Repatriates

Name given to those Jews who fled eastwards to Soviet territory during the war, and returned to Poland after the war was over. After witnessing the destruction of their homes, families and communities, most of them travelled westwards and joined the survivors in the DP camps. At the end of 1946, about two-thirds of She’arit Hapleta were actually "repatriates", who had spent long, hard years of exile in Russia. However, this group was completely different from the camp survivors: they had not experienced the horrors of the Holocaust directly, and were composed of different age groups.