

## The Wedding Picture Of Efraim Lazar



The picture was taken in Kyustendil around 1925. This is Efraim Lazar's wedding - he was my father's younger brother. His wife is Buka. We children are the bridesmaid and the bridesman here - the little girl second from right and I am first from the right. My father Nissim Lazar (fourth from left, upper row), my mother Sara Lazar, nee Bohor (fifth from left, upper row), my grandfather Aron Lazar (above the bride) and my grandmother Sara Lazar, nee Mevorah (fourth from right, second row, above the bridegroom) are also in the picture. The first from left in the front row is my uncle, then my aunt and then the bride's mother - Zafira (third from left). The bride's uncle and her father are also photographed. I don't know the others.

My father Nissim Bohor Lazar was born in June 1888 in Kyustendil. He had two brothers - Mordehai and Efraim - and three sisters - Oro, Sofi and Viza. They were all born in Kyustendil. My father was a very strict and just man. I had respect for him. My father's youngest brother was Efraim Bohor Lazar, with whom my grandpa and my father used to work in the little shop they had in Kyustendil, and later in Sofia. He was born in 1900, his wife's name was Buka. They have a daughter called Selina Alfandari, nee Lazar and a son called Hari Lazar. Like most of the men from our family, Hari is a musician as well. He played the piano. When he grew up, he became a composer and moved to Argentina, as far as I can remember.

Our kin, the Lazars, as our family was known at that time, is a very old Kyustendil family. We used to live in a house with my paternal grandparents. My paternal grandfather's name was Aron Solomon Lazar, but everybody used to call him Bohor and that's how it remained [in Ivrit: bechor - the eldest, first-born son]. My grandfather was the oldest person in the entire Jewish community in Kjustendil and he was treated with due attention and respect. Many of the Jewish families gathered at our place during the biggest Jewish holidays. Usually some 30 people would gather in the small entrance hall of our house.