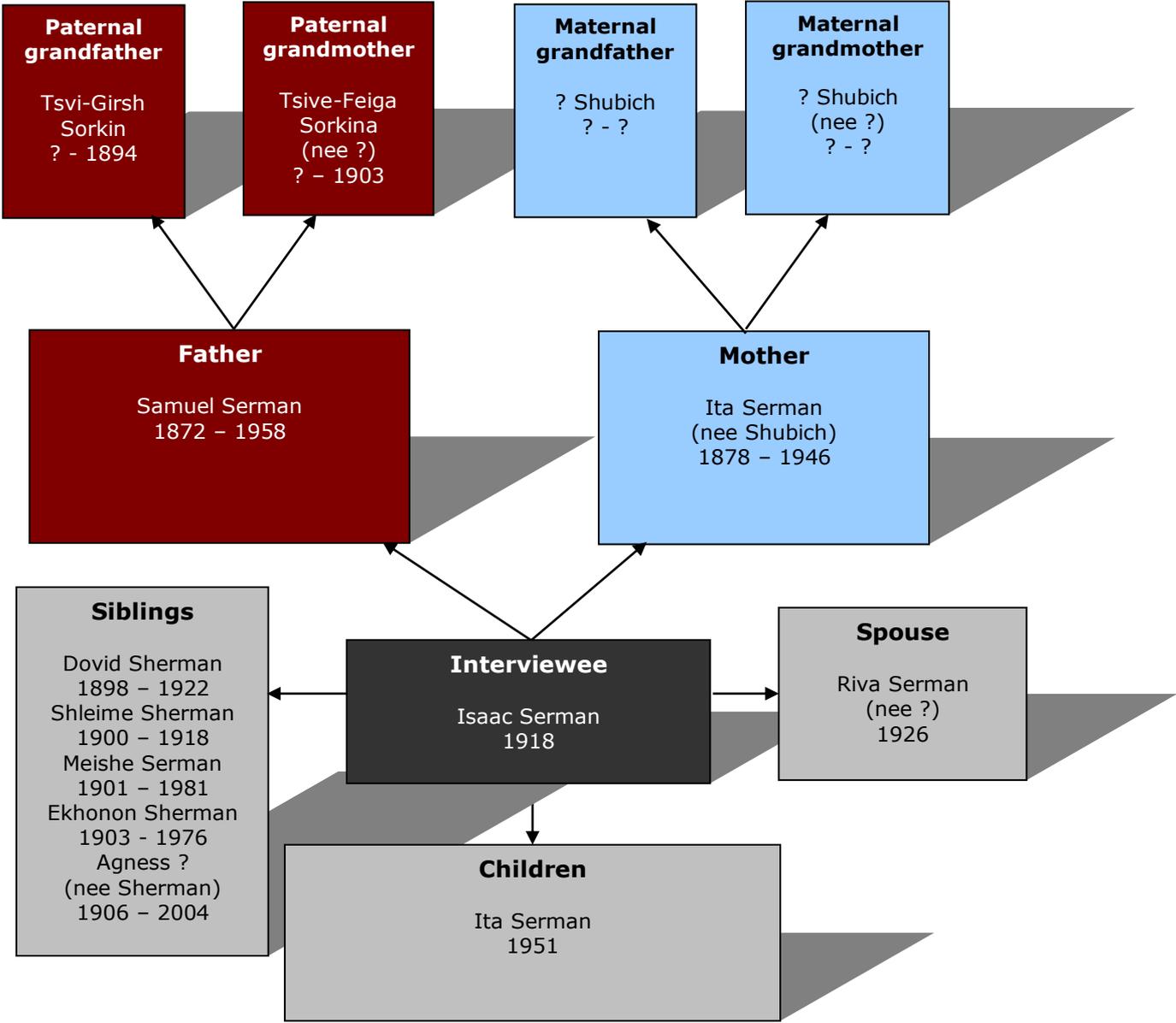


Family Tree



The interviewee and his family

Full name

Isaac Serman (nee Sherman. In the 1930s, when Hitler came to power in Germany, people had a negative attitude towards all things German and my father changed the spelling of our family name: Sherman sounded German and he changed it to Serman, which more resembled Estonian.)

Where and when were you born?

Rakvere, 1918

Where else did you live?

Tartu, Tallinn

Your educational level?

Graduated from History Department of Tartu University

What sort of work do/did you do?

Editor of paper, editor of radio program, deputy chairman of cinematography council

How religious was your parents' home? How were you raised?

My parents were religious, observed Jewish traditions, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays, went to the synagogue, observed kashrut.

What is your mother tongue?

Yiddish

What other languages do you speak?

Estonian, German, French, Russian

If you were in an army, tell us which army and the dates

1938 – 1940: Estonian army, compulsory service

1941 – 1947: service in Soviet army, Estonian corps

Where were you during the Holocaust?

1941 – 1945: in army, at the front: Russia, Estonia, Latvia

What did you do after the Holocaust?

After demobilization I graduated from the History Department of the University in Tartu, worked as editor in the paper, then editor on radio program, then deputy chairman of cinematography council

Siblings

Their names

(All nee Sherman)

Dovid Serman (m)

Shleime Serman (Solomon in documents) (m)

Meishe Serman (Moses in documents) (m)

Ekhonon Serman (m)

Agness Wulf (nee Sherman) (f)

Where and when were they born?

All were born in Rakvere

Dovid: 1898

Shleime: 1900

Meishe: 1901

Ekhonon: 1903

Agness: 1906

What is their mother tongue?

All – Yiddish

Their educational level?

Dovid: Russian compulsory school

Shleime: Russian compulsory school

Meishe: Medical Faculty of Tartu University

Ekhonon: Russian compulsory school

Agness: German lyceum

Their occupations?

Dovid: N/A

Shleime: N/A

Meishe: psychiatrist

Ekhonon: fur and leather expert, owner of tannery

Agness: owner of tannery

Where do/did they live?

Dovid: Rakvere

Shleime: Rakvere

Meishe: Tallinn

Ekhonon: Paris (France)

Agness: Paris (France)

Where else did they live?

Dovid: N/A

Shleime: N/A

Meishe: -

Ekhonon: Buenos Aires (Argentina)

Agness: Buenos Aires

Do they have children?

Dovid: N/A

Shleime: N/A

Meishe: 2 daughters

Ekhonon: none

Agness: 3 sons

Where and when did they die?

Dovid: Rakvere, 1922

Shleime: Rakvere, 1918

Meishe: Tallinn, 1981

Ekhonon: Paris (France), 1976

Agness: Paris, 2004

Spouse

Name?

Riva Serman (nee ?)

Where and when was he/she born?

Riga (today Latvia), 1926

Where else did he/she live?

Tartu, Tallinn

Is he/she Jewish?

Yes

What is his/her mother tongue?

Yiddish

His/her educational level?

Finished 10 classes of compulsory school

Occupation?

Worked in agricultural department of Tallinn municipal Ispolkom

Tell me anything you know about his/her siblings (Name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, name of wife and children, whether their family is Jewish and whether it is religious).

A sister, who is a couple of years older than Riva, is currently residing in Israel; observes Jewish traditions and marks holidays.

Children

Their names?

Ita Serman

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

Our daughter was raised Jewish, identifies herself as a Jew.

Where and when were they born?

Tartu, 1951

Where else did they live?

Tallinn

Their educational level?

Graduated from Journalism Department of Tallinn University

Their occupations?

Journalist

How many grandchildren do you have?

None

Father

His name?

Samuel Serman (Jewish name: Shmuel) (nee Sherman, changed his name in the 1930s)

Where and when was he born?

Rakvere, 1872

Where else did he live?

Tallinn

Where and when did he die?

Tallinn, 1958

What sort of education did he have?

Cheder, 3 classes of Jewish compulsory school

What sort of work did he do?

Tinsmith

How religious was he?

Father was religious, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and Jewish holidays, prayed at home, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays, observed kashrut.

What was his mother tongue?

Yiddish

Army service: which army and what years?

No information

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

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
Jacob Sherman (m)	Viesenberg (today Rakvere), after 1872 – Moscow, ?	Tailor	? Sherman (nee ?) ? - ? Jew	2 daughters	No information
Biniumin Sherman (m)	Viesenberg, after 1872 – Rakvere, 1970s	Tinsmith	Leya Sherman (nee ?) ? – 1960s Jew	? Sherman (m) 1910s – 1941 4 daughters: Gerta Kulman (nee Sherman), Tsilya, Blume and Braine	Biniumin was religious, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays at home, observed kashrut.
Tsipe Wulf (nee Sherman) (f)	Viesenberg, after 1872 – Detroit (USA), ?	Housewife	? Wulf ? – Detroit (USA) ? Jew	Sons Leon and Mikhail Wulf and daughter Fanny	No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Evacuation, village Bolshoye Nagaikino, Perm oblast (today Russia)

If he survived, what did he do after?

Lived in Tallinn, pensioner

Paternal grandfather

Your paternal grandfather's name?

Tsvi-Girsh Sorkin

Where and when was he born?

No information

Where else did he live?

Rakvere

Where and when did he die?

Rakvere, 1894

What sort of education did he have?

No information

What sort of work did he do?

Tinsmith

How religious was he?

Grandfather was religious, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, prayed at home, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays, observed kashrut.

What was his mother tongue?

Yiddish

Army service: which army and what years?

No information

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Paternal grandmother

Your paternal grandmother's name?

Tsive-Feiga Sorokina (nee ?)

Where and when was she born?

No information

Where else did she live?

Rakvere

Where and when did she die?

Rakvere, 1903

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

Grandmother was religious, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays at home, observed kashrut.

What was her mother tongue?

Yiddish

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name place and date of occupation biographical data biographical data describe how religious

birth/death

and origins of
spouse

of children

they were

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before

Mother

Her name?

Ida Serman (until the 1930s - Sherman) (nee Shubich) (Jewish name: Ite)

Where and when was she born?

Vilno (today Vilnius, Lithuania), 1878

Where else did she live?

Rakvere, Tallinn

Where and when did she die?

Tallinn, 1946

What sort of education did she have?

Self-education

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

Mother was religious, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, marked Sabbath and Jewish holidays, observed kashrut, covered her head.

What was her mother tongue?

Yiddish

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Evacuation: village Bolshoye Nagaikino, Perm oblast (today Russia)

If she survived, what did she do after?

Lived in Tallinn, was a housewife

Maternal grandfather

Your maternal grandfather's name?

? Shubich

Where and when was he born?

No information

Where else did he live?

Vilnius (today Lithuania)

Where and when did he die?

No information

What sort of education did he have?

No information

What sort of work did he do?

No information

How religious was he?

Grandfather was religious. (No further information)

What was his mother tongue?

Yiddish

Army service: which army and what years?

No information

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

Died before

Maternal grandmother

Your maternal grandmother's name?

? Shubich (nee ?)

Where and when was she born?

No information

Where else did she live?

Vilnius (today Lithuania)

Where and when did she die?

No information

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

Grandmother was religious (no further information)

What was her mother tongue?

Yiddish

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name	place and date of birth/death	occupation	biographical data and origins of spouse	biographical data of children	describe how religious they were
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No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before