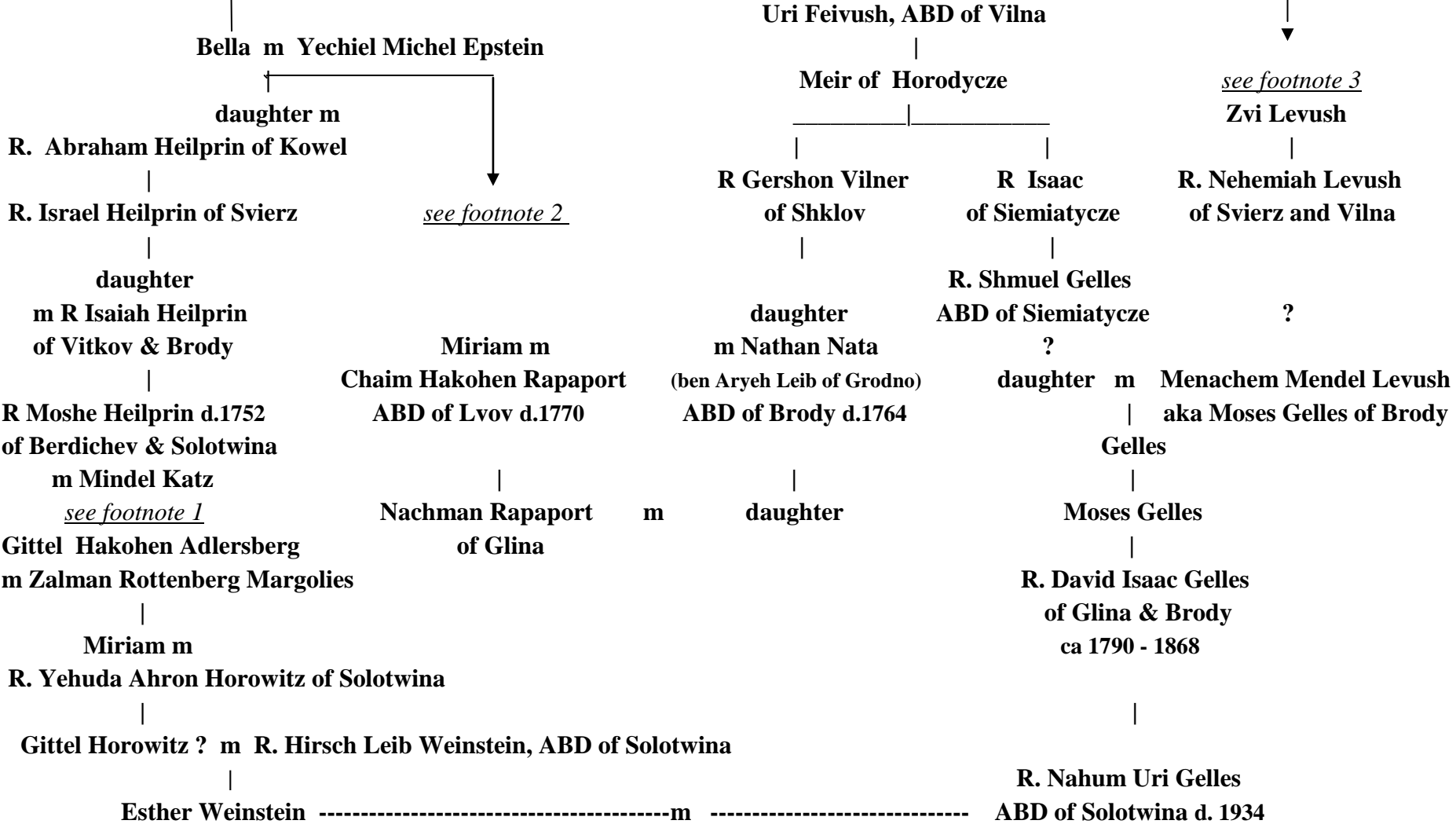


Descent from Mordecai Yaffe (Levush)

Chief Rabbi of Prague, Grodno, and Posen (1530-1612)



Footnotes

- 1 Mordecai Yaffe's daughter Bella was the wife of Yechiel Michel Epstein, a physician who died in 1632. From their daughter who married Rabbi Abraham Heilprin of Kowel, a Heilprin line runs to the holy Rabbi Moshe Heilprin of Berdichev and Solotwina whose wife Mindel Katz was a descendant of Rabbi Shabatai Katz (1621-1662). Their daughter Rudel married a Rabbi Shmuel Katz and their fifth generation Kohanic descendant was Gittel Hakohen Adlersberg (died 1862) the wife of Zalman Berish Rottenberg (Margolies) of Brodshin [E. Gelles, *Meeting my Ancestors*, Maastricht 2011, pp 58-61; Alexander Hakohen Adlersberg, *Magen Avos*. Stanislawow 1936; Yechiel Michel Fischler, *Chasdei Avoth*, Lember 1880].
- 2 Miriam, the wife of Rabbi Chaim Hakohen Rapaport of Lvov (1700-1770), was also a descendant of Mordecai Yaffe through his daughter Bella. From Bella's daughter and Eliezer of Zloczew there follow Yechiel Michel of Nemirow (d. 1648). Menachem Mendel of Potok, ABD of Brzezany (d. 1717) , and Miriam's father Samuel Schmelke of Slonim, ABD of Przemysl (d. 1732) [Neil Rosenstein, *The Luria Legacy*, New Jersey 2004, pp 326-327].
- 3 From my grandfather the direct Gelles line is shown to go back to Moses Menachem Mendel Levush aka Moses Gelles, a scholar of the Brody Klaus who married a daughter of a Rabbi S. Gelles (probably Rabbi Shmuel Gelles, the ABD of Siemiatycze). The progeny of Moses Gelles were known by the names of Gelles (Gellis) and / or Levush for up to three generations [Records of the Beth Din of Brody 1808-1817, MS with Jewish Theological Seminary, New York; E. Gelles, *An Ancient Lineage*, London 2006, chapters 29, 30, 32, and 34]. R. Nehemiah Levush of Svierz and his father Zvi Levush were known descendants of Mordecai Yaffe [*Jewish Encyclopedia*, 1904, articles on Yaffe family; S.J Fuenn *Kiriyah Ne'emanah*, Vilna 1860, p 216; Nathan Zvi Friedman, *Otzar Harabbanim*, Bnei Brak 1973]. Moses Gelles or Levush was probably descended from Mordecai Yaffe through a line that requires further elucidation.

Nathan Nata ben Aryeh Leib of Grodno was a great-grandson of Chief Rabbi Aryeh Leib Fischls of Cracow (d.1671) and a son-in-law of Rabbi Gershon Vilner of Shklov. The latter was an uncle of Rabbi Shmuel Gelles of Siemiatycze. Chief Rabbi Nathan Nata of Brody was thus related to Moses Gelles by marriage and he was also a *mehutan* of Chaim Hakohen Rapaport, the Chief Rabbi of Lvov.

Chaim ben Simcha Hakohen Rapaport of Grodno & Lublin was a grandson of Rabbi Israel Swincher ben Mordecai Yollis. Israel Swincher of Dubno & Lutsk was a high official of the Council of the Four Lands and his brother-in-law Yissachar Ber, President of the Council, was a son of Chief Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel of Cracow (d. 1663).

[Note : ABD = Av Beth Din, Head of the Rabbinical Court / Chief Rabbi]