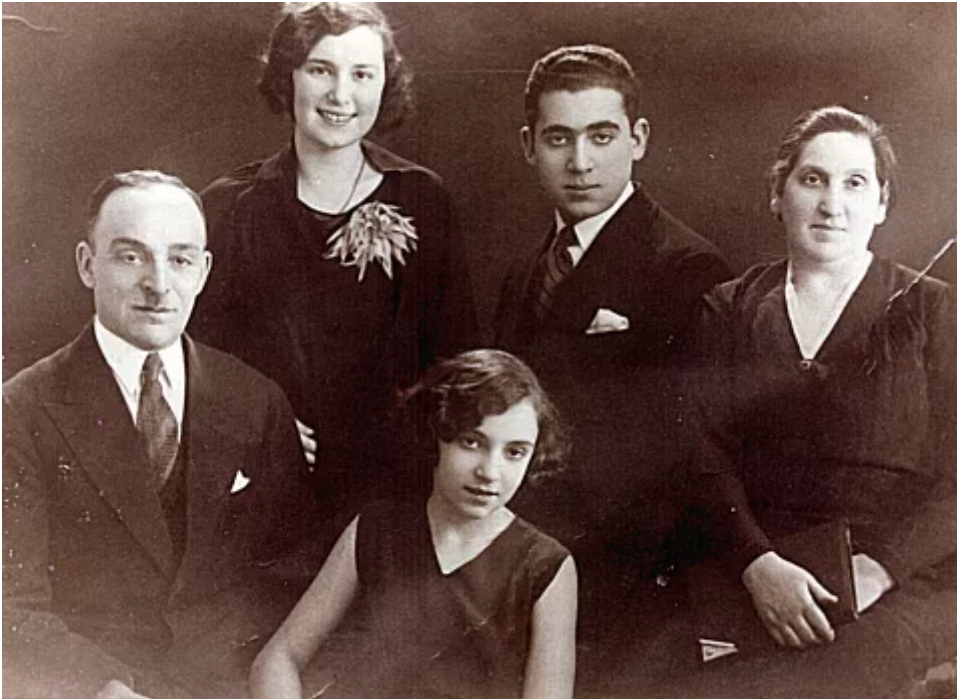


The Hercenberg Family's Photo In Jelgava



This photo of my family was taken in Jelgava in 1932. Starting with the top row, left to right: my sister Gita, and my youngest brother Isaac. Middle row: my father, Adolf Hercenberg, and my mother Feike Ite Hercenberg. Bottom: me, Hanna Hercenberg. My oldest brother Boris (who is not on this photo) was born in 1908, in Liepaja. My sister Gita was born in 1910. My youngest brother Isaac, also known as Isaac Meier, was born in 1912 in Jelgava. In Jelgava we had a rather plain lifestyle. My father either had a small shop, or he was a bagman. My mother ran a dinning room where people came for dinner. Not too many people came, but that is how we made a living. Our family was not very orthodox, but on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur my parents went to the synagogue. During Pesach we didn't eat bread. I know all the Jewish rules, because I went to the synagogue in Jelgava together with my parents. In Jelgava there used to be a huge synagogue. We learned Hebrew at school every day. Back then, it was regarded as a dead language, like Latin. We studied the basics of religion. I couldn't speak Hebrew, but I can still remember Hebrew words to this very day. As I say, "You won't be able to con me in Hebrew, I know too much Hebrew for that!?"