



Hi Gene,

I read your article about the Johnson/Thompson families. It was very interesting and I've shared the link on Geni and have sent emails with the link to various family members who go to Geni very rarely if at all.

[Nancy Johnson](#)

1/9/10 at
11:54 PM

One thing that bothered me just a little was Bernt's name. His birth name was actually Bernt Sakarias Berntsen. His dad's name was Bernt Zackarias Jonassen ... and in Norway at that time, the children became the son or daughter of their dad ... so in this case ... Bernt ... sen. Bernt Jonassen dad's first name was Jonas. Here is the census from Norway. You can see, the girls ... or daughter took the last name Berntsdatter and the boys took the last name Berntsen. Kind of sounds like daughter (datter) or son (sen).

Bernt S. Jonassen Husfader g Gaardbruger Selveier 1818 Vanse Prgj.

Anne S. Pettersdatter hans Kone g 1817 Vanse Prgj.

Jørg A. Berntsen deres Søn ug farer tilsøs 1846 Vanse Prgj.

Bergitte S. Berntsdatter deres Datter ug 1850 Vanse Prgj.

Rine T. Berntsdatter deres Datter ug 1852 Vanse Prgj.

Anne S. Berntsdatter deres Datter ug 1855 Vanse Prgj.

Bernt S. Berntsen deres Søn ug 1858 Vanse Prgj.

Anne J. Berntsdatter deres Datter ug 1865 Vanse Prgj.

I wasn't going to mention this to you since I was so impressed with the article, but my brother picked this up too and it bothered him as well. He felt that it should be clarified for future generations. We have Bernt Sakarias Johnson (Berntsen Halland) on the Geni website .. but as you mentioned at the end of the article, you did your best compiling the facts from various sources that weren't always in agreement. I included Halland ... because the norwegians also sometimes include the city after the last name. You may know all this already ... just wanted to clarify why I entered his name that way. I always found it interesting that my great grandfather changed his name when he arrived in the US. I told my friends that his last name was too difficult, so he changed it. Funny too ... a cousin of mine changed his last name legally to what he thought the original name was ... Berenson ... oops! Oh well, now his name is Scott Berenson.

Thanks again for the great article!

Nancy

(<http://www.geni.com/people/Nancy-Johnson/6000000003554608549>)