

**"Ask thy father, and he will declare unto thee, thine elders, and they will tell thee." (Hazineu)  
David B. Levy**

**Description:** This genealogical research describes the methods and strategies, to uncover history of various family back 18 generations and place this account in historical context. The testimony is peppered with primary sources including interviews, photos, genealogical trees, letters, Hespasim, Hashkamot, letters of semicha certification, pinkasim, maps, the historic Jewish press and current Israeli Newspapers, memoirs, public records, oral histories, tombstone inscriptions, family photos, original poems, emails, blogs, FB posts. Many secondary sources such as *Eleh Ezkarah*, *Minsk yizkor* books including an article by brother in law of Rav Menachem Gluskin, Dr. S. Lieberman who roomed with the Chazon Ish in Minsk, a *Hesped* by Dr. Hillel Zeitlin, *Iggerot Kodesh* to Rav Menachem Gluskin by the Friedicker Rebbe, *Sefer Mishpachot kehilat kodesh Shklov*, *Morgen Yiddish Daily*, and Dr Ezra Fleischer's articles on Dr. Aryeh Vilsker including one in 1988 *Kiryat Sefer*. etc. Attendees interested in research librarian Dr. Vilsker should see handouts at paper "Learning from scholar librarians" at <https://databases.jewishlibraries.org/node/51186> This presentation in genealogical research notes Individuals who made major impacts in their Eastern European Jewish communities, Judaism, cultural history at large, Zionism, and Eretz Yisrael and rabbinic scholarship. It is an attempt to turn to the past to guide the future, to make us better persons, seeking wisdom from the elders, as parasha Hazineu enjoins:

זְכַר יְמוֹת עוֹלָם, בֵּינֵנוּ שְׁנֵת דֶּר-דֶּר; שְׂאֵל אֲבִיךָ וַיְגִדָּה, זְקֵנֶיךָ וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָךְ

**David B. Levy** received a PhD in Jewish philosophy, Biblical Exegesis, and Rabbinics in 2000 from BHU; an MLS from UMCP in 2004; MA in Jewish studies from BHU in 1992; and a BA cum laude from Haverford College in 1990. David is an autodidact whose Maimonidean mission is the quest for hokmah, binah, vedaas, in search of intellectual-ethical-spiritual virtue, a life of the mind that recognizes that the link between humans and Hashem is the *sekel hapoel*.