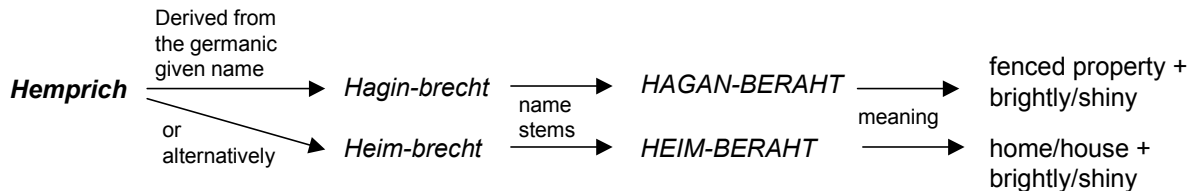


Short Summary about the Hemprich Family History

The Name *Hemprich* – Derived from a Germanic Given Name

In the literature about the derivation of names, the name *Hemprich* is usually derived from the Germanic given name "Haginbrecht" (or "Heimbrecht"), which is constructed from two stems: "HAGEN" + "BERAHT" (or alternatively "HEIM"+"BERAHT"). From these name stems, the meaning of *Hemprich* can be derived as follows:



According to a family legend (see also separate section), the name *Hemprich* is derived from a Huguenot name "*Chevaliers de Hempricourt*". Regarding the mentioned literature and compared to the known genealogical facts, this legend is very unlikely. Firstly, the literature about the derivation of names suggests a completely different explanation. Secondly, the *Hemprich*-family has already been traced in Germany some decades before the arrival of the Huguenots in 1685.

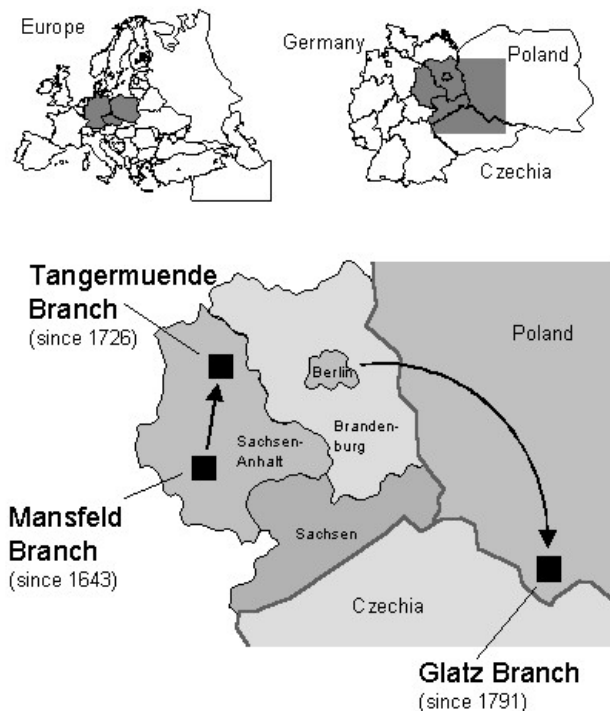
The Main Branches – Probably, all Hemprichs are Related

All Hemprichs - in earlier times as well as today – can be assigned to three main lines, which are probably directly related to each other.

The Mansfeld Branch (since 1643)

The Mansfeld Branch, which a lot of today's Hemprichs descend from, goes back to Hans Hemprich, a shepherd, who married in 1643. After the Thirty Years' War, he settled as a farmer in Rottelsdorf in the Mansfeld county west of Halle/Saale, Germany. Although several church records and property contracts prove the life of Hans Hemprich, his origin has not been found yet.

The first Hemprichs from the Mansfeld county worked as farmers. In the following generations, several descendants worked as shoemakers and miners. Wellknown descendants of the Mansfeld branch are the teacher Karl Hemprich (born in 1867), who published several textbooks about pedagogy and youth welfare, and the museum's director August Hemprich (born in 1870), who lived in Halberstadt, Germany.



The Tangermuende Branch (since 1726)

The Tangermuende Branch, which most of today's Hemprichs descend from, goes back to Johann Christoph Hemprich, who settled in Tangermuende (west of Berlin, Germany) around 1730. Johann Christoph Hemprich migrated to Tangermuende with the Prussian cavalry regiment "von Bredow". Since the trace of this regiment leads back to the Mansfeld county, the descent from the Mansfeld Branch is very likely. A church record in the village of Wanzleben – half the way between Mansfeld and Tangermuende – is the oldest document of the Tangermuende Branch.

In the Tangermuende Branch, the shoemaker profession was very common. A later descendant married the daughter of a brewery owner. The brewery – since then under the name of Hemprich - existed until the beginning of the 20th century.

The Glatz Branch (since 1791)

In fact, the Glatz Branch consists only of a single family, which was founded by the military surgeon Carl Christoph Hemprich, who married in Glatz in 1791. Although the church records mention Berlin as his place of origin, his link to the *Hemprich*-pedigree has not been uncovered yet.

The importance of the Glatz Branch is based on the famous Africa explorer Wilhelm Hemprich (born in 1796) and the spa doctor Karl Hemprich (born in 1798), both sons of the surgeon Carl Christoph. Since both had no children, there do not exist any descendants of the Glatz Branch.

The Family Legend – Do the Hemprichs Descend from Huguenots?

The *Huguenot Legend* is wellknown to almost all of the living Hemprichs by oral tradition. Hence, the Hemprichs allegedly descend from French Huguenots, who migrated to Prussia after the invitation of the Prussian King (Edict of Potsdam, 1685). According to this theory, the name *Hemprich* is derived from the French noble name „Chevalier de Hempricourt" or "Hunprichourt".

The *Huguenot Legend* is closely related to the Hemprich-Branch of Tangermuende because the origin of this branch was unknown for a long time and is still some kind of uncertain today. According to the tradition, a descendant of the Tangermuende Branch has formulated the *Huguenot Legend* already in the 19th century. Since then, the legend has spread over all Hemprichs – in the Tangermuende as well as in the Mansfeld Branch.

However, based on the available facts, the *Huguenot Legend* seems to be very unlikely:

- Research results from the Tangermuende Branch indicate an origin from the Mansfeld Branch with high probability.
- The literature about the derivation of names, derives the name *Hemprich* from a Germanic given name.
- A really plausible French predecessor-name for *Hemprich* is not known. Most closely comes the name "de Hempricourt" of a noble family in Liege, Belgium.
- The consequence of a Huguenot derivation would be that the name *Hemprich* would have developed in two different ways. Since the name *Hemprich* is documented in the Mansfeld county already in 1643 and therefore, 40 years before the Huguenot immigration, the origin of the name would have to be explained differently in the Mansfeld and the Tangermuende Branch.
- Documented by church records since 1726, the family members of the Tangermuende Branch belonged to the Lutheran religion. There are no facts known, which indicate a different religion or a change in religion. Furthermore, one would not expect religious fugitives like the Huguenots, who left their country for religious reasons, to easily change their religion.

In spite of all the mentioned doubts, the fascination of the *Huguenot Legend* is a kind of family band that is shared by all of today's Hemprichs.



Wellknown Hemprichs – Who Was the Africa Explorer Wilhelm Hemprich?

Some of the Hemprichs born before 1900, managed to get recognized in their times and even today. In biographical collections, books and newspaper articles, you can find:

The **Africa Explorer Wilhelm Friedrich Hemprich**, who was born in 1796 in Glatz (Poland) and who studied medicine in Breslau and Berlin. During 1820-1825, he explored the animals and plants of Africa and died there in 1825 from a fever.



The **Spa Doctor Karl Friedrich Hemprich**, who was born in 1798 in Glatz (Poland) and studied medicine in Breslau. He worked as a doctor in the spa of Bad Kudowa. He published several articles and books about the furriginous springs of Kudowa and died there in 1844.



The **School Teacher and Officer for Youth Welfare Karl Hemprich**, born 1867 in Bennstedt (Germany), worked as a school teacher and in youth welfare. He published several pedagogic textbooks and - as "father Hemprich" - deserved well of youth welfare.



The **Museum's Director August Hemprich** was born in 1870 in Doellingen (Germany) and lived and worked in Halberstadt. There, he founded the urban museum, did research in geology, and supported excavations.



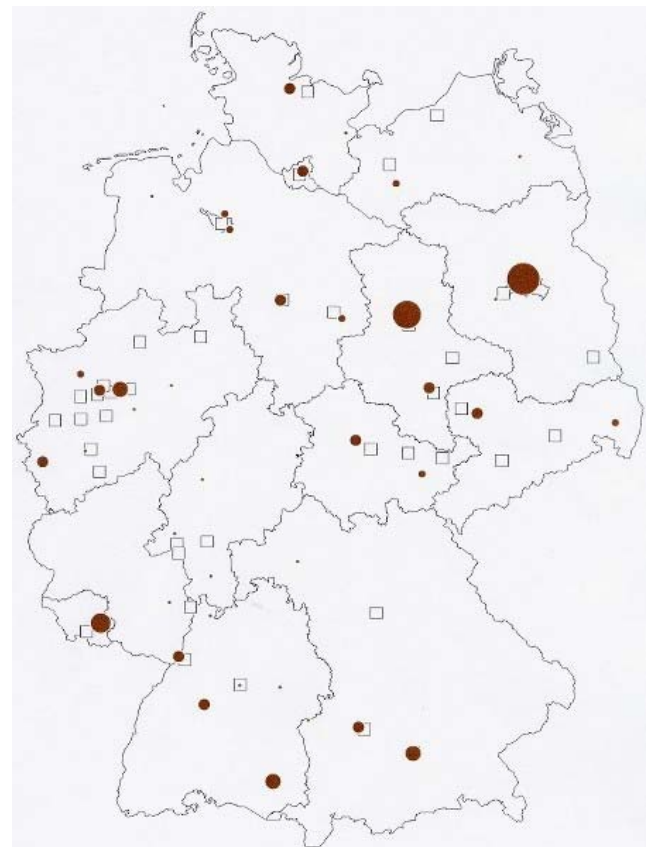
Today's Hemprichs –Around 100 Entries in Address Books Worldwide

In the address books of Germany, about a hundred entries for the name *Hemprich* can be found.

In the shown figure (source: Prof. Dr. Konrad Kunze, University of Freiburg, Germany) the geographic distribution of today's address book entries in Germany is illustrated. The figure is based on the postal codes and address book entries of about 1995. The size of the shown circles is proportional to the number of address book entries in the corresponding postal code area (first two figures of the German postal code).

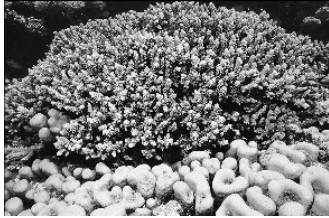
In the area around Magdeburg, the remainder of the former Tangermuende Branch can still be seen. Most of the other family branches have seemingly spread all cross over Germany during the 20th century.

Further address book entries in lower numbers are known from the USA and Canada.

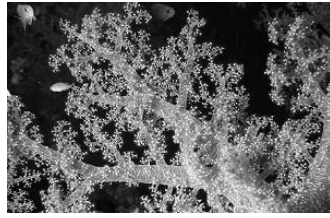


Hemprich's Animals and Plants – Do You Know Hemprich's Gull?

The Africa explorer Wilhelm Friedrich Hemprich conducted extensive studies on the animals and plants of Africa and discovered several new species. As a result, we today know several animals and plants, which are named *Hemprich*. Usually, *Hemprich* can be found in the Latin species name, e.g. "acropora hemprichii", where the Latin "hemprichii" means "Hemprich's". Besides the Latin species names, a few of the animals like "Hemprich's Gull" are directly named *Hemprich*.



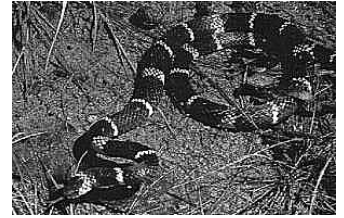
Acropora hemprichii
(Coral)



Dendronephthya hemprichi
(Coral)



Larus hemprichii
(Hemprich's Gull)



Micrurus hemprichii ortonii
(Snake)

Genealogy is Fun – Just Join!

Have you just started to get interested in the *Hemprich* genealogy? Then, just join! There are several interesting possibilities starting from the integration of a new branch into the *Hemprich*-pedigree until founding a complete new research topic.

What do you know about your ancestors? Have you already researched your own Hemprich-ancestors? If not – just try one of the following approaches:

- Is there anyone in your family, who already works on a family genealogy? Maybe, your own ancestors are already included?
- Im sure, your grandpa and grandma have kept old fotos or documents in their desks? Usually, you can learn about two or three generation of your ancestors by simple asking living relatives.

This is the way you get connected! You have already researched your own *Hemprich*-ancestors to a certain degree? You are looking for the connection to the known branches of the *Hemprich*-pedigree? In this case, just use one of the following opportunities:

- Simply send me your own pedigree or some known facts about your ancestors like the name and the date of birth of your grandfather! Within a short time, you will get an answer whether your branch has already been researched and some hints for further research. Contact address: Markus Hemprich, Hornberger Strasse 24, 71034 Boeblingen, Germany, phone: +49 7031 281445, mail: hemprich@gmx.de or webmaster@familienforschung-hemprich.de).
- Use the online-pedigree on the internet-site: <http://www.familienforschung-hemprich.de> (menu item "Pedigree"). This web-site offers a complete genealogy software package, which works with a database of the *Hemprich* genealogy. You can search your ancestors by using the search function or by listing a selection of the persons in the database. For these and other functionalities, also have a look at the corresponding program-symbols while viewing the online-pedigree.
- Download the already known *Hemprich*-pedigrees as PDF-files to your computer and start searching your family branch.