



Our Family

by

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THE KOHN FAMILY

MEYER KOHN, son of Joseph, was born in about 1782 and died in Baiersdorf on 17 May 1858. He was married to Dorothea (1783 - 1822). The following children are known:

- Lehmann KOHN, (11 April 1811 Baiersdorf - 20 March 1866 Gernersheim). On 13 August 1841 he married his first wife Marianne KLEIN (about 1817 - 29 April 1853). He then married Babette KLEIN (1821 - 1859) in 1855. They had one daughter Lena KOHN who married Alex HOLZINGER.

In 1860 he married his third wife (1835 - 1914).

- Moses KOHN (1818 Baiersdorf - 1886).
- Joseph KOHN (1821 Baiersdorf - 1878).
- Johanna KOHN was born in Baiersdorf and died there in 1864.

After the death of his first wife Dorothea in 1822, Meyer married Sophie (Simonsfeld?) of Diespeck (about 1797 - 20 July 1864 Baiersdorf). They had at least one son Abraham KOHN (1824 Baiersdorf - 1865).

SUSSMANN KOHN was married to Sara ENGEL of Baiersdorf. Their sons:

DAVID KOHN was born in Baiersdorf on 29 February 1849 and his brother BENJAMIN KOHN was born in Baiersdorf on 28 September 1850 and died there on 28 December 1918. He was a town councillor, also served as a volunteer ambulance man of the Bavarian Red Cross ambulance service and held official positions, including that of commanding officer, in the Freiwillige Feuerwehr (Voluntary Fire Service). (1) He was married to Karoline (Lina) STRAUSS (26 October Baiersdorf - 23 November 1937 Hanover). (2)

Children of Benjamin and Lina, born in Baiersdorf.

- LUDWIG KOHN, born on 27 August 1883, on 16 June 1919 (date?) married Lina OFFENBACHER, daughter of Julius Juda OFFENBACHER and Adelheid née SCHOPFLOCHER, born 4 February 1888 Fuerth. Like his father he was a member of the Bavarian Red Cross

ambulance service in Baiersdorf. (3) In the 1930s Ludwig was president of the of the Baiersdorf Jewish congregation. Ludwig and Lina, the last two Jewish residents of Baiersdorf were arrested on 20 November 1938 and taken to the Town Hall in Erlangen. After their eventual release they moved to Fuerth to live with Lina's mother. Their intention to emigrate to the USA was blocked by the Erlangen administration, objecting to them being issued with passports. When they finally obtained passports, it was too late for them to be able to leave Germany. They were moved to the former "Sahlmann-Villa" in Fuerth, which had been confiscated and used to accommodate many Jewish families, who had been forced out of their houses and apartments, until the Kohns and Adelheid Offenbacher were deported on 22 March 1942 from Fuerth to Izbica. They were finally reported "missing" and "declared dead" in 1953.

The Newspaper "Erlanger Tageblatt" reported on 23 November 1938:

"With the removal of the Kohn family Baiersdorf has become practically free of Jews. So a problem of the last centuries has finally ended. The Star of David, which insolently shone above the local synagogue for four centuries, was taken down and the interior of the synagogue was destroyed. As the Synagogue was partly damaged through this, this rather dilapidated building will be demolished. In a few years, where the Synagogue and Jewish cemetery is now is, it is intended to build a new school and to make sport fields for the training of our youth. Neither shall the name "Judengasse" remind us any longer of what unfortunately once used to be, but shall never be again".

- ERNST KOHN, born in Baiersdorf on 14 September 1884, emigrated to the United States, where he married Frederike STRAUSS, daughter of Armin STRAUSS (4) and Sophie née RIESER, born in 1894 in New York. Ernst and Sophie lived in Buffalo, New York.
- ROSA KOHN, born 1891, married Emanuel FRANK. The family settled in Buffalo, NY

WOLF KOHN/COHN son of merchant Michael Raphael COHN, was born in Baiersdorf on 14 July 1812. Between 1832 and 1835 he attended the Gymnasium Fridericianum in Erlangen followed by studying Jewish theology at the University Erlangen. He was Rabbi in Bruck from 1845 to 1857. He became District Rabbi of Baiersdorf, where he died 16 January 1888. (5) Wolf was the last Rabbi of Baiersdorf. After his death the Community Baiersdorf came under the District Rabbi of Fuerth. Wolf KOHN was married to Hanna née Kohn. The following children of theirs are recorded to have been born in Baiersdorf: (6)

- Fany COHN 25 May 1851
- Clara COHN 31 July 1853
- Maria COHN 16 April 1855

Footnotes

- (1) Horst Gemeinhardt: Zur gesellschaftlichen Stellung der Juden in Baiersdorf um die Jahrhundertwende (Contributions by Jews in Baiersdorf around the turn of the century).

- (2) Ilse Sponsel: Aufloesung und Ende der juedischen Gemeinde Baiersdorf (Winding up and end of Jewish Community Baiersdorf).
- (3) Horst Gemeinhardt.
- (4) Armin Strauss, born in Baiersdorf in 1860, son of Jonas emigrated to the United States around the 1890s.
- (5) Ursula Muenchhoff.
- (6) Staatsarchiv Nuernberg.