C centropa

Rahela Perisic With Her Friends From The Ken



The picture was taken in Banja Luka in 1938. Members of the Zionist youth i.e. Ken are pictured. First from left to right is Judita, my sister, beside her is Rikica Levi, then Rena Atijas, then me, then Puba Kabiljo. The others I do not remember, I only know that kneeling first from the right is Puba Lihnstajn. In Banja Luka my sisters Flora, Judita and I continued our schooling in the gymnasium. Immediately after our arrival we joined the Zionist youth organization, popularly known as Ken. Next to the Temple there was a space in which the Jewish youth from all of Banja Luka gathered. We learned Hebrew, history of the Jewish nation. We had teachers who taught us Jewish songs and dances. I remember how we danced the Hava and other dances with such fervor. Often we organized day trips to picnic sites in the area. With us younger kids there were always older boys and girls and a leader who took strict care about our behavior. When we passed through the town everyone knew that we were Jews because we were dressed in clean clothes, not luxuriously, but very neat, and we were always well behaved.