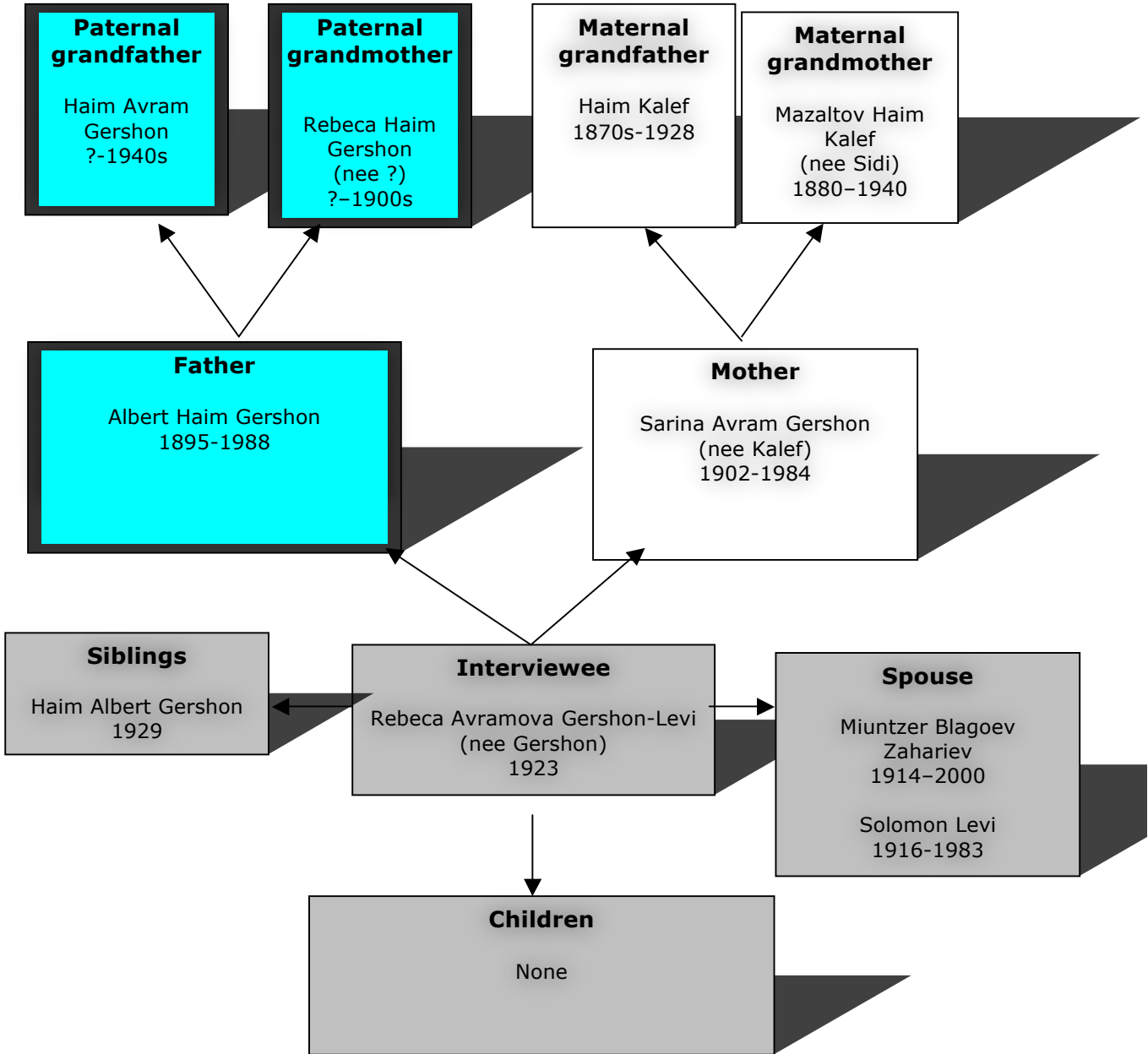


Your family tree



You and your family

Your full name

Rebeca Avramova Gershon-Levi (nee Gershon)

Where and when were you born?

Plovdiv, 29th May 1923

Where else did you live?

Pleven (1943-1944), Sofia (1938-1943 and from 1944 up to now)

Your educational level?

Graduated from Law Faculty of Sofia University

What sort of work do/did you do?

Police Department (1944-1951), Union of the Bulgarian-Soviet Societies (1951-1958), Embassy of Bulgaria in Beijing (today China) (1958-1962), City Organization of the Jurists Union (1968-1970), legal consultant at 'Water Industry' Company (1971-1978)

What was the level of religiosity in your parents' home? How were you raised?

We observed the kashrut and Sabbath in Plovdiv. My father had tallit and used to go to the synagogue.

What is your mother tongue?

Bulgarian

How many languages do you speak?

Bulgarian, Ladino, French, English and Russian

Where were you during the Holocaust?

Interned in the town of Pleven

Your brothers and sisters

Their names

Haim Albert Gershon

Where and when were they born?

Plovdiv, 16th January 1929

What is their mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Their educational level?

Locksmith/mechanical education (in Israel)

Their occupations?

Technician and machine designer

Where do/did they live?

Bat Yam (today Israel)

Where else did they live?

Plovdiv (1929–1937), Sofia (1938–1943), Pleven (1943-1944)

Do they have children?

No

Your spouse

Name?

Miuntzer Blageov Zahariev (1949 to 1965)

Solomon Levi (1974 to 1983)

Where and when was he/she born?

Miuntzer: Moscow (today Russia), 27th June 1914

Solomon: Plovdiv, 16th August 1916

Where else did he live?

Miuntzer: Sofia, Beijing (today China)

Solomon: Sofia, Sliven

Is he/she Jewish?

Miuntzer: No

Solomon: Yes

What is his/her mother tongue?

Miuntzer: Bulgarian

Solomon: Bulgarian

His/her educational level?

Miuntzer: graduated in law in Moscow (1940s)

Solomon: graduated in law from Sofia University

Occupation?

Miuntzer: Jurist

Solomon: Jurist

Where and when did he/she die?

Miuntzer: Sofia, 6th January 2000

Solomon: Sofia, 29th May 1983

Your children

Were they raised Jewish/do they identify themselves as Jews?

None



His name?

Albert Haim Gershon [During the internment in 1943, Albert was renamed to Avram so that his Jewish origin would be emphasized]

Where and when was he was born?

Plovdiv, 1895

Where else did he live?

Sofia, Pleven, Bat Yam (today Israel)

Where and when did he die?

Bat Yam, May 1988

What sort of education did he have?

Elementary school

What sort of work did he do?

In Plovdiv – a commissionaire, owned a haberdashery shop

In Sofia – a traveling salesman

In Pleven – forced labor groups in Belene

In Israel – manager with municipal building company 'Amidar'

What was his level of religiosity?

He knew and performed all the rituals for the Jewish holidays and he observed the kashrut. He didn't wear traditional clothing.

What was his mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Army service: Which army and what years?

Bulgarian army (late 1910s)

Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Three brothers and one sister:

Shimon Haim Gershon (1890s-1971): born in Plovdiv, trader, married twice; first wife died early. Four children with second wife Sarina – Zhak, Vitalli, Rudi and Rebeca. Zhak, Vitali and Rudi are engineers and Rebeca is an accountant. Shimon died in Haifa (today Israel).

Matilda ? (nee Haim Gershon) (b. 1890s): born in Plovdiv, married in Bulgaria, went to live in Israel in 1948.

Samuel Haim Gershon (b. 1900s): born in Plovdiv, went to live in Argentina in 1928, married a Christian woman there.

Josef Haim Gershon (b. 1900s): born in Plovdiv, went to live in Argentina in 1928, married a Christian woman there.

Two stepsisters and a stepbrother (from his father's second marriage):

Mari ? (nee Haim Gershon) (b. 1914): went to live in Israel in 1948, married there and has a son and a daughter. She worked as a farmer.

Victoria ? (nee Haim Gershon) (b. 1916): went to Israel in 1948, married there and has a son and a daughter. She worked as a farmer.



Leon Haim Gershon (b. 1918): went to Israel, worked in a water-mill in Holon. Has a son, Haim, who also worked in the water-mill and a daughter, Dalia. His son Haim has a son and daughter and his daughter has four children.

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Interned in Pleven, forced labor groups in Belene

If he survived, what did he do after?

Went to Israel in 1949, worked as a manager with the building company 'Amidar' in Bat Yam

Your father's father name?

Haim Avram Gershon

Where and when was he born?

Plovdiv, date unknown

Where else did he live?

-

Where and when did he die?

Plovdiv, 1940s

What sort of education did he have?

Elementary school

What sort of work did he do?

Agent

What was his level of religiosity?

He observed the kashrut. He didn't wear traditional clothing.

What was his mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Army service: Which army and what years?

Bulgarian army (date unknown)

Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Sister who lived in Egypt

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Your father's mother's name?

Rebeca Haim Gershon (nee ?)

Where and when was she born?

Plovdiv, date unknown

Where else did she live?

-

Where and when did she die?

Plovdiv (died very young in an accident, date unknown)

What sort of education did she have?

Elementary education

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

What was her level of religiosity?

No information

What was her mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Tell me about her brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before



Her name?

Sarina Avram Gershon (nee Kalef)

Where and when was she born?

Plovdiv, May 1902

Where else did she live?

Sofia, Pleven, Bat Yam (today Israel)

Where and when did she die?

Bat Yam, 1984

What sort of education did she have?

German Secondary School, Plovdiv

What sort of work did she do?

Helped her aunt in the shop in Plovdiv, afterwards housewife

What was her level of religiosity?

She observed all the Jewish holidays and always prepared lovely festive tables. She followed the kashrut. She didn't wear a wig.

What was her mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Tell me about her brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Ernesta Ezra Menda (nee Kalef) (b. 1900s): born in Plovdiv, married to Rabbi Ezra Menda in Burgas, went to Israel in 1942 with her two children Haim and Itzhak, divorced husband in Israel. Haim studied sociology and is a clerk in Gan. Itzhak was a fitter, married to Sol from Morocco. They have two daughters and a son.

Shmuel Kalef (1904-1980s): born in Plovdiv, married to Kler, two daughters – Tilda and Rebeca. He went to Israel in 1948, worked as an ironmonger, a docker at the port, and had a shop in Ako in the end. Tilda is a clerk and Rebeca is a biologist.

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Plovdiv

If she survived, what did he do after?

Housewife, moved to Israel in 1949

Your Mother's family

Your mother's father name?

Haim Kalef

Where and when was he born?

Plovdiv, 1870s

Where else did he live?

-

Where and when did he die?

Plovdiv, 2nd January 1928

What sort of education did he have?

Elementary education

What sort of work did he do?

No information

What was his level of religiosity?

He observed the Jewish holidays and followed the kashrut. He didn't have payot, a beard and a kaftan.

What was his mother tongue?

Bulgarian

Army service: Which army and what years?

Bulgarian army

Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Sason Kalef and a sister. married to Klara, three sons – Shemto, Chepo, who lived in a kibbutz, a son who was a member of the Maccabi sports club and a daughter, Sarche who lived in Jerusalem (today Israel)

Sister (name unknown) (nee Kalef): married, had three daughters – Ester, who married Haim Bakish, Sol and Bili who lived in Stara Zagora.

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Her mother



Your mother's mother's name?

Mazaltov Haim Kalef (nee Sidi)

Where and when was she born?

Plovdiv, 1880

Where else did she live?

-

Where and when did she die?

Plovdiv, 1940

What sort of education did she have?

Elementary education (She knew Ladino, both written and spoken)

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

What was her level of religiosity?

She went to the synagogue. She observed the kashrut.

What was her mother tongue?

Ladino

Tell me about her brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Rashel ? (nee Sidi): went to live in Israel in 1948. She had two sons, Shmuel, who took part in WWII, and Bitush, and a daughter Ester who went to Israel and lived in a kibbutz.

Sister (name unknown): lived in the center of Plovdiv in a rich family, had three children: Rashel, Josif and Beko. She died in a fire in the house.

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before
