

Vladimir Goldman's Mother Maria Goldman-Frenkel And Her Siblings



My mother Maria Goldman-Frenkel's brothers and sisters. Sitting in the first row from left to right are a stranger, Fenia, my mother and Betia. Standing are Sophia, Nikolay Baier, Fenia's husband, Isaac, Rosa, and a stranger. The photo was taken in Proskurov in 1911 on the occasion of the older sisters' visit. My grandfather and grandmother had twelve children. Three of them died in infancy. The rest of them were Leo, Fenia, Naum, Marcus, Sophia, Betia, Maria, Rosa and Isaac. The sons studied in cheder and the girls received religious education at home - a melamed taught them the prayers. Proskurov was a small town and the children left for other places to live their own lives. Several of them moved to Odessa. My mother, Maria, was born in Proskurov in 1893. She was a very beautiful woman. Her sisters were also beautiful. My mother finished a Russian primary school. In the early 1920s she moved to Odessa and got a job as a hat maker. She got little money for her work, rented rooms and had meals at cheap canteens for workers and laborers. Her older sisters, Sophia and Rosa, helped her as much as they could. In 1925 Sophia and her husband met doctor Miron Goldman. He was single and Sophia decided to introduce him to her younger sister, Maria. My mother's oldest sister, Fenia, was born in 1880. She was a midwife. Fenia also took part in revolutionary activities. She married a Russian called Nikolay Baier. In the 1910s revolutionaries were persecuted. Fenia and her husband left for America. The next children were twins: Sophia and Leo, born in Proskurov in 1881. Leo moved to Odessa and got married in the early 1900s. He had four children. Sophia was the most talented one in the family. She finished grammar school in Proskurov and moved to Odessa where she graduated from the Medical University. She married her colleague, Ilia Kornblitt, a physician. Their daughter, Zhenia, was born in 1922. Sophia and Zhenia survived the war. Sophia's family was the closest to our family. Betia was born in 1890. She also moved to Odessa. She was a midwife. She married Emmanuil Rozenberg. He was an economist. They had two children: Nyusia and Mark. Emmanuil perished in Sevastopol at the beginning of the war. My mother's younger sister, Rosa, was born in 1895. She entered the Medical Institute in Odessa. Upon graduation she worked as a psychiatrist. Rosa married a German man. His last name was Erlich. Their son, Oktav, was born in 1930. Rosa's marriage failed and she divorced her

husband before the war. Rosa and Oktav failed to evacuate. Rosa was aware of the Germans' attitude towards Jews and always had morphine with her. When the Germans occupied Odessa she poisoned her son and herself to avoid the horrors of the ghetto. Isaac was the youngest in the family, I believe. He was born at the end of the 1890s. I think he lived in Proskurov.