

TEVET

1 Tevet

Hillula of Portuguese statesman Manuel Fernando de Villareal, martyr of the Inquisition. (1 Tevet 5413, 1 December 1652)

Hillula of Rabbi Ya'ir Ḥayyim Bachrach of Worms, author of *Havot Ya'ir*, which he titled to honor his grandmother Ḥavvah, who was a granddaughter of Rabbi Yehudah Loewe, the Maharal of Prague. (1 Tevet 5463, 20 December 1702)

Hillula of Moroccan-born Rabbi Masoud Rafael Alfasi, Chief Rabbi of Tunisia. (1 Tevet 5535, 23 November 1774, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Abraham Moshe of Pshischa, son of Rabbi Simha Bunam of Pshischa. (1 Tevet 5590, 27 December 1829)

Hillula of U.S. political and humor cartoonist Harry Hershfield, pictured at right, creator of the comic strip "Abie the Agent," which debuted in the *New York Journal* on 2 February 1914 and featured the first Jewish protagonist of an American comic strip. (1 Tevet 5735, 15 December 1974)

Lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place; it doesn't have to. —Harry Hershfield



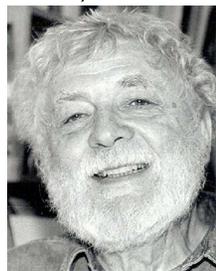
Hillula of Rabbi Yitzḥak Eizik Langner, the sixth Strettiner Rebbe. (1 Tevet 5740, 21 December 1979)

Hillula of Polish-born Rabbi Nathan Katz of Atlanta, ha'Rav Neḥemiah ben ha'Rav Yirmiyahu u'Malka haCohen. (1 Tevet 5759, 20 December 1998)

Hillula of U.S. abstract expressionist painter Helen Frankenthaler, pictured at right. A "second-generation" Abstract Expressionist, she was married during the movement's heyday to painter Robert Motherwell, a leading first-generation member of the group. She developed the technique of "color field," a refinement of Jackson Pollock's method. Where Pollock poured enamel paint onto raw canvas, where it rested like skin, Frankenthaler used turpentine-thinned paint, pouring it in watery washes onto the raw canvas so that it soaked into the fabric weave, becoming one with it. (1 Tevet 5772, 27 December 2011)



Hillula of U.S. historian Donald Weinstein, pictured at near right, whose research was the first to show that the Italian Renaissance was as much a religious as a secular phenomenon. (1 Tevet 5776, 13 December 2015)



2 Tevet

Hillula of Lithuanian-born French phenomenologist Emmanuel Lévinas, pictured at far right. (2 Tevet 5756, 25 December 1995)

Hillula of Marion Silver, Holocaust survivor. (2 Tevet 5759, 21 December 1998)

Hillula of U.S. Rabbi Leonard Beerman, founder of the Leo Baeck Temple in Los Angeles, ardent pacifist, and "rabbi in residence" at All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, California (2 Tevet 5775, 24 December 2014)

Faith is not a question of the existence or non-existence of God. It is believing that love without reward is valuable. —Emmanuel Lévinas

3 Tevet

Hillula of Rebbe Avraham Brandwein of Strettin. Rebbe Avraham was the second of four sons (and four daughters) of Rebbe Yehudah Tzvi I of Strettin. The closest disciple of Rebbe Uri of Strelisk, he succeeded his father as Rebbe of Strettin when the latter departed this life in 1854. Rebbe Avraham was the father of four daughters and no sons. After he returned his holy soul to its Maker, most Strettiner ḥassidim chose to follow his son-in-law, Uri of Rohatyn. (3 Tevet 5624, 13 December 1863)

Hillula of Tunisian Rabbi Ya'akov ha'Cohen Gadisha of Djerba. (3 Tevet 5670, 2 December 1909, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Josephine Sarah Marcus Earp, pictured at right. Born in New York, she was brought as a child to San Francisco by her family. In 1874, at age fourteen, she left her family and went to Prescott, Arizona; little is known of her life from that time until 1880, when she moved to Tombstone, Arizona, to join Cochise County Sheriff Johnny Behan, whom she had met three years earlier and who had promised to marry her. Behan was sympathetic to ranchers and to the outlaw gang known as the "Cochise County Cowboys," including the Clanton brothers, who were feuding with Deputy U.S. Marshal Virgil Earp and his brothers, Wyatt and Morgan. When he reneged on his promise to her, Josephine left him. In 1881, in the Gunfight at the OK Corral, Wyatt and his brothers killed three of the Cowboys. That year (reports are unclear whether it was before or after the Gunfight), Josephine moved in with Wyatt Earp. It

The earth is too small and life is too short for anything to be more important than the quest for peace. —Leonard Beerman



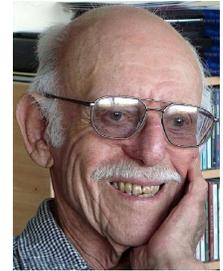
was her relationship with Earp that caused a falling-out between him and Doc Holliday during the “Earp Vendetta Ride,” in which Wyatt, then a Deputy U.S. Marshal, and his posse rode through much of Arizona and New Mexico searching for the remaining “Cowboys,” who, in the year following the OK Corral gunfight, had ambushed and maimed Virgil Earp and killed Morgan Earp. In Albuquerque, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday were eating at a restaurant when Holliday remarked, apparently referring to Earp’s relationship with Josephine, that Earp was “becoming a damn Jew-boy.” Earp walked out in anger. (They ultimately reconciled.) Josephine went to San Francisco in March 1882 and was joined that fall by Wyatt; they remained together, holding themselves out as married, until his death in January 1929. (3 Tevet 5705, 19 December 1944)



Hillula of U.S. art collector and patron Peggy Guggenheim, pictured at right. (3 Tevet 5740, 23 December 1979)

Hillula of U.S. actor Howard Caine (born Cohen). Cohen was born in Nashville, Tennessee; when he was thirteen, his family moved to New York City. Erasing his Tennessee accent, Caine became a master of dialect, learning some thirty-two accents. Best known for his portrayal of Gestapo Major Wolfgang Hochstetter on *Hogan’s Heroes* – he had previously portrayed two other characters in the series, Major Keitel in the episode “Happy Birthday, Adolf” and Colonel Feldkamp in the episode “The Battle of Stalag 13” – he also appeared in the film version of *1776* as Lewis Morris of New York, known for his catch phrase, “New York abstains, courteously.” Caine was also a master of the Appalachian five-string banjo. From the summer of 1970 until his passing in 1993, he took trophies at twenty-nine prominent banjo and fiddle contests in the southland for both Best Traditional Banjo and Traditional Singing. He was also a popular folk singer and appeared at a number of prominent folk clubs and folk festivals. (3 Tevet 5734, 28 December 1973)

When I grow up I want to be a little boy. –Joseph Heller



Hillula of U.S. novelist Joseph Heller, pictured at near right. (3 Tevet 5760, 12 December 1999)

Hillula of U.S. journalist Lester Rodney, pictured at far right, whose writing as a sports reporter for the *Daily Worker* set the stage for the racial integration of major league baseball. (3 Tevet 5770, 20 December 2009)

4 Tevet

Hillula of Rebbe Gershon Ḥanoch Leiner of Radzin. Rebbe Gershon Ḥanoch was the grandson of Rebbe Mordecai Yosef Leiner of Izhbitza. It was he whose research indicated that the *t’khelet*, the blue dye for *tzitzit* was derived from the cuttlefish *Sepia officinalis*; other researchers traced the dye to the snail *Murex trunculus*. (4 Tevet 5651, 15 December 1890)

I have found that if you love life, life will love you back. –Artur Rubinstein



Hillula of German feminist, writer, and peace activist Lina Morgenstern, pictured at right. (4 Tevet 5670, 16 December 1909)

Hillula of Louella Parsons, the first U.S. movie columnist. (4 Tevet 5733, 9 December 1973)

Hillula of Russian-born U.S. Orthodox Rabbi Samuel I. Korff, pictured at near right. (4 Tevet 5735, 20 December 1974)



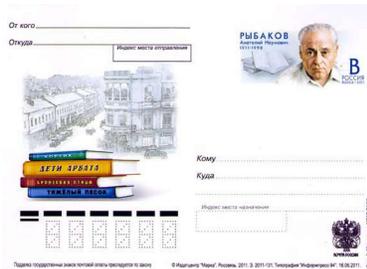
Hillula of Polish-born U.S. pianist Artur Rubinstein, pictured at far right. (4 Tevet 5743, 20 December 1982)

Hillula of Ukrainian *glasnost* novelist Anatoly Rybakov, honored by the 2011 Russian postal card pictured at near right below. (4 Tevet 5759, 23 December 1998)

Hillula of U.S. economist Seymour Melman, pictured at middle right below, co-chairman of the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (4 Tevet 5765, 16 December 2004)

Hillula of Romanian-born Canadian poet Irving Peter Layton, born Israel Pincu Lazarovitch. (4 Tevet 5766, 4 January 2006)

Hillula of Hungarian-born U.S. ceramist Eva Striker Zeisel, born Éva Amália Striker, pictured at far right. Zeisel’s mother, Laura Polányi Striker (1882-1957) was the first woman to receive a PhD from



the University of Budapest. Sociologist and economist Karl Polányi and physical chemist and philosopher of science Michael Polányi were Zeisel's uncles. In 1923, at age seventeen, Zeisel entered Budapest's Magyar Képzőművészeti Akadémia (Hungarian Royal Academy of Fine Arts) as a painter. To support her painting, she decided to pursue a more practical profession, and she apprenticed herself to Jakob Karapancsik, the last pottery master in the medieval guild system. She was the first woman to qualify as a journeyman in the Hungarian Guild of Chimney Sweeps, Oven Makers, Roof Tilers, Well Diggers, and Potters. In 1932, after working in Germany for four years, she visited the Soviet Union, where she remained for five years, eventually becoming the artistic director of the Soviet china and glass industry. In May 1936, she was arrested on trumped-up charges of participating in an assassination plot against Joseph Stalin, and she was jailed for sixteen months, including twelve months of solitary confinement. Her childhood friend Arthur Koestler drew upon her experience in writing his celebrated 1941 novel *Darkness at Noon*. Upon her release from prison in September 1937, she was deported to Austria. Soon after, as the Anschluss loomed, Zeisel fled to England on the last train out of Austria. In England, she married Hans Zeisel, whom she had known from her time in Austria, and they emigrated to the United States. Eva Zeisel was the 2005 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement award from the Cooper-Hewett National Design Museum, and she was the recipient of numerous other awards and honorary degrees in the United States, Britain, and Hungary. Born 13 November 1906, she attained the age of 105. (4 Tevet 5772, 30 December 2011)

5 Tevet

Hillula of Rebbe Aaron of Titiev, grandson of the Baal Shem Tov. (5 Tevet 5589, 29 November 1828, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Birth of Rabbi Hayyim Eliezer Spira of Munkacs. (5 Tevet 5632, 17 December 1871)

Hillula of German-born U.S. poet Minna Kleeberg. (5 Tevet 5639, 31 December 1878)

Hillula of Rebbe Alter Yisrael Shimon Perlow I of Novominsk. (5 Tevet 5693, 3 January 1933)

Hillula of Polish-born Soviet poet and literary critic Osip Mandelstam, pictured at near right, killed in Stalinist purge. (5 Tevet 5699, 27 December 1938)

Hillula of French philosopher Henri Bergson, pictured at far right. Bergson was the son of Polish pianist and composer Michal Bergson (originally Bereksohn), and the great-grandson of Tamar'l Bergson, the major financial contributor to the Hassidic movement in the early 19th century.

Bergson's great-aunt, the daughter of Tamar'l, was married to a grandson of Rebbe Shmelke of Nikolsburg. Bergson's great-great-grandfather, Szmul Jakubowicz Sonnenberg, called Zbytkower, was a prominent banker and a protégé of Stanisław August Ponia-towski, King of Poland from 1764 to 1795. Bergson is known for his arguments that processes of immediate experience and intuition are more significant than abstract rationalism and science for understanding reality. He is also known for having engaged in a debate with Albert Einstein about the nature of time, a debate which contributed to a partial diminution of Bergson's reputation until most of his fundamental contributions to French philosophy were vindicated by the discovery of Quantum Physics. He was awarded the 1927 Nobel Prize in Literature "in recognition of his rich and vitalizing ideas and the brilliant skill with which they have been presented." In 1930, he was awarded the Grand-Croix de la Legion d'honneur. Bergson was married to Louise Neuberger, a cousin of Marcel Proust; Proust was best man at their wedding. Bergson's sister Mina (known as Moina Mathers) was married to British occultist Samuel Liddell MacGregor Mathers, a founder of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn. In his later years, Bergson was inclined to convert to Catholicism; in his Will, dated 8 February 1937, he stated, "My thinking has always brought me nearer to Catholicism, in which I saw the perfect complement to Judaism." With the rise of Nazism and anti-Semitism in Europe in the 1930s, however, he chose not to convert; he did not want to appear to want to leave the persecuted. (5 Tevet 5701, 4 January 1941)

Hillula of Rebbe Avraham Ya'akov II of Sadagora, author of *Abir Ya'akov*. (5 Tevet 5722, 12 December 1961)

Hillula of U.S. film and television actress Joan Blondell, pictured at near right. (5 Tevet 5740, 25 December 1979)

Hillula of U.S. Rabbi Hershel J. Matt, student of Will Herberg and of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. (5 Tevet 5748, 26 December 1987)

Hillula of Rebbe Yerahmiel Tzvi Rabinowitz of Biala. (5 Tevet 5764, 30 December 2003)

Hillula of South African anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Suzman, pictured at far right. (5 Tevet 5769, 1 January 2009)



Religion is to mysticism what popularization is to science. —Henri Bergson



6 Tevet

Hillula of Rebbe Yehezkel Shraga of Shinyava. Rebbe Yehezkel was the eldest son of Rabbi Hayyim Halberstam of Sanz and a disciple of Rebbe Asher of Ropshitz; he also studied under Rebbes Tzvi Hirsch of Rymanov, Shalom of Belz, and Meir of Premislan. His first wife – he was married and widowed five times – was the granddaughter of Rebbe Moshe Teitelbaum of Ujhely. (6 Tevet 5660, 8 December 1899)

Hillula of Rabbi Alter Israel Shimon Perlow II of Novominsk. Rabbi Perlow, the author of *Tiferet Ish*, was a descendant of the Hassidic dynasties of Ostila, Kaidanov, Lechovitch, Karlin, Apt, Chernobyl, and Berditchev. (6 Tevet 5694, 24 December 1933)

7 Tevet

Hillula of Italian Rabbi Moshe David Valli. Rabbi Valli, who was also a physician, was a disciple of Rabbi Moshe Hayyim Luzzatto. (7 Tevet 5537, 17 December 1776)

Hillula of Rebbe Tzvi Hirsch of Medzibozh, son of the Baal Shem Tov. (7 Tevet 5540, 16 December 1779)

Hillula of Rabbi Raphael Shlomo Laniado of Chaleb, Syria. (7 Tevet 5554, 29 November 1793, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Polish-born Rebbe Mordecai Yosef Leiner of Izhbitza. Rebbe Mordecai Yosef was a descendant of Rabbi Saul Wahl and a disciple of Rebbe Simcha Bunam of Pshischa. Born in Tomashov (known in Polish as Tomaszów Lubelski) and a childhood friend of Rebbe Menaḥem Mendel of Kotzk, he became the latter's disciple after the passing of Rebbe Simcha Bunam, but, becoming estranged from Rebbe Menaḥem Mendel after Simchat Torah 5600 (12 October 1839), he left Kotzk to become the founder of the Izhbitza/Radzin Hassidic dynasty. He was the author of *Mei haShilo'ah* and *Tiferet Yosef*. His grandson, Rebbe Gershon Hanoch Leiner of Radzin, was the rediscoverer of the *t'helet* (blue dye for *tzitzit*). Rebbe Mordecai Yosef was the mentor of Rabbis Yehudah Leib Eiger and Tzadok haCohen of Lublin. (7 Tevet 5614, 7 January 1854)

*The essence of anger stems from the fact that a person fails to recognize that G*d has ownership of the world.*

–Mordecai Yosef Leiner of Izhbitza

Birth of Rebbe Avraham Mordecai Alter of Ger, pictured at right. (7 Tevet 5626, 25 December 1865)



Hillula of Polish-born U.S. labor leader Alex Rose, born Olesh Roys. Denied a university education in Poland because he was Jewish, Rose emigrated to the United States. The outbreak of World War I forced him to abandon his professional aspirations and take a job as a millinery worker. From 1918 to 1920, Rose served in the British Army; upon his return to the United States, he resumed his union organizing activities. In 1950, he was elected president of the Hatters' Union. In 1936, Rose was one of the founders of the American Labor Party. When the party came under communist influence Rose, with David Dubinsky, helped found New York State's Liberal Party. The Liberal Party remained a major force in New York politics until after Rose's death, when it began to fade in importance, essentially disappearing in 2002. (7 Tevet 5737, 28 December 1976)

Hillula of London-born U.S. chemist Herbert Charles Brown. Born Herbert Brovarnik, Brown was brought to the United States by his parents when he was only two years old. During World War II, while working with Hermann Irving Schlesinger, Brown discovered a method for producing sodium borohydride (NaBH₄), which can be used to produce boranes, compounds of boron and hydrogen. He shared the 1979 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with George Wittig for their work with organoboranes, chemical compounds of boron and carbon that are organic derivatives of the borane BH₃ and that are important reagents in organic chemistry enabling many chemical transformations. His work led to the discovery of the first general method for producing asymmetric pure enantiomers, isomers that are mirror images of each other. Curiously, the elements with which he worked – Hydrogen, Carbon, and Boron – have as their atomic symbols the initials of his name, H, C, and B. (7 Tevet 5765, 19 December 2004)



Hillula of Israeli singer Yaffa Yarkoni, née Abramov, pictured at right. (7 Tevet 5772, 1 January 2012)

8 Tevet

Birth of Rabbi Yehuda Modern of Sziget, student of the *Hatam Sofer* and disciple of Rebbe Moshe Teitelbaum of Ujhely. He was circumcised by the *Hatam Sofer* and, a great prodigy, attended the *Hatam Sofer's* classes at the age of eight, sitting on the great master's lap as his beloved student. At age eighteen, desiring to study in a place where he was not known, he journeyed to Ungvár (now Uzhhorod, Ukraine) to attend the yeshivah of Rabbi Meir Asch. Finding Rabbi Asch not present, he proceeded to the nearby town of Uhely (known in Hungarian as Sátoraljaújhely), where he attached himself as a disciple to Rebbe Moshe Teitelbaum. Rebbe Moshe proposed him as a husband for Hayyah Rachel, the daughter of Rabbi Shmuel Kahana of Sziget. Modern lived the rest of his life in Sziget, devoting himself to Torah study and the performance of acts of *hesed*. He was known especially for visiting the ill, often spending entire nights by their bedsides. Heading the yeshivah in Sziget, he declined all offers of other rabbinic positions and other honors. (8 Tevet 5580, 26 December 1819)

Hillula of U.S. poet and editor Louis M. Untermeyer, pictured at right. Blacklisted during the anti-Communist madness of the early 1950s, he was named Poet Laureate of the United States (the title was then "Consultant in Poetry") in 1961 and served in that position until 1963. (8 Tevet 5738, 18 December 1977)



Hillula of German-born U.S. actress Luise Rainer, pictured at right. Rainer began acting at age sixteen, under the tutelage of Max Reinhardt. In 1935, at age twenty-five, she was "discovered" and signed to a contract by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios. Her first American film role was in *Escapade* in 1935. The following year, she was given a supporting part in the musical biography *The Great Ziegfeld*. Despite her being in a supporting role, she was awarded the Oscar for Best Actress. In 1937, producer Irving Thalberg, despite the studio's disagreement, cast her as a poor, plain Chinese farm wife in *The Good Earth* (1937), based on Pearl Buck's novel about hardship in China. The subdued character role was such a dramatic contrast to her previous, vivacious character that she again won the Academy Award for Best Actress, making her the first actress to receive two consecutive Academy Awards, a feat matched only by Katherine Hepburn in 1968 and 1969. Rainer married playwright Clifford Odets in 1937; they were divorced in 1940, and she recalled later that creating the image of being happy in the marriage was her greatest acting role. In 1945, she married publisher Robert Knittel. About the same time, she began concentrating on stage more than film acting, later moving to television as well. Although she became a U.S. citizen in 1940, she and Knittel lived mainly in Switzerland and the United Kingdom. After his passing in 1989, Rainer lived in an apartment in Eaton Square, London, in a building where Vivian Leigh (who also won two Oscars, albeit not consecutively) had previously dwelt. Rainer has a star on both the Hollywood Walk of Fame and Berlin's Boulevard der Stars. At her passing, two weeks before her 105th birthday, according to the secular calendar, she was the oldest living Academy Award laureate. (8 Tevet 5775, 30 December 2014)

Friendship is like love at its best; not blind but sympathetically all-seeing; a support which does not wait for understanding; an act of faith which does not need, but always has, reason.
-Louis Untermeyer

Stars are not important; only what they do as a part of their work is important.
-Luise Rainer

9 Tevet

Traditional hillula of Ezra and Neḥemiah. (9 Tevet)

Hillula of Rabbenu Yosef of Kairouan, Tunisia, city highlighted in map of Tunisia at right, son of Shmuel ha'Naggid and son-in-law of Rabbi Nissim Gaon. (9 Tevet 4827, 30 December 1066, according to the Julian calendar then in use)



Hillula of Rabbi Ezra ben Shlomo of Girona, a city in northwest Catalonia that dates back to before the Roman Empire. A disciple of Rabbi Yitzḥak Sagi Nahor (Isaac the Blind), Rabbi Ezra was the mentor of Naḥmanides. He composed a major commentary on the Song of Songs that was long attributed to Naḥmanides but that has been shown to bear linguistic and theological characteristics more in keeping with Rabbi Ezra's other works. He also wrote a commentary, no longer extant, on *Sefer Yetzirah*, cited by Naḥmanides. (9 Tevet 4988, 20 December 1227, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Rabbi Avraham Hayyim Shor, great-grandson of Rabbi Shalom Shakhna of Lublin and a descendant of Rabbi Yosef of Orleans, the Bechor Shor. (9 Tevet 5392, 3 January 1632)

Hillula of Rabbi (Ephraim) Fishel of Strikov, the *Olah T'mimah*. Rabbi Fishel was born in Biala, where his father, Yosef Yehudah, a disciple of the Maggid of Mezeritz and Rabbe Yaakov Yosef of Polnoy, was serving as rabbi. In addition to his father's mentors, Rabbi Fishel became a disciple, in turn, of Rebbes Elimelekh of Lizensk and Ya'akov Yitzḥak of Lublin. One year, Rebbe Moshe Leib of Sassov came to Strikov for the High Holidays. Rabbi Fishel, with many Jews of the surrounding towns, came to Strikov to spend the Holidays with the rebbe. After all the holidays were past, they all stood in line to receive a parting blessing from the rebbe before going home. When Rabbi Fishel came before him, Rebbe Moshe Leib put his hands on the young man's head in blessing and said, "You're not going home. You will stay here and become the Strikover Rebbe." Rebbe Fishel remained in Strikov for the rest of his days. (9 Tevet 5585, 30 December 1824)



Hillula of Rabbi Yehoshua Besis of Tunis, city highlighted in map of Tunisia at right above. (9 Tevet 5598, 6 January 1838)

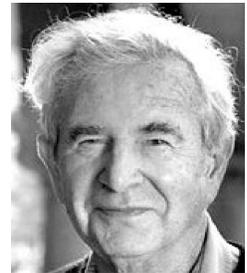
Hillula of Rabbi Israel Dan Taub of Modzitz, pictured at near right. (9 Tevet 5688, 2 January 1928)

Hillula of Doctor Alexandra Adler, pictured at far right. Daughter of Alfred Adler, she was a pioneer in the study of post-traumatic stress disorder. (9 Tevet 5761, 4 January 2001)

Hillula of Polish-born U.S. mathematician Samuel Karlin, pictured at right. (9 Tevet 5768, 18 December 2007)

Hillula of U.S. journalist and social critic Nat Hentoff. Hentoff was a columnist for *The Village Voice* for more than fifty years, first writing about jazz but gradually moving into issues of civil liberties, capital punishment, education, and politics. He was the author of some three dozen books, including *The Jazz Life*, an examination of the social and psychological aspects of jazz; *Peace Agitator: The Story of A. J. Muste*, a biography of the pacifist leader; and *The New Equality*, a study of the role of white guilt in racial reforms. (9 Tevet 5777, 7 January 2017)

Whenever I see that kind of story, where everybody agrees, I know there's something wrong. —Nat Hentoff



10 Tevet

Fast of Asarah b'Tevet (10th of Tevet). The 10th of Tevet commemorates the beginning of the siege of Jerusalem in 588/587 BCE by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia, which ended eighteen months later with the Babylonians' entry into Jerusalem on 17 Tammuz and the fall of the Temple on 9 Av. Asarah b'Tevet is anomalous among Jewish fast days. The siege which it commemorates began in the ninth year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign and ended in the eleventh, but that period spanned only from one year (3175, 587 or 588 BCE) to the next (3176, 586 or 587 BCE) in the Hebrew or the retrojected secular calendar. The observance of this fast (Ezekiel 24:2) is described with the words "that very day," as is Yom Kippur (Leviticus 23:28) and no other Jewish fast day. Consequently, even though 10 Tevet is a "minor" (that is, daylight hours only) fast, it, like Yom Kippur, would take precedence if it were to fall out on Shabbat; all other fasts are postponed to Sunday if they fall on Shabbat (except the Fast of Esther, which is moved back to Thursday). However, as the Jewish calendar is established, 10 Tevet can never fall on Shabbat. This is, however, the only fast in the Jewish calendar that can fall on a Friday, and this leads to another anomaly. If 10 Tevet falls on Friday, the fast begins at sunrise and continues until Kiddush on Friday night, thus intruding an hour or two into Shabbat.

Traditional hillula of the Prophets Zechariah and Malachi. (10 Tevet 3449, 312/313 BCE)

Hillula of Yemeni-born (in Sana'a) Rabbi Shalom Sharabi of Jerusalem, gravesite pictured at right. He made *aliyah* in fulfillment of a vow, but his route was lengthy, as he went by way of Aden, Botzrah, Baghdad, Damascus, and, according to some sources, India. A self-effacing young man, he was "discovered" by the daughter of Rabbi Gedaliah Hayyun when some of his writings began to circulate clandestinely. She brought him to the attention of her father, and soon she and Rabbi Sharabi were married. Rabbi Sharabi was the teacher of Rabbi Hayyim Yosef David Azulai (the *Hida*) and of the Baal Shem Tov's brother-in-law Gershon Kitover. A devotee of the teachings of Rabbi Isaac Luria and a major innovator within Lurianic Kabbalah, he was said by some of his contemporaries to have been a *gilgul* (reincarnation) of Isaac Luria himself. Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri declared, "One may have memorized all the written teachings of the Ari, and have studied them and the commentaries upon them in great depth, but without learning the works of Rabbi Shalom Sharabi, one cannot be said to have entered into the study of Kabbalah." (10 Tevet 5538, 29 December 1777, according to the Julian calendar then in use)



In every master-disciple relationship, the spiritual elements of Moses, Joshua, and the Tent of Meeting are present. —Nathan of Nemirov

Hillula of Rabbi Nathan Sternhartz of Nemirov, closest disciple and amanuensis of Rebbe Nahman of Breslov. (10 Tevet 5605, 8 December 1844, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

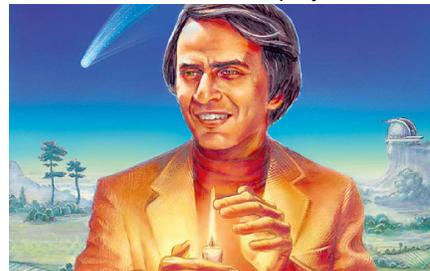
Hillula of German-born Concentration Camp survivor and U.S. novelist and playwright Lion Feuchtwanger, pictured at right. Feuchtwanger was the eldest of nine siblings. Two of his brothers, Martin and Sigmund, also became authors; two of his sisters fled to Palestine after the rise of the Nazis; another perished in a concentration camp, and a fourth settled in New York. Bertolt Brecht, fourteen years Feuchtwanger's junior, sought him out as a mentor, and Feuchtwanger collaborated on several of Brecht's early works. Feuchtwanger was one of the very first to recognize and warn against the dangers of Hitler and the Nazi Party. As early as 1920 he published the satirical text "Conversations with the Wandering Jew," in which he included a vision of what would later become the reality of Nazi anti-Semitism. Feuchtwanger's first novel, *Jud Süß* (Jew Süss), was a fictionalized version of the life of Joseph Süß Oppenheimer, banker and court Jew for Duke Karl Alexander of Württemberg. Rejected by Germany's major publishers, it was taken on by a small publishing house and was so well-received that it went through five printings of 39,000 copies within a year, establishing Feuchtwanger as a major German author. *Jud Süß* was made into a film produced at Denham Studios in Great Britain in 1934 under the direction of another German expatriate, Lothar Mendes, and starring one of Germany's greatest actors, Conrad Veidt, also a refugee from Nazi persecution. The Nazi propaganda machine was so incensed by the film, which denounced Nazi anti-Semitism, that it made its own

An action doesn't have to be wrong just because it is not logical. It doesn't have to be right just because it has its logic. —Lion Feuchtwanger



anti-Semitic version under the same title, directed by Veit Harlan. The Nazi version uses the novel's success but twists and reverses the core of the novel and the play. In 1933, on a speaking tour of the United States, Feuchtwanger had been guest of honor at a dinner hosted by Friedrich Wilhelm von Prittwitz und Gaffron, then the German ambassador to the United States. The dinner was on 30 January 1933, the very day that Hitler was appointed Chancellor. The next day, Prittwitz resigned from the diplomatic corps and called Feuchtwanger to caution him not to return home. With the Western powers failing to acknowledge the reality of Nazism, Feuchtwanger travelled the Stalinist Soviet Union from November 1935 to February 1936. In his travel impressions, he praised life under Stalin and justified the show trials against alleged Trotskyites, drawing outrage from Arnold Zweig and Franz Werfel. His friendly attitude toward Stalin later delayed his naturalization as a United States citizen. Feuchtwanger was granted political asylum in the United States and settled in Los Angeles in 1941. During the McCarthy madness, he was a target of suspicion as a left-wing intellectual. In 1947, he wrote a play about the Salem Witch Trials, *Wahn oder der Teufel in Boston* (*Delusion, or, The Devil in Boston*), anticipating Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* by six years. (10 Tevet 5719, 21 December 1958)

Hillula of U.S. composer Richard Rodgers, pictured at near right, one of only two people (the other was Marvin Hamlisch) to have been awarded the Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony, and Pulitzer Prizes. (10 Tevet 5740, 30 December 1979)



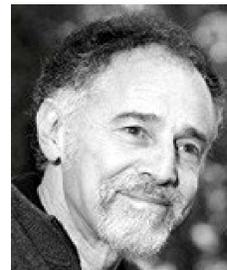
Hillula of U.S. astronomer Carl Sagan, pictured at far right. (10 Tevet 5757, 20 December 1996)

Hillula of U.S. Renewal Rabbi Aryeh Hirschfield, pictured at right. (10 Tevet 5769, 6 January 2009)

11 Tevet

Hillula of Rebbe Moshe Biderman of Lelov. Rebbe Moshe was the son and successor of Rebbe David of Lelov. A disciple of Rebbe Ya'akov Yitzhak of Pshischa (the "Yehudi"), he married his master's daughter, Rachel Rivka. After the Yehudi left this life, Rebbe Moshe, with his close friend, Rebbe Yitzhak of Vorki and most of the Yehudi's hassidim, followed his successor, Rebbe Simcha Bunam. In his last year, Rebbe Moshe emigrated to the Land of Israel, moving the court of Lelov to Jerusalem. (11 Tevet 5611, 4 December 1850, according to the Julian calendar then in use; some sources give the date as either 7 Tevet or 13 Tevet)

The fact that some geniuses were laughed at does not imply that all who are laughed at are geniuses. They laughed at Columbus; they laughed at Fulton; they laughed at the Wright brothers. But they also laughed at Bozo the Clown.
—Carl Sagan



Hillula of Galician Talmudic scholar Salomon Buber, pictured at right, grandfather of Martin Buber. (11 Tevet 5667, 28 December 1906)

I live my life in widening circles that reach out across the world. I may not complete this last one, but I give myself to it.
—Aryeh Hirschfield



Hillula of Rebbe David Twersky of Zlatopol. Rebbe David was the son of Rebbe Yohanan of Rachmistrevka and grandson of Rebbe Mordecai of Chernobyl. His wife, Bat-Tzion Tziporah Feige, was the daughter of Rebbe Aaron I of Karlin. When Rebbe David's father departed this life, Rebbe David became the Rebbe and moved the court to Zlatopol. (11 Tevet 5675, 28 December 1914)

Hillula of Anna Moskowitz Kross, first woman graduate (in 1910) of NYU Law School. (11 Tevet 5740, 31 December 1979)

Hillula of U.S. attorney Howard Squadron, president of the American Jewish Congress from 1978 to 1984 and chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations from 1980 to 1982. (11 Tevet 5762, 26 December 2001)



Hillula of U.S. actor Jack (Jacob Joachim) Klugman, pictured at near right. (11 Tevet 5773, 24 December 2012)

Hillula of U.S. pharmacologist and biochemist Alfred G. Gilman, Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine, pictured at far right. Gilman, with his colleague Martin Rodbell, received the Nobel Prize in 1994 for their discovery and analysis of G-proteins, which are instrumental in the transmission of chemical signals from the outside to the inside of cells and whose absence is characteristic of leukemia cells. In addition to his Nobel Prize, Gilman received Canada's Gairdner Foundation International Award in 1984, and the Albert Lasker Award for Basic Medical Research and the Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize in 1989. He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Advisory Council of the National Center for Science Education,

and he was a Fellow of the American Association for Cancer Research. (11 Tevet 5776, 23 December 2016)

12 Tevet

Hillula of German mathematician Emanuel Lasker, world chess champion 1894-1920, pictured at near right. (12 Tevet 5701, 11 January 1941)
 Hillula of Bella Weretnikow Rosenbaum, first woman to practice law in Washington State, pictured at far right. (12 Tevet 5721, 31 December 1960)
 Hillula of Rabbi Yitzchok Singer, rabbi of the Bialystoker Synagogue on the Lower East Side of Manhattan for over forty years. (12 Tevet 5761, 7 January 2001)



13 Tevet

Birth of Rabbi Shimon Sofer, the *Michtav Sofer*, second son of the *Hatam Sofer* (Rabbi Moshe Sofer), pictured at near right. (13 Tevet 5581, 20 December 1820)
 Hillula of U.S. businessman and philanthropist Judah Touro, pictured at middle right (13 Tevet 5614, 13 January 1854)
 Hillula of U.S. playwright Moss Hart, pictured at far right. (13 Tevet 5722, 20 December 1961)
 Hillula of U.S. comedian Jack Benny, pictured at right. (13 Tevet 5735, 27 December 1974)
 Hillula of Bucovina-born U.S. and German poet Rose Ausländer, born Rosalie Beatrice Scherzer, pictured at right below. (13 Tevet 5748, 3 January 1988)
 Hillula of U.S. major league baseball player Dave (David Arthur) Roberts. Roberts, a left-handed pitcher, played thirteen seasons for nine major league teams. In 1971, pitching for the last-place San Diego Padres, he had the second-best Earned Run Average in the National League. On the final day of the 1976 season, Roberts, then pitching for the Detroit Tigers, gave up Hank Aaron's last hit and last run batted in. (13 Tevet 5769, 9 January 2009)
 Hillula of U.S. labor leader Henry J. Foner. Foner was the youngest of four brothers, all of whom were active in the labor movement and all of whom lost their teaching licenses during the McCarthy madness of the 1940s. Henry had been a high school teacher; his brothers – twins Philip and Jack (the oldest) and Moe – taught at City College of New York. In the late 1940s, Foner was hired as education and welfare director of the Joint Board Fur Dressers' and Dryers' Unions, which was to become the Joint Board, Fur, Leather and Machine Workers Union. In 1961, he was elected president of the union, a position in which he served for twenty-seven years and from which he oversaw the union's labor arts program, advocated civil rights and universal health care, and opposed the Vietnam War. (13 Tevet 5777, 11 January 2017)



I have had many successes and many failures in my life. My successes have always been for different reasons, but my failures have always been for the same reason – I said yes when I meant no.
 –Moss Hart

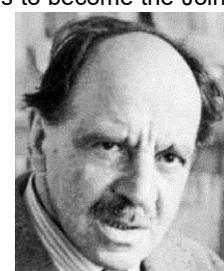


I don't care who gets the laughs on my show, as long as the show is funny.
 –Jack Benny



Behind my mirth there breathes the sorrow. Behind the sorrow there stands my amazement. Beyond mirth and sorrow and beyond all – what was, what is, and what will be.
 –Rose Ausländer

In every person, even in such as appear most reckless, there is an inherent desire to attain balance.
 –Jakob Wassermann



14 Tevet

Hillula of German novelist Jakob Wassermann, pictured at right. Living in Munich in the last decade of the nineteenth century, Wasserman was part of a circle that included, among others, Thomas Mann and Rainer Maria Rilke. The title of his first novel, *Melusine* (published in 1896), was a play on his own name, Wasserman (“Water-Man”). Melusine (or Melusina) is a figure of European (mainly Celtic and Breton) folklore and mythology, a female spirit of fresh water who resides in a sacred spring or river. In 1926, although he had been living in Austria since 1898, Wasserman was elected to the Prussian Academy of Arts. He resigned in 1933, narrowly avoiding expulsion by the Nazis. In the same year, his books were banned in Germany. Wassermann's work includes poetry, essays, novels, and short stories. His novel *Der Fall Maurizius*, published in 1928, and his autobiography, *My Life as German and Jew (Mein Weg als Deutscher und Jude)*, published in 1921, are considered his most important

works. In the latter, he discusses the tense relationship between his German and Jewish identities. (14 Tevet 5694, 1 January 1934)

Hillula of British classical pianist Irene Scharrer, pictured at near right. (14 Tevet 5731, 11 January 1971)

Hillula of U.S. anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff, née Siegel, pictured at far right. The first non-Huichol to participate in the sacred annual pilgrimage of the Huichol people, she wrote her doctoral dissertation, published in 1974 as a book titled *Peyote Hunt: The Sacred Journey of the Huichol Indians*, on the Huichol religion. Her research demonstrated how rituals and symbols act to communicate the central meanings and memories of a people cut off from their homeland and forced to live within a dominant culture hostile to them. She subsequently explored these same themes in her innovative study of elderly Jews in Los Angeles. (14 Tevet 5745, 7 January 1985)



A story told aloud . . . is, of course, more than a text. It is an event. When it is done properly, the listener is more than a mere passive receiver or validator; [s/he] is changed.
—Barbara Myerhoff

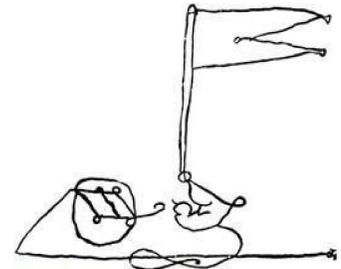
Hillula of Indian poet, actor, and playwright Nissim Ezekiel. Born in Mumbai (then known as Bombay), Ezekiel earned a bachelor's degree in literature from Wilson College of the University of Mumbai, where his father was a professor of botany. He was a foundational figure in postcolonial India's literary history, and, in 1983, the Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters, awarded him the Sahitya Akademi Award for his poetry collection, *Latter-Day Psalms*. He was further honored in 1988, when he received the Padma Shri Award from the President of India. (14 Tevet 5764, 8 January 2004)

Hillula of U.S. choreographer Michael Kidd, born Milton Greenwald, pictured at right, winner of five Tony awards and an honorary Academy Award, inducted into the American Theatre Hall of Fame in 1981, best known for choreographing *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. (14 Tevet 5768, 23 December 2007)



15 Tevet

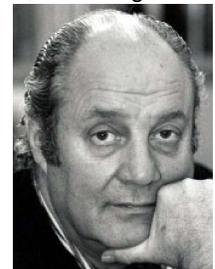
Hillula of Portuguese-born Rabbi Shlomo Molcho, signature, in the shape of a ship, at right. Molcho, the descendant of Marranos, was born Diogo Pires in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1500 or 1501. After he encountered David Reuveni in 1523, Molcho tried to convince Reuveni to take him on as a student, but Reuveni declined to accept him (although Reuveni did accept him in later years as an associate, preaching the imminent coming of Messiah). In a dream, Molcho (still named Pires) was commanded to circumcise himself, which, it is said, he did while alone that very night. He passed out and very nearly bled to death. Upon awakening, the story continues, he manifested a deep and broad knowledge of the Hebrew language and the Torah. Adopting the name Shlomo Molcho, he went to Salonika to study under Rabbi Yosef Taitatzak, also meeting Yosef Karo and Shlomo Alkabetz. Molcho was the author of *Sefer ha-Mefo'ar*, a collection of twenty-two kabbalistic essays on the concept of *t'shuvah*. Holy Roman Emperor Charles V had him and Reuveni arrested in Regensburg, Germany, charging them with "heresy" for their Messianic preaching. Reuveni was sent to prison in Spain. Molcho was offered his freedom if he would cease his preaching and return to Christianity; he refused, choosing a martyr's death. He proclaimed the *Sh'ma* as he was burned at the stake by the Inquisition in Mantova, Italy. (15 Tevet 5293, 13 December 1532, according to the Julian calendar then in use)



Hillula of Rebbe Rafael of Bershad, disciple of Rebbe Pinchas of Koretz. Rebbe Rafael, it is said, was so devoted to absolute truth that, when asked, "Are you Rabbi Rafael of Bershad," he replied, "I believe that I am." (15 Tevet 5588, 21 December 1827, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Faith demands action, and prayer is the spontaneous response of the believer.
—Marshall T. Meyer

Hillula of U.S. Conservative Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer, pictured at right. After meeting Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, Rabbi Meyer enrolled in the rabbinic program at Jewish Theological Seminary, New York. After his ordination in 1958, he accepted a position as assistant rabbi at the Congregación Israelita de la República Argentina in Buenos Aires. He founded the Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano, a rabbinical school that became the center of Conservative Judaism in Latin America. Rabbi Meyer also founded and led Comunidad Bet El, a congregation that became a model for many other Conservative synagogues in Argentina and throughout Latin America. Rabbi Meyer was a strong critic of Argentina's military government of 1976-1982 and of its violations of human rights. He worked to save the lives of hundreds of people who were persecuted by the regime, and he visited prisoners in jails, among them journalist Jacobo Timerman, who dedicated his book, *Prisoner Without A Name, Cell Without A Number*, to the rabbi, for his having "brought



solace to Jewish, Christian, and atheist prisoners.” In 1983, when democracy returned to Argentina, the newly elected president, Raúl Alfonsín, awarded him the Medal of San Martín, Argentina’s highest civilian decoration,. He returned to the United States in 1984, accepting a position as rabbi of Congregation B’nai Jeshurun in New York, where he became a major figure in interfaith work and in pursuing peace in the Middle East. (15 Tevet 5754, 29 December 1993)

When they speak about 'We the people,' we the people have to have a voice. It can't just be the establishment voice.
–Haskell Wexler

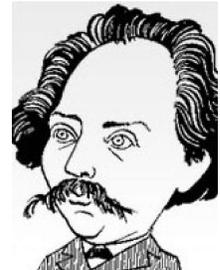


Hillula of U.S. cinematographer Haskell Wexler, pictured at right. Wexler received the last Oscar awarded for black-and-white cinematography, for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* in 1966. He received a second Oscar in 1976 for *Bound for Glory*. Wexler was the cinematographer of *In the Heat of the Night* in 1967. He was the first Hollywood cinematographer to realize that standard film lighting tended to produce too much glare on dark-complected African-Americans, such as Sidney Poitier, rendering their features indistinct. Accordingly, he toned down the lighting to feature Poitier, with far better photographic results. In a 2003 survey of the members of the International Cinematographers Guild, Wexler was named one of the ten most influential cinematographers in the history of motion pictures. In 1993, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Cinematographers, the first active cameraman to be so honored. In 1996, he was became the first cinematographer in thirty-five years to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. In 2007, he received Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the Independent Documentary Association and the Society of Operating Cameramen. In September 2016, George Lucas created the Haskell Wexler Endowed Chair in Documentary at the USC School of Cinematic Arts. (15 Tevet 5776, 27 December 2015)



Hillula of U.S. anthropologist Sidney Mintz, pictured at right. Known especially for his study of the anthropology of food, he was the author of *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History* and was known as the “father of food anthropology.” (15 Tevet 5776, 27 December 2015)

Hillula of Belgian-born U.S. mathematician Elias M. Stein. When he was nine years old, Nazi Germany overran Belgium, and Stein’s family fled to the United States. Stein arrived in New York with diamonds in his shoes; his father, a diamond merchant, had hidden them there. He was attracted to mathematics in high school and went on to earn his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and doctorate at the University of Chicago. Stein taught at Princeton University for almost fifty years; two of his students – Charles Fefferman (in 1978) and Terence Tao (in 2006) – were recipients of the Fields Medal, an award given every four years to two, three, or four mathematicians under the age of forty and considered to be the mathematicians’ equivalent of the Nobel Prize. Stein was a pioneer in the field of harmonic analysis, a discipline that breaks complex mathematical functions into a spectrum of simple components. The basic principles of harmonic analysis had been used for years in analyzing the orbits of planets and the vibration of strings (especially stringed musical instruments); Stein demonstrated that a similar approach could be applied to other problems and reveal hidden structures and patterns, any phenomenon that fluctuates. The best known application is in analysis of the stock market. His work also enabled ways of compressing visual images and sound recordings. Stein was a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; he received the National Medal of Science in 2002. (15 Tevet 5779, 23 December 2018)



I was not looking for my dreams to interpret my life, but rather for my life to interpret my dreams.
–Susan Sontag

16 Tevet

Hillula of Hungarian-born Viennese composer Karl Goldmark, originally, in the Hungarian style, with the family name preceding the individual name, Goldmark Károly, pictured at right above. (16 Tevet 5675, 2 January 1915)

Hillula of U.S. writer Susan Sontag, pictured at right. (16 Tevet 5765, 28 December 2004)



17 Tevet

Hillula of Ya’akov Kranz, the Maggid of Dubno. (17 Tevet 5565, 19 December 1804)

Prayer is not a device to arouse G*d, to make G*d aware of us and our needs. The true purpose of prayer is to arouse us, to keep us aware of our obligations – toward our community, our people, our G*d, and even toward ourselves. Prayer is a means of keeping us spiritually alert and morally awake.
–Ya’akov Kranz of Dubno

Hillula of U.S. scientist Julius Axelrod, pictured at near right, 1970 Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine. (17 Tevet 5765, 29 December 2004)



Hillula of Italian neurologist Rita Levi-Montalcini, pictured at far right. Levi-Montalcini shared the 1986 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine with Stanley Cohen for their discovery of Nerve Growth Factor. She was the first Nobel laureate to reach the age of one hundred. Levi-Montalcini received her MD Summa Cum Laude in 1936 from the University of Turin, then remained at the university as lab assistant to her mentor, neurohistologist Giuseppe Levi. Her academic career was cut short by Benito Mussolini's 1938 Manifesto of Race and the subsequent introduction of laws barring Jews from academic and professional careers. With the assistance of her brother, architect Gino Levi-Montalcini, she set up a secret laboratory in her bedroom, where she studied the growth of nerve fibers in chicken embryos, laying the groundwork for much of her later research. When Germany invaded northern Italy in 1943, the Levi-Montalcini family left their home in Turin and moved south to Florence, returning to Turin in 1945. In September 1946, she received a one-semester research fellowship under Professor Viktor Hamburger at Washington University in St. Louis. After she duplicated the results of her home laboratory experiments, Hamburger offered her a research associate position, which she held for thirty years. An Italian Senator for Life, she was also a member of the United States National Academy of Sciences. Levi-Montalcini's twin sister Paola was a well-respected painter. (17 Tevet 5773, 30 December 2012)



Above all, do not fear difficult moments. The best comes from them.
-Rita Levi-Montalcini

18 Tevet

Hillula of the Talmudic sage Rav Huna bar Mar Zutra. (18 Tevet 4230, 7 January 470, according to the Julian calendar then in use, according to Sherira Gaon)

Hillula of Rebbe Tzvi Elimelekh of Dinov. Rebbe Tzvi Elimelekh's mother was the niece of Rebbe Elimelekh of Lizensk. Rebbe Tzvi Elimelech was a disciple of Rebbe Ya'akov Yitzhak, the Seer, of Lublin and was the author of *B'nai Yissachar*, so titled in response to the Seer's telling him that he was of the tribe of Yissachar. He also had a special connection with Hanukkah, reflecting the tradition that the Sanhedrin of the Maccabean Era included many members of the tribe of Yissachar. (18 Tevet 5602, 31 December 1841)

Hillula of Swiss-born French tragedienne Eliza Rachel Félix. (18 Tevet 5618, 4 January 1858)
Birth of Rebbe Yoel Teitelbaum of Satmar, pictured at right. (18 Tevet 5647, 14 January 1887)



Hillula of Henry N. Jaffa, first mayor of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Born in Germany in 1846, Jaffa emigrated to the United States as a youth, then moved west after the Civil War, establishing several stores in southern Colorado. He expanded his enterprise to Las Vegas, New Mexico, in 1879 and to Albuquerque in 1882. When Wyatt Earp and his posse passed through Albuquerque during the 1882 Earp Vendetta Ride, Jaffa hosted Earp. Jaffa was one of the organizers of the first synagogue in New Mexico, Congregation Albert, and served in 1897 as its first president. (18 Tevet 5661, 9 January 1901)

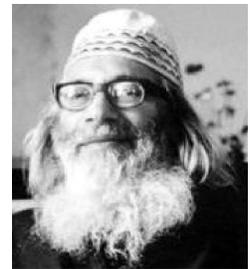
Hillula of Rabbi Moshe Chalfon of Djerba, city highlighted in map of Tunisia at right. Rabbi Chalfon was the author of *Sho'el v'Nish'al* and *Brit K'huna*. (18 Tevet 5710, 7 January 1950)



Hillula of German-born U.S. pharmacologist and psychobiologist Otto Loewi. Loewi received the 1936 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, sharing it with Sir Henry Dale, for their discovery of acetylcholine. Educated in Germany, Loewi accepted a position in Graz, Austria, in 1903, remaining there for more than three decades. With the Anschluss, on 12 March 1938, he and two of his sons were arrested. They were released, but only on condition that all their possessions, including their research, be "relinquished" to the Nazis. By 1940, Loewi had emigrated to the United States and accepted a position at New York University's College of Medicine. In 1946, he became a citizen of the United States. (18 Tevet 5722, 25 December 1961)

Hillula of Polish-born U.S. writer Nathan Asch, son of writer Sholem Asch and brother of folk music impresario Moses Asch. His father brought the family to the United States in 1912, when Nathan was ten years old. In 1923, Nathan moved to Paris, where he met, among others, Ernest Hemingway, who encouraged and mentored him. Three of Asch's stories were published in the *Transatlantic Review*, published by Ford Madox Ford with assistance from Ezra Pound and Hemingway. Most of his works, like his father's, were included in the Nazi bookburning of 10 May 1933. His last novel, *The Road: In Search of America*, was published in New York in 1937. (18 Tevet 5725, 23 December 1964)

If you don't have the dishes done, don't bother coming to meetings.
-Sam Lewis



Hillula of U.S. Sufi teacher Murshid Sam (Samuel L.) Lewis, pictured at right. (18 Tevet 5731, 15 January 1971)

Hillula of Polish-born U.S. Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, pictured at near right. (18 Tevet 5733, 23 December 1972)

Hillula of U.S. rabbi and educator Sylvan Schwartzman. (18 Tevet 5754, 1 January 1994)

Hillula of U.S. clarinetist Artie Shaw, pictured at far right. (18 Tevet 5756, 30 December 2004)

Hillula of U.S. theoretical physicist Roy Jay Glauber. Born in New York City, Glauber graduated from Bronx High School of Science at age fifteen. At age eighteen, after his sophomore year at Harvard University, he was recruited to work on the Manhattan Project, returning to Harvard two years later to complete his bachelor's degree and, three years after that, his PhD. He shared the 2005 Nobel Prize in Physics "for his contribution to the quantum theory of optical coherence." His work explained the properties of the coherent light of the laser. For many years before winning his Nobel Prize, Glauber was familiar to audiences of the Ig Nobel Prize ceremonies, where he took a bow each year as "Keeper of the Broom," sweeping the stage clean of the paper airplanes that have traditionally been thrown during the event. He served on the National Advisory Board of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, the research arm of the Council for a Livable World. In addition to his Nobel Prize, he was awarded the 1985 Albert A. Michelson Medal from the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, the 1985 Max Born Award from the Optical Society of America, and the 1996 Dannie Heineman Prize for Mathematical Physics from the American Physical Society. In 1997, he was elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society. In 2008, he received the *Medalla de Oro* from the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientifica in Madrid. (18 Tevet 5779, 26 December 2019)



*G-d is present wherever
[people] are afflicted.
-Abraham Joshua Heschel*

19 Tevet

Hillula of Rabbi Avraham Shmuel Benjamin Sofer, the *K'tav Sofer*, son of Rabbi Moshe Sofer (the *Hatam Sofer*) and Sarah (the daughter of Rabbi Akiva Eiger). He was born Shmuel Benjamin Sofer; "Avraham" was added to his name when he fell deathly ill at age six. The physicians gave up, and they told his father that nothing but his prayers could help. The *Hatam Sofer* went into the corner where his manuscripts were kept and uttered a short prayer. Moments later, the child was heard screaming the *Sh'ma*, and he recovered from his illness. He succeeded his father as rabbi of Pressburg and head of the yeshivah there, and he was succeeded in turn by his son, Rabbi Simcha Bunam Sofer, known as the *Shevet Sofer*. (19 Tevet 5632, 31 December 1871)

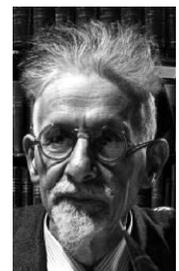


20 Tevet

Hillula of Maimonides, pictured on Israel 1-shekel note at right, author of the *Mishnah Torah* (the first systematic code of Jewish law) and the *Guide for the Perplexed*, personal physician to the Sultan of Egypt, and leader of the Egyptian Jewish community (20 Tevet 4965, 13 December 1204, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Moroccan kabbalist Rabbi Ya'akov Abuhatzera, pictured at near right, grandfather of the Baba Sali. While attempting to make aliyah, he journeyed through Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya. While passing through the Nile Delta city of Damanhour, he became ill and passed from this world. His grave in Damanhour remains a place of pilgrimage. (20 Tevet 5640, 4 January 1880)

The risk of a wrong decision is preferable to the terror of indecision.
-Maimonides



Hillula of German-born U.S. historian Alexander Marx, pictured at far right. Marx studied at the University of Berlin and at the Rabbiner-Seminar (Rabbinic Seminary) in Berlin. His wife, Hannah, was the daughter of Rabbi David Zvi Hoffmann, rector of the Seminary. In 1903, Marx accepted Solomon Schechter's invitation to teach history at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (New York) and be its librarian. Marx's brother Moses was also a librarian; his sister Esther was the wife of 1966 Nobel laureate in literature S. Y. Agnon. (20 Tevet 5714, 26 December 1953)

Hillula of U.S. coloratura soprano Roberta Peters, born Roberta Peterman. When Peterman (she shortened her name later, at the suggestion of her voice teacher) was thirteen, her grandfather, the maitre d'hotel at Grossinger's, asked Jan Peerce, who was appearing there, to hear her sing. Peerce sent her to study under legendary voice teacher William Herman. Mentored by Sol Hurok, Peters auditioned for Rudolf Bing of the Metropolitan Opera when she was nineteen. Bing had her repeat her audition aria four times, bringing three of the top conductors of the Met (unbeknownst to Peters) to hear her, and he signed her to a contract. Scheduled to make her debut in January 1951 as the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, she was called two months earlier to fill in as Zerlina in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* when the soprano Nadine Conner, who had been scheduled to sing the part, fell ill. With no

time for rehearsal, she performed to rave reviews. For years, her weekly regimen included not only voice and foreign language lessons – she sang in English, French, German, and Italian – but also instruction in ballet, acting, and fencing, as well as a strength and conditioning program under the direct supervision of Joseph Pilates, the originator of the Pilates exercise method. From her teens, Pilates helped to strengthen her abdominal muscles, vital to an opera singer, by standing on her stomach; he weighed 174 pounds, she 119. Peters married Robert Merrill in March 1952, only to divorce him three months later, explaining that she had fallen in love with the voice, not with the man; they remained life-long friends. (20 Tevet 5777, 18 January 2017)

21 Tevet

Traditional birth date and hillula of Simeon, son of the Patriarch Jacob. (21 Tevet)

Hillula of Rabbi Yehudah Leib of Polnoy. (21 Tevet 5530, 18 January 1770)

Hillula of Jack Leon Ruby. Ruby, born Jacob Leonard Rubenstein in Chicago, was a nightclub owner in Dallas. Two days after the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy, Ruby made his way into the police station where the assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, was in custody and shot Oswald at point-blank range. Ruby was convicted of the murder of Oswald and sentenced to death. On appeal, he was granted a new trial; while he was in jail awaiting the setting of a date for his new trial, he suffered a fatal pulmonary embolism. (21 Tevet 5727, 3 January 1967)

Hillula of Russian-born Sonia Greene, wife of U.S. horror author H. P. Lovecraft. Greene was born in the Russian Empire, but the exact location is unclear; it was either Ichnia, Ukraine, or Konotop, in the Chernikov province. Her birth name was either Sonia Haft Shafirkin or Sonia Shafirkin Haft. In her childhood, she lost her father. Her mother then left Russia for the United States, leaving Sonia at the Baron Maurice de Hirsch School in London. Sonia, then nine years old, joined her mother in Saint Louis in 1892. At age sixteen, she married Samuel Greene, also a Russian émigré. He died, apparently by his own hand, in 1916, leaving Sonia with their fourteen-year-old daughter Florence Carol Greene, the journalist (as Carol Weld) who first proposed the theory that King Edward VIII of England abdicated his throne not because of his marriage to Wallis Warfield Simpson (a twice-divorced American) but primarily because the Conservative government of Winston Churchill objected to the king's pro-Nazi stance. Weld was also a collaborator with Frank Buck on his book *Animals Are Like That*. (21 Tevet 5733, 26 December 1972)

Hillula of Galician-born U.S. physicist Isidor Isaac Rabi (born Israel Isaac Rabi), pictured at right. Rabi was brought to the United States as a baby and was raised on New York's Lower East Side. He entered Cornell University as an electrical engineering student, but soon switched to chemistry and later to physics. He received his doctorate from Columbia University; his dissertation explored the magnetic susceptibility of certain crystals. His techniques for using nuclear magnetic

You do an experiment because your own philosophy makes you want to know the result. It's too hard, and life is too short, to spend your time doing something because someone else has said it's important. You must feel the thing yourself – feel that it will change your outlook and your way of life.
–Isidor Isaac Rabi



resonance to discern the magnetic moment and nuclear spin of atoms earned him the 1944 Nobel Prize for Physics. Nuclear magnetic resonance became an important tool for nuclear physics and chemistry; the later development of magnetic resonance imaging made it important to medicine as well. In addition to the Nobel Prize, Rabi received the Elliott Cresson Medal in 1942, the Medal for Merit and the King's Medal for Service in the Cause of Freedom in 1948, Columbia University's Barnard Medal for Meritorious Service to Science in 1960, the Niels Bohr International Gold Medal and the Atoms for Peace Award in 1967, the Oersted Medal from the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1982, the Four Freedoms Award from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the Public Welfare Medal from the National Academy of Sciences in 1985, and the Vannevar Bush Award from the National Science Foundation in 1986. He was a Fellow of the American Physical Society, serving as its President in 1950, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was internationally recognized with membership in the Japan Academy and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, and in 1959 he was appointed a member of the Board of Governors of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. (21 Tevet 5748, 11 January 1988)

22 Tevet

Hillula of Rabbi Hillel ben Naftali Hertz. Rabbi Hertz was born in 1615 in Brisk (Brest, Belarus, formerly known as Brest-Litowsk). Brest-Litowsk is one of the oldest cities in Belarus; it is mentioned in the *Tale of Bygone Years* (also called the *Russian Primary Chronicle*), the earliest reliable history of the Kievan Rus, compiled about 1113, as having been taken by the Kievan Rus from the Poles in 1019. In the 1650s and 1660s, Rabbi Hertz served on the Bet Din of Moshe ben Yitzhak Yehudah Lima in Vilna, where he was among the signatories to a ruling that women could not be deprived of their right to oppose divorce against their will. In 1666, he accepted the position of rabbi of Altona and Hamburg, where he remained until he was called to lead the community in Zolkiev (Zhovkva), Ukraine. Rabbi Hertz was the author of two works titled *Bet Hillel*. One was a commentary on the Shulkhan Arukh, the other a homiletic and mystical commentary on the Torah. (22 Tevet 5450, 3 January 1690)

Hillula of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, pictured at right. Goldberg, a prominent labor lawyer, helped arrange the merger of the AFL and the CIO in 1955. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy named Goldberg Secretary of Labor; a year later, Kennedy named him to the Supreme Court to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Felix Frankfurter. In 1965, Goldberg left the court when President Lyndon Johnson named him ambassador to the United Nations. Goldberg was a featured speaker at the Moratorium to End the War in Vietnam in October 1969. After he was defeated by Nelson Rockefeller in New York's gubernatorial election in 1970, he served as President of the American Jewish Committee. In 1978, Goldberg received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. (22 Tevet 5750, 19 January 1990)

Law not served by power is an illusion; but power not ruled by law is a menace which our nuclear age cannot afford.

—Arthur J. Goldberg



23 Tevet

Hillula of Canadian-born U.S. Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer. (23 Tevet 5744, 29 December 1983)

Hillula of Belgian resistance fighter Régine Orfinger Karlin, pictured at near right. (23 Tevet 5763, 28 December 2002)

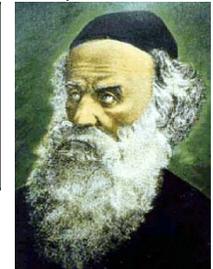


24 Tevet

Hillula of Polish-born U.S. revolutionary Haym Salomon, honored by 1975 U.S. postage stamp pictured at far right. Salomon's ancestors left Portugal in the Expulsion of 1497. Salomon, a member of the Sons of Liberty, was the principal financier of the American Revolution. He was arrested by the British in September 1776 as a spy, then released after eighteen months of captivity and torture aboard a British warship. The British had used him as a translator for their Hessian mercenaries, and he used his position to help prisoners of the British escape and to encourage the Hessians to desert. Arrested again in 1778, he was sentenced to death, but he escaped and made his way to Philadelphia with his family. (24 Tevet 5545, 6 January 1785)

*If one appreciated that the matter which provoked one's anger came from G*d, one would accept it without question. Why does someone become upset? Because s/he does not think about G*d and is preoccupied with one's own concerns.*

—Schneur Zalman of Lyadi

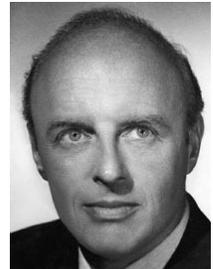


Hillula of Rebbe Schneur Zalman of Lyadi, the "Alter Rebbe," pictured at right. Rebbe Schneur Zalman, who was a student of Rebbe Dov Baer, the Maggid of Mezeritz, successor to the Baal Shem Tov as leader of the Hassidim, was the one who brought Hassidism to Lithuania. The founder of Habad/Lubavitch Hassidism, the Alter Rebbe was the author of the *Tanya* and the *Shulchan Aruch ha'Rav*. All subsequent rebbes of the Lubavitch tradition were his descendants. (24 Tevet 5573, 15 December 1812, according to the Julian calendar then in use)

Hillula of Rebbe Shmuel Bornstein of Sochachow, author of *Shem mi'Shmuel*. Rebbe Shmuel was the son of the Sochachower Rebbe, Abraham Bornstein, the grandson of Rebbe Menahem Mendel of Kotzk, and a disciple of Rebbe Hanoah Henich of Alexander. When the Rebbe of Alexander returned his holy soul to its Creator, Rebbe Shmuel's father became the Rebbe. After his father's passing, Rebbe Shmuel succeeded him as Rebbe. (24 Tevet 5686, 10 January 1926)

We listen too much to the telephone and too little to nature. The wind is one of my sounds. A lonely sound, perhaps, but soothing.

—Andre Kostelanetz



Hillula of Russian-born U.S. orchestra conductor Andre Kostelanetz, pictured at right. (24 Tevet 5740, 13 January 1980)

Hillula of Rebbe Moshe Mordecai Biederman of Lelov. The son of Rabbi Shim'on Nathan Nota Biederman, Rebbe Moshe Mordecai was born in Jerusalem. After his mother's passing, his father moved to Poland, leaving the ten-year-old Moshe Mordecai in the care of his grandfather. When the latter passed from this life five years later, Moshe Mordecai made his way to Europe, becoming a student in the Radomsker community of Cracow. He remained in Poland virtually until the onset of World War II, settling in Tel Aviv in 1944. (24 Tevet 5747, 25 January 1987)

Hillula of U.S. cartoonist Will Eisner, born William Erwin Eisner. Eisner was one of the earliest cartoonists to work in the American comic book industry, and his series *The Spirit* (1940-1952) was noted for its experiments in content and form. He was an early contributor to formal comics studies with his 1985 book *Comics and Sequential Art*. The Eisner Award, given to recognize achievements each year in the comics medium, was named in his honor. He was one of the three inaugural inductees to the Comic Book Hall of Fame. Eisner's mother was born aboard a ship bound for the United States. Eisner himself was born on his father's thirty-first birthday. Bob Kane (born Robert Kahn), the creator of *Batman*, was a high school friend of Eisner's. Eisner was drafted into the Army in 1942 and served until 1945. While he was in the Army, he turned *The Spirit* over to his assistants, especially to his most

trusted assistant, Jules Feiffer, later a renowned cartoonist, satirist, playwright, and screenwriter in his own right. Eisner took back the comic when he left the Army. During his military service, Eisner developed comic strips for training personnel, creating the cautionary bumbling soldier Joe Dope, who illustrated methods of preventive maintenance of various military equipment and weapons. In the 1970s, he turned from comics to graphic novels, combining thematically linked short stories into a single square-bound volume. Eisner received the National Cartoonists Society's Comic Book Award for 1967, 1968, 1969, 1987, and 1988, as well as its Story Comic Book Award in 1979 and its Reuben Award in 1998. He was inducted into the Academy of Comic Book Arts Hall of Fame in 1971 and the Jack Kirby Hall of Fame in 1987. In 1988, the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards were established in his honor. In 1975, he received the second Grand Prix de la ville d'Angoulême. In 2015, Eisner was posthumously elected to the Society of Illustrators Hall of Fame. (22 Tevet 5765, 3 January 2005)

Hillula of Polish-born star of the U.S. Yiddish theater Mina Bern, pictured at near right. (24 Tevet 5770, 10 January 2010)

25 Tevet

Hillula of Austrian cantor and composer Salomon Sulzer, pictured at middle right. (25 Tevet 5650, 17 January 1890)

Hillula of Bavarian-born Idaho Governor Moses Alexander, pictured at far right, the first elected Jewish governor of a U.S. state. (25 Tevet 5692, 4 January 1932)

Hillula of U.S. cantor and operatic tenor Richard Tucker pictured at near right. (25 Tevet 5735, 8 January 1975)

Hillula of U.S.-born Australian and British pianist Hepzibah Menuhin, pictured at middle right, sister of violinist Yehudi Menuhin and of pianist, painter, and poet Yaltah Menuhin. (25 Tevet 5741, 1 January 1981)

Hillula of Russian-born U.S. photographer Roman Vishniac, pictured at far right. Vishniac is best known for his photographic record of the pre-Holocaust culture of the Jews of Central and Eastern Europe. A major archive of his work is maintained at the International Center of Photography (New York). In addition to his photography, Vishniac was an accomplished biologist, an art collector, and a teacher of art history. He made significant scientific contributions to photo-microscopy and time-lapse photography. Born in his grandparents' dacha outside St. Petersburg, Vishniac, with his family, moved to Berlin in 1918 to avoid the anti-Bolshevik anti-Semitism that was spreading in Russia. Seventeen years later, with Nazi anti-Semitism growing in Germany, Vishniac was commissioned by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) to photograph Jewish communities in Eastern Europe, a project which continued for three years. In 1940, he was arrested by Marshall Petain's regime in Paris and held for some three months until the JDC arranged an exit visa that brought him through Lisbon to New York. (25 Tevet 5750, 22 January 1990)

Hillula of U.S. journalist Bernard Redmont, born Bernard Sidney Rothenberg. Redmont was accused of Communist sympathies during the era of the McCarthy madness and, as a result, was fired by his employer, *U.S. News* (the forerunner of *U.S. News and World Report*). He eventually became a correspondent for the Westinghouse Broadcasting Company, and his coverage of the peace talks to end the Vietnam War won the 1968 Overseas Press Club award for best radio reporting from abroad. In 1981, he accepted a position as professor of journalism at Boston University; a year later, he was named dean of the university's College of Communications. (25 Tevet 5777, 23 January 2017)

26 Tevet

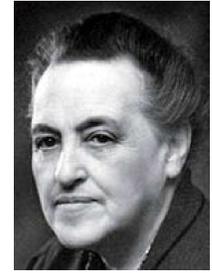
Publication of the Prague Haggadah, the first printed illustrated Haggadah. Printing using movable type was invented in China by an alchemist named Bi Sheng in the eleventh century, but it remained a cumbersome process, both because of the complexities of Asian writing systems (Chinese, Korean and Japanese writing systems included thousands of characters, each of which had to be cut individually for movable printing) and because the inking and printing were done by hand. The Western alphabets, with only about two dozen letters (the exact number varying from one language to another) proved more amenable to movable type. In 1439, German goldsmith Johannes Gutenberg devised and built the first mechanical printing press in 1439, bringing together a process for mass-producing movable type, the use of oil-based ink for printing books, adjustable molds, mechanical movable type, and of a wooden printing press similar to the agricultural screw presses of the period, enabling the mass production of printed books at a reasonable cost. The first printing press in Prague was established in 1487, and the Prague Haggadah was published by brothers Gershom and Gronom Katz in 1526. (26 Tevet 5287, 30 December 1526,



according to the Julian Calendar then in use)

We cannot worship with our parents' hearts. —Lily Montagu

Hillula of Rabbi Yosef ben Shaul Escapa of Izmir. His surname, Escapa, may point to his having been born in Skopje, North Macedonia (then within the Ottoman Empire). He was a teacher of Shabbetai Zvi, but became his first declared opponent, and he was the rabbi who first excommunicated him. (26 Tevet 5422, 7 January 1662, according to the Julian calendar then in use)



Hillula of Rebbe Hillel of Radoshitz. (26 Tevet 5661, 17 January 1901)

Hillula of Martin Behrman, pictured at near right, longest-serving mayor in the history of New Orleans. (26 Tevet 5686, 12 January 1926)

Hillula of Lily Montagu, pictured at far right above. She was the daughter of Samuel Montagu, 1st Baron Swaythling; the sister of Edwin Samuel Montagu; and the cousin of Herbert Samuel, 1st Viscount Samuel. She was a founder of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, and, after the retirement of Leo Baeck, Montagu, by then over eighty years of age, served from 1955 to 1959 as its president. She was succeeded as president by Solomon Freehof. (26 Tevet 5723, 22 January 1963)

Hillula of U.S. labor leader Morris "Moe" Foner, pictured at near right. (26 Tevet 5762, 10 January 2002)



27 Tevet

Hillula of Rabbi Moshe Tzvi of Safran. (27 Tevet 5598, 24 January 1838)

Hillula of German Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, pictured at far right. (27 Tevet 5649, 31 December 1888)

Hillula of German-born British physicist and mathematician Max Born. Born was born in Breslau, Germany (now Wrocław, Poland). Teaching at the university in Göttingen, he mentored such luminaries as Max Delbrück, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and Victor Weisskopf, and he counted Enrico Fermi, Werner Heisenberg, Wolfgang Pauli, Edward Teller, and Eugene Wigner among his lab assistants. Born was instrumental in the development of quantum mechanics and also made significant contributions to solid-state physics and optics. Suspended after the Nazis came to power in 1933, Born emigrated to Great Britain, where he taught, first at St. John's College, Cambridge, and then at the University of Edinburgh. He became a naturalized British subject in 1939. In 1952, he retired from Edinburgh and moved back to Germany. Born had worked with Werner Heisenberg and Pascual Jordan in developing quantum mechanics. Albert Einstein, despite his misgivings about quantum physics ("Quantum mechanics is certainly imposing. But an inner voice tells me that it is not yet the real thing. The theory says a lot, but does not really bring us any closer to the secret of the 'Old One.' I, at any rate, am convinced that He is not playing at dice."), nominated them in 1928 for the Nobel Prize in Physics. The Nobel Committee chose to award the prize (in 1932) only to Heisenberg. In 1933, Born received a letter from Heisenberg acknowledging that Born and Jordan had deserved to share in the prize. The Nobel Committee finally awarded Born the 1954 Nobel Prize in Physics for "fundamental research in Quantum Mechanics, especially in the statistical interpretation of the wave function." (27 Tevet 5730, 5 January 1970)

If someone is too tired to give you a smile, leave one of your own, because no one needs a smile as much as those who have none to give.

—Samson Raphael Hirsch

What counts in life usually cannot be counted.

—Robert Gordis

Hillula of U.S. Rabbi Robert Gordis, founder of the first day school of the Conservative movement. (27 Tevet 5752, 3 January 1992)

Hillula of U.S. attorney Adam Yarmolinsky. The son of Babette Deutsch and Avrahm Yarmolinsky, he received his law degree from Yale Law School and clerked for Chief Judge Charles E. Clark of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and for Supreme Court Justice Stanley F. Reed. An aide to Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, he was an early critic of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. After his service in the U.S. government, Yarmolinsky taught, as Regent's Professor of Public Policy, at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where he also served as provost. In the mid-1970s, he held the Ralph Waldo Emerson Professorship at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He was a founding member of the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. (27 Tevet 5760, 5 January 2000)

The less their ability, the more their conceit. —Ahad Ha'am



28 Tevet

Hillula of Rabbi Berachia Beirich ben Yitzhak Isaac Shapira (28 Tevet 5424, 26 January 1664)

Hillula of Ukranian-born Hebrew essayist Ahad Ha'am, pictured at right. He was born Asher Zvi Hirsch Ginsberg, the son of a Hassidic family in Skvira, near Kyiv (then called Kiev), in what was then Russian-governed territory. (28 Tevet 5687, 2 January 1927)

29 Tevet

Hillula of German-born Rabbi Nathan Marcus Adler, pictured at right. Rabbi Adler was born in Hanover, Germany, when Hanover was under British crown rule and was thus, although born and educated in Germany, a British subject from birth. The first university-educated Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, he served in that position for more than forty years, to be succeeded by his younger son, Hermann Adler. (29 Tevet 5650, 21 January 1890)



Hillula of Russian-born (in Grodno, now within Belarus) Rabbi Yehoshua Leib Diskin. Rabbi Diskin's first wife, Hinda Rachel, was the daughter of a Rabbi Brode of Wolkowitz. They were the parents of Rabbi Yitzhak Yeruham Diskin of Jerusalem. His second wife, Sarah, known as the "Brisker Rebbitzin," was a descendant of Rabbi Yehezkel Landau, the "Nodeh b'Yehudah." Rabbi Diskin served as rabbi in Łomża, Mezeritz, Kovno, Shklov, and Brisk before emigrating to Palestine in 1878. Offered a prestigious position in New York, Rabbi Diskin declined, in order to

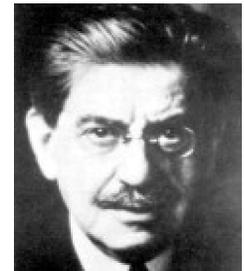
Rabbi Yehoshua Leib Diskin was walking in Jerusalem with several of his disciples when they came upon a Muslim prostrating in prayer. Rabbi Diskin stopped and did not continue walking until the Muslim had completed his prayers.

The rabbi's disciples asked why he had paused? "It was just Muslim prayer," they said.

"You mean," replied Rabbi Diskin in astonishment, "you did not see the Sh'khinah hovering above his head?" Rabbi Diskin asked them.

He established a yeshivah, Ohel Moshe, in Jerusalem, and, with some 40,000 rubles brought into the marriage by Rebbitzin Sarah, he founded the Diskin Orphanage. Rabbi Diskin, fearing that nationalism would vitiate Orthodox Jewish practice, was an uncompromising foe of the Zionist movement, even though he advocated emigration to Eretz Yisrael, emigrated there himself, and supported those who were building Jewish communities there. He also insisted on speaking Yiddish; when a questioner began to ask him a question in Hebrew, Rabbi Diskin banned him from his house, declaring that Yiddish would be the language spoken so long as the exile persisted. Rabbi Diskin is buried on the Mount of Olives; Y. L. Diskin Street in Jerusalem is named for him. (29 Tevet 5658, 22 January 1898, after sundown)

Hillula of Russian-born (in Pinsk, now within Belarus) English electronic engineer Isaac Shoenberg, pictured at right, inventor of the world's first high-definition television system. (29 Tevet 5723, 25 January 1963)



Hillula of Ukrainian-born (in Savran, Podolia, then within the Russian Empire) Brazilian novelist Elisa Lispector, elder sister of novelist Clarice Lispector. When she was nine years of age her parents emigrated to Brazil, dwelling briefly in Maceió before settling in Recife. When her mother passed from this life in 1930, nineteen-year-old Elisa, as the eldest daughter, became a substitute mother to her sisters, fifteen-year-old Tania and ten-year-old Clarice, dividing her time between school, house chores, and caring for them while their father worked. In 1934, the family moved to Rio de Janeiro, and Lispector entered the School of Sociology at the Faculdade Nacional de Filosofia. Her first novel, *Além da fronteira* (*Beyond the Frontier*), was published in 1945. Her novels and short stories, noted for their flowing poetic style, focus largely on solitude, failed human efforts at communication, introspective environments, and unfulfilled desires. In 1964, Lispector was awarded both the José Lins do Rego Prize and the Coelho Neto Prize of the Brazilian Academy of Letters for the novel *O Muro de pedras* (*The Stone Wall*). In her 1948 novel *No Exílio* (*The Exile*), is autobiographical. In it she describes the contingencies and tribulations suffered by a family – whose names are Portuguese adaptations of her name and those of her parents and sisters – fleeing from Russia, and their arrival and settlement in Brazil. (29 Tevet 5749, 6 January 1989)

Não, eu não quero mais ser o meu passado. Quero ser o meu futuro. I do not want to be my past any longer; I want to be my future. –Elisa Lispector

It is nice to know that the Computer understands the problem. But I would like to understand it, too.

–Eugene Wigner

Hillula of Hungarian-born U.S. physicist Eugene Wigner. Born Wigner Jenő Pál in Budapest (with the family name preceding the given name, in the Hungarian style), Wigner attended the secondary school Fasori Evangélikus Gimnázium, of which his father was an alumnus. Mathematician John von Neumann attended the same school, one year behind Wigner. When Wigner was a teenager, his family fled to Austria to escape the Kun Béla communist regime in 1919. When Kun fell, they returned to Budapest. Reacting to the prominence of Jews in the Kun regime (Kun himself was Jewish), the family converted to Lutheranism, a decision which Wigner would later describe as "not at heart a religious decision but an anti-communist one." In 1921, he enrolled at the Technische Hochschule Berlin, where he studied chemical engineering. He also attended the Wednesday afternoon colloquia of the German Physical Society. These colloquia featured such luminaries as Max Planck, Max von Laue, Rudolf Ladenburg, Werner Heisenberg, Walther Nernst, Wolfgang Pauli, and Albert Einstein. While there, he met the physicist Szilárd Leó (known in the West as Leo Szilard), who at once became Wigner's closest friend. In 1930, Princeton University recruited Wigner and John von Neumann. It was at Princeton in 1934 that Wigner introduced his recently divorced younger sister Margit to English physicist and 1933 Nobel laureate Paul Dirac. Eventually, they married, and Dirac adopted her two children. Wigner shared the 1963 Nobel Prize in Physics "for his contributions to the theory of the atomic nucleus and the elementary particles,

particularly through the discovery and application of fundamental symmetry principles.” (29 Tevet 5755, 1 January 1995)

Hillula of Iraqi-born Jerusalem kabbalist Hacham Yitzhak Kadouri, pictured at near right, a student of the Ben Ish Hai. (29 Tevet 5766, 28 January 2006, after sunset)

Hillula of Argentine-born U.S. Rabbi Leon Klenicki, pictured at far right. (29 Tevet 5769, 25 January 2009)

Hillula of German novelist Edgar Hilsenrath. Hilsenrath was born in Leipzig. Just before Kristallnacht, his father fled to France, sending Edgar and his mother and brother to live with their family in Siret, Bukovina. Three years later, German-allied Romanian forces recaptured the area, and Hilsenrath and his family were deported to the Mohilev-Podolski ghetto in Transnistria (now part of Ukraine), from which they were liberated by forces of the Soviet Union in 1944. To avoid conscription into the Red Army, Hilsenrath fled to Palestine on forged documents. In 1951, he came to the United States. Although he eventually became a U.S. citizen, he returned to Germany in 1975, making Germany his home for the rest of his days. He explained that, living among people who spoke what was to him a foreign language, he had felt lost. Hilsenrath's 1971 novel *The Nazi and the Barber* tells the story of an SS officer and mass murderer who kills his Jewish best friend from childhood, assumes his identity, flees to Palestine and is transformed into an ardent Zionist. Many of his other novels were satirically autobiographical, but the Shoah was not his only subject. His 1989 novel *Das Märchen vom letzten Gedanken* (*The Story of the Last Thought*) takes as its subject the Armenian holocaust of 1915 as a paradigm of all genocides. This novel, which was translated into Armenian by Lili Ter-Minasyan and into English by Nivene Raafat, earned him the 1989 Alfred Döblin prize, presented to him by Günter Grass, the State Award for Literature of the Republic of Armenia, and an Honorary Doctorate from Yerevan State University in 2006. During his career, he was also the recipient of the Heinz Galinski Prize, the Hans Erich Nossack Prize, the Jakob Wassermann Literature Prize, the Hans Sahl Prize, and the Lion Feuchtwanger Prize. (29 Tevet 5779, 6 January 2019)

Hillula of Canadian-born (in Hamilton, Ontario) U.S. mathematician Louis Nirenberg. A fellow of the American Mathematical Society, Nirenberg was the recipient of many awards – the Bôcher Memorial Prize (1959), the Jeffery-Williams Prize (1987), the Steele Prize (1994 and 2014), and the National Medal of Science (1995). He was the inaugural recipient of both the Crafoord Prize (1982, shared with Vladimir Arnold) and the Chern Medal (2010). In 2015, he shared the Abel Prize (the mathematical equivalent of the Nobel Prizes) with John F. Nash, Jr., the mathematician whose life inspired the film *A Beautiful Mind*. Four days after the award of the prize, Nash and his wife perished in an automobile crash. Nirenberg's work was centered on partial differential equations, which describe the vibrating of strings and drums, the flow of heat, the movement of water, and many other physical phenomena. His doctoral research explored an unsolved geometry problem that had been posed three decades earlier by Hermann Weyl, a prominent German mathematician and physicist. “It's very unusual to assign a well-known open problem as a dissertation topic,” said Peter D. Lax, a longtime colleague of Nirenberg's at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences at New York University and also an Abel Prize winner. “And it's even more unusual for the candidate to solve it, but Louie did.”



Writing grotesqueries is my way of laughing at death.
-Edgar Hilsenrath