

The Jews in the Soviet Union since 1917

Paradox of Survival

Volume I

Nora Levin

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS
New York and London

Contents

Volume I

Photographs *xi*

Maps *xv*

Tables *xvii*

Preface *xix*

Acknowledgments *xxv*

Chronology of Events Related to the Text *xxix*

1. Pre-Bolshevik Jewish Parties and Lenin's View of Jewish Nationality 1
2. Jews in the Cross Fire of War and the Bolshevik Struggle for Power, 1914–21 27
3. The Collapse of Jewish Political Parties and the Rise of the Evsektsiya 46
4. The Campaign against Traditional Jewish Life, 1917–29 68
5. The Campaign against Zionism and Hebrew Culture 87
6. Uprooting and Resettlement on the Land, 1922–28 120
7. Jews under the New Economic Policy (NEP), 1921–27 152
8. Yiddish Culture in the Soviet Mold: Soviets, Courts, Schools, and Scholarship 168
9. Yiddish Literature and Theater, 1917–30 193
10. Proletarianization: Collectivization of Agriculture and the End of the Jewish Colonies 222
11. Proletarianization: The First Five Year Plan and Industrialization, 1928–39 239

viii *Contents*

12. Stalin's Iron Age: New Controls, Repression, and Anti-Semitism, 1929–34 259
13. Birobidzhan, 1928–40 282
14. The Great Purges, 1936–38, and the Hitler-Stalin Pact, 1939–41 312
15. Jews in the Soviet-Annexed Territories, September 1939–June 1941 335
16. Jews as Pawns in Polish-Soviet Relations, 1941–46 360
17. The Jewish Antifascist Committee and Other Illusions, 1942–43 379
18. Jews and the War 398
19. Jewish War Losses, Traumas, and Ominous Signs, 1944–46 421
20. Collapse of JAC Projects and Signs of the Cold War, 1944–47 446
21. Soviet Policy toward the Jewish State and Hebrew Stirrings, 1946–49 471
22. Birobidzhan Diversion and Onset of the Black Years, 1946–49 488
23. Power Struggles, the Cold War, Trials, and Purges, 1949–52 512

Volume II

24. Intensified Persecution: Anti-Semitism Becomes Official Policy, 1952–54 527
25. The Heirs of Stalin, 1953–56: Restricted Thaw 551
26. "We Have No Intention of Reviving a Dead Culture": Jewish Policy under Khrushchev in the 1950s 574
27. The Literary "Thaw," 1956–62, and the First Jewish National Stirrings, 1958–63 599
28. The Sixties: Renewed Attacks on Jews and Judaism and a Few Concessions 615
29. The West, Dissidents, and the "Jews of Silence" Protest Soviet Repression, 1960–68 638
30. The Jewish National Movement: Trials, Tests, and Affirmations, 1968–71 657
31. The Jewish Emigration Movement and Western Support, 1971–76 691

32. Jewish Emigration, 1976–84: Trials, Achievements, Doubts, and Dilemmas 730
 33. Permitted Margins of Jewish Life, 1970–85 757
 34. A People in Limbo: The Continuing Soviet Jewish Predicament 786
- Notes 817
- Glossary 985
- Index 991