

“A Funny Thing Happened to Me on the Way to the Forum”¹
I was searching for the origins of a known reputable Ashkenazi family
And I found them!*
By Dr. Chanan Rapaport**

Foreword:

In 1948, in the waning days of the War of Independence, I had a chance encounter with the renowned historian Prof. Ben Zion Dinaburg-Dinur. The professor inquired whether I was a descendent of the Sepharadi or perhaps the Portuguese branch of the Rapaport family, to which I innocently replied- “I am from the Galician Rapaports”.

His surprising reaction was: “Please be seated, Sir. You have no idea”. He then proceeded to explain that from the middle of the 16th century (as the memory of Jewish life in Spain and Portugal began to fade) until the 19th century it was fashionable among Eastern and Western European Jewry to attribute their origin to Jewish families exiled from Spain, thus becoming part of an ancient family with a stamp of respectability.

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- (b) Quotations from the article should indicate the author, the name of the article, and the source of the published article.

1) I came to investigate some of my family origins, but found myself captive to proven facts that revealed a completely opposite situation to what I had expected. This state of affairs reminded me of the musical “A Funny Thing Happened to Me on the Way to the Forum“ which was popular back in the 60’s of the last century, based on comic plays by ancient-Rome playwright Titus Maccius Plautus.

**** Born in 1928, Chanan Rapaport served as commander in the "Haganah Underground" during the British Mandate in Palestine and, later, during Israel's 'War of Independence'. After the War of Independence he studied Psychology and Sociology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He holds a doctorate in Clinical Psychology and completed his post-doctoral studies in psychoanalysis, psychotherapy and research, both in the USA.**

Upon returning to Israel, he was appointed General and Scientific Director of the "Szold Institute - The National Institute for Research in the Behavioral Sciences", serving for eighteen years (1965-1982). During those years he also served two Prime Ministers- Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin- as advisor on social issues.

In addition, he was also the psychological advisor to the Minister of Education & Culture, as well as supervised all research projects conducted under the auspices of the Ministry.

Since the death of the famous genealogist, Dr. Paul Jacobi, he has served as the executor of his scientific estate.

Currently he is the Director General of “The Centre for the Study of the Rapaport Family” as well as Board Member of the “International Institute for Jewish Genealogy and the Paul Jacobi Center” at the National Jewish Library in Jerusalem.

Back then, there were two popular explanations for the origin of the name Rappaport².

The first explanation was predicated on a wedding between two honorable Spanish families - the son of the **Rapa** family married the daughter of the **Porto** family resulting in a new family name **Rappaport**.³

The second explanation asserted that the Rappaport name comprised of 'Rav', the important Rabbi of the city of **Oporto**, a major city in the Portuguese Diaspora. (although no one bothered to pin down this important personality in the history of the Jews in Portugal, this theory was widely adhered to).

At the end of the War of Independence, I too did not show interest in this subject matter and due to my ignorance did not bother to question the respected Prof. Dinur as to any scientific sources to support these explanations.

Much later, after the death of Prof. Dinur, I delved into this matter but could not find any evidence to support the theory that this well respected Ashkenazi European family branched out of Spain, Portugal and/or any territories under their domain. Therefore, in my article on "**The Rappaport Family Name**"⁴ I mentioned the Spanish origins as anecdotal.

Dr. Rapapa, court physician to King Jaime III of Majorca

About three years ago I was informed by my close friend, the late Mrs. Matilda Tager,⁵ About a book (written in Catalan) titled "Jewish doctors in Majorca during the Middle Ages"⁶. There, on page 131, was a lawsuit lodged in 1345 by the court doctor Physicus Jucef Salomon Rapapa Vs. King Pedro IV et al for non-payment of 10 libras⁷ for medical services rendered to his predecessor King Jaime III⁸ et al.

She asked me whether in my opinion Rapapa could be a variant of the Rappaport name. My first reaction was positive, but a serious answer required an in-depth investigation.

² This COHANITE Family (of important- Temple priests) is revered in Jewish Orthodox circles as direct descendants of Aharon, Moshe's brother.

As such, they possess the: 'Attributes of Revered Priesthood'. They perform the traditional "Cohanim Benediction" and are most sought after in "Pidyon HaBen" rituals.

³ Let it be known at the very beginning that we are using one form of spelling to represent all the Rapaport families. Though it is also known in different spellings such as Rappaport, Rappoport, Rapoportov, Rapiport, Rapeport, Rapperport, Rapart, Rappa, Rapovich, Rapert, Raport, Rapir, Praport and many more.

⁴ Printed in "Et-Mol" - a bi-monthly magazine of history, Volume 31, 2nd edition (184), November 2005, Published by "Yad Ben-Zvi Institute".

⁵ Mrs. Matilda Tager, a scion of a Moroccan family whose family tree branches as far back as the RAMBAN, was a professional meteorologist and scientific librarian. In addition she published many scientific papers relating to Sephardic given and family names, for example "Dictionary of Sephardic Given Names", 2015.

⁶ "LOS MÉDICOS JUDÍOS EN LA MALLORCA BAJOMEDIEVAL: SIGLOS XIV-XV" by Contreras Mas Antonio. Published in Palma de Majorca, 1977. [It enumerates 24 Jewish doctors in Majorca from 1332 to 1431]

⁷ Please, find in the Appendix: A discussion dealing with the comparative value of 10-Libras in the years 1345 and 2017.

⁸ Order and dates of government in Majorca, of the following kings: 2] Jaime II = {1276 - 1311};

3] Pacific Sancho I {1274- 1324}; 4] Jaime III = {1324 - 1344}; 5] Pedro IV = {1344 - 1387};

First of all, a list containing 1.5 million Spanish family names was scrutinized. In that long list, not one name was found to be similar or sounding like Rapaport and/or Rapapa. Conclusion: this name, or one similar to it, does not exist in the collection of family names emanating from Spanish cultures. This fact, coupled with its source in a book dedicated to 'Jewish Doctors' leads one to believe that the origin of the name is Jewish. A world renowned scholar in the field of 'Majorca Jewry' and himself a descendant from a Jewish family in Majorca, Pere Bonnin, points out in his book "On Jewish Family Names in Spain"⁹ that in 1339 there was in Majorca a Jew named **Rapapa**. Based on these three research works I concluded that it is, indeed, a Jewish name and/or a variant of the name **Rapaport**.

Additional proof of my supposition that **Rapapa** denotes a Jewish name comes from the following story related in the book 'The Jews of Majorca during the 13th and 14th Centuries'¹⁰.

A Jewish young lady intended to convert in order to marry her Christian lover. A group of Jews planned to kidnap and hide her until the ensuing storm abated.

The group consisted of: Aahron (in whose house the girl was eventually hidden), Maimon, son of Estruc Ibn-Nunu, David, son of Sopran and Ensrum from the city of Suria in Catalonia. The head of this group was the physician Dr. Vidal Rapapa. The kidnapping plan went off well.

The Spanish Church investigators¹¹, however, managed to unmask the plotters and free the girl.

The group was tried and sentenced to long prison terms and stiff fines. The sentencing was appealed (with a large bribe) and subsequently King Jaime II reduced the prison terms and the fines on the condition that the chief plotter, Dr. Vidal Rapapa undertake to keep secret the trial and the ensuing reductions in prison terms and fines. Dr. Vidal Rapapa stuck to his part of the bargain.

This proves beyond any doubt that the name Rapapa is Jewish. After all, a non-Jewish group would not have bothered to endanger its members by planning and actually carrying out the kidnapping of a Jewish maiden to thwart off her betrothal to a gentile.

An interesting testament to the blood ties connecting the **Rapapa** to **Rapaport** families as it relates to their common Majorca ancestry has come to light through DNA testing conducted nowadays routinely and used in genealogical research. A member of the Rappoport family in the USA and of a member a Chueta¹² family in Majorca were randomly tested, by a scientific laboratory. It revealed a direct and accurate Mitochondrial DNA connection between two Ashkenazi people.

⁹ "Sangre judía. Españoles de ascendencia hebrea y antisemitismo cistiano", by Pere Bonnin, 2013

¹⁰ "Los Judios del Reino de Mallorca Durante Los Siglos XIII y XIV", by Antonio Pons.

¹¹ The zealous church forced the Jews of Majorca to convert as early as 1435, i.e. about 60 years prior to their general expulsion from Spain in 1492 and the forced conversion of those who remained.

¹² 500 years ago those two 'brothers' parted ways. One escaped to Europe whereas the other stayed in Majorca where he was forced to convert to Christianity. However, in order to perceive the 'new Christians' distinctly they were obliged to adopt a new family name from a limited list approved by the Church: "Agiló, Bonnín, Cortez, Fuster, Forteza, Martí, Miró, Picó, Pomar, Piña, Segura, Valls, Valenti, Taronji, Valleriola". To add insult to injury they were forbidden to marry into 'original Christian' families and since they refused to eat pork they were dubbed 'Chuetas' (pork ribs). The continuous humiliation and contempt in which the Chuetas were held, explain why many of them were burned at the stake in Majorca until 1691. It was only in 1834 that the Inquisition Laws were finally abolished in Spain though they prevailed in Angola and certain Latin America countries until the end of the 19th century. The laws against Chuetas were abolished in 1921, but latent discrimination lingers on. As a consequence of these rules and regulations anyone carrying one of those family names or pejorative, descends from the Jews of Majorca.

(I) Elyahu Birenbaum, published in "Da'At", 'Herzog Institute', World Jew section.

(II) M. Levin, Ein Besuch bei den "Leuten der Gasse" in Palma, in Brüll's Jahrb. i. 132 et seq.;

It showed clearly that their Haplogroup is not Spanish, but rather originate in the Levant - the Eastern part of the Mediterranean, and is ancient [like Jews from Eretz-Yisrael, before the expulsions].

Both were brothers, offspring to a common mother who lived 500 years ago in spite of the chasm of vast oceans of geography and history.

But, quoting the Greek philosopher Aristotle “one swallow does not herald the coming of spring”.

Works of research conducted by the late Matilda Tager on the names of Jews from Spain and environs, yielded many names containing the core name **Rap** with add-ons. A close check of dates and events pertinent to the list appearing at the end of this article show that they and/or their parents lived in Spain and its environs circa **1200**. As we all know too well⁴ the **Rap-Rappaport** families emerged from their anonymity, in southern Bavaria, circa **1380 CE**.

This data points out that members of the **Rap** families lived in Spain, about **200** years prior to their appearance in Central and East Europe. The conclusion emerging from these facts is that the origin of this tribe and its many families is in the Spanish kingdoms, i.e. **the origin of this most widely respected Ashkenazi--Jewish Rappaport family, is in Spain.**

Etymological sources to the family name/Is the raven on the gate?

The following investigation deals with the meaning of the nucleus **Rap** in the family name.

Following our conclusion that the family’s origin is in Spain and Portugal, I searched for the meaning of **RAP**- based on words in Spanish and Latin.

The first to pop up is **RAPace** in Spanish and Catalan spoken respectively in the kingdoms of Aragon and that of Majorca. The second was the Latin word **RAPax**. The meaning of both words is “**a predator**”, a reasonable choice for families possessing strength, wealth, power and influence who added powerful symbols to their banners, heraldry and gates.

A well known example is the **Lione = Lion** family which affixed the likeness of the “king of the jungle” to its gate and called it **Lione de la Porta**, and many more such expressions of strength.

Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that a revered priestly family will express itself in a similar fashion. Following the example¹³ below, we propose an explanation for the family name **Rapapa**:

It is an abbreviation of **RAP A la PortA = A predator on the family’s gate = **RAPAPA**.**

The Roman Empire was the main power in Europe - including in Spain - from the first century **BCE**. The language of the Romans was Latin. Many languages were derived from Latin, including Spanish Portuguese and Catalan. These languages contributed the abbreviation '**Rap**' - as the base for the **Rapapa/Rapaport** family name.

We assume, therefore, that the **Rap** family name might be identified throughout Europe also during the first millennium **CE**. For their accurate timing of dates and generations, we will need the refined and exact scientific measuring tool of '**Absolute Generations**'¹⁴. [Please, find Dr. 'Jacobi's **Absolute Generations Scale**' on the last page, before the **Appendix**].

We should not forget, however, that the Arabic Islamic conquests in Spain started in **711 CE**.

They ruled over great parts of Spain, almost **800** years [781]. This long period in Spain required, inter alia, the translation of these Latin family names into Arabic¹⁵.

¹³⁾ Almost every language uses nicknames. For instance: “Adelheid” becomes Adela, Adel, Aydel; “Elizabeth” becomes Isabela=Bela, Beileh. Furthermore, some abbreviations emanate from a fusion of different words resulting in a new one: “thermometer” is based on ‘thermo’ and ‘meter’, “linguist” is based on ‘language’ and ‘linguistics’

¹⁴⁾ My articles on the "Absolute Generations Scale" was published on the website of:

"The Israel Genealogy Research Association", on December, 20est 2014.

¹⁵⁾ Examples from Arabic: Even el-Rap =Avenalrap =Ibn el-Rap =son of the Rap; El Rap =The Rap; El Rab =The Rab;

The emigration of the **RAP** families from Spain = Aragon, Catalonia, Majorca, Navarra and Valencia, to other European kingdoms and fiefdoms necessitated conformity in sound and meaning to its many prevailing Germanic dialects. The closest German-sounding name is **RABe** = Raven (bird of prey) which in daily slang is also pronounced **RAPe**, meaning the same bird of prey named **Raven** in English.

In addition to similar sound and meaning, European Jewry attributed further symbolic qualities to the '**raven**' name. Jews deemed themselves as clever, smart, sophisticated and devoted parents, the very same qualities associated with ravens¹⁶ in many religions as well as in folkloric tales worldwide.

And where did European Jewry append **Port** to their basic family name **Rabe=RAPe**?

The Jews served on that continent as Talmud halachists, religious and social leaders, physicians, bankers and lawyers, as well as industrialists, wholesalers and middlemen in agricultural and sundry mass consumed products.

These activities required a myriad of transportation routes¹⁷ in order to gain access to the goods and then transport it to the markets. Natural landscapes impacted the models of colonization, economy and transportation. Until the 1880's most populations concentrated along the shores adjacent to plains, lakes, rivers, bays and fertile lands. Where 'water falls' existed, they were used in the flour and textile industries followed later by hydroelectric energy.

The wide rivers and tributaries crisscrossing Europe formed an excellent network to convey goods and people safely and speedily, relative to that period. Inlets and harbors of various sizes situated near population & production centers served as ideal sites for loading and unloading people & merchandise. The Spanish term **Porta** = **Door** = **Gate** took on a wider meaning, i.e.

Port = a maritime gate to a city.

For goods and people such ports acted as crossroads between the brain's nerves.

In this way goods and people arrive at port A, where they are transferred from ship to a barge for reloading onto ship B, destined to port C and so on.

As noted earlier⁴, the Rapaport family in Europe emerged from anonymity at the port of Ratisbon-Regensburg [49°01'N/12°06'E] situated along the Regen tributary of the Danube river. After the expulsion of the Jews from Regensburg they arrived at the city of **Mainz = Magenza**, [50°00'N/08°15'E] on the Rhine river. After the second expulsion of the Jews from Mainz and the escape of Jews from persecutions in Nuremberg [49°26'N/11°05'E] situated on the river Pegnitz,

¹⁶ Ravens are among the most clever, intelligent, cautious and 'conniving' among birds. They also deal with thinking [experiments show ravens resolve problems logically- [Scientific American](#)].

Their ability to weigh in and consciously choose between alternatives demonstrates a surprisingly complex mental capability. They wittingly adapt to life next to humans, are able to discern other members of their species, possess phenomenal memory, recalling thousands of hidden storage sites for food. In that respect closely resemble humans.

The raven uses tools intensively. It has been demonstrated that the raven plans and creates tools from some leaf parts and uses it to pull larva out of tree cracks. For this and similar talents watch the excellent TED clip at https://www.ted.com/tals/joshua_klein_on_intelligence_of_crows#t-230844.

Being social creatures ravens congregate in large groups but do not establish colonies. They show signs of linguistic skills as well as capability for long-distance communication. This is one of the cleverest and perhaps the only bird with a sense of humor.

Ravens are monogamous for life, becoming a symbol for marriage and fidelity. Couples build their nest, take turns hatching the eggs, jointly feed their chicks and are thus becoming known as dedicated and caring parents.

¹⁷ The European railway network was created towards the end 19th century, in 1880. It followed the iron-industry expansion, the invention of the steam engine and the increased usage of rail cars. In comparison the first highway between Cologne and Bonn was dedicated only in 1932.

They arrived successively at the ports of **Legnago** [45°10'N/11°19'E] on the **Adige** river and to **Mestre** [45°29'N/12°14'E] on the **Marco Polo** river, both in Italy, to the port of **Venice Bay** [45°27'/12°20'E], the port of **Portobuffole** [45°48'N/12°19'E] on the **Livaza** river as well as the port **Piove di Sacco** [45°18'N/12° 01'E] on the **Berenta** river.

Each and every one of these ports could have contributed its **Porto = Port** title to the second and final part of the name **Rapa-Port**. The researcher, Dr. Daniel Nissim, determined that the first to complete his name to **Rapa-Porto** was Isaac 'HaMoel' = (circumsiser) son of Yechiel Michael HaCohen Rapa (born 1502 in Portobuffole). He was the one who began this tradition, followed by many, of adding **Porto = Port** to their family name.

Why do ravens symbolize the Rapaport Cohanim?

The above mentioned 'Mohel' Isaac son of Yechiel HaCohen Rapa-Porto began referring to himself - circa 1550 "**HaOrvi**" (of the ravens) following related linkage expressions ("HaGiladi", "HaShomroni", "HaGlili" and more).

Rabbi Dr. Avraham Menachem Rapa (1520-1596), son of Yaacov Hacoen, published in Verona [1594] an important book titled "Mincha Belulah" where he refers to himself as "**Min HaOrvim**" (of the ravens) as a part of the family's "Printers Emblem" featuring a raven in its center.

Here, below, are three different renditions of the 'Printers' Emblem,'
first published in the colophon of "**Mincha Belulah**"¹⁸

'On Modesty and Piety'

Three renditions in eventual printings, reflecting historical changes.

The latest "refurbishment":
The females turned old, flat
Chested and fully dressed.

החיה, המה יחיד לזה ימות כי המה יחיד לו חיה היחידה
המה לומר בנפשו כי בלא ליתן טרף, אלה המה היחיד והיא
כן היחידה



מזה כי קודם שהם קיימת, חיה הם כי שניהם היחידים שבהם
יחיד הם כי הם ליתן טרף, בנפשו הם היחידים

The bare-chested females
Were "transformed" to
Yeshiva students, complete with
Shull caps and side curls.



החיה על רבי אברהם מנחם הכהן רפא-מפורטו אותו היחידים ביום קטרו 'מנחה בלולה';

The original family emblem
Dating back to the Renaissance
Era. Published in Verona in 1594.



In the upper and lower portions of the original rendition dating to 1594, the artist emphasizes the author's name. The center part, flanked by two bare-breasted females, depicts two palms open in the well known "Priestly Benediction" over the family symbol, the raven.

The latter two elements were not altered in the subsequent renditions.

¹⁸⁾ **The Seforim Blog!**: by Dr. Michael K. Silber, Hebrew University, Jerusalem – December 27th 2010

<http://seforim.blogspot.co.il/2010/12/modesty-and-piety-improving-on-past.html>

Descriptive names such as “**HaOrvi**” and “**Min HaOrvim**” caused many members of the Rapoport families to adopt them. They reminded me of the list detailing members of Judea’s noble prisoners taken to Rome who are immortalized on ‘**Titus Gate**’ carrying The Temple’s ‘Menorah’ and sacred vessels, **Judaea Capta**.

I figured it’s worthwhile to search for of the noble “**Min HaOrvim**” family members in books¹⁹ as well as in the writings of Josephus Flavius. Sadly, I discovered only eight exiled families that are mentioned by name:

“**Min HaEdomim**” [later known in Rome as the **De Rossi** family]

“**Min HaTapuchim**” [later known in Rome as the **Di Pomis** family]

“**Min HaAnavim**”=**unpretentious** [later known in Rome as **De Anawim** family]

“**Min HaNearim**” [later known in Rome as the **Di Fanciulai** family]

“**Min HaTzifronim**”; “**Min HaButziki**”; “**Min HaSeati**”; “**Min HaKenneset**”

Coat-of-Arms²⁰

Baron Dr. Arnold Rapoport Von Porada



Arnold, son of **David**: son of **Shlomoh Yehudah Rapoport (SHI”R)**, Chief Rabbi of Prague- the capital of the Holy Roman Empire. **SHI”R** is Arnold’s grandfather.

Arnold attended **Krakov University** where in 1863 he earned his **Dr. Juris** degree. He then proceeded to the **University of Vienna**, where he completed his studies in **Economics and Political Science**.

He represented, with distinction, the Jewry of Galicia and Lodomeria Kingdom at the Parliament of the **Austrian - Hungarian Empire**.

On September 6th 1890, Emperor Frantz Joseph conferred on him and his successors the title “**Baron**”, henceforth to be known as “**Baron Dr. Arnold Rapoport-Adler Von Porada**”. The “**Von Porada**” name is based on the acronym **PO**rt-**R**apa (son of) **D**avid. He was also a **Knight of the French Legion of Honor**, as well as other important titles.

Emblem of Galicia & Lodomeria²¹

Under the Austria-Hungarian Empire



I am in a long correspondence with the ‘**Central Archive of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire**’ to determine the meaning of the raven on the Galician State Emblem.

Here is my plausible explanation for the **two ravens (top and middle)** on the **Coat-of-Arms of ‘Baron Rapoport Adler Von Porada’**: The central raven is the **Familial** one, whereas the raven on top symbolizes **the Kingdom**.

¹⁹⁾“The History of the Jews in Rome” by Fogelstein and Rieger, published in Berlin (in German) in 1896, p. 299.

The History of the Jews in Italy” by Atilio Milano, published in Turino (in Italian) in 1963, p. 581

²⁰⁾ The Coat-of Arms of Baron Von Porada was received as an official document from ‘The Central Archive of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire’ in Vienna.

²¹⁾ Mr. Benjamin Lukin, the senior researcher at the “Central Archives for the History of Jewish People”, found the Polish Lexicon: “Słownik Geograficzny”, published in 1882.

There, on page 19 of the third volume, he found the Polish name of the bird painted on the emblem of Galicia and Lodomeria.

Professor Yosef Leshem - the renowned ornithologist - confirmed that the bird on the Emblem of Galicia and Lodomeria is, indeed, a Raven.

**List of references to Rap/Rapaport families - from the scientific research of the
late Matilda Tager
- on Jewish names within the kingdoms that constituted medieval Spain**

<u>Surname, name</u> Year, Place	Author	Source	Reference
<u>Auenalrrap Dauit</u> 1358, Tudela	Carrasco, Juan et al.	Los judíos del Reino de Navarra	v4: 118
<u>Del Rab Jeceff</u> 1290, Montclus	Régné, Jean	History of the Jews in Aragon: regesta and documents, 1213-1327	Doc# 2281
<u>Del Rab, Samuel</u> 1333, Montclus	Cinta Mañé, Maria and Gemma Escribà	The Jews in the Crown of Aragon: regesta of the Cartas reales in the Archivo de la Corona de Aragon	v.5: 710
<u>Del Rab, Jeceff</u> 1297, Montclus	Régné, Jean	History of the Jews in Aragon: regesta and documents, 1213-1327	Doc# 2659
<u>El Rap, David</u> 1353, Tudela	Leroy, Beatrice	Jews of Navarre	#7: 163 witness
<u>Euenelrap, David</u> 1368, Tudela	Carrasco, Juan et al.	Los judíos del Reino de Navarra	v3,1: 784
<u>Even El Rap, David</u> 1380, Tudela	Leroy, Beatrice	Une famille de la Juderia de Tudela aux 13e et 14e siecles: les Menir	REJ1977, 136: 277- 295
<u>Raf. Jehuda</u> 1383, Tarazona	Motis Dolader, Miguel Ángel.	Judíos de Tarazona en el siglo XIV.	p.546
<u>Rapapa, Jacob</u> 1395, Murcia	Torres Fontes, Juan	Los judios murcianos a fines del siglo XIV y comienzos del XV	p.83
<u>Rapapa, Jucef</u> <u>Salomon</u> 1311, Mallorca	Contreras Mas, Antonio	Los médicos judíos en la Mallorca bajomedieval : siglos XIV-XV	p.131 Physician
<u>Rapapa, Vidal</u> 1305, Mallorca	Pons, Antonio	Los judios del Reino de Mallorca durante los siglos XIII y XIV	v2: 29

<u>Surname, name</u> Year, Place	Author	Source	Reference
<u>Rapapa, Vidal</u> 1305, Canet	Pérez i Pons, Eduard.	Fonts per a l'estudi de la comunitat jueva de Mallorca: regesta i bibliografia.	p.86
<u>Del Rap, Dauit</u> 1297, Montclús	Régné, Jean	History of the Jews in Aragon : regesta and documents, 1213-1327	Doc # 2659
<u>Del Rap, Juceff</u> 1297, Montclús	Régné, Jean	History of the Jews in Aragon: regesta and documents, 1213-1327	Doc# 2659
<u>Rapapa,</u> 1339, Mallorca	Pere Bonnin	Sangre judía. Españoles de ascendencia hebrea y antisemitismo cristiano,	2013
<u>LAPAPA, Zecri</u> 1445, Calatayud	López Asensio, Alvaro	La judería de Calatayud : sus casas, calles y barrios	p.423
<u>LAPAPA, Aser</u> 1492, Calatayud	Motis Dolader, Miguel Angel	The Expulsion of the Jews from Calatayud, 1492-1500	v2: 31 Doc. and regesta
<u>LAPAPA, Jaco</u> 1492, Calatayud	Marin Padilla, Encarnacion	Inventario de bienes muebles de judios. bilbilitanos en 1492	48,2:309-341 Sefarad 1988
<u>LAPAPA, Mosse</u> 1487, Arandiga	Marin Padilla, Encarnacion	La villa de Arandiga, del senorio de los Martinez de Luna en el siglo XV: sus judios- Cont.4	59,2:319-342 Sefarad 1999
<u>LAPAPA, Zecri</u> 1445, Calatayud	López Asensio, Alvaro	Oficios de los judios de Calatayud	p.354

<u>Surname, name</u> Year, Place	Author	Source	Reference
<u>Rapapa, Moses</u> 1351	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V 1 p. 164
<u>Rapapa, Salomo</u> 1339	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V 1 p. 489
<u>Rapapa, Jucef</u> Vidal 1339	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V. 1 p. 491
<u>Rapapa, Vidal</u> 1336	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V. 1 p. 498
<u>Rapapa, Jucef</u> 1250	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V. II p. 124
<u>Rapapa, Vidal</u> 1305	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V II p. 224
<u>Rapapa, Jucef</u> 1319	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V. II p. 249
<u>Rapapa, Mosse</u> 1351	Jorge Maiz Chacon	Actividades Economicas y Politicas de los Judios de Baleares en la Baja Edad Media (1229-1391)	V. II p. 368

Jacobi Absolute Generation Scale = JAGS

0 = 1995 - 2070

1 = 1965 - 2040	28 = 1155 - 1230	55 = 345 - 420	82 = -465- -390
2 = 1935 - 2010	29 = 1125 - 1200	56 = 315 - 390	83 = -495- -420
3 = 1905 - 1980	30 = 1095 - 1170	57 = 285 - 360	84 = -525- -450
4 = 1875 - 1950	31 = 1065 - 1140	58 = 255 - 330	85 = -555- -480
5 = 1845 - 1920	32 = 1035 - 1110	59 = 225 - 300	86 = -585- -510
6 = 1815 - 1890	33 = 1005 - 1080	60 = 195 - 270	87 = -615- -540
7 = 1785 - 1860	34 = 975 - 1050	61 = 165 - 240	88 = -645- -570
8 = 1755 - 1830	35 = 945 - 1020	62 = 135 - 210	89 = -675- -600
9 = 1725 - 1800	36 = 915 - 990	63 = 105 - 180	90 = -705- -630
10 = 1695 - 1770	37 = 885 - 960	64 = 75 - 150	91 = -735- -660
11 = 1665 - 1740	38 = 855 - 930	65 = 45 - 120	92 = -765- -690
12 = 1635 - 1710	39 = 825 - 900	66 = 15 - 90	93 = -795- -720
13 = 1605 - 1680	40 = 795 - 870	67 = -15- +60	94 = -825- -750
14 = 1575 - 1650	41 = 765 - 840	68 = -45- +30	95 = -855- -780
15 = 1545 - 1620	42 = 735 - 810	69 = -75- 0	96 = -885- -810
16 = 1515 - 1590	43 = 705 - 780	70 = -105- -30	97 = -915- -840
17 = 1485 - 1560	44 = 675 - 750	71 = -135- -60	98 = -945- -870
18 = 1455 - 1530	45 = 645 - 720	72 = -165- -90	99 = -975- -900
19 = 1425 - 1500	46 = 615 - 690	73 = -195- -120	100 = -1005- -930
20 = 1395 - 1470	47 = 585 - 660	74 = -225- -150	101 = -1035- -960
21 = 1365 - 1440	48 = 555 - 630	75 = -255- -180	102 = -1065- -990
22 = 1335 - 1410	49 = 525 - 600	76 = -285- -210	103 = -1095- -1020
23 = 1305 - 1380	50 = 495 - 570	77 = -315- -240	104 = -1125- -1050
24 = 1275 - 1350	51 = 465 - 540	78 = -345- -270	105 = -1155- -1080
25 = 1245 - 1320	52 = 435 - 510	79 = -375- -300	106 = -1185- -1110
26 = 1215 - 1290	53 = 405 - 480	80 = -405- -330	107 = -1215- -1140
27 = 1185 - 1260	54 = 375 - 450	81 = -435- -360	108 = -1245- -1170
			109 = -1275- -1200

A) For those seeking greater historical depth, herewith the Jacobi Absolute Generations Scale drawn from “Generation **0**” to “**Generation 48**”, during which time, **(570 – 632)**, according to tradition and to many Historians, The Moslem Muchamad is held to have lived.

B) For those seeking greater historical depth, herewith the Jacobi Absolute Generations Scale drawn from “Generation **0**” to “**Generation 67**”, during which time, **(-4 – +30)**, according to tradition and to many Biblical Archaeologists and Historians, Jesus Christ is held to have lived.

C) For those seeking greater historical depth, herewith the Jacobi Absolute Generations Scale drawn from “Generation **0**” to “**Generation 101**”, during which time, **(-1049 – -970)**, according to tradition and to many Biblical Archaeologists and Historians, King David is held to have lived.

D) For those seeking greater historical depth, herewith the Jacobi Absolute Generations Scale drawn from “Generation **0**” to “**Generation 109**”, during which time, **(-1275 – -1250)**, according to tradition and to many Biblical Archaeologists and Historians, one the Jewish Exodus from Egypt occurred.

Comparative Economic-History. Today's Value and Buying Power as compared with those of about 700 (672) years ago.

The 1345 lawsuit in the amount of 10-Libra brought by Court Physician Dr. Yosef Solomon Rapapa against King Pedro IV of Palma de Majorca (for services rendered to his deposed predecessor Jaime III and his entourage) raises questions as to the value of such an amount.

On the surface it sounds like a small economically meaningless amount.

We raised the following questions as to its value:

- 1) Was it enough – in the year 1345 – to pay a monthly rent on a residential apartment in the capital city of Palma de Majorca?
- 2) Was it enough – in the year 1345- to pay an annual rent on a residential apartment in the capital city of Palma de Majorca?
- 3) Was it enough – in the year 1345- to purchase a residential apartment in the capital city of Palma de Majorca?
- 4) Was it enough- in the year 1345- to purchase a residential house in the capital city of Palma de Majorca?
- 5) Was it possible – in the year 1345 – to acquire an estate in the capital city of Palma de Majorca for this amount?
- 6) Was it possible – in the year 1345 – to purchase a palace in the capital city of Palma de Majorca or its environs for this amount?
- 7) What type of Residence, House, Estate or a Palace with its grounds are we talking about given the senior position of a Court Physician?
- 8) Was it sufficient to budget operations under any of these scenarios, i.e. Supervisor, Servants, Cooks, Guards and misc. service personnel required to run the household of a respected personality such as the Court Physician?
- 9) We checked out properties such as: Summer-homes, vineyards, fields of wheat or barley, fruit bearing orchards or for that matter any other valuables.

Sadly, we could not find any answers, so in desperation we tried the Syllogistical route:

- a) A Court Physician must be a top-notch professional, renowned for his diagnostic and healing qualities.
- b) Look for and compare the salaries of high ranking physicians in rich countries - as the States of Aragon and Majorca in those days – and compare them to the status of similar physicians in the U.S.A. to day.
 - i) Minimum annual salary of a well known Hospital Director in the U.S. is about 1.5 million dollars.
 - ii) Minimum annual salary of an established Senior Department Head in the U.S. is about \$600,000.

Therefore the counter value of those **10-Libras is:**

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I) 1-Libra = \$150,000

II) 1-Libra = \$ 60,000

Either sum sounds respectable and most suitable salary to a senior, experienced, successful and well respected doctor.

But how do we know that this was the state of affairs in the year 1345?

In an effort to find an answer or at least a clue we corresponded with many the world over.

Finally we found a savior in Prof. (Emeritus) Dr. Jeff Malka²³, Surgeon and Limb Anatomy Specialist from Washington who corresponded, on our behalf, about this issue with many of his acquaintances in Spain and Balearic Islands.

The answer was found in Pere Bonnin²⁴ who is well versed with daily life in 14th century Majorca:

In 1309 Bonaventura Perpinya, one of the great Spanish artists who lived at the end of the 13th and the beginning of the 14th centuries, accepted the invitation to decorate and beautify the palace of Sancho I, King of Majorca. This artistic assignment lasted two years and encompassed interior architectural design, paintings, frescos, mosaics and sculpture for which he was paid 4-Libras.

The obvious conclusion is that the demand for 10-Libras by Dr. Yosef Solomon Rapapa was substantial indeed.

²³⁾ Grandson of the late Shlomo Malka, Chief Rabbi of the Jews of Sudan, in its capital Khartoum.

²⁴⁾ "Sangre judía. Españoles de ascendencia hebrea y antisemitismo cristiano", by Pere Bonnin, 2013