

Parents



João José Barbosa de Oliveira (02/Jul/1818 - 28/Nov/1874)

"[...] Born in the state of Bahia on July 2, 1818, the son of Rodrigo Barbosa de Oliveira and Maria Soares Simas. He was a doctor and he tried in vain to establish a clientele until 1846, when he enrolled in a competition for substitute professor of the Medical Section at the College of Medicine. He did not get approved, despite having presented a well-structured, complete monograph and his written test having caused a stir among the doctors. He thought of moving away from that profession and entering into politics, hoping to play a prominent role in it. As an affiliated to the Liberal Party, he managed to be elected deputy to the Provincial Assembly in 1848, thanks to the influence of friends and relatives. But his temper, his stubborn attitudes, and his inflexibility were obstacles to him becoming a great politician." (MAGALHÃES, 2013, p. 62)

"I told you about my father. That which I am, except for my heart - which my mother greatly contributed to - is born of him almost exclusively, like water that flows from water that has flown. This language, which I use, and is diminished in me, was his, the greatest speaker I have ever known. This mind, which I have, is but a dim shadow of his. This passion for freedom, and law, and justice, he inherited it, the fairest of souls, the most unmovable liberal I have ever seen, a liberal on the English and American manner. The love for country, intransigence of honor, firmness of will, worship of principles, disregard of dangers, the religious foundation of feelings and ideas, these all come from him. So, at every step of my life, what I feel in my inmost core is my father. He did not die: he lives in me, and he will live again, as long as something of me remains." (BARBOSA, RUI, 1909, p. 210)



Maria Adélia Barbosa de Oliveira (18/Aug/1818 - 16/Jun/1867)

"The good angel of Rui's childhood was his mother, Maria Adélia, born on August 18, 1818. Composed and well-bred", "gentle towards others, gifted, with a religious education, she provided some ease from the strictness of the father in the education of the son. From her Rui inherited his excessive sensitivity, the virtues of the heart." (MAGALHÃES, 2013, p. 66)

"Oh image of goodness and purity, who poured into my soul the happiness of suffering and forgiving, who brought me up in the divine spectacle of sacrifice crowned by sacrifice, heavenly caress in the morning of my days, beckoning from heaven on the horizon of my afternoon, angel of selflessness and hope, who smiles at me in the smile of my children, my mother's sidereal spirit..." (BARBOSA, Rui, 1893, p. 28.)

"My masters in the Portuguese language, the first, if not the only ones, were my parents: my mother and my own father, for, as it is well-known, my father was a man given to these studies, profoundly learned in the Portuguese language, a stylist, a speaker and a classicist. My father was my true teacher in the Portuguese language." (BARBOSA, Rui, 1902, p. 180)

The above paragraph shows that Rui's family environment produced the circumstances that the current Brazilian National Literacy Policy calls Family Literacy, which is a set of actions capable of providing stimuli aimed at developing the written and oral language within the family circle itself. As Rui Barbosa's testimony showed, the writer's parents created a family unit focused on the best home environment for their children's education. The current Literacy Policy aims at having our children to live in this kind of environment.



Code to access the MEC (Ministry of Culture) webpage with information and videos on Family Literacy