

When Y-DNA and *Yichus* Tell Different Stories – The Savran-Hager Dynasty

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Introduction

The Savran-Bendery Chassidic dynasty was founded by Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838), and his brother, Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim of Bendery (c. 1780–1854).¹ They were sons of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo I of Savran (c. 1750–1802).

The Savran-Hager dynasty claims that their paternal ancestor, Rabbi Baruch (born c. 1820), was a son of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II of Chechelnik (c. 1811–1848), son of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838). They also claim that he was a descendant of the Baal Shem Tov, through Shimon Shlomo's wife, Feyga Yenta, the daughter of Rabbi Avraham of Skvira, who was a great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov.²

We conducted a Y-DNA research study of the Savran-Bendery Chassidic dynasty, in which we identified the Y-DNA genetic signature of the Wertheim-Giterman rabbinical lineage.³

Subsequent to the completion of this study, we tested several pedigreed descendants of the Savran-Hager dynasty, which claims patrilineal (son-after-son) descent from the Giterman rabbinical lineage. Their unexpected Y-DNA results caused us to take a closer look at the Savran-Hager lineage, in order to determine whether there was an error or omission in the paper trail, and to identify the source of the error, if possible.

The Y-DNA Evidence

We tested three pedigreed patrilineal descendants of Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim of Bendery (c. 1780–1854) (David Wertheim, Igor Wertheim, and Oleg Wertheim), one pedigreed patrilineal descendant of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838) (Ben Tzion Giterman), and two pedigreed descendants of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager (c. 1843–1896) (Eric Scott Hager and Rabbi Hager). Their lines of descent are presented in Table 1.

Table 1

Traditional Line of Descent for Pedigreed Descendants of the Wertheim, Giterman, and Hager Chassidic Dynasties

GENERATION	LINE OF DESCENT FOR PEDIGREED PATRILINEAL WERTHEIM, GITERMAN, AND HAGER DESCENDANTS					
0	Avraham Ha-Rofe (Pre-Surname Era)					
	born c. 1725*					
1	Shimon Shlomo I of Savran (Pre-Surname Era)					
	(c. 1750–1802)					
2	Aryeh Leib WERTHEIM of Bendery			Moshe Tzvi GITERMAN I of Savran		
	(c. 1780–1854)			(c. 1775–1838)		
3	Burich WERTHEIM	Shulim WERTHEIM		Shimon Shlomo GITERMAN II of Chechelnik		
	b. 1817	b. 1809		(c. 1811–1848)		
4	Leib WERTHEIM	Leib WERTHEIM	Moshko WERTHEIM	Moshe Tzvi GITERMAN II of Chechelnik	Baruch (Surname Unknown)‡	
	b. 1855	(1858–1932)	b. 1838	b. 1840	born c. 1820*	
5	Aron Shulim WERTHEIM	David WERTHEIM	Ichel Itsek WERTHEIM	Shimon Shlomo GITERMAN III	Moshe Tzvi HAGER	
	b. 1884	(1881–1942)	born c. 1873*	(c. 1862*–1920)	(c. 1843*–1896)	
6	Iosif WERTHEIM	Shulim WERTHEIM	Solomon WERTHEIM	Mordechai GITERMAN	Yechiel Baruch (Benjamin) HAGER	Yitzchak Meir HAGER
	b. 1927	(1917–1990)	(1909–1961)	(c. 1885*–1946)	(1866–1930)	(1860–1926)
7	David WERTHEIM	Igor WERTHEIM	Roman (Ruvim) WERTHEIM	Yochanan GITERMAN	Sol Baruch HAGER	Yehuda Zundel HAGER
	b. 1949	b. 1957	b. 1938	(1910–1998)	(1900–1977)	(1906–1993)
8			Oleg WERTHEIM	Ben Tzion GITERMAN	Bruce HAGER	Yitzchak Meir HAGER
			b. 1961	b. 1939	(1939–1975)	b. 1930
9					Eric Scott HAGER	R' HAGER
					1970	
	WERTHEIM LINE OF DESCENT			GITERMAN LINE OF DESCENT	HAGER LINE OF DESCENT	

Notes for Table 1: The (*) symbol denotes a date of birth that was estimated either by interpolation between known birth years, or by the standard genealogical assumption of 25 years between generations. The (‡) symbol denotes a suspected break in the lineage (see the text for a full explanation). Due to privacy considerations, R' Hager's given name and year of birth are excluded from the table.

The common ancestor for the Wertheim and Giterman descendants was Rabbi Shimon Shlomo I (c. 1750–1802), father of the founders of the Savran-Bendery Chassidic dynasty, Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim of Bendery (c. 1780–1854) and Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838). The common ancestor for the Hager descendants was Moshe Tzvi Hager (c. 1843–1896), son of Rabbi Baruch (born c. 1820).

Y-DNA Test Results

The Y-DNA tests were conducted by Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) of Houston, TX. The Y-DNA standard short tandem repeat (STR) markers for the four pedigreed Wertheim-Giterman descendants and the two pedigreed Savran-Hager descendants are presented in Table 2.

The Y-DNA results showed an exact Y-DNA match between Igor Wertheim and Oleg Wertheim on 37 of 37 Y-DNA STR markers, and a near-exact Y-DNA match of 36 of 37 STR markers between them and David Wertheim.

The Y-DNA test results for Ben Tzion Giterman closely matched those of the three Wertheim descendants. Y-DNA results showed a nearly exact match of 36 of 37 Y-DNA markers between Ben Tzion Giterman and both Igor Wertheim and Oleg Wertheim, and a 35 of 37 Y-DNA marker match between Ben Tzion Giterman and David Wertheim. The Y-DNA tests also identified all four pedigreed descendants as belonging to the E-M35 haplogroup.⁴

Genealogical research revealed that the most recent common ancestor for the Wertheim and Giterman descendants, Rabbi Shimon Shlomo I (c. 1750–1802), son of Avraham ha-Rofe, lived between six and seven generations ago. Y-DNA evidence corroborates this research by showing that the four Wertheim-Giterman descendants share a most recent common ancestor (MRCA) who lived sometime between the mid-1700s and the early 1800s.

The identical and near-identical Y-DNA 37-marker match among the four Wertheim and Giterman descendants, together with their documented proof of descent from the Wertheim-Giterman rabbinical lineage, provides a high degree of confidence that the Y-DNA haplotype and haplogroup presented in Table 2 accurately represents the Y-DNA genetic signature of the Savran-Bendery Chassidic dynasty, back to their common ancestor, Rabbi Shimon Shlomo I of Savran (c. 1750–1802).

Table 2

Comparison of Y-DNA Results for Pedigreed Patrilineal Descendants of the Wertheim, Giterman, and Hager Rabbinical Lineages

DYS Marker	Pedigreed Wertheim-Giterman Descendants				Pedigreed Hager Descendants		Non-Descendant
	Oleg Wertheim	Igor Wertheim	David Wertheim	Ben Tzion Giterman	Eric Scott Hager	R' Hager	Jeffrey Mark Paull
DYS393	14	14	14	14	12	12	14
DYS390	25	25	25	25	23	23	23
DYS19	13	13	13	13	17	17	14
DYS391	9	9	9	9	10	10	10
DYS385	17-18	17-18	17-18	17-18	13-16	13-16	13-20
DYS426	11	11	11	11	11	11	12
DYS388	12	12	12	12	16	16	12
DYS439	12	12	12	12	13	13	11
DYS389I	13	13	13	13	13	13	14
DYS392	11	11	11	11	11	11	10
DYS389II	31	31	31	31	29	29	29
DYS458	16	16	16	16	14	14	16
DYS459	9-9	9-9	9-9	9-9	8-9	8-9	9-9
DYS455	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
DYS454	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
DYS447	21	21	21	21	26	26	25
DYS437	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
DYS448	20	20	20	20	21	21	19
DYS449	29	29	29	29	32	32	33
DYS464	14-14-15-17	14-14-15-17	14-14-14-17	14-14-15-18	11-12-15-16	11-12-15-16	12-12-15-16
DYS460	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Y-GATA-H4	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
YCAII	19-19	19-19	19-19	19-19	19-22	19-22	20-20
DYS456	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
DYS607	13	13	13	13	13	14	15
DYS576	12	12	12	12	16	16	17
DYS570	16	16	16	16	17	17	22
CDY	33-34	33-34	33-34	33-34	36-36	36-36	34-34
DYS442	13	13	13	13	12	12	12
DYS438	10	10	10	10	9	9	11
Step Difference	0	0	1	1	24	25	24
Haplogroup	E-M35	E-M35	E-M35	E-M35	J-M172	J-M172	R-M124

Note for Table 2: The bold red numbers in the shaded cells indicate gene mutations and step differences from ancestral values at 37 STR markers for the Wertheim-Giterman patrilineal line.

These results prove beyond a reasonable doubt that these four Wertheim and Giterman descendants are part of the same lineage, and share the same common ancestor – Rabbi Shimon Shlomo I of Savran (c. 1750–1802), father of Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim of Bendery (c. 1780–1854) and Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838), thereby verifying the Wertheim-Giterman pedigree and line of descent.

The Y-DNA results of the two pedigreed Savran-Hager descendants, however, present a very different picture. Eric Scott Hager and R' Hager genetically match each other on 36 of 37 Y-DNA STR markers (1-step difference) and belong to the same J-M172 haplogroup. There is no question that they descend from the same Savran-Hager lineage.

However, Eric Scott Hager and R' Hager do not genetically match any of the Wertheim or Giterman descendants. They match on only 12 or 13 of 37 STR markers (24- or 25-step difference) with verified Wertheim descendants Oleg Wertheim and Igor Wertheim, and on only 11 or 12 of 37 STR markers (25- or 26-step difference) with verified descendants David Wertheim and Ben Tzion Giterman. In addition, they belong to an entirely different haplogroup (J-M172).

By way of comparison, the lead author, Jeffrey Mark Paull, included his own Y-DNA results in the table. Dr. Paull descends from Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim through the marriage of his daughter, Sima Wertheim, to Rabbi Eliyahu Pinchas Polonsky. Hence, the author is not a patrilineal descendant of the Wertheim-Giterman lineage. This is indicated by the fact that he shows exactly the same 24- or 25-step difference with the four verified patrilineal Wertheim and Giterman descendants as do Eric Scott Hager and R' Hager. Like them, the author also belongs to an entirely different haplogroup (R-M124).

These results prove beyond a reasonable doubt that and Eric Hager and Rabbi Hager do not descend from the same patrilineal lineage as verified Wertheim-Giterman descendants Oleg Wertheim, Igor Wertheim, David Wertheim, and Ben Tzion Giterman.

These Y-DNA results led us to take a closer look at the Hager family tree, and to research the documentation of their descent from the Wertheim-Giterman rabbinical lineage.

The key connection which links the Hager family to the Savran-Bendery Chassidic dynasty through the Giterman rabbinical lineage, is the marriage of Folya Hager, the daughter of Rabbi David Hager of Zabludov (1797–1848), to Rabbi Baruch (born c. 1820), the son of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II of Chechelnik (c. 1811–1848).

One of the key uncertainties in the Hager lineage involves the existence of Rabbi Baruch. Alfassi mentions Baruch as the son of Shimon Shlomo, the son of Moshe Tzvi.⁵ Grossman mentions Baruch as the son of Moshe Tzvi of Savran, based on information provided by Baruch’s descendant, Menachem Hager of Sosnovich.⁶ Hence, there is disagreement among rabbinical sources as to whether Baruch was the son or the grandson of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838).

According to the 1848 Kishinev census,⁷ Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman (born c. 1811) and Feyga Yenta (b. 1813) had two sons – Moshko (Moshe Tzvi) (b. 1840) and David (b. 1846). They also had six daughters. There was no mention of a son named Baruch on the 1848 census.

Figure 2

1848 Kishinev Census

РЕВИЗСКАЯ СКАЗКА		РЕВИЗСКАЯ СКАЗКА	
1848 года		1848 года	
Децембра 11-го дня Бессарабской Области		Децембра 11-го дня Бессарабской Области Города	
Кашинского Мужескаго Варшского селения		Кашинского Мужескаго Варшского селения	
Семья	Мужеский полъ	По послѣней ревизии состояло и посѣд оной при- было.	Изъ тог числа вы- было.
№	Имя	Лѣта.	Когда писано
		Женский полъ	Имя
		Во временной отлучкѣ.	Ныне на- личн.
		Съ котораго времени.	Лѣта.
	К у н и ш		К у н и ш
	странногородскіе		странногородскіе
	Абрамъ		Абрамъ
7+	Шлоимъ Мошковъ	Указанъ въ ревизіи 22 лѣтъ въ 1848 году	Имя Шлоима Мошкова сына:
	Темперманъ	22	1848
	Шлоимъ Мошковъ сынъ		По сего году:
	Мошко	родился въ 1840 году	Фейга
	Дубинъ	родился въ 1846 году	Симъ
			Марьямъ
			Ривка
			Темпа
			Тохаевъ
			Хася
			35
			22
			12
			10
			8
			1
			1

Discussion

The Y-DNA of the two pedigreed descendants of the Savran-Hager dynasty does not genetically match the Y-DNA genetic signature of the Wertheim-Giterman rabbinical lineage, and they belong to an entirely different haplogroup. Based upon this unequivocal Y-DNA evidence, Rabbi Baruch (born c. 1820) cannot be a patrilineal descendant of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838).

It therefore follows that the common ancestor of the two pedigreed Hager descendants, Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager (c. 1843–1896), son of Baruch and Folya Hager (1820–1873), was not a patrilineal Wertheim-Giterman descendant. The Hager descendants' Y-DNA represents neither the Wertheim-Giterman patrilineal rabbinical line, nor the original Hager patrilineal line, because Folya Hager, and not Baruch, was the Hager descendant.

In addition to the convincing Y-DNA evidence, a careful analysis of the genealogical evidence reveals several genealogical discrepancies and contradictions in the Savran-Hager lineage which call into question Rabbi Baruch's patrilineal descent from Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran:

- Neither the 1848 Kishinev census nor the 1848 will of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II of Chechelnik (c. 1811–1848) mentions Baruch among Rabbi Shimon Shlomo and Feyga Yenta's eight children, including their two sons, Moshko (Moshe Tzvi) and David, and their six daughters. The evidence from these independent genealogical sources makes it highly unlikely that Rabbi Baruch was a son of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II.
- Rabbi Baruch's wife, Folya Hager, was born in 1820 and died in 1873. Assuming that Rabbi Baruch was approximately the same age as his wife, that would mean that his father, Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II (born c. 1811), was, at most, nine years old when Baruch was born.
- The gravestone of Yechiel Baruch Hager (1866–1930), son of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager, proclaims Yechiel as a descendant of the "famous Hager family," but mentions nothing about being a descendant of the Savraner rebbe, a claim that would almost certainly be on the tombstone were he a son-after-son descendant of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran.

It is evident that Rabbi Baruch and Folya's son, Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager, was named after his ancestor, Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran (c. 1775–1838), who passed away approximately five years before Moshe Tzvi was born, circa 1843. Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager's tombstone inscription claims him to be "Descendant of the Holy *Tzaddik* of Savran," which is quite possible, although it could not have been through the patrilineal (son-after-son) line.

This leaves open the possibility that Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager descends from Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran via a maternal ancestor. A good candidate is Vitya Feyga (born c. 1800), the daughter of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi of Savran.⁹ This proposed line of descent is presented in Table 3 and is depicted in the family tree in Figure 4.

Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager (c. 1843–1896) adopted his mother Folya's prominent Hager surname. His father Baruch's surname, which some surmise may have been Giterman, remains unknown at this time. We are continuing our search of the Russian archives for Savran vital records and censuses which might provide more information on Rabbi Baruch's surname, his father's name, and his year and place of birth and death.



The gravestone of Yechiel Baruch Hager (1866–1930), son of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager, proclaims him as a descendant of the “famous Hager family.”

Table 3

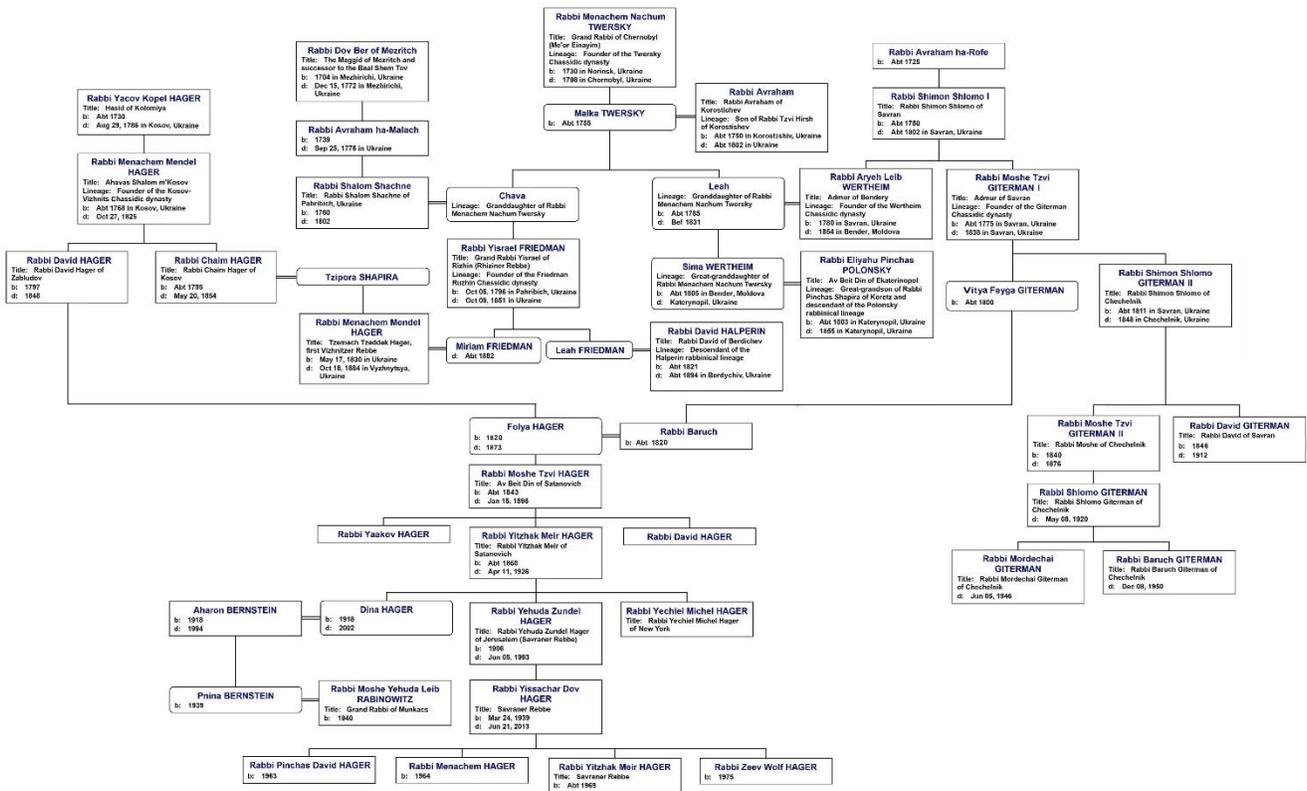
Proposed Line of Descent for Pedigreed Descendants of the Wertheim, Giterman, and Hager Chassidic Dynasties

GENERATION	LINE OF DESCENT FOR PEDIGREED PATRILINEAL WERTHEIM, GITERMAN, AND HAGER DESCENDANTS					
0	Avraham Ha-Rofe (Pre-Surname Era)					
	born c. 1725*					
1	Shimon Shlomo I of Savran (Pre-Surname Era)					
	(c. 1750–1802)					
2	Aryeh Leib WERTHEIM			Moshe Tzvi GITERMAN I of Savran		
	(c. 1780–1854)			(c. 1775–1838)		
3	Burich WERTHEIM	Shulim WERTHEIM		Shimon Shlomo GITERMAN II of Chechel'nik	Vitya Feyga GITERMAN	
	b. 1817	b. 1809		(c. 1811–1848)	born c. 1800	
4	Leib WERTHEIM	Leib WERTHEIM	Moshko WERTHEIM	Moshe Tzvi GITERMAN II of Chechel'nik	Baruch (Surname Unknown)‡	
	b. 1855	(1858–1932)	b. 1838	b. 1840	born c. 1820*	
5	Aron Shulim WERTHEIM	David WERTHEIM	Ichel Itsek WERTHEIM	Shimon Shlomo GITERMAN III	Moshe Tzvi HAGER	
	b. 1884	(1881–1942)	born c. 1873*	(c. 1862*–1920)	(c. 1843*–1896)	
6	Iosif WERTHEIM	Shulim WERTHEIM	Solomon WERTHEIM	Mordechai GITERMAN	Yechiel Baruch (Benjamin) HAGER	Yitzchak Meir HAGER
	b. 1927	(1917–1990)	(1909–1961)	(c. 1885*–1946)	(1866–1930)	(1860–1926)
7	David WERTHEIM	Igor WERTHEIM	Roman (Ruvim) WERTHEIM	Yochanan GITERMAN	Sol Baruch HAGER	Yehuda Zundel HAGER
	b. 1949	b. 1957	b. 1938	(1910–1998)	(1900–1977)	(1906–1993)
8			Oleg WERTHEIM	Ben Tzion GITERMAN	Bruce HAGER	Yitzchak Meir HAGER
			b. 1961	b. 1939	(1939–1975)	b. 1930
9					Eric Scott HAGER	R' HAGER
					1970	
	WERTHEIM LINE OF DESCENT			GITERMAN LINE OF DESCENT	HAGER LINE OF DESCENT	

Notes for Table 3: The (*) symbol denotes a date of birth that was estimated either by interpolation between known birth years, or by the standard genealogical assumption of 25 years between generations. The (‡) symbol denotes a suspected break in the lineage (see the text for a full explanation). Due to privacy considerations, R' Hager's given name and year of birth are excluded from the table.

Figure 4

Proposed Wertheim-Giterman-Hager Family Tree



Conclusions

The Y-DNA evidence, taken together with the genealogical evidence, effectively rules out the possibility that Rabbi Baruch was a patrilineal descendant of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Giterman I of Savran, or that he was a son of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II. The two lines of evidence also disprove the conflicting information regarding the father of Rabbi Baruch provided in the rabbinical sources.

If Rabbi Baruch was not the son of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II, it follows that he cannot be a descendant of the Baal Shem Tov through Rabbi Shimon Shlomo's wife, Feyga Yenta, the daughter of Rabbi Avraham of Skvira, and granddaughter of Rabbi Aharon of Tetiev.

Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Hager's gravestone mentions Rabbi Moshe Tzvi of Savran as his ancestor. It does not mention him being a descendant of the Baal Shem Tov. Knowing that he cannot be a son-after-son descendant of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi of Savran leaves open the possibility that Rabbi Baruch (born c. 1820) was the son of Vitya Feyga (born c. 1800), the daughter of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi I of Savran.

There are many possible reasons why *yichus* and Y-DNA tell different stories.¹⁰ In our Y-DNA research study of the Shpoler Zeida's lineage, it was because the Shpoler Zeida's son-in-law adopted his wife's surname.¹¹ In our Y-DNA research study of the Baal Shem Tov's lineage, it was because rabbinical sources confused two different rabbis who were related to one another, and who had the same given name.¹²

In this case, it is possible that an incorrect assumption was made regarding Folya Hager's first husband, Rabbi Baruch, about whom very little is known, and whose pedigree is very poorly documented. Because Rabbi Baruch may have served as a Savraner rabbi for a time, his descendants may have simply assumed that he was paternally descended from Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman II of Chechelnik. Rabbinical sources may have made the same error.

Identifying errors in a patrilineal line of descent is never an easy thing to report on, especially when the line of descent is a venerable rabbinical lineage which treasures its *yichus*. As genealogists, the process of thoroughly researching and validating rabbinical lines of descent, as well as identifying errors in the lineage, is a responsibility that the authors take very seriously.

Rabbinical lineages represent a connection to our history and to our Jewish heritage. Helping to ensure that this history is as accurate and reliable as possible, and preserving it for future generations, is a sacred trust. Through dedicated genealogical research, using all the tools at our disposal, including modern DNA techniques, combined with traditional genealogical research methods, and the clear and transparent communication of results, we believe that our rich Jewish history and heritage is enhanced, to the benefit of all.

Acknowledgments

The authors wish to thank Eric Scott Hager, and Rabbi Hager, for their voluntary participation in our Y-DNA research study, and for their patience and cooperation. We also gratefully acknowledge our colleagues, Susan K. Steeble, for her insightful editing suggestions; Roizy Simkowitz, for her assistance locating Y-DNA test candidates, tombstone photos, and genealogical source documents; and Rabbi Shmiel Gruber, for sharing his expert opinion on rabbinical sources.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

Endnotes

- ¹ Rabbi Aryeh Leib Wertheim's year of birth (1780) was derived from his age at the time of the 1835, 1848, and 1854 censuses for Bender, Moldova (age 55 in 1835; age 68 in 1848; age 73 in 1854). Kishinev Archive: 1848 Bendery Census, Fond 134, Inventory 2, File 137, p. 105, and 1854 Bendery Census, Fond 134, Inventory 2, File 313, p. 8.
- ² Rabbi Yosef Yeruchim Fishel Hager: "Righteous Rabbi Shimon Shlomo of Savran-Chechel'nik." *Heichal Habesht*, published by Rabbi Nochum Grunwald, Lakewood, NJ, 2015. Rabbi Hager writes: "In 1818, his father [Rabbi Moshe Tzvi of Savran] arranged his son's [Shimon Shlomo's] marriage with the daughter [Feyga Yenta] of Rabbi Avraham of Skvira, son of Rabbi Aharon of Tetiev, son of Rabbi Tzvi, son of Rabbi Yisrael Baal Shem Tov."
- ³ Jeffrey Mark Paull and Jeffrey Briskman: "Connecting to the Wertheim-Giterman Rabbinical Lineage through Y-DNA." AVOTAYNU Volume XXX, Number 3, Fall 2014.
- ⁴ Additional Y-DNA testing via the Big Y-500 test has identified Igor Wertheim's haplogroup-defining terminal single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) as E-BY36959.
- ⁵ Yitzhak Alfassi: "*Hassidut mi-Dor le-Dor*." Printed by Machon Deat Yosef, Jerusalem, 1995, p. 152.
- ⁶ Levi Ha-Levi Grossman, Editor: "*Shem ve-She'arit* (Name and Remnant)." Betzalel Printers, Tel Aviv, Israel, 1943, Appendix, p. 4.
- ⁷ "1848 Kishinev Census." Kishinev Archive, Fond 134, Inventory 2, File 139, pp. 230-231. We note that the census contains an apparent entry error: Shimon Shlomo's age in 1843 (when his family was officially transferred to the Kishinev merchant class), was entered as 22, but we believe that it should have been entered as 32. Otherwise Shimon Shlomo would have been 8 years younger than his wife, Feyga Yenta.
- ⁸ "1848 Will of Rabbi Shimon Shlomo Giterman." Chmelnitsky Archive, Fond 196, Inventory 1, File 2943.
- ⁹ Vitya Feyga married Rabbi Yisrael of Savran. Their daughter, Sima (b. 1814), who married Grand Rabbi Meshulam Zusya Heschel of Zinkov, was found in the 1858 Medzhibozh census.
- ¹⁰ Jeffrey Mark Paull, Jeffrey Briskman, Susan K. Steeble, and Yitzchak Meyer Twersky: "When Y-DNA and Yichus Tell Different Stories." https://www.academia.edu/33977075/When_Y-DNA_and_Yichus_Tell_Different_Stories.
- ¹¹ Jeffrey Mark Paull and Jeffrey Briskman: "The Y-DNA Fingerprint of the Shpoler Zeida, a *Tzaddik* Who Touched the World." Avotaynu Online, 2016. https://www.academia.edu/23179376/The_Y-DNA_Fingerprint_of_the_Shpoler_Zeida_a_Tzaddik_Who_Touched_the_World.
- ¹² Jeffrey Mark Paull and Jeffrey Briskman: "Baal Shem Tov Y-DNA Research Study." https://www.academia.edu/40462414/Baal_Shem_Tov_Y-DNA_Research_Study.

Dr. Jeffrey Mark Paull was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA. He earned his BS in Chemistry and his Master of Science degree in Industrial Hygiene from the University of Pittsburgh, and his Master's and Doctorate of Public Health degrees from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Paull's career as an environmental toxicologist and scientific expert in the field of occupational and environmental health spans over thirty years (1976–2008).

Since that time, Dr. Paull has devoted himself to his passion for genealogical research and writing. His first book, entitled: *A Noble Heritage: The History and Legacy of the Polonsky and Paull Family in America*, traces his family's ancestry over a millennium of history, and discovers their lost rabbinical heritage from the Shapiro-Treves rabbinical lineage that descends from Rashi (1040–1105). His book was featured on the PBS website, "Finding your Roots, with Henry Louis Gates, Jr."

Dr. Paull is very active in the field of genetic genealogy and has published numerous pioneering autosomal and Y-DNA research studies in which he has identified the unique genetic signature of some of Eastern Europe's most renowned rabbinical lineages. In addition to his genealogical research studies of historic rabbinical lines, Dr. Paull conducted a pioneering Y-DNA research study of the patrilineal lineage of John Hart, one of America's Founding Fathers, and the thirteenth signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Dr. Paull is a highly sought-after speaker, and he has presented talks on his pioneering genealogical research studies to many genealogical societies, and international genealogy conferences around the world. His many genealogy-related book chapters, research articles, and publications are available online at Academia.edu (<https://independent.academia.edu/JeffreyMarkPaull>). His publications and presentations are also available on his website (<https://anobleheritage.com/>), and news regarding his latest research studies and presentations is posted on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ANobleHeritage/>).

Dr. Jeffrey Briskman was born and raised in Kursk, Russia. He attended Kursk State Technical University, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba, Israel, and Rutgers University, in New Brunswick, NJ, from which he holds a Doctorate in Pharmacy.

Dr. Briskman is fluent in Russian and Hebrew, has obtained and translated hundreds of Russian census documents and vital records, and has contributed to numerous independent and JewishGen genealogical research projects. In addition to his collaboration with Dr. Paull on many pioneering genetic genealogy research studies, he is co-authoring their forthcoming book: *God on Trial: The Life, Legends, and Descendants of the Shpoler Zeida*.