



Bulletin

Igud Yotzei Sin

Association of Former Residents of China

April-May 2008 ♦ Vol LV ♦ Issue No. 395

English Supplement

60 **1948 State of Israel 2008** **Happy Passover!**



*The All-Israel reunion of former residents of China and the ceremony of the presentation of scholarships
Hanukka, December 2007*

Scholarships are presented by



Ambassador of China to Israel Mr. Zhao Jun



The former ambassador of Israel to China Mrs. Ora Namir



Director of the North-eastern Asian Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel Mr. Itzhak Shoham



The former ambassador of Israel to China Mr. Yehoyada Haim



The Chairman of IYS and ICFS Teddy Kaufman



The Deputy Chairman of IYS and ICFS Yossi Klein

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THEMES OF THE DAY

T. KAUFMAN *The Holiday of Holidays*

Sixty Years on the Way to a Peaceful Haven for the Jews of China

On the 8th of May it will be sixty years since the day David Ben Gurion read out the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel. The dreams and the prayers, the tears and hope were transformed into a new Jewish reality. The Jews have returned to their very own land.

In spite of the hardships, both subjective and objective, notwithstanding wars and terror, the country absorbed millions of immigrants, and today the Jewish population nears five and a half million. It's not simply another figure; 52% of the Jewish population are native born Israelis – never having known exile, persecution and expulsion. They were born under the Israeli sky and live in the Land of Israel. This is the great victory of our national movement – the victory of Zionism. Only a hundred years ago there were no more than twenty thousand Jews living here.

The achievements of the young State in every aspect of life are enormous. The Jews have returned to the two principles without which the sovereignty of a country is impossible – the army which defends its borders and its population, and the land which provides sustainability. The achievements are spectacular, such as one of the best Air Forces in the world, and advanced agricultural know-how put to use in many countries under Israeli instruction.

Israel is found in the first ten out of

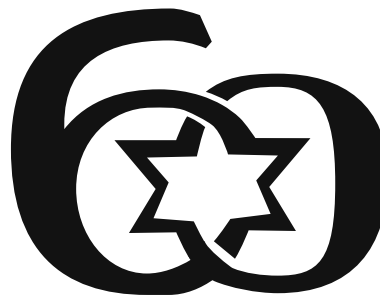
194 countries in the world in the fields of computer industries and nuclear energy. At the same time it occupies the first place in theatre and concert attendance and book publications (per capita).

One of the most significant achievements of Israel is the revival of Hebrew and the creation of a rich culture encompassing poetry and prose, theatre and cinema, radio and television, and teaching in schools, colleges and universities. This revival, taking into consideration the 3 million non-speaking Hebrew immigrants from 92 countries, is one of the miracles of Israel. We have reached Israel from 92

countries with the heritage of different cultures, civilizations, languages, traditions and customs. Despite the contrasts in the Israeli society between the religious and the secular sectors, between the Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jewry, we have become the people of one language restored from the ashes of history to modernity – the language of the Bible and Talmud, of Bialik and Tchernichovsky, the language nowadays of the streets and the markets, radios and T.V. It's now the language in which the child enunciates its first words.

This is the bright, iridescent aspect of the life in the country, but there is another darker aspect which must be mentioned as well.

Each one of us should acknowledge this darker side of our life. The press



ISRAEL 60 JUBILEE
1948-2008

and television report robberies, murder, drug abuse and reckless speeding which have become a common phenomenon all over the world. It's hard though, to accept it in our small country among our people. Approximately a million people emigrated from Israel and settled in various countries. Isn't all this a great tragedy?

Yet, the light shines more brightly and powerfully than darkness. What Israel has given us – its people coming from all the corners of the earth – is the feeling for the land, our only Homeland, the feeling of our shared fate, the address for the homeless nation described by Theodore Herzl a hundred years ago. In the pages of the Israeli history, written in blood by those sacrificing themselves for the people and our right to the land, there are also the names of those who were born in China and arrived in Israel in the first years of the mass immigration.

In the Synagogue dedicated to the former Jewish communities in China we commemorate the sons of our nation, the Chinese compatriots who sacrificed their lives on the altar of their new homeland for the independence of Israel. Approximately eight thousand people from different communities in China came to Israel in the first years of the establishment of the State of Israel. Beforehand, in the twenties of the previous century, there were only a few dozen arrivals – in the 1920's the members of the youth movements of "Hashomer Hatsair" and "Maccabi" – in the 1930's the "Betar" members, mostly from Harbin. In this immigration wave were those who took part in the underground movements struggling against the British Mandate in Palestine (E. Lankin, N. Germant and others).

The wave of immigration from China left its imprint on every aspect of life in Israel in the 1930's and 1950's. Eliyahu Lankin and Mordechai Olmert were members of the first Knesset, and Yacov Lanir (Lankin) was one of the aides to Golda Meir.

Among the academics and scientists we find the former Vice President

of the Israeli Academy of Science, professor Haim Tadmor, the sinologists, professor Eli Yoffe and Uri Grause, the professor of ancient history, Zeev Robinson, the professors of medicine, the brothers Alex and Daniel Katzenelson, and professor Hadassah Shamir (Ravikovitch).

In the Humanities field we find the names of Itzhak Oren (Nadel), an outstanding writer, Rina Litvin, the talented writer and translator, Shmuel Rolband, journalist, lecturer and doctor of philosophy, and also the well known diplomat, Joseph Tekoa (Tukachinsky). The attorney H. Marinsky and others should also be mentioned.

A large group of newcomers from China worked for "El Al" Israeli Airlines, among them the assistant to the general manager, Liova Olshevsky. We should also mention Emmanuel Gil (Glik), the president of "Elbit", one of the biggest electronic companies in Israel.

Another group of engineers worked for the Israeli Railways, among them K. Slutzker, M. Lozar (Lossner), and F. Heiman. Our compatriots also served in the Israeli Defense Forces among them were ranking officers Shmuel Kislev (Kisilev), Fishel Gershevitch, Eliyahu Bar Yosef, David Laskov, Shlmon (Vova) Ash, Grisha Pais, Yosef Vertzman, the Marom brothers and others.

The newcomers from China took part in settling Israel. The foremost is Amikam – the agricultural settlement founded by the "Betar" members from Harbin, followed by Suchmata, Givat Olga, Migdal Haemek, and the "Shikun Shanghai" neighborhood in Tel Aviv.

The Association of the Former Residents of China – Igud Yotzei Sin – was established 57 years ago. A synagogue commemorating the Jewish communities in China was erected on Golan Street in Tel Aviv, the Association Centre "Beit Ponve" was opened on Grusenberg Street, and IYS "Bulletin" is published in three languages – Hebrew, Russian and English.

During its 57 years of existence, our Association assisted two thousand needy compatriots on a monthly basis or through grants. All this could be

accomplished only due to generous donations from former China hands in Israel and in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Australia, Japan, Canada and other countries worldwide.

Throughout the 57 years, two and a half thousand students – children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of former residents of China – received scholarships for higher education. This is our modest contribution to the rebirth of the State of Israel. Furthermore, it should be noted that during the 57 years Igud Yotzei Sin hasn't received any government assistance or subsidies, nor aid from the Jewish agency "Sochnut" or other organizations in Israel.

We, the former residents of China, can proudly survey the past years and with great satisfaction observe the third generation of native Israelis holding high positions in our society. We can, and must be proud of them.

Together with the people of Israel and the World Jewry we now celebrate the 60th Year of Independence of the State of Israel, and notwithstanding the dark clouds in the Israeli sky, our faith in Israel as the only Homeland for the Jewish people is unshakeable.

This belief in the eternity of Israel has led us through two thousand years of exile, through the fires of the Inquisition, pogroms, bloody events and the gas chambers of the Nazi concentration camps.

We shall yet see peaceful and happy days. Things will improve. But even now we should feel happy: we are at home, aren't we?

Wishing you a wonderful Passover!

On the 20th of April, we, the People of Israel and the Jewry of the Diaspora, will celebrate Passover, the symbol of our freedom, the exodus from slavery to a new life and beginning. This is the holiday of eternal spring.

Happy holiday, dear compatriots!

*) The material used by the author for the 50th Anniversary article is included.

From The Album of The Past

Tientsin Jewish Community 80 Years Ago Lag Ba'omer 1928



A Picnic Group. Families and individuals participating: Gershevitch, Merkin, Berulin, Rapoport, Boyarsky,

Dr. Perzel, the mother of Israel Epstein, Rachil Bar, Grinfeld, Zukasoft, Gootbezal, Nahman.

IGUD YOTZEI SIN BULLETIN – English Supplement – ISSN 0793-8365

THE IYS BULLETIN (Russian, English, Hebrew), (approximately 250 pages per issue), all aspects of Jewish communities of China, historical, memories, book reviews, archival information, current lives of individual Jews (China expatriates) worldwide. Continuous Publication since 1954

Published by: **Igud Yotzei Sin**
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(founded 1951)

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"The aim of the Association is to organize the former residents from the Far East for the purpose of mutual assistance and cooperation."
(from the by-laws of the Association)

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In publishing the Bulletin the IYS in Israel aims to meet the following needs:

1. To promote a sense of community among the former Jewish residents in China.
2. To maintain a channel of communication for the members of the above community

3. To assist in collecting, preserving and publishing historical materials dealing with the life of the above community.
4. To assist IYS in meeting its goals, particularly those dealing with social assistance and educational stipends to members of the above community living in Israel.

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The Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin
sends its sincere Holiday greetings to the

COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN FAR-EASTERN SOCIETY, INC. IN NEW YORK

HONORARY MEMBER OF I.Y.S.
and wishes much happiness and prosperity to its President Frances Greenberg, to all its members and to all
Far-Easterners in the United States of America

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE

NEW YORK

AMERICAN FAR-EASTERN SOCIETY, INC.

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FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES
TO IGUD YOTZEI SIN
AND TO ALL FAR-EASTERNERS IN ISRAEL
AND ABROAD

FRANCES GREENBERG AND FAMILY

HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES TO OUR RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS

BELLA RECTOR

WISHES A HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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NEW YORK

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WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

ANGELICA AND MICHAEL KLEBANOFF

HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES TO OUR RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS

ROSE AND NORMAN PEISER

SUSAN AND MARK BRITANISKY

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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NEW YORK

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WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO OUR RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS

HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES
TO OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

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**TANIA & ROBERT MATERMAN
AND SON AVRAHAM YAACOV**

EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

WISHING ALL OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS
A SWEET AND HAPPY PESACH

DORA (VIDUMSKY) AND GABRIEL LEE

ברכות לחג החירות

MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ

Chag Sameach from Guita, Eugene Basovitch and family

Wishing all our relatives and friends all over the world

A HAPPY HOLIDAY

SWITZERLAND

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR FRIENDS FOR A HAPPY PESACH

FROM

**VOVA AND ELIZABETH DICHNE
CHILDREN MOTI, YAEL AND SABRINA
AND GRANDCHILDREN
ITAMAR, DANA, OHAD, ADI AND AYELET**

IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL TO HEAR FROM OUR FRIENDS,
WE CAN BE CONTACTED BY E-MAIL, OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS: disabrina@yahoo.com

GERMANY

לתדי ומשפחתו, לעובדי, פעילי וחברי האגוד
מאחלים בריאות, הצלחה ואושר
יחיאל גולדשמידט ואשתו אביבה

תושב חרבין מ-1938 עד 1949

Best wishes to all friends for a Happy Passover

Jurgen Jechiel and Aviva Goldschmidt

ברכות לחג החירות

LOS ANGELES

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN

EXTENDS ITS SINCERE HOLIDAY GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES TO THE HONORARY REPRESENTATIVE OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN,

Mrs. MIRA MRANTZ

AND TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE AMERICAN
FAR-EASTERN SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

THE AMERICAN FAR-EASTERN SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN LOS ANGELES

EXTENDS HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO

IGUD YOTZEI SIN, to all AMFESOSCA members and
their families and to all Far-Easterners in the USA, ISRAEL and abroad

HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

MIRA MRANTZ

LEA & YANA LIBERMAN & family

Wishing Igud Yotzei Sin, President Kaufman, co-workers and all friends a very Happy PESACH

ברכות לחג החירות

LOS ANGELES

AARON (BILLY) BELOKAMEN

WISHES ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS A HAPPY HOLIDAY

MONACO

DAVID & FREDERIQUE FAMILIANT

WISH ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS A HAPPY PASSOVER

MONTE-CARLO

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LOS ANGELES

PETER BERTON and family

SEND THEIR HEARTFELT BEST WISHES TO FRED HEYMAN
AND REISS FAMILIES, IZYA BRUNNER AND DODIK GOOTMAN
AND ALL OTHER FRIENDS IN ISRAEL.

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WISHES ALL HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY A HAPPY HOLIDAY

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PHIL & MIRA MATERMAN

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LOS ANGELES

TO HONOR OUR PARENTS

MAX and MOLLY SAMSON

&

BEN and VERA BERG

Dolores & Roger BERG

ברכות לחג החירות

LOS ANGELES

*ALL GOOD WISHES FOR PESACH
TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS
RENEE AND ABE FRANK*

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

RAISSA GOLDIN

**GREGORY HODSON
AND FAMILY**

WISH ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS A HAPPY HOLIDAY

TO ALL MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY

BETTY LIAS

ברכות לחג החירות

LOS ANGELES

HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

GOLDA LAZAROVICH

daughter **ESTHER** and **JACK**

grandchildren **ROBERT, LEON & REBECCA**

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

LEO HANIN and family

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY

DORA, VERONICA, MIKE and all the MEDAVOYS

WE WISH OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

A HEALTHY AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

ILANA RICHMOND

children: **RENEE, DAVID**

grandchildren: **ANDREA, JERICCA, REBECCA, SARAH and TARYN ELISABETH**

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The Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin
sends its sincere Holiday greetings to
ISAI KAUFMAN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAR-EASTERN ASSOCIATION
IN SAN-FRANCISCO, THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND ALL THE
FORMER RESIDENTS OF CHINA IN SAN FRANCISCO
and wishes them much happiness and prosperity

The Board of Governors of the Far-Eastern
Society of San Francisco, Inc.
extends Holiday greetings and best wishes

TO IGUD YOTZEI SIN
and to all Far-Easterners in Israel and abroad

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RELATIVES & FRIENDS

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OLGA AND ISAI KAUFMAN
EXTEND THEIR HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES
TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

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EXTENDS HER BEST WISHES TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY AND PEACE

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY

ARON SLOUSCHTER

HARUKO AND NORMAN SOSKIN

HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL RELATIVES

AND FRIENDS

A Happy Holiday to my children,
grandchildren, relatives & friends

GUTIA KATZEFF

Wishing a Happy Holiday to
all our relatives and friends

**CLARA IVANOFF
VERA LOEWER & FAMILY**

A Happy Holiday and best wishes
to my friends

STASSIA FELDMAN

ברכות לחג החירות

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Sincere wishes for a very happy Holiday
to our dear friend

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WISH THE BEST OF HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND

PEACE

TO ALL THE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

WITH LOVE

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BEST WISHES AND WARM GREETINGS

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WARM GREETINGS TO MY DEAR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

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TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

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wishes all the very best for happy Holidays
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4586 ELME STR.

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**MIKA KERNER (HMELNITSKY) and
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MAY PEACE, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS BE WITH ALL OF US

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AUSTRALIA

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN

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AND TO ALL FAR-EASTERNERS IN AUSTRALIA
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STELLA AND DAVID UDOVITCH

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Montefiore Home, room 203,
120, High Str., Hunters Hill
N.S.W. 2110

LIKA ONIKUL & family
11-a Lydham Avenue
ROCKDALE, N.S.W.2216

**SARAH & AARON RODFELD
& family**
7/135 -139 Hall Str.
BONDI N.S.W.2026

Mr.& Mrs.
B. SHTEINMAN & family
6 LINDEN WAY
CASTLECRAIG N.S.W.2068

Mr. & Mrs. **M.PEROCHINSKY**
6, Willawa Road
BALGOWLAH HEIGHTS
N.S.W. 2093

Mrs. **S.SAKKER**
Rachelle, Michael and Benjamin
1, Woodside Ave
LINDFIELD N.S.W 2070

Mr. & Mrs.
H. TRIGUBOFF
62, Wentworth Rd.
VAUCLUSE N.S.W.2030

Mrs. **D. RADVIN**
and family
10/27 BYRON ST
COOGEE, N.S.W. 2034

Dr. **S.SAKKER.(M.B.E.)**
and family
9, Woodside Avenue
LINDFIELD, N.S.W. 2070

Mr.& Mrs.
R. TSUKASOFF and MARK
18, The Esplanade
DRUMMOYNE N.S.W 2047

MRS.
ASYA RAHMAN and family
2/65 Penkivil Str.
BONDI N.S.W.2026

MARY & ALEX SAMSON
THE FORUM APT. 3504
1 SERGEANTS LANE
ST. LEONARDS N.S.W 2065

Mr.& Mrs.
D. UDOVITCH & family
57 Military Rd
DOVER HEIGHTS, N.S.W. 2030

Mrs. **LUCY RAYHILL**
130 Stuart Str.
BLAKEHURST, N.S.W. 2221

Mrs.
BELLA SHANNON & family
555/5 Toorak Rd.,
TOORAK MELBOURNE VIC

Mrs.
J. VINSON & family
P.O.Box357
TOORAK Vic 3142

Mr. **MICHAEL REDHILL**
P.O Box 212
PADDINGTON, N.S.W.2021

Mr. & Mrs.
R.SHAW
28 Boolarong Road
PYMBLE N.S.W.2073

Mr. & Mrs.
G. VORON & Sons
2, Griffin Ave
EAST ROSEVILLE
N.S.W. 2069 2070

ברכות לחג החירות

HONG KONG

**MARY & GEORGE BLOCH
AND FAMILY**

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

DAVID DORFMAN & FAMILY

wish a happy Holiday to all
relatives and friends

CANTON, MA. (USA)

Mrs. RENEE TOOCHIN & FAMILY

WISH HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

RASHA AND TEDDY KAUFMAN

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO THEIR RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND
ALL FORMER RESIDENTS OF CHINA IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

YOSSI KLEIN AND FAMILY

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES TO
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

RAN (RONNY) VEINERMAN AND FAMILY

NATALIA AND SEVA PODOLSKY

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

ESTHER VANDELL

SENDS GREETINGS TO ALL RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS

GALIA VOLOBRINSKY-KATZ AND FAMILY

SEND THEIR BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY
TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

MICHAEL FLEISCHMANN

SENDS BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY

TO HIS RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

BELLA AND AVRAHAM GOLDREICH

HANNAH AND SAM MULLER

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

PEARL AND ABE WAIK (Waikovsky)

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

PEARL AND GEORGE KANPOL (Kantsepolsky)

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

JENNY and TEDDY PIASTUNOVITCH

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

MIRIAM AND DANIEL FRIEDMANN

PNINA AND BOBBY BERSHADSKY

SEND THEIR HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

ABRAM OZRELOVITCH (MIGDAL HAEMEK)

SENDS BEST WISHES TO DEAR CHILDREN,
GRANDCHILDREN, GREAT GRANDCHILDREN AND ALL RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

**BEST WISHES TO MY FRIENDS
IN ISRAEL & OVERSEAS
ABRAHAM FRADKIN**

BEN LITVIN AND FAMILY
SEND THEIR BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY
TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

CELIA NIRIM

sends her love and holiday greetings to relatives and friends

Sarah Ross

WISHES A HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

JOE LEVOFF

WISHES ALL HIS RELATIVES AND FRIENDS A HAPPY HOLIDAY

BENNY TZUR and family

send their holiday greetings to relatives and friends

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

DANNY BERKOVITCH

SENDS HIS BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY
TO HIS RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

ELI ALGOR (Grohovsky) and family

WISH THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES
A HAPPY PASSOVER

ZEEV VATNER and family

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

ברכות לחג החירות

ISRAEL

Teddy Kaufman

wishes a Happy PASSOVER to the staff of the Bulletin:
Yehiel Ladyjensky, Cecilia Lyubman, Emmanuel Prat, Joe
Levoff, Sarah Ross, Isaac Dashinsky, Benny Tzur, Rebecca Toueg,
Orit Duani and Shulamit Shneyer

Teddy Kaufman

wishes a Happy PASSOVER to the volunteers who help in the work
of the office of Igud Yotzei Sin
Jeanne Tikotsky, Tamara Faibusovitch, David Gootman,
Benny Tzur and Joe Levoff

Isai Piastunovitch

SENDS HIS BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY
TO HIS RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

RINA AND TIMA LITVIN AND CHILDREN

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

RACHEL AND YONAH KLIGMAN

SEND HEARTY WISHES OF GOOD HEALTH AND SUCCESS
TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Isaac Dashinsky

WISHES A HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

A Traditional Hanukka Get-together, 2007

Matanya Ben-Avraham

Again they came from all the corners of Israel. They, their children, their grandchildren, and their great grandchildren. On December 11, more than 450 of the old China hands flooded the lobby of the Tel-Aviv Municipality Employees' Club for the traditional all-Israel Hanukka get-together and the ceremony of distributing scholarships to students, descendants of the original Aliya from China and students from China. The Israeli recipients were granted scholarship awards from various IYS funds (this year 143) while the Chinese students (this year 21), received their scholarship awards from the Israel-China Friendship Society.

The event was divided into two parts: the social get-together in the club's spacious lobby (from 16:00 - 18:00), and the ceremony of granting scholarships and a concert (18:00 - 20:30). The guests were met at the entrance to the club by the officials of IYS and ICFS Presidium, Teddy Kaufman, Yossi Klein, and Ran Veinerman. First to arrive were students, their relatives and friends, honorary guests and our compatriots from China. They were offered refreshments: the traditional Hanukka *sufganiot* (doughnuts), sandwiches and hot and cold drinks.

As usual, the meeting of old friends was heartfelt and joyful. Among the honorary guests were the Ambassador of PRC to Israel, Mr. Zhao Jun, Deputy Ambassador, Ms. Zhang Xiao'an, former Israeli ambassadors to PRC, Ora Namir, Zvi Gabbai, Moshe ben Yakov, and Yehoyada Haim, and the Director of the North Eastern desk of the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Yitzhak Shoham.

At 18:00 sharp Ran Veinerman

opened the ceremony. The guests entered the main hall, which they filled to capacity. Some were even obliged to line the walls and sit in the aisles between the rows of the seats. Roey Ginansky, grandson of Esther Ginansky (nee Beim, formerly of Shanghai) lighted the eighth Hanukka candle. Ophira Gluska, a well-known Israeli singer, sang a cluster of Israeli songs.

The first to speak was the Ambassador Zhao Jun, who stressed the importance of the effort of IYS and ICFA in the field of strengthening the ties between the peoples of Israel and China. Teddy Kaufman spoke of the national significance of IYS' existence, from three aspects: helping our needy compatriots, caring for the education of our young generation, and perpetuating our Chinese past. Mr. Yitzhak Shoham of the Israeli Foreign Ministry noted the endeavor of IYS to bring Israel and China closer together. Yossi Klein, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer of IYS and ICFS spoke of the financial difficulties of our organizations, and called upon their members to "keep the fires burning" in order to ensure our very existence so vital to the welfare of our future generations.

In the concert that followed the speeches, a student-violinist from China, Ye Zi who studies music at the Music Academy of the TA University, and the Israeli singer Ophira Gluska performed some classical and folklore pieces of Chinese, Israeli and Russian music, which earned them thunderous applause and two huge bouquets of flowers.

Prior to the ceremony of presenting the scholarships, Teddy Kaufman accounted for the IYS memorial funds,

and announced the names of their founders. He announced that this year 21 scholarships covered by the sources of the Israel-China Friendship Society were granted to the students from China, and 143 scholarships, funded by the IYS memorial funds, were granted to the descendants of the "Mayflower" Aliya from China - 60 scholarships from the June and Alexander Meizin Memorial Fund, 50 scholarships out of the Misha Kogan Memorial Fund and some from the PRC embassy and others.

The ceremony lasted for more than an hour. The envelopes containing certificates and checks were distributed by: Abraham Fradkin, Teddy Piastunovich, Sarra Umansky, Hannah Jacoby, Rasha Kaufman, Galya Katz, Ella Goldreich, and Shulamit Even. Special gifts were presented to students from China: they received the Chinese translation of the book "The Jews of Harbin Live on in My Heart" by Teddy Kaufman, and the Israeli recipients received a unique book of poems by an Israeli Poetess Batsheva Sherif, translated into Chinese. Teddy's book was handed out by Ms. Han Tianyan (see story above), while the book by Batsheva Sherif was handed out by the husband of the author, Mordechai Segal. The student from China, Ms. Ye Zi and Dana Dvir of Israel, thanked the donors for their care, in the name of the recipients.

In his closing speech, Teddy Kaufman called upon the students to take an active part in the struggle for social justice, thanked those present for their help and participation in the event, and wished David Gootman, an old friend and colleague, a full and speedy recovery from his illness.

People and Events

A happy event in the Muller family

On December 8, 2007, a happy event was celebrated by the Muller family of Kfar Shmaryahu – a double Bar Mitzvah ceremony of the twin-brothers, Guy and Nir Liv. Their mother, Ilana, is the daughter of Shmuel Muller and Hannah (nee Litvin), formerly of Tientsin and Harbin. The event was attended by relatives and friends from China and Israel. Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the Muller and Liv families on the happy event and wishes them good health and happiness.

Robert Edwardovich Kirshenstein reached 80

On December 15, Robert Edwardovich Kirshenstein reached 80. He belongs to a family of former residents of China, and is a constant contributor to the "Bulletin".

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Mr. Kirshenstein and wishes him and his family good health and happiness, till 120!

A Sabbath Kiddush in memory of Abba Segerman

On Shabbat, November 15, a Kiddush was held in memory of Abba Segerman, formerly of Shanghai, at the synagogue, dedicated to the Jewish communities of China (Rehov Golan 31, Shikun Shanghai, Tel Aviv). After the prayers, Rabbi Menahem and Teddy Kaufman, the son-in-law of the deceased, eulogized Abba Segerman, who was one of the veteran members of the Ashkenazi Jewish community of Shanghai. Shabbat zemirot (religious songs) were sung, and those present were treated to a traditional Shabbat meal.

A valuable gift from Risia Ionis

Risia Ionis (nee Tukachinsky), formerly of Harbin and Shanghai donated a valuable gift to the Archives of IYS – a complete set (four volumes) of the magazine "Tagar", ("The Struggle"), published in Shanghai during 1946 – 1948. "Tagar" was the bi-weekly official mouthpiece of the Jabotinsky-led Zionist-Revisionist party and the youth paramilitary movement "Brith Trumpeldor" ("Betar") in Shanghai, and played an important role in the life of the Shanghai Jewish community. "Tagar" was published in Russian and English. The English editor of the magazine was Judith Hasser, while the Russian language version was edited by the commander of Shanghai Betar, Milia Ionis (Risia's husband). Igud Yotzei Sin wishes to express their gratitude to Risia Ionis for her generous gift.

A reception at the residence of the Japanese Ambassador

A reception to mark the 74th birthday of His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, took place on December 10 at the residence of his Excellency, the Ambassador of Japan in Israel, Yoshinori Katori. Present at the reception were Minister Yitzhak Herzog, who represented the government of Israel, members of the Knesset and representatives of wide Israeli social circles. IYS was represented by Rasha and Teddy Kaufman.

Golda Leizerovich reached 90

Golda Leizerovich (nee Eskin), our compatriot from Harbin, now living in Los Angeles, has reached the venerable age of ninety. Igud Yotzei Sin sends Golda their most heartfelt felicitations and wishes her good health and tranquility for many years to come.

Isabel Sharon reached 80

On November 18, Isabel Sharon (Rabinovich), formerly of Shanghai, celebrated her 80th birthday. Igud Yotzei Sin sends Isabel heartiest felicitations and wishes her a long and healthy life - till 120.

Ilana Herman reaches 80

Ilana Herman, our former compatriot from Shanghai, known by many of us as Alla (nee Rabinovich), celebrated her 80th birthday. Igud Yotzei Sin sends Ilana our heartfelt wishes for health, happiness and long life.

A happy event in the Sandel family

Ilan and Meirav Sandel celebrate birth of son, Bar, grandson to Judith (nee Difa Klein), formerly of Harbin, and Israel Sandel. Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the Sandel family, wishing them and the newly-born much health and happiness.

A happy event in the Shneyer family

A happy event was recently celebrated by Shulamit Shneyer, formerly of Harbin/Dairen and Shanghai. Meshi and Yoed Shneyer are happy to announce the birth of Karin, the granddaughter of Shulamit and the great granddaughter to the late Lily Bomash – Weisberger and of Grisha Weksler. Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Shulamit and the whole of Shneyer family, wishing them lots of happiness.

A generous gift from Danny Berkovich

Our old time friend, Danny Berkovich, formerly of Harbin, visited Bet Ponve where he met T. Kaufman and Y. Klein. Prior to leaving our cultural center, he made a generous contribution to the IYS Social Assistance Fund, Scholarship fund on behalf of himself and his late wife, Musia, and also to the memorial fund of Moma Lesk. The gift amounts to NIS 25,000 IYS expresses heartfelt gratitude to our generous friend.

"Bulletin" in 2008

The IYS "Bulletin" is planned to appear in the current year:

#395 Spring (Pesach) – on April 1, 1008

#396 Summer – June 15th

#397 Autumn (Rosh Hashanah) – September 10th

#398 Winter (Hanukka) – December 1
The traditional All-Israel Hanukka get-together and the handing out of the scholarships is scheduled for December 28, 2008.

Exhibition of photographs by the late Professor Haim Tadmor

An exhibition of photographs by the late Prof. Haim (Fima) Tadmor z"l was opened at "Bet Avichai", Jerusalem, on January 6, 2008. Besides being a worldwide authority on the civilizations of Assyria and Babylon, Prof. Tadmor, our compatriot from Harbin was also an amateur photographer. Having made aliya in the early 1930's, he entered the Department of Bible Studies in the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Enchanted with the country, he never parted with his "Leica" and filmed much of its charm and fascination. In time, this artistic documentation of the early history of Israel accumulated into a unique collection of photographs now presented for viewing to general public.

In Bet Ponve

On Sunday, March 2, at the weekly get-together at Bet Ponve, the memory of the recently deceased friends was honored. Those are: Luba Prizan (Prejensky), Julie Prague (nee Semberg) and Esther Levitin of Israel; and Zalman Agran (Ziama Agranovsky) and Sam Frank of US. T. Kaufman congratulated Eva Lau, Vera Begun and Tamara Faibusovich with their birthdays and Mary and Zvi Kamionka with the golden jubilee of their wedding.

At a get-together in Haifa

In December 2007 a get-together of Israelis who had taken part in the group trip to China with Ronny Veinerman at the head took place in his home in Haifa. R. and T. Kaufman came to the get-together. The group visited the places of the Jewish past in China: Shanghai and Harbin.

Dr. Irina Vladimirskaia at Bet Ponve

Dr. of Judaica Irina Vladimirskaia visited Bet Ponve and met with T. Kaufman and Y. Klein in connection with the seminar on The multinational Harbin to take place on April 18-19 at the Heidelberg University, Germany.

Frances Greenberg - 90

Mrs. Frances Greenberg, President of the Far-Eastern Society in New York, our compatriot from Shanghai, celebrated her 90th birthday. Frances has been at the head of our association in New York for the last 20 years and continues her public activity not only for the good of Igud Yotzei Sin, but also for other Jewish public organizations.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Frances and wishes her good health and "nahes" from her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, till 120!

THANKS TO ORIT DUANI

Orit Duani (nee Biar), the daughter of the late Mary Biar (nee Beim) has lately been taking an active part in the work of Igud Yotzei Sin as a volunteer. Every week she comes to "Beit-Ponve" to work on the computer for the Hebrew supplement of the "Bulletin". Furthermore, Orit has decorated the sitting-room and the hall in "Beit-Ponve", giving the interior of our club a new, more beautiful form. Igud Yotzei Sin thanks Orit for her valuable work and hopes that she will continue to help us in the future, too.

***Igud Yotzei Sin heartily congratulates
Mrs. FRANCES GREENBERG
a long-standing President of the Far-Eastern Society in New York
and an outstanding public figure on her 90th birthday
and wishes her good health, much happiness and "nahes" from her
children, grandchildren and great grandchildren till 120!***

***Happy Birthday and best wishes
to MARK KAPTZAN on his 90th birthday
Golda LAZAROVICH, Los Angeles***

***Happy Birthday and best wishes to our friend
MARK KAPTZAN on his 90th Birthday
Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin in Israel***

LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS,

DECEMBER 2007

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Misha Kogan

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MISHA KOGAN

the Scholarship Fund was established by his wife

ASYA KOGAN

(Tokyo)



The portrait of Misha Kogan by
L. Smushkovich

AVRAHAM Esther
AZULAI Ariela
AZRAN Niv
ALON-GOLDREICH Adam
BAOR Galit
BURSHTEIN Asaf
BAHANOV Niv
BAHANOV Asa
BIRAN Keren
BALANSON Rachel
BEN-ZION Idan
BAR-ILAN Hila
BAR-ILAN Noa
BERSHADSKY Liron
GORTSHTAIN Itshak
GLOBIN-KALISKI Zahi
GALANTI Tal
GRINBAUM Aharon
DVIR-MOSHE Dana
DITAL Gilad
DITEL Royi
HOROVITZ Keren
HELSINGER Ehud
HELMER Shani
HAREL Amir
HAREL Galit
HAREL LEVITIN Sarit
HERSH Amos
HERSHKOVICH Harel
VUDOVICH Amir

Beit Ya'kov Darkei Rachel College
Beit Ya'akov Center College
Atid Ma'alot College
Management College
Open University
Bar-Ilan University
Hebrew University, Jerusalem
Haifa Technion
Tel-Aviv University
Lander College
Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva
Open University
Tel-Aviv University
Bar-Ilan University
Tel-Aviv University
Haifa University
Open University
Hebron Rabbinical College
Bar-Ilan University
Open University
Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva
Bar-Ilan University
Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva
Tel-Aviv University
Bar-Ilan University
Tel-Aviv University
Bar-Ilan University
Haifa Technion
Open University
Open University

Education
Education
Industry & Management
Business Management
Psychology & Education
Life Sciences
Life Sciences
System Engineering
Humanities
Jewish History
Engineering
Computer Science
Physiology PHD
Social Sciences
Economics & Mgmt
Social Work
Accountancy
Talmud Teachings
Social Sciences
Business Management
Engineering
Law
Economics & Account
General Literature
Business Management
Social Sciences
Business Management
Computer Sciences
Economics Mgmt
Psychology & Mgmt

(Continued on the next page)

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Misha Kogan

(Continued from the previous page)

VOLOVIK Natali	Tel-Aviv University	Social Care
VAILER Shlomit	Haifa University	Social Care
HORESH Talia	Open University	Communication
TAL Avner	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Business Mgmt
ILUZ Rachel	Derech Rachel College	Music Teaching
KATZMAN Marina	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Agriculture
LEVITIN Esti	Hadassa College	Computers
LIBERMAN Eden	Tel-Aviv University	Precision Sciences
LIHOMANOV Meirav	Kibutzim College	Alternative Medicine
MORDUHOVICH Avishai	Emek Hayarden College	Quality Insurance
PASTERNAK Noa	Emek Izre'el College	Communication
BEN-DAVID Hedva	Beit Ya'akov College	Special Education
LURIA Maya	Management College	Face Design
SHMUELI Uri	Afeka Academic College	Software Mgmt Eng
ROSENFELD Yaniv	Emek Hayarden College	Social Sciences
SHIKMAN Vered	Haifa Technion	Medicine

Scholarship Fund of June and Alexander Maisin Foundation

OLEH Tali	Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva	Archeological Art
OLMERT Ayelet	Tel-Aviv University	Social Care
OREN Gitit	Tel-Aviv University	Engineering & Mgmt
ELRAN Avital	Tel-Aviv University	Humanities
EPSHTEIN Anna	Tel-Aviv University	Medicine
ASHEROF Inbal	Interdisciplinary College, Herzlia	Law
BAHIR Ran	Rishon-LeZion Mgmt College	Business Management
BOYARSKY Shiri	Haifa University	Law
BIRON Tali	Rishon-LeZion Mgmt College	Law
BEN-TAL Itai Alexander	Bar-Ilan University	Humanities
BAR-YOSEF Aya	Tel-Aviv University	Literature
BROGARDI Adi	Haifa University	Social Sciences
GODFRID Or	Ramat-Gan College	Social Sciences
GOLDSHTEIN Tal	Haifa University	Social Sciences
GORTSHTEIN Dorit	Technological Education College	Business Management
GOREN Liran	Education Academy, Haifa	Graphic Design
GIODETI Gil	Rishon-LeZion Mgmt College	Economics & Business
GAL Eili	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Law
GELER Yehonathan	Interdisciplinary College, Herzlia	Law
GAN-OR-GIL Tom	Tel-Aviv University	Arts, Cinema & TV
GAT Royi	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Medicine
DITAL Ayelet	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Life Sciences & Biology
DROR Yoav	Tel-Aviv University	Social Sciences
DROR Dana	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Dental Medicine
HERSHKOVICH Liron	Haifa University	Political Science
VAIHANSKY Itai	Tel-Aviv University	Social Sciences
ZVULUN Nir	Sapir College	Engineering
ZALZMAN Tsahi	Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva	Engineering Science
HANIN Adi	Haifa University	Psychology
TAL Yoav	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Law
COHEN Dana	Emek Yizrael College	Psychology

(Continued on the next page)

Scholarship Fund of June and Alexander Maisin Foundation

(Continued from the previous page)

COHEN Gal	Bezalel Art Academy, Jerusalem	Painting & Sculpture
LAOR Moran	Emek Isre'el College	Human Services
LATIN Liran	Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva	Social Sciences
LERMAN Yishai	Zfat College	Social Care
MORDUHOVICH Rachel	Bar-Ilan University	Social Science
MAIMON Shimon	Derby college	Business Management
MANZUR Tamir	Haifa Technion	Architecture
MAROM Anat	Sha'arei Mishpat College	Law
MAROM Gil	Sha'arei Mishpat College	Law
NISANOV Lavi	University Center, Ariel	Social Sciences
SAVINSKY Dmitry	Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva	Industry & Management
FALK Liat	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Social Sciences
FEIN Ma'anit	Tel-Aviv University	Arts
PELEG Bracha	Beit Ya'akov Center	Teaching
PELOV Konstantin	Academic Engineering College	Materials Engineering
FALK Ilanit	David Yelin College	Education
PARHI Moran	Interdisciplinary Herzlia, Reichman	Business Management
FRIDMAN Michael	Tel-Aviv University	Electric Engineering
KOTKIN Benad	Haifa University	Social Sciences
KOTKIN Elad	Haifa Technion	Civil Engineering
KAIKOV Elinor	Tel-Aviv University	Social Sciences
KIMELMAN Ruth	Ort Brauda	Industrial Engineering
KRAVATSKY Shai	Academic College, Netania	Law
KARNIEL Roni	Tel-Aviv University	Sociology & Anthropology
ROSENBLUM Avihai	Technology College, Jerusalem	Physics, Medical Science
ROSENBLAT Oren	Tel-Aviv University	Physics
ROSENFELD Vered	Oranim College	Humanities
SHVARTZ Noga	Shenkar College	Industry & Management
SHVARTZBERG Elad	Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva	Industry & Management

American Far-Eastern Society Scholarship Fund

NOIMAN Yaniv	Open University	Political Science
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ethel Dunn

KLIPER Gideon	Management College	Accountancy
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ida and Alexander Kopilevich

REICHER Na'ama	Tel-Aviv University	Precision Sciences
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ira and Isidor Magid

NAFTALI Ortal	Bar-Ilan University	Social Sciences
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Albert Veinerman

SHIHBARHAR Revital	Kfar Saba Ort College	Architecture & Int Design
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ella and Lev Piastunovich

ROSENFELD Eitan	Open University	Microeconomy
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Eli Ross

PELEG Ya'akov Leib	Hebron Rabbinical College	Judaism & Talmud
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Eliahu Lankin

KLIGMAN Gai	Tel-Aviv University	Social Psychology
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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Boris Kotz

PELEG Yehudit Ora Darkei Rachel College Architecture

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Bella and Boris Mirkin

SOLOMONOVICH Orli Open University Social Sciences

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Bella Volsky

KANOBOVICH Boris Haifa University Social Sciences

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Gary Umansky

SADE Galia Bar-Ilan University Social Sciences & Care

Scholarship Fund in Memory of David Katz

SHANY Amir Hebrew University, Jerusalem Business Administration

Dora and Joe Wainer Scholarship Fund

SHMERLING Ariel Academic College, Netania Computers & Math

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Niv Hirsh

FUKS Liron Kibbutzim College Alternative Medicine

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Vera Domer

KALMAN Oren Semy Shimon Academic College Industrial Management

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Tania and Shmuel Segerman

SHAHAM Ofer Haifa Technion Quality Control

Scholarship Fund in Memory of Yosef Ya'akov

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The Geography of the Glazman Family

By Michael Rinsky

The family sees Belarus as its place of origin, which is not totally unfounded. Glazman, meaning “a glass man” in Yiddish, is a common surname in different parts of Belarus. Most Glazmans dealt with glass and glazing, which was considered a respectable occupation.

Historically, the Glazmans have been very successful, and remain so to this day. During the darkest days of the revolution in Russia, the secretary of the Bolshevik leader Trotsky was no other than Michael Glazman, who ended his life with suicide in 1924. The Yiddish author Baruch Glazman also came from Belarus. Other prominent Glazmans were the gifted mathematician Israel Glazman, the head of the Borodenko Neurosurgical Department in Moscow Leonid Glazman, the author and publisher of children’s books Isaac Glazman, and Rabbi Mordechai Glazman, the manager of “Chabad” in Latvia. One of the international shipping companies carries the name “Glazman International Trade Ltd.”

Quite a number of Glazman families lived in Odessa. They came from all walks of life. Among them we find Daniel and Bracha Glazman who, from the mid 19th century, were considered one of Odessa’s most respectable families. They had five children. Daniel’s son Leib (Leon) was the owner of a tin soldiers and other toys factory on Tiraspolsky Street in the center of the city. Leon and his wife Pearl had two sons and two daughters. Daniel was born in 1874, and the youngest Joseph in 1884.

The girls were named Manya and Bertha (Bracha). The family lived on Tiraspolsky Street. The ground floor of the house contained the factory they owned and the first floor served as a spacious family apartment.



Leon (Itzhak Arye-Leib) Glazman and his wife Pearl

Although the family led a traditional lifestyle under the supervision of the older generation, the children not only received a religious orthodox education but also a secular one. In addition to studying Hebrew the children studied European languages.

Daniel, the handsome first-born son of Leon Glazman, traveled freely throughout Europe, and having an interest in technology, made all sorts of interesting purchases. For example, he once brought to Odessa a steam

engine that he had bought by chance somewhere in Germany.

Daniel married Liba Bershchansky, a lady whose wealthy family owned an entire block of houses in Politseyskaya Street in the center of



Odessa. They rented apartments and stores, and had their own shops. One of their relatives, Yudle Bershchansky, sold clothing. Keila Michels (nee Glazman), a niece of Leon and a cousin of Daniel, owned a footwear store. She was the great grandmother of Valery Ladyzhensky, the secretary of the Israel-China Friendship Society and one of the editors of the Bulletin of the Association of Former Residents of China in Israel.

But let us return to the main line of the story. Daniel and Liba lived in great



Daniel Glazman and Liba (Ahuva) nee Bershchansky in Odessa on their wedding-day

accord. Both were highly educated, enjoyed going to the theater, and shared common ideas and understanding concerning the future of the family. The youngest son Joseph (Ossip), Daniel's brother, traveled to Germany in 1903 to continue his studies. He became an expert in the field of technology and a lecturer (docent) at Frankfurt University. In Germany he married a Jewish girl, Helena, and they had one daughter, Tamara.

During that period, the situation in Imperial Russia and Odessa was deteriorating. Odessa was a port town attracting a variety of people -- from merchants and artists to citizens in disagreement with the law. Jews arrived there because it was a big city with relatively loose restrictions on residency. According to the official lists from 1897 the population of the Jews in Odessa numbered 139,000 – a third of the general population. In 1910 the Jews actually held a monopoly on wheat export. They owned seven out of the ten banks in Odessa, and most of the grocery owners, small traders and craftsmen were Jews. The city included typically Jewish buildings and institutions: seven synagogues, elementary schools and high schools, from "Cheder" and "Talmud Torah" to yeshivas and commercial and technological high schools. There were also hospitals, libraries and various welfare institutions.

Newspapers were published and a theatre staged plays in Yiddish. Naturally, there were political parties and different political and non-political organizations. Apart from the rich Brodsky and Efrosi families and about two thousand other wealthy Jews, most of the Jewish population lived in poverty. Even the old timers felt a sense of ever-present insecurity because of the continuous threat of pogroms. The first pogroms – in 1821 and 1859 – occurred as a result of the organized local Greeks, who in those years were the main rivals of the Jews. Later, in 1871, 1881, and 1886, the pogroms were led by local Russians and Ukrainians. Moreover, the city authorities not only refused to arrest the rioters, but would imprison those who tried to defend themselves. The bloodiest pogrom took place in Odessa on October 18-20, 1905, when 400 Jews were murdered and fifty thousand were left homeless. The artillery corps of the Tsarist Army suppressed the Jewish opposition; an additional 50 Jews lost their lives trying to defend themselves. Even after order was restored, hundreds of members of "the Union of the Russian People" perpetrated acts of vandalism.

During the pogroms, Daniel Glazman's family factory and apartment suffered from damage. They were saved by their employees, who defended them. After the pogrom the family decided to find another location – away from the city where anti-Semitism could flare up at any moment. In fact, similar cases occurred in 1906 and in the following years. In 1906 Daniel Glazman traveled to Canada. He bought a forest plot, but logging turned out to be a very arduous and expensive venture. Daniel was forced to sell the plot and return to Odessa.

After a short period in Odessa where anti-Semitic feelings were still running high, the family decided to go to Erez Israel. At that time the Glazmans had three children, all

boys: Haim, Ilya, and David. In Palestine Daniel purchased a plot of land in the then unsettled region, now called Ein Ganim, one of the neighborhoods of Petah Tikva. The Hebrew Encyclopedia mentions the foundation of Ein Ganim in 1908 by the Hovevei Zion's Odessa Committee. The city of Petah Tikva commemorates Daniel Glazman as one of the founders of Ein Ganim. Making a living in this new place was no easy task. However, he and other hardworking pioneers managed to set up an agricultural settlement. In 1908 his daughter Bruriya (Bertha) was born.

At that time Erez Israel was a part of the Ottoman Empire and in 1914, at the beginning of the First World War, the Turks exiled Russian Jews from Palestine to Egypt – among them Daniel and Liba Glazman with their four children. Daniel had no choice but to return to Odessa. During that time Daniel's father, Leon Glazman, was also unable to rebuild his factory business after the pogrom, sensing the lack of prospects and impending dangers of remaining in Odessa. People had no need for toys during the war, and signs of the oncoming revolution and cataclysmic events loomed large. Consequently, Daniel did not stay long in Odessa. He and his family set out to try their luck in the Far East, as the way to the West was cut off and thousands of Jews were traveling in that direction. They decided to travel by the Eastern Chinese Railway to Harbin, a town which was growing at a fast pace. Their journey was approved by the authorities. In the hope of reestablishing their tin soldiers and other toys factory in Harbin they took machinery and a load of tin with them. Their long journey across Siberia in soot-covered rail cars, through train stations with no facilities, remains a memory of suffering and horror passed down from generation to generation. One of the stories describes a case when



Daniel and Liba (in the center) in the family circle in Tel Aviv in 1935. On their left are Ilya and Haim with their wives and children Ami and Arye, on their right are David, Bruriya and Fabian Padovicz. In the third row (left): the parents of Lydia, Ilya's wife Rebecca, Haim's wife, Daniel's brother Joseph and his wife Helena. On their right are David's wife Riva and her parents and brother. Seated on the floor are Tamara, the daughter of Joseph and Helena, and David's daughters Pnina and Ilana.

one of the boys – Ilya – was sent to fetch hot water during one of the stops. The train began moving and the boy had not returned. The grief-stricken parents were already parting from him in their thoughts when Ilya, who had managed to jump into the last car of the slowly moving train, made his way through the train and suddenly appeared holding the kettle of boiling water.

In Harbin, Daniel set up a business producing toy tin soldiers in a warehouse on 7, Artilleriykaya Street. The venture brought no profits because the refugees crowding the town had no need for toys. Daniel looked for other options. He established a Jewish theatre, serving as the director himself. Newspaper clippings citing stellar reviews have been passed on in the family for a long time. However, the stage and the theatre did not solve their financial problems, and the young sons had to find ways to support the family. David, one of the sons, would recall throughout his life the short time he worked at a factory where the laborers were exploited under terrible conditions, endangering their health and dying

of cholera which frequently broke out in China. Daniel still had some resources left, but the Russian Tsarist currency he had was rapidly losing its value. Although the Glazman family achieved a respectable status in the Harbin Jewish community, the proud Odessans lacked financial independence and a secure future. Moreover, the Bolsheviks and the Japanese were showing interest in the Eastern Chinese Railway.

At that time the British Mandate took over the Ottoman rule in Palestine and Zionists from all over the world – the Glazmans being foremost – felt the stirrings of new beginnings. Daniel and Liba decided to return to Erez Israel. How warmly the Zionist friends of Daniel Glazman parted from him we can judge from a farewell letter from the Harbin faction of the “Youth of Zion”: “We wish you great success, dear friend. This is a day of celebration for you! A day you have been hoping for.... The return to Zion ... With God's help... We will succeed in following you, under the flag of resurrection...”

In 1919 a journey to Palestine was no simple matter. The sea route went through Japan and a Japanese visa

was necessary. After successfully overcoming all the bureaucratic obstacles, they made their way by ship, taking the tin along with their other luggage. The Russian currency they had took them only as far as Egypt. In Alexandria they had to borrow money from the local money-lenders; when they reached Palestine they were forced to sell the property in Petah Tikva in order to return the loan.

With the money that remained they bought a house on Gdud Haivri Street in the area of the old Central Bus Station, then on the outskirts of Tel Aviv – today, its center. In that house Daniel built the second cinema in Tel Aviv, the “Orania” or “Glazman's Hall”, as it was called by the locals. A cinema in those days was a novelty and the profits were quite modest. Daniel was forced to travel around the Middle East with his equipment to supplement the income.

During that period a small number of Zionist settlers began their fight against the British Mandate in order to achieve autonomy and independence and the right of the Jews to return to Erez Israel. The Jewish underground became very active and it was imperative that they obtain information from Europe and especially England in order to preempt the activity of the British Mandate. In spite of the ban by the authorities, the Glazman family set up a wireless set that received broadcasts from London even before the English received them. When the authorities located the site of the wireless they raided the Glazman home, but were unable to refute his claim that in order to maintain the radio he had to have an antenna, which he obviously did not have. It was difficult to realize that the tin-covered roof served as an antenna. This was an example of Daniel Glazman's technical acumen.

Daniel's wife, Liba, received a new name on her arrival to Israel -- Ahuva. She took upon herself the education



Valery Ladyzhensky and Gideon Padovicz

of her four children. Being highly educated and having an excellent command of Russian, she taught her children and grandchildren, so that the older ones among them understand Russian today. All her children received a higher education.

Leon and Pearl, the parents, arrived in Israel from Odessa in 1922. Their health was undermined by the pogroms and the starvation of the civil war, when Odessa was occupied by different military forces, and each side would raid, rob, oppress and confiscate whatever it could lay its hand on. They passed away shortly after their arrival. Leon died in 1926 and Pearl died in February 1927. They were laid to rest in the Old Cemetery in Trumpeldor St. of Tel Aviv next to the prominent activists of the Jewish people.

In their last years of life the parents had the chance to see their youngest son Joseph, who arrived in Palestine in 1925 with his wife Helena and daughter Tamara. It is quite plausible that the gifted lecturer was forced to leave his highly respected position because of the increasing nationalism that would later raise Hitler to power. In Palestine, this talented man established a technical school on Montefiore Street in Tel Aviv specializing in various fields of technology.

The senior students of "Gymnasia Herzlia", once located where the Shalom Meir Tower stands today, used to attend technological and science classes in Joseph Glazman's

school. Sometimes they would simply transfer to his school thereafter. The principal, Joseph Glazman, lived above the school classrooms.

While Joseph succeeded in the field of education, this was not the case in his personal life. His wife Helena left him and took their daughter with her. Joseph was left alone and died after heart failure in 1950. Today the building

where the school was located houses a Chinese restaurant. His daughter Tamara married Otto (Eitan) Rudich, an engineer from Vienna. She was active in assisting immigrants and today both her sons reside in Israel with their families. Manya, one of the sisters of Daniel and Joseph, also reached Palestine while her husband stayed behind. Unfortunately, Manya died prematurely of a heat stroke.

Returning to the family history of the firstborn brother, Tel Aviv was expanding and many public buildings were being erected, among them new cinemas. The competition was tough and Daniel, now no longer young, found it hard to run "Orania". The cinema building was turned into the pencil factory "Moledet".

Daniel passed away in 1945 and the factory was then turned over to his daughter Bruriya's husband, Fabian Padowicz, whose biography is of interest, too. During the Russian revolution, this ex-industrialist from Lodz fought in the Red Army. He even held a conversation about Zionism with Vladimir Lenin, who told him that he could not understand how a Jewish Bolshevik could hold Zionist beliefs. This offended Fabian Padowicz and hastened his emigration to Palestine.

Today, two palm trees stand at the site of the former "Orania" cinema as if commemorating it, and they can be seen from afar amidst the background of old buildings around them. The two palm trees were planted by Daniel in 1920 and they are protected today by the State. The building itself is



The palms planted in 1920 near the cinema, now on the crossroad near the new bus station of Tel Aviv

gone. The factory moved to Herzlia, was modernized, and currently manufactures polymers under the management of Gideon Padowicz and his son Eylon. Gideon's brother, Nathaniel, resides in Petah Tikva.

All the three sons of Daniel have been quite successful. Haim became an electrical engineer, working in Israel and Belgium. Ilya served as a principal in a Tel Aviv high school and his son Ami has become a professor at the Technion in Haifa. The youngest son David also taught in high school.

Once a year, during Chanukah, hundreds of former residents of China, their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, gather for a special festive social meeting. The Chairman of the Association of the Former Residents of China, Teddy Kaufman, and the Directors of the Board of the Association, in the festive spirit of the occasion, award scholarships to students – the descendants of the former Chinese Jewry. Among the students of the years 2006-2007 receiving the scholarships were the great grandchildren of Daniel Glazman – two sons of Gideon and a daughter of Nathaniel Padowicz. They all fulfilled their duty in defense of the State which has been built by the hard work and determination of their fathers.

(Translated from Hebrew by Shula Schneyer)

The New Israel's Messenger



Vol. X No. 3

IYS Sephardi Division

Editor: Rebecca Toueg

The Hannuka annual gathering of Igud Yotzei Sin included the distribution of scholarship awards to two recipients who are descendants of the former Sephardi Jewish Community in Shanghai. The scholarship awards were in memory of Sasson Jacoby, the first editor of the New Israel's Messenger, and of Yosef Ya'akov, a leading committee member of the Sephardi Division.

The scholarship award in memory of Sasson Jacoby was handed out by his widow Hannah Jacoby, to Talia Schmidt, granddaughter of Grace Solomon (Moalem) who was born in Shanghai and was a first cousin of Sasson Jacoby. Sas's father and Gracie's mother were brother and sister. As was common they all lived close together, and celebrated many family events together. After the war Sas came here to Israel. Talia's great grandmother went to America and some of the cousins went to Australia. Grace came to Israel with her husband Mort in 1967 and was then reunited with all of her family here in Israel. Talia's mother Gail made aliya in 1974 and was warmly

accepted into the Israeli family. Hannah and Sas always invited her over and made sure she was included in family affairs. Talia studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and her subjects are International Relations and Far Eastern Studies.

The scholarship award in memory of Yosef Ya'akov was given to Tehila Levy, daughter of Eliyahu and Zippora Levy, and granddaughter of the late Lazar Levy and of Katie Levy (Toeg) who were born in Shanghai. They made aliya in the early 1950s and after a while became members of Kibbutz Beerot Yitzhak where Katie and her son's family still live. Tehila is a student at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and her subjects are Psychology and Biology.

The Sephardi Division wishes to thank Matook Nissim for his generous contribution of \$250 to the Sasson Jacoby scholarship fund and of \$750 to the Yosef Yaakov scholarship fund.

In Memoriam - Ritchie Safdie

Ritchie was the dearly beloved wife for 59 years of Joseph E. Safdie, loving mother of Regina Safdie, Miriam Safdie Butrimovitz, and the late Eddie Safdie, and adored grandma of Ilana and Matthew Butrimovitz. She was the dear sister of Leah Jacob Garrick and Jack Jacob, children of the late Isaiah and Rebecca (Becky) Jacob, niece of Solly Jacob, and aunt and cousin to many.

Ritchie was a fourth generation Shanghailander of Iraqi Jews. Her father, also born in Shanghai, whose family originated in Baghdad, followed the Sassoons to Bombay and on to China at the end of the 19th century. Her mother's family fled the pogroms in Russia to Harbin (North China) and on to Australia where she was raised and educated. On a visit to Shanghai, she met and married her husband Isaiah. Ritchie recently visited her mother's family in



Australia and met over 50 members there, making a unique connection. She came to America with her sister Leah in 1947, having lived through World War II under the Japanese occupation in Shanghai. She met her husband Joe on the first day in America, at Magen David, the only Sephardic synagogue in the city.

Ritchie was a remarkable human being, making a point of starting each day with the goal of performing three mitzvot. She was an avid walker, and SF Giants fan. She loved to play bridge and do her Sudoku puzzles. She lived her life with passion and an intense interest in the lives of others. She was an inspiration to many, dispensing kindness and thoughtful deeds. She had energy and enthusiasm and also gave of herself without reservation. She was an active member of AMIT Women (formerly Mizrachi) and served as co-president for a number of years.

A History of the Jewish Community in Hongkong

Links with Israel

On 20 December, 1886, the Hong Kong Daily Press published a notice of an appeal by the Chief Rabbi in Jerusalem to the residents of Hong Kong. The purpose of the appeal was to raise 'Subscription for the Famine Charitable Fund to relieve the starving sufferers, a great number of Jews expelled from the Russian Territory ...' the paper reported. Residents were asked to contribute 'liberal donations towards the immediate wants of the sufferers', which were to be forwarded through E.D. Sassoon & Co. The appeal is one of the earliest public records of the Hong Kong Jewish community's active participation in Jewish causes and the subsequent development of ties with Israel.

As a relatively prosperous Diaspora community, Hong Kong has maintained a strong tradition of charity. Sir Elly Kadoorie, who died in 1922 and is respected still as an outstandingly successful businessman and philanthropist, left 100,000 pounds to the British Government for building schools in Palestine. The United Jewish Appeal (UIA) came to life in Hong Kong soon after the Second World War, largely thanks to the efforts of Maurice Birnbaum, a local businessman and part-time chazan of the synagogue. The appeal has received much support from the community over the years and in 1994 Hong Kong's UIA drive raised over HK\$5 million.

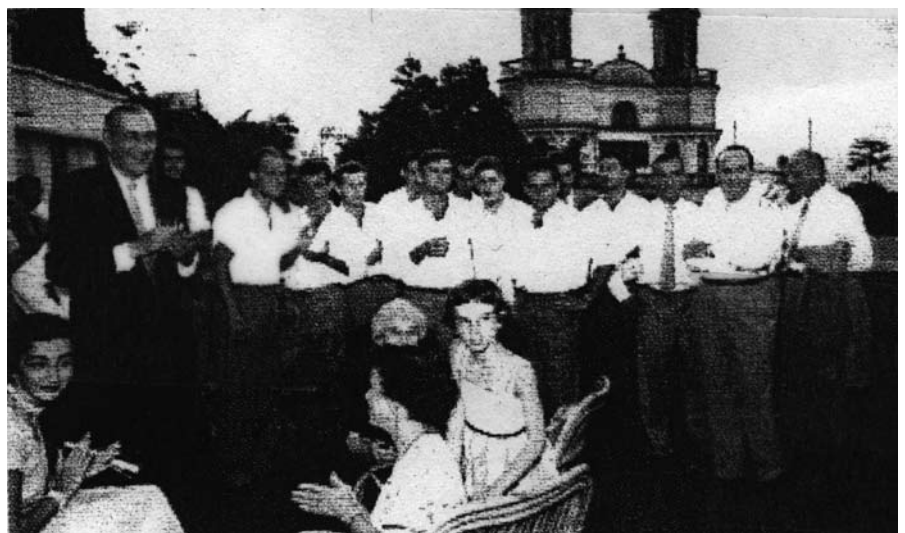
The Jewish Women's Association (JWA) was formed in 1947 by a group of residents, many of whom had come to Hong Kong from China, where organized Jewish institutions



had been a central part of expatriate life. As well as raising money for local charities, the association contributed funds to Youth Aliyah. The JWA also raised funds for a number of other charities in Israel and became affiliated to the International Council of Jewish Women. In 1974, more than a decade before Israel became officially represented in Hong Kong, the JWA agreed to sponsor a classroom in the WIZO Day Care Centre at Yad Eliyahu in Tel Aviv and became affiliated to WIZO. In the early years of the JWA, its members, together with many others from the community, attended to the needs of hundreds of Communist Revolution refugees, who had poured into Hong Kong with the change of government in China. During this time, Victor

Zirinsky served as the agent for the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the American Joint Distribution Committee, which together helped refugees with money and provided other assistance.

The refugees arrived in Hong Kong mostly by boat and were put up in small hotels in Kowloon. They needed a visa for another country in order to land in Hong Kong, and it was Lawrence Kadoorie who would pay weekly visits to the Hong Kong Immigration Department to guarantee that those due to arrive would have visas for resettlement in Israel. Walter Citrin was appointed immigration officer by the Government of Israel and issued visas for refugees going to Israel. Later, Victor Zirinsky took on this job and subsequently became Israel's Honorary Consul in Hong Kong – a post he held from 1958 until his death in 1994. In 1974, Israel appointed its first career Consul-General to Hong Kong to represent and promote Israel. However, owing to budgetary constraints, the office was closed a year later in 1975, after which Victor Zirinsky continued his



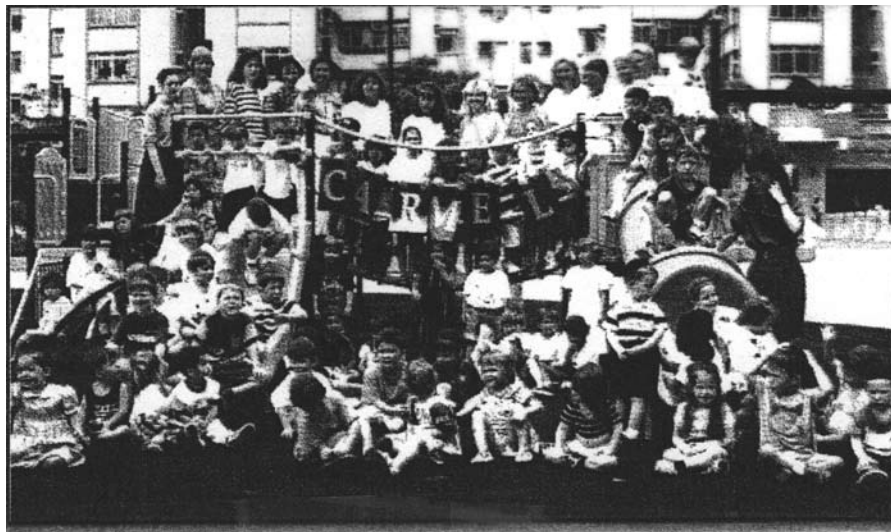
services as Honorary Consul-General. In 1985, Israel again appointed a career Consul-General – a move that was to mark the continuous official representation of Israel in Hong Kong to this day.



Education

1969 was a watershed year; ‘a very special time’, writes Judy Diestel in her essay *Jewish Education: A Personal Glimpse* in reference to the birth of the first Hebrew school in Hong Kong. ‘In many ways, the community evolved around the school, sharing in its spirit, its events and in the mutual need for a Jewish environment’, recalls Diestel. The school was largely founded due to the efforts of John Rae, a teacher from New Zealand, who worked with the General Committee Chairman of the time, Hans Diestel, to convert the downstairs area of Beth Simha into premises for the school. Five classrooms were created and children had the use of the adjoining gardens. At first, classes were conducted on Sundays and weekday afternoons. All of the teachers in the school’s start-up day were volunteers. No fees were charged for books or equipment and if the Hebrew instruction ever required an inducement among young children, pupils were more than encouraged by the famous Jewish Club cookies that became a fixture on the curriculum.

By 1973, the year Judy Diestel became principal, school attendance had grown to 80 children. Lessons soon spanned Hebrew, Jewish Studies and History. The school’s curriculum kept up with Asia-wide developments



with the help of the Asia-Pacific Jewish Association, which sent a representative to Hong Kong once a year to offer advice on curriculum planning and teaching materials.

‘Sundays were a family day, and a generation of kinds in the seventies grew up in that Jewish Recreation Club garden. Levanah Hirshberg taught Ivrit, and the late Reverend David Hirshberg taught Bar Mitzvah and synagogue service’, recalls Diestel.

In the eighties, compulsory mid-week attendance was introduced, and Cherry Cornell and her husband Sheldon Reback, formed the Adon Olam choir and established children’s services. ‘Around this time too, the school was officially called the Ezekiel Abraham School ... after the late Ezekiel Abraham, a devout Shanghai-born Jew who lived with his mother and uncle for many years in Hong Kong,’ writes Diestel. Today the Ezekiel Abraham school is attended by more than 100 students, and under the direction of Hanni Lopin, it admits and brings together children from all sections of the community. In 1991, the establishment of the Carmel Jewish Day School elevated Jewish education in Hong Kong from an increasingly popular part-time activity to a full-time education option for the community’s children. Starting with 15 pre-school children, it began life in the Ladies Gallery

of the Ohel Leah Synagogue. From those humble beginnings, the school flourished under the leadership of Ivan Greenstein. Growing enrolments required a move to premises in North Point, then to the old British Forces school in Stanley Fort, where it currently resides and is attended by more than 100 pupils from across the community. With the opening of the Jewish Community Centre, part of the school will be relocated there.

This concludes the series of articles on the History of the Jewish Community in Hong Kong.

Growing Up in Shanghai

By Dan Moalem

This book was edited by Diana Giese and published in 2007 by the Sydney Jewish Museum in Australia. Dan Moalem was born in Shanghai in 1930. As British subjects, he and his family were interned at Lunghwa Camp from 1942-1945. After the war he completed his school studies, became School Captain, sat for the Senior Cambridge examinations in 1947 and studied Engineering at Aurora University in Shanghai. In late 1950, he migrated with his family to Sydney, Australia.

A copy of this book was generously donated to the IYS by Dan’s cousin, Gail Schmidt, daughter of Grace Solomon (nee Moalem). A review of this book will be given in the next issue of the Bulletin.

75 years ago

DEATH OF MR. SILAS SIMON LEVY—A TRIBUTE

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Silas Simon Levy, which took place at his residence No. 2 Route de Grouchy on the 22nd ultimo, after a lingering illness of several years. The deceased was 73



The above portrait of the late Mr. S. S. Levy was taken in Shanghai thirty years ago.

years of age, an old resident of China and well-known throughout the East. He was born in Bagdad, and left for India at an early age, where he received his education. From his early boyhood he showed an aptitude for literature and he studied diligently until he rose to fame. He was almost a self-made man, for he used to deplore the precious time wasted in his youth for lack of an efficient system of education.

A Scholar of Rare Merit

The late Mr. Levy was a scholar of rare merit. He studied Kaballa and delved in all sorts of mysticism; the Zohar was next to the Bible to him. A voracious reader, he must have consumed no less than five thousand books and seldom was he satisfied without assimilating the latest works on philosophy, history and literature. He contributed numerous articles to the Press and lectured very often on themes in which he showed wonderful aptitude. He was fond of debating on the why and wherefore of life and his home was often a rendezvous for students and scholars. Of lovable disposition, his company was always sought for and the hours pleasantly spent. He had the pride of his race, national Judaism and the service Jews have contributed to civilization. His lofty mind, eloquence and deep penetrating logic brought him many admirers from far and near. He was a close student of contemporary Jewish history and followed with keen interest, and oftentimes with anxiety the plight of persecuted Jewry in Eastern Europe. He often encouraged young Jews and Jewesses to fortify themselves with Jewish education and familiarise themselves with the lofty example of their history in order to dispel the "inferiority complex" with which the illiterate elements are obsessed.

An Arabic Scholar

The late Mr. Levy was a philosopher *par excellence*. He had no university training but he had trained himself in the University of Adversity and struggled hard to overcome the inadequate education given him in his school days. He was a thorough Arabic scholar and studied the Quran in Arabic and was an authority on the subject. Starting from our issue of July 1928, he ran a series of nine articles on "Judaism and Islam" which attracted world attention, and brought him commendation from the leading Muslims in India. He had analysed masterly the relations of the two Semitic races and lauded their respective contributions. The following passage from his first contribution on the subject may well serve to crystallize the trend of mind:—

"The Quran should be read in Arabic; the Bible in Hebrew. Translated they lose much of their idiom, beauty, poetry, atmosphere, dignity, rhyme, rhythm and solemnity. Every Jewish and Mohammedan child should be brought up as a scholar of both languages and encouraged to peruse both of the sacred Books. The keynote of the feeling between the two spiritually greatest nations should be—'Let there be no strife between us for we are Brethren.' Islam Aliakom wurahmat Allah Wubarakathoo (Peace be upon you and the compassion of Allah and His blessings). The difference in the fundamental principles between Judaism and Mohammedanism does not exist. They are both pure Islam; the former vast, profound and majestic like the ocean; the latter simple, sweet and concise like a lake or river, or to use another simile like a mother and her child."

A Muslim Tribute

When the late Mr. N. S. Levy (brother of the deceased) died in Shanghai in May, 1931, and reported in our issue of July 3rd, the obituary was mistaken for the latter by Mr. M. Yakub Khan, Editor of *The Light*, Lahore, who sent us a tribute for publication. We now give it publicity because it speaks volumes for the literary ability of the deceased whose contributions in our journal had brought him encomium from far and near. Mr. Khan wrote from Lahore under date of September 2, 1931, as follows:—

"It was a shock to read in your issue of July 3rd, that our esteemed friend and brother, Mr. Levy has breathed his last. Short though my contact was with him, through your esteemed paper, it was enough to impress me deeply with his catholicity of views and breadth of human sympathies. His death is the loss not of the Jewish fraternity alone but of the whole of humanity, I am sure. This is just to request you to kindly convey my sympathies to the bereaved family."

Self-made Man

The late Mr. Levy had passed a strenuous life, having been handicapped in one way or another, but he rose equal to the occasion.

He lived in Java, the Straits Settlements, Hongkong and later in Shanghai. In Hongkong he was for many years in the firm of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co. retiring on pension over ten years ago. He acted as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of Ohel-Leah Synagogue and Jewish Benevolent Society. Many deserving cases are known to have been helped and supported by him. He was a kind man filled with devotion to humanity and the oppressed and suppressed in life.

Life and Duty

Life was to him a duty; not for fun and frivolous pastime. "Let men laugh when you sacrifice desire to duty, if they will. You have time and eternity to rejoice in." That was the burden of his message to all who came under his magic spell. He was a lover of books, lover of nature and lover of knowledge—*Hokma*. He had a wonderful library of good books and often advised his friends to store literary treasures in their homes. "Life" he used to say, "however short, is made still shorter by waste of time." Death to him was a transition from one planet to another. He was a firm believer in the immortality of the soul, and deprecated the trend of our present day civilization and the loose morality which governs the new generation. He, however, took an optimistic view of everything and looked hopefully to the future upward trend of mankind. As a scholar, as a thinker and as a philosopher, he fills a gap in local Jewish circles by whom his death will be sincerely mourned. He was ever restless in his fight to down oppression and inveighed against the "dominion of arrogance." He believed implicitly in God's ways of administering justice and never wavered from the belief that righteousness alone will supersede and exalt nations and individuals. Now that he stands at the gate of eternity the role of his earthly life had been closed and "life's poor play is over."

"Life is real, life is earnest,

And the grave is not its goal;

Dust thou art, to dust returnest,

Was not spoken of the soul."—LONGFELLOW

A Personal Note

We lost in him a real friend, guide and mentor. We shall not forget the happy hours and days which we passed with him. We felt that a true friend is forever a friend. He was an inspiration to us. We owe much to him. Our friendship was cemented by bonds of many ties. Friendship is the wine of life, and we felt it so all along in the company of the deceased. He gave us of his best without stint and without grudge. His wide scholarship was ever at our disposal and we felt charmed and inspired by his eloquence and deep erudition. We may truly say of him that "he was nature's private secretary who dipped his pen in intellect." With Coleridge we may say of the deceased whose end was calm, peaceful and painless, "Death came with friendly care, the opening bud to heaven conveyed, and bade it blossom there."

The Funeral

The funeral rites were conducted by Hazan Eliahoo Isaac in the Jewish cemetery in the presence of a representative gathering. The late Mr. Levy is survived by his widow, five daughters for whom deep sympathy is felt in their bereavement. A touching address was delivered by Rabbi Mendel Brown before the coffin was removed to the burial ground. Rabbi Brown said:—

'Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his loving ones' We are about to consign to their last resting place the mortal remains of our dear friend Silas Simon Levy. It has been my privilege to know him only for a brief time, but during the many visits I paid to him whilst he was languishing on his bed of sickness, I was greatly impressed with his deep genuine Jewish scholarship, his intense religious faith, and his phenomenal retentive memory. Although frail in body, he possessed a great intellect, and despite his physical infirmities, he retained his mental faculties to his very last breath. His demise will create a deep void and aching gap within the thinning ranks of our Communal life, which we can ill afford.

From the time he reached the prime of manhood, he strove for the maintenance of traditional Judaism, and many were the contributions he made to learned journals and periodicals in which he displayed his extraordinary depth of wide culture and Jewish scholarship. He never allowed bodily weakness to interrupt his devoted studies in Bible, Talmud, and Jewish mystic literature. He became thus a keen student of the classics, and a man of scholarly attainments. The keynote of his career, the characteristic, which gained for him admiration and affection, was his tenacity of purpose, the consistency and firmness with which he persevered in the line of conduct he had struck out for himself.

In these days of materialism, when mankind is so much engrossed in the pursuit of empty and vain pleasures, the sterling character and noble life, as well as the spiritual strivings and idealism of our departed brother in faith, Silas Simon Levy, should serve as a shining example to us all how to live nobly, and to identify ourselves, heart and soul, with every movement that makes for the betterment of the moral, spiritual, and social conditions of our fellow-men. This is the best tribute we can render to his dear memory. 'Alas for him who is gone and cannot be replaced'. May He, in whose hands are the souls of all, send the balm of His soothing comfort to his sorrow-stricken widow, and children, who mourn the departure of this good man. May his love of faith and people, loyalty to the

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The Scholarship recipients 2007-2008



Epshtein Anna



Azulay Ariela



Oleh Tali



Elran Avital



Azran Niv



Asherof Inbal



Olmert Ayala



Avraham Esther



Oren Gitit



Biron Tali



Boyarski Shiri



Bahir Ran



Burshtein Asaf



Balanson Rachel



Ben - Tal Itay Alexander



Biran Keren



Bershanski Liron



Ben-Tzion Ido



Brogardi Adi



Bar- Ilan Noam



Bar-Ilan Hila



Globin- Kalinski Tzafi



Grinbaum Aharon



Gal Ilay



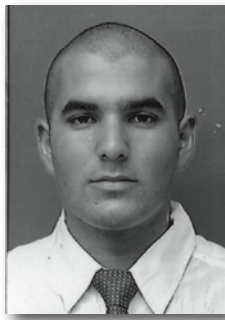
Geller Jonathan



Goldshtein Tal



Gortshtein Itzhak



Galanti Tal



Gat Roi



Gan-Or-Gil Tom



Gotfrid Or



Goren Liron



Gortshtein Dorit



Dror Dana



Bar-Yossef Aya



Dvir-Moshe Dana



Dror Yoav



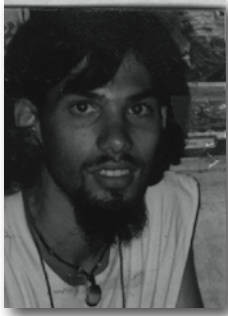
Dital Roi



Dital Gil'ad



Dital Ayelet



Halzinger Ehud



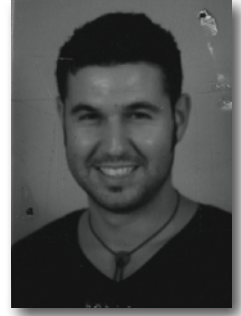
Harel Amir



Harel-Levitin Sarit



Amos Hersh



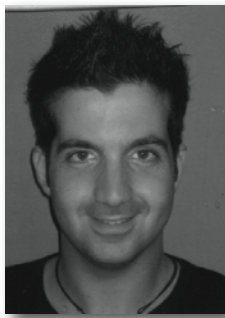
Hershkovich Har'el



Hershkovich Liron



Helmer Sani



Vihanski Itay



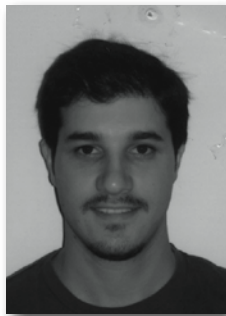
Vudovich Amir



Veiler Shlomit



Zaltsman Zahi



Zvulun Nir



Horesh Talia



Hanin Adi



Tal Yoav



Iluz Rachel



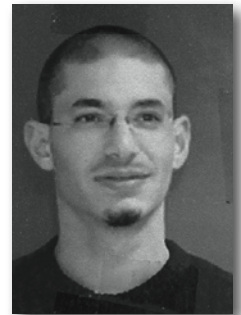
Katzman Marina



Cohen Dana



Tal Avner



Bahnof Nir



Harel Galit



Guaditi Gil



Liberman Eden



Lerman Ishay



Laor Moran



Lihomanov Mirav



Latin Liron



Levitin Esti



Levi Thila



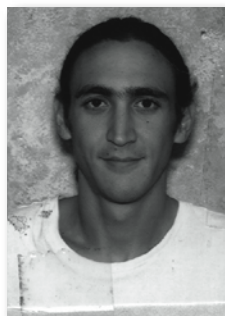
Metrani Anat



Morduhovich Rachel



Morduhovich Avishay



Merom Gil



Mantzur Tamir



Merom Anat



Maimon Shimon



Neiman Yanin



Nisanov Lavi



Naftali Ortal



Sokolover Itay



Sokolover Efrat



Soinski Dmitri



Solomonovich Ori



Flegg Shimon-Sason



Falk Ofira



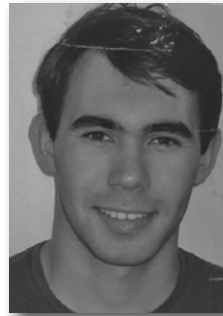
Falk Liat



Fuks Liron



Flegg Judith-Ora



Pelov Konstantin



Fridman Michael



Falk Ilanit



Fayn Maanit



Farhi Moran



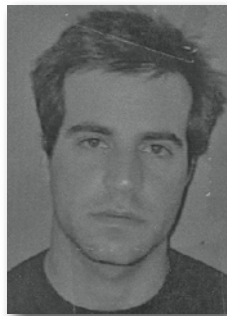
Tzucker Tal



Kombalis Morin



Kirli Shlomi



Kotkin El'ad



Kotkin Ban'ad



Kimelman Ruth



Kaykov Elinor



Kligman Guy



Krabetzki Shay



Reiher Neama



Roseblum Avihai



Rosenblat Oren



Rosenfeld Yaniv



Rosenfeld Eytan



Rosenfeld Vered



Sheingeit Igal



Shmueli Uri



Shikman Vered



Shahan Ofer



Shwartz Noga



Shwartzberg Nir



Shani Amir



Shmidt Talia



Snidman Nitzan



Shneder Edva



Shneyer Eynat



Shapira-Cohen Lital



Sharon Gabriel



Sade Galia



Shimberher Revital



Telem Liron



Karniel Roni



Volovik Natalie



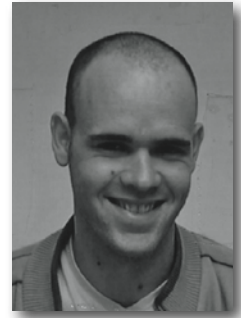
Flegg Braha



Alon-Goldreich Adam



Konovich Boris



Shmerling Ariel



Cohen Gal



Flegg Yakov Leyb



Tzuk Or



Shwartzberg Elad



Flegg Tamar

Scholarship Statistics

60 students were granted scholarships out of the June and Alexander Meizin Memorial Fund; 50 – out of the Misha Kogan Memorial Fund and 34 out of various IYS memorial funds.

They study at:

The Hebrew University, Jerusalem,	11	First year students:	43
Tel Aviv University	26	Second year students:	45
Haifa University	10	Third year students:	31
Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva	7		
Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan	12	24 scholarship recipients study for their MA degree	
The Open University, Tel Aviv	14	There were 78 male and 66 female students	
Various Colleges	55		

Visit the Website of Igud Yotzei Sin www.jewsofchina.org

The website contains a wealth of information on

- ❖ The chronology of events of the Jewish presence in China
- ❖ Publications (transcripts of conference speeches). Valuable material for researchers plus books
- ❖ Biographies ❖ Links to other sites of interest ❖ The Harbin Huang Shan Cemetery
- ❖ Family search forum ❖ Photos (some rare photos published for the first time)



To the Misha Kogan
Social Aid Fund
US\$ 12,000
In memory of my dear
parents

Asya Kogan (Tokyo)

March 2008



Abram Kachanovsky



Tatyana Kachanovsky

I love you and always miss you

Asya

Dr. A. Kaufman, Camp Doctor- 16 Years in the Soviet Union

Chapter 11 Section A

Spask is a big camp, it holds about 13 – 14 thousand prisoners, mainly political, of which 2000 are females, and only a few hundred are criminals, mainly murderers, who were sentenced to serve their prison term in a camp with “special” conditions and for this reason they were brought to Spask. When our “ATAP” arrived at Spask I began looking for the camp commander as no one else knew anything about the arrival of the children and no accommodations were prepared for them. Only by evening were the children housed in the children’s department and the mothers in one of the barracks. I was placed in the doctor’s room in the hospital.

When I informed the commander of the hospital that another group of 80 – 90 children are to arrive from the Kangir camp, his anger knew no bounds as to why he was not informed about this beforehand; they have no place to house these children and they are short of doctors too. And to me he said:

“You are not returning to Kangir, remain here and work in the children’s ward”.

A few days later, orders arrived from the general headquarters that this camp is to house permanently, and without any back talk, the children that have already arrived and the children that were scheduled to arrive within the coming days. The children’s barrack, which is encircled with barbed wire, is too small to house all the children. They were scattered all over, in the corridors and in the entrance way, and because there were no beds available, slept on the floor.



The breastfeeding mothers stood the whole day by the barbed wire fence, and from time to time some of them succeeded in breaking through the fence and entering the building. The men also entered the area to meet with the women, but the guards drove them away and quarrels broke out because of this, which sometimes turned into fistfights. Within ten days the rest of the children arrived from the Kangir camp, but there was no place to accommodate them. The mothers hung around the barrack the whole day and caused disorder and confusion in the barrack. The supervisor of the children’s barrack, who is “free”, refuses to come to the barrack. One day some officers from the camp directorate, headed by a lieutenant colonel, appeared in the children’s barrack and questioned me on the condition of the children, on the reason for the crowded conditions in the barrack and of the presence of the mothers. But when I answered them that I am not the one managing the children’s barrack and the problems there are the responsibility of the directorate of

this camp, this answer was not to their liking...“everyone throws the blame off himself and blames the others” replied the commander angrily.

“I am a doctor and my responsibility is to treat the children medically, I am a prisoner like the other prisoners and I have no say on the conditions in the barrack.” The commander did not answer, turned around and walked away.

Within one week the children were transferred to another barrack. The new barrack was also encircled by barbed wire, the guard patrol was reinforced, and except for the breastfeeding mothers, no one was allowed to enter this barrack.

The number of children in the barrack reached 200, all of them below the age of two. A small wooden barrack was prepared for use as the hospital, and a small nook in it was allotted to me as my living quarters. The illness rate among the children was very high. I nearly broke down under the strain of work that I went through; not a night passed in which I was not summoned several times. And during the day I am hounded by the authorities. One after the other they come to the barrack, investigating and inspecting. But all this is just for show. Although they are concerned for the welfare of the children, as these children were “free”, and the responsibility for their well being rests on their shoulders, when I point out to them the bad treatment the children are receiving, due to lack of enough people to attend to their needs and the bad quality of the food, they wave their hands as though in despair and quickly leave the room.

I served as the doctor of the children’s

ward for a period of four months and then much to my joy I was appointed doctor of the internal ailments department in the camp hospital. The hospital is situated in a special area of the camp and is comprised of nine barracks with a total of nearly a thousand beds. It has three internal ailments wards, three wards for patients with tuberculosis, one surgical ward, a ward for neurological ailments, a ward for the treatment of invalids, and in addition to that – a clinic, a laboratory, an x-ray room and a dental clinic. The woman's area of the camp had a small hospital too, with internal and neurological ailments wards. In the men's area hospital, ten doctors are employed who are prisoners and five others who are "free". In the women's area, four female doctors are employed, all prisoners. The "free" doctors are all heads of departments, they do not treat the patients, and often do not work at all, yet they receive a high salary. A young doctor was appointed to be the head of the internal illnesses department where I worked. He had just recently completed his medical studies in the faculty of medicine. When he arrived for the first time this department, he said to me:

"I feel uncomfortable being the manager of an experienced doctor like you. Believe me, all I want is to learn and I would highly appreciate it if you would share your extensive medical knowledge with me, I also have another request; please stop calling me "comrade manager" just refer to me by my first name". But very quickly he forgot his request. He did not "learn" even for one day, he showed no interest, neither in the patients nor in the hospital, and during the year he accompanied me in my rounds only once or twice. Most of his time he spent playing chess with the commander of the hospital. In 1953, during the trial of the Jewish doctors, known for its infamy, he proved himself to be a base person.

Chapter 11, Section B

Among the doctors at the camp

hospital there were five doctors of Jewish origin, and among the prisoners there were many Jews too. Since my assignment to the internal ailments ward, the doctors of the hospital started coming to me to introduce themselves. They knew and heard about me from people that arrived at this camp by ATAP from Camp Kangir to Spask. One of them was a surgeon whom I met previously at another camp, and here too we used to meet often for consultations. In the past this doctor was the deputy minister for health of the Soviet Union and the Chairman of the Soviet Red Cross. From childhood he was a member of the Communist Party. However, his past loyalties and high positions did not help him, and he too was arrested and sentenced to ten years hard labor. His guilt was that in his line of duty he maintained contact with the International Red Cross in Geneva by exchanging letters with its members. One of the charges against him is quite funny: In his capacity as the chairman of the Soviet Red Cross he came to England as the head of the Soviet Red Cross delegation. At that time Churchill's wife was the head of the British Red Cross and gave a reception at her home in honor of the Russian delegation. She presented him with a photo of herself, as a memento of this visit, and the photo was inscribed, as was customary, "To dear doctor.....". This photo was found during a search that was carried out in his house and the word "dear" was used as the basis to charge him as a "counter revolutionary", "sympathizing with the West" and one of the reasons for sentencing him to a term of ten years. Among the prisoners there were also two professors of medicine and many other scientists. Most of them had never taken part in any political activities and none of them ever knew why they were imprisoned and exiled. The prisoners at the camp were of various nationalities: Ukrainians, Russians, Georgians, Bielorrussians, Jews, Estonians, Lithuanians, Latvians and Azerbaijanis – A real "International".

Most of them were Russian speaking. Only the Kazakhstanis or the Uzbecks did not understand a word of Russian. They had led a quiet and tranquil life in their villages and worked at cattle raising, but the long hand of the CHEKA reached them too, arrested and exiled them blamelessly all in the framework of filling their "quota" of arrests.

I often met with the Jewish prisoners and we mostly talked about Jewish matters. About ten of them were sentenced for "Zionist activities" in Moscow and Odessa. The Jewish prisoners included many authors, poets, newspaper reporters and even one editor of a communist Jewish newspaper "Einheit" and two old "Bund" leaders. During the early period of my arrival at the camp, a man of about 45 years old approached me, stretching out his hand to me and with emotion said to me in trembling voice: "I came to beg for your forgiveness" his eyes filling with tears. This looked very strange to me. I never seen this person in my life, and did not understand why he was begging my forgiveness. When he calmed down a little he continued: "I belonged to the many members of the Komsomol who used to inform the authorities on the Zionists, fabricating stories about them, trailing them and handing them over to the CHEKA. That's the way we were taught and ordered to do. Many Zionists were arrested and sentenced because of me and my friends, and here you too are among the prisoners of Zion and your suffering too is now on my conscience... please forgive me. How can I help you? Here in the camp I am in charge of the tailors workshop, perhaps you need some clothing item? Tell me and I shall make it for you...", but before I had time to answer him, he turned around, walked away, and quickly disappeared, probably because he did not want me to see him crying. In the course of time I met him many times. He was a permanent "guest" in our "Jewish" get-togethers and even participated in discussions we carried out in my room on various Jewish and

Zionist matters. After one and a half years, he completed his prison term and was released from the camp. He was then exiled to Karaganda. In 1956, when I also arrived in Karaganda and inquired about him, I was told that he had committed suicide, most probably because of his conscience over his past deeds, his burden at present, and no future ahead of him, all of which were too much for him to endure.

In time a new director was appointed to the hospital, a major in the medical service. He was an evil and uncouth person, who began to tyrannize the hospital staff. On taking up his duties at the hospital he summoned all the prisoner doctors and announced that as of now they are not permitted to address the “free” doctors by their names but only to address them as “citizen commander”. His wife was also a doctor; she was Jewish, but she hid this fact. Her attitude to the doctors and the prisoners was fair. Once during a conversation with me she accidentally spoke a few words in Yiddish.

I asked her quietly:

“What nationality are you?”

She looked at me cunningly and with a sly impish smile answered:

“I’m Greek – Can’t you see that I look Greek?”

Among the Jewish prisoners there are some very interesting individuals, one of them is Dr. M. His expertise is neurology, but in this camp he was appointed to head the tuberculosis ward, and headed this department very successfully. From the time of his youth he had taken part in the revolutionary movement and was a member of the social-democratic party (the Mensheviks). During the Czarist regime he was exiled for 10 years and after the revolution, in 1924 he was arrested by the Soviet regime and for 27 years he was moved from camp to camp, from jail to jail, serving for a total of 37 years. One of the camps in which he served was the camp Kolima. He went through a lot of suffering but he kept his clearness of

mind, good faith, physical fitness, and sense of humor, and even did not lose hope for a better future.

One day someone of authority arrived at our camp; he was in charge of health matters of all the camps in the area. The morbidity rate in our camp is very high, the hospital is overcrowded and there are no free beds available, the death rate is very high too. Every day 8-10 sick people die. The visitor inquired for the reason of this high death rate. Everybody was silent and did not utter a word. Only then Dr. M spoke up: “Most of the dying suffer from tuberculosis and are weak from under nourishment. They all come here from Kolima and they are the main group who die here” On hearing this visitor was furious: “Do you say that in Soviet camps the prisoners are being starved and because of that they get sick and die... this is not true, the food rations in our camps are more than enough...” With this declaration, the discussion was terminated and all the doctors were ordered to leave the room. The next day Dr. M was relieved of his duties in the tuberculosis department, and moved from the hospital barrack to the general prison barrack where 900 other prisoners were held. Eventually he was relieved of work in the hospital and was sent to work in the quarry.

Chapter 11, Section C

Most of the people in authority in this camp were anti-Semites. This was not only felt by the prisoners of the Jewish faith, but by the “free” Jews who were working in the camp and also the two Jewish officers who served in the camp administration. These two officers, when they did not attract any attention, often used to meet the Jewish prisoners and enter into conversations with them on various Jewish matters and the State of Israel. One day one of them asked me:

“And me, would I be permitted to make “Aliya” to Israel? I am a party member here”.

This officer used to help the Jewish prisoners as much as he could so

as to make their plight easier. But this did not remain a secret, some one informed on him and he was summoned by the “Ophir” who warned him not to come into contact with the Jews anymore. After several days this officer was transferred to another camp. The same fate awaited the second Jewish officer. One of the Russian officers in the camp made a very insulting anti-Semitic remark to him, the Jewish officer slapped him in the face, a scandal erupted, but the commanding officer, before whom this case was brought, wanted to silence this matter, declaring that the Russian officer was drunk at that time, and the Jewish officer was transferred to another camp.

The Jewish prisoners in the camp used to meet from time to time to talk about Jewish matters. Among them were three former residents of Moscow who were arrested for Zionist activities. In 1948, when the State of Israel was established, they were among the initiators who organized a special prayer of thankfulness on this occasion in the Moscow Synagogue. One of them told me some details of this event: They approached the authorities and requested a permit to recite this prayer, but no establishment that they approached dared to give them the necessary permission. This matter was brought before Stalin himself, and finally they got the license. When he received the license he approached some of his friends, Jews in high positions, and invited them to the prayer. Among them was Eherenberg, who was amazed by my request and did not accept the invitation. “What have I to do with this matter? And what’s more in a synagogue! What are you trying to prove?” He refused to come. Some time after the prayer in the synagogue the initiators of the prayer were arrested and condemned to ten to fifteen years in a work camp. With one of the Jewish prisoners I developed a friendly relationship. In the past he was an army man and reached the rank of general. He served

as the Soviet military attaché in the Embassy of the Soviet Union in China, was a member of a Soviet delegation to the United States, was a member of the editorial staff of the Soviet Newspaper "The Red Star" and headed the political department of the Red Army. He was an intelligent person, with knowledge and understanding in many fields. When we met in Spask he was serving his second term. He was arrested in the period of Yezhov*, and sentenced to 10 years, and was later exiled to the Petropavlovsk region. However, a few months later, he was sentenced to an additional 10 years. For several years we served together in the same camp; we used to meet often and conversed a lot. He very often used to say to me: "Why were you jailed? For your activities for the Jewish people, for their rights and for their revival, and me – I was arrested and sentenced, most fitting for me, I was always loyal to the party, and I myself am to blame for getting into this mess".

In 1955 he fell ill, and because of his age and the living conditions in the camp it was difficult to give him the treatments necessary to cure him. He was freed and all his rights were returned to him, even his awards and medals, and he was accepted back into the ranks of the party and returned to reside in Moscow... For 19 years he was imprisoned in various camps until he earned his freedom. In 1956, when I too was freed from the camp, and resided for a while in Moscow, we used to see each other often and our friendship deepened. When I left the Soviet Union we corresponded with each other, and he was always interested to know about the Jewish life. He was a good Jew.

In 1951, on the eve of "Yom Kippur", we, the Jewish prisoners, congregated in the bedroom of one of the Russian doctors, our friend. By the Ark stood one of the prisoners, Rabbi Aharon from Bialostock. The prayer was conducted in secrecy and at the entrance door to the room, stood one of our "guards". The Chazan sang the prayer "Kol

Nidrei" in a very subdued voice, we responded in the same manner. During the prayer the Chazan could not hold back the tears in his eyes, nor could we. It was interesting to note who were the participants in this service: A Soviet General - who was once a leader of the "Mensheviks"; a famous neurologist from Moscow; a famous leader of the "Bund"; a professor of economics from the university of Leningrad - an anti-Zionist; myself and some of my Jewish friends sharing my barrack. I looked at them participating in this prayer, and in my imagination I visualized the "Marranos" of Spain praying in secrecy and in danger, fulfilling their Jewish heritage. I then looked at the present "Marranos" praying to the Gods of Israel in a Soviet prison camp and recited to myself "Ve nislach lecol edat bnei Yisrael ve le ger hagar betocham, ki lecol haam be shgaga..."

After Stalin's death an order was issued not to lock up the prison barracks for the night. Since then our get-togethers took place more frequently, and we used to meet in my room, which was near the hospital, and carried on conversations on Jewish subjects and other topics. Also from time to time one of us, usually me, used to give a lecture on various subjects. In November 1952 I read in the "Izvestia" a news item, printed in small type on the "death of the President of Israel Chaim Weizman". My heart in my body cried out in pain – Chaim Weizman is no more...memories, one after the other, cross my brain, of my meetings with him in the years 1903-1905, in the period when I lived in Switzerland. I sat in my room with a most saddened heart. Soon one of the prisoners entered my room – a Jewish journalist:

" Did you read this? Chaim Weizman is dead!" And he too remained with me with a saddened heart. Just a few minutes later another Jewish prisoner entered my room, a butcher from Moscow, he too remained with me. The most elder prisoner of the barrack was an Ukranian, he came with ten other

prisoners. All of us dedicated this day to the memory of this distinguished person. I raised memories of Chaim Weizman, as a young man, and his struggle for the revival of the Jewish Nation. For many hours we secluded ourselves with the memories of Chaim Weizman. Towards evening the group began to disperse, but before that, an elderly Jewish prisoner, from the town of Gomel, rose and recited the "yitkadal ve yitkadash..." During the holiday periods, - Hanukah, Purim, Shavuot – we used to organize joint meals where we recited the holiday prayers and talked about the daily matters of our camp.

In 1954, on the fiftieth anniversary of Herzl's death, we held a memorial gathering at one o'clock in the afternoon, the time when the camp authorities have their luncheon meal. We assembled in one of the storage halls. The storage hall supervisor, a Jew, from the town of Gomel, who was sentenced to serve ten years in a labor camp for "Zionist activities" recited the "El Maleh Rachamim" and I said the "Kaddish". After that, we, 22 people, assembled for lunch, organized by the Zionist prisoners from Moscow. The elder of our barrack, the Ukranian with who we were on friendly relations, put his room at our disposal, supposedly to celebrate the birthday of one of the prisoners. In front of the entrance door stood one of our guards who was changed every half hour, so that every one of us could participate in the meal. I gave a comprehensive lecture on Herzl and his life's work; this was followed with speeches by the other participants. Of the 22 people who took part in this gathering 7 – 8 were Zionists while the others were either former Bundists or Communists. Another participant in this gathering was an Austrian Jewish journalist, a social democrat, who concluded his enthusiastic speech with the statement "Long Live the State of Israel". In this manner the Jewish prisoners in a Soviet labor camp commemorated the 50th anniversary of Herzl's death.

From the Hebrew by Benny Tzur.

To be continued



CHUSAN ROAD CHATTER

Issue 395

IYS Hongkew Division

Editor: Kurt Maimann

A Nostalgic Cruise by Shanghailanders in 2008 With the theme

The Ships that took us to Shanghai

Ralph Harpuder

Seven decades have passed since large groups of stateless Jewish refugees from Europe were gathered on different ships on the high seas fleeing the Nazis to a distant land that was strange to their culture and background at the time.

On April 6th, 2008, exactly seventy years from the time mentioned above, they will be gathered again on the high seas in a group of almost 100, only this time on a pleasure cruise as bona fide citizens of their newly adopted country.

Shanghailanders will embark on the Caribbean Princess in Fort Lauderdale, visiting several of the islands including St. Thomas where they will meet the rabbi of one of the oldest synagogues in the Caribbean Islands.

The theme of the cruise is "The ships that brought us to Shanghai." The aim will not be to dwell on the hard times their parents had to endure during those difficult days, rather, they will rejoice in being together again with old friends and acquaintances, many with whom they went to school

spending their formative years together in the Jewish Ghetto.

Also planned during the cruise is a special presentation by Manli Ho, the daughter of Feng Shan Ho the former Chinese consul-general in Vienna during 1939 -1940, who was awarded the title of "Righteous among the Nations" by Yad Vashem for his humanitarian courage on issuing Chinese visas to Jews in Vienna in spite of orders from his superior to the contrary. Ho died in 1997 at the age of 96.

The title of the book published in German is "Shanghai Stories". It is by Steve Hochstadt. The subtitle is: "The Flight of Jews to Shanghai". The book was published in 2007 by Hentrich & Hentrich, it has 260 pp. and its price is 24 Euros. The text on the cover reads: That was not a pleasure cruise we took, although we were entire families with our children. There were Gestapo agents there, whose duty was to guard, because the journey had been organized by them. "The author reveals good knowledge of the historical material, especially



dealing with the state of affairs in Shanghai, against the background of which he tells about the fate of Jewish refugees from Europe. That makes the reading of this book especially breathtaking and informative", writes Christiane Hoss about the book in "Mitgliederrundbrief 58", January 2008. Christiane Hoss is the former director of Aktives Museum in Berlin (1990- 2007).

65 years ago

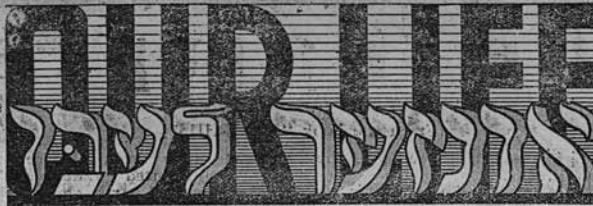
Shanghai, Friday, November 5, 1943

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Shanghai, November 5, 1943

The Trust Fund of Sympathy

Dear Mrs. Ginsbourg,
In response to your appeal to create the Trust Fund of Sympathy for Refugee Intellectual Workers, I am pleased to enclose herewith my cheque for \$500 and hope it will induce others to contribute also to this worthy and important task to rescue valuable personalities otherwise lost.
Mr. Brahn's estimable consideration is by no means an only response to the plea for creating the Fellowship for Refugee Intellectual Workers published in "Our Life"'s last issue under the title "The Well of Despair". Several other persons have subscribed their moral and material support to

the cause, and the next proposed step should be the organization of a small Committee in charge of collection and distribution of the Trust Fund of material and moral support. Let all those who take this cause close to heart respond without delay!
A. G.

Max Reinhardt-World Famous Playwright, Producer Dies in New York aged 70

As reported by DNB, Max Reinhardt, Theatrical Manager and Producer of world-wide fame, died in New York at the age of 70 years.
Born in 1873 in Vienna, Max Reinhardt first appeared on the stage in 1894 and acted under the leadership of famous artist Brahm until 1902 when he joined the Deutsches Theater in Berlin. Reinhardt gained

world-wide renown for his adaptations of Wild's, Shaw's Meterlink's and other works for the Theatre as well as for producing Shakespeare's plays. For the last decade Reinhardt was working for the screen and produced several masterpieces among which one of the best known is Shakespeare's play "Midsummernight Dream".

Post Office Branch, Bank Department-Vital Necessity for Residents of Designated Area

The absence of Post Office and Bank branches in the Designated Area is causing great inconvenience to its residents—those stateless refugees who are living and working in the Area and don't hold Special Passes for leaving it. The establishment of branches of these two institutions is a vital necessity and should be

brought to attention of the Authorities concerned. In addition to this fact it must be noted also that the Cemetery and the Police Station for the distant streets of the Area are situated outside of it, and that pink passes should be solicited for going there by all the stateless refugees.

Wanted a Library in Designated Area

A Letter to Editor

Sir,
I should be much grateful if you would publish the following plea in the next issue of "Our Life":
The schemes of founding new educational institutions which emerged in course of recent discussions of the problems facing the local Jewish community, should be examined and considered until eventually they will mature and take shape. A Popular University in the Designated Area is certainly to be desired. However, I wish to point to another necessity of a paramount order which is destined to play an important role even when the University has already been inaugurated; namely, a Library of scientific and reference books. Such a library is a condition "sine qua non" for the functioning of the University, while its educational and social function is even more valuable.
We know that throughout history civilization is inseparably connected with the existence of libraries and that the level of education of a country can be measured by the number of its libraries. The great universities of the world boast the well endowed libraries, and it is these collections of books that form the nucleus of a

University, much more so than the body of professors which is changeable. The latter may be assembled or disbanded at will, whereas a library is created by a long and painstaking effort. The collection of books is never complete, new publications must be constantly searched for and added, otherwise the library would lose its value and become out of date.
But the library is not simply a collection of books. The facilities to find and use the books must be brought to perfection. Upon the system of cataloguing depends the possibility to make the desired subjects of study available, adequate filing system, must suggest to the reader new lines of approach. The existence of an adequate Library in the Designated Area combined with the Reading-room would provide a great outlet for the educational zeal of the emigrant youth as well as for the older generation—people raised in cultural surroundings and condemned to spend their few hours of leisure in useless street chatter and idleness. The library would give a stimulus and a new purpose to many who for want of other recreation find themselves in the state of mental stagnation.
B. Lewin

Stateless Refugees to Receive Half Ration Sugar in November as Compared with Other Foreigners

According to an official announcement made in the press on November 3, all the Stateless Refugees will be allowed for November half a ration of sugar as compared with other foreigners. While all other

foreigners will receive 2 cattles of sugar (2.2 lbs), stateless refugees will be given only 1 catty each. It has been made known that Juedische Gemeinde filed a protest with the Authorities in this connection.

"Men in White" Staged in Benefit of Medical Relief Work of Juedische Gemeinde Scores Big Success

The play "Men in White" staged on Saturday, October 30th in the Eastern Theatre in benefit of Medical Relief Work of the Juedische Gemeinde proved a financial as well as moral success according to a

report published in "Shanghai Jewish Chronicle" of November 2. Herbert Zernik, Fritz Melchior, Charlotte Sommer, Ursula Perlhoefer, Hersch Friedman and others formed a good ensemble.

Alcock Rd. Camp Hall
Sunday, November 7, 1943. 8.30 p. m.
Raya Zomina & Herbert Zernik
Presenting new program of
JEWISH FOLK & HASSID SONGS

(Contributed by Joe Levoff)

(Contributed by Joe Levoff)

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Searching and Researching

Tianjin, Anna Song

Dear Teddy Kaufman,
My second book about "Jews in Tianjin", "Royal Port-Jews in Tianjin" has been published. This is the first historical picture-like book that shows us for a 100 year how Jews lived in Tianjin. It records the living history of Jews in Tianjin in China from the early days to the 1950s. In Tianjin Jews built their own community and spend the hardest days with people in Tianjin during the Second World War, which has many moving stories and historical accounts. This book researched this history process, and has also found and recorded many "Tianjin Jews" around the world. Many old pictures provide another special feature of the book.

The book is in six volumes. The first volume "Lost People", includes a map of where Jews lived in Tianjin. The second volume "Makes other City as Hometown" includes a little white house "The Russian City", the complete community structure, and the local laws. The third volume "Jews in the Second World War", includes much historical material. The fourth volume "Trade with Jews" includes four parts: Trade ways on the back of camel, Victoria and win, Lihua building image and three characters. The fifth volume "Love in the Unstable Years" tell us stories about eight Jews who once lived in Tianjin. The sixth volume is "Find and Find". The whole book contains about 150,000 Chinese characters.

I completed this book in six years. After two years of collecting historical materials and interviewing the historical witnesses, I began to write in 2002, interviewing as I wrote, pausing and starting again many times. Because I was always in contact with many Jews I gained the help of many friends, such as Teddy Kaufman, Israel Epstein, Samuel Muller, Isabelle Maynard, Leo A Orleans, Benjamin Kabuliansky, Martin Bates, Kurt Weinbach and Elia Weinbach, Sol Birulin, Ronald Levaco, Bob Sitsky and Larry Sitsky, and many others. They have all given much

selfless help. I want to give them my deep thanks. I feel so sorry that some time before I got the news that Isabelle Maynard died. She was waiting for my book all the while, but now she cannot see it. I have got her doctors' address from my friends, I will mail this book to her and all my friends who had helped me. Because without our friendship I cannot finish this new book. But unfortunately this book is written in Chinese. I hope one day in the future, it would be read by more people in English.

Abramson-Moshe Efrat

I am interested in publishing my books in China. Please send this message to every Hebrew/Chinese translator you know. I will also appreciate your help in searching after a culture expert. Mrs. Abramson-Moshe Efrat
Publisher, "Books" Group, Israel
972-54-5531530
972-77-3491828
Email: mandp2004@gmail.com

Tamsin Lee-Smith

I am a Ph.d student researching the Shanghai Ghetto. I am particularly interested in the way in which the ghetto functioned during the war, the survival story of the Jewish Refugees in Shanghai. I am also very interested as to where these refugees went after the war, the role of relief organizations and international governments.

I would be very grateful to know what sort of information your archives hold and how accessible this information is.
Email: tl5795@bristol.ac.uk
Phone Number: 07870563150

Patrick Cranley

Shanghai, China
Dear Mr. Teddy Kaufman,
I am an American living in Shanghai, involved in research on 20th century China. Rena Krasno suggested I contact you in connection with my current research on Harbin. I am looking for a map of the city in the 1920s or 30s, showing the old names of the streets, so that I can try to locate extent buildings from that time. Can you help?

I am actually headed to Harbin today for four days, thus a digital map would be ideal, but of course a hard copy by mail would also be very useful. Please also let me know if there is any particular site that you would like me to check while I am in Harbin. I will have my camera with me. We may also go to Qiqihar for a look, though according to your website there is probably nothing left from the old days. Rena sends her best.

Wm Patrick Cranley, Managing Director,
AsiaMedia Ltd.

Email:

wmpatrick.cranley@asiamedia.net
www.asiamedia.net

Galit Gabbay

Migdal Haemek, Israel

I am looking for information about Borovsky family, my grandmother Chaya, my father Yosef.

Email: sh.gal@bezeqint.net

Address: 45, Hativat Golani, Migdal Haemek 23100, Israel.

Myra Waddell

Adelaide, South Australia

Thanks for this email. Teddy. I was reading through all the searches/comments on your website and decided to make a suggestion to Sarah Reveley, re her posting on 22/3/2007, as to which website might be interested in her photos – www.jewishgen.org – that's all.

There were so few replies to the comments on your site, I thought I would make a contribution.

When I looked previously on your website, I found a cousin – David Apatov – and eventually made contact. Wonderful. Peter Nash from Sydney, Australia, first told me about your site, as ancestors had lived in Hailar and were still there at the end of WW2 when the Japanese were there. They beheaded three members of the family and imprisoned and tortured two more.

Anyway, thanks for responding.

Email: mpwaddell@aapt.net.au

Proposal for the Database Project

In order to better preserve the valuable history of the friendly relations between the Chinese and Jewish peoples, and with the purpose of keeping a record of the period when Jews used to live in the Hongkou District before and during WWII, we wish to build up a database.

The database will include information about the history of the Jews who lived in the Hongkou District during that period of time including their names and addresses which will

be collected from various sources mainly in China and Israel.

With the joint efforts of the Consulate General of Israel in Shanghai and Hongkou District People's Government, the collected information will be passed on to the research team of Ohel Moshe Synagogue which will be responsible for processing the information collected and building them into such a database in English and Chinese.

The database will be located at

the Ohel Moshe Synagogue as an information center to better inform the visitors and for the sake of history.

Hongkou District is kindly requested to prepare a proposal as to their timetable, budget and role in carrying out this project.

The computer and part of the funding needed in the course of collecting the information will be financed by the Consulate General of Israel in Shanghai.

Yutta Friedman

Please open this email which I received whilst here in South America. There is a lot of information. My grandfather was Arthur Aronheim whose name is indicated

But I do not understand what they refer to because an Adele Aronheim was not of my family.

Email: yuttafr@gmail.com

<http://www>

[Shanghaijewishmemorial.com/62.htm](http://www.Shanghaijewishmemorial.com/62.htm)

Helga Guth

Mrs. Klara Schwarzberg, Amikam, advised me to send these photos to you. I am a volunteer in the guesthouse for Holocaust survivors. My husband's father, Felix (Pinchas) Guth survived in Shanghai. He was there from 1939 until 1947. In 1948 he came to Israel. After his death in 1985 he left these photos of his time in Shanghai.

May be there are still survivors of this period of Shanghai or their friends or families who known persons shown in these pictures. You may show the photos at your next meeting or publish them in your newsletters. I would be glad to know if there is at least one who recognizes a family member, a friend, or himself in one of these photos.

Address: POB 28, Shavei Zion 22806

Tel.: 04-9820371, Fax: 04-9820949

Nicholas Belzer

Jerusalem, Israel

I am wondering if there are any Jewish Olim from China living in Jerusalem so that I can get in touch with them. I am a student at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and I'm writing a paper on the Jews of China. I would be grateful for any help. Todah Raba.

E-mail: nicholasbelzer@yahoo.com

Phone Number: 054-233-7929

Louie

Tianjin Museum of Modern History, China

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

I would be very grateful if you can send our museum a DVD-ROM with the digital files on your website. Except for those listed on your website, do you have any more materials or is that all you have?

Thanks and best regards.

Email: hyn@public.tpt.tj.cn

A letter from Canada

Our former compatriot from Shanghai, George Frank, now of Vancouver, Canada, writes to us that many of the former shanghaianders participated in a festive Chinese New Year dinner, organized by another Shanghai old boy, Frank Ognistov.

Peter Nash

Sydney, Australia

Shabbat Shalom Teddy,

I was very pleased to read three significant articles in the latest Bulletin, #394-one from my friend Andrew Jakubowicz, the extract from James Ross' book and an article by Lydia Aisenberg.

It is the last article that I want you to help me with. It is a story about the Gewing family. I would like to get in touch with Ehud or preferably his twin brother Heinz as were in the same class together at Shanghai Jewish School. In fact I have a class photo. So please give a contact email address. (My birth name was Nachemstein).

I believe you had an email from Thomas Dorn in Shanghai about his discovery of 19 passports in a Chinese curio shop. Thomas contacted me because one of the passports belonged to my mother and as it also included my name he was able to find me through the Internet. I, and also my good friend Sonja Muhlberger in Berlin, are trying to locate the other owners or their descendants. At the moment I don't know if I will regain possession.

Hope this finds you well.

E-mail: genealogy@rpnash.com

Letters

Mira Goldberg

To Mr. Teddy Kaufman

I am sending you by email Mark's memoirs that I found after his death. He wrote in English and Hebrew about life in Harbin. His parents were Leuba and Abraham Goldberg, but he grew up in his grandfather's home, Gregory (Tsvi) Gurevitch. I would like the readers to write their reactions and recollections of Mark and his family to the Bulletin. (See the "Memoirs of Mark Gurevitch" in this issue)

Gary Matzdorff

Dear Teddy,

I really do not know if I thanked you enough for giving me the opportunity to read your wonderful book "The Jews of Harbin". A wonderful account of the life and especially of Jews in the Far East. I can identify very well with the life there, having gone through the Shanghai experience. Except that your parents and friends had more years to develop a relationship with people and country than we did. Nevertheless my experiences in Shanghai were good and bad. Most importantly the doors of Shanghai were open and it saved the lives for almost 20,000 European Jews. I was fortunate to have made many friends on both sides of the city. That brings me to a request. In the Rosh Hashana issue of the Igud paper are 2 names of my friends, and I would like to have their addresses if that was possible, so I can start corresponding with them.

- 1) Bobby Miller the Tour Guide
- 2) George Bloch, Hongkong

I greatly appreciate your assistance and hope to see you next year again at the IAF Center in June.
Address: 12644 Bradford Place, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Dr. Robert Warren

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

This note is to mention to Association members and readers – especially outside the States – that the famous Harbin beer is now available in the USA. In May, 2004, Anheuser-Busch, Inc. purchased about 29% of Harbin Brewery Group Ltd., a leading brewer in China. Established in 1900, Harbin Brewery Group is China's oldest brewer. So far, Harbin beer is the only super-premium Chinese beer in the US domestic market. This is not a difficult situation! Harbin is great!

Address: 10 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong, China
6867 Beech Creek Road, Gloucester, Virginia 23061, USA

Ruth Shany

Dear Mr. Ran Veinerman

With great interest I read your article "Forum in Harbin 2007" and it was a great pleasure to read about all these beautiful and interesting places and events, many of which I missed during my short stay. You described all the details so well that I got the feeling that I have been with you and Mr. Klein. I have been busy with my exposition, the hanging of the paintings, the opening at the Synagogue and attending different events, which I enjoyed immensely. I met wonderful people who took care of me and did not leave me unattended for a moment.

Just to mention Mr. Qu Wei, President of the Helongjiang Social Science Institute,

The Israeli Ambassador Mr. Yehoyada Hayim and his wife Shoshana, the Cultural Attache, who became a real friend during the showing of my work at the XYZ Gallery in Beijing and again showed me her affection in Harbin, which I reciprocated.

There were many wonderful people whom I could mention. They stayed in my heart- and even if I forgot their names names - I didn't their personality.

Now, Ran I want to say thank you, you who brought these wonderful memories back to me and they will live on and on... I don't want to forget Teddy Kaufmann, the Chairman of the Igud Sin, who made all these wonderful experiences possible. Thank you Teddy, Ran and Yossi

Mutsuo Fukushima

Kyoto, Japan

Dear Mr. Theodore Kaufman,

Your letter and book have bolstered my spirit. I was really happy to hear from you in Tel Aviv.

I have been corresponding with Mrs. Fujiko Hashimoto, who is the daughter of Lt. Gen. Kiichiro Higuchi. Her maiden name changed from Higuchi to Hashimoto when she married Yoshikata Hashimoto, a banker. Now her husband is retired and the Hashimotos reside in Sapporo, the capital of Japan's northernmost major island of Hokkaido.

Her excellent personality and well-educated culture is similar to that of Mr. Higuchi. In addition to being a housewife, Mrs. Hashimoto has done charitable volunteer work for the underprivileged by joining the activities of a Roman Catholic Church in her neighborhood. Recently, I sent a copy of your book to her with a letter explaining its contents. Before mailing it to her I pasted bookmarks to the pages in the book where you mentioned her father. I think she is very happy with your book.

I have an autobiography of Lt. Gen. Higuchi which he published before he passed away. He lived for several years (or more than a decade) after Japan's unconditional surrender in 1945 to the allied forces led by U.S. Gen. Douglas McArthur. If you read this autobiography, you will be surprised to learn how accurately and objectively Mr. Higuchi understood the essence of Nazi Germany and the communist regime of Joseph Stalin from the very early stages of their brutal, merciless and bloody rule.

Yesterday, Kyodo News published a news story attached here. I think it will interest you.

I hope and pray that the existing and the coming generations of Israelis will be able to live in peace amid the hostile and belligerent surroundings.

Email: fukushima.mutsuo@kyodonews.jp

Dear Mr Kaufman,

My name is Louie, I work for Tianjin Museum of Modern History. Hope you still remember me.

I've been contacting Mr Sam Muller for a year regarding the project to restore the Synagogue in Tianjin. Because of the ever-changing political situation in Tianjin early this year and different ideas between the former Tianjin officials and the former Ambassador/Sam, we were not able to make any actual progress. Instead, I proposed to Sam that we may organize an exhibit of Jewish history in Tianjin at our museum first. The goal is to use the successful exhibit to attract the support of the current Tianjin officials to restore the synagogue. Sam mentioned that there are some kind of old documents about Tientsin Jews in your place and we may use them in Tianjin. I wonder if Sam ever mentioned this idea to you and what is your opinion. Sam is a very busy businessman who is always travelling, it's hard to catch up with him. Therefore I'm writing you to make things simple.

Looking forward to your reply. Thank so much for all your help.

Louie

Tianjin Museum of Modern History

Cell: 86-13502000358

Louie

Tianjin Museum of Modern History

Dear Mr Kaufman,

Thanks for much for your prompt reply. Regarding the Tientsin Jews Exhibit, we are interested in the following things:

1. Old photos of the Tientsin Jews, preferably photos with background which can tell the various sides of the Jews community, such as buildings, street views, internal views of private house, community events, school events, etc
2. Old documents from Tientsin, such as certificate of birth and death, business license, school things and so on
3. Any small objects from Tientsin related to Jews history here

Last year our museum published a big photo-essay about Tianjin's modern history, if you are interested in it. I would send it to you by post in order to give you some more understanding of our project. Please let me know your mailing address.

With best regards,

Tanya Kant

Dear Teddy,

Any progress news on the renovations In Tientsin? Is it likely to happen? and if so any idea when? What with the Olympics in 2008, it will probably be postponed?

Tanya Kant

Human Resources

Nava Blum

Rockville, USA

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks for your great assistance with the writing of the article which documents the organization of the Jewish community in Harbin during the great flooding of 1932, and the preventive measures taken against the cholera epidemic outbreak. The documentation of history, especially the Jewish history in Diaspora, is a truly important task, perhaps even a national mission, and it's vital that the young generation should be acquainted with this history.

Naturally, your father's name is mentioned as the head of the community, leading the activities in organizing aid during the floods.

I would like to thank you and wish you a Happy New Year.

Florence Baumgarten

Portland, USA

Dear Chavermen,

Toda Rabah for sending me the "Yotzei Sin". Please note my zip number is 97202 NOT 97102. Please make the change. Thank you. Also, would you be kind enough to send me the proper address for the organization L.I.B.I. which helps our soldiers. I want to make a charity contribution to this fine organization. If you know of other good worthwhile contributions I can make – especially to our Jewish people in Israel, I would appreciate your advice. I lived in Israel for twenty-two years, but now I am back in the States.

Again, toda rabah la hacol, Shanah Tovah v'col tov.

Email: florange429@yahoo.com

Address: 6404 S.E. 23rd Ave., Apt. 416, Portland, OR 97202-5458 USA

Thomas Dorn

This weekend I was roaming around the various curio stores in Shanghai. In one, I found approximately 20 old German Passports, obviously from Jewish refugees. I hastily took pictures and asked the owner about the story. When the Foreigners' Police Office was shifted from Wusong Lu to Pudong they threw away all files older than 50 years, luckily that guy collected some of the papers and kept them.

A brief Internet (thanks to Google) search, brought me to the website and this e-mail address.

Email: Thomas@dorn-shanghai.com

Phone Number: 0086-512-81639099

Sarah Minden

I will be traveling in China from Dec 22 through Jan 5 and would like to meet Jews living in China. Can you please direct me to someone who can help me with that? Thank you

Email: sarahminden@gmail.com

Tel.: 617-327-4420

Anson Laytner

As the newly elected president of the Sino-Judaic Institute I would like to initiate an era of cooperation with the Igud. Please contact me so that we may begin this process.

Email:laytner@msn.com

Tel.: 206 323 4768

Teddy Kaufman

Dear Mr. Laytner,

Please accept my sincere congratulations on your election as president of the Sino-Judaic Institute. I wish you every success in your work. We will be glad to cooperate with your Institute. To let you know more about us, I am sending you our latest "Bulletin" and my book on the Jews of Harbin.

With best regards,

Teddy Kaufman

President

Igud Yotzei Sin,

Association of Former Jewish Residents in Israel,

and the Israel-China Friendship Society

Anson Laytner

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

Please forgive the informality of this proposal, which is at present just a feeler.

SJI has about 300 members worldwide. We publish Points East, help fund various events and scholarship relating to Jewish life in China, and assist students and travelers with their queries. Our mailing list includes many seniors and Judaica libraries.

I don't know the size of the Igud, its range, or its age group. As an association of former residents of China, your group must be older.

It does occur to me that we ought to be talking about the potential to be gained by a merger. With our focus on Kaifeng and now on promoting Jewish and Israeli studies in China, and yours on the former European Jewish communities of China, it would certainly make sense to come together under one banner for easy access.

As I said, this is only an inquiry but I would appreciate your thoughts.

Harriet Morton

Dear Teddy Kaufman:

Hag Sameach! - Wishing you the joy of the holiday and may it extend all year to you and all you hold dear. I have recently returned from China escorting groups combining the Jewish and Chinese History. A client of mine who lived in Shanghai and had relatives in Harbin, gifted me with your book "The Jews of Harbin" which I took with me. This was my 7th journey to China and my 4th to Harbin. Reading your book made Harbin more meaningful for me on this sojourn. I am coming to Israel on January 20th and would like to have the opportunity to meet you. Will bring your book with me - it is a little weather beaten as I was reading it on the veranda of the Yangtze cruise and didn't realize that the rain attacked it when I put it down to go into my cabin. Your email address was given to me by Professor Pan - and he sends his best regards to you. Looking forward to hearing from you

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New interactive database of Shanghai Jews

A call for information By Uri Gutman, Consul General of Israel in Shanghai

The Israeli Consulate and the Foreign Affairs Office of the Hongkou District Government are in the process of creating an interactive database about the 30 thousand Jews who lived in Shanghai in the 1930s and 40s.

The objective of this database is to document the history of the city's Jews. The database will be placed at the Ohel Moshe Synagogue, which was restored to its original structure in 2007 and was reopened as Shanghai's Jewish Refugees Museum.

The database will be launched on Israel's 60th Independence Day in 2008 and will be accessible to all who visit the museum.

In the effort to create this comprehensive collection, the Consulate General of Israel is requesting information about former residents of Shanghai and their relatives. Such information can include: name, gender, address, nationality, escape route, date of arrival in and departure from Shanghai, vocation, permanent residence/country, photos, contact information of the former residents or their relatives,

related events in written/audio/video and more.

Any such information should be sent to following contact details:

Hongkou District Government FAO:
Attention Rita

Tel: +86 21 25657923

Fax: +86 21 25657928

Email: shdfao@163.com

Please CC the Consulate: Info@shanghai.mfa.go.il

Please indicate in your subject: Ohel Moshe Data Base Project + your Family name

The database project is the third phase of a charity campaign initiated in 2007 by the Consulate General of Israel in Shanghai.

The purpose of the campaign is to show the appreciation and gratitude of Israel and the world Jewry to Shanghai and the elderly people of Hongkou District, who received the Jews into their neighborhoods during Nazi persecution.

The campaign has involved contributions by the Consulate General and 26 Israeli companies. The first phase was the renovation of an Elders' Activity Center

in Houshan Park, which is located in the former Jewish Ghetto. The project also included equipping the facility with new furniture, computers, a library, entertainment facilities, musical instruments and medical equipment. The center was inaugurated on Israel's 59th Independence Day.

The second phase of the charity project included equipping a home for the elderly in Hongkou with air conditioners on each floor, flat screen TVs in the bedrooms, a piano and projection equipment for the entertainment hall and exercise equipment in the garden. It was heartwarming to see what a significant difference this made in the lives of the residents of this home.

The Israeli Consulate and the Hongkou District government are working jointly to complete the third phase of the campaign, the creation of the interactive database about Shanghai's Jews, at the Ohel Moshe Jewish Refugees Museum. You can help us preserve the history and memory of the Jewish Community in Shanghai by sending information and spreading the word.

Thank you in advance!

"Memory is the diary
we all carry"
(Oscar Wilde)

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That's what happens to all of us !

For a moment we pause, we remember, we are moved. A hint of a smile of recollection, and then a small tear moistens our eye at the sudden flood of memories, pictures of the past. Family roots, stories and highlights in our personal life span. And all we now want is to share them with our children, our grandchildren, with all the people close to us.

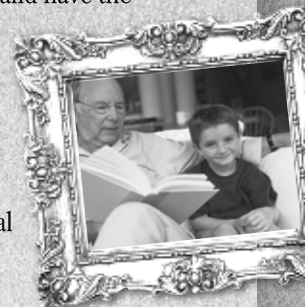
More and more people feel the need to tell, to record, to see in print the past, for the sake of future generations; to observe how the youngsters follow the branches of their family tree. They take great pride in their family stories and are proud that their dream to share them has come true.

If you feel unable to properly express your story, or if you have written it down but still hesitate, please come to us and have the story of your life come to live for all your dear ones to see.

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Mark's memoir

Mark Goldberg

Chapter 1 - childhood

Night has dropped on the room. Everything is almost black. My finger is bandaged in cotton and a little blood is seeping through it. A small cut on the forefinger done by sticking it too deep into the dialling ring and turning the dial all the way with all the abandon of a child- has been taken care of by the mother. The culprit telephone stands on the night table. I barely see it with the help of a little light coming below the door. I'm in the crib with white linens surrounding me. The bars of the crib protect me. The room is warm, and I feel good, warm, though some tears are still clinging to my cheeks. This is my first recollection, the first picture that I remember now from my earliest childhood years.

When did it happen? Maybe when I was 2 years old and living with my parents on Bakers's street. Another recollection- I'm in a pram and a man "Isai Isaievitch" pushes it. He was good friend of the family. (I don't know who he is and have nobody to ask now because my mother is already dead). I get off the pram and run to an iron fence, nothing particular about it except that there are two horizontal railings and rings between them and they can be turned around. At that time I was tugging them hard quite swiftly.

I remember that we were all living with grandfather and uncles and aunts in one apartment and I was a king: the only grandson for the time being and for a long time.

Another recollection: My mother's youngest sister Haya, going out with my future uncle Abrasha. And as I was told, they were taking me everywhere with them. One day Haya, the bride, visited the Bridegroom who lived in the yard near the new synagogue.

While they were inside I went out and found a bicycle standing on a support. I started to turn the pedal and the back wheel spun faster and faster until the whole bicycle landed on my head, and shoulders and smothered me to the ground. So here I was all aching but receiving lots of attention, love, hugs and kisses from my dear Haya and beloved Abrasha. And why not?

I was born in the eighth month of pregnancy (my mother was boarding a bus), living the first 3 months of life in an incubator which was built specially for me by my father , where the heat was provided by glowing electric bulbs surrounding my frail body, with some insulating covering. I suppose, lying at home with a physician in attendance (Dr. Yatzkin) all this led to my Brith Mila being done on me sometimes in October – a delay of three months as I was born on 25 of July 1934- instead of 7 days. Then after the circumcision I caught pneumonia and Dr. Yatzkin told my mother that there are all the chances for me to leave this world at this early stage. In addition, I was born with a mark above my left eye the size of a raspberry and growing all the time. Then Dr. Yazkin found out about a famous German surgeon visiting Harbin. This surgeon performed an operation, removing the raspberry and connecting the blood vessels in the affected area on my brow when I was a year old. Well, my mother didn't want this operation and stated before Dr. Yazkin that she doesn't care that I'll not be handsome and will go through life with a raspberry sitting on my brow because boys do not necessarily have to be handsome but strong willed and purposeful. And so I was pampered by all the sons and daughters of my grandfather

and their wives and husband, by all but not by my mother. Most of all I was loved by my grandfather.

Chapter 2 - my grandfather

The old Gurevitch arrived in Harbin, China in 1904. At that time Manchuria which is located on the North East of China, was colonized by the Russians, and my grandfather arrived there with his wife Rosa, from Siberia. My grandfather's grandfather was a "kantobist". This strange word put the fear of God in the 19'th century into the hearts of Jews living in Russia, mostly in Ukraine and Belorussia, because to fatten up the army with manpower, Tzar Nikolai the first and the tzars after him, (Alexander the Third) were kidnapping Jewish kids of about 12 years old, converting them to Christianity and raising them on Christian farms and then conscripting them into the army for 25 years. After this long service, those who survived were released as free Jews and could settle anywhere in Russia and not as their parents who were obliged to live in the Pale. So, this great-great-grandfather supposedly settled in Siberia and became a well-off man. I know about my grandfather's father that he lived in Moscow and from there my grandfather Grigory (in Jewish Zvi), went to Siberia and then to Manchuria. My grandmother Rose came from Ryazan.

When they came to Harbin my grandfather opened a shop at his home and started – he was a tailor and a hatmaker, and started supplying the Russians with overcoats (shinely) and hats (furazhki) with visors as worn by the officers. Then came the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905, so I understand that his hands were full and he employed a hatmaker by the name of Thaller. He bought or rented a

house where he produced 11 children but only 7 survived at the time that I was born. One more died, Arosha, when I was 4 years old. Arosha with his wife lived with grandfather in the big apartment on the 4th Line Street and I enjoyed coming to their big bed and sleep with them after my bath at night. After Arosha died, his wife Nadia remained in the flat because my grandfather declared that she was for him like his own daughter. Those statements brought lots of dissention into the family when grandfather died and the inheritance had to be parcel out.

I don't remember my grandmother Rose at all, only her memorial stone in the cemetery. I went there very early in my life because nobody thought in those days that it's wrong to bring small kids to the cemetery. For me to visit my grandmother was some kind of holiday.

The family ordered 2-3 taxis. In those days, the thirties, the cabs were very much open affair, like Fords, Dodges and Chryslers with wooden wheels. I'd sit on the jump seat right behind the driver, saw his movement and imagined that I was driving the car. And best of all when the car stopped, I was permitted to squeeze the rubber bulb of the klaxon and this was real something. On top of everything, the ride from our house on the 4th Line Street to the cemetery led us through the Chinese part of the city and everything fascinated me. In the Jewish cemetery of Harbin later, I recognized tombs of Jewish soldiers and sailors killed during the Russo-Japanese War. So there was a period of history right before my eyes. Since then I've enjoyed visiting old cemeteries because in a way they are filled with pieces of history (tombs) under which lie the people who passed through different periods of it.

We lived in the Russian part of Harbin, the city which was developed by the Russians from a small Chinese village on the Sungary river. This

Russian core was surrounded by the Chinese city. All the cemeteries were on the outskirts of the whole city- the Chinese, the Russians and Jewish. You could see Chinese pagodas, Russian Churches etc. The Jewish cemetery had only one building for cleansing the dead, and the area was full of trees, like a huge beautiful park and very quiet. The quiet was disturbed by the weeping and tears of our family. For me it was fun. Another interesting observation- some of the Jews followed the Russians custom of inserting the photograph of the deceased into the tombstones (it's a special process of printing the photograph on white enamel) and it was interesting to see all those faces and inscriptions and beautiful geometrical forms executed in stone. The tombs were made differently mostly of granite, grey for regular people, black and red for more affluent and important ones. There wasn't much marble because it was brought from far away. The granite was local and plentiful. There concrete tombs for really poor and for those fallen Jewish- Russians soldiers, they looked like army issue.

Chapter 3 - my home with grandfather

Then, evening, winter, and cold- I came home with my mother and in my hands a flashlight, bought me after considerable nagging and lots of promises of good behaviour on my part. Then you light the flashlight and roll it on the floor near the door and the whole living room, which was in darkness starts to come to life with every piece of furniture throwing strange shapes of darkness on the dimly lighted walls and all the shapes moving right and left and I am conducting the whole show! And on the wall opposite the door there is a big wall clock, a good friend of my childhood years which followed me as I grew up. Pity, I don't have it now with me.

And a huge table sitting 12 people, which was the centre of our life,

always surrounded by people talking, reading, eating- days and evening. No respite for our massive table.

Dinners were served on it with me, my mother, grandfather and aunt Nadia sitting on his left, reading him the newspaper because he was illiterate, and uncle Doda (David) and aunt Merrra who lived separately, and uncle Boriya who was a single in those days.

Our Chinese cook Li- Van- Syan, whom we called Li, bringing and collecting the dishes. In the evening there was a traditional huge samovar which was fired by glowing coals and a lot of tea was drunk. Some evening, full plates of sunflower seeds and the long hours of crackling noise as everybody gorged himself with seeds. Or, in the long winter evening, after the supper, there would be a big utensil filled with frozen apples which when thawed a little bit, would serve as ice- cream, and fruit with delicious taste to finish the evening of talking. And always after the meal, my uncle Doda will light the cigarettes and here I was with a piece of newspaper asking them to burn holes through the paper in different places selected by me and so created some patterns with burnt holes as other children would paint.

I liked the smell of cigarettes burning, newspaper burning and the smell of exhaust gases from automobiles in the streets.

I have to try hard to put some order in my recollections and paint them in such a way to give each one a space of their own to all these good people, who never gave me any trouble, who always loved me, to whom I was always a darling, a pet, and who could only project their love to me through the screen of strict discipline imposed on me by my authoritarian mother.

I was a dough in the hands of my mother and had to follow her wishes and orders unquestionably and immediately and may be when I showed my natural obstinacy and

procrastination then I would received her punishment. Therefore, since my childhood, I hated when somebody raises his voice with me, and hate to follow orders from anybody and my explanation to this phenomena is the waves of revolt which were suppressed by my mother harshly, or maybe because I accepted only my mother as my boss and not anyone else. This attitude brought many hardships on my head through my adult life because I was never a smiling nice boy to my bosses but quite a tough fighter with Samson's attitude of felling the pillars of the temple on myself and on my adversaries. I never accepted corruption and dumbheadness in others, sometimes not recognizing that honesty is rare among people, and many times falling in the trap of believing in people, and not recognizing what they are: mad dogs in behaviour and stupid in their heads.

My grandfather: he was the main male character who impressed me and served as a model in my childhood and in later years. Bespectacled, with a small square beard and moustache, rounf face, quite bald on the top, his spectacles round and small made of metal wire and covered with black material. His face was a symbol of kindness and honesty. He was the anchore which held the whole ship of the family in cohesion, in place, and the rudder which gave it direction. He was diligently running the shop which he opened when he could afford it, on the Chinese Street (Kitaiskaya Ulitza) in the centre of the business district of the Russian part of Harbin.

Actually, he kept half of the shop for himself and the other half belonged to a man by the name of Sloushch who was selling shoes. I remember that he was fat , middle sized man who is remembered by the following story: on a festive occasion in our apartment he became drunk and violently sick, he rushed to the toilet to let the content of his stomach

exit through his mouth, and in the process, his 2 sets of artificial teeth landed in the bowl and he flushed everything down the drain. As always fun for some is intimately connected to sorrow and loss for others, and how we love to glee over misfortunes which do not involve ourselves.

Strangely, we never heard anything about him after he died.

During my childhood I remember his wife, a small woman with dark skin and white hair who was very kind. I think that their names were Ilya and Katerina but I'm not sure.

It grieved me to understand the fact that many people don't leave behind them anything except the memory among their friends and acquaintances- and when they all gone- nothing remains about them, apart from some vague memories.

My grandfather ran the shop that was the centre of activity for almost the whole family. My mother Leuba, worked there with my uncle Doda. It was the main source of income for us, and it also partially supported Aunt Haya (uncle Abrasha worked as a car mechanic and didn't earn much), my widowed aunt Nadia, and later my single uncle Boria who married only after the death of grandfather .Nadia worked in woman's beauty parlour. I remember her as a lame woman with an explanation that a small dog bit her.

Then there were aunt Genia and uncle Mark, both worked as women's barbers and lived in another city.

I heard many stories about uncle Doda. He was quite a mischievous boy performing cruel pranks on people until grandfather sent him to a boarding school in Shanghai runs by nuns. The horror story about this school was that they spanked the kids with rulers on their palms .He returned from this school quite straightened and became a fireman. This happened before my birth.. I can testify that he was affiliated with the fire department

When we met his boss on the street

and he explained to Doda that he can't leave the service because of future pension and because he had a sick leg due to concentration of nicotine in the leg muscle. This quite shocked me so I still remember it.

You have to understand that not having a father made it possible to go with my uncles to buy things or to business meetings or to other places to give respite to my mother.

Another outing that I liked was to go out with our cook Li to the market to buy provisions for the family like fish, different grains, spices, vegetables etc. Normally the vegetables were brought to our apartment by a Chinese vendor carrying 2 huge shallow baskets hanging from a flat bar resting on his shoulders. He has a weight which consisted of a pan hanging from a round bar on which were divisions inlaid with copper. The bar was held by hand and it showed the weight. It was quite a straightforward device and quite accurate.

Most of the vegetables could be obtained only in the summer, and for winter the cabbage, tomatoes, cucumbers were pickled, many fruits were transformed into jams like: raspberries, strawberries, plums, blueberries and cherries .Some were eaten during their short period of availability.

To store the food we had special arrangement. In the yard each tenant had a storage room which was a part of a long barrack, and there we kept old things and coal for heating the flat in the winter, and right by the entrance door was a trap door on the floor which led to a big underground square hole.

In the winter it was filled with big chunks of ice quarried from the frozen Sungari river. This ice served during spring, summer, summer and fall as a refrigerator. Normally the ice was covered with straw to insulate the ice. When the level of ice fell due to practical melting, we used a ladder to go down to put food or pick it up.

Since the cook or servants normally went alone, it was a qualifying spot to check the honesty of the servants. If the food disappeared mysteriously, it meant that the man or the woman were gorging themselves secretly. After a quick questioning the culprit was discharged. Our cook served with us since my birth.

He had a house not far away from us. He lived with his wife and had no children. Whenever there was a clash of personalities between him and my mother, he would leave us and stay at home, and then my mother and I would go to his house and persuade him to return. Our apartment was located in a big, 2 storey house made of red brick. It had a huge backyard and in it there was another smaller 2 storey house. The house was located on the 4th Line Street and a small street that ran parallel to the railway line. Li's house was placed in the middle of Russian settlement and it was built with clay and straw and was called "fanza" and maybe there was a wooden frame to it. The roof was double slated and covered with straw. Inside and out it was white washed. It had one big room whose corner was occupied by a boxlike furnace made also of clay and straw. On this stove Li and his wife slept during the winter, for the stove provided warmth. In the summer it wasn't heated. The food was prepared on cast iron braziers fired by charcoal. The windows were covered with oiled thick paper (pergament) instead of glass. In the corner was a small praying place with different paper decorations, urns and candles standing on a low table.

Where we lived was in a part of town called Pristan (the Russian word for tying up the boats on the river). On the other side of the railway, the part of town was called "Nachalovka" (the Russian word for Nachal- a guy who steals property that doesn't belong to him).

And that's exactly what happened- Russian settlers grabbed the land on the other side of the railway and

established small farming plots. Then, on the south (going from the river) was the New City, also Russian but planned in a better way with modern architecture. Going east- north with the river, there was the Chinese city that was called Fudzidzyan. And the most southern part was called Modyagou.

Speaking of servants- we had a cleaning woman Tamara, who normally came on Thursdays and cleaned the apartment thoroughly washing the floors. The floors were made of thick wooden planks, presumably covered with brown paint with black borders near the walls, but with time the paint was scraped by the feet where people trod. I remember a delicious smell of wet wood when Tamara would finish scrubbing the floors and the planks started to dry. The washing of cloths was done by Vasia, another Russian woman. She was a thick set woman, low in height, her height and width and depth the same. She would work for a day on the washing board, made of a frame of wood, and the inside was a piece of tightly corrugated iron sheet covered with zink. She would position this implement into a huge tub, also made of iron sheet zink plated. The tub was filled with soapy water where the cloths swam, pick each piece separately, spread it on the board, go over it with a bar of soap, and then started to push it up and down over the corrugations of the washing board. She had children but no husband and all my old clothes went to her. She had a special sickness- sometimes she didn't appear for several weeks and we knew that she went on a drinking binge, with her hard earned money going down her throat, in the form of vodka.

When she reappeared, she asked my mother for a loan, fixed the date of her arrival for doing the washing, and everything will go smoothly for few months until the next attack of alcoholism.

When she arrived, she had aroma of plain washing soap and her hands were always swollen as if she had just had a bath. Her face was completely round without special features, but when she returned after her bout, under her eyes there were black arcs and few blue marks of beatings.

The advantage of being a child is that you accept things as they are without judgement, and Tamara passed through my childhood as a permanent fixture of our house. Li, our cook was a member of the family. During my childhood he moved to live with us with his wife and he closed his house. We had a small anteroom above the bathroom and that's where they slept. Li's wife prepared Chinese dishes for herself. She wouldn't taste the Russian dishes which her husband prepared for our family. Many times I would dip a spoon into her dishes and enjoyed secretly the fruit of her cooking.

Every evening Li and my mother sat together, went over the expenses of the house and decide on tomorrow dishes to be served at lunchtime which was our main dinner (abed) and the supper (uzhin).

My mother was the boss of the family. She ran the household and decided on many things. My grandmother Rose, was sick with diabetes, and my mother as the oldest daughter started to raise the family at the age of 13. Uncle Arosha was the eldest, Doda the second, mother the third, then uncle Aizik, aunt Genia, aunt Haya and uncle Boria was the youngest. Between Genia and Haya there was Ita, an aunt that I don't remember because when I was 2 years old, she married a Russian guy and left for Soviet Russia. As far as I know we never received any news from her.

Uncle Aizik was living in Dairen and was visiting us infrequently in Harbin. He gave me a present – a tiny camera which is still with me though broken. In 1945, when the red army conquered Manchuria, he was sent to Siberia on a charge of cooperating

with the Japanese, and the only letter that arrived from him in 1956, was from Somemind Gold mines in a godforsaken place in Siberia.

He never married, was a skirt chaser, dressed like a dandy and I never knew what he was doing for his living. He gave me another present that I long lost- a Russian bullet 6 m"m, a rifle bullet plated with silver which he carried on his vest pocket watch chain.

When he came and aunt Genia was with us, there were always screams and slamming of doors between those two. (I never knew why). Another set of clashes always developed between my mother and aunt Nadia, who behaves like a princess whom everybody had to serve, never pitching in any of the household chores. This drove my mother crazy. I understand that another field of contention was that Nadia was always whispering things to my grandfather, who loved her as his daughter, and mother was resenting it.

We had a lively family, with oral violence in abundance. The expression of feeling rampant. Weeping due to losses in oral battles, fighters retiring to their respective rooms, and the next morning greeting and kissing each other. This behaviour around me influenced my way of behaviour in later years.

I can suppress my anger to a certain point but then I explode without caring where the words might fall and what damage they will do to me later. I will never smile diplomatically and normally will explode at the wrong moment. I always envy people who calculate every word they say, smile to everybody, in short control themselves perfectly and then stick the knife in the right place and at the right moment. I, on the contrary, never stick a knife in anybody in a cold calculated fashion and many times taken the path of retreat. To hell with bloody people!

Through all my childhood I answered to the family name of Gurevitch

(my grandfather's and my mother's maiden name). Only at the age of 9-10, I started using my proper family name of Goldberg. It was very strange to me because mother used her maiden name all the time, and then she started to send me to visit my father at his workshop with the explanation that she shouldn't isolate me from him and it was time to break the ice.

My father, Avraham Goldberg, was a victim of a playboyish nature. He courted mother for 4 years, and during their 3 years marriage she bore him 3 children but I was the only survival.

After their separation she and I moved to my grandfather's flat, where we were warmly welcomed.

In my early childhood I went with mother and grandfather to Dairen. This was a city built by Japanese on the Kwanting Peninsula near the fortress of Port Arthur. The last ceded by Russia to Japan after the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-05. In the beginning there was Port Arthur- a fortress and naval base built by the Russians as the most southern point of K.V.ZH.D- Chinese eastern railway (Kutaisko vostochnaya- zheleznaya-doroga) which exited from the Trans-Siberian railway connecting Moscow with Vladivostok- another naval base on the Pacific- at a city of Khabarovsk and crossed Manchuria. Another Russian concession due to failure to win the war was an agreement that Japanese could use the k.v.zh.d together with the Russians.

Dairen was situated on the hills with broad streets and modern building. As much as I remember there were not many Chinese in the city but mostly Japanese as well as the official language was.

My aunt Genia lived there with uncle Mara and it became a base for our vacation either with mother or with grandfather who was making business trips. We went there in the summer and met our dear friends the Felds, whose son Leoka was my

age and my friend. Leoka's mother Polina Maximova was a converted Russian, and his father Abraham was a businessman. We played on the sand, on the sea beach. I have a picture when we were 2-3 years old and our mothers lying behind us.

With my grandfather we went by train to Dairen, and I still remember the ride in the sleeping railway car- the trip took almost 48 hours. Aunt Genia and the Felds were living in a big house in rented apartments. Genia had a daughter, Rosa, and when the grown ups went out, we three stayed in Genia's apartment.

A Japanese business friend of grandfather brought me a huge box of candies with different shapes and colours, covered in cellophane paper made in Japan. My orders were not to open the package but we happily opened and consumed all the candies. We were scared stiff to remain alone in the flat because "Barmaley" will come and get us. He was a creature of Darien with whom Genia and Polina scared us to behave nicely. One afternoon I went with grandfather to visit Vishuyavski, friend of his who had an eye operation, it was a nice ride to a huge hospital. Another day I and Leoka went outside and found in the front yard of our building, 2 boxes full of empty milk bottles. We started to work on them by throwing each of them against the wall. I think that it was the last day of the visit, because the repercussions of it was in Harbin through a letter written by Genia.

That's my recollections of Dairen and Harbin.

Misha Kogan's portrait

A portrait of Misha Kogan was placed in the study of the IYS management. 24 years ago, after Misha's passing away, his widow, Asya Kogan of Tokyo launched the Social Assistance Fund and a Scholarship Fund for the IYS students. These funds are one of the sources of our annual budgets: The Social Assistance Fund takes care of 20 families; the Scholarship fund supports 50 students.

Beijing, China Communities

"Jewish Times Asia"

Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and is one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China. It is the political and cultural center of China and is China's third largest city in terms of population.

It is a major transportation hub, with dozens of railways, roads and expressways passing through the city. It is also the focal point of many international flights

to China. Although today the city has become a very modern one, it remains spiritually and politically the heart of the country.

This bustling city, constantly in the throws of transition as the ancient world meets the modern, is about to get busier and evolve with the world watching. In 2008, they will play host to the Summer Olympic Games.

While Judaism is not one of the five officially recognised religions in China, the community maintains a good relationship with officials from the People's Republic of China. With respect to the practice of Judaism, conversions are not permitted to take place in Mainland China.

The government likewise requires that local Chinese be excluded from the community's events. They require that visitors be able to show foreign passports as a precondition for participation in events and services. There is an exception for local Chinese who are married to Jews.

The Jewish community is extremely respectful of their hosts' rules and the community is a respected part of China's expat population.

Beijing is also host to an extremely active Israeli embassy that continuously serves to help promote and foster the friendly relationship that the two nations have shared since the formal



Rohr Family Chabad Community Centre

establishment of diplomatic relations in 1992. There is the opportunity for constant exchange in the arenas of art and culture, academia, agriculture and science and technology between Beijing and Jerusalem.

KEHILLAT BEIJING

Kehillat Beijing is a self-led community serving the needs of liberal and reformed Jews in Beijing. The community can trace its roots back to 1979, as the first congregation to establish itself in China since 1949.

Their first Passover Seder was organised in 1980 and they met mainly in member's homes, focusing on observing Pesach and the High Holidays.

Kehillat Beijing is not officially connected to a particular movement in Judaism, though they receive support and guidance from the World Union of Progressive Judaism and they have selected the American Reconstructionist prayer book for use in their services. They pray in unison in community led services and are completely egalitarian.

The community, while modest, has a Torah that was generously donated and they meet weekly, on Friday nights, for Shabbat services held at the auditorium of the Capital Club Athletic Center. The Friday night services are followed by a Shabbat meal at the Capital Club.

They also run the affiliated Ahavat

Yitzhak Religious School. The school is dedicated to providing a Jewish education and experience for children ages 4 through post-Bar and Bat Mitzvah. The school encourages the involvement of the students' families, making this a true community effort. Students learn Hebrew and about the holidays, while focusing on fostering a love for the State of Israel. The school meets

every Sunday during the school term and also coordinates youth activities, programmes for the Jewish holidays and community social gatherings. While Kehillat Beijing continued to serve the needs of their community of 200 plus members, Beijing began to explode with new opportunities around them. The opening of Beijing to international trade and investment has attracted increasing numbers of Jews from throughout the world.

CHABAD BEIJING

In August 2001 Chabad Lubavitch of Beijing responded to the growing needs of the community. They were officially established in time for Rosh Hashanah that year.

Rabbi Shimon and Dini Freundlich together with their two daughters, Chaya Mushka and Devorah Freundlich, were selected to establish and run Chabad's office in Beijing, China. Like the community and Beijing itself, their family has grown as well as they are now joined by their youngest daughter, Chava and their son, Aaron. Residents of Beijing and visitors alike all point to Rabbi Freundlich's warmth, inclusiveness and extremely gregarious nature as a major impetus behind Chabad's rapid expansion in Beijing. Chabad Lubavitch of Beijing provides religious services and educational



Dini's Kosher Restaurant

and social activities for not only the growing numbers of Jewish people who live in Beijing but for the large numbers of tourists and businessmen drawn to Beijing.

The Chabad community of Beijing currently has 800 members, living and working in the city, from different countries including the United States, Israel, Azerbaijan/Russia and Europe.

In addition to the Jews who live in Beijing, there are approximately 2000-3000 business people and tourists who travel through each year. Included in this group, are the masses of Israeli backpackers traveling through Asia, especially throughout the spring/summer months. Chabad is aiming to help to recharge and reconnect these younger travelers with their Jewish identity.

They focus on education and Jewish enrichment with classes and lessons for both children and adults. There are Bar and Bat Mitzvah lessons, One-on-One Classes with the Rabbi, weekly Parsha studies, led by Rabbi Freundlich, and monthly women's Rosh Chodesh groups. Additionally there are counseling services available.

Shabbat services, meals and related activities take place in the Chabad House which has grown from the Freundlich's early days of hosting both meals and services in their own apartment.

In addition to Chabad House, there is the new 10,000 sq. ft. Rohr Family Chabad Community Centre. The Centre has quickly become the heart of the Beijing Jewish Community. It includes: Ganeinu International School for children ages 1.5- 12 years, the Chabad offices, a kashrut Office, kosher store, mikveh, and catering and banquet facilities for tour groups.

The staff includes not only Rabbi Freundlich and Dini Freundlich but also Rabbi Nosson Rodin, Mrs. Miriam Rodin, and Rabbi Mendy Raskin and Mrs. Chani Raskin.

Rabbi Mendy and Chani Raskin are the schluchim of Chabad of Ya Bao Lu, or downtown as it is perhaps better known and has recently moved to a new permanent location in Beijing's Dong Cheng District.

Chabad Ya Bao Lu is also located close to the downtown hotels and hosts Shabbat services and meals every week for overseas guests that are staying in area hotels.

Ganeinu is the only Jewish day school in northern China and is a school for the entire Jewish community, regardless of background or affiliation. They utilise a Montessori based curriculum combined with Jewish traditions and cater to the educational needs of students.

The community is proud of their new mikveh which was established with thanks to the Lefkowitz and Godinger families. It includes a mikveh spa for woman, named, Mei Tova. This is a 5 star facility that has successfully fused together Judaic observance with a Chinese traditional theme with a



Classroom at Ganeinu International School



Dini's Kosher Restaurant

modern touch.

The greater Jewish community of Beijing also recently warmly welcomed "Dini's Kosher Restaurant" onto the Beijing scene. It is located on a popular bar street and is Beijing's first genuine Kosher restaurant. The restaurant has been named "Dini's" in honour of Chabad Beijing's own Dini Freundlich. This meat facility is operated under the kosher supervision of Rabbi Shimon Freundlich - Director Chabad Beijing.

The Israel-China Friendship Society was established in 1992 to strengthen the bond of friendship between the Jewish community and the Chinese people. Also, for the benefit of all members of Beijing's Jewish community, a Beijing Hadassah International Chapter was founded in recent years, adding to already rich Jewish life available in the capital of China. Beijing is also soon to play host to the International Anne Frank exhibit after it completes its China debut in Hong Kong.

Where Beijing may lack in the Jewish history that other municipalities in China can boast, it is clear that this rapidly growing and expanding Jewish community is going to play an important role in the future of the Jews in China.



**To the Misha Kogan
Scholarship Fund
US\$ 10,000**

**In memory of the dear
parents of Misha Kogan**

Asya Kogan (Tokyo)

February 2008



Kalman Kogan



Riva Kogan

DONATIONS

SOCIAL AID FUND

USA

NEW YORK

From	AMERICAN FAR EASTERN SOCIETY in lieu of flowers for PASSOVER	US\$	500
"	Rose and Norman PEISER	"	100
"	Bella RECTOR	"	100
"	Frances GREENBERG	"	100

SAN FRANCISCO

THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE FAR EASTERN SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO

From	The FAR EASTERN SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO for the PASSOVER Holiday	US\$	2000
"	Mr. and Mrs. David FAMILIANT for the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	2500
"	Allan RAYSON in memory of his father Danil Abramovitch RESNIKOV, who passed away in Tientsin, China, on Jan. 11, 1940, and his mother Fania Abramovna RESNIKOV, who passed away in Sydney, Australia, on Aug. 27, 1978, for Igud Yotzei Sin Social Aid Fund	"	1200
"	Mira and Phil MATERMAN in loving memory of their parents Jacob and Betty LIBERMAN and Abram and Dina MATERMAN	"	100
"	Ralph KAFFEL towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	100

In memory of my beloved son DAVID BELOKAMEN
on the 15th anniversary of his passing
US\$ 2000

Aaron (Billy) BELOKAMEN

In honour of Mrs. Golda LAZAROVICH's 90th Birthday

From	Mrs. Raissa GOLDIN	US\$	90
"	Mr. Walter WOLFF and family	"	50
"	Olga and Isai KAUFMAN	"	50

USA

From	Irene BOREVITZ on the occasion of the Yahrzeit of her beloved parents Anatole and Gita PONVE. Of blessed memory.	US\$	1000
"	Tamara ROZANSKI in memory of the Yahrzeit of her parents Gita and Anatole PONVE	"	1000
"	Joseph FROOMKIN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Kurt P.DULDNER towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Sandra and Evan ROKLEN in honour of Rasha KAUFMAN's Birthday	"	1000
"	Nina SAPOSNICK in memory of her sister Dora RUBIN (Koliadizky)	"	50
"	Esther and Paul AGRAN in honour of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of their lifelong friends Stella and David UDOVITCH with the best wishes for their health and happiness	"	100
"	Esther and Paul AGRAN in memory of their brother Zalman AGRAN	"	500
"	Seema ZIMMERMAN in honour of her children Steven and Juli ZIMMERMAN's 25th Anniversary	"	100
"	Alla ELKIN in memory of her parents Mr and Mrs S. LITVIN and her husband I.ELKIN	"	100
"	Mrs. Eda SHVETZ	"	500
"	Eugene and Guita BASOVITCH in memory of Joseph (Joe) LERNER	"	18
"	Tania SALTER in memory of her parents Joseph and Zina ROBINSON	"	36

From	Natalia WILSON towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	20
"	Luba TUCK in memory of her sister Olga SCHIFRIN MALTZER	"	180
"	Aaron FOMIL in memory of Ita FOMIL	"	50
"	Esther WOLL in memory of her parents Joseph and Sarah OSSIN	"	50
"	Archie and Myrna OSSIN in memory of Joseph and Sarah OSSIN	"	250
"	Paul BOGART in honour of Eleanor (Lucy) BOGDANOVSKY	"	100
"	Beba LEVENTHAL in honour of her dear uncle Lasar EPSTEIN, his wife SONIA and their son ISRAEL (Izzy)	"	50
"	Dora LEE (nee Vidumsky) in memory of her beloved parents Sima and Yascha VIDUMSKY and cousin Mary BEYER	"	100
"	Eve GROYER – STERN, formerly from Shanghai (Shanghai Jewish School on Seymour Road)	"	36
"	Bernard KIEWE in memory of two Betar members of Shanghai Honkew Betar -- Kurt MAIMANN and Sanny ISAACS	"	25
"	Margaret BROSAN in memory of her husband Alfred BROSAN	"	100
"	Benjamin W.HENKIN in memory of his parents Zeev Wolf ben Menachem Mendl and Elka bat Shmuel Moshe HENKIN as well as his sisters Menucha (Mary) HONIGSTOCK and Feiga (Fuchsia) BUSEL and their respective spouses Efraim (Fred) and Yehoshua Abba	"	100
"	Lena FRIEDEL-FELD in memory of her parents Sam and Luba TRACHTENBERG	"	180

In lieu of flowers

From	Renee TOOCHIN	US\$	125	From	Basil G.BERNSTEIN M.D.	US\$	18
"	George FRANKE	"	50	"	Mr. & Mrs. Martin BATES	"	36
"	Gutia KATZEFF	"	50	"	Matook R.NISSIM	"	100
"	Dina and Gershon VINCOW	"	250	"	Aya PIVO	"	500
"	Joe MRANTZ	"	100	"	Leopold BORODOVSKY	"	15
"	Sophy TRUST	"	100	"	Luba TUCK	"	100
"	Helga ALCONE	"	100	"	Solly and Lillie COHEN	"	25
"	Alla ELKIN	"	50	"	Mr. & Mrs. S.BIRULIN	"	100
				"	Dora MEDAVOY and family	"	25

CANADA

From	Frank and Nadia OGNISTOFF in memory of their parents Gregory and Maria OGNISTOFF	US\$	150
"	Stephen MARGLES towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	36
"	Jeannette POLOTSKY in memory of her brother Evsei POLOTSKY	Can\$	50

SWITZERLAND

From	Ruth and Paul WALLACH towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	1100
"	Mrs. H.OSSINOVSKY in memory of her husband Anatoly OSSINOVSKY	"	70

FRANCE

From	Zelda HESCOT in memory of her PARENTS	Can\$	50
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AUSTRALIA

From	Mr and Mrs David LEVITAN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	A\$	4000
"	Mr. Harry TRIGUBOFF in memory of his late FATHER	"	300
"	FRIENDS on occasion of Stella and David UDOVITCH's Diamond Anniversary	"	770
"	Mrs. Bella SHANNON towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Inna and Alec MOUSTAFINE towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	100
"	Amalia GOLDBERG towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	70
"	Alla BRAGAR in memory of David BRAGAR	"	100
"	Leana LEIBOVITCH in memory of her dear husband Nathan LEIBOVITCH	"	500
"	Leana LEIBOVITCH in memory of her dear mother Anna DAMELIN and in memory of her dear Eve and Gregory KOMMISSAROFF	"	500
"	Olga SCHWARTZ towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	120
"	Riva FRENKEL in memory of her husband Grisha FRENKEL	"	50
"	Asya DEANE (Froumson) in honour of her parents Sarah and David FROUMSON	"	100
"	Mr. & Mrs. M.BRAUN	"	50

From	Nora and Efim KROUK in memory of Efim's sister Gita SAPEJINSKY	A\$	100
"	Nora and Efim KROUK towards the Igud Yotzei Sin Social Aid Fund	"	300
"	Eleonora GALPERIN in memory of her mother Rita BOGDANOVSKY	"	30
"	Mr. & Mrs. A.SAMSON	"	100
"	Liya GUREVITCH	"	200
"	Nora FENBOW	"	70
"	Zina KOMONSKY	NIS	100
"	Stella and David UDOVITCH on occasion of Esther and Paul AGRAN's Diamond Wedding Anniversary	A\$	100
"	Bob and Diane SHTEINMAN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	500
"	Naomi and Jesse TRACTON, their children Dan and Michelle, their spouses and children	"	250
"	R. SHAW in lieu of flowers for Passover	US\$	100

ISRAEL

In honour of our father and grandfather
Bob FREIMAN on the occasion of his 85th Birthday
NIS 1000
Reva and Eliana, Miriam, Peter, Tamara and Abby

From	Daniel BERKOVITCH in memory of his wife Musia BERKOVITCH	NIS	25000
"	Marianna BARLY towards the IYS Social Aid Fund in memory of her parents Dr. Ernst and Gertrude MICHAELIS	"	5000
"	Celia NIRIM towards the Igud Yotzei Sin Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Eli (Bobby) ALGOR and family in memory of his parents Roza and Sava GROHOVSKY	"	1000
"	Shulamit SHNEER in memory of Lily WEISBERGER (VEKSLER)	"	200
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN in honour of Rasha KAUFMAN and Raya BERGMAN on their Birthdays	"	500
"	Golda TOLEDO in memory of her mother Sonia PESELNICK	"	100
"	Rivka SCHMERLING in memory of her sister Ella MATZOVER	"	300
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in memory of her mother Sarah OLSHEVSKY and Nessia and Dov SHAMIR	"	100
"	Abraham OZRELOVICH in memory of his sister Tsiva KRAPIVSKY	"	150
"	Golda TOLEDO in memory of her father Gershon (Grisha) PESELNICK	"	100
"	Renata SHANY with thanks for the IYS grant	"	200
"	The MEMBERS of "Ora" club towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	630
"	Alina KRINKEVICH in memory of her dear RELATIVES	"	300
"	Adel REDLER in memory of her husband Reuven REDLER on his Yahrzeit	"	100
"	Benjamin LITVIN in memory of his father Saadia LITVIN on his Yahrzeit	"	1000
"	Musia ROSENBLUM in memory of her unforgettable son Shlomo ROSENBLUM	"	300
"	Itta UDALEVITCH in memory of her mother Dvora GAIZLER	"	300
"	Alex AUSWAKS in memory of his mother Rachel AUSWAKS	"	500
"	Alter ROSENBLUM in memory of his wife IRA and daughter DALIA	"	200
"	Tema BLUM in memory of her aunt and uncle Fania and Yakov SEGEL	"	180
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN in memory of his dear wife IRA and son ZEEV	"	500
"	Yona PONIMONSKY in loving memory of his wife Genia PONIMONSKY	"	150
"	Yenon PERRY in memory of his father Yitzhak (Isai) PERSOFF	"	500
"	Vera YOSELEVICH in memory of her parents Genia and Nahum BELOKAMEN and uncle Arkady FUTRAN	"	200
"	Israel KARNY in memory of his parents Mark and Mina KRIMCHANSKY	"	500
"	Shmuel KISLEV in memory of his mother Sonia KISELEV	"	150
"	Leonfrid HEYMAN in memory of his dear wife HENRIETTA	"	180
"	Mili VEINBERG in memory of her mother Sonya STERNFELD	"	200
"	Ita and Israel BARANOVSKY in memory of their dear son Mona BARANOVSKY	"	180
"	Yosef JACOBSON in memory of his parents Rosa and Leonid JACOBSON	"	100

From	Tamar NISANOFF in memory of her parents Fania and Yakov KESLER	NIS	250
"	Tania SCHLIFER in memory of David FRIEDMAN	"	200
"	Galia PARDO and Orly SCHLIFER-SARUSY, the daughters of Reuven SCHLIFER, in lieu of flowers for Passover	"	500
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear husband Abraham TSINMAN on his Third Yahrzeit	"	200

In lieu of flowers for Passover

From	Leah ALPER	NIS	180	From	Lily and Zvi KOROSHI	NIS	150
"	Avram and Pnina BARANOVSKY	"	200	"	Frieda KUPERMAN	"	250
"	Pnina and Bobby BERSHADSKY	"	180	"	Benjamin LITVIN	"	300
"	Luba BRUNNER	"	300	"	Rina and Haim LITVIN	"	300
"	Bernard DAREL and family	"	100	"	Fania and David MINDLIN	"	200
"	Polina and Alexander EPSTEIN	"	150	"	Sara and Shlomo NITSAN	"	200
"	Sheldon (Shmuel) EPSTEIN	"	120	"	Genia OLSHEVSKY	"	100
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN	"	500	"	Abraham OZRELOVICH	"	300
"	Abraham FRADKIN	"	500	"	Tania PRISH	"	200
"	Etty GINANSKY	"	100	"	Arye RAAM (Rosenstein)	"	100
"	Bella GOLDREICH	"	360	"	Yakov ROSENBLUM	"	300
"	Riva HATINA	"	200	"	Judith and Israel SANDEL	"	180
"	Rika and Oded HON	"	100	"	Tania SCHLIFER	"	100
"	Emanuel INGERMAN	"	200	"	Moshe SCHMERLING	"	200
"	The JACOBY family	"	100	"	Clara SCHWARTZBERG	"	360
"	Eli KAMA	"	100	"	Yehuda SEMBERG	"	180
"	Esther and Yosef KATZ	"	100	"	Dalit SHIKMAN	"	100
"	Lyuba KATZ	"	100	"	Ilona TAVOR	"	100
"	Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN	"	500	"	Sarah UMANSKY	"	100
"	Dina KEDAR	"	200	"	Ran VEINERMAN	"	500
"	Tamar and Shmuel KISLEV	"	150	"	Lutz WITKOWSKI	"	250
"	Rachel and Yonah KLIGMAN	"	200	"	Mr. & Mrs. H. YANKLOWICZ	"	500
"	Shoshana and Abraham KLIGMAN	"	200	"	Aviva and Gershon ZALTSMAN	"	150

SYNAGOGUE FUND

USA

From	ANONYMOUS towards the Synagogue Fund	US\$	250
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ISRAEL

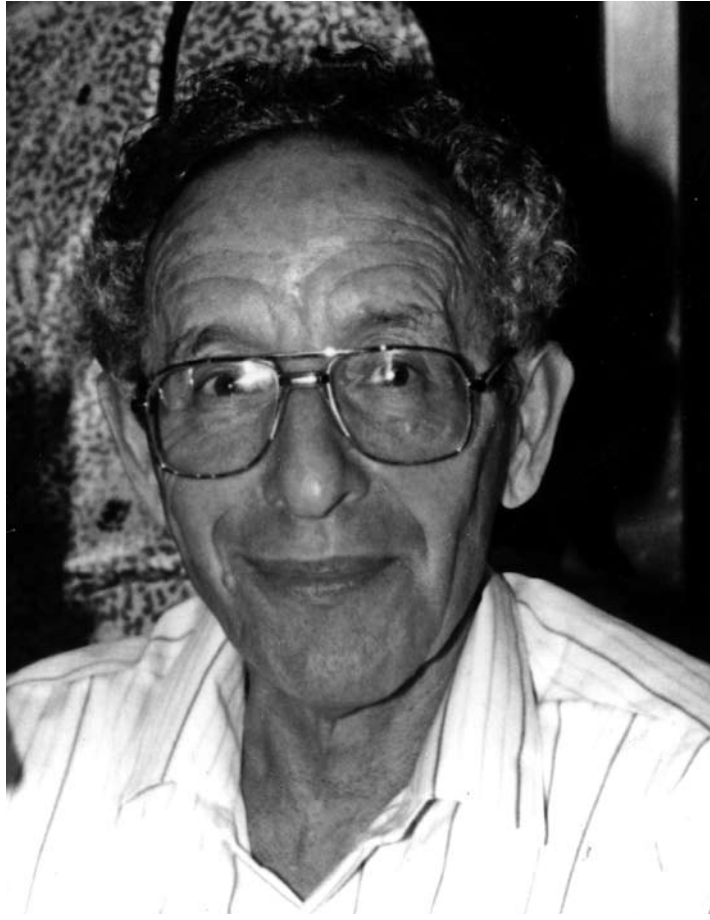
From	Shoshana MAYMON (Lilchuk) in memory of her father Shimon LILCHUK and grandfather Naum LILCHUK	NIS	100
"	Judith MAROM and Yenon PERRY in memory of their father Yitzhak (Isai) PERSOFF and mother Rachel PERSOFF	"	200
"	Joe LEVOFF in memory of his father Zelick LEVOFF	"	100
"	Esther ALON and Seva PODOLSKY in memory of their parents Efim and Leah PODOLSKY	"	200
"	Genia KAUFMAN in memory of her parents Musia and Pana SAMSONOVITCH	"	100
"	Esther KATZ, Menahem BASIN and Rina ZELEZNIACK in memory of their parents Riva and Shimon BASIN	"	200
"	Leah BECKER in memory of her mother Anna Borisovna ALTCLASS and family friend Shimon FUCHS	"	120
"	Esther YARCHO in memory of her dear parents Iza and Aaron YARCHO	"	300
"	Rivka HOFFMANN in memory of her mother Fania SOKOL	"	150
"	Raphael LOUDIN in memory of his father Chaim LOUDIN	"	100
"	Sarah KENIG in memory of her husband Boris KENIG	"	100
"	Miriam LERNER in memory of her husband Joseph LERNER	"	500
"	Leora DANKNER in memory of her mother Shoshana GRUPPER	"	250
"	Vera YOSELEVICH in memory of her parents Genia and Nahum BELOKAMEN and uncle Arkady FUTRAN	"	100
"	Bernard DAREL towards the IYS Synagogue Fund	"	50

(continued on page 82)

In Memoriam

David (Dodia) Friedman - at 87

David (Dodia) Friedman, our compatriot from Harbin passed away On November, 2007. He was 87. Dodia, as we all remember him, was a prototype of the idealistic Harbin Jewish youth, who left a distinct mark on the history of this city and the rebirth of the newly born Jewish State of Israel. Dodia was born in Hailar on December 4, 1920, to a patriarchal Jewish family. He came to Harbin in 1940, where he studied Japanese and English at the Department of Economics of the North Manchurian University. In August 1945, he experienced a tragic event: a few days before the surrender of Japan to the Allies, Dodia's father, Abram Friedman, and his brother, Boris, were brutally murdered by a band of Japanese soldiers ravaging through the streets of Hailar. Abrasha Levitan, Zelda's brother, who came from Tientsin to spend summer holidays with his parents, was also killed. Dodia escaped a similar death by being away from the city at that time. Dodia came to Israel with his mother in 1953 with the last wave of the Harbin immigrants. Here he met Zelda again, and they got married in 1955. In Israel Dodia was employed by the Israeli Aircraft Industries for 35 years. During the last years of his life he suffered from a terminal ailment, and was taken care of by his loving wife, Zelda and his two daughters, Irith and Sarith. Such is a short biography of David Friedman. And now – a few words about him as human being. I do not



know if there was another Jewish young man in Harbin who possessed such a rich treasure of knowledge as he. There did not seem to exist an area in which Dodia would not be seriously interested. More than that: he was not only interested in acquiring information and knowledge for himself, but for the sake of passing this knowledge on to others. A conversation with him was always inspiring. Gone is a unique personality. Anyone who knew him will not forget him. Neither shall we. The sorrow of Zelda, Irith and Sarith is heavy and deep. We share it with them.

T. Kaufman

Our beloved father and husband

Our beloved father and my dearest husband David would have liked this line from Arik Einstein's song-"Give me a smile, even a bitter one, no matter that your heart is breaking apart". David was a happy person all his life and he wouldn't like us, his family and friends, to cry for him-but how can stop the tears?

He is in our hearts and we are trying to do our best to follow his spirits- keep smiling, be optimistic about our future and always follow our natural curiosity in order to learn more from reading. That's what David would do

during his life -first in China and then when he immigrated to Israel. He was an accountant profession-but the spectrum of his knowledge covered many other fields. He was an expert in Russian and English, he admired History and Archeology and loved literature in general. He used to share his knowledge with who was ready to listen and learn from him.

We miss him every day and every moment but we feel that he is there giving his blessing and wishing all of us to keep strong and think positive about life in general and especially about people.

May he rest in peace

Zelda, Judith and Sarit

Leo Boris May

April 28, 1911 – July 17, 2007

Born Leo Madorsky, son of Eva and Boris Madorsky, in Harbin, China, he lived there with his extended family, including his father, brother, aunt, uncle and cousins. In 1930 he graduated from high school and left China to study at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. After one year there he transferred to the University of California in Berkeley, California, where he made many friends and received his B.A. degree in Mathematics in 1936. After graduation, he moved to San Francisco and worked as an accountant, shipyard worker (during World War II) and postal worker. In 1941 he married Esfir (Fira) Levin (also of Harbin, China) and they raised three daughters in San Francisco.

After working at the U.S. Postal Service for many years, he retired in 1976 and spent his time reading, gardening and traveling (he visited France, Italy, Spain, Israel and Australia, as well as many places within the United States). Leo was not only an avid traveler, but also a voracious reader, stamp collector and gardener, film and concert goer, lover of nature and good food. He and Fira were supporters of the Fine Arts Museums, the Academy of

Sciences, the San Francisco Public Library, the Far Eastern Society (a worldwide association of Russian former residents of Manchuria) and many other cultural organizations.

After Fira died in 2004, he spent his last years at Coventry Park, a retirement home in San Francisco, where the warm, loving staff took excellent care of him.

Leo was predeceased by his devoted wife Fira, daughter Naomi Stauss, brother Mara and sister-in-law Yvonne, as well as many cousins. He is survived by loving daughters Nadine May (Enrique Tevar), and Ruth (and William) Maginnis, and by granddaughter Sarah Maginnis (Dennis Willis), great-grandson Daniel Willis, his brother-in-law John Levin, nephew David Levin (Ruth Auerbach and Matthew Levin) (all of San Francisco), his adored niece Lia Madorsky and her children Alessandro and Emmanuela (in Italy), cousins Nusia Hanin of Israel, Irving Glusker (Lillian) of New York, and Leon, Evelyn and Larry Mason, and many other friends and relatives throughout the world.

Memorial gifts can be made to the Igud Yotzei Sin Social Aid Fund, Oxfam, International Rescue Committee, Amnesty International, or a charity of your choice.

Ariel Shapiro - at 81

At the age of 81, in Los Angeles, our compatriot from Harbin, Ariel (Riuka) Shapiro passed away. Riuka and his twin brother, the late Yosef (Yozhyk) were born in Tel Aviv to a family of musicians. The mother, Lydia, (nee Chernetskaya) was a well-known pianist virtuoso and a piano teacher in Harbin and Tokyo, where the Shapiro family lived for a long time. The father, Konstantin Shapiro, too, was a well-known cellist and a teacher at the Tokyo Academy of Music. They were pioneers of the Chinese wave of the Aliya to Israel. Riuka was an exceedingly amicable person and won many friends from amongst the Harbin Jewish youth in the Maccabi movement of which he was an active member. He made aliya in 1949 and served in the Israeli army. For many years he lived in Los Angeles and was involved in the US and Israeli tourist business. As elsewhere, he won many friends. He is survived by three brothers, Yasha, Misha and Sasha, who reside in New York and Los Angeles. May his memory be blessed!

Dov Shamir (Bob Shmerling) - at 86

Dov Shamir (Bob Shmerling), our compatriot formerly of Tientsin, passed away on November 12. Dov was 86. He was interred at the Yarkon Cemetery in Tel Aviv. May his memory be blessed.

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Donations (see page 80)

From	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear sister Miriam ELBERG	NIS	200
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear parents Rabbi Yehuda Zelig and Dina SLUTSKER	"	500
"	ANONYMOUS towards the IYS Synagogue Fund	"	50
"	Reuven BOMASH in memory of his mother Miriam BOMASH	"	180
"	Isabel SHARON in memory of her parents Gavriel (Gava) and Rosetta RABINOVICH	"	100

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ISRAEL

From	The Embassy of the People's Republic of China towards the Embassy of the People's Republic of China Scholarship Fund	US\$	8000
"	Celia NIRIM towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Moshe NIRIM	NIS	2000
"	Ella GOLDREICH towards Rasha KAUFMAN's Scholarship Fund	"	1500
"	Ella GOLDREICH, Sandra ROKLEN and Tania ZU-ARETZ towards The Scholarship Fund in memory of Tania and Shmuel SEGERMAN	"	1500
"	Abraham FRADKIN towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Zina and Osia FRADKIN	"	4500
"	Shulamith Yochana EVEN on the occasion of Bella and Abraham GOLDREICH's birthday towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Tania and Shmuel Aba SEGERMAN	"	360
"	Shulamith Yochana EVEN on the occasion of Rasha KAUFMAN's Birthday towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Tania and Shmuel Aba SEGERMAN	"	180

ZYAMA

Zalman Agran, or, as we all remember him – Zyama Agranovsky passed away in New York on February 27.

The name Zyama is connected to our life-time friendship, both in the Harbin Commercial School and “Maccabi”. His name is also connected with the last days of the existence of HEDO, the Harbin Jewish Association, when the rearguard of the few Jewish residents remained in the city to guard its Jewish heritage.

Zyama’s participation in the work of the Association of this last period of its existence was enormous. Then he held the post of its last secretary. He assisted in the transfer of the Jewish cemetery to its new location, and was responsible for the safety of the HEDO’s archives.

He stood in the centre of the Association’s activities from the early 1950’s, that is from the beginning of the mass emigration of the Harbin Jews to the final self elimination of HEDO in 1963, when practically all the Jews left the city, with the exception of Hanna Agra, who stayed to die at home.

Zyama left a vast amount of documentation of the Jewish past in Harbin: his diary is the chronicle of the dying Jewish congregation, written by a man, who continued to cherish to the last a shred of the fading glory. Zyama’s chronicle was fully published in our “Bulletin”. It is the only document left of the last days of the waning Harbin Jewish community.

All this was done by Zyama quietly,

without much ado, but with his characteristic modesty and loyalty.

Zyama was an extraordinary human being. Despite the age gap between us (which in those days was significant) we were close friends and I always saw him as a man who could and should be an example to follow. It was a pleasure to be in his company: he was well read, well educated, well mannered, and, first and foremost – modest. He never had any demands of others – only of himself. It was impossible not to love and honor him.

He was a good man, and a loyal Jew. His memory will always stay together with our best and kindest memories. May it stay there for ever.

T. KAUFMAN

Iza Yarho (Kondakova) ז"ל

Iza Yarho (nee Kondakova) our unforgettable friend from Harbin, passed away On December 3, 2007.

Iza was born in Harbin on December 14, 1925. There is not a Harbiner who did not know or remember this wonderful girl, and her growth into mature, overwhelming personality. Iza Kondakova – an outstanding sportswoman, an ardent Betar member, and a long-time sprinter and table tennis champion.

I remember Iza well from the Harbin Commercial School we both attended: she was an exemplary student and a most popular person in the midst of the Harbin Jewish youth.

Iza married Aharon Yarho, a man worthy of her, and she bore him a daughter Esther. The couple reached Israel on the ss Anna Salen in November, 1950. Together with another seven “olim” from Harbin, and settled in Kfar Tabor in southern Galilee. Times were hard, but ????. Iza worked for many years as a



physical trainer and a sports teacher in the local school. Here, too, as in Harbin, she was surrounded by popularity and admiration.

A life-time of friendship tie me with Iza and she remained the same person as in her youth.

In the Kfar Tabor cemetery a new little hillock had risen. Isa was buried next to her husband, never to be parted again.

It was painful to accompany Isa on her way to her last place of rest. It was not easy to speak at the new hillock covered with flowers. and it is not easy to write these lines.

Iza is not with us, but her image will remain alive in the best corner of the soul of all who knew her.

T. KAUFMAN

We are saddened to announce the passing of

Zalman AGRAN (AGRANOVSKY)

on February 27, 2008

He will be deeply missed by his wife, son, daughters, brother,
grandchildren and nephews.

This gem of a man who was granted so warm a personality and
intelligence had the respect and admiration of everyone who came into
contact with him

Arie AGRAN

The AGRAN family announces with deep sorrow the sudden death
in New York on February 27th, 2008
of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle

Zalman AGRAN (AGRANOVSKY)

He will be sorely missed by his bereaved family

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear friend

Zalman AGRAN (Ziama Agranovsky)

and extend our condolences to his FAMILY and to Paul and Esther AGRAN
Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN

The entire MEMBERSHIP of AMERICAN FAR EASTERN SOCIETY
of NEW YORK are saddened by the passing of

Zalman AGRAN

a lifelong friend and devoted member. Sincere condolences to his FAMILY

The BOARD of DIRECTORS of IGUD YOTZEI SIN
is saddened by the passing of

Zalman AGRAN (Ziama Agranovsky)

and extend heartfelt sympathy to his FAMILY

In memory of a unique man and a good old friend,
who will be always missed

Gena LEVITIN

Heartfelt condolences to the bereaved FAMILY

Rita and George LEONOV

Michael FLEISCHMANN

With great sadness in our hearts we announce the passing
of our dearest mother and sister

Iza YARCHO (Kondakoff)

on December, 3rd, 2007 in Kfar-Tavor, Israel
The funeral took place on December, 4th, 2007

May she rest in peace

Daughter Esther YARCHO
Sister Luba BRUNNER and
family

Nadia and Zeev ROBINSON are saddened by the passing of

Iza YARCHO

and express their sincere condolences to ESSIA and LUBA

Paul and Esther AGRAN are deeply saddened by the death
of their lifelong friend

Iza YARCHO

and express their deepest sympathy to ESSIA and the whole family

Riva HOFFMAN, Victor KOCHANOVSKY, Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN
are saddened by the passing of a dear friend

Iza YARCHO

and extend deepest sympathy to ESTHER and LUBA and family

Rina and Tima LITVIN and family are very saddened
by the passing of a dear

I Z A

and extend their condolences to ESTHER, LUBA and family

The BOARD of DIRECTORS of IGUD YOTZEI SIN
is saddened by the passing of

Iza YARCHO

and extend heartfelt sympathy to ESTHER and LUBA and family

The BOARD of DIRECTORS of IGUD YOTZEI SIN
is saddened by the passing of our member

Isai KOTKIN

and extend heartfelt sympathy to his FAMILY

Deeply saddened by the passing of my cousin

Isai KOTKIN

My heartfelt condolences to his wife VALENTINA, his son DANIEL
and their families.

May he rest in peace

Joe MRANTZ

With deep sadness we announce the death
of our dear father and grandfather

Dov SHAMIR (Shmerling)

on November 12, 2007

Beloved husband of NESSIA (dec's)

Children: Aby and Liz SHAMIR, Benny and Cathy SHAMIR,
Dalia and Shalom KORLY

Grandchildren: Michal and Avi TSHUVA, Tamar, Matan, Shlomi,
Daniel, Meirav, Keren and Yael

May he rest in peace

We are deeply saddened by the death of our dear

Dov SHAMIR (Boba SHMERLING)

and express our heartfelt condolences to DALIA, BENNY, ABY
with their families

Zelda FRIEDMAN,
IRIT, SARIT and families
Lika KAGANER (Australia)

Sarah and Monia NITZAN (Nemchenko) are very saddened
by the passing of their friend

David FRIEDMAN

and express their sympathy to ZELDA and the DAUGHTERS
with their families

Rina and Tima LITVIN and family are very saddened
by the passing of a dear

DAVID

and extend their condolences to ZELDA and family

Together with ZELDA, IRIT and SARIT we mourn the passing
of our dear friend

David FRIEDMAN

TANIA, ORLI and GALIA with families

We are deeply saddened by the passing of
our dear uncle

David FRIEDMAN

and extend heartfelt sympathy to ZELDA and family

Aby and Liz SHAMIR and family
Benny and Cathy SHAMIR and family
Dalia and Shalom KORLY and family

We deeply mourn the passing of our beloved

Sam FRANK

Father, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather, uncle, great uncle,
predeceased by his parents Riva and Phillip, and wife Yaffa

Sam will remain in our hearts forever...
May his memory be for a blessing.

DANNY, MIKE, ABE,
RENEE and LILY

The BOARD of DIRECTORS of IGUD YOTZEI SIN
is saddened by the passing of

Sam FRANK

and extend heartfelt sympathy to Lily FRANK

We grieve the passing of

Sam FRANK

and express our sincere condolences to dear Lily FRANK
Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN

We are saddened by the passing of our dear friend

Mifa JACOBI

and express our sincere condolences to her family
and her sister Hilia RIVKIN and her family

Bella BERKOVITCH
Mark KAPTZAN
Olga and Isai KAUFMAN

Michael FLEISCHMANN, GEORGIA and MAYA
are greatly saddened by the passing away of our dear friend

Mifa YACOBI KATZNELSON

(nee Diatlovitskaya)

Heartfelt condolences to NAOMI, RAFI and HILIA

Our dear friend

Julie PRAG (nee Semberg)

passed away on February 27th, 2008, after a long illness.

She is deeply mourned by her friends

Tania PRISH
Jeanne TIKOTSKY
Rosa GERSHEVICH

Galia KATZ
Bella TCHERNOMORSKY

A sad piece of news came from Australia: our compatriot from Shanghai
Efim Krouk passed away. Obituaries and condolences will appear in the
next issue of the Bulletin. May his memory be blessed!

PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS FROM CHINA



Students rise to the stage



The Ambassador of China Mr. Zhao Jun presents scholarships



T. Kaufman presents scholarships



Mrs. Han Tianyan of the Heilongjiang Academy of Social sciences in Harbin and Mr. Mordukh Segal present the Chinese students with the book by Teddy Kaufman in the Chinese language and a book of poems by the poet Batsheva Sheriff



Chinese students thank for the scholarships



From left to right: T. Kaufman, the Ambassador of China Mr. Zhao Jun, Mrs. Ora Namir, Mrs. Ophira Gluska and Ronny Veinerman

OUR COMPATRIOTS AT THE HANUKKA REUNION



From left to right: Shmuel and Hannah Muller and Zina Landwer



From left to right: Bobby Bershadsky, Joe Levoff and Benny Tsur



From left to right: Galya Katz-Volobrinsky and Haim Ruvel



From left to right: IYS secretary Inna, Lily Koroshi, Vera Begun and Haim Tsuker



Lydia Nonin and her son



From left to right: Avi Podolsky and Gari Brovinsky. In the first row: Feiga Smelansky, a guest from Jaffa