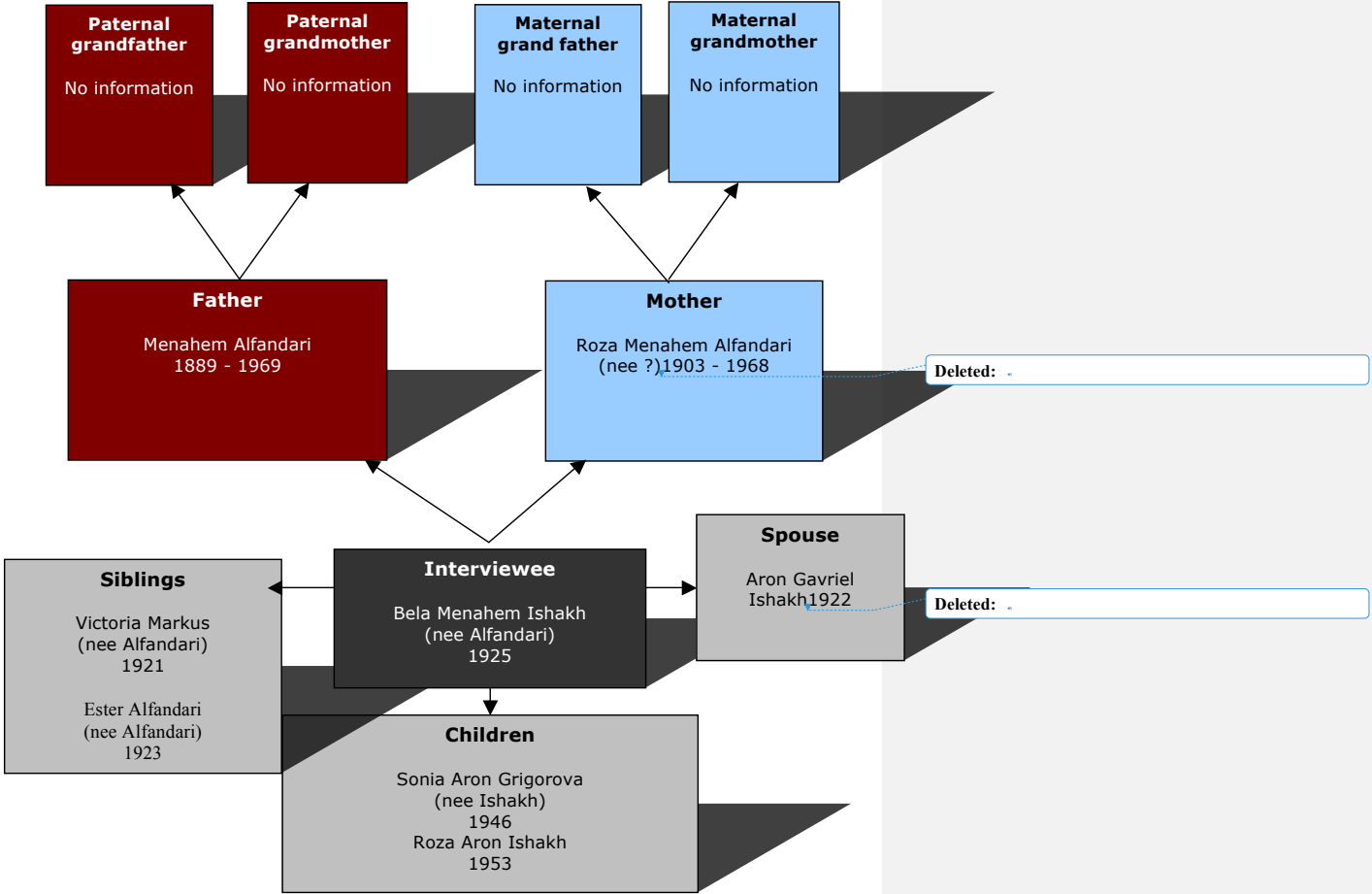


Family Tree



The interviewee and his family

Full name

Bela Menahem Ishakh (nee Alfandari)

Where and when were you born?

Silistra, 24th August 1925

Where else did you live?

Ruse, Tutrakan

Your educational level?

Elementary school

What sort of work do/did you do?

Hairdresser

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

Moderately religious. My family attended services at the synagogue relatively regularly, especially on the high Jewish holidays such as Yom Kippur, Pesach, Chanukkah, Lag ba-Omer, Purim, and Rosh Hashanah.

What is your mother tongue?

Ladino

What other languages do you speak?

Bulgarian

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

None

Where were you during the Holocaust?

Ruse

What did you do after the Holocaust?

I worked as a hairdresser.

Siblings

Their names

Victoria Menahem Markus (nee Alfandari)

Ester Menahem Alfandari (nee Alfandari)

Where and when were they born?

Victoria: Silistra, 1921

Ester: Silistra, 1923

What is their mother tongue?

Ladino

Their educational level?

Elementary school

Their occupations?

Victoria: housewife

Ester: housewife

Where do/did they live?

Victoria: Haifa (today Israel)

Ester: Rishon Le Zion (today Israel)

Where else did they live?

Victoria: Ruse

Ester: Sofia

Do they have children?

Victoria: son, Avram Markus

Ester: son, Shimon Alfandari

Spouse

Name?

Aron Gavriel Ishakh

Where and when was he/she born?

Ruse, 1922

Where else did he/she live?

Isperih

Is he/she Jewish?

Yes

What is his/her mother tongue?

Ladino

His/her educational level?

High school

Occupation?

Tradesman, bookbinder; Interior Ministry officer; Chief of the Department Housing Accommodation in Ruse, chief of administration of the Ruse Town Council, chief expert in the administration of Ruse region

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).

All of them were born in Ruse in 1925, 1928, 1930 respectively. They had elementary education, speak Ladino, emigrated to Holon (today Israel)

Solomon Gavriel Ishakh: tradesman, had two sons, died in Sofia (no information about the date)

Rebecca Gavriel Levi (nee Ishakh): housewife, has two daughters

Samuel Gavriel Ishakh: turner, has two daughters. One of them died in Israel, but no information when exactly

Children

Their names?

Sonia Aron Grigorova (nee Ishakh)

Roza Aron Ishakh

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

Yes

Where and when were they born?

Both were born in Ruse

Sonia: 1946

Roza: 1953

Where else did they live?

-

Their educational level?

Both of them: Mechanical technical school 'Yuriy Gagarin' in Ruse

Their occupations?

Sonia: chairwoman of the economy commission at the Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria 'Shalom,' collector of rents from the 'Shalom' estates

Roza: statistician at the Regional Department of the Statistical Office

How many grandchildren do you have?

Grandson, Aron Grigorov, the son of Sonia, lives in Ramat Gan, Israel, graduated from commercial and industrial management college, certified engineer. His son's name is Ben (2004)

Father

His name?

Menahem Alfandari

Where and when was he born?

Istanbul (today Turkey), 1889

Where else did he live?

Ruse

Where and when did he die?

Ruse, 1969

What sort of education did he have?

Elementary school

What sort of work did he do?

Tradesman of grain crops

How religious was he?

Very religious. Observed all the traditions and thought very highly of the Jewry. My family attended services at the synagogue relatively regularly, especially on the Jewish high holidays such as Yom Kippur, Pesach, Chanukkah, Lag ba-Omer, Purim, and Rosh Hashanah. They observed the kashrut, but as far as the Jewish clothes are concerned, Jews didn't differ much from Bulgarians in what they wore, except for the kippot on men's heads and the beautiful lady's lace bonnets elegantly perched on women's heads.

What was his mother tongue?

Ladino

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 |
|------|----------------------------------|------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|------|----------------------------------|------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

In Ruse

If he survived, what did he do after?

Involved in trade with grain crops (wheat, rice)

Paternal grandfather

Your paternal grandfather's name?

No information

Where and when was he born?

No information

Where else did he live?

No information

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?

No information

What was his mother tongue?

Ladino

Army service: which army and what years?

No information

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 | of children | they were |
| | | | spouse | | |

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

No information

If he survived what did he do after?

No information

Paternal grandmother

Your paternal grandmother's name?

No information

Where and when was she born?

No information

Where else did she live?

No information

Where and when did she die?

No information

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

No information

How religious was she?

No information

What was her mother tongue?

Ladino

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 |
| No information | | | | | |

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Died before

Mother

Her name?

Roza Menahem Alfandari (nee ?)

Where and when was she born?

Silistra, 1903

Where else did she live?

Ruse

Where and when did she die?

Ruse, 1968

What sort of education did she have?

Elementary school

What sort of work did she do?

Housewife

How religious was she?

Very religious. Observed all the traditions and thought very highly of the Jewry. My family attended services at the synagogue relatively regularly, especially on the high Jewish holidays such as Yom Kippur, Pesach, Chanukkah, Lag ba-Omer, Purim, and Rosh Hashanah. She observed the kashrut, too.

What was her mother tongue?

Ladino

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

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

birth/death

data and origins of children
of spouse

they were

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Ruse

If she survived, what did she do after?

Housewife

Maternal grandfather

Your maternal grandfather's name?

No information

Where and when was he born?

No information

Where else did he live?

No information

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?

No information

What was his mother tongue?

Ladino

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 |
|------|-------------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|

No information

Where was he during the Holocaust?

No information

If he survived what did he do after?

No information

Maternal grandmother

Your maternal grandmother's name?

No information

Where and when was she born?

No information

Where else did she live?

No information

Where and when did she die?

No information

What sort of education did she have?

No information

What sort of work did she do?

No information

How religious was she?

No information

What was her mother tongue?

No information

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 | of children | they were |
| | | | spouse | | |

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust?

No information

If she survived what did she do after?

No information