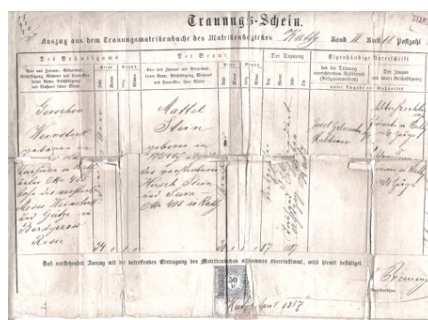


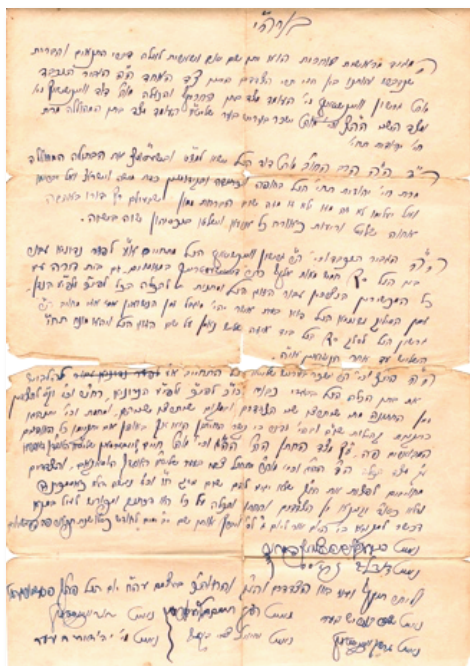
# Introduction

Reb Dovid Weinstock זצ"ל was born on 21 April (16 Nisan) 1875 in Kitov (Kuty), in south-eastern Galicia, the firstborn child of Reb Gershon and Mattel Weinstock<sup>1</sup>. Reb Gershon was born in about 1857 to a Sadigerer family (in Berditchev according to some of his descendants, although a 1926 identity card refers to Proskarov (now Khmelnytskyi)). He was a successful dealer in emeralds and other precious stones (supplying some of the crowned heads of Europe), as his other two sons, Herschel and Berl (Beri), were also to become.



Marriage Certificate of R' Gershon & Mattel Weinstock, Kuty, April 1887

Reb Dovid, however, devoted himself to learning Torah. When he was young he went to study under Rav Meir Arak זצ"ל, one of the most famous and distinguished Torah scholars of the time, and with outstanding diligence Reb Dovid became a great Torah scholar in his own right. His business endeavours, whether as the owner of a bank in Podhajce to which he moved in 1896, or with jewellery in Vienna, where he lived from 1914, were not notably successful. But throughout his life he learned and wrote copious amounts of Torah, where his heart truly lay (particularly kabbalah)<sup>2</sup>. He was, in the words of his nephew Yisroel (Srulek) Weinstock, modest, quiet and reserved, living in his world of Torah and holiness.



T'noim (Engagement Agreement) between R' Dovid & Chajcie (Beer), Pressburg, 22 November 1920

Reb Dovid's first marriage ended after 20 years of childlessness<sup>3</sup>. Difficult as it was for him to part from his first wife, still less was he able to bear not having the children for which he yearned.

In 1921 he married Chaye Ides Liebermann-Ber<sup>4</sup>, 21 years his junior. She was born on 10 May (27 Iyar) 1896 in Litovisk (Lutowiska) in western Galicia (now southern Poland), the daughter of the Rabbi of the town, Rabbi Yossochor Dov Beer and his wife Sheindel (née Liebermann, from a Sanz/Dombrov family). Reb Dovid and Chajcie had five children, Feige (Fay) in 1922, Sara in 1923, Naftoli (Tully) in 1924, Zvi in 1925 and Ester (Esti) in 1929. Chaye Ides admired her learned husband, whom she called Dudy, and they were devoted to each other.

There was often financial strain; Chaye Ides helped to support the family by opening a wool shop, "Wolle Weinstock"<sup>5</sup>. Her daughters, Feige and Sara, helped with the selling and taught customers to knit, as well as knitting clothing for themselves.

<sup>1</sup> Their ancestry is set out following this Introduction.  
<sup>2</sup> Two large volumes of his "Kol Dovid" have been published, as has his correspondence with Rav Meir Arak זצ"ל (in the memorial volume of Rav Yechezkel Abramsky זצ"ל) and with Rav Avrohom Simcha Horowitz of Barnov זצ"ל (in the second volume of Kol Dovid).  
<sup>3</sup> He had earlier been engaged to Hinde, only child of his mother's sister Feige (from her first marriage), but she died aged 22 on 1 Elul 1897 shortly before they were due to marry.  
<sup>4</sup> Known as Chajcie (phonetically somewhere between xatʃə and xa:tʃə).  
<sup>5</sup> A paper bag for items sold there has survived and a picture of it appears in "My Story" by Sara Schreiber on page 13.