

The interviewee and his family

Full name Ronny Sheyn-Kuznetsova (nee Sheyn)

Where and when were you born? Valga, 1936

Where else did you live?

Settlement Vavilovka of Bakhchar District of Tomsk oblast (exile), Tomsk (both today Russia), Tallinn

Your educational level?

Finished Tomsk Engineering and Construction Institute, Automobile Department, defended dissertation at Moscow Engineering and Construction University

What sort of work do/did you do?

Worked in Tomsk as a foreman, then taught Mathematics and resistance of material at Tomsk Engineering and Construction Institute, assistant professor

How religious was your parents' home? How were you raised? My parents were religious. Jewish traditions were observed at home, we kept Sabbath, marked Jewish holidays and observed the kashrut. My parents went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays.

What is your mother tongue? German

What other languages do you speak? Yiddish, Estonian, Russian

Where were you during the Holocaust?

Exile, settlement Vavilovka, Bakhchar district, Tomsk oblast (today Russia)

What did you do after the Holocaust?

I lived in Bakhchar and finished secondary school. In 1954 I entered Tomsk Engineering and Construction Institute, graduated in 1959, worked for three years in construction upon graduation, then taught at Tomsk Engineering and Construction Institute. In 1997 I moved to Tallinn and retired.

Siblings

Their names None

Spouse

Name? Alexander Kuznetsov

Where and when was he/she born? A settlement in Bashkiria (today Russia), 1932

Where else did he/she live? Tomsk (today Russia), Tallinn

Is he/she Jewish? No

What is his/her mother tongue? Russian

His/her educational level?

Graduated from Tomsk Polytechnic Institute, Physical and Technical Department

Occupation? Taught at Tomsk Polytechnic Institute

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).

My husband had 9 siblings, but I did not know them

Children

Their names? Margarita Kasper (nee Kuznetsova)

Were they raised Jewish/do they identify themselves as Jews? Identifies herself a Jew, sticks to Jewish traditions

Where and when were they born? Tomsk (today Russia), 1968

Where else did they live? Novosibirsk (today Russia), Munich (today Germany)

Their educational level? Graduated from Agricultural Academy, Zoology Department in Novosibirsk, zoo technician

Their occupations? Zoo technician

How many grandchildren do you have? Granddaughter Rosa Kasper, born in 1992 Grandson Ronald Kasper, born in 2003

Father

His name? Efraim Sheyn

Where and when was he born? Valga, 1896

Where else did he live? Camp Sosva, Sverdlovsk oblast (today Russia)

Where and when did he die? Camp Sosva (Gulag), 14th June 1942

What sort of education did he have? Father went to cheder, and also to Realsschule

What sort of work did he do? Worked in timbering

How religious was he?

Father was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to the prayer house on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays and observed the 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	occupation	biographical data	biographical data	describe how religious
	birth/death		and origins of	of children	they were
			spouse		
Rosa Levitina	Valga, 1893 -	Housewife	Moishe Levitin	Grigoriy Levitin	No information
(nee Sheyn)	1919		? – Leningrad	(m)	
(Jewish name:			(today Russia),	1910s - ?	
Roche-Gitle)			1980s		
			Jew, doctor		
Herz Sheyn	Valga, 1898 -	Timber	Evgeniya Sheyn	Irene Sheyn (f)	Herz was religious,
(Jewish name	Tashkent (today	merchant	(nee Goldberg)	1932	observed Jewish
Naftole-Herz)	Uzbekistan),		Riga (today		traditions, went to the
	1985		Latvia), 1903 –		synagogue on
			Tashkent, 1999		Sabbath and on
					Jewish holidays,
					marked Jewish
					holidays and Sabbath
					at home, observed the
					kashrut.
Ester Brodovski	Valga, 1900 -	Housewife	Max Brodovski	Ruth Strazh (nee	Ester observed Jewish
(nee Sheyn)	Tallinn, 1985		? – 1960s	Brodovski) (f)	traditions, went to the
			Jew, doctor	Tartu, 1925	synagogue on Jewish
				Sophia Popova	holidays, marked
				(nee Brodovski) (f)	Sabbath and Jewish
				Valga, 1929	holidays at home,
					observed the kashrut.
Ella ?	Valga, 1902 -	Housewife	Husband ?	3 children, all were	Ella was religious,
(nee Sheyn)	Riga, 1941 (shot		? - 1941	shot during	observed Jewish
	during		Jew	occupation in Riga	traditions, went to the
	occupation)			in 1941	synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Sabbath and Jewish
					holidays at home,
					observed the kashrut

Abram Sheyn	Valga, 1904 -	Entrepreneur	? Sheyn (nee ?)	No information	Abram was religious,
Abram Sneyn		Lindepreneur	, , ,		2 .
	1941 (shot		? – Tallinn, 1941		observed Jewish
	during		Jew		traditions, went to the
	occupation)				synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Sabbath and Jewish
					holidays at home,
					observed the kashrut.
Isroel Sheyn	Valga, 1906 -	Entrepreneur	? Sheyn (nee ?)	Son	Isroel was religious,
	Gulag, 1940s		? - ?		observed Jewish
			Jew		traditions, went to the
					synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Sabbath and Jewish
					holidays at home,
					observed the kashrut.
Pesach Sheyn	Valga, 1911 -	Entrepreneur	? Sheyn (nee ?)	Son	Pesach was religious,
	1941 (shot		? – 1941		observed Jewish
	during		Jew		traditions, went to the
	occupation)				synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Sabbath and Jewish
					holidays at home,
					observed the kashrut

Where was he during the Holocaust? Gulag, camp Sosva, perished in Gulag in 1942

Paternal grandfather

Your paternal grandfather's name? Sholom-Iosif Sheyn

Where and when was he born? Piarnu, 1866

Where else did he live? Valga

Where and when did he die? Valga,1939

What sort of education did he have? No information

What sort of work did he do? Grandfather sold cattle, then he became a timber merchant

How religious was he?

Grandfather was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to a minyan on Sabbath and on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays and Sabbath, observed the 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	occupation	biographical data	biographical data	describe how religious
	birth/death		and origins of	of children	they were
			spouse		
Chari-Moishe	Piarnu ? - ?	No	No information	No information	No information
Sheyn (m)		information			
Sister Tsvirl	Piarnu ? - ?	No	No information	No information	No information
Sheyn		information			

Where was he during the Holocaust? Died before

Paternal grandmother

Your paternal grandmother's name? Chaya-Leya Sheyn (nee Teyman)

Where and when was she born? Panevezhis (today Lithuania) 1873

Where else did she live? Piarnu, Valga

Where and when did she die? Valga, 1940

What sort of education did she have? No information

What sort of work did she do? Housewife

How religious was she?

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

What was her mother tongue? Yiddish

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name

place and date of occupation biographical data biographical data birth/death and origins of

of children

describe how religious they were

spouse

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust? Died before

Mother

Her name? Rosa Sheyn (nee Kaplan) (Jewish name: Reizl)

Where and when was she born? Alūksne (today Latvia), 1900

Where else did she live?

Yaroslavl (today Russia, 1 year of Russian lyceum), Tartu (during studies at university), Valga, settlement Vavilovka, Bakhchar region of Tomsk oblast, Bakhchar (today Russia; exile), Tomsk (today Russia)

Where and when did she die? Tomsk, 1981

What sort of education did she have? Mother finished the Dentistry Department of Tartu University

What sort of work did she do? Dentist

How religious was she?

Mother was religious, observed Jewish traditions, marked Jewish holidays and Sabbath at home, went to the synagogue before exile, observed the kashrut.

What was her mother tongue? Yiddish

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

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

	birth/death		and origins of	of children	they were
			spouse		
Sakhne Kaplan	Alūksne (today	Entrepreneur	Natasha Kaplan	2 children, son	Sakhne was religious,
(m)	Latvia), 1898 –		(nee ?)	Menachem,	observed Jewish
	Alūksne, 1941		? – Alūksne 1941	daughter ?	traditions, went to the
				Shot in 1941	synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Jewish holidays at
					home, observed the
					kashrut.
Maria Sorkina	Alūksne, 1901	Dentist	David Sorkin	None	Maria was religious,
(nee Kaplan)			Tartu, 1903 -		observed Jewish
(nickname:			Tallinn, 1973		traditions, went to the
Masha) (f)					synagogue on Jewish
					holidays, marked
					Jewish holidays at
					home, observed the
					kashrut.
Revekka Rivlin	Alūksne, 1903 –	Dentist's	? Rivlin,	2 children, shot in	Revekka was religious,
Revekka Rivlin (nee Kaplan) (f)	Alūksne, 1903 – Riga (today	Dentist's assistant	? Rivlin, ? – Riga, 1941	2 children, shot in 1941	Revekka was religious, observed Jewish
	Riga (today				observed Jewish
	Riga (today				observed Jewish traditions, went to the
	Riga (today				observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish
	Riga (today				observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked
	Riga (today				observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at
	Riga (today				observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the
(nee Kaplan) (f)	Riga (today Latvia), 1941	assistant	? - Riga, 1941	1941	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious,
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya Gorosh (nee	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious, observed Jewish
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya Gorosh (nee	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to the
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya Gorosh (nee	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya Gorosh (nee	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked
(nee Kaplan) (f) Sister Raya Gorosh (nee	Riga (today Latvia), 1941 Alūksne, 1905 -	assistant	? - Riga, 1941 Kolya Gorosh? -	1941 Daughter Efros	observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at home, observed the kashrut Raya was religious, observed Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Jewish holidays, marked Jewish holidays at

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Exile, settlement Vavilovka, Bakhchar district, Tomsk oblast, Bakhchar (today Russia)

If she survived, what did she do after?

She was in exile in Bakhchar until 1960, then lived with the family in Tomsk.

Maternal grandfather

Your maternal grandfather's name? Efraim Gilias Kaplan

Where and when was he born? Lithuania, (exact place unknown), 1862

Where else did he live? Alūksne (today Latvia)

Where and when did he die? Alūksne, 1927 (buried in Jewish cemetery in Valga)

What sort of education did he have? Cheder

What sort of work did he do? Worked in pelt origination

How religious was he?

Grandfather was religious. When the family moved to Alūksne, he became kohen in the Jewish community of Alūksne, rented the premises for a prayer house at his own cost and donated a handmade Torah to the community. He stuck to Jewish traditions, went to the synagogue on Sabbath and Jewish holidays, observed the 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 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? Died before

Maternal grandmother

Your maternal grandmother's name? Ida Kaplan (nee Gelbart) (Jewish name: Ita-Bashe)

Where and when was she born? Friedrichstadt (today Latvia) 1867

Where else did she live? Alūksne, Riga (both today Latvia), Valga, Kamyshlov, Tomsk oblast (today Russia)(evacuation)

Where and when did she die? Kamyshlov, 1944

What sort of education did she have? Finished German lyceum

What sort of work did she do? Housewife

How religious was she?

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

What was her mother tongue? Yiddish

name	place and date of occupation	biographical data	biographical data	describe how religious
	birth/death	and origins of	of children	they were
		spouse		
I know from				
others that				
grandmother had				
5 brothers and 4				
sisters, but I did				
not know				
anybody from				
them and have				
no further				
information				

Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Evacuation, settlement Kamyshlov; died in evacuation in 1944.