



2020-07-04

Ein Jude aus einem Nachbardorf, Mausche genannt, der Vieh- und Länderhandel trieb, kam mit seinem Eselskarren zuweilen durch Günsbach.

Albert Schweitzer, *Aus meiner Kindheit und Jugendzeit*

Here the author describes another person kept in his memory of his childhood. “A Jew from a neighboring village, Mausche by the name, who traded in livestock and landed property, went with his donkey cart through Günsbach from time to time.”

Günsbach was the place where the author, well, the young boy and his family lived. When we try to understand a relatively long sentence, we naturally tend to make out what its “trunk” is. As in this example sentence, the “trunk” is: Ein Jude kam durch Günsbach, well in English: A Jew went through Günsbach. All other attributes or parentheses are here to “serve”, and this must be carried out in a concentrated manner, otherwise this one sentence would sound quite long-winded indeed. That’s no exaggeration. Just read the following: A Jew was from... He was called... He traded in.... He went with his donkey cart... It would be good for such things to appear in a textbook, but definitely not in a memoir.