Marko Israel

This is a photo of Marko Israel, my husband's father. The photo was taken in 1930 in Plovdiv. Marko Israel was a respected merchant. His kin was from Plovdiv. On one of his business trips in Vienna he met Leontin Demayo, who had been living in Budapest and Vienna. They married and Leontin came to live in Bulgaria. They had six children: Rashel, Sarika, Rene, Elizabeth, Hanika and Salvator, my husband. They had a wonderful house in the center of Plovdiv, which has since been demolished. Marko was a very strict and demanding man; he didn't let his son study what he wanted to in college, but had his own ideas for him. Salvator wanted to become an agronomy specialist, but his father insisted that he study medicine. Later Marko went bankrupt and lost all his money. When this happened, Salvator had to come back to Bulgaria from France where he studied.