

Luna Davidova At A 1st May Parade



This is a picture of a parade on 1st May 1947. I am the third person from the left. The people on this picture are mostly my colleagues from the Jewish school on Osogovo Street in the third district in Sofia where I worked from 1946 to 1948. In 1945 I finished the Kazanlak Girl's High School and in March 1946 I came to Sofia. A friend of my father found a job for me as a teacher at the Jewish elementary school on Osogovo Street in the third district. I replaced the teachers when they were absent. I was also a secretary of the school and I paid the salaries. I worked there until 1948. In the first several years after 9th September 1944 many Bulgarian Jews left for Israel - 35-40,000 people. The third district where the school was located became desolate due to their departure; in Kazanlak there is only one Jew left nowadays. But a lot of people remained here, mostly the communists. When we came back to Kazanlak after the internment the people welcomed us; my father became a secretary of the chitalishte 'Iskra'. He was a communist and that's why he stayed in Bulgaria. We were 'progressive' - I was a member of the UYW, then of DCYU [stands for Dimitrov's Communist Youth Union], and of the Komsomol - we were fond of these great ideas. And if they were not realized, it was due not to the ideas themselves but to the people who tried to realize them. Communism turned out to be a mistake, maybe a criminal attempt, but not because of the criminal essence of the idea but because of the people who tried to make it real.