

WELCOME TO THE DNA MAPING OF MY ANCESTORS

Enjoy the voyage
I personally loved it

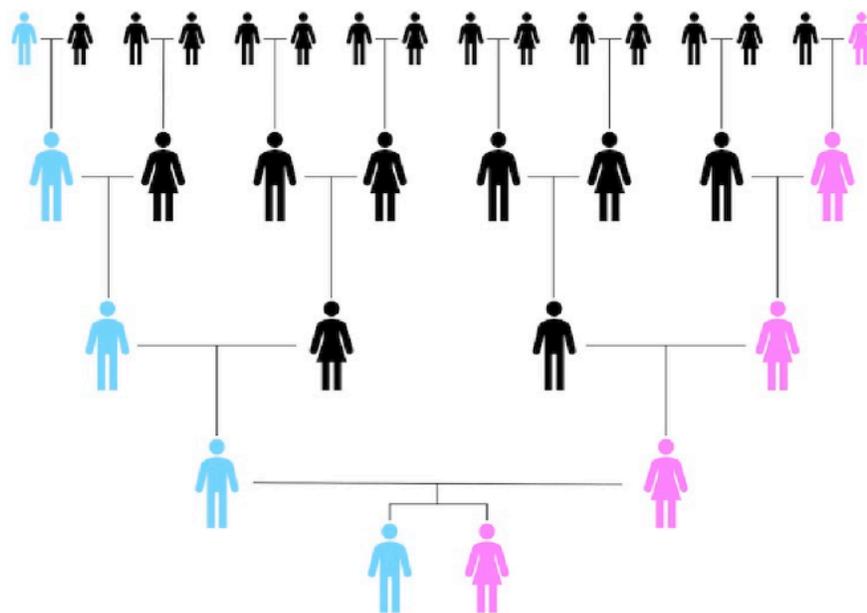
Texts in black color are from the DNA report
Texts in red color are my personal commentaries



HAPLOGROUP

Named with a dizzying array of letters and numbers, your haplogroup attempts to describe the deep ancestral history of your direct maternal or direct paternal line.

Therefore your haplogroup is like a club you belong to that can only be associated with the ancestors on one single direct line of inheritance. This club membership helps you define where in the world your direct line may have originated.

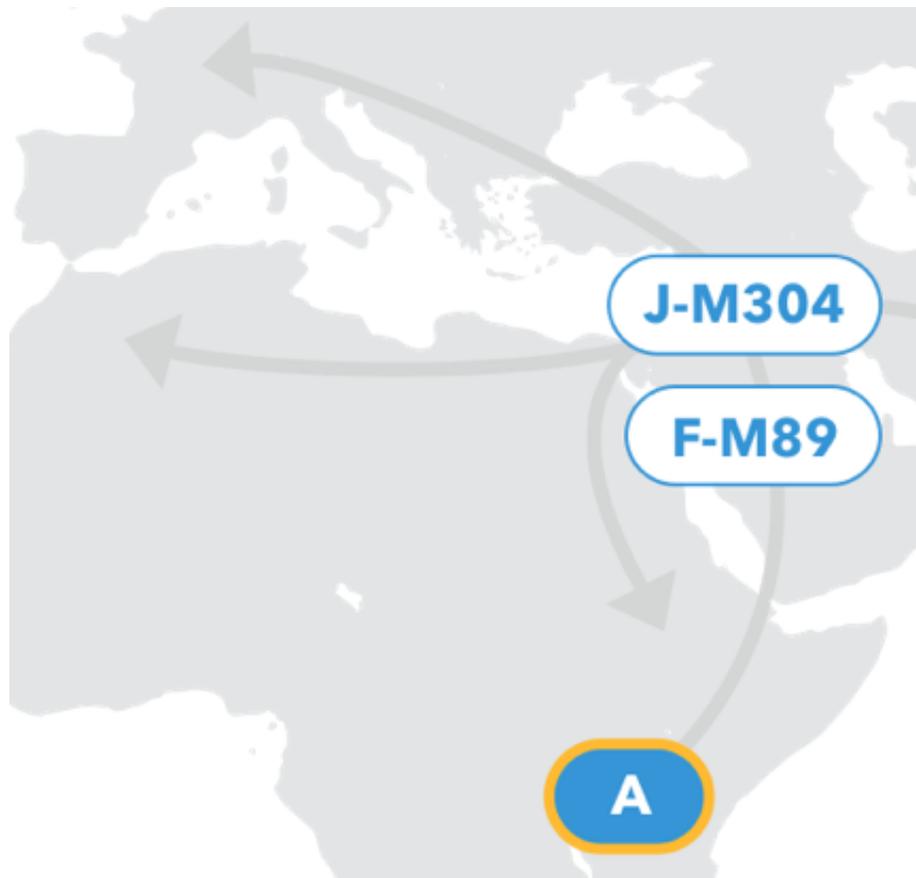


The ancestors that may be traced using Y-DNA (blue) versus mtDNA (pink)

The origins of the women's of my maternal line line goes back over 200,000 years originating in East Africa, Middle East and Europe. ÖTZI, the Ice Man from the Italian Alps seems to be part of the family that was around 5,300 years ago.



As far as the men of my paternal the line goes back 275,000 years ago originating in East Africa as well, some traces from 36,000 years ago or 1440 generations are present in my male DNA and is still being studied. Closer, over 5,750 years ago the male lineage takes us to communities that spread Semitic languages through the Arabian peninsula, the Horn of Africa, through the Middle East and across North Africa with some possible Southern European passages while the women were already in the Italian Alps, remember ?



AND YES, I HAVE

a small amount of DNA from Neanderthal ancestors

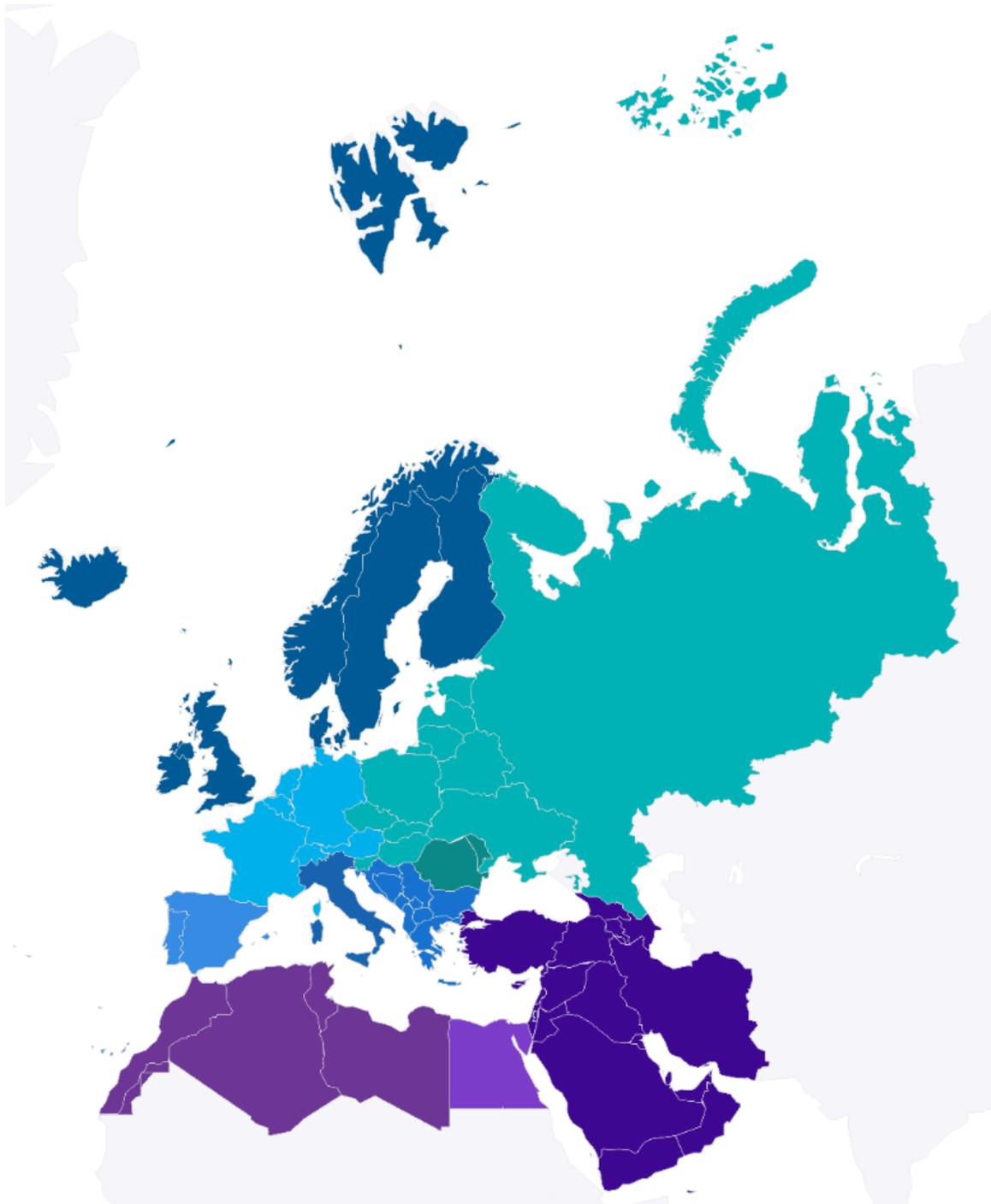
Out of the 7,462 variants we tested, we found 229 variants in your DNA that trace back to the Neanderthals.

All together, your Neanderthal ancestry accounts for less than ~2 percent of your DNA.

Neanderthals were prehistoric humans who interbred with modern humans before disappearing around 40,000 years ago.

The DNA report that follows goes about eight generations back starting around 1680.

Be aware that from the 100 % of my DNA: 23 % is listed as: **“broadly” or “unassigned” meaning not very specific**



PATERNAL LINE



David Cohen, born Casablanca, Morocco 1928 · 2014

ARAB, EGYPT & LEVANT

0.1%



*You most likely had an ancestor born between
1680 and 770 that was 100% Egyptian*

Ancient Egyptians began harvesting crops over 7,000 years ago along the fertile banks of the Nile, relying on annual floods that were believed to be the tears of the goddess Isis. Following the Dynastic Period, Egypt was ruled at various times by Nubian, Persian, Greek, and Roman empires, though these centuries of foreign rule had little impact on Egyptian DNA. Since the seventh-century Islamic Expansion – which brought additional linguistic and genetic diversity to the Nile River basin – a uniquely Egyptian genetic signature emerged. Today, this ancestry reaches the highest levels near the Nile Delta, but is also found throughout Egypt and in the southern Levant.



LEVANTINE

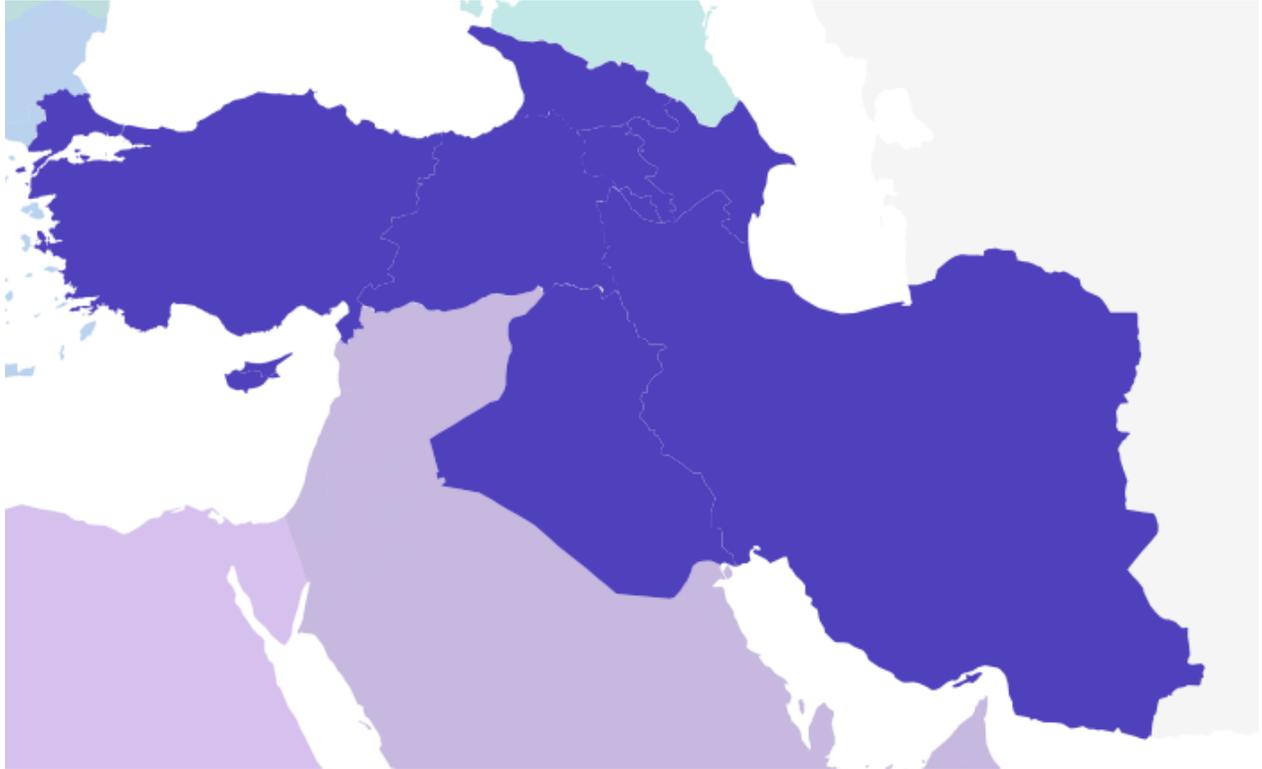


The region bordering the Red Sea and the eastern Mediterranean has served as an important crossroads of human migration out of Africa over the last 100,000 years. More recently, the Arab conquests of Egypt and the Levant have reinforced this shared genetic heritage.



NORTHERN WEST ASIAN

0.7%



Roughly bounded by Anatolia in the west to Iran in the east, northern West Asia has a shared genetic heritage going back tens of thousands of years. Domestication of grains and livestock emerged 11,000 years ago in this region, sparking the agricultural revolution that spread to parts of Europe, Africa, and other parts of Asia



My grandmother on my father's side, had the last name of:

"MERDJAN"

A last name with definite Armenian roots



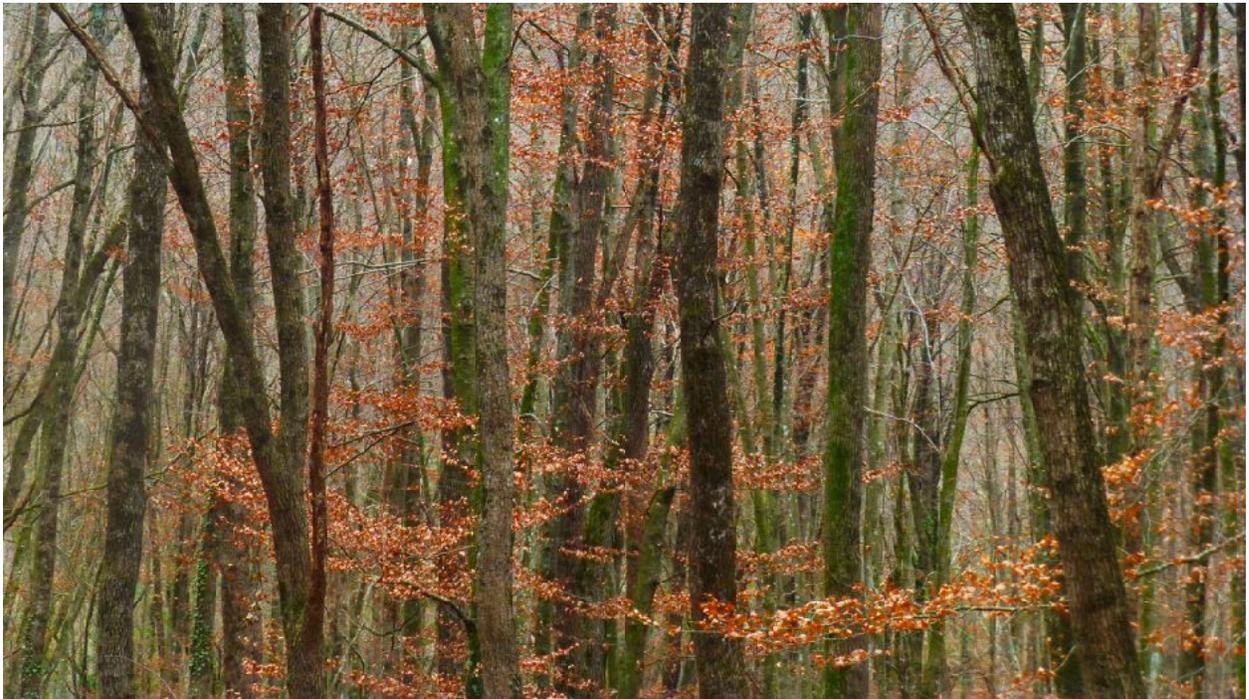
SIMONE MERDJAN · 1900 / 1995

BROADLY EUROPEAN

6.1%



Much of Europe was buried under miles of ice ten thousand years ago. As the glaciers receded over millennia, Neolithic farmers from **Western Asia** joined Paleolithic hunter-gatherers to settle Europe. Some European DNA is to assign confidently to one population and receives a “Broadly” designation.



BROADLY SOUTHERN EUROPEAN

12.4%



Southern Europe, including the Iberian, Italian, and Balkan peninsulas as well as the island of Malta, is a region defined in great part by the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean has provided transportation routes, keeping these regions connected culturally and genetically. Broadly Southern European DNA matches several specific populations and is difficult to assign to just one.



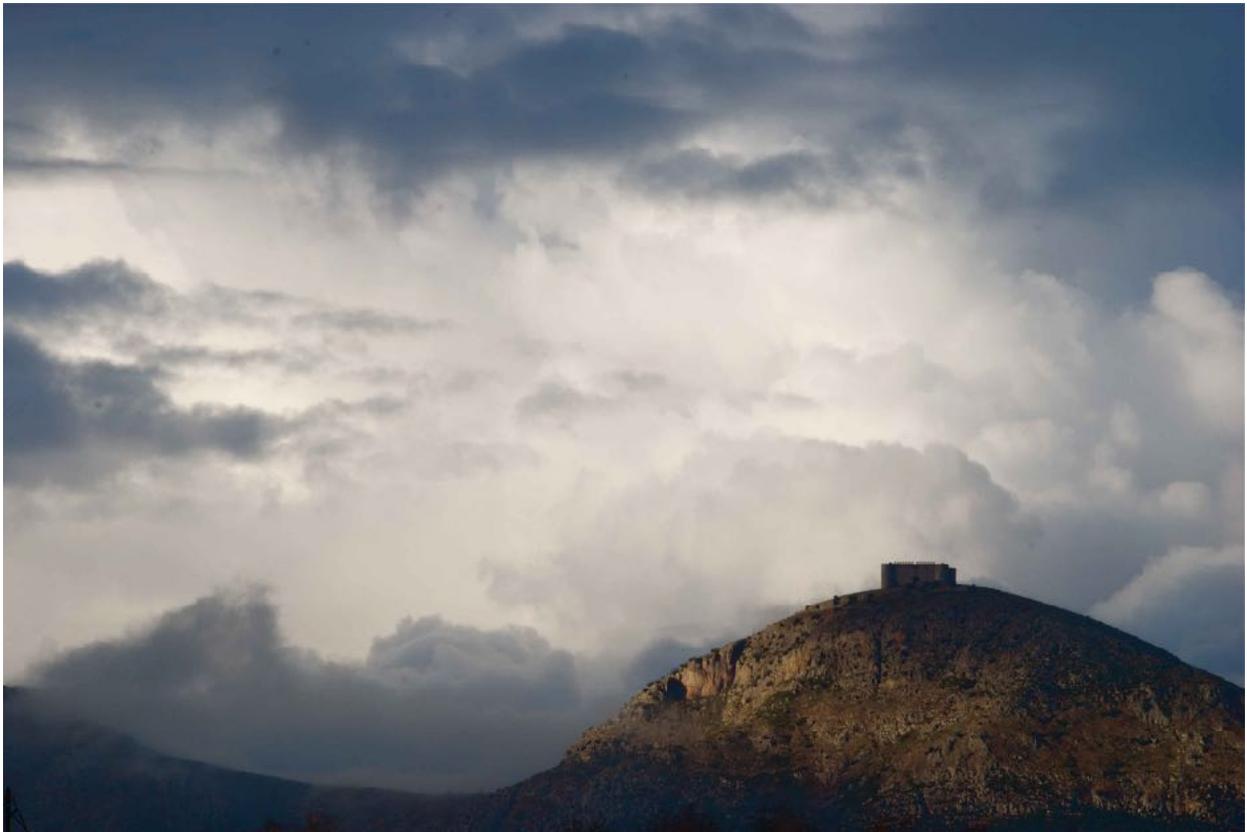
SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

4.8%



You most likely had an ancestor born between 1800 and 1860 that was 100% Spanish & Portuguese

The genetic landscape of the Iberian Peninsula - represented today by the people of Spain and Portugal - was influenced by several Mediterranean civilizations, including 800 years of Arabic North African rule. Now, a small North African genetic signature is present in Iberian DNA, and over eight percent of Spanish words carry Arabic origins. Conquistadors from Portugal and Spain colonized parts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas, and DNA signatures of Iberian ancestry are now relatively common in people of Latin American descent.



ITALIAN (SICILIAN)

14,7%



You most likely had an ancestor born between 1800 and 1860 that was 100% Italian

Italy has 20 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 3 regions.
Sicily, Calabria, Campania.

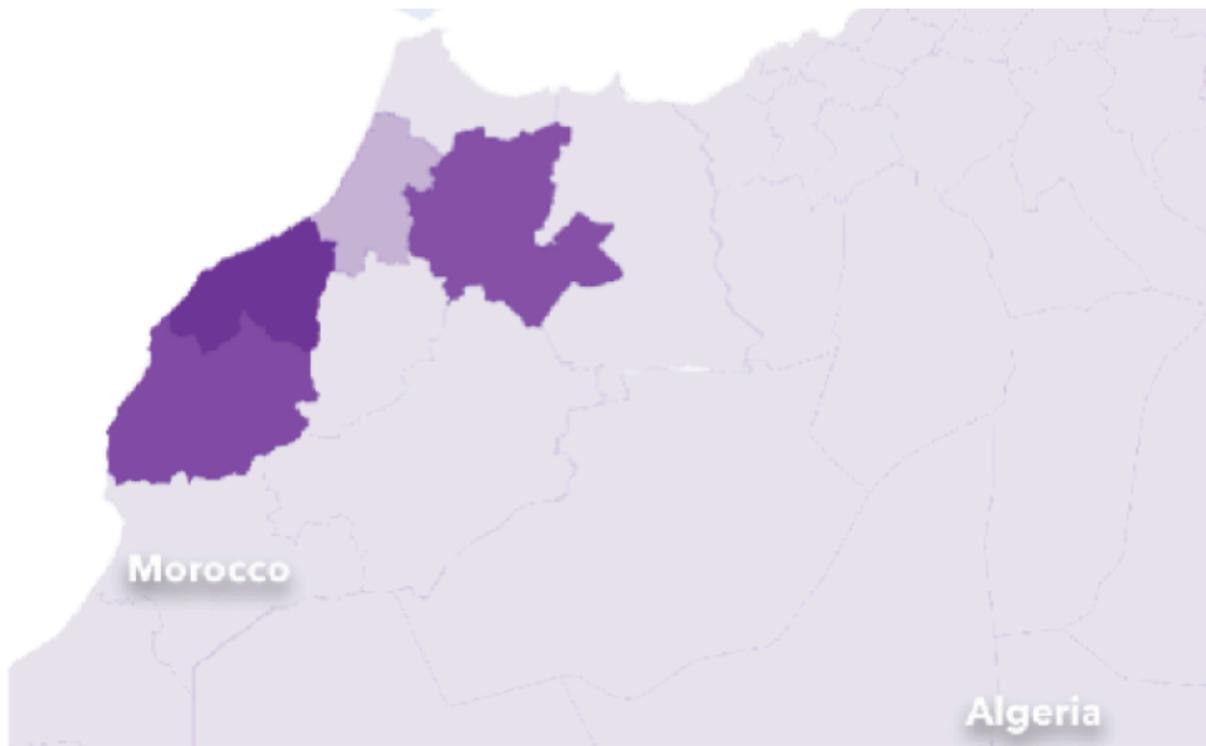


The surname Scala is for its part omnipresent in the province of Naples (where we also find the form Di Scala), it is also found in Sicily

My aunt Micheline Cohen, told me many years ago that our last name was Cohen Scali., confirming the Sicily link shown on the DNA map here above.

NORTH AFRICAN

4.8%



You most likely had an ancestor born between 1680 and 1770 that was 100% North African

Humans lived along the southern shores of the Mediterranean as early as 300,000 years ago, but the genetic heritage of most North African people today reflects a mixture of North African, southern European, western Asian, and Sub-Saharan ancestry. Today, indigenous North African ancestry peaks in the Berber people of the Maghreb, while the genetic legacy of the Arab conquest of North Africa and the 16th-century expansion of the Ottoman Empire can be found throughout the region as well.



ALGERIA

LIKELY MATCH

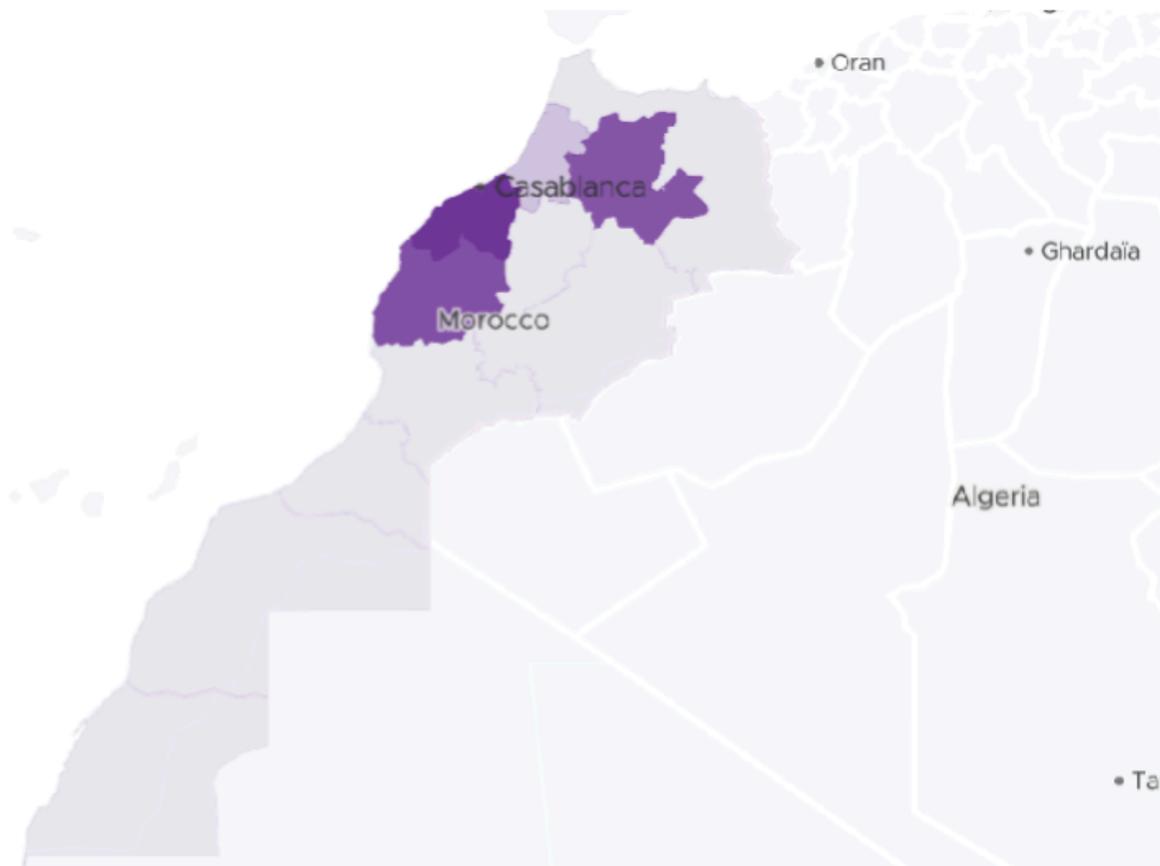


Algeria has 48 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the Algiers Province.

And yes, Moises Merdjan born in Alger in 1773 was the grand father of my great grand father (easier to picture that say my great great great grand father.

MOROCCO

HIGHLY LIKELY MATCH



Morocco has 12 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 4 regions:
Casablanca-Settat · Marrakech-Safi · Fez-Meknes · Rabat-Salé-Kenitra

BROADLY WESTERN ASIAN & NORTH AFRICAN

3.3%



MATERNAL LINE



My grandmother, Madeleine Ceulemans, born in Antwerp, 1905
and Elena Huysmans, my mother, born in Antwerp in 1932

EASTERN EUROPEAN

0.2%



You most likely had an ancestor born between 1680 and 1800 that was 100% Eastern European

Between the eighteenth and twentieth centuries, Eastern Europe was heavily influenced by Imperial (and then Soviet) Russia, but the genetic heritage of Eastern Europe traces back to peoples living southeast of the Baltic Sea as well as to a more recent influx of Slavic-speaking peoples from north of the Black Sea. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, millions of Eastern Europeans migrated west in search of economic opportunity. In the United States, Eastern European ancestry is most common in the Midwest.



BROADLY NORTHWESTERN EUROPEAN 1.2%



Northwestern Europeans are represented by people from as far west as Ireland, as far north as Norway, as far east as Finland, and as far south as France. These countries rim the North and Baltic Seas, and have been connected throughout much of history by those waters. Broadly Northwestern European DNA matches several specific populations and cannot be assigned to just one. This shared heritage may be the result of extensive migration, possibly including the Germanic invasions of the early Middle Ages.

BELGIUM · THE NETHERLANDS
GERMANY · FRANCE

47.5%



FRANCE

POSSIBLE MATCH



France has 13 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 2 regions.

1. Hauts-de-France
2. Pays de la Loire



You most likely had an ancestor born between 1860 and 1920 that was 100% French and German

GERMANY

LIKELY MATCH



Germany has 16 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 3 regions.

1. North Rhine-Westphalia
2. Baden-Württemberg
3. Hesse

NETHERLANDS

LIKELY MATCH



The Netherlands has 12 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 4 regions.

1. North Brabant
2. South Holland
3. Limburg
4. North Holland

BELGIUM

HIGHLY LIKELY MATCH



Belgium has 3 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 1 regions.

1. Flanders



The Limburg provinces of Belgium & the Netherlands are an important common denominator as the ancestors of my maternal great grand father are from that province and can be traced since 1751



ASHKENAZI JEWISH

4.0 %



About 80% of modern Jews have Ashkenazi ancestry, according to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. ... Only 46% to 50% of the DNA in the 128 samples originated with the group of people who were also the **ancestors of the Flemish people in the study**

You most likely had an ancestor born between 1680 and 1770 that was 100% Ashkenazi Jewish



As mentioned in the report, Ashkenazi and Flemish seem to have a shared history. So I did not hesitate to mention it on my mother side.

Great-grandpa Charlemagne?

If you have European ancestry, you're probably descended from Charlemagne. The authors of a recent study estimated that every European who lived over 1,000 years ago – and left descendants – is very likely the ancestor of every ethnically European person alive today. And Charlemagne, King of the Franks, was particularly prolific, siring around 20 known children.

It might sound counterintuitive, but it has to do with something called "pedigree collapse," or a folding-in of the human family tree. We have 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents and – skipping ahead a bit here – over 1,000 *10th*-great-grandparents. If we follow this logic back over 40 generations to the time of Charlemagne, we should each have more than a trillion ancestors. But this would be impossible (that's over 10 times the total number of humans estimated to have *ever lived*). If you go far enough back in time, your pedigree is actually "collapsing" in on itself over and over again, with many of your ancestors showing up on multiple branches of your family tree.



Charlemagne

At times the lines are clear
Be it the Northwestern European Flemish side of my mother,
or the Semitic/Sephardic Southern European side of my father,
But at times they do share some areas

That is when North meets South
and South meets North

Let's start on my father
side where we do find a
flemish last name.
Simone, my grandmother
whose father as you
already know was Algerian
married Marie Françoise
Van den Driesse (here
below) born in Gouy-lez-
Piéton in Belgium. She
maybe born on the
francophone side, but her
last name is definitely from
the flemish one.





Just as on my mostly Semitic Sephardic paternal side, some northern European appears, the same goes for my mother side who is mostly Northern European. Her grand mother name was Marthe Espagne, She was born in Brussels in 1875. As it is well known, "Espagne" is a common last name of Jews from Spain who converted in the times of the inquisition. So is there some of the Portuguese, Spanish DNA from my mother side as well ?



That said, I should mention that her husband was born in Bilzen, Limburg in 1871. His grand father was David Hansen born in 1823. A surname not generally used in those times in such a catholic region, unless some jewish roots are attached to it. David's grand father was Mathys Hansen (or Hanssen) born in 1751. Hansen as a last name, translated as the son of Hans, even though Danish or German could be traced to semitic roots for its translation in time.



RESUME OF DNA PERCENTAGE

EUROPEAN

90.9 %

NORTHWESTERN EUROPEAN

48.7 %

BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS,
FRANCE & GERMANY (47.5 %)

BROADLY NORTHWESTERN EUROPEAN (1.2 %)

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN

31.9 %

ITALY (14.7) % · SPANISH PORTUGUESE (4.8%)

BROADLY SOUTHERN EUROPEAN (12.4%)

OTHER EUROPEAN ORIGINS

10.3 %

ASHKENAZI JEWISH (4.0 %) ·

EASTERN EUROPEAN (0.2%)

BROADLY EUROPEAN (6.1%)

WESTERN ASIAN % NORTH AFRICA

8.9%

NORTH AFRICAN
MOROCCO & ALGERIA

4.8 %

NORTHERN WEST ASIAN
BROADLY NORTHERN WEST ASIAN (0.7%)

0.7 %

ARAB, EGYPTIAN & LEVANTINE
EGYPTIAN (0.1%)

0.1 %

BROADLY WESTERN ASIAN
& NORTH AFRICA

3.3%

UNASSIGNED

0.2%



Born in Paris



Grew up in Brussels



Boarding school in a Castle, Jodoigne



Jerusalem of course



Catalunya, as important in my heart



Guadalajara for the last 27 years



New York, the one city I know where on every block I go by, there is always at least one person with as much if not more multicultural DNA to share as I do.



CONCLUSION

At the end, I can consider that my DNA is 50 % flemish teutonic viking, and 50% semitic/sephardic. And that is how I will now answer when people ask me: "where are you from?"

There is no doubt that looking at this picture, you will agree that I fit perfectly in it. They all are companions from secondary school, all of them, Belgians. No doubts my flemish side gave me my outer shell.



And no doubts either my semitic/sephardic side gave my my inner core

THE

END