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For each integer  $\ell \geq 3$  Rikuna defined a polynomial  $r(\ell, x, t)$  over a function field  $K(t)$  (with  $K$  satisfying some mild hypotheses) whose Galois group is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}/\ell$ . Moreover, these polynomials are generic in the sense that every  $\mathbf{Z}/\ell$ -extension of  $K$  arises as a specialization of  $r(\ell, x, t)$ .

We generalize Rikuna's polynomials in the context iterated rational functions, show that they give rise to finitely-ramified iterated towers, and compute their Galois groups. (Received February 07, 2011)