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T. KAUFMAN

The President of ICFS

FROM THE DIARY OF THE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

An Exhibition in Chongqing

An exhibition of photographs, dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel will take place at the end of this year in Chongqing, where the works of Israeli photographers will be displayed. The exhibition is the fruit of joint efforts made by the Chongqing branch of the Chinese Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the Israel-China Friendship Society. The ties between our two organizations began ten years ago, when we received a delegation from Chongqing. The renewal of our relations with the society of friendship in Chongqing is an important factor in our work, as Chongqing is the biggest city in China (32 million inhabitants). We wish every success to the participants of the exhibition. It will be the first time Israeli artists will appear before the inhabitants of this important Chinese city.

An Exhibition of photographs on Chinese themes by Shaul Segal

An exhibition of the well-known Israeli photographer Shaul Segal, dedicated to China, was opened on the campus of Tel-Aviv university. This is a selection of remarkable photographs which reflect the life of modern China. The pictures are of children, old men, representatives of different ethnic groups living in China, urban and rural life. In his works Shaul Segal managed to transmit the thinnest components of the life of the Chinese people. Everyone who is interested in this great country, is a friend of its people should go to the exhibition. We hope to see more works by Shaul Segal, this talented master of artistic photography.

New books about China

Two books about China in Hebrew were published in August. One of them is "From the Cobra to the Dragon" by the former ambassador of Israel to India

and China Mr. Yehoyada Haim, the other is "My China" by Mr. Amram Olmert, the former agricultural attache of the Israeli embassy in China. These books are a valuable contribution to the understanding of modern China and are undoubtedly an important factor in strengthening friendship between the two great peoples.

The 60th anniversary of the wedding of our compatriots in Harbin

Our compatriots, who were born and lived in Harbin, Paul and Esther Agran, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding in Harbin. They were married in Harbin 60 years ago, in 1948. The celebration was arranged by the municipality of Harbin and took place at the "Moderne" hotel. This was a very touching and honorable celebration arranged by our Chinese friends in honor of our compatriots from the city of Harbin.

China emerges as a scientific giant

The number of China's and technological talents totals about 42.46 million, ranking first in the world and making China the sixth largest destination country for international students, according to China's first "Science and Technology Human Resources Development Report".

The report shows that by the end of 2005, the number of China's science and technology talents reached 42.46 million, slightly higher than the United States (42 million), second only to the European Union's 54 million.

If only countries are taken into account, then China's total scientific and technological talents rank first in the world, becoming veritable power in science and technology human resources.

A letter from Harbin

Dear Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Klein, Mr. Veinerman and all the other friends from the Israel-China Friendship Society, With the New Year here, I would like to express my greetings to the President of the Israel-China Friendship Society Mr. Kaufman and the other friends from the Society. I wish all of you a Happy New Year and good health. Here is a report on the development of our research on Harbin Jews.

With the support of the government of the Heilongjiang Province and the attention of Xinhua News Agency, research on Harbin Jews has had a great influence domestically and abroad, which makes it the focus in the field of Chinese Jewish Studies and World Jewish Studies. Theoretical results of the research have already been felt in Harbin's agriculture, tourism, news media, radio and television and so on.

Executive Instructions for the Heilongjiang Province from Chairman Hu Jintao are to adjust the structures of industries, switch the way of development, deepen reforms and open the economy. Since 2000, research on Harbin Jews has been done in accordance with these directives from the government of the Heilongjiang Province. As a result, theoretical research has been carried out for the economic development of Harbin and the province and positive results have been obtained.

I put forward the research topic of "Harbin Jews" for the first time in 2000 after many years of work. This research has aroused attention from international academics. One book has been published and at the same time we have published papers, proposals and investigation reports amounting to more than 500 thousand words. Among these papers, "The Proposal on Strengthening Research on Harbin Jews and Promoting Economic Development of the Heilongjiang Province" won the First Class Prize in the Heilongjiang Province. An interior document has been written by the Xinhua News Agency according to the content of the proposal and was published in "Interior Document of Provincial and Ministerial Level" of the Xinhua News Agency. This proposal and interior document have played an extremely important role in Harbin as well as in our province and even in China as a whole. Consequently, the Jewish Research Center, affiliated with the Academy of Social Sciences of the Heilongjiang Province, was established and has earned the position of a key subject at the provincial level just because of our proposal.

The publishing of another paper "Harbin: the Largest Center for Jewish Activities in Eastern Asia", caused a great stir domestically and internationally. Relevant proposals have gained endorsement and support from the government of the Heilongjiang Province, and this has allowed the application of our theoretical research into the fields of tourism, agriculture and international trade in the

Heilongjiang Province.

In July 2001, I wrote another proposal "Taking Advantage of Jewish Culture, Adapting a Special Method with Tourism as a Breaking Point, to Promote Full Opening of the Heilongjiang Province". Based on the practical situation of the Heilongjiang Province, this proposal suggested that typical Jewish buildings should be protected, renovated and utilized, taking advantage of the motto "one museum, eight buildings and one cemetery". This proposal gained agreement and support from the Governor of Heilongjiang Province, Song Fatang, and from the Harbin Municipality. In October 2001, the Urban Planning Bureau of Harbin composed "Atlas of Jewish Buildings for Protection in Harbin". And on September 11th, 2000, according to the content of my Proposal, another interior document was written by the Xinhua News Agency. This publication attracted attention of the Harbin Municipality and the Heilongjiang Province. Deputy General Secretary of CCPC of the Heilongjiang Province, Liu Donghui, endorsed the proposal, and this allowed the "Museum of Harbin Jewish Culture and History" to be rehabilitated and utilized, promoting the development of tourism in the Heilongjiang Province.

In March 2001, I cooperated in another project, "A proposal to Establish an Israeli Modern Agricultural Demo Park". This proposal won the endorsement of Governor Song Fatang. On the 10th of July, 2003, I sent a letter to the General Secretary of CCPC in the Harbin Municipality, Yang Yongmao, outlining our cooperation with Israel in the field of agriculture, and later on this letter was adopted by the Harbin Municipality. A group with Fang Shichang as head and myself as counselor visited Israel to learn about their agriculture. On 15th September, on behalf of the Harbin Municipality, Mr. Weiwei, now Director of the Constructing Committee, endorsed the "Agreement of Harbin-Israel Ecological Agriculture Demo Park". Subsequently, I was appointed as the counselor for the governing committee of Demo park of Agricultural Science and Technology in the Heilongjiang Province. With the efforts of the two parties, after several rounds of negotiations, the projects of "Sino-Israel Saving Water Irrigation Demo Park in Harbin" and "Harbin-Israel Cow Demo Park" have been implanted, directly attracting 40 million RMB from the World Bank. The results have been an increased annual milk production in Haishun Farm from 4t to 6t/cow—20 times the normal increasing rate of cow's milk product. Similarly, progress in the water saving rate in the "Harbin Sino-Israel Saving Water Irrigation Demo Park" amounted to 60%. This will cause a great influence in the transition of Heilongjiang agriculture from traditional to modern and provide theoretical support as well as practical service for the construction of the New Socialist Village. From the 5th to the 9th of May, 2002, I

attended the "International Forum on Chinese Jewish History". At the meeting, I delivered my paper "Harbin: Economic Center for Jews in East Asia in Modern History" which gained a big response. With the approval of the government of the Heilongjiang Province, and an invitation from the Department of East Asian Studies of Tel Aviv University, Professor Aron Shai, I attended "China-Israel and Jewry International Academic Symposium", hosted by Tel Aviv University, the Israeli General Consul in Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Jewish Association and Hong Kong City University, from 24th to 25th September 2002. I delivered a statement entitled "Jewish Community", and this aroused a great interest among the representatives and in the academic circles of Hong Kong. In April 2003, the paper "Jewish Community in Harbin" was published in the "American Review of China Studies" (Spring 2003 - Volume No.1) by Oklahoma University, which also caused a big response in academic fields of America and gained positive results. On the 8th of November 2002, to coordinate with the Chairman's visit to the United States of America, I gave an interview to the Xinhua News Agency. As a result, a special report "Jews in Harbin" was broadcast in the "Focus Report" of the CCTV, in seven languages of the world. It also aroused a lot of interest among the media and the broader world.

On July 21st, 2003, the Deputy Governor of the Heilongjiang Province hosted a meeting to promote the full opening of our province. The heads of the International Trade Bureau, Trade Promotion Association, Banking Office, the Heilongjiang Academy of Social Sciences, Heilongjiang University and Economy Research Center of the provincial government were present. After the meeting, a research group on the strategy for the opening of the Heilongjiang Province was formed with the Deputy Governor as Head. I was appointed an expert of the Israel research team.. I conducted an investigation of relevant aspects in Harbin, Beijing, Nanjing, Israel and Limin District of Harbin, Suihua and Daqing for three months from September to November and discussed relevant aspects. Based on this investigation, we published "An Investigation Report on Taking Advantage of Jewish History in the Heilongjiang Province to Promote International Cooperation in Trade". This report gained the endorsement of the General Secretary of the CCPC in the Heilongjiang Province, Liu Donghui, General Secretary of CCPC in Harbin Municipality Du Yuxin, and the Deputy Governor of the Heilongjiang Province. Finally, it was adopted by the relevant department of the Municipality and the Province. On 10th March 2004, the Heilongjiang Province cooperated with the Israeli embassy to China, hosting a Fair Exhibition in Beijing. Forty-two companies from the Heilongjiang Province and 27 Israeli companies were present. The General Secretary of CCPC in the

Heilongjiang Province, Song Fatang, Governor Zhang Zuojin and Israeli ambassador Yehoyada Haim delivered speeches. On the 25th of June 2004, a meeting on cooperation on trade and economy between Heilongjiang Province and Israel was held in Harbin. More than 200 companies from Israel and the Heilongjiang Province came to talk on cooperation in the fields of machine manufacturing, irrigation in agriculture, water environment, petroleum and building materials. The then Deputy Premier of Israel and a descendant of Harbin Jews, Ehud Olmert, came with a delegation from Israel to the opening ceremony. Mr Olmert stated that the cooperation between the Heilongjiang Province and Israel should be based not only on historical friendship but also on the cooperation and development in the future, and that the two parties could make a win-win situation in the cooperation on high technology in agriculture. After the meeting, Mr Olmert paid a visit to the tomb of his grandfather who was buried at the Huangshan Jewish Cemetery of Harbin. Let me add that nowadays, investments in the Heilongjiang Province from Israeli companies have amounted to more than 16 million USD. In May 2005, I wrote a book called "Discover the Secrets of Jewish History in Harbin-an investigation on Jewish Community", published by the Heilongjiang People's Publishing House, which was classified as a key book by the Heilongjiang News Publishing Bureau. There are more than 510 thousand words in this book, and it is the first book on the history and culture of the Jewish Community in Harbin. The publication won a prize as an excellent book in the Heilongjiang Province.

In October 2005, according to the content of the book "Discover the Secrets of Jewish History in Harbin", Heilongjiang TV station made a six-part TV documentary called "Jews in Harbin", winning a big prize from the National General Bureau of Film and TV.

In March 2006, prior to the national elections in Israel, with the cooperation of Xinhua News Agency, I wrote a paper named "A Proposal on Giving a Full Display to the Culture and History of Jews in Harbin: Promoting Peace in the Mid-East-Trying to Create a Harmonious World". On the 20th of March, I gave an exclusive interview to the Xinhua News Agency. On 26th of March, the proposal was published on "Interior Document of Provincial and Ministerial Level", and it was reported to the leaders at the provincial and ministerial levels and even to the central government. On 29th of April, the General Secretary of CCPC in the Heilongjiang Province, Qian Yunlu, endorsed the proposal. On the 30th of April, the Deputy Secretary of CCPC in the Heilongjiang Province, Liu Donghui, endorsed it again. On 17th of April 2007, the Governor of the Heilongjiang Province, Li Zhanshu, endorsed my proposal again. At this time, the proposal has been adopted by the relevant

Chinese farmers and others benefit from Israeli expertise

By Alison Klayman

BEIJING (JTA) -- Zeying Zheng has been to Israel three times on programs about women's empowerment and says the lessons provided are vital for China.

"The most important thing facing our country is education," Zheng told JTA, "so I was involved in training programs especially for women. If you look at our young generation, percentage-wise it's not as educated as Israel's or even America's."

Zheng was one of some 50 former Chinese participants of Mashav who came to the Israeli Embassy here last week for a conference to mark 16 years of China's participation in the 50-year-old program.

Mashav, a Hebrew acronym for Center for International Cooperation, is a department in Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After a 1958 visit to Africa, then-Minister of Foreign Affairs Golda Meir established the program to work with developing countries on issues and solutions adapted from Israel's development experience.

China has partnered with Mashav since 1992, the year Israel established relations with the country. Some 8,000 Chinese students have participated in Mashav courses held in China, most of which are focused on agriculture. Forty courses are planned for China this year, up from 32 in 2007.

At the Beijing conference, which mostly was conducted in English, the business cards passed around showed that Chinese Mashav participants come from impressive institutions in a variety of fields: China Agricultural University, All-China Women's Federation and Beijing Forestry University, as well as pharmaceutical companies and media outlets.

The most visible Mashav efforts in China beside the courses are three Sino-Israeli demonstration farms. The first, for growing flowers and vegetables, was founded in 1993 near Beijing.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert visited the Yongledian Dairy Cattle Demonstration Farm, also near Beijing, in 2007. All dairy activity at the farm, which was designed according to Israeli standards, is monitored daily by computer.

China's Sanyuan dairy company, which has a large market share in the country, owns the Yongledian farm. With a herd of more than 1,050 dairy cows in milk production, the farm reached record consumption last year. Its yield was the highest among Sanyuan dairy farms and probably all Chinese dairy farms, company officials said.

One of the speakers at the Beijing conference was Lilong Gan, who runs a government dairy in the southern province

Guizhou.

"It was a good opportunity to see the highly developed dairy production in Israel," said Gan, who studied dairy management in Israel in 2006.

Gan is planning to bring in an Israeli expert for a dairy management workshop in Beijing at the end of the year.

While he marveled at the technology and management styles he witnessed in Israel, Gan believes the Mashav program stood out because of its thorough introduction to the people and country of Israel. His trip took participants from more than 15 countries all over Israel, including a visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial.

"It's just a very small country, and we are not exposed to Israel or Jews very often," Gan said.

Wang Nan from the People's Daily newspaper completed a Mashav media-training program in Israel in 2006. He says the top priority of his program, even more than furthering professional skills, was helping participants understand Israel.

Wang says the Israeli Embassy in Beijing must consider him a success story: Since returning from Israel, he says, "I have written tens of thousands of words on Israel."

His only criticism was that he wasn't given the chance to visit the home of a typical Israeli.

"I was on a similar program in Japan, and they gave us the chance to visit a home," Wang said. "It would be important. We could make friends and then keep in contact over the years. It would be good for Israel."

Yet already it seems that the conference participants, all members of the Shalom Club, as they call those who completed a Mashav trip to Israel, feel an affinity for Israel on professional, technical and personal levels.

Since her trips to Israel in 1994, 1996 and 2006, Zheng has become increasingly engaged in studying Israeli and Jewish history.

Zheng says she regularly reads a Chinese copy of the Bible she received from the Israeli Embassy, and because of her Mashav trips, can connect with the stories and history of the Jewish people.

A letter from Harbin

departments of the Foreign Ministry, and the departments of the Harbin Government are preparing to implement it. This indicates that research on Harbin Jews has already played an important role in the scientific decision of Heilongjiang government as well as the central government.

Best Regards!

Research Fellow Zhang Tiejiang, Professor
The Jewish Research Center affiliated with the
Heilongjiang Academy of Socia

Chinese Goodwill Delegation Visits Israel

A Chinese Goodwill Delegation led by Jing Dunquan, vice president of the CPAFFC, attended the International Conference of Sister Cities and Municipal Organizations in Israel from March 5 to 17 and the Union of Local Authorities in Israel (ULAI). The 57-member delegation included representatives from 20 provinces, cities, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government.

International Conference Of Sister Cities and Municipal Organization

This year sees the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel and the 70th anniversary of the ULAI.

The ULAI, by holding this international conference, aimed to emphasize the role of cities and strengthen its cooperation with local governments and friendship organizations of various countries. 850 representatives from 45 countries attended the conference.

Present at the conference were Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and Minister of Interior Meir Sheerit. In his speech, Prime Minister Olmert said, he has served as mayor of Jerusalem for 10 years and knows deeply how important and hard the job is. Local governments are the basis of a country and reflect the desires of the people most directly. The exchanges among local governments of all countries would help promote mutual understanding and mixing of different cultures.

He thanked the ULAI for providing a good opportunity for local government representatives from various countries to have exchanges.

Many of the speakers at the conference touched upon the question of carrying out exchange programmes among youth. Ms. Ruhama Avraham, minister of liaison between the government and the Knesset at the Prime Minister's Office, pointed out, youth are the future decision makers. We should educate them and instill in them greater sense of responsibility for society. Many participants talked about their own cities' experience in carrying out youth exchanges. All spoke highly of "home stay" in such exchange. A local student representative and a foreign student representative from the Hebrew University of Israel were specially invited to speak at the closing ceremony of the conference. The students placed great hope, on the mayors and believed that mayors of all countries would provide better conditions for

youth exchanges.

Chinese representatives made four keynote speeches at the different workshops. CPAFFC Vice President Jing Dunquan made a comprehensive briefing on CPAFFC's work of establishing friendship-city relations with foreign countries and expressed welcome to participants from all countries to come to Beijing to attend the First Conference of International Friendship Cities in China which would be held this year. Yiyang City in Hunan Province is the hometown of Mr. He Fengshan (Feng Shan Ho). In 2001, the Government of Israel conferred posthumously the title of Righteous Among the Nations on He Fengshan in recognition of his outstanding contributions to protecting the Jews. Wu Xiaoqin, vice mayor of Yiyang, delivered a speech entitled "City Diplomacy - Vanguard of Peace", using the story of He Fengshan as an example. Han Bin, director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Haikou Municipal Government, briefed the participants on the achievements of the city's economic development and expressed his city's willingness to carry out friendly exchanges with cities of other countries. Jimingnanjia, vice mayor of Lhasa, gave a brief account of Lhasa to help the participants better understand the development in China's Tibet region.

The extensive contact Chinese participants had with the Israeli side during the conference achieved good results. Representatives from Yangzhou held talks with the Centre for International Cooperation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mayor Yael German of Herzliya and reached consensus on Yangzhou sending people to Israel to attend training course and a visit to China by a Herzliya delegation of scientists, technicians and business people headed by the mayor. The two cities also decided to sign an agreement on the establishment of friendship-city relations this year.

Representatives from Xiamen and the director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Netanya agreed to sign a letter of intent on the twinning of friendship ties between the two cities within the year. Representatives from Yiyang met with the head of the archive department of Yad Vashem (the New Memorial Holocaust Museum). The two sides agreed to share documents and material about Mr. He Fengshan to enrich the exhibits of their respective museums. Representatives from Tibet Autonomous Region exchanged opinions with officials of Beit Shemesh City on its mayor's visit to China this year and the signing of the agreement on the twinning of

Israeli spirit dances across Beijing's stage

In June, to mark the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, the Israeli Embassy in Beijing sponsored a celebration featuring performances by some of the top dancers from both Israel and China.

Over 1200 people filled the Beijing Forbidden City Concert Hall to experience not only the celebration of music and dance from Israel and China but to also share in a message of friendship between the nations as well as a call for social responsibility.

Highlights of the event included the Kamea Modern Dance Company of Beersheva. This troupe, formed in 2002, is one of Israel's finest. They also have a reputation for giving back to the community and defining social responsibility by introducing the art of dance to underprivileged people throughout Israel.

The artists of China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe also performed. This troupe, also demonstrating artistic

perfection, is comprised of handicapped dancers.

Their performance of the Thousand-armed Goddess of Mercy amazed the audience. The Israeli Ambassador remarked that the performance exemplified important shared values and friendship.

As one of Israel's leading dance companies, Kamea appears in 70 performances a year nationally and while also enjoying a reputation as a premier contemporary dance company worldwide.

Kamea first performed in China with great success in Meet in Beijing 2006. The government of India invited them to be the main attraction on its national Navartri Festival in September 2006, where an estimated one million people watched their Platform 1 performance.

The company's diverse repertoire offers many opportunities for the stage in many other festivals and celebrations throughout the Far East.

SSC Opens New Synagogues in Beijing and Shanghai

Rabbi Sam Kassin and Rabbi Eliahu Shamoula and the Shehebar Sephardic Center (SSC) have announced the official opening of two new centres in China, located in Beijing and Shanghai. Both will provide religious services as well as educational activities for the local Jewish communities and for tourists and business travelers.

The SSC will coordinate meals and hopes to open kosher restaurants and kosher shops in these locations in the future. Rabbi Benjamin Cohen and Rabbi Ephraim Bezalel have been appointed as the spiritual leaders of Shanghai and

Rabbi Asaell Haimov is the spiritual leader of the SSC in Beijing.

This has truly been an international effort, as the Torah scroll in the Shanghai SSC has been donated by the Tawil family from New York and Beijing SSC's scroll has been donated by the Saada family in New Jersey.

The Shehebar Sephardic Center was started in 1980 in the old city of Jerusalem by Rabbi Sam Kassin and Rabbi Eliahu Shamoula. The primary function of the SSC is to train and place qualified rabbis in Israel as well as in the Diaspora. There have been 140 graduates from the centre since its inception. They now are practicing around the world.

Continued from page 5:

friendship cities. Representatives from Heilongjiang Province gave a presentation on the close relations between Harbin and Israel to the Israeli media.

At the grand dinner party given by the conference, the ULAI presented the Award for Outstanding Achievements in Developing International Relations with Local Authorities in Israel to five people, two of whom were from the CPAFFC. In his speech on the occasion, Avi Rabinovitch, deputy director general of the ULAI, said, the ULAI had wanted to establish links with China before Israel and China had diplomatic relations. It came into contact with the CPAFFC by chance. At the invitation of the CPAFFC, it sent a ULAI delegation to visit China, which started the sweet "love story" between the two organizations. The Israeli side is very grateful to the

Chinese side for sending a big delegation to the conference. At the closing ceremony, a declaration was adopted. It states that in society today, local government is one of the most basic tenets of democracy and platform for the future national leaders and that all municipalities and regions should set up quality measures for attractive and successful city, build a network of cooperation for dialogue, understanding and trust through city diplomacy and peace initiatives and settle disputes by peaceful means. The declaration also calls for cooperation in youth exchange and support for the reconciliation between Israel and Palestine. The declaration is a concentrated manifestation of the main themes of the conference, which are "cities, youth and Israel-Palestine relations".

Haifa celebrates with 'sister city' Shanghai

"Shanghai Week" was held in Israel from 2-4 June 2008 to mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the "Sister Cities" relationship between Shanghai and Haifa. The events included a series of cultural, economic and trade activities, jointly organized by CCPIT Shanghai Sub-Council, the Israel Export Institute, the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce, the manufacturers Association of Israel and the Israel-Asia Chamber of Commerce.

Over 45 people attended the opening event including the Mayor of Haifa, Yona Yahav, the Ambassador of China, Zhao Jun, as well as a delegation from Shanghai, headed by Vice Chairman of the Municipal Economic Council, Shanghai Vice Mayors, Council Members and other leaders of the community. Jackie Eldan, the designated Consul General to Shanghai, represented the Foreign Ministry.

An exhibition was collated that included photographs of modern Shanghai with Hebrew captions and Chinese decorative art.

The Israeli and Chinese officials praised the strong relationship between the two cities and a large collection of books on Shanghai was donated by a University in Shanghai to Haifa University.

Other "Shanghai Week" festivities included Shanghai Movie week in Haifa, exhibitions of Shanghai photographs and the History of Haifa and performances by Haifa musicians and Shanghai artists.

The cultural visit coincided with the China (Shanghai) Economic & Trade Cooperation Exhibition in Tel Aviv on 3 June, Shanghai's first ever trade show in Israel. Israel business leaders were given the opportunity to receive information about Shanghai's economic, trade and investment related policies.

There was also the opportunity for significant bilateral exchanges between the Shanghai and Israel governments. Agricultural, IT & Telecom, environment a protection & watertight, high-tech, engineering and contracting, and tourism sectors all participated in the event.

MASHAV, Project Hope and hospitals unite

In June a signing ceremony was held extending the cooperation agreement between MASHAV, Shanghai Children's Hospital, Schneider Hospital, and Project Hope.

The agreement stated that the four parties will continue to finance the training of doctors in Israel at Schneider Hospital.

The 10th Anniversary of Shanghai Children's Medical Center (SCMC) and the 25th Anniversary of Project Hope's humanitarian aid and educational programming in China were also celebrated in a ceremony that honored the victims of the recent earthquake in Sichuan Province.

Several children, victims of the earthquake, are being treated at SCMC which delivers state-of-the-art pediatric care to the children of China.

Lynn Schneider, the daughter of the benefactor of the Schneider's Children's Hospital in Israel, spoke at the ceremony. Ms. Schneider spoke of the shared values and ideals between the Israeli and Shanghai centers and the aims of Project Hope. She described her father's vision of the hospital serving as a "bridge to peace."

Project Hope also marked the 50th anniversary of its international establish.



Letters

Chongqing, China

Dear Mr. T. Kaufman:

Here we send this e-mail for informing you that an earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale struck Wenchuan County, southwest of China's Sichuan Province at 14:28 on May 12th, which caused terrible people and property loss in local and surrounding areas.

Chongqing, which is 312 kilometers away from Wenchuan County, also felt the quake. But the quake in Chongqing caused small damages, and people here still live and work normally. Now, under the lead and instruction of the central government of Communist Party and the Chongqing Municipal government, we are doing our best to support the earthquake-affected area to carry out disaster relief work.

We are confident that we will overcome all the difficulties.

With Best Regards,

Lu Mei

Division Director,

*Chongqing People's Association
for Friendship with Foreign Countries*

Shanghai

Dear Teddy and Rasha;

Haven't been in touch for months. How are you? I wish you both all the best in the coming Chinese New Year of the Rat. The New Year's Day falls on February 7 this year.

I hope you have long received my book *The Jewish Cultural Elite of Shanghai* for which I have the honour to have Teddy write a foreword. In case you have not received the book I mailed to you and if you have a friend visiting Shanghai, please tell me and I'll contact him (or her) and ask his favour to bring the book to you.

My book is written in Chinese and with an English abstract attached to each chapter for the international readers. It has been well received by the readers here. The Beijing-based magazine "China Today" (with editions in seven languages including Chinese, English, German, Arabic, etc.) in its German edition has introduced successively three chapters of my book. The website of the magazine is www.chinatoday.com.cn

My wife joins me in wishing you, Mr. Fradkin and Tsipora, Mrs. Herman, Mr. Gootman, Mr. Ladyjenski and all our Igud friends a Happy New Year!

Xu Buzeng > Harbin

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

Please, accept my sincere congratulations on the New Year! I wish you and your colleagues every success.

Your friend Sasha (Cheng Hongze)

The Center of the Study of the History of Harbin Jews affiliated with the Heilongjiang Academy of Social Sciences

Shandong

Shalom dear Teddy Kaufman and Rasha,

I received the Bulletin and the Israel-China Voice of Friendship No. 62 you sent to me today. Thank you very much. I would like to express my best wishes to you on the evening when you light the eighth Hannuka candle. I know that Hannuka is a very important holiday for Jewish people.

I was one of the scholarship recipients last year when I was in Israel. I will never forget those days and the help you offered to me. I hope one day I can go to Israel again and it will be a great pleasure for me to meet you there.

I have finished my ph.d programme at Nanjing university and now I am working in another university in Shandong Province. Next semester, I am going to give my students a course in Jewish history and culture. I hope more and more Chinese students will join us in Jewish study.

I wish you all the very best.

Zhang Shuqing

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