

**RG-50.633.0077**

Interview conducted on August 19 and 22, 2004 in the village of Lesnovka, Saky, Crimea by A. L'vov, Evg. Varshaver and M. Ermolaev

Language:  
Russian

In two transcripts  
Interview Summary:

**Raisa Mikailovna Puzakova**, born in 1948, and **Valentina Mikhailovna Puzakova**, born in 1941, village Lesnovka, Saky, Crimea.

They are Karaim (Crimean Karaites).  
Jews and Karaim have the same faith. Karaims had their own farm Pizaki in Volgograd oblast.  
They had many sheep. They bartered products with their neighbors.

Their grandfather and father were Karaims. In those days their father Mesail became Mikhail; their uncle Fares became uncle Fedia.

On Saturdays they all bathed and put on clean clothes. Her parents would pay a visit to others or would receive visitors at their home.

Their father had his own prayer book.

They have a book with Karaim cooking recipes, printed in Simferopol in 1991.

They plan to celebrate the New Year; they will have fish, something sweet and grape juice; no alcohol.

They remember fasting on Judgement day, commemorating the holiday of Sukkot in the fall and Chanukkah in the winter.

Their mother baked matzo on Passover.

In the past Jews married other Jews, but later marriages were mixed.

They have Jewish relatives, and belong to a Jewish community.

Raisa Mikailovna Puzakova had spent most of her life, beginning in 1971, in Riga; her deceased husband's name was Barons.

**Geographic Name:**

Village of Lesnovka, Saky, Crimea

Farm Pizaki, Volgograd oblast

Riga, Latvia