

Article in the "Allgemeine Zeitung des Judentums" of January 21, 1879

From **Baden**, January 5 (1879). The 'Germania' can be written: 'The news already reported by us of the occupation by a Jew of a teaching position in Kùlsheim, which has since then only been held by Catholics, has caused great bitterness (?!) in the circles involved, and led to various representations to the authorities. The Badischer Beobachter (an extremely ultramontane paper!) thinks that the requirements are absolutely non-existent in the community that could entitle the authorities to employ a teacher of the minority. There had never been denominational schools in Kùlsheim, and the Jews had not lost a teacher through the new order of things, since they had not had one before; there is also no municipal resolution in this respect. However, there is talk that the city fathers (have refused) to pay the contribution of 160 marks for the religious education of Jewish children, and that they should be sent a Jewish teacher. The higher authority now seems to have sent it to Kùlsheim, without considering that although it ensures religious instruction for 29 Jewish children, it atrophies it for 256 Christian children.

It goes without saying that at this simultaneous school, too, denominational religious instruction is given to students of every denomination. In the secular subjects, the teacher must avoid anything specifically denominational, regardless of which denomination the teacher may belong. How, therefore, the employment of a Jewish teacher could stunt Catholic religious instruction can only be found in ultramontane minds. They may at least claim that in a simultaneous school Catholic religious instruction has atrophied altogether – the denomination of the teacher does nothing about it, unless the gentlemen assume that the Catholic teacher does not satisfy the duty he has assumed, and yet brings the specific denominational into the secular teaching."

Article in the "Allgemeine Zeitung des Judentums" of February 11, 1879

Tauberbischofsheim, January 25. It is astonishing with what audacity ultramontane leaves and leaflets distort the simplest facts. If this did not happen too often, one might assume that these papers were ill-served by their correspondents; but the well-known addiction to slander and the systematic dissemination of untruths does not allow for such a milder view.

Thus, the case which Germania or the Badischer Beobachter regarding the Kùlsheim teacher's position, reported in No. 4 of this newspaper, has been completely distorted, and I have reported the facts to you truthfully in No. 3. I only repeat that it was not the high school council

that imposed the Jewish sub-teacher, but rather the local municipal council demanded it for reasons of economy, which, however, initially arose from over-willingness against the claims of the Jewish community. For further orientation, I would like to inform you that in addition to the Jewish teacher, there are two main Christian teachers working at the same school, who give religious instruction together with the clergy. The atrophy of Catholic religious education, which is so emphatically lamented in Germania, is therefore only a fiddle, calculated to throw sand in the eyes of the people and thereby discredit the authorities. The great bitterness in the circles involved, which is further emphasized in the article, also exists only in the mind of the correspondent, to whom the end of the world seems to be near, because a Jewish teacher, instead of a Christian one, teaches arithmetic, writing, reading, as well as object lessons and a few other subjects in the first two years of school, as if these subjects had anything to do with the denomination. Time, however, passes over to the order of the day about this discrimination, even if here and there the views of certain circles of the people are still clouded by the poisonous omissions of fanatically inclined natures. After a few decades, one will be surprised that such a simple fact, which must be regarded as a demand of justice by anyone whose view is not clouded by prejudice, could stir up so much dust. The gentlemen should finally understand that the present state can only be built on the principles of justice, i.e., the equality of all before the law. M.

Source: Alemannia-judaica, entry: Kùlsheim (Main-Tauber-Kreis) Jewish history/prayer room/synagogue. Retrieved on 09.06.2026