

**Bhanté approved of names given to Sky and to Anna as providing opportunities to have life changing experiences as reflected in the names they choose to use at different seasons of their life.**

**Sky's names:**

**Adam:** From the earth; name of male archetype in the Torah; an homage to my Dad who was an athlete, a gentleman, and a man of religious practice. Adamah in hebrew means earth / from the earth / mother earth. Adam is name of first man in book of Genesis.

**Eleisha:** Student of Elijah; according to the Prophetic writing, he was resurrected through his teacher's faith, passion and wisdom

**Ruach:** Wind; spirit; the ineffable that pervaded over the sea when land was forming out of chaos

**Lakota:** An homage to Lewis Mehl-Madrona who helped bring Rebecca out of active labor in month four of her pregnancy with Sky

**Sky:** Rebecca had a dream that the baby's name included Sky. His sky blue eyes and Viking like qualities seem to fit.

**Sylvan:** Forest or woods; professional name chosen by Rebecca

**Jaffe:** My family name

**Anna's names:**

**Anna:** Symbolically, Anna comes from inside Rebecca since her middle name is Hannah (Rebecca Hannah Krantz),

**Rivka:** My Grandmother, revered by my Dad and an example of fortitude under adversity

**Gan Tanzen:** Garden dancer in yiddish. Anna was particularly active when Rebecca would work in the garden behind the Vienna house.

**Leiv:** Heart, heartfelt, symbolic of the heart chakra

**Sylvan:** Forest or woods; professional name chosen by Rebecca

**Jaffe:** my family name

Addendum: Found online information about the Jaffe name... pasted below. There are also a few photos online that do not appear below

[eilatgordinlevitan.com](http://eilatgordinlevitan.com)

## **Jaffe Family**

Recently, Jim Bennett of Haifa Israel posted a notice that he is trying to locate descendants of Rav Mordechai JAFFE, "Ba'alei HaLibushim", codifier of rabbinical law, author of the book "Libushim", who was born in Prague around 1530 and died in Posen in 1612. Like Jim, I have been searching for the same descendants and others but for a slightly different reason. As Administrator of the JAFFE SURNAME PROJECT sponsored by Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), I am trying to assist member of the project, after they have exhausted the use of available documentary records, to surmount their dead-end genealogical research efforts by means of DNA Genealogy testing the male Y chromosome, and to establish some families' connections with notable ancestors. The genealogy of the family of rabbis and scholars surnamed Jaffe/Joffe is documented back to Bologna Italy in the 15th Century (See Funk and Wagnall's Jewish Encyclopedia, 1901-1906, which is available on-line). There are also references to the surname in the 13th and 14th Century records of the Spanish Inquisition and in records from the Spanish Kingdom of Aragon before the expulsion in 1492. There have been and still are numerous variations of the surname beginning with the letters "E", "I", "J", "Y", and "Z", all derived from the Hebrew root word "yafeh" (yud, peh, heh) meaning "pretty". The port city of Jaffa, Israel has a history going back almost 10,000 years and is mentioned by name several times in the TaNaCh. There is also a city and province in Yemen named Yafa, and some

Arab families claim that their surname is derived from association with those places. Families with the surname Iofe (a transliteration from the Cyrillic alphabet) were common in the Jewish Pale of Settlement of the Russian empire, especially in what is now Lithuania. Families surnamed Yaffe and Jaffe exist in Israel (some who may be indigenous, but most who have immigrated). The surname has a long tradition in Turkey, the Island of Rhodes, Egypt and Mesopotamia. The spelling Jaffe/Joffe appears to have originated in German speaking lands of Central Europe where the alphabet of that language pronounces the letter J as a Y.

The JAFFE SURNAME PROJECT currently has 13 members; hardly enough to draw any firm conclusions about the origin(s) of the family(ies). However, seven members, all of whom carry the surname or a variation, are determined or predicted to be in the same haplogroup (E1b1b1) which has been found to be common among both Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews. Two members are determined

or predicted to be in haplogroup R, one in R1a1 and one in R2.

Both

haplogroups have been found to have Central Asian origins, but R2 appears in a cluster of Ashkenazi Jews and is suspected to have a connection with the Khazars. The R2 member incidentally is a third generation descendant of a famous 19th Century rabbi. One member is in haplogroup G which appears to have Anatolian origins but does appear among a significant number of Ashkenazi Jews. Two members are in haplogroup J1e which appears to have its origin in the Southern Levant (the Arabian Peninsula, the Sinai and the Negev) and is frequent among Arabs (Bedouins, Yemeni, Palestinians) and Jews (particularly Cohanim). One of these does not carry the surname. One member who does not carry the surname but is known to be a descendant of a family that does, is in haplogroup I2b1, which is closely related to haplogroup J.

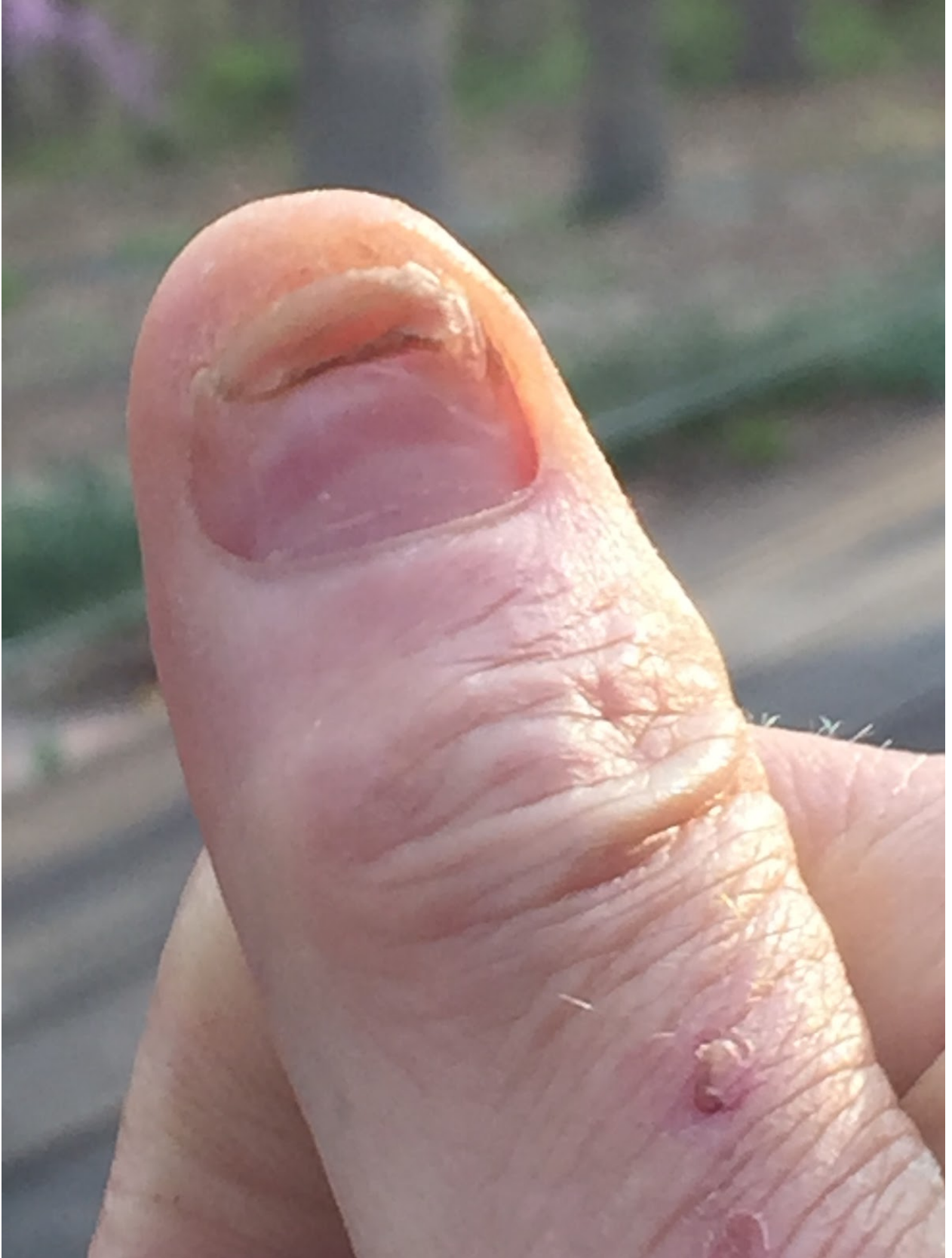
One conclusion that can be drawn from this small sample is that NOT all person's name Jaffe or a variation are directly descended from a common Jewish male ancestor. The ancestors of some may have adopted the surname, especially in the early 19th Century. Other possibilities are that some are the product of ancestors who

converted to Judaism or that the surname was acquired through a matrilineal connection or marriage, not an uncommon occurrence particularly among Jewish scholars. Some of the mysteries may never be solved. However the larger the sample the better are the chances of accumulating useful evidence and drawing reasonable conclusions. For this reason, I urge any male who has inherited the surname or a variation to join the project to have his Y DNA tested and provide as much family history as possible. Please be assured that the laboratory data is confidential and is not useful for any other purpose.

Please contact me at [kidsbks@verizon.net](mailto:kidsbks@verizon.net) for further information. Membership in the project entitles members to a substantial discount off the regular price of the tests.

Sincerely,

Bill Yoffee  
Administrator, Jaffe Surname Project  
JewishGen research No. 2074



And the same thumb on 17 June 2017





7 Apr      Extended 70th BDay

For Traditional Jewish people, the 70th birthday is an opportunity to restart; to reboot; to begin again. Indeed it is conceived as a rebirth while retaining the life experience of wisdom accumulated. Indeed at 83 my forward plan is to celebrate a second Bar Mitzvah; to be matriculated into the adult community as a wiser, more empathic, more compassionate being.

Lovely metaphore by which to live. Having had a near death experience 2 Aug 2014, living to celebrate by 70th is a bit of a milestone.

My sister MArCy volunteered to help me plan and execute the celebrations, to extend over a weekend. We agreed about 4 months ahead. As time drew nigh, little had been done. My sense was to let it be. It all worked out quite differently than my plans.

We spread the celebration in parallel to that ceremonies Rebecca and I had in Fall 1983.

As it turned out, few were contacted. Some became aware and participated, Others were not informed and did not. It all went well. MArCy and Mike came with decorations and intention. Mike supported Marcy n every way he knew to do. He and Daniel went out, found a knief sharpening stone and brought it back to the vienna house. They then sharpened the main knives in the kitchen. What a blessing. Be aware of a sharp knief. What a blessing to have such a sister and brother in law.

Some of these episodes have otherwise been described in more detail in other chapters of this narrative.