

How is Talmud Comparable to Whiskey?

Mishnah: the main written body of the Oral Law (200 BCE-200 CE)

Gemara: the recorded series of debate and interpretation of the Mishna's meaning (200-600 CE)

Rashi: Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki: decodes the language of the Mishnah and Gemara to give their basic meaning, (1040-1105, Provence)

Tosafot: a Germanic school of Talmudic thinking and scholarship, sometimes disagreeing with Rashi, the Tosafot attempt to resolve "global" Talmudic problems

Nissim Gaon: Rav Nissim Ben Yaakov, one of the more prominent Gaonim (Masters of the Talmud), his commentary, *HaMafteah* (The Key) reduces the text of the Gemara to its actionable halakhic outcomes

Ein Mishpat Ner Mitzvah: Rabbi Yehoshua Boaz ben Simon Barukh, whose commentary references the laws stated in the Talmud to the larger works in which they become codified in the Medieval Period (died. 1557, Italy)