

# Hasidic Clothing

Our forefathers were redeemed from Egypt because of three things: They did not change their names, they did not change their language, and they did not change their attire. (Midrash Rabbah)

# Traditional



Medieval



©JewishEncyclopedia.com

Polish Jews



©JewishEncyclopedia.com

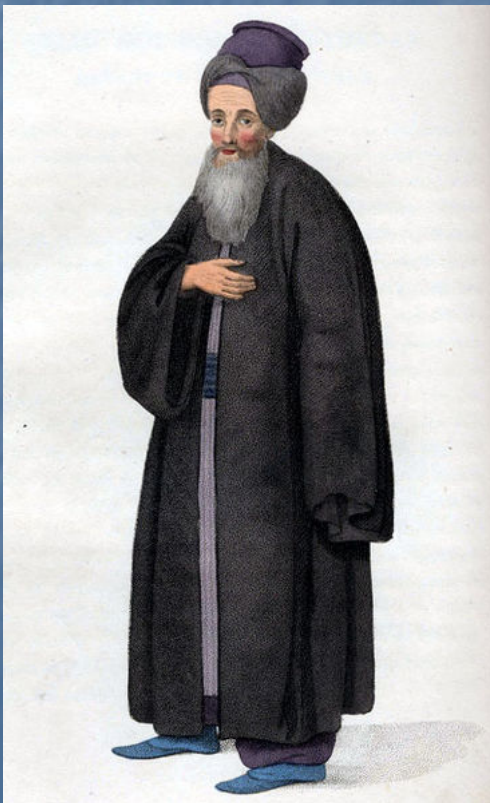
German Jew

# 18<sup>th</sup> Century European





©JewishEncyclopedia.com



Turkish Jew, 1779

1. France (c. 12th Cent.).
2. Germany (13th Cent.).
3. Germany Money-changer (12th Cent.).
4. Italy (14th Cent.).
5. Italy Merchant (14th Cent.).
6. France (14th Cent.).
7. Germany (15th Cent.).
8. and 9. Constance (1417.).
10. Holland? (15th Cent.).
11. Italy (15th 16th Cent.).
12. Switzerland (15th 16th Cent.).
13. Germany (Worms, 16th Cent.).
14. Germany (Nuremberg, 17th 18th Cent.).
15. Germany (Frankfort on the Main. 17th 18th Cent.).
16. Holland; Rabbi (c.1700).
17. Germany: Jew in Praying Allire (Fourth, Early 18th Cent.).
18. Germany (Fourth, Early 18th Cent.).
19. Turkey (18 Cent.).
20. Cochin (Early 19th Cent.).
21. Algiers (Early 19th Cent.).
22. Tunis (Modern.).
23. Tunis Jewess in Street Allire (Modern.).
24. Salonica (Modern).
25. Constantinople (c.1850.).
26. Jerusalem (Modern.).
27. Poland (18th 19th Cent.).
28. Russia (Early 19th Cent.).
29. Lithuania (Modern.).
30. Russia Karaite (c.1850.)

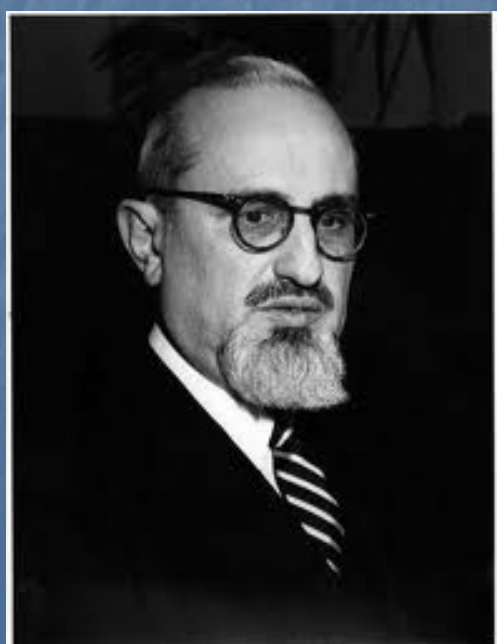
# Rembrandt's Jews 17<sup>th</sup> Century Netherlands



Rembrandt, "The Rabbi"



# Non-Chasidim



# Gezeirat HaMalbush

The Decree of the  
Clothing

# Russia

- 1772-1795
  - Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Rusa divided between Russia, Prussia, Austria
  - Many Jews now under Russian rule
    - attempts to assimilate them
- Alexander the First ruled 1801-1825
  - Modernizer
  - 1804 - Gezerat Ha-Punktin תיקון מצבם של היהודים





# Russia

54 chap.

- secular education for children
- merchants outside the Pale
- gvmt. workers
- move from towns to cities, forbidden to own inns, etc.

- **Nicholas I - 1825-1855**  
(younger brother)

- Cantonist decree
- Western European influence
  - Maskilim instigated the decree (1841)
    - dress
    - education
    - dropped, however (due to rabbinic opposition)



# Gezeirat HaMalbush

- Russia - five year transition period from Jewish to European style clothing
  - tax on long coats
    - age 10-60
  - 1848 - not much change
    - 5 ruble tax on kippah
  - Most places, didn't wait till '48
  - Rabbis, shamashim could keep their style
  - Silk coats, kippot, knickers, beard & peyot were prohibited

# Gezeirat HaMalbush

- Women were forbidden to shave their heads
  - Confronted & shamed in the streets
  - Hid at home
- spread through Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Lita, etc.
- Berditchov
  - nailed kippah to head
- Poland - 1845
  - had till 1851

# A Time of Forced Conversion?

- Concerning every sin in the Torah, if they tell you, “Transgress it and you won’t be killed,” you should transgress it and not be killed – except for idolatry, adultery, and murder... R. Yochanan said, “This only applies when there are no decrees of the monarchy, but when there are such decrees, one must die rather than transgress even a simple commandment”... What is a simple commandment? Rava said, “Even if they order you to change your type of shoelaces.” (Talmud, Shabbat 156b)

# Specific Groups

- *sha'as shemad* – שעת השמד
  - even shoelace
- Disagreement
  - Kotzker
    - clothing only custom
  - Ruzhiner
    - blessings in bigdei Esav
    - convinced Tzemach Tzedek
  - Kobriner
- Agreement - Polish (modern) or Russian
  - Litvaks vs. Gur
  - Boyars
- Peyot up
  - in Europe
    - fear of goyim

# Specific Groups

## Chabad

- Chabad
  - once like all hasidim
  - Tzemach Tzedek
    - declared not like "shoelaces"
  - Never made big deal of clothing
    - more interested in "penimiyut"
  - Gezerat Halevush, changed jacket, kept cap.
    - changed kapata for frock
    - more ba'al habatish

# Specific Groups

## Chabad

- long jacket, but with tails
- Chalaka
  - Moharash
    - Western European
      - after going for health reasons
      - hid himself as businessman
- Fedora Hat
  - Last Rebbe
  - Paris
  - Didn't want to show sign of leadership

# Decree Annulled

- No specific date
- Repeated attempts to renew it (Poland)
  - reflects rejection by Jews
- In Russia, Volhyn, Podolia, with death of Nicholas I
- Slow return of Hasidic groups
  - less so Chabad
  - except for hats
    - till European hat



Generic  
Hasid

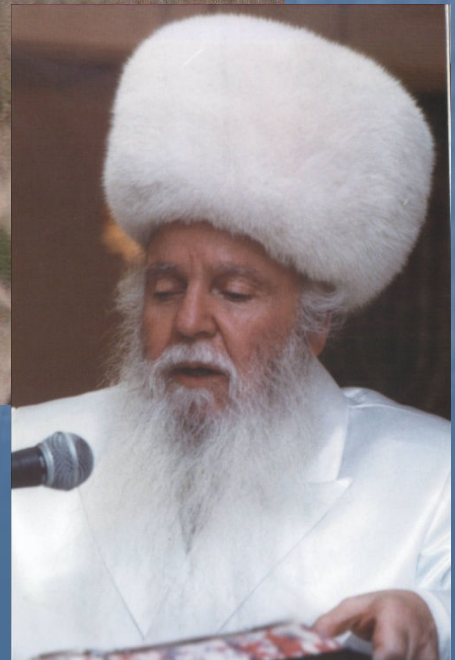




Shtreimel



# Spodek



# Hats







Satmar



Vishnitz



Gur



“American”



# Homburg



- Roshei Yeshivot
- Sefardim





R. Shmuel Aurbach

- A Chaldean fortune teller told the mother of Rabbi Nachman bar Yitzchak, "Your son will be a thief. Don't let him go with his head uncovered."

She told [her son], "Keep your head covered, so that the fear of heaven will be upon you, and pray for mercy," but he didn't understand why she told him that.

One day, he was sitting and learning under a date palm. The covering fell off his head, he lifted his eyes and saw the palm. His [evil] inclination overcame him. He climbed up and pulled off the dates with his teeth. (Shabbat 156b)

- Rav Huna the son of Rav Yehoshua wouldn't walk four feet with his head uncovered. "The *Shechinah* is above my head," he would say. (Kiddushin 31)

# Kippot

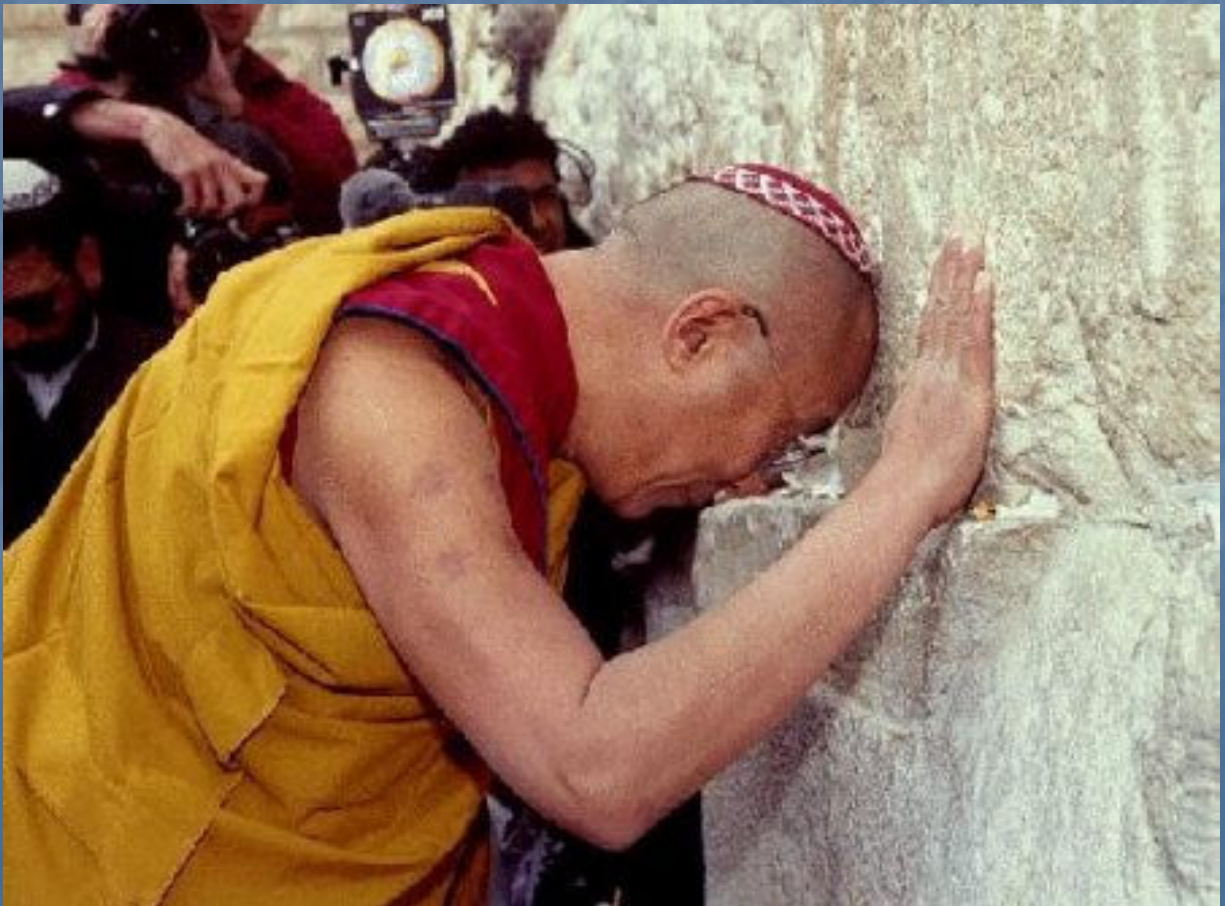
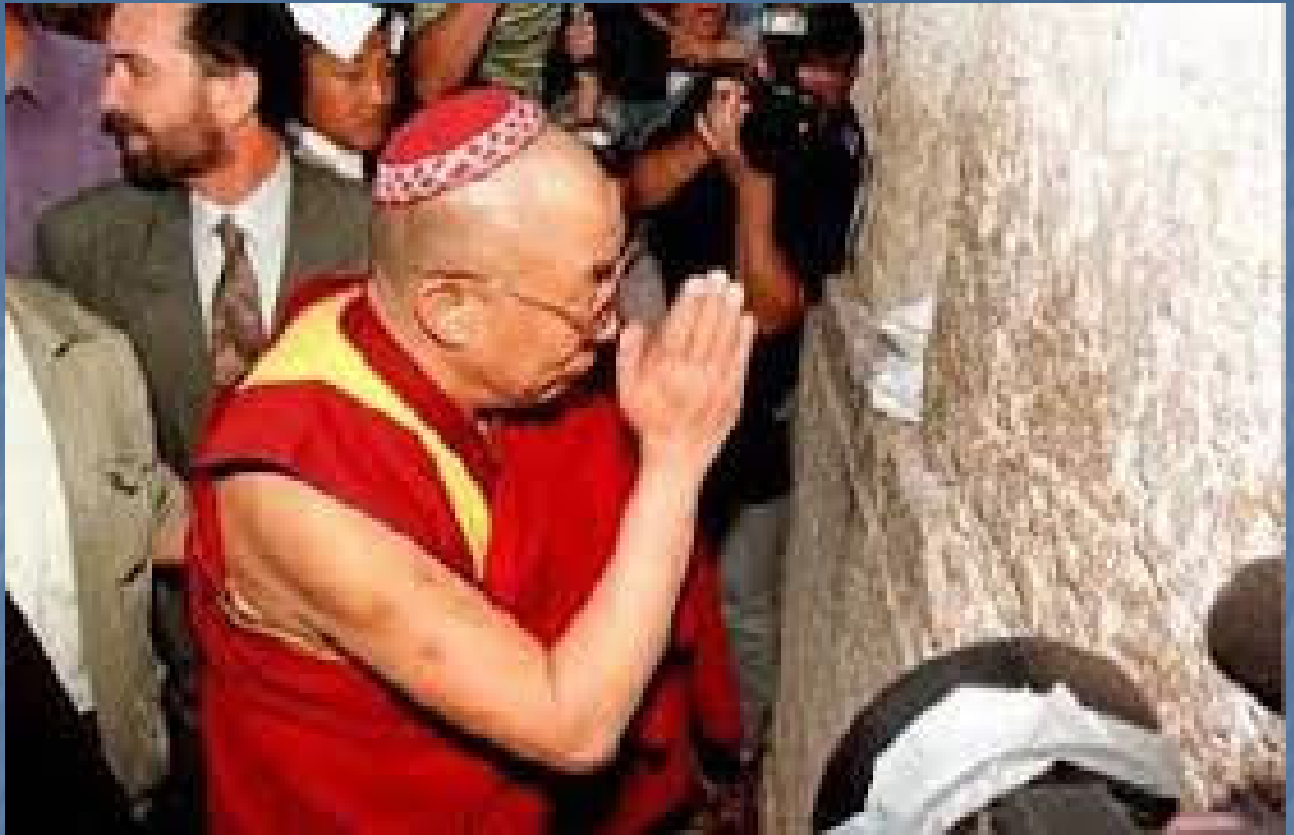














# Tefillin



WOW Barbie!



# Other Celebrity Jews



Bruce (Baruch) Wayne



Peter (Pinchas) Parker



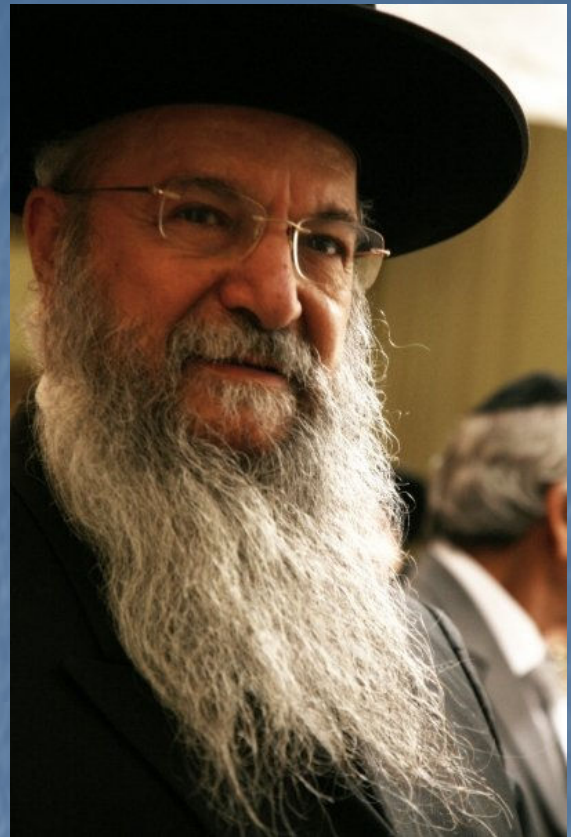


Santa (Sammy) Claus

# Peyot

- You shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shall you mar the corners of your beard.  
(Leviticus 19:27)

## Beard & Peyot



# Upsherin



- When you enter the land and plant any kind of fruit tree, regard its fruit as forbidden. For three years you are to consider it forbidden; it must not be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit will be holy, an offering of praise to the L-rd. But in the fifth year you may eat its fruit. In this way your harvest will be increased. I am the L-rd your G-d. (Leviticus 19)





# Shatnez

- שע - combing“
- טוה - spinning
- נז - twisting

## Deuteronomy 22:12-13

- Do not wear clothes of wool and linen woven together.
- Make tassels on the four corners of the cloak you wear.

# White Garments

- A person should also wear white garments [on the Sabbath] and not colored ones. I received from my teacher that according to the color and type of garment that a person wears on the Sabbath in this world, so will he always wear precisely the same after his death, in the world-to-come on the Sabbath. He said that once, during *kabbalat Shabbat*, the soul of a certain scholar who had just died appeared to him, and he saw that he was wearing black. He [the Ari] told me, "Because he wore black in this world, so they punish him there, by dressing him in black garments on the Sabbath after his death." (R. Chaim Vital, chief disciple of R. Yitzchak Luria, *Sha'ar HaKavanot*)

# Separation in Prayer

- One's tallit should be tied to one's waist, to cover the waist and below. It is forbidden to pray until one's heart is covered. If one doesn't cover one's heart (i.e. post factum), or a person has nothing to cover it with, as long as he covered his genitals, he has fulfilled his obligation.
- A person must wear a belt during prayer, even if he has a waistband [on his pants] for the reason of "Prepare [to meet your G-d, Israel]" (Amos 4:12). However, one can make other blessings without a belt, since one is wearing pants. Note: As long as one's heart does not see one's genitals. (*Shulchan Aruch*)

# Gartel



# Weekday garb



# Talit Gadol









# Tzitzit

- Speak to the children of Israel and you shall say to them that they shall make for themselves fringes on the corners of their garments, throughout their generations, and they shall affix a thread of blue on the fringe of each corner. (Numbers 15:38)

# Tzitzit



# Vests



R. Pinchas  
Scheinberg, ztz"l





## Accoutrements



February 28, 2011

### → **Vizhnitz Rebbe Bans Metal Glasses And Contact Lenses**

In a special sermon to the young yeshiva students of the Hasidic dynasty, considered one of the biggest in the haredi sector, Rabbi Israel Hager, the successor of the Vizhnitz Hasidism's founder, discussed the dangers inherent in modernizations on the secular street and urged the students not to wear metal glasses and contact lenses. "We must wear the exact opposite of what is worn in Paris."



Gur  
weekday



© 2013 Getty Images  
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

# Gur Shabbat





# R. Eliyahu, the Gaon of Vilna (1720-1797)



- First Aliyah 1808 -1812

# Yerushalmi (Prushim)



# Yerushalmi (Shabbat)



# Toldot Aharon





Chabad



# Chabad Kapote



Breslov





# Na Nachs



# WHAT NA NACH CAN DO TO YOU



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



# Women's Rules

- Rav Chisda said: the thigh of a woman is provocative... Shmuel said: the voice of a woman is provocative... Rav Sheshet said: the hair of a woman is provocative... (*Berachot* 24a)
- These are the things that if a woman does them, she transgresses the “religion of Moses.” If she goes out in the market with the hairs on her head exposed... (Maimonides, *Mishnah Torah, Laws of Women* 24:11)

# Hasidic Women





Chabad

# Toldot Aharon



