

Fishman Maimon 5

Tel Aviv 64236

Dear Mr. Kahn,

Meeting you was a sort of resurrection of memories. The memories of my beloved parents and my wise little mama, as you put it, 'She was a legend' and is still remembered as such by some friends.

And here in Prince Alfred and in Ceres their loving memory still hovers over the village, and the love for every member of the community, alas no one but you is left to remember them.

Now as requested here is as much as I know about my father's biography.

'Hirshel Natas was born in Kurshan, Lithuania. His father was a miller. He studied in Yeshivot and 'Ate days', which means that members of the communities where he studied in Yeshivot, gave him a meal a day. He had a brilliant mind and became a rabbi at a very early age and continued to study. He married and they left for Vilna, where mother opened a delicatessen shop and father practiced as a rabbi.

During the Russo- Japanese war father left for South Africa and was the rabbi in Stellenbosh until the war was over and returned home. During the 1914 war father served as an officer in charge of the secret files of the army, an honor unheard of for a Jew.

During 1925 he left for South Africa again and the family followed a year later. From Dordrecht, where he lived for a couple of years, he and the family left for Ceres, in order to be close to Sarah, his deaf and dumb daughter in the worcester special school for the deaf.

Once more let me say how delighted I was to met you and look forward to visiting you again.

With kindest regards to your wife and all my love

Alec Natas

