

## **To raise good Muslims and good citizens – the goals of religious education of Polish Tatars in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries**

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Tatar Muslims, present within Polish borders since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, have always been active participants in the social and political life of the country. The year 1918, i.e. the year Poland regained independence, brought about a revival of religious, cultural and social life of the Tatar community in Poland. New magazines were published and institutions emerged which, along with schools providing religious instruction, took care of religious education of the Tatar community. It was the community itself that defined the goals the education was to fulfil, i.e. on the one hand, teaching young Tatars about the religion and history of their ethnic group, and on the other, turning them into ‘self-aware, virtuous and patient citizens’ (Mustafa Gembicki, 1938). Similar goals guide today’s religious and cultural education in the Tatar community. Its aim is to promote development of a Muslim-Tatar identity and civic attitudes among young Tatars.

The paper will focus on the goals of the religious and cultural education of Polish Tatars and methods of their implementation on the basis of texts written by Tatar activists, school curricula and activities of Tatar Muslim cultural and educational institutions.