

Alternate name: **Aluni?** **Benesat** is a commune composed of three villages: Aluni?, Benesat and Biu?a. The cemetery is located at Alunis, code 4695, judet Salaj, [4723 2317](http://www.jewishgen.org/cgi-bin/mapquest.pl?&lat=473833&lng=232833), 244.5 miles NNW of Bucharest and 12 km from Cehu Silvaniei. Alternate names: Szeplak (Hungarian). Present town population is under 1,000 with no Jews.

- Mayor Lucacel Ioan, tel. 604931, Benesat
- The Jewish Community of Oradea, Mihai Viteazu Str. no. 4, 3700 Oradea, Romania, tel. 0040-59-134843 (132587)
- The Federation of the Jewish Communities of Romania, Sf. Vineri Str., no. 9-11, sect. 3, Bucharest, Romania
- "Dr. Moshe Carmilly", Institute for Hebrew and Jewish History, Universit?ii Str., no. 7-9, room 61, 3400 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, director Ladislau Gyemant, gyemant@zortec.ro
- Key holder: None

The 1850 Jewish population by census was 4, in 1857 was 8, in 1880 was 38, in 1900 was 16, in 1910 was 10, and in 1930 was 9. In May 1944, the Jews were gathered in the ghetto of Cehei, then in Simleul Silvaniei and were deported to Auschwitz on May 31, June 6 and 8. The unlandmarked Orthodox cemetery was established in 19th century. Last known burial was 20th century.

The isolated rural/agricultural hillside has no sign or marker. Reached by a public road, access is open to all. A fence with a non-locking gate surrounds the site. Approximate pre- and post-WWII size is 150 m. 1-20 stones are visible, some not in original location. 25%-50% of the stones are toppled or broken. Location of stones removed from the cemetery is unknown. Vegetation overgrowth in the cemetery is a seasonal problem preventing access. Water drainage is good all year. No special sections.

The oldest known gravestone dates from 19th century. The 19th and 20th century limestone, marble, and granite common gravestones have Hebrew inscriptions. No known mass graves. The national Jewish community owns the property used for Jewish cemetery and an orchard. Adjacent properties are agricultural. Rarely, private Jewish or non-Jewish visitors stop. The never vandalized cemetery maintenance has been clearing vegetation. Current care is occasional clearing or cleaning by unpaid individuals. No structures. Vegetation is a moderate threat.

Cosmina Popa, Tatra Str. no. 4, tel. 064/ 128764, Cluj Napoca, 3400 and Ioana Oprea, Bd. 21 Decembrie, 13-15, 064/190849, Cluj-Napoca, 3400 visited the site and completed the survey on September 29, 2000 using the following documentation:

- Recensamantul din 1850. Transilvania* (The 1850 Jewish population census. Transylvania) coord.: Traian Rotariu, Cluj 1996.
- Recensamantul din 1857. Transilvania* coord.: Traian Rotariu, Cluj 1997.
- Recensamantul din 1880. Transilvania* coord.: Traian Rotariu, Cluj 1997.
- Recensamantul din 1900. Transilvania* Traian Rotariu, Cluj, 1999
- Recensamantul din 1910. Transilvania* coord.: Traian Rotariu, Cluj 1999.
- Carmilly-Weinberger, Moshe. *History of the Jews of Transylvania (1623-1944)*, Bucuresti, 1994, in Romanian, Budapest, 1995, in Hungarian
- Recensamantul general al populatiei din 29 decembrie 1930* (The General Census of the Population from December 29, 1930), vol. II, Bucuresti 1938
- Szilagy megye Salaj zsidosaganak emlekkonyve*, ed. Giladi David, Tel Aviv, 1989.
- Recensamintul general al populatiei din Romania din 7 ianuarie 1992* (The General Census of the Population of Romania from January 7, 1992), vol. I, Bucuresti, 1994
- Coriolan Suci, *Dictionar istoric al localitatilor din Transilvania* (The Historical Dictionary of Localities in Transylvania), vol. I-II, Bucuresti,

1967 <p>They visited the site on September 29, 2000. No interviews. [January 2003]</p>