

## Bibliography on Talmudic logic, hermeneutics and methodology

The present Bibliography is drawn from various sources (then freely modified in some instances). Notably: The **Jewish Encyclopedia** article on Talmudic hermeneutics<sup>1</sup>. The 'Logic and methodology' section of the **Wikipedia** article on Talmud<sup>2</sup>; **M. Mielziner's** *Introduction to the Talmud*, pp. 83, 96, 128-9; and others. This list is certainly rough and incomplete, which is why I did not include it in my book *A Fortiori Logic*.<sup>3</sup>

- **Saadia ben Yosef Gaon** (Egypt, 882/892 – Baghdad, 942). *Commentary on the thirteen midot of R. Ishmael*, published by Schechter in *Bet Talmud*, iv. 237 et seq., and in the *Œuvres Complètes*, ix. 73-83.
- **Samuel HaNagid**, Ibn Naghrela (Spain, 993-1056). *Mevo HaTalmud*, an introduction to the Talmud, the only extant part of which is appended to the first volume of the main Talmud editions.
- **Shlomo ben Yitzhak**, aka **Rashi** (France, 1040-1105), who “occasionally explained, in his lucid way, the single rules where they are applied in the Talmudic discussions.” There is, adds Mielziner, “a separate treatise on the hermeneutic rules ascribed to this commentator and published under the title of *Perush Rashi al Hamidot*,” which however “seems to be spurious.” This is found “in Kobak's *Jeschurun*, vi., Hebrew part, pp. 38-44, 201-204; the remaining commentaries on the thirteen rules are enumerated by **Jellinek** in *Kontres ha-Kelalim*, Nos. 163-175.”
- **Zerachiah ben Isaac Halevi Gerondi** (Spain. ca. 1125-1186). *Sefer Hatzava*. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/24968>.
- **Abraham ben David of Posquières**, aka Ravad III (France, ca. 1125-1198), who “wrote some valuable annotations” on the introductory chapter to the *Siphra* where the thirteen rules of R. Ishmael are listed.
- **Moshe ben Maimon**, aka **Rambam**, aka Moses Maimonides (Spain, 1135 – Egypt, 1204). Wrote an introduction to the Talmud, especially the Mishna, in his commentary on *Seder Zeraim*.<sup>4</sup>
- **Joseph ben Judah ibn Aknin** (Spain, ca. 1150 – Morocco, ca.1220). *Mevo HaTalmud*, an introduction to the Talmud. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/33105>.
- **R. Hillel ben Samuel of Verona** (ca. 1220 – ca. 1295). *Tagmule ha-Nefesh* (Lyck, 1874). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/20913>.
- **Samson ben Isaac of Chinon** (France, c. 1260 – c. 1330). *Sefer Keritut* (Constantine, 1515), a methodology of the Talmud, whose first three parts are described as follows: the first concerns the thirteen rules of R. Ishmael; the second, the rules for deductions by analogy and conclusions a fortiori; and the third, explains the thirty-two rules of R. Eliezer ben Jose ha-Gelili<sup>5</sup>. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/32813>.
- **Joseph ben Caspi** (France, 1279-1340). *Tseror Hakesef* (aka *Qitzur Higayon*), a compendium of logic.
- **Moses ben Joshua of Narbonne** (France, end 13<sup>th</sup> century – Spain, 1362). A commentary on Ghazali's "*Makaṣid al-Falasifah*" (The Intentions of the Philosophers).
- **Isaac ben Joseph Ibn Polgar** (Spain, ca. 14<sup>th</sup> century). *Ezer ha-Dat* (A Defence of Judaism, Tel Aviv, 1984).
- **David ben Yomtob ibn Bilia** (14<sup>th</sup> century).
- **Isaac ben Jacob Canpanton** (Spain, 1360–1463). *Darchei HaGemara* (Venice, 1565), on methodology of the Talmud. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/11695> and <http://hebrewbooks.org/21689>.
- **R. Isaac Aboab of Castile** (Spain, 1433 – Portugal, 1493). *Commentary on Qal va-chomer* (MS, Bodleian Library, Oxford).
- **R. Avraham Elijah Cohen** (Italy, late 14<sup>th</sup> – early 15<sup>th</sup> centuries). *Commentary on the Thirteen Principles* (MS, Apostolic Library, Vatican).

---

<sup>1</sup> Online at <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=34&letter=T&search=Talmudical%20Hermeneutics>. The list there is reproduced in the corresponding Wikipedia article: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmudical\\_hermeneutics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmudical_hermeneutics).

<sup>2</sup> See: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmud>.

<sup>3</sup> My passing on of this bibliographic material should not be construed as an attempt on my part to appear more “learned” than I really am. The material I list here is, for the most part, material I am ignorant of. Had I consulted it, I would have treated in within my book. The reason I include it here is merely to give other researchers a bit of a starting point for further investigation.

<sup>4</sup> See, in Hebrew: <http://www.daat.ac.il/daat/mahshevt/hakdama/4-2.htm>. See also “Introduction to *Mishneh Torah*” in English: <http://www.mechon-mamre.org/e/e0000.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> See: <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=126&letter=S&search=Samson%20of%20Chinon>.

- **Yeshua ben Yoseph Halevi** (Spain, 15<sup>th</sup> century). *Halichot Olam*. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/11511>.
- **David ben Solomon ibn Abi Zimra**, aka Radbaz (Spain, 1479 – Israel, 1573). *Kelale ha-Gemara*, a methodology of the Talmud (published in the *Meharere Nemarim* collection of Abraham ben Solomon Akra, Venice, 1599).
- **Joseph Caro** (Spain, 1488 – Israel, 1575). *Kelale haGemara* (commentary on Yeshuah Halevi's *Halichot Olam*). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/24850>
- **Bezalel Ashkenazi** (Israel, ca. 1520 – Italy, ca. 1592). *Kelale haGemara*. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/38786>
- **Isaiah Horowitz** (Czechia, ca. 1565 – Israel, 1630). *Shene Luchot ha-Berit* (section on Torah she-be-al-pe).
- **Aharon ibn Haim** (16<sup>th</sup> century). *Midot Aharon* (the first part of a larger work “called *Korban Aharon*, which is a commentary on the Siphra”).
- **Joseph ibn Verga** (Turkey, 16<sup>th</sup> century). *Sheerit Yosef* (Adrianople, 1554), a methodology of the Talmud. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/11888>.
- **Abraham ben Solomon Akra** (Italy, 16<sup>th</sup> century). Edited *Meharere Nemarim* (Venice, 1599), a collection of several methodological essays and commentaries on various Talmudic treatises. Authored *Midrash Rabbot*, a methodological treatise (“which Isaiah Horowitz embodied in his work *Shene Luhot ha-Berit* (ed. Amsterdam), without credit). An image in pdf of *Meharere Nemarim* in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/7049>.
- **Immanuel ben Isaac Aboab** (Portugal, ca. 1555 – Italy, 1628) *Nomologia o Discursos Legales* (Amsterdam, 1629). “A manuscript of this work exists in the library of the Historical Academy in Madrid.”
- **Jacob Chagiz** (Morocco, 1620 – Turkey, 1674) author of *Techilat Hokhma* (Verona, 1647), on methodology of the Talmud. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/32951> and <http://hebrewbooks.org/7059>.
- **Solomon Nissim ben Abraham Algazi** (Turkey, 17<sup>th</sup> century). “His best work is his Talmudic methodology, *Yabin Shemua* “(He Will Elucidate the Message, Venice, 1639; Leghorn, 1792), which is written in the form of a commentary to Yeshuah Halevi's *Halichot Olam*. He wrote two other works on Talmudic methodology; namely, *Halikhot Eli* (The Ways of My God; Smyrna, 1663), and *Gufe Halakhot* (Principles of Halakah; Smyrna, 1675).” An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/24722>.
- **Yisrael Yaakov Algazi**. *Araa de-Rabbanan*. An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/31452>.
- **Samuel Serillo**. *Kelale Shmuel* (Venice, 1622). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/20305>.
- **Solomon de Oliveira**. *Darcho Noam* (1688). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/42077>.
- **Ezechia Bolaffi**. *Ben Zekunim*, vol. 1 (1793). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/30816>
- **Isaac Samuel Reggio**, aka Yashar (Italy, 1784-1855). *Ha-Torah weha-Pilusufiah* (Vienna, 1827).
- **Moshe Amiel**. *Ha-Middot le-Heqer ha-Halachah*, vols. 1-3 (Jerusalem, 1939). An image in pdf of this book (in three volumes) in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/33168>, <http://hebrewbooks.org/33170>, and <http://hebrewbooks.org/33169>.
- **Baruch Goitein**. *Kesef Nivhar* (Prague, 1827). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/19582>.
- **Malachi ben Jacob ha-Kohen** (Italy, 1695/1700 – ca. 1790). *Yad Malakhi*, (Livorno, 1767; Berlin, 1852), “a methodology of the Talmud, alphabetically arranged.” An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/32530>.
- **Aryeh Leib HaCohen Heller** (Ukraine, 1745 – Poland, 1812). *Shev Shematata*. There is a detailed description of the contents of this book here: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shev\\_Shema%27tata](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shev_Shema%27tata)
- **Jacob Hirsch Jolles**, *Melo ha-Ro'im*, part ii.
- **Judah Abelsohn**. *Zikhron Yehuda* (Wilna, 1859). Methodology of the Mishna and rules of Halacha.
- **Zecharias Frankel** (Bohemia, 1801-1875). *Ueber den Einfluss der Palästinensischen Exegese auf die Alexandrinische Hermeneutik* (Leipzig, 1851); *Ueber Palästinensische und Alexandrinische Schriftforschung* (Breslau, 1854); *Hodegetica in Mischnam*, pp. 19 and 108-109 (Leipzig, 1859).
- **Zvi Hirsch Chajes**, also Chayes or Hayot (Galicia, 1805-1855). *Mevo ha-Talmud* (Introduction to the Talmud, Lemburg, 1845). An image in pdf of this book in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/22253>.

- **Meïr Leibush** ben Jehiel Michel **Weiser**, aka Malbim (Russia, 1809-1879). *Ayyelet ha-Shaḥar*. (Warsaw, 1874–80).
- **Isaak Hirsch Weiss** (Austria, 1815-1905), *Dor*, i. 164-168, ii. 105.
- **Mordechai Plungian**, *Sefer Talpiyyot*, Vilna, 1849, treating exclusively of *gezerah shavah*.
- **H. S. Hirschfeld**, *Halachische Exegese*, Berlin, 1840; *Hagadische Exegese*, ib. 1847.
- **S. Waldberg**, *Darke Hashinnuyim* (Lemberg, 1870), “on the methods of artificial interpretation of Scriptures in the Talmud and Midrash.”
- **Aharon Hahn**. *The Rabbinical Dialectics* (Cincinnati, 1879). “A history of Dialecticians and Dialectics of the Mishna and Talmud.”
- **Heinrich Graetz** (Prussia, 1817-1891). *Hillel und Seine Sieben Interpretationsregeln*, in *Monatsschrift*, i.
- **Moses Mielziner** (Poland, 1828 – USA, 1903). *Introduction to the Talmud* (Cincinnati, 1894; 2nd ed. New York, 1903; reprint 1997); *The Talmudic Syllogism or the Inference of Kal Vechomer*, in *Hebrew Review*, i., Cincinnati, 1880.
- **David Zvi Hoffmann** (Slovakia, 1843–1921). *Zur Einleitung in die Halachischen Midraschim*, pp. 4-11, Berlin, 1887. idem, *Ein Midrasch über die Dreizehn Middot*, in *Berliner Festschrift*, pp. 55-71.
- **S. Landau**, *Ansichten des Talmud und der Geonim über den Werth der Midraschischen Schriftauslegung*, Hanover, 1888.
- **Dobschütz**, *Die Einfache Bibelexegese der Tannaim*, Halle, 1893.
- **Adolf Schwartz**, *Die Hermeneutische Analogie*, Vienna, 1897 ; idem, *Der Hermeneutische Syllogismus*, ib. 1901. W. B. J. Z.
- **Moshe Chaim Luzzatto**, Ramchal (Italy-Netherlands-Israel, 1707-1746), *Derech Tevunot* (The Way of Understanding, date?; Feldheim 1988), which is more intended as a teaching of Talmudic reasoning than of logic in general, and *Sepher haHigayon* (The Book of Logic, 1741; Feldheim 1995); he also wrote a couple of books on grammar which may have some logical significance, though I have not read them. An image in pdf of *Derech Tevunot* in Hebrew may be viewed/downloaded at: <http://hebrewbooks.org/19760>.
- **Moses Mendelssohn** (Germany, 1729-1786). A commentary on Maimonides’s treatise on logic (in Hebrew in 1760).
- **Y. N. Epstein**. *Mevo-ot leSifrut haTalmudim*.
- **Hanoch Albeck**. *Mavo laTalmudim*.
- **Moses Ostrovski**. *Die älteste Terminologie des jüdischen Schrift-auslegung* (in German, Leipzig, 1899); *Middoth shehaTorah nidreshet bahen* (in Hebrew, Jerusalem, 1924).
- **Aaron Freimann**. *Die Hebräischen Kommentare zu den 13 Middot des Rabbi Ismail* (in Festschrift Adolf Schwarz, ed. by S. Krauss, Berlin and Vienna, 1917).
- **Saul Lieberman** (Belarus, 1898 – Israel, 1983). “Rabbinic Interpretation of Scripture” in *Hellenism in Jewish Palestine* (New York: Jewish Theological Seminary, 1950).
- **Louis Jacobs** (England, 1920-2006). *How Much of the Babylonian Talmud is Pseudepigraphic?* *Journal of Jewish Studies* 28, No. 1 (1977), pp. 46–59.
- **David Weiss Halivni** (Ukraine, 1927-). *Mekorot u-Mesorot* (Jerusalem: Jewish Theological Seminary, 1982 on).
- **Jacob Neusner** (USA, 1932-). *Sources and Traditions: Types of Compositions in the Talmud of Babylonia* (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1992); *Judaism in Late Antiquity: The Literary and Archaeological sources* (Ed. J. Neusner; Boston: Brill, 1995).
- **Avi Sion** (1948-). *Judaic Logic: A Formal Analysis of Biblical, Talmudic and Rabbinic Logic* (Geneva, 1995). This book may be read online at: [http://www.thelogician.net/3\\_judaic\\_logic/3\\_jl\\_frame.htm](http://www.thelogician.net/3_judaic_logic/3_jl_frame.htm).
- **Yaakov Elman**. *Order, Sequence, and Selection: The Mishnah’s Anthological Choices*, in David Stern, ed. *The Anthology in Jewish Literature* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004) 53-80.