

Radoszyce, Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship

Radoszyce ([ˈradɔ ˈʂɨt͡ɕe]; Yiddish: ראַדאָשיץ, Hebrew: רדושיץ *Radoshits*, "**Radoshitz**, **Radoschitz**, **Radoszyc**") is a town in Końskie County, Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, in south-central Poland (historic province of Lesser Poland). It is the seat of the *gmina* (administrative district) called *Gmina Radoszyce*. It lies approximately 19 kilometres (12 mi) south-west of Końskie and 33 km (21 mi) north-west of the regional capital Kielce.^[1] The village has a population of 3,400. Radoszyce was a town from ca. 1370 to 1869.

History

Its name probably comes from a man named Jan, the son of Radosz (*Radosław*), who was mentioned in a 1218 document.

It is not known when Radoszyce received its *town rights*, most likely it happened during the reign of King Kazimierz Wielki, probably around 1370. At that time, Radoszyce was located along a merchant road called "via magna", which started at Piotrków Trybunalski, and went towards Lublin and Sandomierz, via Przedbórz, Radoszyce, Chęciny, Kielce, Bodzentyn, Siemno, and Solec nad Wisłą. The parish church of Radoszyce was probably founded in 1364, in a spot where once a hunting chapel of the Piast dynasty princes stood.

In ca. 1369, a royal manor house was built here. In 1411, King Władysław II Jagiełło stayed here for a short time, on his way north to Prussia. Jagiełło visited the town again in 1425, travelling from Greater Poland to Red Ruthenia. Three years later, the king decided to change Radoszyce's town charter from obsolete Polish regulations to the more modern Magdeburg rights. Jagiełło allowed Radoszyce to make two fairs a year. In 1450, another Polish king, Kazimierz IV Jagiellończyk, stayed here with his daughters. According to the 1564 documents, Radoszyce belonged to Sandomierz Voivodeship, and was under the jurisdiction of a *starosta* from Chęciny. Nearby villages of Radoska and Grodzisko were regarded as Radoszyce's suburbs.

Radoszyce was destroyed and its population decimated in the Swedish invasion of Poland (1655 – 1660). After the wars, Jewish people began to settle here, which resulted in frequent clashes with local Christian population. In 1740, town council banned residents from selling their houses to Jews. In the late Middle Ages, the area of Radoszyce emerged as a center of Polish industry, due to proximity of large forests, which

Radoszyce

Town



Saints Peter and Paul church



Coat of arms



Coordinates: 51°4′25″N 20°15′18″E﻿ / ﻿51.07361°N 20.25472°E﻿ / 51.07361; 20.25472

provided timber for fuel. In 1781, Jacek Małachowski founded a blast furnace in a village of Antoniów near Radoszyce. It quickly emerged as a main producer of armaments in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. In 1787, it was visited by King Stanisław August Poniatowski, who wanted to inspect local iron plants. On November 16, 1794, last Polish units of the Kosciuszko Uprising surrendered to the Russians in the local village of Jakimowice.

Country	 Poland
Voivodeship	Świętokrzyskie
County	Końskie
Gmina	Radoszyce
Established	1364
Population	3,400
Postal code	26–230
Website	http://www.radoszyce.pl

After the Partitions of Poland, Radoszyce was first seized by the Habsburg Empire, and in 1815 – 1915, it belonged to the Russian-controlled Congress Poland. In 1821, after the death of Jacek Małachowski, Radoszyce became the property of the government. Following the plant designed by Stanisław Staszic, the area of Końskie and Radoszyce was designed to become a major center of industry, as Old-Polish Industrial Region. In 1823, a large blast furnace was opened at Samsonów. Radoszyce also received a new blast furnace (1824), but it burned in 1839 and was never rebuilt. After the January Uprising, local industry declined, also due to the fact that major railroads missed Radoszyce.

In 1827, the population of Radoszyce was 1,425, with 252 houses. By 1858, the population grew to 1,934, but together with other locations in northern Lesser Poland Radoszyce lost its town charter after the January Uprising (1869). In 1905, the population of the village was 5,379, with a significant Jewish minority. In the Second Polish Republic, Radoszyce belonged to Kielce Voivodeship, and remained a poor village, whose residents supported themselves by trade, agriculture and services.

In the late autumn of 1939, after the Invasion of Poland, the unit of Major Henryk Dobrzański operated in the area of Radoszyce. Local Home Army units were commanded by Jan Stoński, who was later replaced by Jan Pacak. In the late 1941 and early 1942, Jews of Radoszyce were murdered by Germans in the Holocaust. Since the village was a major center of Polish resistance, German occupiers decided to take their revenge on its population. On September 3 – 4, 1944, Radoszyce was surrounded by the Wehrmacht. All residents were ordered to gather in the market square, and Germans began the massacre. They managed to kill 19 residents, when local Home Army units attacked the Wehrmacht, forcing it to retreat. After the battle, however, the village was completely destroyed. On September 29, 1944, near the village of Gruszka, one of the largest battles of Polish resistance took place.

Famous people born in Radoszyce

- Yisochor Ber Baron (Yiddish: יששכר בער באראן 1765–1843), the 1st "Radoshitzer Rebbe" (Yiddish: ראדאָשיצער רבי), founder of the Radoshitz (Hasidic dynasty)
- Aleksander Derszniak, starosta
- Stanislav (Kasparovich) Eksner (*Echsner, Exner*), Polish: *Stanisław Eksner (Exner)* (1859, Radoszyce – after 1921), a Polish-Russian musician and music educator
- Mikołaj Ossoliński, starosta
- Stanisław Zajączkowski, painter

References

1. "Central Statistical Office (GUS) – TERYT (National Register of Territorial Land Apportionment Journal)" (<http://www.stat.gov.pl/broker/access/prefile/listPreFiles.jsps>) (in Polish). 2008-06-01.
 - "Local history" (<https://sztetl.org.pl/en/towns/r/1385-radoszyce/96-local-history/69933-local-history>). *Virtual Shtetl*. Retrieved 19 October 2018.

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