

The Chain of Torah
Forty Generations from Moshe Rabeinu until Rav Ashi
(based on the Rambam's Introduction to Mishnah Torah)

	Leader of the Generation	Approximate Year	#
	Moshe Rabeinu	2448	1
	Yehoshua	2488	2
	Pinchas	2516	3
	Eli ha'Kohen	2831	4
	Shmuel	2871	5
	David	2884	6
The Prophets	Achiyah ha'Shiloni	2924	7
	Eliyahu	2980	8
	Elisha	3043	9
	Yehoyada	3055	10
	Zecharyah	3067	11
	Hoshe'a	3090	12
	Amos	3110	13
	Yeshayah	3140	14
	Michah	3160	15
	Yo'el	3190	16
	Nachum	3240	17
	Chavakuk	3254	18
	Tzefanyah	3280	19
	Yirmeyah	3288	20
Baruch ben Neriyah	3350	21	
The Men of the Great Assembly	Ezra ha'Sofer (Construction of the 2nd Beis ha'Mikdash 3408)	3413	22
	Shimon ha'Tzadik	3442	23
	Antignus Ish Socho	3460	24
The Pairs	Yosi ben Yo'ezer and Yosi ben Yochanan	3500	25
	Yehoshua ben Perachyah and Nitai ha'Arbeli	3560	26
	Yehudah ben Tabai and Shimon ben Shetach	3621	27
	Shemayah and Avtalyon	3722	28
	Hillel and Shamai	3728	29
The Tana'im	Raban Shimon ben Hillel	3768	30
	Raban Gamliel ha'Zaken	3770	31
	Raban Shimon ben Gamliel (Destruction of the 2nd Beis ha'Mikdash 3828) Raban Yochanan ben Zakai assumes leadership	3810	32
	Raban Gamliel (of Yavneh)	3833	33
	Raban Shimon ben Gamliel	3881	34
	Rebbi Yehuda ha'Nasi (Rebbi) ² (Compilation of the Mishnah c. 3948)	3910	35
The Amora'im	Rav, Shmuel and Rebbi Yochanan (Compilation of Talmud Yerushalmi c. 4128)³	3979	36
	Rav Huna	4110	37
	Rabah	4150	38
	Rava	4099	39
	Rav Ashi ¹ (Compilation of Talmud Bavli c. 4261)	4127	40

1. Rav Ashi compiled the Talmud Bavli together with his student, Ravina (Bava Metzia 86a). Rav Ashi was born at the same time that Rava died (in 4111 or 4113, see Kidushin 72b), in which case there is a gap of at least fourteen years between Rava's death and Rav Ashi's appointment. To counter this problem, the Rambam might well have inserted Rav Papa, who

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succeeded Rava. Rav Ashi was appointed Rosh Yeshivah in Masa Mechasya before Rav Papa (who was Rosh Yeshivah in Pumbedisa) died in 4132.

2. The Rambam lists among the Chachamim who constituted Rebbi's Beis Din the following eleven Chachamim: Shimon and Gamliel (Rebbi's sons), Rebbi Efes, Rebbi Chanina ben Chama, Rebbi Chiya, Rav, Rebbi Yanai, Bar Kapara, Shmuel, Rebbi Yochanan and Rebbi Hoshaya. (The Rambam notes that Rebbi Yochanan was a child at the time, but since he learned Torah from Rebbi Yanai, he is considered part of the group.)

The Ra'avad omits Shmuel, Rebbi Yochanan, Rebbi Hoshaya, Rebbi Yanai and Bar Kapara from the above list, and he replaces them with Levi, Rebbi Bisa and his son Rebbi Chama, and Rebbi Yishmael son of Rebbi Yochanan ben Berokah.

3. Rebbi Yochanan compiled the Talmud Yerushalmi in Eretz Yisrael approximately three hundred years after the destruction of the 2nd Beis ha'Mikdash.