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ISRAEL-CHINA VOICE OF FRIENDSHIP

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FOUNDED BY IGUD YOTZEI SIN (ASSOCIATION OF FORMER JEWISH RESIDENTS OF CHINA)

T. KAUFMAN

The President of ICFS

FROM THE DIARY OF THE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

Uri Gutman, the Consul General of Israel in Shanghai

Alongside with his diplomatic activity, Uri Gutman, the Consul General of Israel in Shanghai, manifests a great deal of energy to the cause of strengthening friendship between Israel and China.

At his initiative and with the assistance of Israeli firms, considerable sums of money were raised for the acquisition of vital items for an old people's home in Shanghai, such as television sets, sports equipment for the gym, a piano for the club, and also a heating system for the pensioners' club.

These social activities of the Israeli consul are highly appreciated by the Shanghai municipality and wide circles of the public in the city of Shanghai. At present Uri Gutman is busy with a new project: together with the district municipality of Hongkou and the museum in the repaired building of the former Ohel Moshe synagogue. He intends to place in that building the archives and the center of information on the sojourn of Jewish refugees in Shanghai, in which all information about those of them who now live in Israel and the Diaspora will be collected.

Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel- China Friendship Society are grateful for the good undertakings of Uri Gutman, and on their part will render every assistance to his valuable work.

The activity and initiative of Uri Gutman deserve high appreciation not only from the authorities of the city of Shanghai and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel in Jerusalem, but also from friends and former residents of China in Israel and the Diaspora.

Chinese students- recipients of scholarships from the Israel-China Friendship Society

Twenty one students from China, who study at the universities of Israel, received scholarships from the

Israel- China Friendship Society at the traditional reunion on the holiday of Chanukah in December 2007.

The tradition of the presentation of scholarships to Chinese students was started fourteen years ago. As in the previous years the Ambassador of China to Israel was an honorable guest at the festive event.

Arrival of friends from China

A delegation consisting of five persons headed by Mrs. Li Xiaolin, the Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, visited Israel at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel.

The members of the delegation met with the leaders of the Israel- China Friendship Society who have had strong ties for many years with the Center of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries which is located in Beijing. An agreement about the collaboration between our organizations was signed in 1992 in Beijing and Tel Aviv.

Mrs. Li Xiaolin's visit to our country was a major step on the road to strengthening friendship between China and Israel.

A delegation from Harbin headed by Mr. Zhang Tianbo, the Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Harbin Municipality, visited Israel from February 25 to 28. The delegation consisted of three persons who arrived in our country at the invitation of the Municipality of Givatayim, a twin city of Harbin. The purpose of the delegation was to prepare a visit to Israel of another delegation of higher-ranking officials from Harbin, which will take place on May 19, 2008.

An exhibition dedicated to the history of the Jews of Harbin

The municipality of the City of Harbin and the Center of the Study of the History of Harbin Jews, affiliated with the Heilongjiang Academy of Social Sciences, intend to hold

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!

(continued from page 1)

an exhibition of pictures in 2008 dedicated to the history of the Jews of Harbin. The exhibition will be organized with the assistance of Igud Yotzei Sin, the Israel-China Friendship Society and the Municipality of Givatayim, Harbin's twin city.

Simultaneously in 2008 the Tianjin Museum of Modern History will organize an exhibition dedicated to the history of the former Tientsin Jewish community. Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel- China Friendship Society promised their assistance in supplying the organizers of the exhibition with historic materials. The exhibition will be held in Tianjin in the premises of the museum.

Chinese tourism to Israel

It is assumed that about twenty thousand Chinese tourists will visit Israel in 2008. Chinese tourism to foreign countries grows with each year. About 50 million

inhabitants of China plan to go abroad in 2008.

Undoubtedly, the Ministry of tourism of Israel, and all the official bodies connected with tourism to Israel will make all the necessary efforts in order to attract more tourists from China to Israel. Our organizations, on their part, will do their best to achieve this goal.

New Year according to the lunar calendar

On February 8 the people of China celebrated the New Year according to the lunar calendar (the Year of the Rat). We send the people of China our best wishes of success, prosperity and peace in the coming New Year.

Gong Xi Fa Cai! 恭喜发财!

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新
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Chinese Students Studying at Universities in Israel-Recipients of the Scholarships from the Israel-China Friendship Society 2007-2008		
Name	Degree	University
Ms. Xiaohong Ma	H. U. Fac of Agriculture Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Mr Sun Lei	H. U. Fac of Agriculture Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Ms. Yuemei Lin	H. U. Fac of Agriculture Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Mr.Yunwu Xiong	H. U. Fac of Agriculture Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Ms. Ye Zi	Academy of Music Special	Tel-Aviv University
Mr.Guangyu Dong	Health Sciences Ph.D	Ben Gurion University
Mr. Xiaodong Wu	Physics Department Ph.D.	Ben Gurion University
Mr.Jian Cao	Religious Studies Ph.D	Hebrew University
Ms. Mei Rong Zhou	Genetics Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Mr.Hao Hu	Jewish Studies Nanging Ph.D.	Hebrew University
Mr. Li Xuping	English Linguistic Ph.D	Bar Ilan University
Mr. Minzeng Liang	Overseas Students Program M.A.	Ben Gurion University
Ms Zhang Can	Jewish Studies (Shandong) Ph.D	Hebrew University
Mr. Chen Xi	Jewish History (Shanghai) Ph.D	Bar Ilan University
Mr. Xu Tang	Chemistry Ph.D	Ben Gurion University
Mr. Jing Miao	Institute of Water Research	Ben Gurion University
Ms. Lin Xue Qi	Hebrew Study	Tel-Aviv University
Mr. Zhou Shi Xin	Shanghai International Studies	Tel-Aviv University
Mr. Zhou Zhu	Middle East Study M.A.	Tel-Aviv University
Mr. Yang Qiao	Hebrew Study M.A.	Hebrew University
Mr. Yongfang Li		Ben Gurion University Ph.D

The scholarships were granted from the Fund of the Israel-China Friendship Society, the Fund of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the State of Israel, the Daniel Berkovitch Fund and the Fund in Memory of Aaron Yarho.

Students from China receive scholarships 2007/2008

On December 11, 2007, twenty-one students from China, now studying at Israeli universities, received scholarships on behalf of the Israel-China Friendship Society, the Chinese Embassy in Israel, Danny Berkovich, and the Aaron and Iza Yarkho Memorial Fund.

Information and Statistics

The Chinese students came to study in Israel from: Peking; Shandong Province; Nanjing and Shanghai.

The Hebrew University, Jerusalem - 9 students

Tel Aviv University - 4

Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheba - 6

Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan - 2

Total 21 students

14 of the scholarship recipients are PhD students

3 are MA students.

The total number of scholarships granted in 2007 to Israeli students – 143.

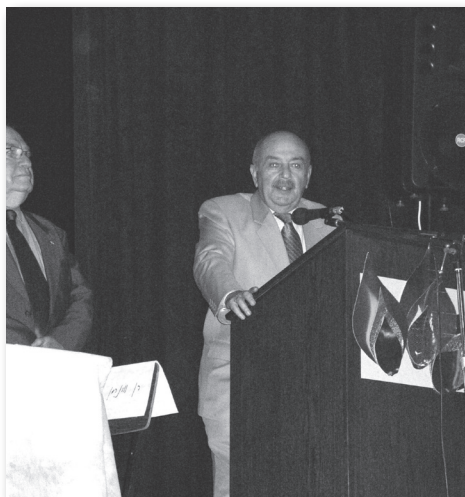
Greetings at the Hanukka reunion



The Ambassador of China in Israel Mr. Zhao Jun



The Chairman of IYS and ICFS Teddy Kaufman



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



Deputy chairman of IYS and ICFS Yossi Klein



Israeli Student Dana Dvir



Chinese Student Ye Zi and a translator

Chinese students- recipients of scholarships from the funds of the Israel-China Friendship Society



Israeli and Chinese students and guests in the hall of the Tel-Aviv Municipality Workers' Club

A delegation from Harbin

On February 25 – 28 the Municipality of Givatayim hosted a delegation from the Harbin Municipal Government. The Harbin delegation consisted of Mr. Zhang Tianbo, Director General of the Foreign & Overseas Chinese Affairs office of the Harbin Municipal Government, Mr. Xie Jianping, Director of the Asian and African Affairs Division of Foreign Affairs Office, and Mr. Qu Ming, Vice Director of the Economic Cooperation Promotion Bureau.

The Israeli city of Givatayim and the Chinese city of Harbin, the capital of the Heilongjiang Province, are twin cities.

On February 25, the members of the Chinese delegation accompanied by Joseph Zarzhewsky, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs committee of the Municipality of Givatayim, and Advocate Alon Tzadok, the Director of the firm "Harbin-Israel", met with the leadership of Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Association, represented by T. Kaufman, Y. Klein, R. Veinerman and A. Podolsky.

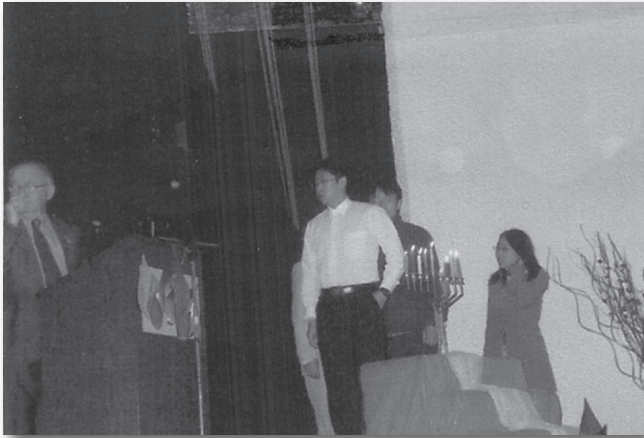
The three sides discussed organizing a two-day conference dedicated to economic ties between Harbin, Givatayim and Israel at the "David Intercontinental Hotel" on May 19, 2008. It was also suggested to hold at the same time a photo exhibition on the history of the Jewish sojourn in Harbin. Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Society will cooperate in both events.

The delegation was received at the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem and traveled across Israel.



From the left to right: Chang Ling Ling (translator), Xie Jianping, A. Podolsky, R. Veinerman, T. Kaufman, Zhang Tianbo, Alon Tzadok and I. Zarzhewsky from the Municipality of Givatayim, Y. Klein and Qu Ming

PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS FROM CHINA



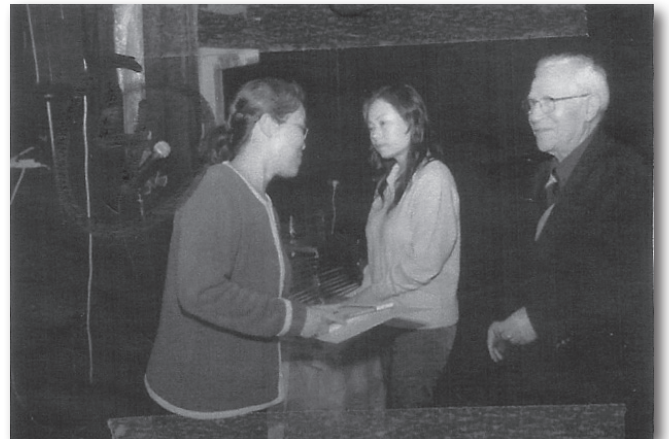
Students rise to the stage



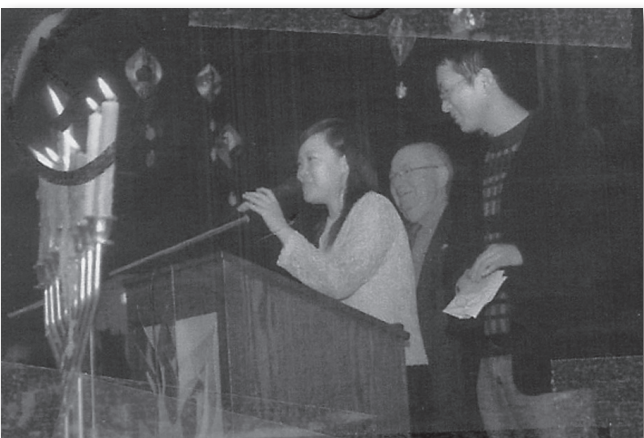
The Ambassador of China Mr. Zhao Jun presents scholarships



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

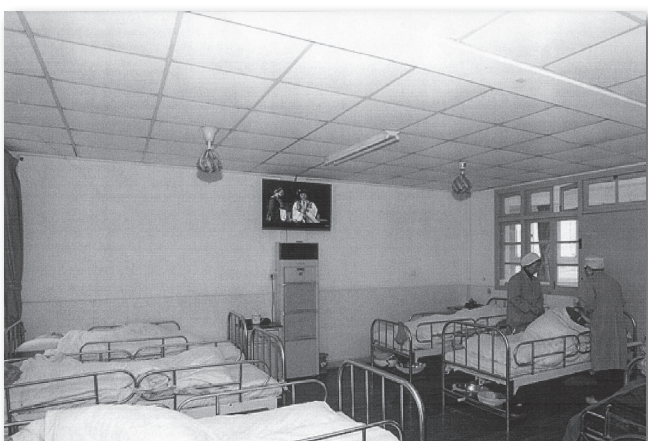
DONATIONS FROM THE ISRAELI CONSULATE AND ISRAELI FIRMS IN SHANGHAI



A heating system was installed on every floor of the pensioners' club. Uri Gutman, the Consul General of Israel in Shanghai, stands in the center



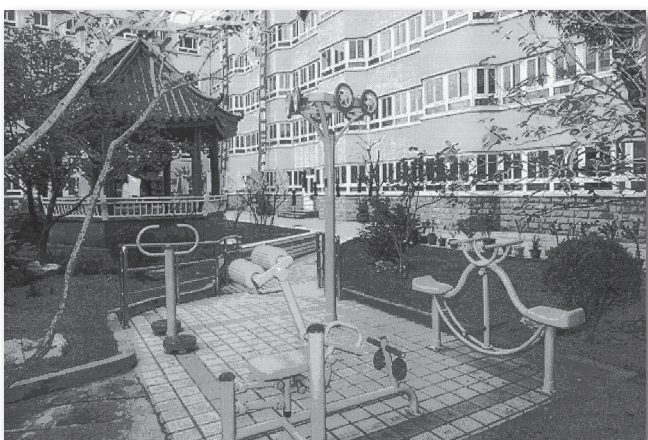
Sports equipment in the garden of the old people's home



TV-sets in rooms for invalids



A piano for the club



Equipment for the golden age generation in Shanghai



ACAFCF Delegation visits Israel

A delegation of the All-China Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries visited Israel in January at the invitation of the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The five-person delegation was headed by its Vice President, Ms. Li Xiaolin, and consisted of the General Director of the American-Oceania desk, Mr. Yao Mingui, the General Director of the Asia- African desk, Mr. Lue Xuezhi, the Director of the East Asia-North African desk, Mr. Huang Xiaowei (Vivian), and two members of the Association. On January 17, the last day of their stay, the delegation visited Bet Ponve, where they met with the IYS and the C-IFA leadership, T. Kaufman, Y. Klein and R. Veinerman, and were presented with the Chinese translation of T. Kaufman's book, "The Jews of Harbin Live on in My Heart". The delegation was accompanied by Ms. Tamar Yaron, the Hon. Secretary of the Council for the strengthening of friendship between Israel and China.

Israeli Consul in Shanghai visits Bet Ponve

Uri Gutman, Israeli consul in Shanghai, visited Bet Ponve on January 2 and met with the IYS leadership, T. Kaufman, Y. Klein, R. Veinerman and T. Piastunovich. He told them about the ever-growing new Jewish presence in Shanghai and about the plans of creating a Jewish Museum, which would preserve the city's Jewish past.

At present Uri Gutman is compiling the lists of names of the Jews, former members of the Shanghai Jewish Sephardi, Ashkenazi and German refugees communities. He draws his information from the lists, housed in the archives of the IYS and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

A concert under the auspices of the Chinese ambassador

In January, a concert was given by the Herzlia Chamber music orchestra at the local Musical Center under the auspices of Chinese Ambassador, a resident of the city. The orchestra performed Beethoven's Seventh Symphony and some pieces of modern Chinese composers, conducted by Yui Xinsu, a guest conductor from China. A reception was held prior to the concert.



A Letter from Chongqing

Mr. T. Kaufman, President Israel-China Friendship Society

Dear Sir,

Thanks for your publication and Happy New Year to you and to all friends from the Israel-China Friendship Society. It's good to resume friendly ties between our two organizations. We do hope that we can cooperate to do something to improve friendship and understanding between our two peoples in the year of 2008. I wonder if we could organize a picture or photo exhibition about Israel in Chongqing. There is a big museum named "Chongqing China Three Gorges Museum" in the city. Picture exhibitions of Russia, England, India, etc. have been successfully held at the museum.

Welcome to visit Chongqing next year. Best regards

Lu Mei

*Division Director Chongqing People's Association
For Friendship with Foreign Countries*

A historian from Harbin works at the archives of IYS

Mrs. Han Tianyan, a senior member of the Academy of Social Sciences of the Heilongjiang province and the Harbin Center of Research of the history of the Harbin Jewish community, worked for three weeks (December 2 – 23) researching at the archives of IYS in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Mrs. Han (known to her associates and friends as Galya) was sent to Israel on a special mission to photograph documents concerning the history of Jewish presence in the Heilongjiang province as reported by the Russian-language Jewish magazines "Evreiskaya Jizn" ("The Jewish Life") for the period of 1920 -- 1943; "Hadege" ("The banner"); 1931 – 1942; and the "Bulletin", covering the first years of its existence (from 1954). Galya worked eight hours a day, and spent the weekends with friends who knew Galya from their visits to China in October 2007. Now they reciprocated Galya's kindness and care by trying to show her historical sites of Northern Israel: Haifa (The Bahai Temple); Acco (the siege of the citadel by Napoleon Bonaparte); The all-Arab city of Umm el Fahm; and Rosh ha-Nikra on the Lebanese border. In Jerusalem, Natasha and Seva Podolsky's showed Galya the ruins of the Western Wall of the Second Jerusalem Temple, which throughout the following ages became the site of the pilgrimage and the symbol of the Jewish yearning for the return to their historic motherland. They also took her to the Dead Sea and the fortress of Massada, the last stand of the Jewish forces during the Great Revolt against the Romans, when the Jewish fighters preferred to commit mass suicide rather than surrender to the enemy.

Yossi Klein showed Galya around Tel Aviv and the ancient city of Jaffa. They visited the TA Museum, and the Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, Bet Hatefutsot. Yehiel (Valery) Ladyzhensky, too, was of a great help to Galya, producing hundreds of documents for her to photograph and study. Galya lived at the home of her namesake, Galya Katz, who took loving care of all the needs of our guest from Harbin. She was also entertained at the home of Rasha and Teddy Kaufman. We thank all the hosts who tried their best to reciprocate Galya's kindness to the IYS members during their Harbin visit in 2007.

ISRAEL-CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY (FOUNDATION OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN)

"BEIT PONVE", 13 Gruzenberg Str., Tel-Aviv

P.O.BOX 29786, Tel. 972-3-5171997 Fax: 972-3-5161631

E-mail: igud-sin@013.net

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