

6A THE LAMMED PREFIX

root	Transli-te rate	meaning		Base or root	meaning	Explanation / comment
לאט	L'ot	Slow, gentle		אט אטט	Slow, gentle ¹	So – take it easy ²
לאך	La'akh	Accomplish a work, be an agent		אך	True, truly, real	Unknown base – Cf. והייתה אך שמח – ye shall be TRULY happy. A מלאך is an agent, a messenger ³ - A לאך done work מלאכה is a reality – אך See chart pg. for proof of the lexemic [word] relationship between work/ doing & truth/ reality
לאם	L'oem	nation		אום	nation	
לבט	labat	Thrust, knock about, effort, trouble, stumble		בט	out	Unknown base - בטל [to nullify, void out] בטא - בטא [to utter words, express] - נבט הביט [to look out] - בטן [a belly, which is often protruding] - - בלט – protrude, shoot forth - א-בנט cummerbund to hold in a protruding belly– בטנים pistachio nuts— which bulge out of their shells - Also בעט [to kick or strike outward PBH בטבט [swell, bulge, grow]- PBH בלוטה = gland [which emits] בהט is a stone

¹ - I see this as probably belonging to a base אט that denotes – blocked that appears in the roots אטר and אטם and maybe also in אטד - in the sense that slowness and gentleness involve a block to intensity

² אט ath – is likely the etymon of Eng. ease

³ This term is discussed from yet another perspective in my Ende khof entry

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						used as flooring that gives out a luster / sheen. ⁴
לבש	lovash	Wear, dress		בוש	shame	Clothing is worn - ל בוש against shame ⁵
לגם	logam	Quaff, drink		גם	Also, in addition to	Drink is an addition of liquid to the body גמא = absorb, drink ⁶
להג	lahag	Study, meditation		הגה	Ponder, thought, study	
להם	lohom	To beat, strike		הם	Pound, agitate, turmoil	The biblical roots – הום = commotion, roar – המה = emotion of disquiet, growling – המם = agitate, bewilder, confuse – הים = agitate, create turmoil – whence – מהומה = commotion, disturbance – הלם = to strike, pound, break, pressure, intoxicate ⁷ . - Tanakhic מהלמה denotes 'a blow' ⁸ הלמות is a hammer ⁹ – יהלם is a diamond, formed

⁴ בטח trust may also relate to the base בט [out] in that true trust sometimes entails stepping out of the bounds of what would appear to be reasonable expectation

⁵ Apud Rabbi Shlomo Pappenheim

⁶ Rav Hirsch regards the אלגם tree as a tree that absorbs much water. Some experts have the אלמג tree as a metathesis of אלגם

⁷ Isa. 28:1 הלומי יין

⁸ Prov. 19:29 - ומהלמות לגו כסילים

⁹ להם is likely the source of Eng. helmet [protects against pounding] and helm [which breaks a ship's direction] – Its sense of break is probably the source of the words lame and limp – The המ base - which denotes – pound is the source of hammer. However, helmet could derive instead from the root חלם cholam that means – strong, hardy. Cf. the modern term 'hard hat'

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						by extreme pressure upon coal ¹⁰ – להם loham means 'to strike a blow, beat' ¹¹¹²¹³¹⁴ -- Unknown base
לוה	lovoh	Accompany, lend ¹⁵		ו	Letter vav – conjunction that means 'AND'	So לוה ל = 'TO AND' = to accompany - Unknown base – rare single prepositional letter ¹⁶
לחך	lakhakh	Lick, lap up ¹⁷		חך	Palate	In mouth – but also of other mouth related terms - לחך [lick] - חיר [smile] - חיר [stutter] – whence Talmudic לחש = flames 'licking' ¹⁸ - & לחת loll of dog's tongue, panting ¹⁹

¹⁰ It has been suggested – and correctly so, apparently – that the wicked enemy of the Jews was prophetically named Haman המן - on account of the panic and turmoil that he created among the Jewish people

¹¹ It appears that Gesenius had recognized a shared המ inner base in the roots המר – המל

¹² Rabbi Yossi Shajnfeld suggested a plausible possible link between the המ base and the words מום [defect, blemish, mar] whence Eng. maim - and מאום [dot, speck]-

¹³ Rashi regarded להם instead as a metathesis of הלם - But my manuscripts feature many specimens of ל prefix to inner bases – Cf. לעס – לכד – לבט – לקח – לאך – לפיד – לשם - לגם

¹⁴ Also נהם = moan, growl, complain. המון = throng , i.e. a tumultuous 'pounding' mass of people , also - rumbling sound - תהום is pounding or turbulent waters, abyss - המל = roar, clamor, commotion –Perhaps also שהם onyx gemstone which has chaotic/ turbulent designs & דהם a confounding, shock

¹⁵ Lending money is a financial accompaniment

¹⁶ Rabbi Pappenheim did not endorse the idea of lammed affixes – but he did suggest that the word אוה awvoh [desire] was fashioned by G-d out of the letter ו vav that denotes – AND - in the idea – you want to be with it - to be – so - you and the object of your desire

¹⁷ Related to לקק lokak [lick, lap up]

¹⁸ Also – glow of coals

¹⁹ Apud Marcus Jastrow

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לטש	lotash	Hammer, whet polish, sharpen		טש	PBH טוש = polish ²⁰	Unknown base - Talmudic נטש = sharpen, polish – and פטש = to hammer – and PBH לטש - = whet, polish, hammer, furbish so a טש base may denote to act upon [a metal tool] ²¹
לכד	lokad	To besiege around, encircle		כד	round	Unknown base - כדור = ball - כד = round jug - כדור = encircle, go all around
למד	lomad	Teach, train, accustom, learn		מד מדה	A measure, a quality	Teaching, training improves the measure of a man
לעב	Lo'av	Insult, mock		עב	thick	Thick behavior – Also PBH עלב insult, humiliate – תעב = abominate - עגב organ ²²
לעג	Lo'ag	Mock, belittle		עג	Small, little	עלג stammer is to speak in small bits, a little at a time ²³ . עלג – mock is to be-little with the infix of a מעג -- ל = to mock, scorn, deride ²⁴ - - also a type of belittling . עגה = is small cake,

²⁰ Related to PBH טוש metal plate – glittering foil - A PBH טוש denoted 'glisten'. Talmudic טוש denoted 'soldiers in glittering armor'. Probable etymon of tinsel

²¹ Aram. טרש = batter

²² Thick musical sounds

²³ Speak haltingly

²⁴ מעג is apparently – the etymon of 'mock'.

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						cakelet. ^{25 26} עגן = [n. anchor ²⁷ , v. tied down Cf. עגונה agunah ²⁸] & thus restricted — לעג la'ag also means mocking, derision, belittling ²⁹³⁰ -But it also denotes – stammer in Isa. 33:19 ³¹ -Biblical עגם and אגם terms denote – saddened, distressed ³²³³ & thus
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²⁵ We find a similar occurrence in the word 'minute' that means both 'very small' and 'a very small unit of time'

²⁶ This עגה oogah [cake] term is the source of the Eng. 'cake' cookie' and the Ger. kuchen and the Yiddish 'kugel' [kiggle] by ע > K withering

²⁷ עגן [restrict] may be the source of the Anc. Grk. ankur / ankyr – whence Eng. anchor – in that the anchor restricts a ship's ability to move away – but the verb עקר [root, rooted] may be involved in anchor – instead – or collaterally

²⁸ ... a woman whose husband has deserted her and who cannot remarry because he did not give her a גט [bill of divorce]

²⁹ ...source of the Ger. lach[en] = laugh and of the Eng. laugh

³⁰ The Hebrew עג base may have been the source of the Akkadian egeru [stutter, stammer]

³¹ In the opinions of most experts the Tanakhic instances of לעג indicate that it possessed both the meaning 'mock, scorn' and the meaning 'stammer, stutter'. To stammer is to speak in a restricted manner and also to utter a little bit at a time

³² it seems to me that the primary form of these agam terms may be עגם [spelled with the ע] – to the effect that a figurative עגם sense of 'sadness' may derive from an idea that the subject's soul / spirit has 'been diminished' and to the effect that the עגם verb will constitute a מ affix to its עג base that denotes 'small, little, restricted' [and with its אגם form being the secondary form]. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the word צער [distress, sorrow, pain– that is in my opinion a derivative of the base צר [restrict – is apparently of the same base as the word צעיר that generally denotes biblically – young / younger and also 'small / of low status' [Psalm 119:141] - i.e. to the effect that the עגם root and the צער root will each possess both the senses of 'sad, distress' and of 'small'. Also מצער Cf. קץ end & קצת A little also the phrase קצתי בחיי ??

We may find a somewhat similar phenomenon as the Lat. malus and the OCS malu mean bad - while the Polish maly means small / short / tiny - and the Slavic mal particle denotes 'small' . Cf. Slavonic maly [small] - ערג yearn may derive from the עג base of עגמת נפש [sadness] that denotes smallness and restriction – in that sadness amounts to a littling of the soul/ heart – and so too yearning may entail an element of the littling of the soul/ heart that is at the base of yearning - see....

³³ it seems conceivable that the עג base that denotes 'smallness' and [figuratively also -'sadness' ?] might be the source of the root ערג that denotes 'to yearn' – by epenthesis of the ר - in the notion that 'pejorative smallness longs for enlargement'

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						figuratively lessened .The noun מעג is a cakelet, cooky ³⁴ – Unknown base
לעט	Lo'at	Gulp down, eat		עט	Eat, consume, enwrap	לעט – to eat, gulp down ^{353637 38} - עטף = to enwrap, envelop oneself ³⁹ - עטה = to wrap, envelop, cover - עט = a stylus – writing / etching tool that eats into a solid material/ tablet ⁴⁰⁴¹ - עיט = a vulture or other carnivorous bird of prey ⁴² – עט עוט or עטה also mean ⁴³ to pounce upon in order to consume [

³⁴ The giant עוג Og was likely so called as a humorous antiphrastic nick-name- The PBH / Talmudic עגה that meant – “vulgar dialect, mocking, slang’ likely relates to the עג base of the roots עלג and לעג terms in their sense of ‘garbled speech’ or their sense of ‘belittling’”. Cf. Talmudic לשון עגה

³⁵ appears to me to have denoted in the hiph'il form - העליט to give to eat - in the word העליטני Gen. 25:30– but many experts have it instead as meaning - [to gulp, swallow greedily –]

³⁶ this עט base of הלעטני - give me to swallow – to eat – is indeed – in my humble opinion - the Tower of Babel source of a number of eat denoting words – including - the Ancient Grk. esthien [to eat] and the Lat. words edo – edere – esse and esus - that all denote eat and eating . And this עט also the source of the German and Yiddish essen and also of Eng. eat.

³⁷ Jastrow listed a Talmudic הלעטה that denoted a stuffing – a swallowing that could still be regurgitated – E. Klein has it as PBH – fattening, stuffing

³⁸ לעט could also relate to the base לע that is mouth related – See note #

³⁹ See also עטלף pg...

⁴⁰ ע ayin to R withering –occurred for example in the transformation of Hebrew word עבד [to work] into the Russian robot and into the Ger. arbeit - Also עולם olam [world] to Eng. realm and Hebrew עת [time] into Slavic raz [time] among many others – and thus it seems likely that our עט base - is also the source of the Lat. words rodo and rodere that signified – to consume and to eat into –from which developed the Latin verb rodo that means – eat and gnaw at - whence the Eng. words erode and corrode – that contain the idea of – eaten away – and whence also the word - rodent. Cf. Talmudic שתך [Corroded – rust bitten] from שכ base of נשך [bite]

⁴¹ עט to ‘write’ is not out of the question

⁴² please note as well - that the עיט vulture and the eagle are very similar looking birds – and that the modern Hebrew עיט term is indeed used nowadays to denote both the vulture and the eagle – And thus it is most probably along those same lines that - the עיט term apparently became the source of the ancient Grk. . word aetos – that meant eagle in ancient Grk.

⁴³ Opinions differ as to the actual official form of this particular root or usage

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						Sam. 15:19, 14:32] ⁴⁴ עלטה- a devouring darkness – Unknown base -
לען לענה	Lo'an laanah	Bitter wormwood		ענה	Eenah – afflict, pain ⁴⁵	
לפד לפיד	lapid	torch		פיד	Fire, flame, - but seen as denoting – disaster	Unknown base פלד Flame, blaze Proof that פיד really means fire ⁴⁶ – (see note) ⁴⁷
לקח	lokakh	Take, buy, hold		קח	Take, buy	
לקש	lokash	Be late, delay. Hold back		קש כש	A force against , difficulty, strength	כשל = stumble, cause to fall - כשיל = a hammer - כבש = to defeat, conquer - כחש = to deny, deceive, fail, thin, lean, reduce, contradict- כתש = to pound - כפש = to force down - כמש = to wither, shrivel Talmudic כשל = to strike against, stumble - כשיל = axe קשה Hard ⁴⁸ difficult - נקש יקוש a trap - קשי question, difficulty Talmudic is travail, pains - & קשט = strong --

⁴⁴ The word מעט [few, a little bit] can have been developed from a sense of – an original amount that was largely eaten away [so מן = עט = מן עט from having been eaten] – Cf. קצת קצר [cut off / a little] – [cut off / short] but Julius Furst suggested instead that מעט constitutes the epenthesis of an ע ayin into the base מט that means – down, descend – in the notion that idea of few denotes a lowered amount

⁴⁵ This root ענה may relate to a more basic root ענה [answer, respond] in that pain & suffering are often divine negative responses to [punishments for] past transgressions on the part of the sufferer.

⁴⁶ א) לפיד [torch] likely means – for a flame – (b) The yud of פיד and the lammed of פלד are phonetically related consonants - (c) The biblical word פלדה is rendered by some as torch and by others as steel [iron that has been subjected to extreme fire]– (d) The PBH קפיד of root קפד denotes – to be angry, lose temper - irritated by even minor encroachment.– The fiery looking Topaz gem פטדה is probably a ט infix into the fire denoting פד base

⁴⁷ But the לפיד torch term may also be related to the verb לפת lepes, lefeth [to twist around, coil around]

⁴⁸ Notice that the word hard also possesses both usages

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						#1 קשקש = to knock, strike ⁴⁹ - קשקש #2 = to become, stiff, hard - Unknown base
לתח	lotakh	Stretchable storage		חח - טח	Stretch, expand	stretch – whence אמתת saddlebag - מלתחה expandable wardrobe fixture - תותח catapult - מטחוי קשת - range of a flying arrow - טרח exert effort – so to extend oneself שטח PBH – to stretch, spread- תוחח crushed loose soft spreadable soil, earth ⁵⁰⁵¹ - Also טוח smearing, daubing - טחן expand material by grinding - PBH טחלא milt, spleen which smears easily ⁵²⁵³ Unknown base
לתך	lotakh	A dry measure		תכ & secondary form תח	cut to measure – specific detail cutting	Biblical נתח is to cut specifically by limbs or bones. PBH נתח [v] = sever – tear - dissect – and נתח [n] = piece - Talmudic חתך = to cut – incision - most

⁴⁹ Talmudic הקשה = clapping – knocking together

⁵⁰ It is also conceivable that the biblical Hebrew term denoting 'boil' - רתח rotach was so fashioned by G-d because room temperature water expands [4%] when heated to the boiling point. However רתח may relate instead or also to the similar assumed PBH root רתע that denoted – excite - startle

⁵¹ Consider also that many scholars regard the תחש creature as the dolphin – and dolphins do constantly slough / shed their skins and replace them with new ones – The תחש term is also related to the word תחת by ת-ש relationship

⁵² May also involve basenu as spleen extends viability by replenishing – or טחלא may derive from root תחל [to begin]

⁵³ However – this תח base may also possess a sense of – to take the place of – Consider that stretching entails taking up more space – The root תחת means – in place of – The תחרא chain mail material is worn under another garment – and each of the links of chain mail takes up the empty space of other links – The טחלא spleen produces new blood cells to take the place of discarded cells

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						instances denote cutting to specific detail. ^{54 55} Unknown base
לתע	lota	Tear up, destroy		תע נתע	Break, destroy, tear ⁵⁶	Unknown base מתלעות & מלתעות are teeth, fangs that tear apart – Aram. רתע = tremble, shake - תרע = shatter, break
לחץ	lokhatz	Oppress, press		חוץ	out	לחץ = a pressing from outside – Cf. נחץ need – so also – a pressing from outside
לחש	lokhash	whisper		חשה	Silence, quiet	Echoic base – Cf. Eng. hush
לשך לשכה	Loshakh lishkaw	Room, chamber i.e. a place to rest down ⁵⁷		שכ	Settle down, come to rest, subside	שך to subside - - - שכב lie down, sleep שכמ - shoulder ⁵⁸ שכן - dwell rest in נשך - -bite, sink teeth - Talmudic שנסך [soothe] – נשכה לשכה place to deposit items- שלך to cast away, שדך Aram. at ease, settle- Talmudic שכ sink, rest - Unknown base

⁵⁴ ...whence Ger. stuck = a piece [pronounced shtuke]

⁵⁵ Jastrow lists also a Talmudic נתך that meant – to cut- From these תח / תכ bases came a Talmudic Heb. Sense development – תלה PBH = Fall apart in pieces – tear – Also a Talmudic תלחא = a piece [whence Ger. Teil (piece, portion). A biblical נתך that denotes decreed is synonymous with Hebrew גזר that means both cut – and decree.

⁵⁶ In נתעו Job 4:10 = break, knock out

⁵⁷ A secondary form נשכה appears thrice in the Book of Nehemiah

⁵⁸ Upon which to rest bundles

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לעס	Lo'as	Chew, masticate		עס	Press, squeeze	Unknown base - עס press squeeze - עס press, crush, tread - עס eesah – a kneaded dough ⁵⁹
לפת	lefes	Relish, condiment		פת	Piece, piece of bread	So relish is ל פת for bread
לאב	Lo'av	Thirst, drought		אבה	Want, desire	Hosea 13:5 ארץ תלאבות desert. Land of drought, thirst i.e. desire [for water] ⁶⁰
לחם	lokham	To battle		חם	Heat – metaphor for violence, fierceness	Cf. חמס violence, robbery – also – heat of battle - חמה – anger, fury – חמר - boil
לשד	leshed	Juice, sap		שד	Moist nourishment	שד vines, crop field - אשד waterfall - שד female breast that yields milk
למה	lomaw	Why – Lit. for what reason		מה	what	Cf. Span. Porque – Fr. Pourquoi [why] for what
לקט	lokat	glean ⁶¹		קט	Cut off	קטע Cut down, kill - קטל kill - & קטע cut off - קטף pluck - קמט cut down ⁶² Unknown base

⁵⁹ - לעע - לעג - לעז - לעט - לוע - בלע - Cf. לעע chew may also relate to base לעע that is – mouth related –

⁶⁰ Cf. אביון evyon [very poor man] who wants / lacks for everything

⁶¹ However לקט glean could also belong to a base לק that signifies – take – along with לקח [take] and לקק [lap up]

⁶² Perhaps also קטן [small]

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לכש lekhash Aramaic wooly cedar bast used for wicks and torches – so called from Hebrew לַחַשׁ lokhash [whisper] because of the whispering sound made by these items when they burn – Also called שגל legesh [Aram.] Source of Latin wick terms – lichinus – licinium – elychnium and also lychnus [lamp]

The chart below demonstrates that there is a lexemic [word] connection between words denoting work, act and words denoting – truth, reality – a connection that is probably rooted in the fact that -

That which is known to have been done / accomplished is real and true. In light of this consider the following -

Hebrew base	transliterate	meaning		Term for work, do, act	Truth, real, fact word	comment
פרך	Porekh, forekh	Hard work		Ger. Wirk – Eng. work	Ger. wirklich	= true
עשה	osaw	Do, make		Lat. Facere – [make] - factum [a deed, act, making, achievement]	Eng. fact	ע Ayin to F – see chart in ... pg....

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עבד	oved	Work, serve		Aram. עבד oved [work]	Aram. אסעבדא soevdah	= fact
עשה	osaw	Do, make		Ger. Tu-en - Eng. Doing – deed	indeed	Fortition of sinn ש
אך Base of לאך	Akh base of Lo'akh	Work, agent accomplish		Lat. Actum [a deed, transaction] ⁶³	Eng. actual	Actum = deed, Put into motion
AND SO -	CORRECT LY					
אך Base of לאך	Akh base of Lo'akh	Work, agent accomplish		מלאכה – work, accomplishment	אך - Akh ⁶⁴	Truly, very ⁶⁵

Perhaps also

פרך	Porekh, forekh	Hard work		Pol. Praca [work]	Prawda, pravda	= truth
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⁶³ Hebrew אך akh is the source of act – Also of Lat. Agere [do, perform, set in motion] whence Eng. agent

⁶⁴ This is apparently the etymon of Eng. Actual and of Ger. Echte [genuine, real, true]

⁶⁵ והיית אך שמח And ye shall be truly / very happy

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Many scholars have recognized that the letter ן NUNN was used as a prefix to two letter bases – but the idea of the lammed ל prefix is very much unknown in spite of the fact that the nunn and lammed are both ‘liquid’ letters