

The dissertation „*Polish refugees in Soviet Middle Asia, Iran and India in times of Second World War, and their later fortunes*” is dedicated to Polish civil population deprived of freedom by the USSR authorities and deported mainly from Eastern Poland to far regions of Soviet Empire, describing their emigration and temporary settlements for Poles in Iran and India.

The dissertation consists of three chapters. The first one is an introduction to the subject matter presented in the parts following it and is devoted to the Poles' locations in the areas taken over by the USSR, amnesty, Polish army creation, and finally, tragic situation of Polish civil population and their evacuation to Iran.

The last subsection tells about the present condition of Polish cemeteries in the former Soviet Middle Asia, especially in Uzbekistan.

The second chapter covers the situation of Poles in Iran and their gradual evacuation to other countries. In the first subsection, among other things, the health and living conditions, the relations between Poles and Iranians are examined. In the following subsections, the deployment of civil people in Iran is analyzed, as well as their day to day existence, the organization of Polish representatives activity, the development of education, scouting movement, and cultural, educational and religious activities. In the last subsection, the condition of Polish cemeteries in Iran is presented.

The life of Polish population in India is described in the third chapter. In its first subsection, the activity and the role of Polish consulate in Mumbai is analyzed. Next, Polish refugees' centers in India are characterized – including the ones currently in Pakistan area. Further on, the author describes the origins of Polish largest refugees settlement in India – Valivade. The living conditions there, educational, cultural, religious activities and entertainment forms are analyzed.

Finally the postwar situation of Polish refugees from India has been shown after their return to Poland and of those who decided to stay abroad.

In the last subsection the beginnings of the Polish Circle from India in 1942-1948 have been analyzed.

Andrzej Janda