Genealogical Research by David B Levy PhD; MLS

גדולי בתורה
קרובים וטוחנים קדומים רבים
בذكرى שיש גאולה
שכחה móvila לגלגלו יאלו הדיכרונות הזה סוד
האנואר
זכר ימות עולם, בינינו שבון דר-זרד; שלאל אביכו
יידבר דודין ויאמר לך

[Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations; ask thy father, and he will declare unto thee, thine elders, and they will tell thee (parasha Hazinu)]

AJL 2020 online digital conference
June 28, 2020 to July 02, 2020
David B. Levy PhD; MLS
Vol 7 in context of larger 10 vol set- context vol 7

Ten volume set, dedicated to David’s beloved daughter, Ruth, as “a message in a bottle.” The titles of the set are listed below.

1. Vol 1 The History of Judaica Libraries
2. Vol 2 Ethical/Halakhic Perspectives in Judaica Librarianship
3. Vol 3 Topics in Judaica Librarianship
4. Vol 4 The Art of the Book Review: Don’t Judge a Book by Its Cover, part 1
6. Vol 6, The Art of the Book Review: The Importance of Reading - "just as my feet allow me to walk in this world, my books allow me to walk in Higher worlds," part 3
7. Vol 7 Gluskin Family History: Methods and Strategies of Judaica Genealogical Research (draws on archival documents in Hebrew, Russian, Yiddish, and other languages)
8. Vol 8 Thirty-six Essays in Philosophy and History of Science
10. The Shoah as a Manifestation of Radical Evil: Catastrophe, Suffering, and Evil in Jewish History, The Ethical Implications of Rabbinic Theodicy

• Some of David's published articles can be found at:
• https://touroscholar.touro.edu/tcl_pubs/
• http://facpubs.tourolib.org/publications/faculty/levy-david-b
• Vol 7 matriarchal history of eastern European Women featured by Heidi Rabinowitz in podcast interview on The Tree of Life at https://hwcdn.libsyn.com/p/3/e/1/3e12ba92fcd1010f/TOBLCOVID9.mp3?c_id=71188775&cs_id=71188775&expiration=1591391239&hwt=6fd61e3878c2129493f3349404274e7a
Two editions of vol 7 of larger 10 vol set
Rabbi Moshe Zev Gluskin (b.1767)-son of Rabbi Eliezer Gluskin of Husk (ztsl)

Rabbi Moshe zev was the confidant of the Netziv (Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin)

Rabbi Eliezer Gluskin of Husk was admired, honored, & regarded by Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin (1749-1821) as a gadol
When visiting Vilna Moshe Zev would visit the GRA to discuss torah and was cousin of Rav Menachem Mendel os Shklov, a talmid of the GRA

Moshe Zev gave hesped for GRA in Horodna
Vilna Gaon (1720-1797)

Rav Menachem Mendel of Shklov son of Baruch Bendet, a talmid of the GRA was a maggid in Hlusk where Rav Eliezer was Av Bet Din, and Moshe Zev was his first cousin as they both came from Rabbi Yehuda Yidel of Kavli; Map of Hlusk below:

https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/966ad69e-6630-0133-49b4-005056b86a51c#?uuid=981cd40-6630-0133-2df9-0050556b86a51c
Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin (1749-1821) admired, Rabbi Moshe Zev’s father Rabbi Eliezer of Hlusk as a gadol and referred to Moshe Zev’s sefer Marot HaTsovos as “hu sefer mechubad lemevinim”; Leah wife of Yosef, brother of the Netziv, was the granddaughter of the sister of Moshe Zev’s father Rabbi Eliezer of Hlusk
Moshe Zev Gluskin (b. Slutsk 1859-1949 Jerusalem),
Rabbi Yehoshua Gluskin (1840-1908) AB”D of Loyev, z”tsl married daughter of Rabbi Don of Slonim (ztsl)

Rav Yehoshua was a grandson of Rav Moshe Zev Gluskin. Rav Yehoshua Gluskin was the father of Rabbi Aaron Gluskin of Paritchi

- Rabbi Yehoshua Gluskin AB”D of Loyev, z”tsl married daughter of Rabbi Don of Slonim (ztsl) son of Isser Kises of Shklov, son of Eliezer Grayever author of Mishnas Drebbi Eliezer son of Yaakov, dayan of Pinsk. His wife was a daughter of Rabbi Eliezer Lipman of Rozni son of Shimshon of Rozini son of Yisrael Zak who married the daughter of Yosef Yaski from Dubna. Yosef Yaski from Dubna son of Yehuda Yidel of Kavli was an ancestor of Yeshua Gluskin’s grandfather Moshe Zev. Thus Rav Yehoshua and wife Gita were cousins.

Entrance to Jewish cemetery in Loyev.
Rabbi Aaron Gluskin AB”D of Paritchi, [after Rav Hillel of Paritch (d.1864)] was father of Rav Menchem Gluskin and David B Levy’s great grandmother Keila Leiba Gluskin Helfgott (zl). Rabbi Aaron received semicha from the Tzemach Tzedek (1788-1866)

Front page of Pelech Harimon, Hasidic discourses on Bereishis, Shemos, Vayikra, and Shir HaShirim, by Rav Hillel of Paritch

Tzemach Tzedek (1788-1866) gave semichah to Rabbi Aaron Gluskin (ztsl)
Rav Menachem Mendel Gluskin (ztsl); av bet din Paritichi, Minsk, Leningrad brother of Keila Leiba Gluskin Helfgott = great grandmother of David
Many letters between the Friedeker Rebbe and Rav Menachem Gluskin, *z”tsl*, in *Iggerot Kodesh*.
Letters to Rav Gluskin in *Iggerot Kodesh* (Kehot Publications) of Rabbi Yosef Yitzhak Schneersohn (Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe)
Hillel Zeitlin (1871–1942) in Eleh Ezkarah: אלה אזכרה : אוספים תולדות קדושים ת"ש תש"ה
Morgan (Yiddish daily): Sunday February 16, 1930;


Morgen Djurnal – Morning journal Sunday February 16 1930 reporting on the arrest.

Toldos Chabad in Soviet Russia p.113- on the committee to support Jews of Russia, R. Gluskin representative of Rabbi Zevia. Ibid p.179 – Rabbi Gluskin writes that the conditions here are so difficult that I had to borrow the small sum of 200 rubles to fix the mikvah. Ibid p.196 -
Grand Choral Synagogue, St. Petersburg
Rav Menachem av bet din Parichi, Minsk, later lived with 4 daughters in Leningrad served as rabbi of choral synagogue
2 Letters of Rabbinic ordination signed by Rav Gluskin

Semicha certification from Rav Gavriel and Rav Gluskin to Rabbis Yisrael and Tuvia Rapaport (father and son)

Semichah from Rav Gluskin to Rabbi Tuvia Rapaport, sample of Rav Gluskin orthography published in Ner Yisrael Sefer Zikaron, Tel Aviv 5758, p.72
"With all your soul and might," letter to Rav Shalom Chaim Perlow (living in Brahmin), son of Mishmaré Shalom of Kodehov, in Ner Yisra'el, Seer Zikaron...
The night Gita Gluskin’s mother Freidel died, Gita, seven, stayed with her Aunt Braina. In the morning Meir came and carried Gita home. At home he placed her on the ground and said, “Mommy is not here anymore.” Gita felt sad and her father Rav Menachem said, “Now I will be your mother and father.”
Freidl Gluskin and her father Rabbi Eliezer Rabinowitz

Rabbi Eliezer Rabinowitz, z”l, father in law of Rav Menachem Gluskin (ztsl) and Freidel Rabinowitz Gluskin, z”l wife of Rav Menachem Gluskin (ztsl)

The stones were moved during the month of Menachem Av 1962, from Minsk to Novoborisov. The middle stone is of Freidel Gluskin (zl).
Rabbi Yerucham Yehuda Leib Perlman (ztsl), father in law of rabbi Eliezer Rabinowitch, known as the Gadol of Minsk (d. 1896)

Sefer Ohr Gadol by Rabbi Yerucham Yehudah Leib Perlman (ztsl)

Photos of Keverim of Rabbi Perlman and Rabbi Eliezer Rabinowitch (ztsl)
Minsk Yizkor Buch, vol. 1;

Table of Contents: Minsk, ir va-em
Editor: Shlomo Even-Shushan
Place of Publication: Jerusalem, 1975-85
Minsk Yizkor Buch, vol. 1, Table of Contents, cont’d.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>348</td>
<td>Menorah of Memories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>349</td>
<td>On A City Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350</td>
<td>Five Years in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351</td>
<td>With My Brothers in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>352</td>
<td>Chapters of My Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>353</td>
<td>Avraham Reiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>354</td>
<td>The Holocaust from Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>355</td>
<td>My Father’s Escape, the Holocaust from Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>356</td>
<td>Among Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>357</td>
<td>My Father’s Flight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>358</td>
<td>In Memory of Yehuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>359</td>
<td>The Centennial of Haskalah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>360</td>
<td>Minyan in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>361</td>
<td>Peer Trips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>362</td>
<td>Fragments of Memories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>363</td>
<td>Wagon Train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>364</td>
<td>From My Old House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>365</td>
<td>Esther’s Memory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>366</td>
<td>My Father, Chaim David Rosenblum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>367</td>
<td>Y.C.H.S.E. – A Folk Storyteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>368</td>
<td>Jewish Minsk in the Eyes of Daniel Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>369</td>
<td>Shalom Yehuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370</td>
<td>School Education in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>371</td>
<td>The Jewish “Red” School in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>372</td>
<td>The School of Dentistry in Minsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>373</td>
<td>In The Field of Education for Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>374</td>
<td>Oc Days Past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
<td>Ester Kaplan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>376</td>
<td>The Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And more...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Father's House</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Chesedot&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Generations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Childhood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moshe Cohen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menachem Itzkovich</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Hebrew Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Aid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Minsk Jew and Refugee Aid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaim Solovyetchik, A Refugee in Minsk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Week of “Uza” in the District of Minsk, 1916-1918</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Surprise Meeting with Shani Chemitchkovski</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Shani Chemitchkovski and the Night of Simchat-Tora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Days of Emergency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Beginning of “Kohol” Minsk in Jerusalem</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks to Penach Sefer Prayer at the Wailing Wall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Conversations of Minshers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbi Shlomo Pines, Nachum Chinitz, A. Litwin, Daniel Charny, Trvi Gordon, Y. M. Rosenblum, M. Evenski, Sh. Even-Shoshan, Daniel Persky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular Arages in Yiddish from Minsk (Note from translator: this entry does not appear in the printed table of contents at the end of the book)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memories of People - (List)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Cohen, the Living Spirit in the Enterprise of the Book of Minsk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Story of the Book of Minsk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index of Names</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Map of the Region of Minsk (page 83) is by Shoshana Ram (of Beit Shemesh) and Chaya Bernstein (of Sde-Nahum) 
The Map of the center of the city of Minsk (on the inside cover) is by Chaya Bernstein (of Sde-Nahum) 
The original blocks (rivets) are from photographs from the archives and other sources - Pilovski Zinayot, Jerusalem
Minsk Yizkor Buch, vol. 2

Minsk, Jewish Mother-City
Memorial Anthology
Volume II

Table of Contents
With the Book
The Jewish Settler in Minsk, 1917-1941
Chapter I
Minsk - the Russian Jerusalem
The Town Girant of Minsk
The Minsk Yeshiva and Something on the Religious Life
With Friends
The City of My Youth
With Trumpet and Tzitzikim Sade
With the Movement
With the "Zionists"
We Brooked the Air of Zion from Childhood
My Route to Israel
The Zionist Socialist Youth in Minsk
Youth in Zionist Activities
Fragments of Memories
From "Milton" to "Mishloah"

Yehuda in Minsk
In "The Chest" Movement
Thanks to the Jewish Spirit
My Country Is The Land of Israel
From School Desk to Armist
From Minsk to Ashkelon
Minsk - Kfar HELP - Israel
Minsk - Moshav Jerusalem
Fragments of Memories
Three Meetings
Minsk's Station on the Way to Israel
A Disappearing Mission
A Way No-Way to Israel
The Holocaust, the Underground and the Partisans in Minsk
In the Ghetto, the Underground, the Forest
"The Brandberg Ghetto"
Sparks of Night
A Motherly Poem
Escape from the Ghetto
Not for a Medal of Valor
In Your Blood Line
Genealogy without Documents
With Zion in the Family Camp
From Then Until Here
Childhood in the Ghetto
From the Valley of Despair
With My Own Hands
From a Kishlat in Minsk to Israel
In the Path of Milad

Aryeh Bani
Moshe Yerov
Nechama Golinkin
Sara Goldberg
Leib Goldin
Yehiel Geberman
Arye Levin
Aryeh Dolkin
Leib Miksi
Arye Chaim
Yehiel Klarwein
Nechama Miskin
Dvora Cohen
Yehiel Ginsber
Chaim Barans
Sofia Soderkrans
Mikael Anger's Story – an interview with Dvora Cohen
Dvora Tzurkin
Vladimir nee Rosheskih Lerman
Himch nee Nisacharuk, Tarnover
Ezra Sheshelev
Aram Venteren
Dvora-Frana Dransin
Dr. Rafael Shtamitz
Leib Goldberg
Zdor Tzahoroi
Zvi Peretz
Arye Bani

29
Cities such as Minsk, Pinsk, Mahiliou, Babrujsk, Viciebsk, and Homiel were more than 50% Jewish. In 1939 there were 375,000 Jews in Belarus, or 13.6% of the total population.
Maps of Minsk from Minsk Yizkor Buch
https://www.jewishgen.org/Yizkor/Minsk/min2_148.html
Minsk

Statistical population Minsk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1766</td>
<td>1,322</td>
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<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>12,976</td>
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<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>47,562</td>
<td>53.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>42.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>67,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>53,686</td>
<td>40.8</td>
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<td>1941</td>
<td>ca. 90,000</td>
<td>37.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>38,842</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>47,057</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>10,141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minsk early 20th Century
At their peak population, the Jews in Minsk exerted so much presence that the sign to the entrance of the city at the railroad station included Yiddish and Hebrew, along with Russian and Polish.
Rabbi Yakov Yitchak Helfgott, z”tsl/: the great-grandfather of David and brother-in-law of Rav Menachem Gluskin, z”tsl/
Ketubah and Kever of Keila Leiba Gluskin Helfgott (zl) sister of Rav Menachem Gluskin (zl) and daughter of Rav Aaron Gluskin of Paritichi (ztsl)
Rav Zalman Serebranski, founder and head [rash yeshiva] in Melbourne, Australia -- Sheliach of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, wife (sister of Keila) from Gluskin line.

See interview online about Yeshivah days

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1gArMZ8rsE&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop
Miriam Gluskin Helgott Sax (z'l) daughter of Keila Gluskin (z'l) the grandmother of David

Miriam’s Kettubah

Miriam and Rav Yakov Yitchak Helfgott (ztsl)
Dr. Saul Lieberman, z”l, brother-in-law of Rav Menachem Gluskin (ztsl) and Rabbi Helfgott (ztsl)

(Fraidel Gluskin and Rochel Lieberman (zl) were sisters)
Lieberman author of article on Av Bet Din in Minsk Yizkor Buch with recollections of Chazon Ish

The Chazon Ish (in Minsk), uncle and roommate of Dr. Lieberman

Rabbi Chaim Ozer Gradzinski (right) wrote hashkamah for Chazon Ish’s aliya to Bnai Brak
“I knew he (Rav Gluskin) could learn, but so much? – ich hob gevust ahz ehr ken lernen, ober ahf azoi fill?” (Chofetz Chaim remark to Rabbi Pearlman re Rav Menachem Mendel Gluskin)

**Brisker Rav at Gita Gluskin wedding**

Chofetz Chaim at Rav Menachem Gluskin’s wedding and while Chofetz Chaim was visiting Rav Gluskin, Gita Gluskin picked flowers from her yard and gave them to the Cohen
Dr. Gita Gluskina, z”l, and Dr. Aryeh Vilsker, z”tsl
see handouts at 2016 AJL Proceedings, Charleston, SC.,
copyright AJL 2016, at:
http://databases.jewishlibraries.org/node/51186
Dr Vilsker son in law of rav Menachem Gluskin

HaDoar- Dr. Vilsker Research scholar of Leningrad

Unknown Poems of Rav Yehudah HaLevi Revealed in Leningrad

The first publication of Lev Vilski's research about the unknown poems of Yehuda ha-Levi (from not later than 397/1519-20) appeared in the February issue of the "Soviet Hebrew" journal, in 1982. Eight pages altogether. On April 7, there was an announcement about the publication in Israeli newspaper "Maamor". Other publications mentioned the publication of "unknown poems of Rav Yehudah Halavi revealed in Leningrad" brought together brought to light by Vilski.

Among those who first responded to this terrific publication were such authorities of medieval poetry and literary historians and experts in Yiddish and Hebrew as Yechezkel Chonec and Sagi, Yehuda Randki, David Yudken, Zvi Yedken and Nachum Alon. The sensation hardly rocked the whole scientific world.

Newspapers were first to respond followed by serious journals. The precious treasure was not buried somewhere in a wilderness in a corner of the earth, but in a cave, but in one of the centers of the civilized world. Many more responses and reviews reached the author. Inspired by them, Vilski directed his intelligence and passion of a poet on the continued search and analysis of the findings. A year later he published a new and almost twenty-page long article entitled "106 poems of Yehuda ha-Levi in unknown edition." This is how the term "Vilski List" had appeared in the scientific literature, for among the mentioned 106 "first list" of the works of Yehuda ha-Levi 111 were not mentioned in any other books, including the classic catalog by Shaul David Luzzato, that had been studied by the scientists for more than 150 years.

Among the first who responded to this first and the second publication of Vilski in "Soviet Hebrew" was a rabbi and scholar David Yudken, who, among other things, was the editor of these volumes - the books of Tanach (Tanakh, Tripthum, Haggada) - with a translation into Russian (published by "Moshav ha-Ra'ayon" in 1970). Originally from Poland, David Yudken knew both Russian and Yiddish. David Yudken wrote his second article for the newspaper "HaMaamor" on his deathbed. His relatives had sent the article to an editor along with his letter: "I am writing these words in a hospital fortune "HaMaamor," after a major surgery. It turned out that while walking on Jaffa Street, 1.6 and lost consciousness. Even though I cannot get out of bed, I think that this is my duty and pleasure to tell you that the scientist Levi Vilski, from Leningrad, made a new discovery and has written about it in "Soviet Hebrew." I want and must ask for the
Discovered Piyut of Rav Yehudah HaLevy on murder of Spanish Jewry in pogrom
Dr. Ezra Fleischer, expert in Medieval Hebrew poetry, memorialized Dr. Vilker in the Yediot Achronot on March 13, 1988 and dedicated 1988 Kiryat Sefer issue to Dr. Vilker in which Dr. Vilker’s photo appears
Saltykov Schredrin Library Dr. Vilsker was head Hebraica Research librarian until the KGB decided otherwise, (Wikipedia Commons)
Kever of Sonia Gluskin, scholar of Russian literature
Esther Gluskin (z"l), member of HaShomer Hatzair

Esther Gluskin (z"l) - member of HaShomer Ha’tzair — arrested and sent to Siberia

Mints-Gluskina Esther Mendeleevna (I9II)

Date of birth: 1911
Place of birth: Minsk
Sex: woman
Nationality: Hebrew
Education: secondary
Profession / place of work: office worker, Shop Minventorg
Place of residence: Minsk, 3rd line, Komarovka 23a, ap. 5
Date of arrest: March 8, 1938.
Charge: 76, 72 - K / nrrg. agitation
Condemnation: October 10, 1938
The condemned body: CCA
Verdict: 3 years ITL, departure: Solikamsk Usollag Ministry of Internal Affairs, oshib. 03.1941
Rehabilitation Date: October 27, 1955
Rehabilitation body: Supreme Court of the USSR
Archival business: KGB BSSR - 5697-s
Sources of data: DB "Victims of political terror in the USSR"; Belarusian "Memorial"
Alexander (Sasha) Mintz, born 1941 in Minsk; died April 30, 1992 NYC. He was nicknamed Shurik, ballet dancer.
Trees planted in honor of Miriam Gluskin Helgott, grandmother of David
Levy matriarchs, Ruth (zl) granddaughter of Keila Leiba Gluskin Helgott (zl)

Photo Ruth S. Levy (zl)

David Levy learning with grandmothers Miriam Sax, z”l and Ruth Bear Levy, z”l
David Levy and Dr. Emanuel Gluskin in Jerusalem 2005
(Dr. Emanuel is the grandson of Rav Menachem Gluskin, zt"l)
Gluskin/Levy partial abbreviated genealogical tree