



Our Family

by

Heinz and Thea Ruth Skyte, née Ephraim

MARTHA KOENIG

ROSA MARTHA KOENIG, always known as Martha, elder of the two daughters of Albert and Johanna Koenig, was born on 29 January 1891 in Pillkallen, East Prussia.

Birth Certificate of Rosa Martha Koenig

Birth Certificate No.5

Pillkallen the 3rd February 1891

The personally known Master Saddler Albert Koenig, resident in Pillkallen, Tilsiterstrasse 57, of the evangelical religion, appeared today and registered that his wife Johanna Koenig née Wildies, resident with him in Pillkallen No.57, had on the twenty-ninth of January in the year One thousand eight hundred and ninety-one given birth to a child of the female sex, which had received the first names of Rosa Martha.

Read, approved and signed

Albert Konig

The Registrar

Bohland

It is herewith certified that the above extract is the correct wording of the Main Birth Register of the Registry Office Pillkallen

Seal

The Registrar

Registry Office Pillkallen

Signature

Martha received all her formal education in Pillkallen. After the Koenig family had moved to Berlin Martha worked for a time as a shop assistant. Around 1913 she started her own sewing workshop in one of the rooms in her parents' apartment.

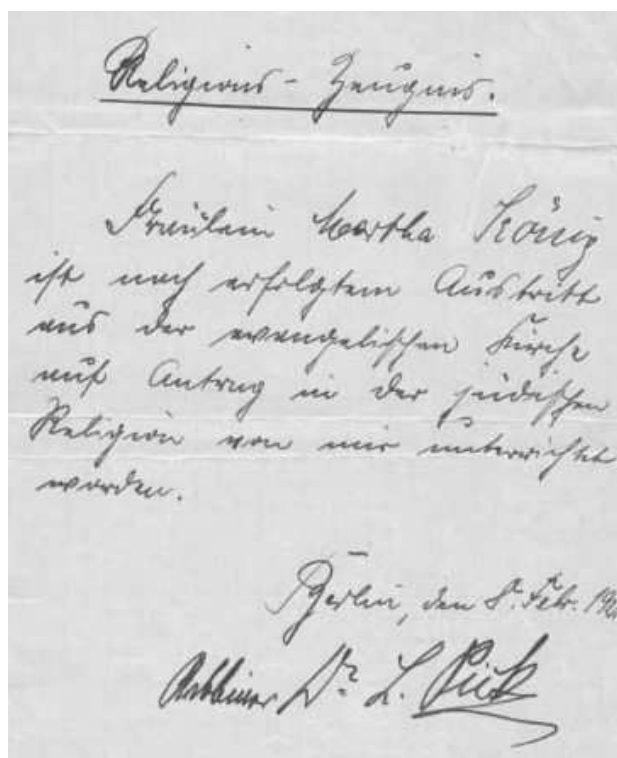
Around 1920 Martha left the Evangelical Church to convert to Judaism and to marry Alfred Ephraim. She received Jewish religious instructions from Rabbi Dr. L.Pick and lived for a time with a Jewish family, to learn religious customs etc. After all the necessary preparations and taking the ritual bath, she was accepted into the Jewish Community on 21st February 1921.



Rosa Martha Koenig, 1911

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Certificate of denomination:



(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Translation:

Miss Martha Koenig has, after her resignation from the Protestant Church received Jewish religious instructions from me.

Berlin, the 8th February 1921 Rabbi Dr. L. Pick

Urgent

Miss Martha Koenig shall receive a "*Proselyten*" bath. I beg to have this ritual process duly confirmed through signatures. Dr. M. Warschauer, Rabbi.

Please arrange for Miss K. to bathe immediately, as acceptance is urgent taking into consideration that the wedding has already been fixed.

signatures:

Dr. Warschauer

Frau Cassel

Frau Daniel

Certificate

After her resignation from the Protestant Church before the District Court of Berlin-Mitte on 7 December 1920, Miss Martha Koenig, born on 29 January 1891 in Pillkallen, East Prussia, has today been accepted into the Jewish Community.

Berlin, the 21. February 1921

Dr. M. Warschauer

Rabbi

Stamp Dr. M. Warschauer

Rabbi of the Jewish Community Berlin

Two days later on 23rd February 1921 Martha and Alfred Ephraim were married.