

## **ELÍAS DAVID CURIEL ABENATAR (Santa Ana de Coro, Venezuela, 1871-1924)**



Elías David Curiel, who is considered one of the main Venezuelan poets and one of the representatives of the *Modernista* movement, was born to a Sephardic family from Curaçao. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Curiel Suares, was one of the founders of the Sephardic community in Coro; his parents, David Curiel and Exilda Abenatar, were outstanding members of this community during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Along with his career as a poet, Curiel was a teacher, an editor, and a journalist. Part of his fame rests on the fact that in 1905 he wrote the official anthem of the state of Falcón, whose capital is Coro. He published his poems in many newspapers and magazines; they have been collected posthumously in several collections. The book we have consulted was published in 1961, and includes Curiel's three main books: *Apéndice lírico*, *Poemas en flor*, and *Música astral*.

Elías David Curiel took his own life in his native city, where he lived all his life, on September 28, 1924.