of Lithuanian-Jewish relations in the 20th century.

Lithuanian edition:
Vilnius: Lituanus, 1990. 143 p.:
ilustr.
isbn 5-89957-008-3: 3.00

Yiddish edition:
isbn 5-89957-008-3

Russian edition:

Lietuvos žydų švietimas ir kultūra iki Katastrofos

EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF THE JEWS IN LITHUANIA BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST

Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference
Edited by Izraelis Lempertas
In Lithuanian, German, English and Yiddish

The book includes the proceedings of the first scientific conference where Jewish and Lithuanian scientists discussed the history of Jews in Lithuania. The material of the presentations are published in the original language; the material is organized in thematical order – beginning with the proceedings about secondary schools, first of all with primary education, and finishing with the activities of Jews at universities, and religious and musical education and cultural problems. Several proceedings are dedicated to well known cultural and educational figures.

Atminties dienos
*THE DAYS OF MEMORY*
Compiled by Emanuelis Zingeris
Edited by the Lithuanian State Jewish Museum
In Lithuanian, English, Russian, French and Yiddish

The book includes the material from a conference (11-16 October 1993) in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the destruction of the Vilnius Ghetto. The papers delivered by historians, philosophers and writers from France, the Netherlands, Israel and Russia deal with the issues of culture and history of Lithuanian Jewry. The book contains papers on the Holocaust and the resistance, the relationship between the Lithuanians and the Jews and the significance of Vilnius as the Jerusalem of Lithuania.

www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Talmudinio mokslo žvaigždė
*THE STAR OF TALMUD SCIENCE*
In Lithuanian
Content in English

It is the first original work in Lithuanian about the Gaon of Vilnius. The reader is introduced to the history of the Lithuanian Jewish community and its spiritual life in the 18th century, the traditional education system and its teaching methods. The biography of the Gaon of Vilnius is also presented, underlining the importance of his works and activities for the Jewry of Lithuania and the whole world.

ISBN 5-415-00531-5
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

Mejeris Šubas

Solomonas Atamukas

Lietuvos žydu kelias
*THE PATH OF LITHUANIAN JEWS*
In Lithuanian
Summary in English

The book describes almost 700 years long history of the Lithuanian Jews, the so – called Litvaks. It tells about the everyday life, culture, input into the economics of the country, development of the rities, and also about the tragedy, the struggle to move the native Israel and the new spiritual and cultural rebirth of the Lithuanian Jews.

1st edition:
ISBN 9986-02-588-5

2nd edition:
ISBN 9986-02-588-5

3rd edition:
www.almalittera.lt
post@almali.lt
Vilniaus Gaonas ir žydų kultūros keliai
THE GAON OF VILNIUS AND THE ANNALS OF JEWISH CULTURE
Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference
Compiled by Izraelis Lempertas
Edited by Larisa Lempertiienė
Separate Editions in Lithuanian and English
The book contains the material from an international scientific conference, which was held to honour the 200th anniversary of the death of the Gaon of Vilnius (held on the 10th-12th of September, 1997). The articles prepared on the basis of the presentations are organized according to the structure of the conference: the presentations of plenary sessions covering wider and context forming subjects and the presentations falling into four narrower sections: the Gaon and Judaism; the Gaon and Jewish culture; Haskala, Jewish education and press; from the history of Jews in Lithuania.

English edition:

Lithuanian edition:
www.leidykla.eu
info@leidykla.vult

Lietuvos žydų žudynių byla
THE CASE OF THE MASSACRE OF THE LITHUANIAN JEWS
Compiled by Alfonsas Eidintas
In Lithuanian
Summary in English
This book consists of two parts: a lengthy introduction reviewing the history of Lithuanian attitudes toward their Jewish neighbours, and a collection of major essays and documents showing the evolution of Lithuanian thought about the Holocaust. The author concentrates on the Lithuanians’ attitudes toward the Jews rather than on Jewish views of the Lithuanians, and in his dual function as a historian and a policymaker, he repeatedly recommends topics for further investigation.

ISBN 5-415-01560-4
www.vaga.lt
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National minorities in Lithuania
Saulius Kaubrys
An outline
Translated to English
by Milda Dyke
In English
This book largely focuses on the events of the first phase of the Independent Lithuanian Republic (1918–1940), with an emphasis on defining the parameters of the existence of the national minority groups in a newly emerging modern state. This particular time frame was important, as for the first time in Lithuanian history the foundations of the national strategy towards ethnic minorities were developed, as determined by the commitment to the international community.

ISBN 5-415-01651-1
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info@vaga.lt
The peoples of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania


isbn 9955-445-52-1
www.aidai.lt
aidai@aidai.lt

Spiritual Resistance in the Vilna Ghetto


English edition:
isbn 9986-9386-2-4
www.jmuseum.lt
g.museumdir@aivanet.lt

Lithuanian edition:
Translated from English by Zinaida Mažeikienė
Vilnius: Vaga, 2006, 143 p.,
isbn 5-415-01910-3
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt
Laima Laučkaitė

**Vilniaus dailė XX amžiaus pradžioje**

*Art in Vilnius: 1900–1915*

Separate editions in Lithuanian (summary in English) and English

Translated to English by Diana Barnard and Alfonsas Laučka

A monograph of Laima Laučkaitė lights up the artistic life of multicultural Vilnius at the beginning of the twentieth century. It is an interesting and dynamic period which had prompted the modernization of culture in Vilnius. The art of various cultural communities, Poles, Lithuanians, Russians and Jews, and the fates of its creators and consumers are described in the book.

Lithuanian edition:
ISBN 9955-429-71-2

English edition:
Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2008, 199 p., illustrated, facsimile

www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Šarūnas Liekis

**A State within a State?**

*Jewish Autonomy in Lithuania 1918–1925*

In English

This book is a principal milestone in the revival of serious Judaic studies within Eastern Studies. Šarūnas Liekis, a young Lithuanian scholar, was the first student in post-Soviet Lithuania to take the field seriously and to achieve international standards. By gaining the ability to read texts in Yiddish and Hebrew, in addition to Polish, Russian and his native Lithuanian, he is able to synthesize sources from the diverse communities (and trends) of interbellum Lithuania.

ISBN 9955-9613-5-x
www.versus.lt
versus@versus.lt

Arkadijus Bluimuinas

**Žydų frakcija Lietuvos Seimuose 1920–1927 m.**

*The Jewish faction in the parliaments of Lithuania in 1920–1927*

In Lithuanian

The book is intended to rebuild one of the fragments of the history of Jews in Lithuania, which is one of the pieces of the mosaic of Litvak history. The author seeks to take a closer look at the place of the Jewish national minority as well as its role in the society of Lithuania in the light of national politics. The author refers to mostly unpublished historical material to analyze the history of the Jewish faction, which participated in the work of the parliaments of the Republic of Lithuania in the years 1920–1927.

Vilnius: Sapnų Sala, 2003, 105 p., illustrated
ISBN 9955-9557-6-7
www.sapnusala.lt
info@sapnusala.lt
Vilniaus žydų intelektualinis gyvenimas iki Antrojo pasaulinio karo

JEWISH INTELLECTUAL LIFE IN PRE-WAR VILNA

Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference
Compiled by Larisa Lempertienė
In Lithuanian and English

This compilation includes the material of the international scientific conference held at Vilnius University in Lithuania in September, 2003. The papers of the collection cover the subject of Jewish intellectual life in Lithuania in the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century with an emphasis on history, the periodic press, publishing, journalism and political currents. The collection also includes a work titled My Birthplace Vilnius, which was probably the last text of writer Avrom Karpinovich, who wrote about Jews in Vilnius.

ISBN 9955-591-17-X

Rimgaudas Gelevičius

Holokausto teisingumas ir restitucija Lietuvoje atkūrus nepriklausomybę (1990–2003)


In Lithuanian Summary in English

This monograph discusses the dialogue between the Lithuanians and the Jews, the politics of the independent Republic of Lithuania. The reader will have a chance to get acquainted with the history of the unfounded rehabilitation and later reversed the decision of this rehabilitation of the participants of the genocide of the Jews and their supporters as well as the legal persecution of the suspected killers of Jews in Lithuania in 1990–2003. The most attention is paid the issue of restitutions of the plundered property of Jews, especially the property of Jewish communities, during the years of the occupations.

ISBN 9955-563-42-7
www.mruni.lt

Lietuvos žydai

LITHUANIAN JEWS

Reprint from Darbai ir dienos, 2003, vol. 34

Compiled by Leonas Gudaitis
In Lithuanian Summary in English

This work focuses on the comparison between Lithuanian and French press discourse. It compares texts which are related with the descriptions of the positions of Jews in 1940–1942 and pays special attention to the question why the positions of governments are formulated in a particular way. The authors also try to show a contradiction between the components of anti-Jewish stereotypes in Lithuania and France. The excerpt consists of six articles, written by 6 authors. The articles can be found in the periodical Darbai ir dienos (2003).

ISBN 9955-530-62-6
dir@leidykla.vdu.lt
THE JEWISH QUESTION IN LITHUANIA IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 19TH CENTURY
Compiled by Vladas Sirutavičius and Darius Staliūnas
In Lithuanian
Summary in English
This collection discusses the “Jewish question” in Lithuania in the middle of the 19th century. It includes articles by historians on Russia’s policies towards this ethno-confessional group, the image of Jews in various discourse and the change of the aspirations of the Jewish community. The book covers quite a short period of the 19th century, the so called era of the “thaw”.

isbn 9986-780-59-4
www.istorija.lt
istorija@istorija.lt

THE PRECONDITIONS FOR THE HOLOCAUST
Translated into English by Dalius Kaminskas, Rasa Rėklaitytė, and Rasa Sakalaitytė
In Lithuanian and English
The book analyses anti-Semitism in the everyday life of Lithuania, the press and literature, showing how these things transformed the dramatic political changes in Lithuania. This is the first book written on the basis of historical facts, archival sources and rare official documents. It contains several dozen rare documents that are used to shed light on various aspects of anti-Semitism.

Vilnius: Margi Raštai, 2004, 332 p., with facsimiles
isbn 9986-09-280-9
www.margirastai.lt
margirastai@takas.lt

WHEN XENOPHOBIA TURNS TO VIOLENCE
Compiled by Vladas Sirutavičius and Darius Staliūnas
In Lithuanian, summary in English
The authors of this collection With regard to the newest methodical literature, the authors of this collection attempt to identify which factors encouraged the intensifying of anti-Semitic excesses and their scope, which sometimes grew into pogroms, in Lithuania in the 19th century and the first part of the 20th century.

isbn 9985-780-70-5
www.istorija.lt
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Bernaras Ivanovas

**Tautiškumo beieškant Antano Smetonos Lietuvoje. Tautinių įvaizdžių klausimas**

*IN QUEST OF NATIONALITY IN LITHUANIA OF ANTANAS SMETONA*

*In Lithuanian Summary in English*

It is the quest for nationality of ethnic communities in Lithuania, which was led by Antanas Smetona. The book tries to historically reconstruct images of national minorities in Lithuania in the 1940s, paying particular attention to the formerly dominant political-ideological current of nationalism. Three national minorities are touched upon: Jews, Poles and Germans.

ISBN 9955-601-55-8
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Arūnas Bubnys

**The Holocaust in Lithuania**

*TRANSLATED FROM LITHUANIAN BY LINA KRASNOVAITĖ*

Separate editions in Lithuanian (summary in English) and English

It is widely known that after the Nazi Party came to power in Germany, anti-Semitism became the state policy. Later this was transferred to areas of Europe occupied by the Third Reich. We should stress that the persecution and destruction of Jews was initiated by Nazi Germany, but in certain occupied countries, including Lithuania, the Nazis managed to involve part of the local population and local collaborating institutions in this criminal action. Nazi propaganda succeeded in exploiting the anticomunist and anti-Semitic moods that had developed during the years of Soviet occupation, and convinces some Lithuanians that Bolshevism meant Jewish power during the Soviet annexation and occupation.

English edition:
www.genocid.lt
leidyba@genocid.lt
Liudas Truska

Lithuanians and Jews: from the End of 19th Century until June 1941
In Lithuanian
Summary in English

Referring to legal facts, statistical data, periodical press, archives and historical works of literature, the study covers Lithuanian-Jewish relations and the development of anti-Semitism in Lithuania in different periods of the country’s history: in the period of the Lithuanian national revival (end of 19th – beginning of 20th century); in 1917–1926 (the development of the Lithuanian state and its democratic processes); in 1927–1940 (the years of the authoritarian regime of the President Antanas Smetona); in 1940–1941 (the period of Soviet occupation, until the beginning of the war between Germany and the USSR).

ISBN 9955-20-040-5
www.leidykla.vpu.lt
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Aušrelė Kristina Pažeraitė

The Formation of the Litvak Orthodox Judaism

In Lithuanian

The exceptional period of time during which Litvak Judaism acquired its originality (known worldwide as Yeshiva Judaism) was the 19th century. Hasidic Judaism, the Haskalah movement, the tsarist reforms of the Jewish education system and finally, the Musar movement were significant factors that enabled the authorities of Litvak Orthodox Judaism to explicate an individual ideology that became contemporary Litvak Orthodox Judaism’s essence. The decline of the Jewish communities’ two main institutions between the 18th century to the first half of the 19th century forced the communities to look for new ways to strengthen their traditional way of life. The result of all those efforts and processes was a developed Litvak branch of Orthodox Judaism at the beginning of 20th century.

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Žydai Lietuvos ekonominėje-socialinėje struktūroje

THE JEWS IN LITHUANIA’S ECONOMIC-SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Compiled by Vladas Sirutavičius and Darius Staliūnas
In Lithuanian
Summary in English

This collection analyses the place of the Jewish community in the social-economic life of Lithuania. The book begins with the review of the legal limitations applied to the economic activities of this ethnico-confessional group in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The biggest attention is paid to the influence of the policies of the Russian Empire and the Republic of Lithuania on the economic activities of Jews, and on the conversion of Jews from internationalists to competitors in modern Lithuanian society.

ISBN 9986-780-88-8
www.istorija.lt
istorija@istorija.lt
Central and East European Jews at the Crossroad of Tradition and Modernity

Proceedings of the International Conference
Edited by Jurgita Siauciunaite-Virbickiene and Larisa Lempertienė
Translated by Vigolė Arbas, Axel Holvoet, Alicja Adamowicz, and Mike Kelly
In English

It is the proceedings of the international conference Central and East European Jews at the Crossroads of Tradition and Modernity (19-21 April 2005, Vilnius). In the articles you will find analysis and new insights on the problems the Jewish community. The contradiction of choice and decision, stimuli of cultural and linguistic assimilation and attempts to escape it, options of incorporating into the dominating culture, modifications of traditional lifestyle in secularizing society, and the approach of governmental institutions and Christian society to Jews are discussed within the broad context of history, literature and religion.

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Laima Anglickienė

Kitataučių įvaizdis lietuvių folklore

IMAGE OF FOREIGNERS IN LITHUANIAN FOLKLORE

In Lithuanian
Summary in English

This book discusses the images of foreigners in Lithuanian folklore from the end of the 19th century to the first half of the 20th century. Systematized data helps form a clearer view of Lithuanian relations with foreigners, both from the historical past and by the specific features of every folklore genre. Folklore can be of serve as a source, helping to discover events deeply entrenched in the nation’s conscious, along with the social phenomena that took place in a person’s environment and relations between people.

ISBN 9955-699-21-3
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versus@versus.lt

Eglė Bendikaitė

Sionistinis sąjūdis Lietuvoje

THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT IN LITHUANIA

In Lithuanian
Summary in English, Hebrew, German

The main focus of the study is to examine the political development of the Zionist organization, its attempt to direct the internal transformations study of the Jewish masses, and the changes in its ideological and practical program in the face of new historical and political circumstances. In particular, this study aims to present the most important ideological and political aspects of the Zionist movement in the context of the development of part of the historical Lite within the Independent Lithuanian Republic. By means of an analysis of the activities of the Zionist organization, it also aims to point out popular stereotypes on this topic due to a general lack of information and historical awareness.

ISBN 9986-780-85-3
www.istorija.lt
istorija@istorija.lt
The authors of this historical study attempt to answer the questions which first arise while contemplating the mass murder of civilians: who is responsible for it? Referring to data of archives in Lithuania, Latvia, Russia, Germany and the US and other sources of information, the compilers reveal the circumstances of the participation of Lithuanians in the Jewish genocide. The authors also seek to determine the number of Jewish victims as accurately as possible. The large amount of archive documents and photographs is included in the collection as well.

ISBN 9986-09-280-9
www.margirastai.lt
margirastai@takas.lt

Pinkas. Annual of Culture and History of East European Jewry

Edited by Larisa Lempertienė
Annual, Leidėjas – The Centre for Studies of the Culture and History of East European Jews
In English

This is an annual of the culture and history of East European Jewry. The aim is to present the latest research in the history and culture of European Jews. The issues include articles dealing with a wide range of topics related to Jewish life in Central and Eastern Europe: history, cultural heritage, literature, the position of Jews in state and society, sociology, demography, ethnography, everyday life and more.

ISSN 1822-4628
www.jewishstudies.lt
info@jewishstudies.lt

Vilnius: Žara, 2008, 204, Vol. 2
www.zara.lt
info@zara.lt

Mindaugas Kvietkauskas

Vilniaus literatūrų kontrapunktai. Ankstyvasis modernizmas, 1904–1915

THE COUNTERPOINTS OF VILNIUS LITERATURE. EARLY MULTILINGUAL MODERNISM 1904–1915

In Lithuanian
Summary in English

The study deals with the specifics of Early Modernism and its historical development in the multilingual literature of Vilnius. The comparative analysis, which embraces Lithuanian, Polish, Yiddish, Belarusian, and Russian texts, aims at reconstructing the pattern of historical coexistence, communication, polylogue, and mutual interactions. The multilingual Vilnius literature of the beginning of the 20th century is a peculiar historical phenomenon whose components are united by counterpoints of a common historical evolution.

ISBN 9986-394-67-8
www.rsleidykla.lt
info@rsleidykla.lt
Grigorijus Potašenko

Lietuvos tautinės mažumos

NATIONAL MINORITIES IN LITHUANIA

In Lithuanian

This publication is from the series “Little stories about Lithuania”. It concerns the history, culture and traditions of ethnic minorities living in Lithuania. The book is meant for young readers, as well as all those, who care about protecting historical memory and cherishing national tolerance.

ISBN 5-430-04655-8
www.sviesa.lt
mail@sviesa.lt

Grigorijus Potašenko

Daugiautė Lietuva.

Lietuvos etninų mažumų istorija

MULTINATIONAL LITHUANIA.
HISTORY OF ETHNIC MINORITIES

Separate editions in Lithuanian and English
English edition translated by Goda Sodeikaitė

The publication concerns the history of ethnic minorities in Lithuania, the people from various ethnic backgrounds, and their activities from the 13th to the early 21st centuries, which influenced destiny of Old and present–day Lithuania. From the 13th to the early 21st centuries, the history of Lithuania was exceptionally complicated, nevertheless, the state was always marked by ethnic, religious and cultural variety, coexistence of various ethnic groups and different people, crossing trade routes and clashing interests of the great powers.

Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2008, 295 p., illustrated
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Vilnius: City of Strangers

In English

Napoleon, Dostoyevsky, Stendhal, Tolstoy, Döblin, Forster, Bakhtin, and Brodsky: these voices – among others equally compelling, though lesser known – reveal the essence of Europe in their narratives of encounter with the threshold city of Vilnius. Laimonas Briedis has woven the letters, diaries, utterances and reflections of strangers about this gateway city at the heart of Europe into a compelling and intimate story. The author shares with the reader a deep understanding of the Lithuanian, Polish, Russian and German identities of the place, as well as its centrality in European Jewish culture. Lavishly illustrated and carefully researched, this book is a veritable hall of mirrors, which yields an illuminating vision of Vilnius and an exceptional window on Europe.

Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2008, 295 p., illustrated
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Laimonas Briedis

Vilnius: City of Strangers

Books About Jews in Lithuania | Contemporary Jewish Studies
This monograph is a study on the relations of the Jewish community, which was a part of the society of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from the end of the 14th century. It covers the past, which has a close connection to today’s images and myths, in the light of coexistence in a multi-confessional society, showing the development of society’s view on Jews, and uncovering new or only sporadically or only partly researched socio-cultural problems in the history of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. By comparing the conditions in the Kingdom of Poland and other Eastern Europe countries from the same period, the authors reveal aspects of the legal, social and economic situation particular to Lithuanian Jews in the 16th-18th centuries.

Vilnius: Žara, 2008, 440, illustrated
www.zara.lt
info@zara.lt

This book is a study of the contribution made by Litvaks, i.e. Jews from the cultural space of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, to the famous École de Paris. Litvak graduates from various art schools in Vilnius, Kaunas, and Vitebsk invaded the main center of Western modern art during the second wave of the École de Paris and formed the nucleus of this school. For this reason, art critics have referred to the second wave of the École de Paris as the École juive (the Jewish School). The main focus of this book is the contributions made by Soutine, Chagall, Kikoïne, Krémègne, Band, Arbit Blatas, Indenbaum, Lipchitz, Zadkine, Segall, and other Litvak painters and sculptors to the Paris School.

Vilnius: Meno rinkos agentūra, illustrated, in print
www.menorinka.lt
info@menorinka.lt
Mošė Kulbokas

Vilnius

Compiled by Alfonsas Bukontas
In Yiddish, Lithuanian, English, Frech, German, Russian, Polish

A classical writer of Jewish literature and a victim of Stalinist purges, Mošė Kulbokas in his expressive poem Vilnius depicts the Jerusalem of Lithuania, a city in the North of extreme importance for Jewish culture and religion. This allows the author to characterise Vilnius as a psalm-book, a city of prayer and tune where joy and sorrow are woven together and where poverty acquires a different meaning on a level of higher existence. Meanwhile, in a lonely and sleeping city where cabalists are awake, there arise the fundamental questions of man and his existence. The poem is presented in seven world languages and illustrated with etchings of old Vilnius.

1st edition:
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

2nd edition:
Vilnius: Žuvedra, in print
www.zuvedra.lt
s.lipskis@zuvedra.lt

Šiaurės gėlės

Compiled by Emanuelis Zingeris
In Lithuanian, Yiddish
Summary in English and Yiddish

The Lithuanian Jewish-Litvak prose anthology, published here for the first time, contains works from the XIXth century including a selection of minor folklore. It includes the creative work of A. Mapu, A.M. Dik, N. Shapira, M.M. Soforim, D. Umru, J. Josadė and others who wrote in Hebrew and Yiddish. Their specific genres and themes were influenced by the historical circumstances of their time, their way of life, and their relationship with people of other nations. Along with biblical themes, scenes of Palestine minor tragedy intertwine with folk wisdom, good natured kidding or witty mockery. This work tries to reveal a distinctive culture which flourished from the beginning of the nineteenth century until the Second World War.

ISBN 5-415-00530-7
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

Icchokas Meras

Šiaurės gėlės

VILNIUS

Compiled by Alfonsas Bukontas
In Yiddish, Lithuanian, English, Frech, German, Russian, Polish

The Lithuanian Jewish-Litvak prose anthology, published here for the first time, contains works from the XIXth century including a selection of minor folklore. It includes the creative work of A. Mapu, A.M. Dik, N. Shapira, M.M. Soforim, D. Umru, J. Josadė and others who wrote in Hebrew and Yiddish. Their specific genres and themes were influenced by the historical circumstances of their time, their way of life, and their relationship with people of other nations. Along with biblical themes, scenes of Palestine minor tragedy intertwine with folk wisdom, good natured kidding or witty mockery. This work tries to reveal a distinctive culture which flourished from the beginning of the nineteenth century until the Second World War.

ISBN 5-415-00530-7
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

šiaurės gėlės

NORTHERN FLOWERS

Compiled by Emanuel Zinger
In Lithuanian, Yiddish
Summary in English and Yiddish

The Lithuanian Jewish-Litvak prose anthology, published here for the first time, contains works from the XIXth century including a selection of minor folklore. It includes the creative work of A. Mapu, A.M. Dik, N. Shapira, M.M. Soforim, D. Umru, J. Josadė and others who wrote in Hebrew and Yiddish. Their specific genres and themes were influenced by the historical circumstances of their time, their way of life, and their relationship with people of other nations. Along with biblical themes, scenes of Palestine minor tragedy intertwine with folk wisdom, good natured kidding or witty mockery. This work tries to reveal a distinctive culture which flourished from the beginning of the nineteenth century until the Second World War.

ISBN 5-415-00530-7
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt
Books About Jews in Lithuania | Literature

Abraham Karpinowicz

Paskutinis Vilniaus pranašas
THE LAST PROPHET OF VILNIUS
Translated from Yiddish by Cvi Smoliakov
In Lithuanian

This book is the first attempt to introduce the Lithuanian reader to Abraham Karpinowicz, who is an original author writing in Yiddish. His works reflect the life of Jews in Vilnius in the interwar period. In The Last Prophet of Vilnius the author tells of the actors and cult servants, small merchants and craftsmen, the poor and madmen, thieves and prostitutes in an emotionally alive manner.

ISBN 9986-16-090-1
www.tytoalba.lt
info@tytoalba.lt

Grigorijus Kanovičius

Žydų parkas
JEWISH PARK
Translated from Russian by Feliksas Vaitiekūnas
In Lithuanian

The novel continues with its creative theme – the fate of Jews in Lithuania. The book is a heartfelt story full of wisdom about lonely old Jews that meet in the garden of Bernardine. According to the writer, this is a requiem for the Eastern European Jewish community. The novel is rich in the reality of today.

ISBN 9986-16-105-3
www.tytoalba.lt
info@tytoalba.lt

Icchokas Meras

Lygiosios trunka akimirką
STALEMATE
In Lithuanian

The book depicts the ghetto of Vilnius during the war. The author is not interested in historic authenticity but in the universality of the situations and universal sense of choices. The action of the novel is developed on three levels. It includes a game of chess, Izao and Ester’s love, and six narratives about the fate of children of patriarch Abraom Liman. The rising tension is created by the devilish conditions of the game. If the commandant wins, the children of the ghetto will die and Izao will survive; if the boy wins, he will die but the children will be saved. The only, but hardly possible way out is a draw.

1st edition:

2nd edition:
ISBN 9955-23-040-1
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt
Poet Sigitas Geda has put together an anthology of selected poems on the Holocaust by Lithuanian poets. It shows how best Lithuanian poets writing at that time responded to the Jewish tragedy. This is the first book on the Holocaust in the history of Lithuanian literature, which reveals that the country’s writers of several generations feel the burden of moral responsibility for the Holocaust.

ISBN 5-415-0147-8
www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

Grigorijus Kanovičius

Veidai sutemose

FACES IN THE TWILIGHT

Translated from Russian by Feliksas Vaitiekūnas
In Lithuanian

The author continues his fascinating and engrossing story about the variable life of Jews in Lithuania in the cruel 20th century. In the short story titled Faces in the Twilight the author illustrates the harsh situation of Jewish refugees from Lithuania during the World War II in a remote Kazakh kishlak next to the Ala Tau Mountains.

www.rsleidykla.lt
info@rsleidykla.lt

Markas Zingeris

Iliuzonas

THE ILLUSION

In Lithuanian

The short stories by this writer of Jewish descent depict the life of several generations of a family of the narrator. The writer’s style features many different shades: sometimes it is a little rough as life itself, while at other times it is dramatic and sarcastic, but at the same time it is permeated with humor and full of charming poetic flight. A review of this book published in the American magazine World Literature Today in 2001 notes that “there is wit in these stories, and also a sort of comic bombast in the descriptions of the characters’ various misfortunes, as if the author were a sort of circus manager on the stage of illusions, inviting us to laugh with him, but also hoping that we will cry and be purified by pity and fear in the tragic mode. Except for the comic-rhetorical gestures, the stories are somewhat reminiscent of Chekhov, in that there as well the more love humanity, the more poignantly we became aware of this tragic and noble condition.”

Vidmantė Jasukaitytė

**Subačiaus gatvė. Getas**

*SUBAČIUS STREET. THE GHETTO*

In Lithuanian

*The writer, who lives in the former house of the HTP (the German war equipment workshop) on Subačius Street, recreates the last days of life of the Jewish prisoners living there, and empathises with their tragic fate.*


isbn 99-9--9

www.homoliber.lt
homoliber@takas.lt

Grigorijus Kanovičius

**Našlių kelionės**

*JOURNEYS OF THE WIDOWS*

Translated from Russian by Feliksas Vaitiekūnas

In Lithuanian

*The book illustrated the fate of Jews in Lithuania, however this time not only the past, but also the present. The characters of the short stories – our contemporaries – were born in Lithuania, but live in Israel; they are looking for connections with their little homeland.*


isbn 9986-39-340-x

www.rsleidykla.lt
info@rsleidykla.lt

Markas Zingeris

**Sezonas su šokėja**

*A SEASON WITH A DANCER*

In Lithuanian

*The action of this novel takes place in Lithuania and in the capital of Israel, Jerusalem, at the same time. The characters are inspired by love, tormented by guilt and by nostalgia to wonderful moments which were lost. They are persecuted by the past which is invited into these times by memories. It is a lively, poetic and funny story, but most important are the memorable characters that came from this uneasy contemporary world.*


isbn 9955-584-75-0

www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt
Icchokas Meras

Sara

In Lithuanian

Sara is a lonely woman in Israel during Judgment Day – the Yom Kippur war. The war has taken from her husband and son and has left only a big black emptiness in her soul. In order to fill it she needs a great deal of love. Her desire for love is so strong that she gives herself to strangers, but they themselves are hurt by this life and understand very little about love.

ISBN 978-9955-00-036-5
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Grigorijus Kanovičius

Šėtono apžavai

Satan’s Charms

Translated from Russian by Aldona Paulauskienė
In Lithuanian

The events evolving in the novel are based on the tragic experience of the Jews, citizens of Lithuania in the first years of World War II. The characters of the novel are Lithuanians and Jews, recognized from the novel Candles in the Wind by G. Kanovich (cemetery warden Danuta-Hadasa, her son grave-digger Jokūbas, tailor Gedalje Bankwecher, etc.) – embody the everlasting fight between good and evil. The writer tries to express his relationship to every character of the novel as objectively as possible.

www.rsleidykla.lt
info@rsleidykla.lt

Icchokas Meras

Striptizas

STRIPTEASE

In Lithuanian

The book Striptease is a work of literature of a new character. It has nothing in common with easy reading. You simply cannot lay it out open on your breakfast table and read it at the same time while eating your porridge. It is an intimate book. It is a book which will undoubtedly leave its trace in the evolution of our literature.

www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Icchokas Meras

Striptizas

STRIPTEASE

In Lithuanian

The book Striptease is a work of literature of a new character. It has nothing in common with easy reading. You simply cannot lay it out open on your breakfast table and read it at the same time while eating your porridge. It is an intimate book. It is a book which will undoubtedly leave its trace in the evolution of our literature.

www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt
Menke Katz

Selected poems

Compiled by Kerry Shwan Keys
In Lithuanian and English

All of Menke’s earlier books were written in Yiddish. The first book in English, which was Land of Manna, appeared only in 1965 and lots of other works in English followed. The English works by Menke have a lot in common with his earlier works in Yiddish, although those in English include almost no utopic political and social commentary, which was quite usual in the pre-war poems. The mystical, lyric and religious poet, which is visible in his English poems is essentially the same Menke from Lithuania, who was born in Švenčionys in 1906, and who later moved to Mikališkės in Belarus and finally to New York in 1920. Menke is one of the greatest Lithuanian poets in the New World, who never denied his Lithuanian roots, although he had adopted American culture. Whether it was a slaughtered cow in his native Mikališkės or a spider in an apartment complex in New York, everything held a spiritual meaning to him.

www.versus.lt
versus@versus.lt
Algė Jankevičienė

**Vilniaus Didžioji sinagoga**

**THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE OF VILNIUS**

Translated to English by Asta Kačiušytė (1st ed.), Aurelija Orechovaitė (2nd ed.)

In Lithuanian and English

*The book describes a valuable monument of Lithuanian architecture of the beginning of the 17th century, the Great Synagogue of Vilnius: its founding, and the development of its construction and renovation till its demolition after World War II.*

1st edition:
Vilnius: Savastis, 1996, 35 p., illustrated
ISBN 9986-420-09-1

2nd edition:
ISBN 978-9986-420-75-0

www.savastis.kpc.lt
savastis@kpc.lt

**Lietuvos sinagogos. Sąvadas**

**SYNAGOGUES OF LITHUANIA.**

**A CATALOGUE**

In English

With no users of the sacral Jewish heritage left, and with the application of the Soviet policy of destroying religious heritage, most of the wooden and masonry synagogues ceased to carry out their previous function; only a few buildings have been reconstructed for the needs of communities of cities or towns. This publication is the result of several years of co-operation between Lithuanian and Israeli scientists. The catalogue contains data about Jewish communities of cities or towns and the history of the construction works of their synagogues, urban layout, architecture, and the current state of the building; this information is illustrated by exhaustive historical and modern iconography, sketches of the synagogues and layout plans.

Vilnius: Vilnius Academy of Fine Arts Press, 2009, 500 p., illustrated

www.leidykla.vda.lt
leidykla@vda.lt

**Jidišo įnašas į europos kultūrą**

**YIDDISH CONTRIBUTION TO EUROPEAN CULTURE**

Compiled by Emanuelis Zingeris
Translated from English by Mikelis Klusis
General editor Ona Gudžiūnienė

In Lithuanian
Summary in English

This book contains the report of Emanuelis Zingeris, the only member of the Lithuanian parliament (the Seimas) of Jewish descent, to the European Council Parliamentary Assembly, and the material of the EC Yiddish cultural colloquy held in Vilnius on 5 May 1995. In the past, Yiddish united large areas in Europe from the Rhine basin, creating monuments of European writing. *In his well-known book The History of World Jews, Paul Johnson notes the following about Yiddish: “It was a language of wisdom, of the wise poor, of pathos, submission and suffering, diluted with humor, bitter irony and superstition, Isaac Bashevis Singer, the greatest authority on this language, referred to it as the only language never used by people in power.”*

ISBN 5-415-01296-6

www.vaga.lt
info@vaga.lt

**Lietuvos sinagogos. Sąvadas**
Samuel Bak

**Sugrižimas**

*RETURNING HOME*

An exhibition catalogue
Compiled by Ona Biveinienė
In Lithuanian and English

A well-known contemporary painter, currently residing in Boston, as a small boy was imprisoned in the Vilnius Ghetto during the war. His artistic talent revealed itself very early, and, being a prisoner of the Nazis, he fled from the reality into his imagination and painted those items that the world of books available at the Ghetto library disclosed to him. Sixty years later he returned to Vilnius not alone but with his canvasses marking the guidelines of his creative life in Germany, Paris, Israel and the US.

Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2001,
47, [1] p., illustrated
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Dovid Katz

**Lithuanian Jewish Culture**

*MAPS AND CHARTS PRODUCED BY GIEDRĖ BECONYTĖ*

In English

This is the first major study of the various cultures of the Litvaks, the Jews of Lithuania. In the Jewish sense, the notion “Lithuania” comprises all of modern day Lithuania, Latvia and Belarus, and chunks of Poland, Ukraine and Russia. The traditional Jewish cultural borders go back to the medieval territory of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which welcomed Jews fleeing the persecutions in the Germanic lands of Central Europe. This book, beautifully published in folio format, with thirty specially commissioned maps and charts and many photographs and facsimiles, traces the culture of the Litvaks from the prehistory of ancient Israel through to Babylonia and Europe, through to the first manifestations of Lithuanian Jewish Culture.

Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2004,
398 p., illustrated
ISBN 9955-584-41-6
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Marija Rupeikienė

**Nykstantis kultūros paveldas: Lietuvos sinagogų architektūra**

*A DISAPPEARING HERITAGE: THE SYNAGOGUE ARCHITECTURE OF LITHUANIA*

Separate editions in Lithuanian (summary in English) and English

The first complex study of synagogues done in Lithuania adds to the study of the history of Lithuanian architecture with original material about synagogues. The study is comprised of abundant historical, archival, iconographical material and of nature research and recording of Jewish prayer houses in photos which have remained up to this day. Some 150 illustrations, including photographs, schemes, and drawings, are included. Synagogues are investigated from architectural, historical and liturgical aspects and in their interaction with Catholic and Orthodox churches.

Lithuanian edition:
ISBN 9955-9650-2-9

English edition:
**Žydu gyvenimas Lietuvoje**
**JEWISH LIFE IN LITHUANIA**

An exhibition catalogue
Compiled by Rūta Pušytė and Darius Staliūnas
In Lithuanian and English
Translated to English by Stephen C. Rowell

The book represents the catalogue of a Lithuanian-Dutch mobile exhibition where the reader will find a number of essays on Jewish history and extremely rare illustrations and reproductions covering a period of more than six hundred years of Lithuanian history to the very end of the 20th century. The catalogue features pre-war Lithuania’s Zionists, armed Jewish partisan units during World War II, Jews’ rescuers and murders, as well as the rebirth of the Jewish community in the new Republic of Lithuania, and also new manifestations of anti-Semitism that are causing concern.

1st Edition
ISBN 9986-34-090-X

2nd Edition
www.zara.lt
info@zara.lt

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**Žydu kultūros paveldas Lietuvoje**
**JEWISH CULTURAL HERITAGE IN LITHUANIA**

Straipsnių rinkinys
Compiled by Alfredas Jomantas
Separate editions in Lithuanian and English
Translated from Lithuanian by Alumnus

Jewish Cultural Heritage in Lithuania is a book dedicated to everyone who is partial to the environment that surrounds oneself and its relations with history. Here scientific analysis, historical facts and the warmth of personal memory are interlinked. One reads and understands that more and more, under ordinary objects and images lay exceedingly rich and mysterious traces of economic, financial and cultural activity.

Lithuanian edition:
www.savastis.kpc.lt

English edition:
ISBN 9955-699-47-7
www.versus.lt
versus@versus.lt

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**Žydai Šiauliųose: dingusio pasaulio ženklai**
**JEWS IN ŠIAULIAI: THE SIGNS OF THE WORLD THAT DISAPPEARED**

Film created by: Vilija Ulinskytė, Saulius Pučinskas, Vaidotas Kazlauskas, and Tomas Sinkevičius
Multimedia
In Lithuanian

Between the two world wars the city of Šiauliai had one of the largest Jewish communities in Lithuania. Throughout those three decades, Jews living in harmony with their neighbors, contributed to the city’s material wealth, its culture and architectural originality. United into this close community, they cherished their own cultural and religious traditions and values. The history of the formerly prosperous, and later scattered world of Jews who lived once in Šiauliai, is now being told by the museum exhibits: old photographs, documents, fragments of newsreels, memoirs of contemporaries, and surviving architectural heritage.

Šiauliai: Publishing House of Šiauliai Aušros Museum, 2005, 1 DVD (45 min., 44 s.)
**Izis**

An exhibition catalogue
Compiled by Margarita Matulytė and Loïc Salfati
Translated by Isabelle Chandavoine and Akvilė Melkūnaitė
In Lithuanian and French

The catalogue presents the work of the famous French photographer that was born in a Jewish family in Marijampolė, Lithuania. Izis formed his signature style and revealed his unique qualities in the cultural and photographic environment of Paris. For twenty years starting from 1949, Izis worked at the very popular magazine Paris-Match. He photographed such celebrities as Mark Chagall, Albert Camus, Colette and other renowned artists, writers and politicians. Izis followed the ideology of French humanist photography, but he managed to discover his unique individuality and create his original world.

Vilnius: Lithuanian Art Museum, 2006, 158 p., illustrated
ISBN 9986-669-57-x
www.ldm.lt
Kauno dailininkų žydų
kūryba ir likimas

Compiled by Irina Nikitina
Translated to English
by Danutė Davidonienė
In Lithuanian and English

The book describes the open artistic environment in pre-war Kaunas, which at the time was the provisional capital of Lithuania, and shows how the multilingual and multinational cultural scene influenced the worldview of many Jewish painters and how this rich culture was destroyed by the Nazis and their helpers.

ISBN 978-9986-34-175-8
www.jmuseum.lt
g.museumdir@aiwanet.lt

Lara Lempert

Litvak Cuisine

Translated from Lithuanian
by Olga Lempert
In English

This book presents traditional Litvak dishes, and a short survey of the traditions of their preparation technology and eating rituals during various celebrations. Kosher foods, preparation and eating traditions combining with today’s food technologies and nutrition habits are looked at in this book.

Vilnius: Baltos Lankos, 2008, 40, illustrated
www.baltoslankos.lt
leidykla@baltoslankos.lt

Dovid Katz

Windows to a Lost Jewish Past. Vilna book stamps

In English

In this unique study, forgotten book stamps rise up anew as witnesses to the bygone civilization of the Jewish Vilna of old, saying much about its people, culture and society. From religious to radical, these book stamps tell the story of a rainbow of diversity within the Jewish life of a city once known as the Jerusalem of Lithuania.

ISBN 978-9955-341-20-0
www.versus.lt
versus@versus.lt
Legendiniai mažosios scenos artistai

LEGENDARY ARTISTES OF THE SMALL STAGE

Compiled by Rūta Skudienė and A. Motieka
In Lithuanian and English
Multimedia

The variety genre came to Lithuania simultaneously with the country’s independence in February 1918. Yet Lithuania had to walk along a difficult path towards progress and economic sufficiency. Once the independence movement subsided and life had regained its normal pace, the influence of a new and more progressive Western culture emerged. Links with Bolshevist Russia were cut off, as were links with Poland after the Polish occupation of Vilnius and the Vilnius region. Lithuania was the only European country deprived of its historical capital. Kaunas, a former northwestern city of the Russian Empire, became the interim capital.

Vilnius: Semplice, 2009, 2 CD
www.semplice.lt
info@semplice.lt

Sounds of Silence.
Signs of Jewish Life in Lithuania

Compiled by Izaokas Zibucas
In English

Nowadays the word genocide is sometimes trivialized for political advantage. But real genocide leaves its toxic residue: an extinct race. It is no disrespect to the very small but vibrant and creative Jewish communities of Vilnius and a few other cities today to take note that close to all of the erstwhile 239 Jewish communities on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania are now Jewish ghost towns. For centuries, the compact and awesome culture of Lithuanian Jewry had never failed to impress a visitor. This book is a stark collection of compellingly haunted images from these ghosts, mostly from the realm of traditional Lithuanian Jewish religious culture: cemeteries, study houses, synagogues, shtetl scenes. The album, supplied with an introduction by Dovid Katz (quoted above), contains about 130 photographs, and a list of shtetl names in the territory of Lithuania with concise demographic statistics.

www.paknioleidykla.lt
centras@paknioleidykla.lt
Memoirs and Sources

Edith Stein

Iš žydų šeimos gyvenimo
FROM THE JEWISH FAMILY LIFE
Translated from German by Dalia Ėčkatauskiene
In Lithuanian

This biography of Edith Stein contains a full length story of her childhood and days of youth exactly the way she told it herself. The author wrote it with the aim to illustrate the tragedy and happiness of Jewish family life and reveal its deepest secrets and beauty. Looking at her life, she says: “What was not in the plans of mine was in the plans of God.”

ISBN 9986-04-116-3
www.katalikuleidiniai.lt
leidykla@katalikuleidiniai.lt

Sara Gintaitė-Rubinsonienė

Atminimo knyga: Kauno žydų bendruomenė 1941–1944
THE MEMORY BOOK: THE KAUNAS JEWISH COMMUNITY BETWEEN 1941–1944
In Lithuanian
Summary in English

The author, who was born in Kaunas and left gymnasium on the day the war broke out, currently resides in Canada where she has taught social sciences and studied the Holocaust problems in East Europe and particularly in Lithuania. The book is a testimony of direct experience disclosing the fate of one family and at the same time of the entire Kaunas Jewish community from 1941 to 1944. This is a book of both reminiscences and the author’s comments based on sources in Lithuanian, Hebrew, Yiddish and English. It tells not only of the genocide of the Jews, but also of the armed resistance and life of the Jews in Lithuania. The book also deals with anti-Semitic stereotypes and the reaction of the country’s society today to the problems of the Jewish-Lithuanian relations.

ISBN 9986-09-198-5
www.margirastai.lt
margirastai@takas.lt

Avraham Tory

Kauno getas: diena po dienos
THE KAUNAS Ghetto: FROM DAY TO DAY
Translated from English by Leonas Judelevičius
In Lithuanian

An unusually detailed diary describing life and death in the ghetto of Kaunas from June 1941 to January 1944. Tory, secretary of the Kaunas ghetto, managed to save many of the ghetto council’s official documents and reports. He also saved photographs, sketches, and drawings which were made by those in the ghetto. Most important, Tory kept an almost daily diary of all the events which befell him and his fellow inmates. His grim recordings show the determined attempt of the Germans to destroy all that was human in the ghetto, while the Jews struggled as best they could to survive the horrors meted out to them. This annotated edition is a terrifying and enlightening document, the most detailed diary extant of the major European ghettos.

ISBN 5-420-01462-9
www.meli.lt
meli@meli.lt
The book publishes the proceedings of meetings of the Lithuanian Provisional Government (1941) found in 2001 in one of Vilnius' libraries. Among them are also proceedings, which reveal that this Government, brought to power by the anti-communist rebels in the first days of the Nazi-Soviet war and surviving only for a month and a half, regardless of which goals it pursued, assisted the Nazis in discriminating against and ruining Lithuania's Jewish community.

This is a book of reminiscences by a Jew who in his early childhood lived through the Holocaust and was rescued by several Lithuanians. The book abounds in episodes, which become imprinted in one's memory and convey the horror of the tragedy of the Lithuanian Jews and the post-war fate of those, who survived and did not return to Soviet Lithuania. The author, a former prisoner of Dachau, tells how he went to Palestine and his comeback to present-day Lithuania where he travels along the path of his childhood and wartime.

The book contains letters, articles and documents relating to the Holocaust in Lithuania and the attempts made by many Lithuanians to save Jews from the clutches of death.

In Lithuanian edition:
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leidyba@genocid.lt

1st English edition:
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www.garnelis.lt
garnelis@garnelis.lt

2nd English edition:
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Žydų darbo stovykla
THE H. K. P. JEWISH LABOR CAMP
Compiled by Irina Guzenberg
Translated to English by Svetlana Šatalova
In Lithuanian, English, Russian

The book presents a collection of documents on the H.K.P. Jewish Labor Camp, which existed in Vilnius in 1943/44 after the liquidation of the Ghetto. It has an introductory article on the history of the camp and documents such as daily work sheets, tables, data on the number of inmates, official correspondence, etc. Like the previous book it presents a new page of Lithuanian’s history and particularly of the Holocaust.

isbn 9955-9556-1-9
www.jmuseum.lt
g.museumdir@aivanet.lt

Šiaulių getas.
Kalinių sąrašai
THE ŠIAULIAI GHETTO.
LIST OF PRISONERS
Compiled by Irina Guzenberg and Jevgenija Sedova
Translated to English and Russian by Dalia Karpivaitė and Svetlana Šatalova
In Lithuanian, English and Russian

This book continues a series of supplements to the almanac The Jewish Museum. It is the first publication of lists of prisoners of the Šiauliai Ghetto, kept in Lithuanian archives. The lists were compiled during the general population census of Lithuania, in May 1942. The book includes articles and photographic material, as well as an alphabetical index of names of ghetto residents. Two large essays, one written by a ghetto survivor, and the other by a professional historian, describe the Holocaust in Šiauliai and in the whole region. The book also contains an explanatory article for the lists and numerous pre-WWII and post-war photographs of Šiauliai and its Jewish residents.

isbn 9955-9556-0-0
www.jmuseum.lt
g.museumdir@aivanet.lt

Iš tos vietos ir laiko
FROM THAT PLACE AND TIME: A MEMOIR
Compiled by Irina Guzenberg
Translated to English by Svetlana Šatalova
In Lithuanian

This book is the memoir of Lucy S. Dawidowicz, an American-Jewish historian who set out to study Yiddish language and Jewish history at YIVO, the Jewish Scientific Institute in Vilna (Vilnius) in 1938. Escaping Vilna only days before the Nazi onslaught, she worked at the New York YIVO during the war, and returned to Europe from 1946 to 1947 to aid Jewish displaced persons in Munich and Belsen with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Dawidowicz’s memoir not only describes her pre-war year in Jewish Eastern Europe, but also treats the ghostly post-war period, and her role in salvaging what remained of Vilna’s scorched Jewish archives and libraries.

isbn 9955-428-38-4
www.garnelis.lt
garnelis@garnelis.lt
Su adata širdyje
WITH A NEEDLE IN THE HEART
Memoirs of former prisoners of ghettos and concentration camps
Translated by Diana Bartkutė-Barnard, Aldona Matulytė
Edited by Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania
In Lithuanian and English
In this book speak those who witnessed the death of innocent people, and who bade farewell to their next of kin for good, and who were lovingly conceived during the first months of 1941 and who were forbidden to be born.
We will hear from those who were teenagers at the time, and under conditions of physical and spiritual captivity retained the ability to rejoice and dream: a boy tended furry rabbits in the attic of cramped ghetto lodgings, schoolchildren went to school, there was a chorus, and the ghetto library lent the 100,000th book to one of its readers. Here we will find many examples of endurance and courage, genuine friendship and self-sacrifice, all which contradict the view that people turn into beasts under extreme conditions.
www.garnelis.lt
garnelis@garnelis.lt

Hermanas Kruk

Paskutinės Lietuvos Jeruzalės dienos: Vilniaus geto ir stovykų kronikos, 1939–1944
THE LAST DAYS OF JERUSALEM OF LITHUANIA: THE CRONICS OF VLINA GHETTO AND CAMPS
Compiled by Benjamin Harshav
Translated by Aldona Matulytė
In Lithuanian
Herman Kruk describes events starting in September 1939, when he fled Warsaw occupied by the Germans and became a refugee in Vilnius, the Jerusalem of Lithuania. His diaries tell us about two tragic years of the Vilnius Ghetto and later years in Estonian death camps. This unique chronicle presents all found pages of Kruk’s diaries and witnesses’ stories about the destruction of the Vilnius Jewish community and their efforts to maintain ideological, social and cultural life even when their world was being destroyed. The diaries reflect the reality of the daily ghetto and camp life rumors about the world war going on outside the ghetto walls.
leidyba@genocid.lt

Saliamonas Maimonas

Gyvenimo istorija
THE STORY OF LIFE
Translated from German by Vita Gaigalaitė
Foreword by Larisa Lepmertienė
In Lithuanian
It is the autobiography of Saliomon ben Joshua, a Jewish philosopher born in Lithuania and who called himself Maimon. The author speaks clearly and in detail, but records only those things which shaped him as a personality and philosopher. The Jewish nation is described objectively, without being partial. The autobiography was written in German and published in 1792. The first translation into Yiddish came out only in 1871 (a shortened translation). In 1890 the translation into Russian was announced in the Jewish Library Series. It was translated into Hebrew only in 1888–1889.
knyga@llti.lt
Samuel Bak

The author of the book, Samuel Bak, a famous Jewish painter, was born in 1933 in Vilnius. Being just a nine-year-old boy, he held his first exhibition of drawings in the Vilnius Ghetto. The book offers picturesque and moving memories of the author about the city of his childhood, about his closest and dearest people and their often tragic fate in the years of World War II. With the help of dedicated people and having survived the liquidation of the Vilnius Ghetto, Samuel Bak has lived, created and held exhibitions of his works in many countries of the world. After more than fifty years, he again visited his native city.

Vilnius: Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, 2009, in print
www.genocid.lt
leidyba@genocid.lt

Mokslas krikščioniškas žemaitiškai parašytas.
Kun. Jono Krizostomo Gintilos žemaitiškas kateizmas hebrajų rašmenimis

One of the most original pieces of the multi-linguistic handwritten heritage of the Lithuanian Hebraist priest Jan Chrizostom Gintilo (1788–1857) is Science Christian Written in the Lowlander Language. It is a catechism written in the Lowlanders’ dialect but using Hebrew script. The book contains the facsimiles of this unique source and the catechism text which was transliterated and translated into English. The editorials discuss the linguistic subtleties of the experiment, the motives of the idea and the author’s expectations as well as the circumstances of the preparation of the catechism.

Vilnius: Lietuvių kalbos institutas, 2009, in print, facsimiles, illustrations
www.liki.lt
knyga@lki.lt
Translations

Nicholas de Lange

Judaizmas
JUDAISM

Translated from English by Mėta Žukaitė
In Lithuanian

This book is the result of many years dedicated to teaching and contemplating on Judaism. It is a book about Judaism suitable for a reader and researcher who already possess insight not only on Judaism, but also in religion and history. The author explains the grounds Judaism is based on and the development of Judaism during the last century. Nicholas de Lange is author of such important books as Apocrypha: Jewish Literature of the Hellenistic Age and Atlas of the Jewish World.

ISBN 9986-890-19-1
www.aidai.lt
aidai@aidai.lt

Paul Johnson

Žydų istorija
A HISTORY OF THE JEWS

Translated from English by Mėta Mikelaitienė and Linas Rybelis
In Lithuanian

The author delivers a brilliant and comprehensive one-volume survey covering 4,000 years of Jewish history. His book is a forceful and sustained analysis of Jewish emergence and an interpretation of how Jewish history, philosophy, ethics, and social and political notions interplay with world history.

ISBN 9986-590-80-9
www.aidai.lt
aidai@aidai.lt

Raul Hilberg

Nusikaltėliai. Aukos. Stebėtojai
PERPETRATORS, VICTIMS, BYSTANDERS:
THE JEWISH CATASTROPHE, 1933–1945

Translated from English by Dalia Švambarytė
In Lithuanian

This classical book of Raul Hilberg, a well-known Holocaust researcher, deals with this theme from several aspects. The participants in and contemporaries of the tragedy are divided into three groups: offenders, victims and observers, in other words people who were eye-witnesses of the events or heard about them, but who were not directly involved in them. The book shows in an impressive and convincing manner what happened to mixed Jewish-Christian families in Nazi-occupied Europe. Based on documents, rare facts and abundant memories, a broad panoramic view is created.

ISBN 5-420-01451-3
www.meli.lt
meli@meli.lt
Sergio Romano

Laškas bičiuliui žydui

LETTER TO A JEWISH FRIEND

The book discusses the complex problems surrounding the evaluation of Jewish history and culture, with emphasis on various aspects of the relationships between Jews and Christians, different views on anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism and the position of the Church. This translation into Lithuanian additionally includes an article titled Being Jewish in the East, which was announced in the collection Regards Critiques sur le XX siècle.

ISBN 9986-590-90-6
aidai@aidai.lt

Gershon David Hundert

Lenkijos ir Lietuvos žydai aštuonioliktame amžiuje

JEWS IN POLAND-LITHUANIA IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

The experience of Jews in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 18th century did not fit the pattern of integration and universalisation – in short, of westernization – that historians tend to place at the origins of Jewish modernity. Hundert puts this experience, that of the majority of the Jewish people, at the centre of his history. He focuses on the relations of Jews with the state and their role in the economy, and on more “internal” developments such as the popularization of the Cabbala and the rise of Hasidism. Thus he describes the elements of Jewish experience that became the basis for a “core Jewish identity” which is an identity that accompanied the majority of Jews into modernity.

ISBN 9955-682-09-4
www.eugrimas.lt
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Guides and reference books

Генрих Аграновский

Литовский Иерусалим

JERUSALEM OF LITHUANIA

In Russian

A brief guidebook on memorable places of Jewish history and culture in Vilnius.


Izraelis Lempertas

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THE JEWISH THEME IN LITHUANIAN PRESS

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In Lithuanian, Russian and English

Three bibliographical indices (the period 1994-1995 is in preparation) cover the periods of 1985-1989, 1990-1991 and 1992-1993. It contains references to all articles concerning Jewish themes which appeared during this period in the Lithuanian press. This is an especially valuable tool for research. The references are in English, Lithuanian and Russian.

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Israelis Lempertas

Mūsų Vilne

OUR VILNE

In Lithuanian and English
Translated to English by Vida Urbonavičius

Vilnius is the city of traditional Jewry. The community of Vilnius was always famous for its spiritual leaders. This book introduces well known figures and memorable places in both Lithuanian and English. Photographs of these places and their positions on the map positions are also included.

www.gp.lt
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**Tomas Venclova**

**Vilniaus vardai**

**VILNIUS: A GUIDE TO ITS NAMES AND PEOPLE**

Seperate editions in Lithuanian and in English

*Several years ago, Tomas Venclova wrote Vilnius. City Guide, a highly popular book that was published in five languages. Vilnius: A Guide to Its Names and People, according to the author, is a second volume of this guide, and a book about famous people who left their mark on the history of the city. The author has discovered little known information and lively details about many of them. The book maintains an unbiased relationship, and provides impartial commentary. Its nine chapters present biographies of 576 people whose lives involved Vilnius.*

Lithuanian edition:

isbn 9986-830-96-6

English edition:

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**Genrich Agranovskij**

**Irina Guzenberg**

**Vilnius: 100 memorable sites of Jewish history and culture**

*This booklet is dedicated to 100 Jewish historical sites and personalities in Vilna containing four sections: Remembering the Past, The Catastrophe, Jewish Cemeteries and the Present Day. In each part there is a short description of the site accompanied by a photograph.*

isbn 9955-955-67-8

www.jmuseum.lt
g.museumdir@aivanet.lt
Jews in Lithuania. History, Culture, Heritage

Edited by Jurgita Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė and Larisa Lempert
In Lithuanian

This study by Lithuanian, Polish, France, Israel, Russia and Belarus authors is dedicated to Lithuanian Jews, known as Litvaks. In the course of almost 700 years of their presence in Lithuania, Jews created a flourishing and diverse culture. The religious culture of Lithuanian Jews enriched the world Jewry. This study deals with Jewish traditions, culture and daily life in Lithuania and covers all history of the Jewish community.

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