

Malka Natan With Her Sisters



This is a picture of my mother Malka Natan, on the left, and her two sisters, Ernestina and Charlota. The photo was taken in 1918. Ernestina is the one standing. The men in the picture are two cousins of theirs. My mother was born in Constanta, Romania. She met my future father at the wedding of her older sister Charlota, who married a Bulgarian Jew from Ruse. He liked the bride's younger sister. They married in 1923 in Sofia. They had a religious wedding. I was born three years later. My mother had these two sisters and also two brothers, Menaho and Ticko Navon. She was the youngest one. Her sisters were housewives. Ernestina was also married to a Bulgarian. My parents

kept in touch with their relatives in Bulgaria more than with those that lived in Israel or in other places. We didn't have enough money, opportunities or desire to visit them. [Editor's note: In totalitarian times continued relations with relatives in Israel would have had a negative impact on the family's situation in Bulgaria. On the other hand, an eventual trip to Israel was beyond their financial capacities.] All of them have already died: Menaho and Ticko in Romania, Sharlota in Israel, and Ernestina in Bulgaria.