

The Goldenberg Family



These are the Goldenbergs after funeral of my grandmother Dora Goldenberg (maiden name Malinskaya).

The picture was made in Simferopol in 1931.

It is a family reunion: sons got together with their wives.

The picture was taken on the seashore.

From left to right: my father Jacob Goldenberg, his brother Alexander Goldenberg, my mother Rosalia Goldenberg, my father brother's wife Alexander Lebedeva wearing a light hat, father's brother Semion Goldenberg, me ,Tamara Goldenberg, father's sister Adelaida Chetverikova, Alexander Goldenberg's wife Zulfia Khalilova, father's elder step sister Maria Groun, and the last to the right is father's brother Mikhail Goldenberg. My cousin Nikolay Chetverikov , Adelaid's son is standing. My father's cousin Tina Yanovskaya is sitting in the front.

I remember my parental grandmother Dora Goldenberg (maiden name Malinskaya) very well. She was born in 1860 in Simferopol. Grandmother remained on her own after her husband's death. Only God knows how she could have managed to raise and maintain five children by herself.

When they left Simferopol, her house was liquidated for some reason and she wandered from one child to another. She meandered moving from city to city, and from house to house. She went to Mikhail in Yuzovka [about 1200 to the south from Moscow] , then to Alexander in Simferopol, then to her daughter Adelaida in Moscow, then to her son Semion in Leningrad.

She went to the families where her grandchildren were born. Sometimes she stayed with us in Sevastopol. Grandmother was unemployed, she was a housewife. She was a wonderful home-maker. She was an excellent cook. After lunch she went into physical exercise.

Sevastopol is situated in a mountainous area, on the Black Sea coast. Often she used to stroll with us along Sevastopol and its outskirts. I cannot say I spent a lot of time with my grandmother. She mostly went to those children, who needed her help.

My mother was a house-wife, besides we had a house-keeper. So, there was no need in grandmother's help. I do not know what kind of education she got, but she used to write literately and was well-mannered. She must have finished lyceum. Neither she nor grandfather appeared to be religious.

Grandmother suddenly died 1931 in our house. She was buried in the Jewish cemetery in Sevastopol. There were a lot of people at grandmother's funeral. All relatives got together- her children with their wives, children and grandchildren.

Grandparents, the Goldenbergs had five children: 4 sons and a daughter. My father Jacob Goldenberg was the eldest. His brothers' names were: Alexander, Semion, Mikhail and his sister's name was Adelaida.

Alexander Goldenberg was born in 1885. He was a gynecologist and obstetrician. He lived and worked in Bakhchisarai. He delivered many children in Bakhchisarai. Uncle Sasha died during great patriotic war, he was shot with other Bakhchisarai Jews in 1942.

Mikhail was born in 1883. He was a mining engineer. He worked in Yuzovsk, Donetsk oblast. He was married to a Russian lady, Alexandr? Lebedeva. Uncle became Orthodox [Christian]. They had a son Boris. Mikhail died in Yuzovsk in 1965.

Semion is the youngest brother, born in 1887. He was a lawyer and economist. Semion was married for several times. I remember one of his wives. Her name was Olga Brunovna, she was from Latvia.

Uncle Semion became Orthodox [Christian].

He died in 1960 in Leningrad.

Aunt Adelaida, the youngest one, was born in 1896. She graduated from Moscow medical institute. She was a doctor roentgenologist.

She went to war and stayed by the front-line hospital.

Russian philosopher Ivan Chetverikov was her husband. Adelaida took her husband's name Chetverikova and became Orthodox [Christian]. They had a son Nicolay Chetverikov. She died in Moscow in 1976.

Mother Rosalia Geftman was born in 1885. She was a gifted musician, and played the grand piano very well. When mother finished lyceum, her parents sent her to Austria to study at conservatoire in Vienna.

Then mother moved to Berlin and kept on studying in Berlin conservatoire.

She was as successful there as in Vienna. She was so deeply immersed in studies that her constitution deranged and she was afflicted with tuberculosis. She still managed to graduate from conservatoire.

Then she went to Northern Italy and treated her tuberculosis.