

## Lea Beraha With Her Mother Rebecca Delareya



This is me and my mother Rebecca Delareya, nee Mamon in Sofia in 1941. I wanted to buy a present for my brother, Betzalel Delareya, from my first salary. I took my mother as a 'consultant' with me, as though I intended to buy something really valuable. Finally the choice was a wallet. When I finished the 3rd grade, I cried a lot that I couldn't go any further. In order to calm me, my brother, who was already working as an apprentice in a shoe shop, bought me a watch on the occasion of my successful graduation. I still remember the trademark - 'Novolis'. I held it in my hand and stared at it all night long. On the third day of my vacation my mother took me to the atelier of the tailor Zvancharova. She and Pelagia Vidinska were popular tailors in Sofia with big

private studios. Zvancharova hired me as an apprentice at a very low wage. I was begging to be allowed to deliver clothes to houses because of the tips. I decided that I would be able to provide for myself and enrolled in the Maria Louisa secondary school for tailors. It was right opposite the Law Courts. I was expelled already in the second week, as I couldn't pay my tuition. I remained a simple tailor.