

Story of an Old Rabbi from Akkerman

Source (Cyrillic) <https://old-akkerman.livejournal.com/37227.html>

He lived to be **92** years old.

It's hard to even imagine how much this wise Jew saw in his lifetime.

He was born in the Nicholas era, survived four kings, and under him the Crimean, Russian-Turkish and World Wars died down. During his years there were two terrible Jewish pogroms. As an old man, he saw the revolution and the capture of Bessarabia by the Romanians.

For more than half a century, **Wolf Joachimovich Kroshkin** was the spiritual head of the Akkerman Jewish community.

ИНОВАРЧЕСКИХЪ ИСПОВѢДАНІЙ
Еврейскаго
Раввина г. Аккермана Вольфъ Крошкинъ
Николаевская, соб. домъ

*INOVARCESKIH CONFESSIONS of the
Jewish Rabbi of Akkerman Wolf Kroshkip
Nikolaevskaya, own house*

Wolf Kroshkin was born in **1837**, the year when Pushkin was mortally wounded in a duel.

Back in **1863**, young Wolf was elected rabbi of Akkerman for the first time.

2 years later, in Akkerman, "*on the bright holidays,*" the first **Jewish pogrom** in the Russian Empire thundered. Greek traders crushed their Jewish competitors, and Russian police separated them. The reason for the pogrom was the accusation of Jews in the death of the Patriarch of Constantinople.

For many years, Wolf Joachimovich served as a Public Rabbi. He collected large donations, which were used for Jewish education and charity.



В. І. Крошкинъ,
аккерманскій общественный раввинъ.
(По случаю исполняющагося 1 янва-
ра 40-лѣтія службы)

*"Odessa News", 1903.
From the collection of the Odessa Scientific
Library.*

V. I. Kroshkin,
*Akkerman public rabbi
(On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of
service on January 1)*

A rabbi is not a clergyman. This is a person whose amount of knowledge in Jewish laws allows him to act as an adviser and judge in resolving various everyday issues. The higher the rabbi's learning, the broader his activities - he could write scientific works, keep students with him, or even create educational institutions. The rabbi was invited by the community, which was obliged to support him.

From **1873** to **1912**, Wolf Kroshkin was a teacher of the Jewish faith at the District School - later renamed the City 5th-grade school, and then the Higher Primary School.

Городское 3-хъ классное училище.

(Александровская, д. Арендаренко)

Почетный смотритель

к. с. Ал. Петр. Руссовъ—Одесса, Садовая соб. д.

Инспекторъ училища

к. с. Дм. Дмит. Сухоруковъ—въ зданіи училища

Законоучитель

свящ. Вас. Юс. Кочубинскій—Соборная соб. д.

Преподаватели:

с. с. Евг. Ив. Софیانовъ—Скобелевская, соб. д.

к. с. Илья Ал. Стояновъ—Михайл. д. Пюнтковскаго

Ив. Сем. Юнцовъ—въ здан. училища

к. с. Гав. Ст. Степановъ—Ст-Армянск. соб. д.

Влад. Ар. Свлярено—въ зданіи училища

Законоучитель еврейск. вѣры

равинъ Крошкинъ—Николаевск. соб. д.

City 3-grade school.

(Alexandrovskaya, Arendarenko village)

Honorary Warden

k.s. Al. Peter. Russov - Odessa, Sadovaya sob, village Inspectors of the school

k.s. Dm. Dmit. Sukhorukov in the building of the school Law Teacher

priest You. Ios Kochubinsky - Cathedral collection.

d.

Teachers:

With. With. Evg. Iv. Sofianov - Skobelevskaya, coll. d.

no c. Ilya Al Stoyanov - Mikhail. d. Piontkowskago

Iv. Sem. Yuntsov - in the school building

g. with Gav. Art. Stepanov - St. Armyansk.

personal d.

Vlad Ar Sklyareno - in the building of the Jewish Law School. believe

Rabbi Kroshkin - Nikolaevsk. personal d.

Kroshkin lived on the corner of **Nikolaevskaya** and **Evreiskaya** streets (Dzerzhinsky / Kirov) in a large house of his own, valued in 1906 at 2,453 rubles.

The current address is Nikolaevskaya (Dzerzhinsky), 29.



Kroshkin's house was located near a large trading place - **Gostinnaya Square** (Victory Park), so part of the premises was rented out to businessmen.

The corner part facing Nikolaevskaya Street was rented by Moisey **Kogan**, the former manager of Krasnyansky's haberdashery store (located across the street).

In rented premises, Kogan engaged in shoe and textile trade, and also sold tile machines and construction products.

ПЕСОКЪ
Значительный заработок для

Жилые дома,
сухие, теплые вдвое
дешевле кирпичных,
дают пустотные
камни изъ песка и
— цемента. —

Вѣчную крышу,
огнеупорную, изящ-
ную, дешевую, даетъ
первоклассн. цвѣтная
черепица изъ песка и
— цемента. —

ЗОЛОТО
всѣмъ желающимъ песокъ

Громадный выборъ
улучшеннѣйшихъ
СТАНКОВЪ И МАШИНЪ
Машиностроит. За. дѣ
РЖЕВУСКИЙ И К^о.
ВАРШАВА, Ординация № 7.
Прейс-Курдизм
БЕЗПЛАТНО.
Руководство Инж. Техн. В.
Залесскаго, 50 к. н. а. плат.
Представит. въ г. Ак-
керманъ М. И. Коганъ,
Николаевская ул. д.
Крошкина.

*SAND Significant earnings don
Residential buildings,
dry, warm, half the price of brick, they produce
hollow stones made of sand and cement. -
Eternal roof,
fireproof, elegant, cheap, gives first-class
performance. colored tiles made of sand and
cement.*
*GOLD of all kinds of sand
Huge selection of IMPROVED
MACHINERY AND MACHINERY
Mechanical engineering. Zad RZHEVUSKIY AND
CO.
WARSAW, Ordinance No. 7. Preis-Kurdizm
FREE.
Management Ing. Tech. V. Zalesskago, 50
edition. plat.
Will present in Akkerman-M. I. Kogan,
Nikolaevskaya st. d.
Kroshkina.*

Nearby was the Koganov watch and jewelry store. The watch workshop on this corner has survived to this day. **Kogan Rakhil Meerovna**

was also engaged in the cap and hat trade there - in her advertising she indicates the address of the workshop - " *Nikolaevskaya Street, Church House*". Wolf Joachimovich Kroshkin was elected Councilor of the City Duma four times (**1906-1917**). June 22, **1913** marked 50 years of Kroshkin's continuous service as a Public Rabbi. For his many years of service, he was awarded the Order of St. Anne to be worn around his neck, which enabled him to apply for the title of Hereditary Honorary Citizen. The Jewish community of Akkerman cared a lot about the health and education of its members. In **1882** , a **Jewish hospital** and a public school, **the Talmud Torah**, were established . The old Jewish hospital was located on the corner of Izmailskaya and Evreiskaya streets. The city rabbi, Wolf Kroshkin, became the chairman of the board of the Jewish Hospital. In **1911**

ШАПОЧНАЯ ТОРГОВЛЯ
и мастерская
Р. М. КОГАНЪ
въ Аккерманъ

по Николаевской улицѣ въ церковномъ домѣ.

БОЛЬШОЙ ВЫБОРЪ ШАПОКЪ Крымскаго барашка и нарану-
левыхъ, сунонныхъ и соломен-
ныхъ шляпъ. фуражекъ форменныхъ и т. п.

ПРИЕМЪ ЗАКАЗОВЪ. Всѣ товары приобретаются съ перышекъ рукъ отъ луч-
шихъ русскихъ и заграничныхъ фабрикантовъ.

Срочные заказы выполняются въ 2 часа.

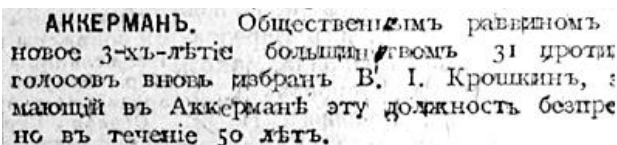
*HAT TRADE and workshop
R. M. Kogan
in Akkerman
along Nikolaevskaya street in a church house,
LARGE SELECTION OF HATS, cloth and straw
hats. uniform cap, etc.
ACCEPTING ORDERS. All products are tested first
hand from the best Russian and foreign
manufacturers.
Urgent orders are processed within 2 hours.*



*AKKERMAN - Public Rabbi V.I. Kroshkin.
(On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of continuous service in this position on June 22).*

The plan for the construction of a new Akkerman Jewish Hospital was approved. Soon a new building went up on the corner of Izmailskaya and Evreiskaya streets. During the Second World War it was destroyed and the educational building of GPTU-10 is now built on its foundation.

Wolf Joachimovich continued to be the spiritual head of the Akkerman Jews. In **1913**, he was again elected Public Rabbi for the next 3rd anniversary.



AKKERMAN. Public rabbi new 3rd anniversary by majority 31 against votes re-elected V. I. Kroshkin, who has held this position in Akkerman without fail for 50 years.

But, in addition to Public Rabbis, in the cities of the Pale of Settlement of the Russian Empire there were also so-called State Rabbis.

A government rabbi is an official imposed by the government on Russian Jews. He had to be chosen by the Jewish community, but he received his support from the state. His task was to register marriages, divorces, births, deaths, and to be the official representative of Jewish society.

Often the elections of such a State Rabbi in Jewish shtetls turned into multi-day “serials” with numerous candidates, supporting parties, bribery of voters and complaints to the governor from rejected candidates.

Akkerman was lucky - the respected Hereditary Honorary Citizen Wolf Joachimovich Kroshkin was repeatedly elected to the positions of both Public and State Rabbis.

Назанный раввинъ г. Аккермана.

Потмств. Почетн. гражданиъ Вольфъ Иоакимовичъ Крошкинъ.

State rabbi of Akkerman.

Posterity Honorary citizens Wolf Ioakimovich Kroshkin.

The wise Rebbe retired as a venerable old man. He was replaced by Yakov **Berger**, a highly educated man who spoke 16 foreign languages (!) and founded the Tarbut Jewish gymnasium in **1919**

. Wolf Joachimovich Kroschkin died on June 12, **1929** in Cetatea-Alba, Romania.

A worthy granite monument was erected to the former rabbi at the Jewish cemetery. Unfortunately, during the Second World War it, along with other tombstones, was destroyed.

Already today, the monument has been partially assembled and installed near the central alley - where the graves of the most respected and learned Jews of the city of Akkerman are located.



The Akkerman rabbi had two children - a son, **Moses**, and a daughter, **Catherine** .

Moisei Volfovich (or **Mikhail Vladimirovich**) was born in **1872** .

It is curious that in those years it was not customary for Jews to count offspring, and each family kept records on blank sheets of the family prayer book. And they might not answer the question “*how many of you are in the family?*”

” so as not to jinx it. Often the authorities determined the age of children by eye. The “*Lists of male Jews by appearance*” have been preserved. In **1975**, Kroschkin Mikhail, son of Wolf, aged 3 years, was mentioned there. There were no other documents for little Moisha.

СПИСОКЪ ПО НАРУЖНОМУ ВИДУ.

Евреямъ мужскаго пола, записаннымъ въ перепись, составленную на основаніи Высочайше утвержденнаго 2-го Октября 1874 года положенія комитета Г.Г. Министровъ, по «*Пулвуну*» участку
Т. Аккерманъ

Составлена 30 Августа 1875 года.

№ по порядку	№ по 10-й народно-поп переписи.	Имя отчество, фамилія и уличное прозвище.	Мѣсто принесен.	Званіе.	ЛѢТА ОТЪ РОДУ.				Особыя примѣча- нія.
					По ревизской сказкѣ.	По дру- гимъ доку- ментамъ.	Дѣйстви- ель- ная лѣта.	По наружному виду лѣта.	
1/12	-	<i>Р. Крауцманъ Михаилъевичъ Колодецк.</i>	<i>Данпр</i>	<i>Вѣстия свѣт</i>	-	-	-	3	

The rabbi's son decided to become a doctor. In **1897**, Mikhail received a medical education in Moscow. He soon returned to Akkerman, where he began to practice as a dentist.

The young doctor quickly gained popularity. During the Jewish pogroms of **1905**, he becomes a member of the "**Committee of Public Safety**," a group of the most respected people in the city who tried to restore order in Akkerman.

Mikhail Vladimirovich lived in his father's house, on the corner of Nikolaevskaya and Evreyskaya, and kept a dental office on Belikovich (Komsomolskaya) street, first in house No. 9, and then in Konstantiner's house, No. 17 - there was also a private office of another famous doctor in Akkerman - Feldstein.



In 1916 , the Kroshkin family suffered great grief - their daughter Ekaterina died of typhus.



"Ackerman Word", March 5, 1917

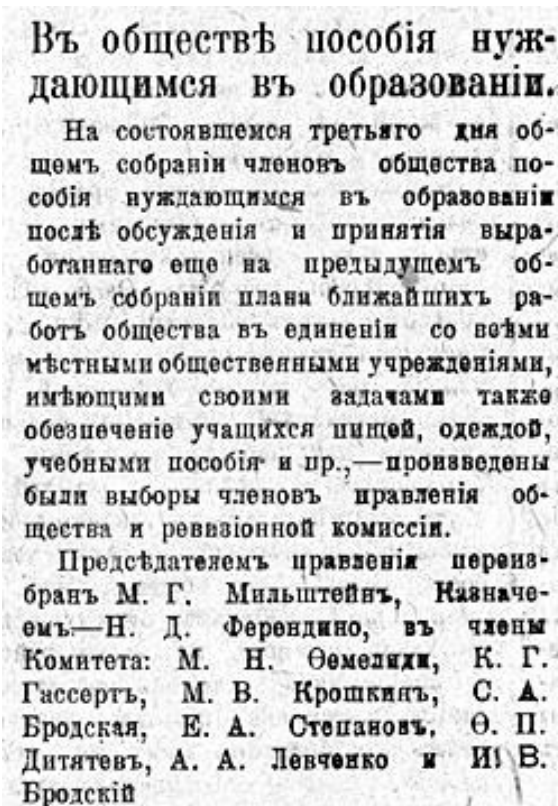
V.I. Kroshkin with his family informs friends and acquaintances that on March 6 at 12 o'clock, morning on the first anniversary of the death of the unforgettable dear daughter and sister of the doctor Ekaterina Vladimirovna Kroshkin The funeral prayer will be performed in the main synagogue.

Dr. Kroshkin held many public and medical positions in Akkerman.

Simultaneously with his private dental practice, Mikhail served as a dentist at the Men's Gymnasium.

In 1910 , he was referred to as Ackerman's city doctor and the head of the prison hospital.

Mikhail Vladimirovich was a member of many charitable organizations in the city, in particular, he was a member of the trusteeship of the Society for Benefiting Poor Jews, as well as a member and treasurer of the board of the Akkerman Public Library.



In society, benefits are provided to those in need of education. At the third day of the general meeting of members of the society for assistance to those in need of education, after discussion and adoption of the plan for the immediate work of the society, developed at the previous general meeting, in unity with all local public institutions, which also have as their tasks the provision of students food, clothing, teaching aids, etc. - elections were made for members of the company's board and audit commission. M. G. Milshtein was re-elected as Chairman of the Board, N. D. Ferendino was appointed as members of the Committee: M. N. Omelili, K. G. Gassert, M. V. Kroshkin, S. A. Brodskaya, E. A. Stepanov, O. P. Dityatev, A. A. Levchenko Brodsky and V.

During Romanian times, Dr. Kroshkin worked in a Jewish hospital.

In 1934, a new hospital building was built on the corner of *Mihail Eminescu* and *Simeon Murafa* streets (now Kalinina/Pervomaiskaya, city maternity hospital).

The head of the hospital's public council, Mikhail Vladimirovich Kroshkin, visited patients every day, quickly responded to their wishes and very rare complaints, checked and approved bills. Every year at the general meeting of "sponsors" who made contributions to the hospital's charitable fund, Mikhail Vladimirovich reported for the use of considerable funds at that time, and over the years no abuses were discovered.

I hope that during World War II the Kroshkin family managed to evacuate. The fate of Alexander's grandson speaks about this indirectly.

This is the information I came across on one of the Israeli sites:

The grandson of Rabbi Kroshkin - **Alexander Mikhailovich** - during World War II he was a military doctor, a war veteran, now lives in Israel

KROSHKIN ALEXANDER MIKHAILOVICH

תאריך לידה: 1915-09-23

Akkerman, Russia

שירות צבאי: Soviet Army, 52 Field Hospital, Major

מלחמה: Voronezh Front

תאריך שחרור: 1990-08-16

Here is a story about another forgotten resident of our city.