

Exhibition on Jews' hopes after war opens in Prague

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- exhibiton, Robert Guttman Gallery

Prague, Feb 25 (CTK) - Post-war Czechoslovakia as a crossroads of thousands of displaced Jews who were fleeing pogroms or emigrating to the West and Palestine in the aftermath of World War Two is presented by a new exhibition in the Jewish Museum in Prague, opened Wednesday.

The exhibition, that started in the Robert Guttman Gallery, will last until August 23. It will follow up previous exhibitions on Jewish refugees during World War One.

The exhibition, called Frustrated Hopes, unveils some almost unknown aspects of the history of the Czech Lands after World War Two, associated with the return of Holocaust survivors and transit of tens of thousands of Jewish refugees across the Czech Lands.

The exhibition was created by film documentarist Martin Smok.

The visitors can see photos from orphanages, the renewing of religious life, the return of the chief rabbi from Palestine to Prague and the celebrations of the Hanukkah in 1945.

Thanks to its position in Central Europe, Czechoslovakia became a crossroads of the hopes of thousands of displaced Jews, primarily from Poland, but also from Hungary, Romania and the Soviet Union, after the war.

Some of them wanted to settled down in the Czech Lands, others were heading via Czechoslovakia for the Western occupation zones of Germany and Austria or for America and Palestine.

Last year, the Jewish Museum had almost 580,000 visitors.

ČTK