

This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months החדש הזה לכם ראש חדשים

National Convention

SAVE the DATE

As a result of the many requests for another National Convention, we are planning one with the Sephardic Congregation of Evanston, IL, and the South Florida American Sephardi Federation.

The Convention will take place on Labor Day Weekend, August 29 through September 1, 2003 at the Indian Lakes Resort outside of Chicago. More details will follow.

In addition to a *Shabbaton*, food, music, *hazanut*, lectures and getting together, we can also enjoy this lovely resort where swimming, golf, tennis, miniature golf and more are available. There will be a young leadership track, and for those with children, babysitting will be available.



By attending this weekend, we will also participate in the celebration of the centennial of the Sephardic Congregation of Evanston. We particularly want to encourage our educators, Young Leadership and Rabbis to attend and join in discussions of Sephardic education in the United States.

We have not had a national convention for a number of years, so let us all work to make this one a tremendous success. Please call Mazol Ustaev at 212 294 8350 or mustaev@asf.cjh.org.

History of the ASF, Part II

The history of Sephardic House, as well as Part I of the History of the ASF, through the presidency of Daniel Elazar, ASF's first President, 1972 – 1975, were included in the last issue of *Sephardim Today*.

Under the leadership of its new president, Liliane Winn Shalom (1975-1982), the American Sephardi Federation became increasingly involved in concerns affecting the entire Jewish community. ASF, together with other Jewish organizations, issued a call to the U. S. government to bring about an end to the Soviet mistreatment of its Jewish community and to allow the community either the full right to practice its religion, or the right to emigrate. ASF also worked to bring the treatment of Jews in Arab Lands to the attention of the American public and government, *<Cont. on page 10>*

Gala Dinner And Film Festival

To celebrate the recent merger of the American Sephardi Federation and Sephardic House, this year's Gala Dinner and the kickoff of the *7th International Sephardic Film Festival* were combined into an elegant, exciting evening at the Center for Jewish History on December 10th, 2002. With a turnout of more than 200 guests, the event was a roaring success, exceeding our greatest expectations.

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from the Chairman of the Board

The national Board of Directors meeting on February 16, was well attended despite heavy snow. "Great energy" was the common reaction from the attendees. There is great energy at our new ASF. We have accomplished much in the last year, including improving the infrastructure, usually a difficult and long-term task, which we have achieved in two short years.

Financially, we are far more self-sufficient than before, no longer depending on just a small number of contributors, but rather with "grass roots" support from membership dues and donations. Of course, we must still expand our donor and membership base; we are doing well, but much more is needed.

Our December Gala Dinner/International Sephardic Film Festival opening was a great success. The event was oversold, and all present stayed well into the evening and left with a smile, including the Chief Sephardic Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Bakshi-Doron.

We are very excited about our new Director of Sephardic House, Esmé Berg. You can read more about her in this issue. We thank Janice Ovadiah, the previous Director, for all her work, and we wish her

success in her future endeavors.

Unity has been a common theme of mine. We are a minority within a minority. Each Sephardic community has its own distinct heritage, be it Syrian, Babylonian, Iranian, Bukharian, North African, Afghani, Turkish, Spanish or Portuguese, or of any other origin with Sephardic traditions. Each is part of the diverse and rich heritage that we all share. Scholars say there is a 95% similarity between the traditions and liturgy of all these groups. The best way to keep our heritage alive is to help each other and the cause, and to work together. I often hear that the Sephardim are too individualistic, that they do not work well together, and that is the reason we are losing much of the Sephardic heritage. Let's prove these people wrong. In *Shemot* we are told that *Pesah* is the first month of the New Year, the birth of the nation of Israel, as opposed to *Rosh Hashana*, the birth of the world. Make a commitment of unity this "new year." Work with us for your own community and for the community of all Sephardim; that is what ASF is about.

Moadim leSimha

Mike M. Nassimi

from the Executive Director

Our mission statement is contained in every issue of the Newsletter. In short, ASF works towards two major purposes: advancing Sephardic history and culture, and serving as an antenna to receive and transmit information and knowledge, both based on the needs of the various communities. I say "communities" because the Sephardic world includes people whose ancestors, or themselves, came from countries as different as the Netherlands, Morocco, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, and of course Spain and Portugal and their colonies, speaking Ladino, Judeo-Arabic, French, Judeo-Persian, or perhaps Aramaic in the home. But the identification of "Sephardic" with "Spanish" is a distraction. It ignores the extensive interactions among Jews throughout the Mediterranean region and the Muslim world from well before the Golden Age of Spain, and the commonality of so much culture and liturgy that extended from Babylon to Cordoba. Daniel Elazar, the first President of ASF, included peoples "from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean" as Sephardim in his book *The Other Jews*, and this is the inclusive outlook that we continue to pursue at ASF.

We have responded to the requests of the

individual and collective Sephardic communities in many ways, as you will read in this and future newsletters, but I want to highlight the upcoming National Convention that you have been requesting. The National Convention is planned for Labor Day weekend (August 29 through September 1) at the Indian Lake Resort, just outside Chicago, in conjunction with a celebration of the Centennial of the Sephardic Congregation of Evanston, IL. see page 1. Please remember to mark your calendars.

I believe we are responding well in our programming, but we need more programs about the wisdom of our Sephardic sages, textual learning, liturgy, and Shabbatonim. We have begun an Open Discussion Series that takes place in various homes in New York, which I would like to see spread throughout the country. We need to develop leadership like the wonderful new *Manhattan Sephardic Bikur Holim* group. I thank our indefatigable staff, our active committee members and our supportive Board of Directors, whose work keeps this rich heritage a part of Jewish history and the Jewish present.

Vivienne Roumani-Denn



AMERICAN
SEPHARDI
FEDERATION

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*Sephardic House Council

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| Vivienne Roumani-Denn Executive Director | Mazol Ustaev Associate Director, Programming & Administration |
| Esmé E. Berg Director, Sephardic House | Rachael Freedman International Coordinator for JRAC and Other Special Projects |
| Randall C. Belinfante Librarian/Archivist | |
| Fang Lan Siao Administrative Assistant | |

from the Director of Sephardic House

Sephardic House, now enjoying its new role as the cultural, programming and publishing division of the American Sephardi Federation, is offering a wonderful Spring 2003 program.

- Hispanic Women's History Day, sponsored by the Hispanic Federation and the Consulate General of Israel, will take place at the Center for Jewish History on March 25th.
- An exciting Sephardic Experience Weekend: Celebrating the Jews from Egypt is planned for March 28th - 30th at Congregation Shearith Israel.
- A series of two lectures on "The Great Hahamim of the Sephardic World," by Rabbi Dr. M. Mitchell Serels of Congregation Magen David of Scarsdale, New York, is scheduled for April 1st and May 13th at the Center for Jewish History.

- A Ladino Concert dedicated to the memory of the beloved past Vice-President and Board member of Sephardic House, Jack Calderon, will be held on June 3rd at the Spanish Institute. Please see the page 11 of this newsletter for details of upcoming programs.

As the new Director of Sephardic House, I am delighted and excited to be working with the ASF team to strengthen and promote our Sephardic heritage through all our wonderful projects, while endeavoring to bring our organization to a new level in the 21st Century. I hope that you will be in touch with me with ideas and suggestions, and that you will take advantage of our programs. In addition, please let me know if you would like to lend your support to any of our projects. I look forward to seeing you at our events, and I invite you to visit us on the web at www.asfonline.org or www.sephardichouse.org. ESMÉ E. BERG

The American Sephardi Federation is a national Jewish organization dedicated to strengthening and unifying the American Sephardic community and promoting its spiritual, cultural and social traditions.

Library Update

The ASF library has tallied a number of significant achievements over the past several months. In addition to our continued work in organizing and cataloging an ever-increasing number of books, a large amount of archival material, including some from our own organization, has now been organized, indexed, and prepared for inclusion on the www.asfonline.org website. The organization of an archive involves the creation of what is termed a "Finding Aid." A Finding Aid is like a large, annotated index that assists the researcher in locating information (via computer) for which he or she is searching. Each section is described with an introduction, and then the various contents of the section are detailed. In addition to the earlier archived materials of the Central Sephardic Jewish Community of America, we have now added the archives of the Union of Sephardic Congregations, the World Sephardi Federation, and the American Sephardi Federation. We have also collected materials from the Quincentennial Celebration of 1992 and the Rev. and Mrs. Abraham Lopes Cardozo papers. In this way, the Library is striving to make our Sephardic heritage accessible to researchers and the public for many generations to come. *Randall C. Belinfante*

Gallery Exhibits

Jewish Theatre and Book Designs of Emanuele Luzzati

February 27-August 17, 2003 (Ground floor exhibit cases)

This New York exhibition by one of Italy's most beloved theatre, opera, and book designers, Emanuele Luzzati, features an exclusive collection of artwork dedicated to Jewish Theatre. A graduate of the École des Beaux Arts and Arts Appliquées, and a recipient of three Academy Award nominations for his animations of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Rossini's *The Thieving Magpie*, and Meir Shalev's *Jerusalem*, Luzzati enjoyed a successful retrospective at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris.

Sponsored by the *Centro Culturale Primo Levi in North America* and the Yeshiva University Museum in collaboration with the American Sephardi Federation

Scattered Among the Nations

February 5th - May 1st, 2003 (Constantiner Gallery)

A photographic journey through the most remote Jewish communities of the world, by Bryan Schwartz, Jay Sand and Sandy Cartex.

This exhibition is organized with the non-profit organization *Scattered Among the Nations* and is made possible in part by the generous support of Leon and Elsi Levy.

Jews from Arab Countries The Loss of Ancestral Inheritance (Mezannine exhibit cases)

Photographs depicting Jewish life in Iraq and Libya between the 1920's and 1950's, and the arrival of Iraqi Jews to *Ma'abarot* (transit camps) in Israel. The accompanying text describes the life of Jews in these Arab countries and their history of persecution and loss.

Hours: Mon. through Thurs.: 9am - 5pm

Friday: 9am - 1pm; Sunday: 11am - 5pm

Future exhibits depend on your tax-deductible contributions. Please consider sponsoring an exhibit.

Chief Rabbi Jacob S. Kassin z"l

Jacob S. Kassin was born in 1900 in the old city of Jerusalem. His father, Rabbi Shaul Kassin, was a noted scribe, descended from a long Syrian rabbinic dynasty that began in the 17th Century with Rabbi Yomtob Kassin, a great Kabbalist and Talmudist who served as Chief Rabbi and head of the Bet Din of Aleppo. Yomtob Kassin was the grandson of Shlomo Kassin, who reached Aleppo from Spain in 1540 and became Head of the Jewish community.



Jacob Kassin attended the prestigious *Yeshiva Ohel Mo'Ed Torah* Academy in Jerusalem, and the new Sephardic *Yeshiva Parat Yoseph*, where he established his reputation as a scholar and later became a teacher and Rosh Yeshiva. At age 18, he wed Mazal Hedaya, the daughter of Rabbi Shalom Hedaya, a noted Kabbalist and Talmudic scholar. In 1925, he published *Or HaLevanah*, a three-volume Kabbalistic work based on the writings of Isaac Luria and Shalom Sharaby that is still studied today. From 1928 through 1932, Rabbi Kassin served as a judge (*dayyan*) in the Supreme Beth Din of the Sephardic Community of Jerusalem. In 1931, he received rabbinical ordination from the Great Rabbis of Israel, where he was established as a Talmudic and Kabbalistic scholar. In the same year, he published the *Fruit of the Tree of the Garden*, a book on *Kabbalah*.

Jacob Kassin came to Brooklyn in 1933 to serve as Chief Rabbi of the growing Syrian community. He was concerned about the non-Jewish influences to which members of the community were exposed, and in 1935 he and the Rabbinical Council of the Syrian Community issued an edict against marriage to converts; children of such marriages could not attend community *yeshivot*, and they were denied bar mitzvah, marriage, and burial in the community's cemetery. This *Takana* (edict)

had its roots in a 1927 ruling by Rabbi Shaul David Setton, formerly of Aleppo, the head of the Rabbinical Court in Argentina. The 1935 edict, which was reissued in 1946, 1972 and 1984, was signed by leaders of every Syrian Jewish institution and became a cornerstone of Brooklyn's Sephardic community. Although controversial in rabbinic circles, the strongly worded *Takana*, which was specifically addressed to those who converted to Judaism for the purpose of marriage, and not to righteous converts, essentially ended intermarriage.

By the mid-1950s, there was widespread community feeling that after-school *Talmud Torah* education was not sufficient for the religious education of the community's children. Rabbi Kassin, whose own children attended public school, called for the opening of a Jewish day school. In response, the Syrian community built two yeshivot in the late 1950's; *Magen David Yeshiva* was primarily Aleppan, and *Ahi Ezer Yeshiva* primarily served the Damascene Syrian community. *Talmud Torah* education was virtually eliminated from the community by the late 1960s, and most children attended one of the two community *yeshivot* or the Ashkenazi Yeshiva of Flatbush. As the community grew, other *yeshivot* opened to meet the demands of different religious and educational philosophies and economic circumstances. Today, there are over a dozen *yeshivot*, as well as high schools. There are also several *mikvot*, a community center, a Sephardic *Bikur Holim* and a Sephardic Rabbinic Council to serve the community, which today numbers about 50,000 and encompasses Sephardic Jews from the entire Mediterranean region.

Chief Rabbi Jacob Kassin died in 1990. Rabbi Shaul J. Kassin, his eldest son, who was his father's secretary, writing decisions of the Bet Din, and who taught for over 32 years at the *Magen David Talmud Torah* and then the *Yeshiva*, is now the Brooklyn Sephardic community's Chief Rabbi. The community has built an admirable infrastructure of Jewish life in Brooklyn, with linkages that spread all over the world. *By Sarina Roffé*

MANHATTAN BIKUR HOLIM (MBH) is a division of Sephardic Bikur Holim, the successful *hesed* organization based in Brooklyn, New York. The goal of MBH is to involve young Sephardic people in *hesed* projects in Manhattan. MBH currently has a more than 50 active members and is growing rapidly. Our first two events were a synagogue restoration project at the Stanton Street Synagogue on the Lower East Side and a dinner and Bingo night for less fortunate Jews at the West Side Jewish Center. We are busy planning future events and we are always looking for motivated people who want to get involved. For more information about MBH, please email Joey Shammah at joeyshammah@yahoo.com



Members of Manhattan Bikur Holim at the Stanton Street Synagogue, where they cleaned and made restorations to the historic synagogue that has been in use since 1913.



Jewish Refugees from Arab Countries

The American Sephardi Federation, in cooperation with the World Jewish Congress and Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, is launching an international campaign to educate the public and collect testimonials from Jews displaced from Arab countries. Many major Jewish national organizations, religious and communal, have agreed to cooperate in alerting their chapters and members and activating their communities for this campaign. The educational initiatives include: information posted on our websites, information distributed to affiliates, members, congregations, schools and more. ASF has a speakers' bureau on the subject, a traveling exhibit, and a special short curriculum for elementary and high school students (currently being developed by ASF). *Purim* (March 18) will be the kick off for massive testimonial claims collections, which will extend through *Pesah* and beyond. Synagogues, JCCs & other centers will hold "blitz" evenings to help people fill out forms, and Rabbis will talk about the project in their sermons. Visit our website www.Jewishrefugees.org or contact ASF at asf@cjh.org / 212 294 8350 for more information.

The American Sephardi Federation depends on your financial support for the success of this timely project. Please contribute generously so that we can live up to our part of this project.

Talmidei Hahamim

The American Sephardi Federation and Sephardic House, its programming division, are actively seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to gather and disseminate information on all aspects of our Sephardic Torah heritage. If you are knowledgeable about Sephardic *Talmidei Hahamim* and *Sephardic minhagim*, if you collect publications that detail our Torah past, or if you would simply like to learn by doing, then we need you — and you need us. We are looking for an active and enthusiastic committee, not one to gather data to collect dust! We plan to get the word out, through conferences and postings on our web site. So if interested, please call Vivienne Roumani-Denn at 212 294 8350.

By Morris Shamah

Shehebar Sephardic Center

The Shehebar Sephardic Center (SSC) was started in 1980 in the old city of Jerusalem by Rabbis Sam Kassin and Eliahu Shamoula. The primary function of the SSC is to train and place qualified Sephardic Rabbis in Israel as well as in the Diaspora. In the 20 years since the program began, more than 70 students passed the examinations administered by the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and were ordained. Alumni have been placed in congregations around the world, including Bukhara, Caucus, Croatia, Germany, Argentina, India, Turkey, Columbia, Cuba, the Philippines, Hong Kong, France, Portugal, Canada, England, Spain, South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Venezuela, Australia, Chile, and several communities in the United States.

The SSC supports ten programs:

1. The Abe M. & Geri Cohen Rabbinical Program, dedicated in 1989. Rabbis are taught to be self sufficient, so that they can lead communities in the far corners of the globe. The college offers a comprehensive course of study, with an emphasis on practical laws of *Shehita* (ritual slaughter), *Mila* (circumcision), and *Safrut* (scribe), in addition to an academic background in *Talmud*, *Halacha*, *Tanach*, and history. It also provides a solid grounding in the necessary skills of education, administration, counseling, public relations and communication skills.
2. The American Program, a one-year program for high school graduates
3. The Leah Ben Dahan Spanish Program, for Spanish speaking young men.
4. The Russian Program, to teach Russian speaking students the skills of *Milah*, *Shehita*, *Safrut*, and the performance of all religious ceremonies.
5. The Ethiopian Rabbinical Program, to develop rabbinical leadership for the Ethiopian community in Israel.
6. The Mikdash Shaul Dayyanut Program, which trains students to serve as Judges on a *Bet Din* anywhere in Israel.
7. Schools in the former Soviet Union.
8. The Max and Shirley Hiday Teacher Training College, which trains teachers to work in religious schools.
9. The Alia Azancot Stern Scholarship Fund, providing scholarships for students who cannot afford the eight programs listed above.
10. The Stephen Isaiah Ades Library.

By Sarina Roffé

Had Gadya

Ladino

חד גדיא

Aramaic/Judeo-Arabic

חד גדיא חד גדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
אחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס
ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Un cavritico, un cavritico, ke lo merco mi padre por dos
levanim, por dos levanim.

ואתא שגרא ואכלה לגדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגאת אל קטוין וכלאת אנדייא אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס
ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Vino el gato y comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi padre pos
dos levanim, por dos levanim.

Y vino el perro y mordio al gato ke comio al cavritico ke
lo merco mi padre por dos levanim, por dos levanim.

ואתא כלבא ונשך לשוגרא דאכלה לגדיא
דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגאת אלכלבא וגדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el palo y aharvo al perro ke mordio al gato ke
comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi padre por dos levanim,
por dos levanim.

ואתא חוטרא והכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא דאכלה לגדיא
דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגאת אלעצא וצרבת אלכלבא
אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el fuego y kemo al palo ke ahavo al perro ke
mordio al gato ke comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi padre
por dos levanim, por dos levanim.

ואתא נורא ושרף לחוטרא דהכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא
דאכלה לגדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא אנאר וחרק אלעצא אלי צרבת אלכלבא
אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el agua amato al fuego ke kemo el palo ke aharvo
al perro ke mordio al gato ke comio al cavritico ke lo
merco mi padre por dos levanim, por dos levanim.

Y vino el buey y se bevio el agua ke amato al fuego ke
kemo el palo ke aharvo al perro ke mordio al gato ke
comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi padre por dos levanim,
por dos levanim.

ואתא מיא וכבא לנורא דשרף לחוטרא דהכה לכלבא
דנשך לשוגרא דאכלה לגדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי
חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא אלמא וטפא אנאר אלי חרק אלעצא אלי צרבת אלכלבא
אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el shohet y mato al buey ke se bevio el agua ke
amato al fuego ke kemo el palo ke aharvo al perro ke
mordio al gato ke comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi
padre por dos levanim, por dos levanim.

ואתא תורא ושחט למיא דכבא לנורא דשרף לחוטרא
דהכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא דאכלה לגדיא
דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא אתור ושראב אלמא אלי טפא אנאר אלי חרק אלעצא
אלי צרבת אלכלבא אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el malakh hamavet y se yevo al shohet ke mato
al buey ke se bevio el agua ke amato al fuego ke kemo
el palo ke aharvo al perro ke mordio al gato ke comio
al cavritico ke lo merco mi padre por dos levanim,
por dos levanim.

ואתא השוחט ושחט לתורא דשחט למיא דכבא לנורא
דשרף לחוטרא דהכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא דאכלה לגדיא
דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא אדבכא אח ודבח אתור אלי שראב אלמא
אלי טפא אנאר אלי חרק אלעצא אלי צרבת אלכלבא
אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Y vino el Santo bendicho El y mato al malakh hamavet
ke se yevo al shohet ke mato al buey ke se bevio el agua
ke amato al fuego ke kemo el palo ke aharvo al perro
ke mordio al gato ke comio al cavritico ke lo merco mi
padre por dos levanim, por dos levanim.

ואתא מלאך המות ושחט לשוחט דשחט לתורא דשחט למיא
דכבא לנורא דשרף לחוטרא דהכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא
דאכלה לגדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא מלך אלמות ודבח אדבכא אלי דבח אתור
אלי שראב אלמא אלי טפא אנאר אלי חרק אלעצא
אלי צרבת אלכלבא אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

For more information, updates and
Sephardic connections...
VISIT US ON THE WEB!
www.ASFonline.org

ואתה הקדוש ברוך הוא ושחט למלאך המות
דשחט לשוחט דשחט לתורא דשחט למיא
דכבא לנורא דשרף לחוטרא דהכה לכלבא דנשך לשוגרא
דאכלה לגדיא דובין אבא בתרי זווי חד גדיא חד גדיא
וגא הקדוש ברוך הוא
ודבח מלך אלמות אלי דבח אדבכא אלי דבח אתור
אלי שראב אלמא אלי טפא אנאר אלי חרק אלעצא
אלי צרבת אלכלבא אלי גדמת אלקטוין אלי כלאת אנדייא
אלי שרא באבא כוזו פלוס ואחד אנדייא ואחד אנדייא

Remember the Children of the SHOA

AUSCHWITZ

Estos poetas del Inferno,
Dante, Blake, Rimbaud....
ke avlen kon boz basha....
ke tanyan mas basho...
ke se kayen!

Oy
kualker morador del Tierra
save mas muncho del Inerno
ke estos tres poetas endjuntos.

Yo se ke Dante tanye muy bien el violin...
O, el de la grande virtud!
Ama ke no keran agora
kon sus tersetos maraviyozos
i sus endekasilabos perfektos
espantar a este chiko mansevo djudio
ke esta aki, espartido de sus djenitores...
I solo
solo!
asperando su sira (turno)
en los fornos krematorios de Auschwitz.

Dante...tu abashates a los infernos
kon Virgilio de la mano
(Virgilio 'el gran cicerone')
i akeyo vuestro de Divina Komedia
fue una aventura amuzante
de musika i turizmo.
Esto es otra koza..otra koza...
Komo te vo eksplikar?
Si no tienes imajinasion!
Tu... no tienes imajinasion.

Akodate ke en tu 'inferno'
afilu no ay un manseviko...
I este ke estas viendo aki...
esta solo.

Solo! Sin cicerone...
asperando ke se van avrir las puertas de un inferno
ke tu, povereto morador de Florencia,
no pudites afilu ni imajinar.

Esto es onotra koza...komo te vo dizir?
Mira! Es un lugar ande no se puede
tanyer el violin.
Aki se bozean (rompen) las kuedras de todos
los violines del mundo.

Me avesh entendido, poetas del Inferno?
Virgilio, Dante, Blake, Rimbaud...

Devesh avlar kon boz mas basha!
Devesh tanyer mas basho!
Tanyer mas basho!...ssshhh!
Kayadez!!

Yo so tambien un gran tanyedor de violin...
Y tanyi en el inferno un alay de vezes.

Ama agora, aki...
rompo mi violin i me esto kayado.

This poem, written by the great poet Leon Felipe, was translated into Ladino from Castillian by Dr. Salvador Santa Puche, as it appeared in Ladinokomunita on December 11, 2002.

New Director of Sephardic House

The American Sephardi Federation is pleased to announce the appointment of Esmé Emmanuel Berg as the new Director of Sephardic House, the cultural, programming and publishing division of ASF. Mrs. Berg, whose family comes from Salonika and Izmir, has a strong background in public relations and special event planning. Long devoted to the Sephardic tradition, she and her husband are active members of Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in New York, where she served as President of the Shearith Israel League. Because of her strong motivation to maintain and strengthen her Sephardic heritage, Mrs. Berg first began working for ASF as a volunteer. "I am pleased and honored now to be able to devote one-hundred percent of my energies to working for the Sephardic cause," she says. "I am looking forward to working with ASF's Executive Director, Vivienne Roumani-Denn, the ASF/Sephardic House Board and the entire team, to reinforce and build upon our Sephardic tradition for ourselves, our parents, our children and future generations."



RECIPES

P E S A H

MOROCCAN HAROSET

1 cup mashed dates
1/2 cup ground walnuts
1/4 to 1/2 cup sweet red wine
1/2 tsp cinnamon

LIBYAN HAROSET

1 cup mashed dates
1/2 cup ground almonds
1/4 to 1/2 cup grape juice
dash ginger

Combine all ingredients and grind coarsly.



Gala Dinner And Film Festival

The evening began with greetings and Sephardic hors d'oeuvres. The guests then filled the auditorium for a screening of the film *Embrace Me*, tracing the life of Jo Amar, the acclaimed Moroccan-born liturgical poet, singer and composer. After the film, to great applause, Jo Amar came to the stage to receive the Sephardic Music Heritage Award. Later, during the dinner, Mr. Amar's performance with his band (including his grandson on piano) was completely enthralling, and drove guests to sing, snap their fingers and dance between the tables.



Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron arrived as an honored guest at this momentous dinner. He delivered his words to the guests in Hebrew, translated by Rabbi Hayyim Kassarla into English, and was very generous with blessings throughout the evening. The Honorable Mohammed Bennouna, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations, was



also an honored guest. The ASF and Sephardic House were truly blessed to have such a distinguished crowd.

The 7th International Sephardic Film Festival, presented by Sephardic House and the Yeshiva University Museum, spanned the entire week following the Gala dinner. Film subjects ranged from the thriving fish market in Seattle to the bustling Mahane Yehuda Market in Jerusalem, and on to the remote town of Kresnia Sloboda in north Azerbaijan. The films explored communities with a great diversity of individuals, all linked by their common Sephardic heritage.



We have already started planning the next great event, journal and Film Festival. We hope to see you there in the Fall!

By Rachael Freedman

Thanks to

Florence Tatistcheff
(Gala Chair)
and
the committee



Belmonte Project

The American Sephardi Federation invites support for the *Belmonte Project*, a new undertaking to assist the *anousim* community in the town of Belmonte, in Northern Portugal, in its return to normative Judaism. This is a community of about 160 who are descendents of Jews who, although forcibly converted to Christianity in 1497, continued to practice Judaism in secrecy for 500 years. Following the end of the Salazar dictatorship, many in the Belmonte community began to observe their ancestral religion openly. These developments culminated in 1996 with the dedication of a newly built synagogue.

The *Belmonte Project* has secured the services of Mordecai Levi Lopes to become the community's spiritual leader, teaching classes for children and adults, training them for *bar/bat mitzvah*, and preparing those who wish for conversion. Lopes, of *anousim* background himself, has met with and been accepted by the Belmonte community, which will provide a rent-free apartment for him, his wife and daughter. The 29-year-old Brazilian has completed one year of rabbinical training in Israel and is working toward his ordination. He is also a doctoral candidate at a Paris university.

Project organizers have set a goal of \$10,000 for Phase One of the program, which covers the first six months of educational activities, books and other learning materials; technical support, such as computers and communications links; and living expenses for Lopes, who will serve without salary.

The Belmonte Project is the outgrowth of a Portuguese Jewish Heritage Tour in 2002, led by Rufina Bernadetti Silva Mausenbaum, founder of a website serving Sephardim of Portuguese ancestry, <http://www.saudades.com>. For further information, contact the American Sephardi Federation, mustaev@asf.cjh.org, 212 294-8350. *By Kathleen Teltch*

International Jewish Genealogy Conference Features Sephardim

The 23rd Annual International Jewish Genealogy Conference, to be held in Washington, D.C. July 20 - 25, 2003, features an unusually large and excellent program of presentations on Sephardim, as well as other instructive and useful topics for researchers. The conference program, together with registration information and information about SefardSIG, may be found at the web site <http://www.jewishgen.org/sefardsig>. Topics include Sephardim in Jewish History; the Jews of Bulgaria; Greek Jewish Genealogy; Resources in Istanbul; the Jews of Cape Verde; the Jews of Rhodes and Izmir; the Kassin Rabbinic Dynasty, 1540 - 2002; the Sephardic Legacy in New Mexico: A History of the Crypto-Jews; the Bene Israel Jews of India; the Jews of Iran; the Jews of Ethiopia, and others.

Summer Ulpan in New York

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem will bring its Hebrew Language Summer Ulpan to New York City in July 2003.

Available: Transferable credits and dormitory accommodation is available.

For further information contact:
Hebrew University Summer Ulpan in New York,
Jo Ann Panzella, 800 404 8622 or
212 472 2288 X312;
jpanzella@hebrewu.com; <http://overseas.huji.ac.il>.

New Chief Rabbi for Turkey

Rabbi Isak Haleva was installed as the Chief Rabbi of Turkey in a religious ceremony in Istanbul's Neve Shalom synagogue in December, 2002. Rabbi Haleva is the third Chief Rabbi since the establishment of the Turkish Republic. His predecessors were Rafael Saban and David Asseo.

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History of the ASF, Part II *<Cont. from front page>*

including a full-page advertisement in the New York Times in response to Saddam Hussein and Muammer Qadafi's "offer" of return. Efforts were also made, through UJA's "Project Renewal" to aid Sephardim living in impoverished development towns in Israel. This project helped to educate Sephardic youth and to build affordable housing for Sephardic families.

The next ASF president, Leon Levy, served from 1982 until 2001, when he became Honorary Lifetime President of the organization. Under his leadership, the Federation decided in 1982 to focus its scope of activities and to encourage more cooperation between American Sephardic communities. Leon Levy brought national attention and honor to ASF when he became the first Sephardic Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, serving from 1997-1999. Through his vision and efforts, in 1999 the ASF became a founding partner at the Center for Jewish History in New York, joining in partnership with the American Jewish Historical Society, the Yeshiva University Museum, YIVO, and the Leo Baeck Institute.

With the move to its quarters at the CJH, the ASF entered a new era in its history. The availability of an excellent auditorium made increased cultural programming possible, and there was a significant growth in lectures, music, dance, and other Sephardic cultural events. Vivienne Roumani-Denn, originally from Benghazi, Libya, formerly the Judaica Librarian at the University of California, Berkeley, and now the Executive Director of ASF, came to ASF in late 1999 to start the Sephardic library and archive that continues to grow. ASF opened the only dedicated Sephardic exhibition space in North America, the Leon Levy Gallery, for exhibits that have included rare books and etchings from Spain and the Netherlands, spectacular photographs of Moroccan Jewish

tombstones, Sephardic *Haggadot*, and photographs of Jewish refugees from Libya and Iraq.

With Leon Levy's retirement as President in 2001, Mike M. Nassimi assumed the leadership of the organization as Chairman of the Board. Recent years have seen a renewed emphasis on issues of concern to the Sephardic communities, including curriculum development on Sephardic topics for use by Jewish day schools and after-school programs, and a major effort on behalf of the Jewish refugees from Arab lands that is described on page 5 in this issue. On June 6, 2002, the American Sephardic Federation and Sephardic House merged, with Sephardic House becoming the programming and publication division of ASF. This synergistic merger ensures a growing focus on cultural issues and even more effective programming. February 2003 marked the beginning for a new Director of Sephardic House, Esmé Emmanuel Berg, whose family comes from Salonika and Izmir.

By Evan Landa



Liliane Winn Shalom and
Honorary Lifetime President Leon Levy



The Broome & Allen Boys Camp and Scholarship Fund,

provides scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing Sephardic studies and students planning to dedicate themselves to the Sephardic community.

For applications, visit www.asfonline.org, or contact Rachael Freedman at rfreedman@asf.cjh.org.

The deadline is May 15th, 2003

Mazal Tov

- Mr. & Mrs. Bentsi Cohen on the birth of twin grandsons
- Mr. & Mrs. Norman Belmonte on the birth of their grandson, Gary Pierce "Nissim" Bailey, Norman's namesake.

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Sephardic Cultural Calendar

Unless otherwise indicated, all events are located at the Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16 Street New York, NY 10011.

Phone: 212 294-8350 Fax: 212 294-8348 Email: mustaev@asf.cjh.org RSVP for all events

Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 pm: HISPANIC WOMEN'S HISTORY DAY Honoring Christy Haubegger, Founder of Latina Magazine and Angelina Muñiz Huberman, poet, writer, Professor at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Readings, reception and presentation of Women of Valor Award. Performance: **In Their Own Voices: Women in the Judeo-Hispanic Song and Story.** Contact Mazol Ustaeve at 212-294-8350 for further information. Sponsored by the American Sephardi Federation, Hispanic Federation and the Consulate General of Israel in New York

March 28-30, 2003: SEPHARDIC EXPERIENCE CELEBRATING THE JEWS OF EGYPT. Shabbaton, Friday night and Saturday. Egyptian food, lectures and pizmonim. Saturday evening: Egyptian film and music. Sunday: round table discussion and documentary films about The Jews of Egypt. Location: Congregation Shearith Israel, 70th St. and Central Park West. Reservations necessary. For information please call 212-294-8350. *Made possible in part by the generous support of the Smart Foundation*

THE GREAT HAHAMIM OF THE SEPHARDIC WORLD

A Series of two lectures by Rabbi Dr. M. Mitchell Serels, Congregation Magen David, Scarsdale. Tuesday, April 1, 7 pm: HAHAM NAHUM EFFENDI, THE FAMOUS RABBI OF EGYPT; Tuesday, May 13, 7 pm: THE RABBIS OF SYRIA. Admission: \$5/each lecture, SH & ASF Members Free

Monday, April 14, 6 pm: FILM: L'AFFAIRE DREYFUS (THE DREYFUS AFFAIR) A striking and provocative production! The travesty of justice suffered by Dreyfus is set against the tenor of the times, and includes historical figures of both Jewish and French society. The French military establishment, infected with anti-Semitism, is willing to sacrifice moral and ethical standards, and an innocent Jew, to protect its reputation. In juxtaposition are the heroic figures in Dreyfus' family, and supporters in the intellectual world, who struggle for the truth and vindication. France, 2000, 3hrs. 30 mins., French with English subtitles. Speaker: TBA. Admission: \$7 General/ \$3.50 Students and Seniors. Co-sponsored by the Leo Baeck Institute

COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDERS

Wednesday, April 16, 2003 – 8:30 pm: SEPHARDIC TRADITION CONDUCTED BY DEVICK SELLAM; Thursday, April 17, 2003 – 8:30: Ashkenazi Tradition conducted by Larry Goldstein. These Seders are intended both for beginners and those who are well-versed in seders. Food will contain NO kitniot (rice, etc.) Catered by Village Crown.

Reservations and advance payment are a must. Please call the Young Israel of Fifth Avenue at 212-255-4826.

LADINO PLAYERS THEATRE WORKSHOP OF CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL. Open to anyone interested in performing, singing and assisting in the production. Thursdays, May 1, 8, 15, 7:15- 9:00pm; Sundays, May 4, 11 & 18. Performance scheduled for Lag B'Omer, Tuesday, May 28th at 7:30 pm. For information call Rabbi Ira Rhode at 212-873-0300

Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 pm: CELEBRATING YOM HA'ATZMAUT SONGS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, ANDALUS AND SEPHARDIC ORIENTAL COMMUNITIES. Featuring Hazzan Moshe Tessone and his Ensemble. Longing for Jerusalem, Sephardic Jews have always aspired to bond with the Almighty through liturgical poetry and song, best reflected in the immortal selections of the great Sephardic poets Yehuda Halevy, Abraham Ibn Ezra, and their contemporaries. This concert strives to recreate authentically those enchanting and fervent melodies that express poetic devotion to Jerusalem and the modern State of Israel. Moshe Tessone, Hazan at Ahi Ezer Congregation, Brooklyn, is Director of Sephardic Community Programs and a faculty member of the Beltz School of Jewish Music, Yeshiva University. Presented in association with Yeshiva University Museum. Tickets: \$10; \$8 for YUM, SH and ASF members, seniors & students. Includes YUM admission. (The galleries are open from 11am-8pm)

Thursday, May 15, 7:00 pm: Rescue and Redemption of Ethiopian Jews. Speaker: Asher Naim, author of Saving The Lost Tribe. Asher Naim, born in Tripoli, Libya, made aliyah with his family at the end of World War II. Since 1956 he has held diplomatic posts all over the world, including Japan, Kenya, Uganda, Finland, Ethiopia, and Korea. In 1991 he was appointed as Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations. He began his work on the Jews of Ethiopia during his tenure at the Embassy in Addis Ababa. Admission: \$5. YJFA & ASF Members Free. Co-sponsored with the Yemenite Jewish Federation of America

Tuesday, June 3, 7:00 pm: LADINO CONCERT. SONGS OF LOVE, WEDDINGS AND HOLIDAYS IN THE JUDEO-SPANISH WORLD Featuring The Alhambra Ensemble with Isabelle Ganz. This concert is dedicated to the memory of Jack Calderon. Tickets: \$15; Patrons \$75 (includes an Alhambra Ensemble CD). Location: The Spanish Institute, 684 Park Avenue (68th Street), NY. For reservations call: 212-628-0420



Recent Events

From Babylon to Cathay: Jewish Communities of Asia

The Smithsonian Institution and ASF co-sponsored the 2nd Smithsonian/American Sephardi Federation all-day seminar in Washington, D.C. on February 23, 2003. More than 230 attendees listened in fascination to illustrated lectures on the theme *From Babylon to Cathay: Jewish Communities of Asia*. Georgetown University's Ori Soltes introduced the program with an historical overview of Jewish presence on the Silk Road, and he then discussed the Jews of Kaifeng, China, a community apparently dating to the Ninth Century C. E. that existed in relative isolation for one thousand years. Alanna Cooper, of Harvard's Center for the Study of World Religions, described her research on the Bukharan Jewish community, which lived in several sites in what is now Uzbekistan. This ancient Silk Road community has mostly emigrated to the U. S. and Israel, with a large and active community in Queens.

Following lunch, independent scholar Kenneth Robbins discussed the two thousand year presence of Jews on the Indian subcontinent. There were three communities that interacted little: the Cochin Jews, the Bene Israel, and the "Baghdadi" Jews. "Baghdadi" was a term used for Jews from the Middle East who came in the Nineteenth century. The Indian Jewish community has largely emigrated. The final talk, by anthropologist Ruth Cernea, was on the Iraqi Jewish Diaspora. The "Baghdadi" Jews who established themselves in the British colonial cities of Bombay, Rangoon, and Hong Kong and the international concession of Shanghai identified more and more with the British, who never fully accepted them, and the community essentially disappeared after independence.

The program was coordinated by Louise Werlin.

TOO MUCH MAIL??

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**ASF/Sephardic House needs volunteers
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The New Anti-Semitism, Ancient Antagonisms Aroused?

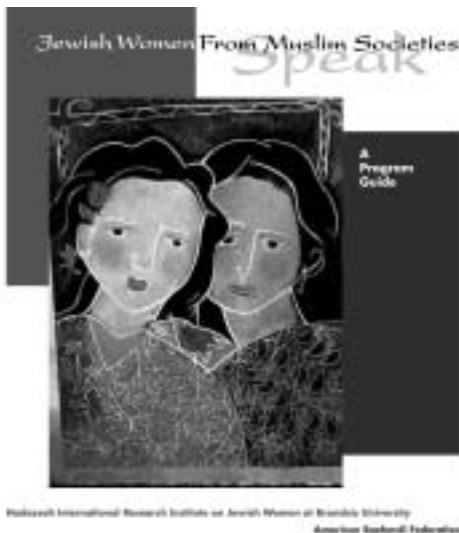
The Center for Jewish History, Fordham University, and the American Sephardi Federation sponsored an evening on *The New Anti-Semitism* at Fordham on February 25, 2003. Ronald C. Kiener, Associate Professor of Theology, Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., spoke on *There Is No Compulsion in Religion: Perspectives on Islam's Attitude Toward Judaism*. Kiener noted that "The fate of Jews among Islam was superior to that among Christians. ..." In Islam, he said, there is "a mixed legacy of admiration and antagonism ..." while "Christianity is more unadulterated in its antagonism." John T. Pawlikowski, Professor of Social Ethics and Director of the Catholic Jewish Studies Program at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL, spoke on *Contemporary Anti-Semitism: New Challenges for the Christian Community*. "While there is a question as to whether the New Testament is anti-Semitic," he stated, "there is no doubt that people have looked to the New Testament to implement Anti-Semitism. ... By the beginning of the second Century, you see a strong dose of theological Anti-Semitism." He acknowledged that scrutiny of Israel is fair, but not when associated with anti-Semitism. "It is the responsibility of Christians," according to Pawlikowski, "never to allow Islam to use the legacy of Christian Anti-Semitism against the Jewish community."

Condolences

To Ralph Sutton and
Naomi Sutton Neustadter
on the loss of their mother,
Sarah Maleh Sutton

•
To Victor Saltiel,
on the loss of his mother,
Ida Saltiel

•
To Sarina and David Roffe, on the loss
of Simon D. Roffe



New Publication Raises Voices of Jewish Women From Muslim World

The American Sephardi Federation has joined with Brandeis University's Hadassah International Research Institute on Jewish Women (HIRIJW) to co-publish *Jewish Women from Muslim Societies Speak*, a collection of vivid personal essays portraying Jewish life in Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Turkey. The publication includes a program guide and additional resources for people who want to create community programs exploring the lives and histories of Jews from the Muslim world.

According to HIRIJW Senior Research Director Susan M. Kahn, who chaired two symposia on Jewish women from Muslim societies following the attacks on September 11, 2001, the Institute hopes, "the publication will stimulate discussion about contemporary dynamics in the Muslim world and raise awareness of Jewish women's history in North Africa and the Middle East."

Although there is some written material available on this subject, the publication uniquely focuses on the voices of women in recounting the stories of Jewish life in the region. According to the introduction by ASF Executive Director Vivienne Roumani-Denn, "Because the essayists all are strong women who played an active role in shaping their family histories, the narratives may help to change some gender stereotypes."

For a copy of *Jewish Women from Muslim Societies Speak*, contact ASF by phone or email.

By Nancy F. Vineberg

The Jews of the Middle East and North Africa in Modern Times

Edited by Reeva Spector Simon, Michael Menachem Laskier, and Sara Reguer. Columbia University Press, 2003. 549 pp. and CD.

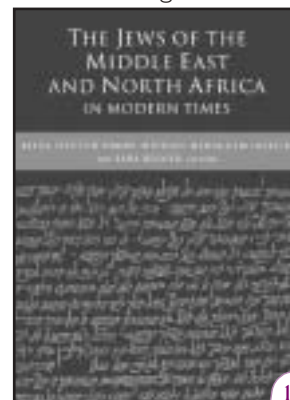
This timely volume addresses an important topic that has recently risen to the fore amidst general ignorance: the lives of the Jews of Muslim lands during the last 200 years. The picture of these Jews that is embedded in the minds of most Jewish Americans is one of impoverished refugees arriving in the new State of Israel, partially offset by school tales of a "Golden Age" in Spain and one still earlier in Babylonia, with a 500 year void in between. Now, in one volume, the complete story is accessible to all.

The first half of the book is devoted to themes: history since the rise of Islam, the Colonial period, economic life, community structure, religion, Zionism, education, etc. The second half comprises chapters devoted to individual countries. The chapters are written by experts and can be read and appreciated independently of each other. This is a book for the interested lay person and beginning student; there are no footnotes, and most chapters contain no references, although all have a list of Recommended Readings for more depth.

Zvi Zohar's fascinating chapter *Religion: Rabbinic Tradition and the Response to Modernity* discusses the contrast between European orthodoxy's response to the *Haskalah* (Enlightenment) and that of many leading Rabbis of North Africa and the Middle East, regarding adaptations of *Halakha* to developments in technology, secular education, etc. This chapter should be required reading in all Jewish schools. Mark Kligman's short chapter on music is accompanied by a CD that contains examples of differences and similarities between the styles of various communities through seven renditions of the cantillations of the same Torah texts and four renditions of the same liturgical texts, together with other illustrative examples.

The level and quality of writing is consistent throughout most of the 26 chapters. The absence of cross-referencing and the complementary structures of the first and second halves sometimes result in the same topic being covered more than once, but this mild annoyance is offset by the ability to read any chapter in any order. This is a book that should be a part of everyone's personal library.

Reviewed by Morton Denn



Latest Publications, Spring 2003

PUBLISHED BY SEPHARDIC HOUSE

The Holocaust in Salonika: Eyewitness Accounts, edited with introductory essay by Steven Bowman and translated from Greek and Judeo-Spanish with introductions and notes by Isaac Benmayor. \$20

ABOUT THE JEWS OF IRAN

1. *Esther's Children-The Jews of Iran: their story, their history, their lives*. A special oversized volume with extensive full color illustrations ed. by Houmman Sarshar. \$110 (+\$10 postage)

2. *Iranian Kosher Recipes - Healthy Meals for the Family, Holidays & Joyous Celebrations* by Ester Moreh. \$35

3. CASSETTE - *Do You Remember?* (Farsi music) by Farid Dardashti. \$13

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. *A Fistful of Lentils - Syrian-Jewish Recipes from Grandma Fritzie's Kitchen* by Jennifer Felicia Abadi. \$25

2. *Survival and Adaptation: The Portuguese Jewish Diaspora in Europe, Africa, and the New World* ed. by Joseph Abraham Levi. \$32.50

3. *Caught in the Crack -Encounters with the Jewish Muslims of Turkey* (an update of the Shabbetai Zevi movement) by Reuven Albert. \$30

4. *From Aleppo to America, Part II - Stories* by Robert Chira. \$25

5. *They Called Me Gigi - A True Story*. Touching and thoughtful remembrances and reflections of a survivor of The Holocaust and post-war struggles in Egypt and France by Berthe Cohen (born in Greece). \$18

6. *No Room of their Own: Gender and Nation in Israeli Women's Fiction* by Yael S. Feldman. \$17

7. *Only a Girl: Remembering My Syrian-Jewish World* (in Manchester, England) by Irene Gunther. \$20

8. *Des Pays du Maghreb...en Terre d'Israel* (in French) by Simon Benzimra (records Jewish life in Morocco especially in Tangier and then in Israel) \$20

9. *Kabbalah and the Holocaust* by Bezalel Naor. \$25

10. *De Mendo da Guarda a D. Manuel I - A Genealogical study of the Portuguese Royal Family* (in English & Portuguese) by Isabel Violante Pereira. \$15

11. *Folktales of Joha - Jewish Trickster*, collected and edited by Matilda Koën-Sarano. \$25

12. *Jewish Life in the Middle Ages* by Israel Abrahams. \$25

13. *Le Fils de Mogador* (in French) Recounting memories of childhood years in Morocco, by David Bensoussan. \$25

14. *The Jewish Nation of the Caribbean-The Spanish-Portuguese Jewish Settlements in the Caribbean and the Guianas* by Mordechai Arbell. \$35

LECTURES ON CASSETTES OF THE 2001-2002 SEASON (each \$10+p&h)

1. The Great Hahamim of the Sephardic World with Rabbi Serels (2 separate cassettes, ea. \$10):
a. The Ben Ish Hai, Rabbi Yossef Hayim of Baghdad: The man and His Teachings.
b. Rabbi Eliyahu Mizrahi of Turkey.

2. Yom Hashoa, April 8, 2002: A Tribute to the Jews of Salonika -Dr. Steven Bowman speaking on: The Second Exile - The Sephardim from Salonika to Auschwitz and Dr. Joe Hali'o's presentation: Remembering Dr. Albert Menashe.

OTHER ITEMS

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