

Guidelines for Rabbinic Names Entered Under Forename

When establishing a name for which additional identifying information is available, how much may you add, and in what situations (excluding dates and fuller forms of name as prescribed by rule)?

1. If the name being established is entered under a surname and includes a forename, words or phrases as †c qualifiers are forbidden by rule 22.15C, “unless they are required to distinguish between two or more persons with the same name and neither dates nor fuller forms of name are available.” Note that an exception is made for terms like “ha-Kohen,” “ha-Levi,” “Kohen,” and sometimes “Segal” and “Kats,” which are added to names under the provisions of rule 22.12 (they are treated as inherited titles of nobility).

2. If there is doubt that a certain element in a name is a surname, or doubt that it is the surname of the person being established rather than that of another person (his father or other ancestor), consult other reference sources as prescribed by rule 22.4A: “[S]elect as the entry element that part of the name under which the person would normally be listed in authoritative alphabetic lists in his or her language.” For Hebrew authors, such lists include, but are not limited to, *ha-Entsiklopedyah ha-Ivrit* and the index to Friedberg's *Bet 'eqed sefarim*.

3. If the name being established does not include a surname, “include in the name any words or phrases denoting place of origin, domicile, occupation, or other characteristics that are commonly associated with the name in works by the person or in reference sources,” per rule 22.8A1.

3a. Blessings such as “zal,” “sheliṭa,” “z.y. ‘a.” and the like are excluded.

3b. Very generic titles such as “Mar” and “Geveret” are excluded. More specific titles such as “R.,” “ha-Rav,” “Rabi,” “Rabenu,” “ha-tsadik” and the like are included only to distinguish between otherwise identical headings. These and other titles are recorded in the 670 when they are found associated with names, so that those not entirely generic may be added to the heading if a conflict arises.

4. The Hebraica Team has formulated some rules of thumb for adding additional elements as †c qualifiers to names consisting only of forenames. These rules are “minimalist”: cataloger's judgment may require additional elements in some cases. Note that all elements that might be used to distinguish between otherwise identical headings are recorded in the 670 field, though only a selection of them may appear in the heading.

4a. If a patronymic (“ben X” or the like) appears among the epithets following such a name, include it in the heading. Exclude names of ancestors more distant than the father, unless they appear in running form in the item (e.g., X ben Y ben Z) without intervening elements.

4b. If a string of titles or occupations follows such a name, record them all in the 670 but use only the first in the heading.

4c. If a string of place-names indicating sequential domiciles or places of occupation follows such a name, record them all in the 670 but use only the place-name described as current or last in the heading. If multiple simultaneous places of occupation are named as current or last, include all of them. N.B.: If the first place-name cited is the place of birth, use the phrase indicating this in the heading and omit the others recorded in the 670.

EXAMPLES (some slightly adapted from real life)

Chief source: Tsevi Hirsh, z.l.l.h.h., m.m. ve-dover tsedek ve-hayah doresh tov le-'am Y. bi-k.k. Galina uvi-she'ar kehilot kedushot 'am Yeshurun, b. ha-rav mo. h. David, z. ts. ve- k.l.l.h.h., asher etan moshavo hay. bi-k.k. Alik.

English paraphrase: Tsevi Hirsh, of blessed memory, preacher and speaker of righteousness who was a seeker of good for the Jews in the holy community of Galina and other holy Jewish communities, son of the rabbi our teacher David, of blessed memory, whose dwelling-place was in the holy community of Alik.

Heading: Tsevi Hirsh ben David, †cm.m. bi-k.k. Galina

English paraphrase: Tsevi Hirsh son of David, †cpreacher in the holy community of Galina

Chief source: Avraham b. mo. Tsevi Hirsh, zatsal, le-mishpaḥat, le-vet Ḳatsin Elinbogen

English paraphrase: Avraham son of Tsevi Hirsh, of blessed memory, of the family [and] house of Katsin Elinbogen

index to Bet 'eked sefarim: Ḳatsenelenbogen, Avraham Tsevi

Heading: Ḳatsin Elinbogen, Avraham ben Tsevi Hirsh

English paraphrase: Ḳatsin Elinbogen, Avraham son of Tsevi Hirsh

Chief source: Rabi Yehoshu'a Heshil ha-Levi, z. ts. ve- k.l.l.h.h., a.b.d. ve-admor be-Zende uvi-Shṭrelzoi (ve-sham men. k.), y. 'a. E., ben kevod kedushat admor ha-ga'on ha- ḳadosh ha-mefursam, tsadiḳ yesod 'olam, śar ha-Torah veḥa-yir'ah, raban shel Yiśra'el, mofet ha-dor va- ḥadaro ve-khu., maran ha-rav Rabi Ary. Yehuda Leyb ha-Levi, z. ts. ve-k.l.l.h.h., admor me-Ozerov ve-a.b.d. di-Hmyelnik ve-khamah k.k., ben kevod kedushat admor ha-ga'on ha-ḳadosh ha-mefursam, raban shel Yiśra'el, tsadiḳ yesod 'olam, mofet ha-dor va-hadaro, śar ha-Torah

veha-yir'ah ye-khu., maran ha-rav Rabi Hayim Shemu'el ha-Levi, z. ts. ye-ḳ.l.l.h.,
admor me-Hentshin, y. 'a. E.

English paraphrase: Rabbi Yehoshu'a Heshil the Levite, of blessed memory, judge of the rabbinical court and revered teacher in Zende and Shtrelzoi (site of his grave), may God protect him, son of the revered and holy teacher, the famous holy scholar, righteous from the foundation of the world, prince of the Torah and the fear [of God], lord of Israel, wonder of the age and its glory and so forth, our lord the rabbi Rabbi Ary. Yehuda Leyb the Levite, of blessed memory, revered teacher from Ozerov and judge of the rabbinical court of the holy community of Hmyelnik and other holy communities, son of the revered and holy teacher, the famous holy scholar, lord of Israel, righteous from the foundation of the world, wonder of the age and its glory, prince of the Torah and the fear [of God] and so forth, our lord the rabbi Rabbi Hayim Shemu'el the Levite, of blessed memory, revered and holy teacher from Hentshin, may God protect him.

Heading: Yehoshu'a Heshil ben Ary. Yehuda Leyb, †cha-Levi, a.b.d. be-Zende uvi-Shtrelzoi

English paraphrase: Yehoshu'a Heshil son of Ary. Yehuda Leyb, †the Levite, judge of the rabbinical court in Zende and Shtrelzoi

Chief source: mo. h. El'azar Yiśra'el, z.l.l.h.h., me-Rozdol yelive-sof yamay hay. be-'ir Vebreniyke

English paraphrase: our teacher the [pious one?*) El'azar Yisra'el, of blessed memory, from Rozdol, who at the end of his life lived in the city of Vebrenivke

Heading: El'azar Yiśra'el, †cme-Rozdol

English paraphrase: El'azar Yisra'el, †cfrom Rozdol

Chief source: k.m.h. ve-r. R. Yosef, n.r.ṽ., b.m.h. ve-r. R. Ya'aqov, zatsal, asher mile-fanim hayah a.b.d. ṽe-r.m. bi-ḳ.ḳ. Selts bi-medinat Liṭa

English paraphrase: our glorious teacher the [pious one?]* and rabbi Rabbi Yosef, may God watch over and redeem him, son of our lord the [pious one?]* and rabbi Rabbi Ya'akov, of blessed memory, who formerly was judge of the rabbinical court and head of the yeshivah in the holy community of Selts in the country of Lithuania

Heading: Yosef ben Ya'aqov, †ca.b.d. bi-ḳ. ḳ. Selts

English paraphrase: Yosef son of Ya'akov, †judge of the rabbinical court in the holy community of Selts

Chief source: Hilel Mosheh Meshil b. ha-r. R. Tsevi Hirsh, zatsal, me-'ir Byalistok, Gelbshtain

English paraphrase: Hilel Mosheh Meshil son of the rabbi Rabbi Tsevi Hirsh, of blessed memory, from the city of Byalistok, Gelbshtain

Heading: Gelbshtain, Hilel Mosheh Meshil ben Tsevi Hirsh

English paraphrase: Gelbshtain, Hilel Mosheh Meshil son of Tsevi Hirsh

*The Hebrew abbreviation of this expression consists solely of the word "the."