

Middle Eastern History in the Book of Uí Mhaine

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Sources:

- f. 35v, Lebor Bretnach (Irish translation and adaptation of the *Historia Brittonum*)
- f. 44v, Reidig dam, a Dhe, do nimh (poems on ‘world kingship’)
- f. 50r, Pedigrees of Christ, Mary, Samuel, etc.
- f. 53r, notes on St Patrick’s descent from the children of Israel
- *f. 66r, Clanna Israhel uli*
- *f. 70r, Epistil Matusalem (Epistle of Methuselah) or Scél Saltrach na Rann (The Story of Saltair na Rann)*
- f. 73r, Da treib dec mac nIsrael (The Twelve Tribes of Israel)
- *f. 73r, Ochozias, Ios co cass*
- *f. 114r, Babilon baili buadhach*

1. (a) Matthew 1:7-10: ‘And Solomon begot Roboam. And Roboam begot Abia. And Abia begot Asa. And Asa begot Josaphat. And Josaphat begot Joram. And Joram begot Ozias. And Ozias begot Joatham. And Joatham begot Achaz. And Achaz begot Ezechias. And Ezechias begot Manasses. And Manasses begot Amon. And Amon begot Josias.’

(b) Matthew 1:17: ‘So all the generations, from Abraham to David are fourteen generations. And from David to the transmigration of Babylon, are fourteen generations: and from the transmigration of Babylon to Christ are fourteen generations.’

2. The house of David

united kingdom of Israel and Judah

David Solomon kingdom of northern Israel kingdom of Judah Jeroboam I, k. of Israel
Rehoboam, k. of Judah (houses of Jeroboam, Baasha, Zimri) Abijah Omri Asa Ahab (m. Jezebel)
Jehoshaphat Ahaziah, k. of Israel Jehosheba (m. Jehoiada) Athaliah (m. Jehoram, k. of Judah)

Ahaziah Jehoash Amaziah Uzziah Jotham Ahaz Hezekiah Manasseh Amon

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3. Ahaziah, Jehoash and Amaziah: f. 73r (my text and translation, which differs from Schneiders (1990)): Ochozias, Io[a]s co cass, int ardrī Amazias: ro-dearmata – nī cam clū – i ngenelaig aird Īssu.

Otholia do-comart co bert ainiacht – is airdircc – Io[a]s mamma[?] cen gair cuil [is] do-ceil i n-ucht tempail.

Ioas iar-sin ro-alt Iazabeth cen comnart, a mbert a barind co glē, fora chāir macc mōde.

Tri cuirp leo – clū cen locht – tri cind fil for cheac n-ōenchorp. Nōnbur fo thrī cona mbūaid, domelait beathaid bith-būain.

Annach Ioras – nirbo cleith – i n-ōentaidh Achaib cuiligh: do-grēiss ro-melt nī [?] fand diib fora mōr-macc Oziam.

Ochozias, Io[a]s etcetera.

Ahaziah, twisted Jehoash, the high-king Amaziah: they were omitted – it is no false report – in the pedigree of noble Jesus.

Athaliah killed so that she brought cruelty – it is well known – Jehoash [and] a nurse[?] without a wrongful cry, she [i.e. Jehosheba] hid in the bosom of the temple.

Jehosheba without strength raised Jehoash after this, until he obtained his crown clearly[?] as befitted the son of an oath[?].

They had three main bodies [i.e. divisions] – report without fault – three heads [i.e. leaders] that are on every single body; nine men thrice, with their victory they consumed ever-lasting life.

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The wickedness of Jehoram – it has not been concealed – in union with sinful Ahab always was inflicted – it is no weak [...] – because of them of their great son Uzziah.

Ahaziah, Jehoash, etc.

4. *Epistil Matusalem or Scél Saltrach na Rann (ed. and trans. Dillon)*

(a) Abraham mac Nara (sic) meic Nachoir iss é cétna firén tánic i ndomun iar ndílend 7 iss é duine ropu dochu ri Dia i talmandaib ara méit do adradh do Dia 7 dond f[h]írinne, 7 ara méit no imgabhadh geinte 7 adartha idal.

Abraham son of Thare son of Nachor was the first righteous man that came into the world after the Flood, and he was the man most pleasing to God of the people of the earth on account of his devotion to God and to the truth, and for his avoiding of heathens and the adoration of idols.

(b) Tucsam lenn dano imtheachta 7 cathaigeachta mac nIsraél 7 a fáithi 7 a toísige 7 a sacarddu ó Abraham mac Tara conus toracht Heliseus fáith, dalta Héile. Et Scél Saltrach na Rand ainm in scéoil seo annas.

We have told the adventures and battles of the Children of Israel, and their prophets, leaders and priests from Abraham son of Thare to Eliseus [i.e. Elisha] the prophet, fosterson of Elias [i.e. Elijah]. And the title of this story is The Story of Saltair na Rann.

5. Patrick's descent from the tribes of Israel f. 53r (my text and translation; cf. Ó Riain (1985), pp. 1-2, 125): Do macaib Israithel imorro do Patraicc, acht diara heasraineadh maicni Israithel o Thit 7 o Uepsian fo cheatharairde in domain fo dairi a ndigail fhola Chríst, as ann do-rócht a bunud co Bretnaib.

Is ar bunud Padraicc do macaib Israthel do-rad Dia tigernus baisde 7 creidmi a nEirind 7 indarbad demun do-sum eisde.

Patrick was of the sons of Israel, but when the sons of Israel were dispersed by Titus and Vespasian throughout the four corners of the world in servitude in vengeance for the blood of Christ, it is then that his stock reached the Britons.

It is on account of the stock of Patrick [being] of the sons of Israel that God gave the power of baptism and faith in Ireland and the expulsion of demons from her [i.e. Ireland] to him.

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