



# Bulletin

Igud Yotzei Sin

Association of Former Residents of China

April - May 2009 ♦ Vol LVI ♦ Issue No. 398 English Supplement

## HAPPY PASSOVER!

HAPPY 61<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL



At the All-Israel Reunion of Former Residents of China

The presidium of the reunion from left to right: Ambassador Yehoyada Haim, Y. Klein, Asya Kogan, T. Kaufman, the Chinese Ambassador Mr. Zhao Jun, Ambassador Ora Namir, Ambassador Moshe Ben-Yaakov and R. Veinerman. Behind the Ambassador of China stand Giora Lesk and his wife. Israeli and Chinese students are on the stage

# IN THE HALL OF THE ALL-ISRAEL REUNION OF FORMER RESIDENTS OF CHINA 24.12.2008



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# THEMES OF THE DAY

By Teddy Kaufman

## *Happy Passover!*

This supplement of the "Bulletin" will be received by our subscribers on the eve of Passover.

Passover – a wonderful holiday of Exodus, freedom and springtime. We send our heartfelt wishes to all our compatriots in Israel and abroad.

Dear friends, may this be a happy and peaceful holiday to all.

## *The Holiday of the Former Residents of China*

Our get together in December 2008 brought together the former residents of China from all cities in Israel. Once more the four generations of our compatriots had reunited, and once again, like in the past years, a big group of students – the grandchildren and the great grandchildren of the former residents of China – were awarded scholarships from the Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin. This time they numbered 142 ( in December 2007 they numbered 148).

This was no common get together, but one that was especially festive, warm and friendly. We hope that we may continue this wonderful tradition in the future.

## *Asia Kogan in Israel*

Asia Kogan, our friend from Harbin, has arrived from Tokyo on a visit to Israel after eight years of separation. Asia Kogan is one of the most constant and loyal friends of our organization and we can definitely claim that without her generous help we wouldn't have been able to continue our activities. The presence of Asia in our Hannukah get together, where she saw the 50 students receiving scholarships from the late Misha Kogan Fund, made it very moving

and memorable.

The amount of love and respect enveloping her at the reception in her honor at "Beit Ponve" expresses more than words the deep feelings of gratitude to a person who contributes so much to Israel and our small organization.

We all pray that she is given good health so she can witness the effects of her invaluable contribution.

We all honor you, dear Asia Kogan!

## *Hopes for Peace after the Victory*

Another war of Israel has ended in victory. After eight years of non ceasing bombardment of the town of Shderot and the Gaza Area, the IDF has delivered a heavy blow to the "Hamas" terrorist organization which controls the Gaza strip. We mourn the innocent victims on both sides, the inevitable results of every war, and send our condolences to the families of the ten fallen soldiers and the three killed civilians. We wish a speedy convalescence and good health to all the wounded.

We have a strong unshakeable belief in peace that will arrive!

Best wishes to IDF and our people! Honor to our homeland!



# From the China Friendship Diary

By T. Kaufman

## Scholarships to Chinese Students

Fifteen years have passed since the Israel-China Friendship Society began awarding scholarships to students from China who study at the higher institutions in Israel.

At the get together of former residents of China, which took place on Hannukah, December 2008, fifteen Chinese students were recipients of scholarships. It should be noted that six of them study subjects connected to Judaism: Holocaust, Bible, Zionism and so on. We hope that the Israel China Friendship Society can continue this tradition in the future because it strengthens the ties of friendship with the Chinese people.

## The Exhibition at Chongqing

A photograph exhibition, dedicated to the sixty years of Israel's existence, took place in December in the city of Chongqing. Sixty Israeli photographers took part in the exhibition and exhibited

180 photographs, presenting the different facets of life in Israel. The exhibition was opened by the Israeli ambassador in China, Mr. Amos Nadai. The exhibition was organized by the Israel-China Friendship Society and IYS together with the International Friendship Society in Chongqing.

## The Writers Delegation from China

A writers delegation from China, invited by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and headed by the deputy chairman of the Writers association in China has visited Israel. During their visit in Tel Aviv they were the guests of the Israel-China Friendship Society. The guests visited the grave of Dr. Y. Rosenfeld at the Kiriat Shaul cemetery and laid a wreath on his grave. In addition, they visited the synagogue commemorating the Jewish communities in China, and "Beit Ponve". This is the first visit of renowned Chinese writers and poets in Israel.

## A Visit of a Harbin Delegation

A delegation of researchers from the Research Center of the History of Jews of Harbin in the Social Sciences Academy of the Heilongjiang province arrived Israel in March. Their aim is to research the archives kept in the IYS and hold a series of interviews with the representatives of the Harbin Jewry in Israel. The delegation consists of four Academy members and a well known journalist from a newspaper published in Harbin. The delegation will remain in Israel for a month and its research will take place at "Beit Ponve" and Amikam.

## The Chinese New Year

In February the Chinese people celebrated their New Year in accordance with their lunar calendar. The friends of China in Israel send their best wishes and hope for the continuity of success and prosperity for the Chinese nation.

## The Members of the Harbin Delegation with T. Kaufman and Amram Olmert at "Beit-Ponve"



From left to right: Teddy Kaufman, Qu Chunfang, Han Tianyan, Amram Olmert, Cheng Hongze and Xiao Hong

# From The Album of The Past

## 70 Years Ago. Tientsin Jewish School - 1939



### 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*

*"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.

# THE LEADERSHIP OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN IN ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH FAR-EASTERN SOCIETIES IN THE DIASPORA

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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 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.

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

### BELLA RECTOR

WISHES A HAPPY HOLIDAY  
TO HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY  
TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

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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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AND FRIENDS

HAPPY HOLIDAY AND BEST WISHES

TO OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

### **MRS. EDA SHVETZ AND FAMILY**

### **TANIA & ROBERT MATERMAN**

### **AND SON AVRAHAM YAACOV**

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

### **DORA (NEE VIDUMSKY) AND GABRIEL LEE**

WISH ALL OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES A VERY HAPPY PASSOVER

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## 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](mailto: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 החרות

## 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

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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

### **MIRA MRANTZ**

HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

### **LEA & YANA LIBERMAN & FAMILY**

WISHING IGUD YOTZEI SIN, PRESIDENT KAUFMAN,  
CO-WORKERS AND ALL FRIENDS A VERY HAPPY PESACH

# בדכות לחג החרות

## 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

# ברכות לחג החרות

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### **PETER BERTON AND FAMILY**

SEND THEIR HEARTFELT BEST WISHES TO FRED HEYMAN  
AND REISS FAMILIES, DODIK GOOTMAN, RASHA  
AND TEDDY KAUFMAN AND ALL OTHER FRIENDS IN ISRAEL

### **MARK and CLARA LEEF**

4008-3F CALLE SONNORA, LAGUNA WOODS, CA 92637

### **JOE MRANTZ**

WISHES ALL HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY A HAPPY HOLIDAY

# ברכות לחג החרות

## LOS ANGELES

TO HONOR OUR PARENTS

MAX AND MOLLY SAMSON

&

BEN AND VERA BERG

DOLORES & ROGER BERG

# ברכות לחג החרות

## LOS ANGELES

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

**RAISSA GOLDIN**

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

**GREGORY HODSON  
AND FAMILY**

WISH ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS A HAPPY HOLIDAY

**BETTY LIAS**

TO ALL MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY

**MARY WOLFF AND FAMILY**

HAPPY PESACH TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND THEIR FAMILIES

# ברכות לחג החרות

## 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 FRIENDS AND FAMILY

**DORA, VERONICA, MIKE AND ALL THE MEDAVOYS**

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY

**LEOPOLD and GRACE BORODOVSKY**

WE WISH OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

A HEALTHY AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

**ILANA RICHMOND**

CHILDREN: RENEE, DAVID

GRANDCHILDREN: ANDREA, JERICCA, REBECCA,

SARAH, TARYN ELISABETH and DILLEN JAMES



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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

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AND TO ALL FAR-EASTERNERS IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD

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RELATIVES & FRIENDS

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TO ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

**MIRA & PHIL MATERMAN**

# ברכות לחג החרות

## SAN FRANCISCO

**LILLIE BERK**

EXTENDS HER BEST WISHES TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY AND PEACE

HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY

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**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 החרות

## JAPAN

SINCERE WISHES FOR A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY  
TO OUR DEAR FRIEND

**MRS. ASYA KOGAN**

IGUD YOTZEI SIN

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ASYA KOGAN & FAMILY**

WISH THE BEST OF HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND  
PEACE

TO ALL THE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

**WITH LOVE**

# ברכות לחג החרות

## ENGLAND

BEST WISHES AND WARM GREETINGS

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17 FOXBURY CLOSE  
LUTON LU2 7BQ ENGLAND

WARM GREETINGS TO MY DEAR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

**ALEX FAIMAN**

46, ST. JOHN'S COURT, FINCHLEY ROAD, HAMPSTEAD  
LONDON NW3 6LE

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V6H 1 V7

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO OUR HONORARY REPRESENTATIVE

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AND ALL OUR FRIENDS IN CANADA  
FROM IGUD YOTZEI SIN

BEST WISHES

FROM

**LILY FRANK**

BEST WISHES FROM

**MR. A. G. ULAINÉ**

1255, SHERWOOD CRESC. N° 429  
MONTREAL, CANADA  
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TORONTO, CANADA

**BEST WISHES FROM  
LILY & DOV LIFSHITZ**

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY FROM

**MIKA KERNER (HMELNITSKY) and  
DANIELLA KERNER (LECHTZIN & FAMILY)**

MAY PEACE, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS BE WITH ALL OF US

# ברכות לחג החרות

## AUSTRALIA

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SENDS TO OUR HONORARY REPRESENTATIVES

**JESSE & NAOMI TRACTON**

AND TO ALL FAR-EASTERNS IN AUSTRALIA  
SINCERE GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES

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BONDI N.S.W.2026

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N.S.W. 2093

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LINDFIELD, N.S.W. 2070

Mrs  
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Parkside Tower  
17/35 Orchard Rd  
Chatswood N.S.W. 2067

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

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**Mr.JOSEPH LEVIN**  
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BONDI N.S.W. 2026

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

**Ms. Bronia Scheer  
& family**  
43 Dudley Str. Bondi  
2026 N.S.W.

& Mrs.  
**D.LEVITAN & family**  
6 Hunter Street  
DOVER HEIGHTS, N.S.W. 2030

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

**Mr. & Mrs. E. Schwartz  
& family** 140/116-132  
Maroobra Rd. Maroobra  
N.S.W.2035

Mrs.  
**V.MARTIN**  
5/118, Woodburn Rd.  
BERALA N.S.W.2141

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

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

**P.& R. Nash  
& family**  
P.O. Box 42 Lane Cove  
N.S.W. 1595

Mrs.  
**H. RIVKIN & family**  
4 B/7, Str., Marks Rd,  
Darling Point 2027 N.S.W

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



# ברכות לחג החרות

**Mrs.  
A.SHERELL de FLORANCE  
& family**  
61/42 New Beach Rd  
DARLING POINT, N.S.W. 2027

**Mrs. Hanna Stern  
& family**  
26/22 Penkival Street Bondi  
2026 N.S.W.

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

**Mrs. A. SHISHKIN and family**  
Montefiore Home, room 203,  
120, High Str., Hunters Hill  
N.S.W. 2110

**Mr. & Mrs.  
Jesse and Naomi TRACTON  
Ian, Kim, Michelle, Avi  
and Family**  
2 Oakes Place  
NORTH BONDI N.S.W.

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

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

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

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

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

## Happy Passover!

## ISRAEL

**ILANA AND GIORA LESK, CARMELA MADPIS  
AND FAMILIES**

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

# ברכות לחג החרות

## 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

BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

### **BELLA AND AVRAHAM GOLDREICH**

# ברכות לחג החדות

## 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 החרות

## ISRAEL

**MICHAEL FLEISCHMANN**

SENDS BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY

TO HIS RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

28

**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 החרות

## ISRAEL

### **JENNY AND TEDDY PIASTUNOVITCH**

WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES  
AND FRIENDS

### **ELI ALGOR (GROHOVSKY) AND FAMILY**

WISH THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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

### **GARY BROVINSKY AND FAMILY**

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

# ברכות לחג החדות

## ISRAEL

**BEST WISHES TO MY FRIENDS**

**IN ISRAEL & OVERSEAS**

**ABRAHAM FRADKIN**

**ZEEV VATNER AND FAMILY**

**WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS**

**RACHEL AND YONAH KLIGMAN**

**SEND HEARTY WISHES OF GOOD HEALTH AND SUCCESS**

**TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS**

**BETTY HAZAN**

**SENDS GREETINGS FOR THE HOLYDAYS**

**TO FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

**WITH LOVE**

# ברכות לחג החרות

## ISRAEL

### CELIA NIRIM

SENDS HER LOVE AND HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

### AYA AND BERNARD DAREL

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

### 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 החרות

## ISRAEL

### TEDDY KAUFMAN

WISHES A HAPPY PASSOVER TO THE STAFF OF THE BULLETIN AND TO THE VOLUNTEERS  
WHO HELP IN THE WORK OF THE OFFICE OF IGUD YOTZEI SIN:  
YEHIEL LADYJENSKY, CECILIA LYUBMAN, INNA HANUKAYEV, EMMANUEL PRAT, JOE  
LEVOFF, SARAH ROSS, ISAAC DASHINSKY, BENNY TZUR, REBECCA TOUEG, ORIT DUANI,  
SHULAMIT SHNEYER, JEANNE TIKOTSKY, TAMARA FAIBUSOVITCH  
AND DAVID GOOTMAN

### 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

### ISAAC DASHINSKY

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

### DAVID GOOTMAN

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



# LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS,

## DECEMBER 2008

### 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

OWITZ Michal  
OWITZ Orit  
OLMERT-Reichav Noa  
OLMERT Ayala  
UMANSKY Adi  
OREN Gitit  
ALON-GOLDREICH Adam  
ELRAN Avital  
EPSTEIN Anna  
ASHKENAZI Rachel  
GELLER Jonathan  
GAN-OR GILL Tom  
GREEN Mike  
GREENBAUM Aaron  
GREENBLAT Adi  
GREENBLAT Lior  
GAT Roi  
DVIR Moshe  
DUANI Lottem  
DUANI Liron  
DITAL Ayelet  
DITAL Gilaad  
DITAL Roi  
DEAN Alon  
DEAN Ben-Ivri Yael  
DROR Yoav  
DROR Dana  
HIRSH Gilad  
HAREL Sarit  
RAAM Ma'ayan

Netania College  
Netania College  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Tel-Aviv University  
Beit-Rivka  
Interdisciplinary Center  
Tel-Aviv University  
Bar-Ilan University  
Hevron Yeshiva  
Tel-Aviv University  
Interdisciplinary Center  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem  
Bar-Ilan University  
Kibbutzim College  
The Light of Judaea College  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem  
Open University  
Ben-Gurion University in Negev  
Haifa Technion  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem  
Tel-Aviv University  
Hadassa, Jerusalem  
Open University  
Bar-Ilan University  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Communication Systems  
Geophysics and Planetary Sciences  
Rekanati Business Management  
School of Social Work  
Education  
Industry & Management Engineering  
Cinema and TV Arts  
Humanities  
Medical Aid  
Children's Education  
Business Management  
Arts, Cinema and TV  
Molecular Biology  
Rabbinical Studies  
Medicine  
Computer Science  
Medicine  
Criminology  
Democracy Education  
Business Management  
Biology Nature Studies  
Business Management  
Society and Media Systems  
Engineering  
Archeology and Egyptology  
Philosophia  
Dental Medicine  
Social Sciences and Psychology  
Business Management  
Agriculture

*(Continued on the next page)*

## Scholarship Fund in Memory of Misha Kogan

(Continued from the previous page)

HERSH Amos	Haifa Technion	Computer Science
HERSHKOVITZ Liron	Haifa University	Country Study
VUDOVICH Amir	Open University	Psychology
VUDOVICH Shulamit	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Humanities
VOLOVIK Natalie	Tel-Aviv University	Social Work
VAILER Liran	WIZO	Graphic Design
VAIHANSKI Omer	Tel-Aviv University	Electricity and Computer Science
VILSHANSKI-NISELEVICH Haya Mushka	Beit-Rivka College	Hebrew Bible
VANDEL Avihai	Open University	Electricity and Computer Science
ZVULUN Nir	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Engineering
ZALZMAN Zahi	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Electricity and Electronics
HORESH Talya	Open University	Society and Media Systems
TOKKIE Maayan	Haifa Technion	Architecture
TAL Toav	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Law
TAL Avner	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Business Management
REICHER Naama	Tel-Aviv University	Geophysics
YOHANAN Maayan	Kibbutzim College	Theater
COHEN Dana	Emek Izreel College	Psychology
COHEN Lior	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Arts
COHEN Galit	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Arts
KNAAN Noa	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Humanities

## Scholarship Fund of June and Alexander Maisin Foundation

ASHEROF Inbal	Interdisciplinary Center, Herzlia	Law and Business Management
BAHIR Ran	Management College, Rosh le-Zion	Business Management
BOYARSKY-SABAG Shiri	Haifa University	Law
BURSHTEIN Assaf	Bar-Ilan University	Biotechnology
BACHNOFF Niv	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Biochemistry
BAIN Arnon	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Business Management
BIRON Tali	Management College	Law and Business Management
BEN-DAVID Chedva	Teachers' Seminar	Education
BEN-TAL Itay	Kinneret College	Theater and TV
BEN-TSION Ido	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Engineering
BAR-YOSEF Aya	Tel-Aviv University	Humanities and Literature
BRYSKMAN Eliyahu-Zvi	Hebron Yeshiva	Talmud Teachings
GOTTFRIED Or	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Country Study
GOLDSTEIN Tal	Haifa University	Social Sciences
GUR-DOTAM Rotem	Haifa University	Business Management
GORTSHTEIN Dorit	Management College	Graphic Design
GOREN Liron	WIZO Academy	Economy
GUIDETTI Gil	Management College, Rosh le-Zion	Law
ELAI David Gal	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Accountancy
GALANTI Tal	Open University	Agriculture
KATZMAN-YAKUBOVICH Galina	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Social Work
LAOR Moran	Emek Izreel College	Biology and Psychology
LEVI Tehila	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Cosmetics
LURIA Maya	Management College	Computer Science
LIBERMAN Eden	Tel-Aviv University	Medicine
SABAN Meirav	Kibbutzim College	Engineering and Electronics
LICHOMANOV Ariel	ORT K. Bialik	

(Continued on the next page)

## **Scholarship Fund of June and Alexander Maisin Foundation**

**(Continued from the previous page)**

LERMAN Ishay	Zfat College	Social Work
MORDOHOVICH Rachel-Nadine	Bar-Ilan University	Social Sciences and Psychology
MIZRACHI Yuval	Tel Aviv Yafo College	Social Sciences and Politics
MATLIN Idan	Law School	Law
MERON Mirit	Haifa University	Social Sciences
MANZUR Tamir	Haifa Technion	Architecture
MAROM Gil	Law School	Law
MAROM Anat	Law School	Law
MARHAIM Yaniv	Bar-Ilan University	Social Sciences
NEUMAN Yaniv	Open University	Country Study and History
SOINSKY Dmitri	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Engineering and Management
SOLOMONOVITCH Orly	Open University	Social Sciences and Management
STOLIAR Yulia	Ashkelon College	Psychology
SIMMER Dalit	Shenkar College	Fashion
SANDEL Anat	Tel-Aviv University	Arts
SAPIR Amit	Ono Academy	Business Management
FALK Liat	Hebrew University, Jerusalem	Social Sciences and Social Work
FALK Ishay	Ruppin College of Technology	Engineering
VARHAND Chaya	Rivka Jerusalem College	Special Education
FUCHS Liron	Kibbutzim College	Medicine
FINE Galit	Tel Aviv Academic College	Society and Politics
FINE Maanit	Tel-Aviv University	Arts
FLEGG Yehudit	Beit Yaakov Hassidic Seminar	Architecture
PELOV Konstantin	Jerusalem Engineering College	Engineering
FLENNER Guy	Ramat-Gan College Business	Management
FALK Ilanit	David Yelin College	Education
PASTERNAK Noa	Emek Izreel College	Media
FARHI Moran	Herzlia Interdisciplinary Center	Business Management
FRIEDMANN Michael	Tel-Aviv University	Engineering and Electronics
FRENKL Inbal	Ben-Gurion University in Negev	Engineering and Management
CHECHIK Yael	Ono Academy Business	Management
CHECHIK-SHINOVER Michal	Ono Academy Business	Management
TZOOK Or	Haifa University	Engineering and Management

### ***Embassy of the People's Republic of China Scholarship Fund***

KOTKIN Benad	Haifa University	Society and Computer Science
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### ***Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ira and Isidor Magid***

KOTKIN Elad	Haifa Technion	Civil Engineering
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### ***Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ralf Magid***

KUPERMAN (LEVY) Irit	Rishon Le-Zion Management College	Business Management
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### ***Scholarship Fund in Memory of Moshe Nirim***

KIMELMAN ONSCHIK Ruth	ORT Braude	Engineering and Management
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### ***Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ella and Lev Piastunovich***

KLIPPER Gidon	Management College	Accountancy
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**(Continued on the next page)**





# The Scholarship recipients 2008-2009



*Epshtein Anna*



*Ashkenazi Rachel*



*Oren Gitit*



*Owitz Michal*



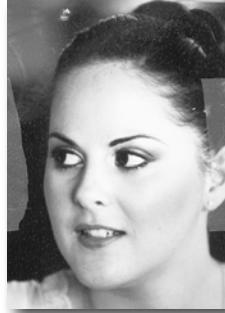
*Owitz Orit*



*Asherof Inbal*



*Olmert Ayala*



*Olmert-Reikhan Noa*



*Elran Avital*



*Alon-Goldreich Adam*



*Umansky Adi*



*Bar-Yosef Aya*



*Boyarsky-Sabag Shiri*



*Burshtein Assaf*



*Bryskman Eliyahu Zvi*



*Bahir Ran*



*Ben - David Chedva*



*Ben-Tzion Ido*



*Bachnov Niv*



*Biron Tali*



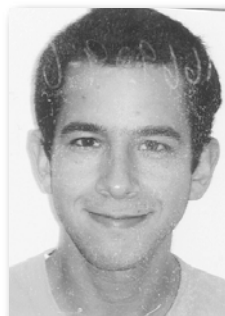
*Ben-Tal Itay-Alexander*



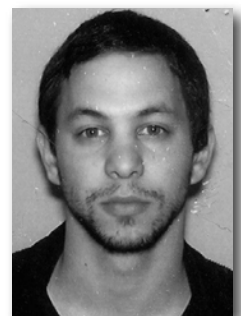
*Bain Arnon*



*Geller Johnatan*



*Gat Roi*



*Gudetti Gil*



*Gottfried Or*



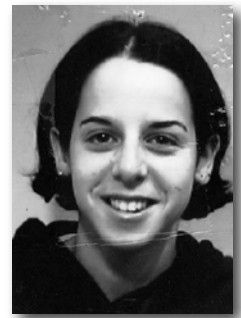
*Goldstein Tal*



*Greenbaum Aharon*



*Gur-Dotan Rotem*



*Goren Liron*



*Gan-or-Gill Tom*



*Gortshtein Dorit*



*Galanti Tal*



*Greenblat Adi*



*Dital Roi*



*Dvir-Moshe Dana*



*Dror Dana*



*Dror Yoav*



*Dean Ben-Ivri Yael*



*Dital Ayelet*



*Dital Gil'ad*



*Duani Liron*



*Duani Lottem*



*Dean Alon*



*Harel Sarit*



*Hershkovitz Liron*



*Hirsh Gil'ad*



*Volovick Natalie*



*Hersch Amos*



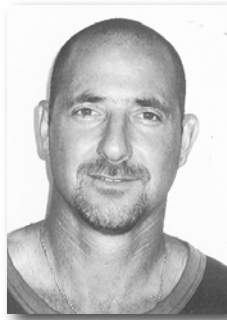
*Hersch Ester*



*Wodovich Shulamit*



*Wodovich Amir*



*Wandel Avi*



*Wilschanski Chaia*



*Zvulun Nir*



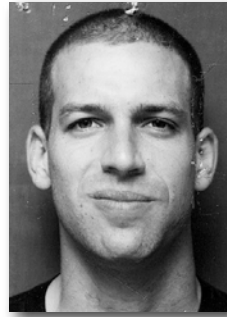
*Horesh Talya*



*Tal Yoav*



*Tokkie Maayan*



*Tal Avner*



*Talmor Shani*



*Yohanan Maayan*



*Cohen Gal*



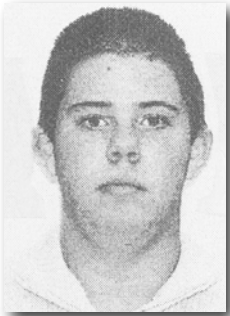
*Katsman-Yakubovich Marina*



*Knaan Noa*



*Cohen Dana*



*Lichomanov Ariel*



*Lichomanov Meirav*



*Levy Tehila*



*Lerman Yishay*



*Luria Maya*



*Laor Moran*



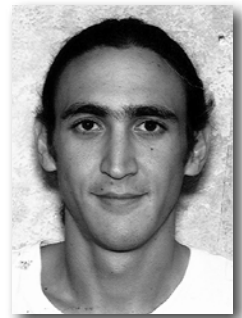
*Liberman Eden*



*Mizrahi Yuval*

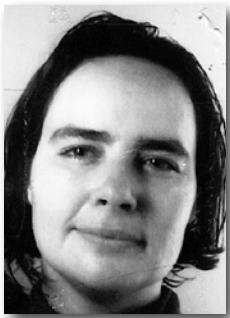


*Marom Anat*

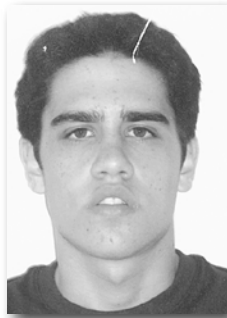


*Marom Gil*

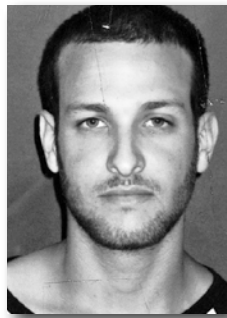




*Mardohovich Rachel*



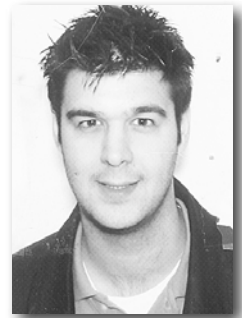
*Matlin Idan*



*Manzur Tamir*



*Marhaim Yaniv*



*Nahumson Shlomi*



*Neuman Yaniv*



*Stoliar Yulia*



*Soinsky Dmitri*



*Sandel Anat*



*Sappir Amit*



*Simmer Dalit*



*Solomonovitch Ori*



*Fain Maanit*



*Pasternak Noa*



*Falk Liat*



*Falk Yishai*



*Friedmann Michael*



*Falk Ilanit*



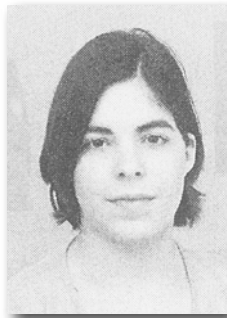
*Flegg Yehudit*



*Vorhand Chaya-Rivka*



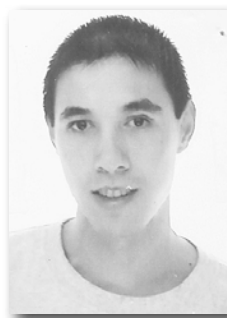
*Pelov Konstantine*



*Frenkl Inbal*



*Fine Galit*



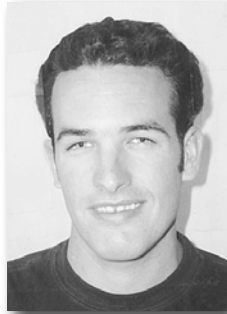
*Flenner Guy*



*Farhi Moran*



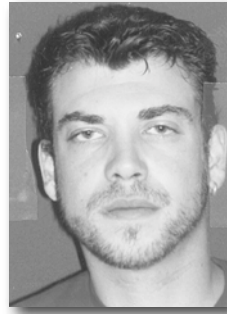
*Fuchs Liron*



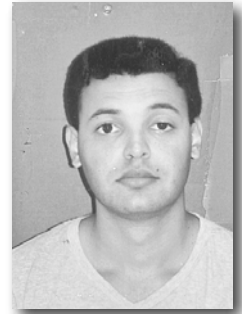
*Tsuk Or*



*Chechik Yael*



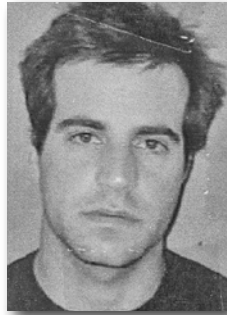
*Kravetsky Shai*



*Knubovets Boris*



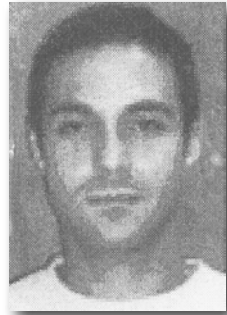
*Kimelman-Onschik Ruth*



*Kotkin Elad*



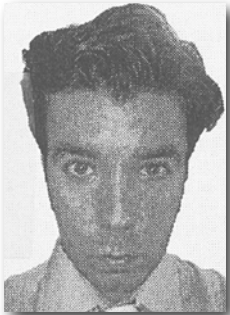
*Kotkin Ben'ad*



*Kalman Oren*



*Kuperman (Levi) Irit*



*Kremer Adi*



*Klipper Gid'on*



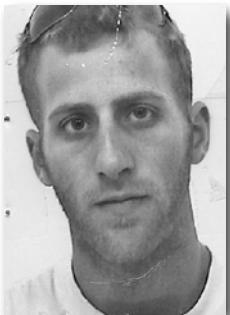
*Karniel Roni*



*Rosenfeld Vered*



*Rozen Dikla*



*Rozenfeld Eitan*



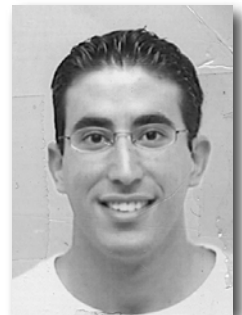
*Reicher Aluma*



*Reicher Naama*



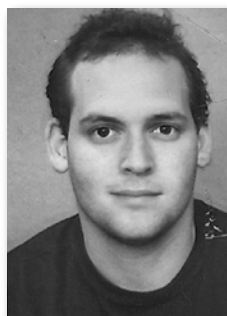
*Raam Maayan*



*Rosenblum Avishay*



*Rozenblatt Daniel*



*Rozenblatt Oren*



*Shwartzberg Elad*



*Shwartzberg Nir*



*Schwartz Noga*



*Shickman Vered*



*Shalmoni Lilach*



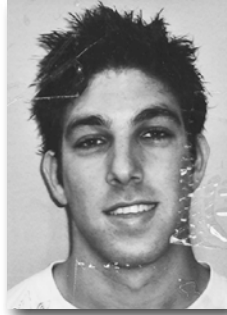
*Shnidman Nitzan*



*Shlomo Shiran*



*Telem Liron*



*Sharon Gavriel*



*Shani Amir*

## **AT THE RECEPTION IN HONOR OF ASYA KOGAN AT BEIT-PONVE ON JANUARY 11, 2009**



*At the table of presidium from left to right: R. Veinerman, Y. Klein, T.Kaufman, A. Kogan, Nelly Avinami and Moshe Ben-Yaakov*



*A cake was presented to Asya*



*T. Kaufman greets Asya*



*Y. Klein greets Asya*

# People and Events

## **A happy event in the Choroshi-Shmuelson family**

A wedding between Orli Briz and Gil Shmuelson took place on the 25th of September in Haifa. Gil is the son of Ida and Uri Shmuelson and grandson to Lily and Tsvi Choroshi.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the newlyweds and the Choroshi and Shmuelson families on this joyous occasion and wishes them health, happiness and all the best.

## **A happy event in the Bain family**

The wedding of Sarit and Arnon Bain took place on the 6th of November. Arnon is the son of our compatriot from Harbin Yehudit (nee Karlik) and Uri Bain.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Yehudit and Uri Bain family and the newlyweds and wishes them health happiness and good fortune.

## **Mary Wolf - 90**

Our compatriot Mary Wolf, now residing in Los Angeles, has celebrated her 90th birthday.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Mary and the whole Wolf family on this happy occasion and wishes the best of health and happiness until 120!

## **Alla Bragar - 85**

Our compatriot from Harbin Alla Bragar ( Michalevsky) is celebrating her 85th birthday.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Alla and wishes her health and well-being.

## **Aya Rosenblatt - 80**

Our compatriot from Harbin, Aya Rosenblatt (nee Vaitman) has reached the age of 80. On our Sunday meeting, October 26th , we celebrated Aya's birthday. T. Kaufman warmly congratulated her and a big birthday cake was served.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Aya and

her whole family and wishes them health and happiness.

## **Leonfried Geiman - 80**

Our compatriot from Harbin and Shanghai, Leonfried (Friedl) Geiman is 80 years old. Friedl was born and raised in Harbin. He graduated from the Harbin Politechnical Institute (HPI). In 1950 he immigrated to Israel and began working in the Israeli Railway. He served in the Israeli Army and after being discharged he went back to the position he held in his professional capacity. His latest position, held from 1990 to 1995 was the Vice General Manager of the Israel Railways. For several years Friedl served as a chairman of the Haifa branch of Igud Yotzei Sin.

Igud Yotzei Sin warmly congratulates Leonfried and the whole Geiman family on this happy event and wishes health and all the best until 120!

## **Abie Fradkin - 85**

Our compatriot from Shanghai, Abie Fradkin is celebrating his 85th birthday.

Abie holds a respected place amidst the former residents of China. He graduated from the Shanghai St.John University and later on his arrival to Israel continued his education at the famous Berkley University in California. Until his retirement he held the position of Vice Chairman of the "Delek" company in Israel.

Abie is one of the founding members and a committee member of the Israel-China Friendship Society. He is also a member of the Board of Igud Yotzei Sin. He had visited China as a part of the Israel-China friendship Association delegation in 1992 and 1994.

Abie, a highly cultured person raised in the Anglo-American milieu, responds to the events in Israel and the Jewish Diasporah by addressing letters to presidents, vice-presidents

and other well known political leaders concerning issues in regards to Israel and the Jewish people.

Igud Yotzei Sin warmly congratulates Abie and the whole Fradkin family on this joyous occasion and wishes them health and happiness till 120!

## **Tankred Golenopolsky at "Beit Ponve"**

Our compatriot from Harbin and Shanghai, now living in Moscow, Tankred Golenopolsky and his wife Galina have visited "Beit Ponve" and took part in the Sunday get together on September the 21st.

T. Kaufman warmly welcomed the guests and emphasized the role of Tankrd in the Jewish life in Moscow and Russia as a founder and an editor of "The International Jewish News". Tankred Golenopolsky was touched by the warm welcome.

## **A happy event in the Rosenshtein Family**

A happy event took place in the family of our compatriot from Shanghai Baruch Rosenshtein and his wife Dvora. A grandson was born and given the name Tom – Fadia.

Baruch (Borya) Rosenshtein is the son of former residents of Harbin and Shanghai, Zhenia and Fadia Rosenshtein who were active in the Igud Yotzei Sin Association.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the Rosenshtein family and wishes them health, happiness and well being.

## **George Campol - 80**

George Campol(Grisha Kansepolsky), born in Harbin and our compatriot from Tienzin and Shanghai, celebrates his 80th birthday.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates George, Pearl and the whole family on this joyous occasion and wishes good health, happiness and well-being until 120!

### ***Shmuel Muller - 80***

Our compatriot from Tienzin, Shmuel Muller, celebrates his 80th birthday. Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Sammy, Hannah and the whole Muller family and wishes them the best of health and lots of happiness until 120!

### ***Bobby Bershadsky - 80***

Our compatriot from Tienzin and Shanghai Bobby Bershadsky reached the age of 80.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Bobby, Pnina and the whole Bershadsky family on this occasion and wishes good health, happiness and joy until 120!

### ***The Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Leah and Yana Liberman***

Our compatriot from Shanghai Leah Liberman and her husband Yana Liberman of Harbin and Shanghai celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary – marking 60 years of their marriage.

Igud Yotzei Sin offers its felicitations to Leah, Yana and the whole Liberman family and wishes them health and happiness until 120!

### ***A Chinese Journalist at "Beit Ponve"***

A Chinese journalist Ma Xiaoyan visited "Beit Ponve" and interviewed T. Kaufman, I. Klein, R. Veinerman, and A. Podolsky. Mrs. Ma Xiaoyan works at the Jerusalem Bureau of the Sinhua agency.

### ***The Japanese Ambassador's Reception***

On the 18th of September, at the residence of the Japanese ambassador in Herzlia Pituah, a reception took place organized by the ambassador Yoshinori Katori to mark the end of his mission in our country and return to his homeland. The ambassador addressed the present in a moving speech. In his speech, both in English and Hebrew, he spoke about the close ties with Israel and about his personal fruitful cooperation with the Israeli

public.

More than 300 guests took part at the reception, among them the ministers, the Knesset members, the diplomatic corps and representatives of many sectors of the Israeli society. Igud Yotzei Sin was represented by R. and T. Kaufman.

### ***Harriet Morton at "Beit Ponve"***

Harriet Morton of Toronto (Canada) visited "Beit Ponve" and met T. Kaufman and T. Pyastunovich.

H. Morton represents a tourist agency in Toronto which organizes trips to China to sites marking the Jewish heritage. Four trips have already taken place to Harbin, Shanghai and Kaifeng.

### ***Wedding in the Koroshi Family***

On September 25, 2008, a wedding took place between Orly Braz and Gil Shmuelson. The wedding was held on the beach of Palmahim in the beautiful place of Gan Yam. Gil is the son of Ida and Uri Shmuelson, the grandson of Lily and Zvi Koroshi (Krugliak). Many guests attended the wedding, friends of the young couple and relatives who came from abroad. Mazal Tov to the young couple and best wishes to the parents and grandparents.

### ***Lecture by former Israeli ambassador Yehoyada Haim***

The former ambassador to India and China, Yehoyada Haim, has published a book "From Cobra to Dragon", in which he recounts his diplomatic service in these countries. To mark this event a meeting took place on the 1st of December in "Beit Ponve" where the members of Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Society hosted Mr. Yehoyada Haim who gave a lecture.

Approximately 60 guests gathered in "Beit Ponve". T. Kaufman opened the meeting by pointing out the achievements of the former ambassador in China, not only as a diplomat, but

also as a person who contributed to the preservation of the Jewish heritage in that country, especially in Harbin and Tientsin. T. Kaufman also remarked on the activities led by the wife of the ambassador, Mrs. Shoshana Haim, who aided in organizing exhibitions and concerts.

The lecture of Yehoyada Haim lasted an hour and a half and listened to with great attentiveness. The ambassador drew parallels between India and China and recounted his diplomatic experiences throughout the decade he spent in these countries as the head of Israeli embassy. Later he responded to a number of questions from the audience.

The meeting was organized by the Association of the former residents of China and the Israel – China Friendship Society. Afterwards T. Kaufman thanked the ambassador for his interesting lecture and his unceasing help in the activities of both organizations.

### ***A Concert at the Residence of the Chinese Ambassador***

On the 30th of October a concert of the Israeli pianist from the U.S.A, Nadia Veinbach, took place at the residence of the Chinese ambassador Mr. Chjao Tzun. The concert was a huge success. Approximately a 100 invited guests were present, among them the members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Israel-China friendship Society and Igud Yotzei Sin represented by R. and T. Kaufman.

### ***The Chinese Film Festival***

A Chinese Film Festival was held from the 6th to the 22nd of November in three Israeli Cinematheques - in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa. The screened Chinese films were shot during the years 1937-2007. A Chinese delegation, including producers and artists arrived at Israel in order to participate in the festival. The gala concert was held at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque on the 2nd of

November. The Chinese ambassador, Mr. Chjao Tzun addressed the audience, followed by the head of the Chinese delegation Mr. Fu Hunshin and the Israeli actress Gila Almagor. R. and T. Kaufman, I. and R. Veinerman, U. and I. Sandel were among the invited guests.

### ***A Visit of a Delegation from the Hubei Province***

On the 16th of November an economic-trade seminar, organized by the delegation from Hubei province headed by governor Li Honjun, took place in the garden of the Exhibition Pavillion. The delegation which numbered 50 and included 22 mayors of the Hubei province cities. Approximately a 100 representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Export Institute and a number of important Israeli firms participated in the seminar.

Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Society were represented by T. Kaufman, R. Veinerman, G. Katz, A. Fradkin, M. Lichomanov, E. Rosen, A. Podolsky, I. Ladizhensky.

### ***A Happy Event in the Olshevsky Family***

The celebration of the Bat Mitzva of Noa Olshevsky took place on the 31st of October. Noa is the Daughter of Moshe and Tali Olshevsky, the granddaughter of the late Lyova Olshevsky and his widow Ilana, and the niece of Jenia Olshevsky.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the whole Olshevsky family on this happy occasion and wishes health, good fortune and well being.

### ***A Happy Event in the Bershadsky Family***

The family of our compatriot from Tienzin and Shanghai, Bobby Bershadsky and his spouse Pnina celebrated a happy event – the Bar Mitsva of their grandson Amit. Amit is the son of Michal (nee Bershadsky) and Assi Ben Ami.

Igud Yotzei Sin offers its felicitations

to Pnina, Bobby, and the whole Bershadsky family and wishes them health, happiness and well being.

### ***A Happy Event in the Kamionka Family***

The family of our compatriot from Tienzin, Mary Kamionka (nee Shwartz) and her husband Tzvi, celebrated the Bar Mitsva of their grandson Roye – the son of Michal (nee Kamionka) and Eli Ozer.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Mary, Tzvi and the whole Kamionka family on this happy occasion and wishes them health, good fortune and well being.

### ***A Happy Event in the Ashkenazi Family***

The family of rabbi Chaim Ashkenazi and his wife Bruriah celebrated a happy event. On the 9th of September the wedding of his son Eliezer and Chaya Matusov took place in Kfar Habad. Rabbi Chaim Ashkenazi is the grandson of the Shanghai rabbi Meir Ashkenazi who served in Shanghai in the first half of the last century.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates the whole Ashkenazi family on this happy occasion and wishes them health, happiness and well being until 120!

### ***Scholarship Fund in Memory of Alexander and Esther Levitin***

Baruch Levitin and his sister Mira Nagar (nee Levitin) donated 10000 NIS to establish a scholarship fund in memory of their parents, Alexander (Shura) and Esther Levitin. At the coming ceremony of distributing scholarships to the students – the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of the former residents of China – which will take place in December during the Hannukah week, the first scholarship will be awarded from the new fund.

### ***A happy event in the Yoselevich family***

A happy event took place in the family of our compatriot from Harbin,

Vera Yoselevich (nee Belokamen) and her husband Ikey Yoselevich, our compatriot from Shanghai. On the 26th of August their granddaughter Moran wed Shimi Mahlouf. Moran is the daughter of Varda and Doron Yoselevich.

### ***A happy event in the Lihomanov family***

The family of our Harbin compatriot Moshe Lihomanov celebrated a happy occasion. On the 14th of November the wedding of their daughter Meirav and David Saban took place in the “Ha Gan Hayarok” Hall near Beit Lid.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Phiha and Moshe Lihomanov and wishes the young couple the best of health, happiness and well-being until 120!

### ***A happy event in the Ginansky family***

The family of our compatriot from Shanghai, Ety Ginansky (nee Beim) and her husband Meir, celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of Roye, the son of Shmuel and Tali Ginansky. The celebration took place on the 22nd of September at the Wailing Wall – the western wall of destroyed Temple of Jerusalem.

Igud Yotzei Sin congratulates Ety, Meir and the Ginansky family on this happy occasion and wishes them good health and happiness.

### ***Guests at “Beit Ponve”***

At the regular Sunday gathering on the 31st of August we were hosts to our compatriots and friends from Japan, USA and Israel.

Our compatriot Kurt Vainbach and wife Sheila arrived from USA, professor Izumi Sato arrived from Japan; our Israeli guests included Israel Karni (Sanny Krimchansky) and Ruth Michaeli.

T. Kaufman warmly welcomed the guests. Later Kurt Vinbach and his wife Sheila addressed the meeting. T. Kaufman also congratulated Alla Reches on her birthday and Shulamit Even (nee Morgulev) on the birth of her granddaughter Sarah.

## ***A Happy Event in the Friedman Family***

A happy event took place in the family of our compatriot from Tienzin Daniel Friedman and his spouse Miriam – the birth of their grandson Uri. The newborn is the son of their daughter Sigal and Itai Gefen and the great grandson of our compatriot from Harbin and Shanghai, Lucy Friedman.

Igud Yotzei Sin offers its congratulations to the Friedman family on this happy occasion and wishes them health and well being until 120!

## ***A Happy Event in the Samson Family***

Dr. Alex and Mrs. Mary Samson (nee Shpunt) have recently celebrated their 60 th wedding anniversary in Sydney, Australia where they have lived since 1955. They were married in the Ohel Moshe Synagogue on Rue Tenant de la Tour, Shanghai on 26 September, 1948 shortly before leaving for Israel in December. The celebration involved their 3 children and 8 grand-children.

## ***Isaac Dashinsky - 85***

Our compatriot from Harbin and Tienzin, Isaac Dashinsky, has celebrated his 85th birthday.

Isaac throughout the years in Israel has been an active member of the "IYS Bulletin". He is our regular translator from English to Russian. He is vastly knowledgeable and never parts from a book.

On the day of his 85th anniversary, we, his colleagues on the editorial board of the bulletin, send him our best regards heartfelt wishes for the best of health, energy and well-being, so that he can continue with his activities for the benefit of his compatriots.

Dear friend Isaac, we, your compatriots, are proud of you! You, who despite all obstacles, continue your valuable work in the "Bulletin". May you carry on with the same energies. May the One Above give

you strength and health for many years to come to serve the community so dear to you.

## ***Igud Yotzei Sin Leadership Meeting***

On the 15th of December, 2008 the Igud Yotzei Sin leadership meeting took place in "Beit Ponve". The following members took part: T. Kaufman, I.Klein, R.Veinerman, U.Bain. G.Katz, E.Vandel, T. Piastunovich, R.Rashinsky, B.Darel, U.Sandel and the members of the Control Commission, M.Lihomanov, G.Brovinsky and Z. Vatner.

The protocol of the previous meeting of IYS was approved. T. Kaufman presented a detailed report of the IYS activities from the 1.1.2008 to 15.12 2008. The report was approved. The Deputy-President and Treasurer, Y.Klein presented the 1.1.2008 to 30.9.2008 IYS financial report.

The list of the scholarship recipients for the year 2008 (142 persons) was approved. In addition, the expenditure for the traditional Hanukkah gathering of the compatriots was approved as well.

T. Kaufman recommended the cessation of activities in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa IYS committees. Esther Vandel was elected as an honorary representative of IYS in Haifa and north of Israel, Avi Podolsky was elected as the honorary representative of IYS in Jerusalem and the south of Israel. The Tel Aviv committee will function as the Ladies' Committee of "Beit Ponve".

## ***At the reception of the Chinese Military Attache***

On the 16th of December, 2008, a reception was held in the "Recital City" Hall in honor of the departing military attaché of China, colonel Lio Sianyan and the arrival of the new attaché, colonel Mou Chanlin.

The reception was attended by the members of the Chinese Embassy, military attaches from different countries serving in Israel, the Israeli

representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the IDF and the Israeli community. T. and R. Kaufman represented the IYS and the Israel-China Friendship Society.

## ***A reception for Asia Kogan at the "Assaf Harofe" hospital***

A lunch was held in honor of our friend Asia Kogan at the main dining hall of the "Assaf Harofe" hospital on January the 7th.

For almost 20 years Asia has been making generous donations to this hospital. With her assistance a big number of buildings, many wards and a central laboratory have been built.

The hospital director welcomed her warmly and so did the doctors and Asia's friends. Mr. T. Kaufman saluted Asia and stated her role in assisting the sick, the old, and the solitary. A movie was screened, presenting Asia's role in developing the "Assaf Harofe" hospital whose medical services cover an area of half a million population.

Igud Yotzei Sin was represented by T. and R. Kaufman, Y. Klein, and P. and B. Bershadsky.

## ***A reception for Asia Kogan at "Beit Ponve"***

A reception in honor of Asia Kogan, the chief contributor to Igud Yotzei Sin who arrived from Japan, was held on January 11th at "Beit Ponve".

Close to 70 former residents of China and Asia's friends, among them the Chairman of IYS R. and T. Kaufman, Y.Klein, B.Bershadsky, Y. Sendal, G. Katz, Y.Bein, G.Brovinsky, B.Darel, A. Podolsky, M. Lichomanov, M. Kamionka, R.Rashinsky, attended the reception. Members of Asia's family also arrived, among them her sister Nelly Avinamy, her niece Naomi Peli, her nephews Mara Shifrin with spouse, and Teddy Abramov with daughters. Asia's friends, Dr. M. Varron and wife, and Moshe and Aviva Ben Yacov, attended too.

T. Kaufman dedicated his speech to

Asia, her family, her late husband Misha and her great generosity. At first he spoke in Hebrew and then repeated his speech in Russian. Yossi Klein also joined the well-wishers. Asia was presented with a bouquet. The guests partook of a selection of salads and "piroshky". This is the opportunity to offer thanks to the Ladies' Committee of "Beit Ponve" who prepared and organized the reception. They were: R. Kaufman, A. Ginansky, L. Khoroshi, M. Pisetsky, and A. Rosenblat. The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere and at the end many guests stayed on, reluctant to leave "Beit Ponve".

### **Sammy and Hannah Muller Meeting**

On the 27th of December a friendly meeting took place at the home of Hannah and Sammy Muller in Kefar Shmaryahu. It was a reunion of Betar members from Tienzin and Shanghai who arrived at Israel in 1949, sixty years ago, as "Etsel" volunteers, and took part in the Israeli War of Independence.

The people present at the meeting were: Sammy Muller, Sammy Pollack, Vova Dihne who came specially from Switzerland, Bobby Bershinsky, Grisha Kanpol (Kantsipolsky), and Emmanuel Prat (Pirotsky). The people who couldn't make it were Joe Pittel of Natanya and Boris Zilberg of Ramat Gan.

The meeting was held in a warm atmosphere, full of nostalgic memories of the past.

### **Professor Avrum Erlich at "Beit Ponve"**

Professor Avrum Erlich, from China (Shendon), visited "Beit Ponve" and met T. Kaufman. Professor Erlich is one of the founders of the Israel - Asia Centre in the country, which deals with the study and processing of technology, cooperation and statistics. He expressed interest in cooperation with Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Society.

### **Bobby Bershinsky - 80**

To Bobby, many happy returns of the day, have a wonderful birthday, may all your wishes come true, your friends who love you and admire your spirit. Dora and Gabriel Lee Jack and Leah Liberman Anya Liberman, Tami Sachs and Ali Rosenberg Danit, Kevin, Marissa and Meredith Nuckels Mira Mrantz.

### **The Get-Together of our Compatriots from China**

Just like in the previous years, four hundred former residents of China, parents, grandchildren and children, gathered at Tel Aviv Municipality Employees' Club in Pompadita street on the 24th of December.

Despite the stormy weather all the guests arrived at the traditional get-together. The hall and the lobby opened to public at 16.30. The arrivals included not only the residents of the Central Area (Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, Givataim, Petah Tikva, Kiriat Ono, Herzeliya, Raanana) but also people from Netanya, Haifa, Jerusalem and other cities in Israel.

The buffet in the lobby served appetizers, traditional Hannukah doughnuts and 'latkes', coffee, tea and cold beverages.

At 18.00 Mr. R. Veinerman opened the ceremony, starting with the lighting of the fourth candle of Hannukah. The candle was lit by Tomer Hayek, the grandchild of late Mary Biar (Beim).

The honorary guests and members of IYS at the presidium platform included the Chinese Ambassador to Israel, Mr. Zhao Tziun, the former Israeli ambassadors to China, Ora Namir, Moshe ben Yakov, and Yehoyada Haim, and the members of IYS T. Kaufman, Y. Klein, and R. Veinerman. The special guest of honor of the evening was Mrs. Asia Kogan who arrived from Tokyo and who has generously contributed to IYS for many years. In addition, the platform included the founders of the personal funds for the scholarships, Mr. Giora Lesk and wife (the M. and D. Berkovich and M. Lesk Fund),

Mrs. Rasha Kaufman (the D. and J. Vainer and Sh. Neder Fund), Mrs. Ella Goldreich (the T. and S. Segerman Fund), Mrs. Sarah Umansky (three scholarships from G. Umansky Fund), Mrs. G. Volovinsky-Katz (the D. Katz Fund), Mrs. Hannah Yakov (the S. Yakovi Fund), Mr. Abraham Fradkin (his parents' memorial fund) and the Litvin family (the A. and A. Litvin Fund).

Mr. Zhao Zun, the Ambassador of China to Israel was the first of the speakers. He mentioned the ties between China and Israel and the role of the Israel-China Friendship Society which contributes greatly to the ties between the two countries. Mr. T. Kaufman spoke at length. Part of his speech was addressed to Mrs. Asia Kogan, the outstanding person who has been supporting the Association for many years. He also read the list of 30 Igud Yotzei Sin Funds. The Chinese students were recipients of scholarships from the Israel-China Friendship Society, the Chinese Embassy in Israel and the M. and D. Berkovich Fund. Mr. Y. Klein briefly presented the budgetary problems of IYS and spoke of Mrs. Asia Kogan's role in the Association. The singer Deganit Dado performed songs in Hebrew and Chinese and received a great round of applause.

At the end of the speeches, the ceremony of distributing scholarships began. The recipients were: 142 Israeli students and 15 students from China, who all got their scholarships from the members of the IYS. At the end of the ceremony, Dr. Tzian Siao thanked the donors in Hebrew on behalf of the Chinese students and Ms. Liron Divani thanked them on behalf of the Israeli students. At the closing speech of the evening Mr. T. Kaufman addressed the audience and called on the students to gather on the platform for the traditional collective photograph with the members of the presidium.

The evening ended at 20.00. In spite of the bad weather it went exceedingly well and, one must say, well above the expectations of its organizers.



# Regards from Japan



From right to left: Danny and Miriam Friedman, Rasha and Teddy Kaufman, Katsushiko Aoki from Japan, Shizuoka. Katsushiko Aoki arrived in Israel to study Hebrew at the Rabbi Akiva Center for the study of Hebrew in Netania. His parents lived many years in Harbin

## Visit the Website of Igud Yotzei Sin [www.jewsofchina.org](http://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)

## Leah Garrick in Israel



Leah Jacob Garrick visited Israel in October 2008 during the High Holidays and gave a series of lectures about her family and her Shanghai days to various audiences in Jerusalem, Ra'anana and Herzlia. Accompanied by slides, these lectures were vividly delivered with her characteristic verve and high spirits, and delighted her audiences with her personal style and charm.

# Mazal Tov!

*60 years since the wedding-day of Leah and Yana Liberman*



*Leah and Yana in the USA (San Diego) today. It is 60 years now since their wedding-day in Shanghai, and Yana is now 85 years old*

*80<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Aya Rozenblat*



*80th birthday of Aya Rozenblat (Vaitman) was celebrated at Beit Ponve*

*The wedding of Gil and Orly Shmuelson*



*Gil is the grandson of our compatriot from Tientsin Lillie Koroshi and her husband Tsvi*

*Bat Mitsva of Noa Olshevsky*



*Noa Olshevsky, the granddaughter of Ilana and Liova Olshevsky and the niece of Zhenia Olshevsky, was 12 - Bat Mitsva*

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

## Chapter 11 Section E

After additional contention with him I said:

"If you will not cancel your illegal decision, I will, as of today, refuse to work in the hospital, anymore, further action is in your hands, you can arrest me here and now, but I will not work anymore, you can do with me whatever you want"

On hearing my words, the head of the hospital said:

" So be it, go, join the group"

I hurried to the office, the clerks already knew of the head of the hospital's new decision and attached me to "ATAP", one of the clerks even revealed to me in secret that my name was scratched out with the remark "for the sake of good order", as I was not included in the list of those being sent due to my "illness". That's the way the authorities handle people who were "slaves" in the camp.

So, after four and a half years of life in this camp, I was finally leaving the notorious camp "Spask".

## Chapter 12 - Section A

We were transported by trucks, the number of the "foreign" prisoners listed in the "ATAP" list came to several hundreds, Within two hours we arrived at camp "Karaganda". This camp held foreign prisoners only, Hungarians, Bulgarians, Rumanians, Poles, Czechoslovaks, Germans, Persians and Stateless. At the gate to the camp, as usual a thorough search was made of all the arrivals and after that we were quartered in the barracks.

On the next day we were sent to work. I was appointed to be the



doctor in the department of internal illnesses in the hospital. The hospital in this camp is not big and consists of two surgical wards and five internal ailments departments. It is staffed by a surgeon who is also a prisoner and myself. The head of the hospital is a doctor who is "free", who visits the hospital daily during the morning hours. The head of my department visits the hospital once a week; she is "free" and is the wife of one of the commanders of the camp. The hospital also has an X-Ray room where a doctor and a technician are employed; they are "free" too, plus a laboratory for medical analysis. The prisoner who was employed in the laboratory was released from prison recently and because a replacement could not be found the surgeon and myself are performing the medical analysis.

Both of us are quartered in a general barrack assigned for service workers of the camp, we took for ourselves a special nook only for our use. During the evenings we spend our time in this nook, reading, listening to the

news from Moscow radio and also music. From time to time we are provided by the camp authorities with entertainment evenings, plays and even evenings for questions and answers. During these evenings about ten senior officers of the camp sit on the podium, the prisoners ask questions and the commanders answer, every commander answers in his field.

After Stalin's death, with the start of the "thaw" it was thought that better times have begun, the prisoners became more bold and started to shout loudly their complaints about the conditions in the camp. The commanders did not like this situation as they did not know how to excuse their illegal doings in the camp, the chairman would then proclaim the end of the session and did not permit further questions.

During one of those "questions and answers" evenings, an argument began on the subject of God. One of the prisoners, a Czech, embarrassed the officer in charge of "Cultural and Educational Activities" of the camp, with his questions, which the officer could not answer, the chairman immediately closed the session because of that. The next day, this prisoner was transferred from his job in the administrative office of the camp and sent to hard labor.

Our camp is no different from the other camps, except that it holds foreign prisoners only. All the prisoners are sent daily to various labor jobs, some in house building, some in road building in the city and some work in the mines. The chase for workers starts from early morning.

Many of the prisoners hide and many come late on purpose in order to miss the departure of the trucks to the places of work, many claim to be sick. The latecomers and the sick are confined to jail for a period of 3 – 5 days, and the cells where they are confined are always completely full. There are days when the “free” doctor who is in charge of the hospital comes to work in a state of intoxication. One day he entered the laboratory and found the surgeon and myself busy at work.

“I envy you, you work at your professions, read, study medical writings and practice and get experience at your work”

“You are a young doctor” I replied “you can utilize your free time better than us prisoners can”.

“That’s what you think, but in reality the situation is not like this” the doctor answers “try and live like me – my wife gave birth recently, with the baby in her arms she cannot manage the house work. In the morning I have to wait for over an hour in the line for bread, then in other lines for other products and when I finally arrive at the hospital I am already tired, and from here I go to another hospital in the town, as on one salary I cannot support my family. On these conditions do I have time to read and study?” We remained silent, when he left the room the surgeon remarked:

“It’s not surprising that in these conditions he took to drinking”

When we returned to our quarters and turned on the radio and heard the booming bass voice of the singer Reisin singing the lines “I will never know another country where one can breath the fresh free air”, yes “free” and both of us sighed deeply.

One night the surgeon and myself were awakened at midnight “Quickly, go to the hospital!” we were told. When we got there we found all the people of the camp headquarters already gathered there.

“Soon the wounded will arrive ... make all the preparations for

surgery ...there are many people wounded...”

Who are the wounded? Where are they coming from? This, no one tells us and we do not dare to ask. After twenty minutes a truck arrived with about twenty seriously wounded people, all were prisoners from one of the neighboring camps, as there were no beds available all were laid on the floor. The surgeon performs four operations, one after the other, while I am treating those wounded less seriously. We treated the wounded till the late morning hours. From the wounded themselves we learned what happened and how they were wounded – In a camp about 25 kilometers from our camp a fracas broke out between Russians and Ukrainians for nationalistic reasons. The two groups were preparing for this fight for several days. The authorities knew about it, they were told that the Ukrainians had arms in their possession and were preparing to attack the Russians, but did nothing to prevent the planned attack. The Russians locked themselves in their barrack and blocked the doors, but the Ukrainians forced themselves inside the barracks and beat up the Russians. Both sides had wounded about 60 in all. The Ukrainian wounded were brought to our hospital while the Russians were brought to another camp.

In the fall of 1954 the prisoners were permitted to meet their relatives, at that period many Russians arrived from Manchuria when they responded to the call from the Soviet government to return to the Motherland and participate in the conquest of the wilderness of Eastern USSR. All travel expenses and the haulage of personal cargo was covered by the government. In addition to that each family received a grant of 3000 rubles. Most of the arrivals were sent to Kazakhstan, Lazuri, Akamolinsk, and Karaganda. However, almost none of the people brought to those places remained there, most left, just like

the members of the Komsomol, who several years earlier, were also called up to conquer the wilderness...The families who arrived from Manchuria immediately tried to find family members – Fathers or husbands who between the years 1945-1948 were arrested by the Soviet authorities and were incarcerated and charged with “anti-Soviet activities” or “spying” and sentenced to prison terms or labor camps. The urge to meet their dear ones pushed them to agree to the Soviet call to return to the Soviet Union. We also had in our camp a large number of stateless prisoners who at that time were arrested in Manchuria and were now permitted to meet with their families. The meetings took place in a small room, close to a guard position near the entrance to the camp. Through some of the arrivals I learned of the fate of my family. One day one of the prisoners came to the hospital, a former resident of Harbin, who had information:

“I am able to convey to you warm greetings from your family...My wife and daughter visited me today and when I told them that you are here too, they were very happy to hear that as in Harbin a rumor spread that you were dead...my wife asked me to tell you that your family immigrated to Israel several years ago”

I could not contain myself with the happiness I felt, tears filled my eyes. Be my fate whatever it be, my family, my children immigrated to Israel, my happiness knew no bounds.

In the camp there were about ten Jews from Rumania, Austria and Poland. A Jew from Lithuania was lying in hospital, at home in Lithuania he was a Zionist, an activist in the revisionist movement, I told him the happy news that I received, he too was joyful with my happiness, in several days time his wife and daughter came to visit him, they were exiled to Siberia when the husband was arrested. During his family’s visit, he came to me and said:

“Come with me... I want you to meet my family, I told my wife about you, and meet my daughter too...”

I approached the barbed wire fence, which on its outer side was “freedom” there stood my friend’s wife and their sweet daughter. The daughter neared the barbed wire fence, stretched her hand towards me and said in Hebrew “Shalom”!

A feeling of bliss filled my body when I heard the word “shalom” coming from the mouth of this Jewish child, that found herself in far off Siberia just because of the father’s “offense”. “ Shalom, shalom” I answered her and kissed the hand of this Jewish girl, tears again filled my eyes, the father cried too when he had to separate from his wife and daughter.

## **Section B**

The life in this camp for foreigners is going on as normal. There is no sign that we are to be freed to go home. Every day we are sent to work, the shirkers are confined to detention cells. The commanders, all of who are vulgar people often come to the camp in an intoxicated state.

Winter came, but many of the prisoners still believe that soon they will be released, if not what is the reason that they were all moved to a special camp for foreigners only? They make plans, dream and hope.

In mid December, when I was in the hospital at work, the hospital commander comes to me and says:

“Collect your belongings, they have come to take you back to Spask, I’m very sorry, but this is an order from higher up... A doctor with transportation is waiting for you”.

“Must I go immediately?”

“Yes the doctor is waiting by the gate”

I collected my belongings and went towards the gate, where a doctor whom I knew from Spask and an accompanying guard were waiting for me.

“”What happened? Whats the hurry?” I asked.

“The commander of the hospital in

Spask has been trying for several months to bring you back, and only yesterday he got the agreement from the directorship of the camps of this area”

“It is only in revenge for leaving Spask against their wishes” I mused.

An open truck was waiting for me near the gate. The doctor, who was “free”, sat by the driver in the cabin; the guard and myself were sitting in the open back. Outside the weather was freezing cold; the guard wore a fur coat and looked at me with a pitying look.

“Like this you can freeze” He said, nodding his head, he opened the wide lapels of his fur coat covering me too. The coat covered both of us and I felt warmer, “ Thank you comrade”. 20 minutes later we stopped by a building, one of the soldiers who came out of the building with a wide and thick fur coat in his hands

“Put it on doctor, I brought it especially for you..”

It transpired that it was the “free” doctor that took care of this. By evening the freezing weather became even colder and a snowstorm is raging around us, but I am snuggled from head to toe in the warm fur coat that I got, and I neither see nor hear anything – I am warm.

Close to nine in the evening we arrived at Spask.

## **Section C**

I returned to Spask at the end of 1954. Again I was appointed to my former position – doctor of the internal ailments ward at the hospital. I am in a state of deep depression. All my hopes turned to nothing. The fact that I was removed from the camp where all the foreign prisoners were concentrated caused me to go into a deep state of melancholy. Sometimes, I think to myself, that all the foreigners will be sent home while I was discriminated against, and transferred back here. In this camp there are now only nine foreign prisoners, all sick, who were brought here from other camps to be hospitalized. Mostly they are

Rumanian and Polish citizens. One of them is an English citizen of Russian extraction. Like me. All of them are agitated as to why they too were not included in the transfer to the camp for foreign prisoners. They too believe that all the foreign prisoners in the other camp will be freed to go home while they will remain in the Soviet prison.

Several months have passed and again a rumor circulates in the camp that all the foreign prisoners will be transferred to another camp where all the non-Soviet citizens will be concentrated, and from which all will be sent to his home country, and again I muse, what will be with us? What will be with me?

One day the supervisor of the ATAP’s came to see me. I asked him if there is any truth of this rumor. He answered in an evasive manner that an order was received to make a list of all the foreigners, all non-Soviet citizens will be included and as a joke he added, “Don’t worry this time we will not erase your name from the list”

Again, days of hope and expectations. It is already nine years that I’m rotting in various prisons or camps. Nine years! And what can I expect for the future. I was condemned to 25 years. Maybe this time. Perhaps? Who knows?

In the following days I decided to find the addresses of my relatives in the Soviet Union. I applied to offices of addresses in the capitals of the various states. Up to now it was forbidden for prisoners to approach the authorities with requests like this. For more than ten years I did not communicate with my relatives. Within a month I received a reply that my sister has died and the address of my brother was unknown. In 1955, I learned that my brothers too are not living. The eldest brother died in 1942 during the siege of Leningrad and my other brother was killed in Moscow on the same year. However I learned the address of a distant relative, an old lady of 80 a retired doctor. I wrote

her and from time to time I received letters and even parcels from her. She also sent me Medical books, which I needed and which were not available in the camp.

Many of the prisoners received parcels especially the people belonging to various religious cults. The leader of the "Saturday Adventists" used to get parcels every second week from members of this cult in the Soviet Union, which he distributed among his flock in the camp. After Stalin's death the prisoners began receiving letters from their families who several years earlier have alienated themselves from the inmates. At that time the wives, brothers and sisters wrote them: "Do not write to us anymore, there is nothing between you and us, you are not my husband... my brother... my father..."

The prisoners of course understood that their loved ones were forced to alienate themselves from them otherwise they might lose their jobs or even be incarcerated. After Stalin's death many wives "returned" to their husbands, many sisters "returned" to their brothers, but, there were still some who feared to do this... "It's better to wait a little, who knows what might happen?"

The searches in the camp do not cease, especially towards the days of 7-8 November or towards the first of May. In the barracks and the hospital they search for anything that's sharp – self made daggers, bottles, jars, pieces of iron, barbed wire, sticks, rope – all this, so that during the days of the holidays, God forbid, nothing should happen to spoil the "joy". And especially, during those holidays prisoners are not permitted to be on duty anywhere, they are not trusted. And in their place officers are on kitchen duty and "free" doctors are on duty in the hospital. How is it possible that on days like that to leave the kitchen, the cooking, the tasting in the hands of the prisoners? These "counter revolutionaries" might mischievously do something

to spoil those "happy" days.

And indeed one of the prisoners took his revenge. Precisely on the day commemorating the Soviet Revolution... he went and committed suicide. We found out later on, that the camp authorities recorded this event as happening on the 9th of November and on the two days that preceded passed in happiness and joy.

In July of 1955 all the foreigners were ordered to "collect their belongings" – We are being transferred. Where to? We are not being told. The rumor however says that we are being sent to camp Churbai located about 60 kilometers from Spask. The prisoners believe that from there each one will be sent home.

Happy is the man who believes.

### Section D

Chorbai is a new city being built in Kazakhstan; the small labor camp is situated in her midst. It has incarcerated in it 2000 foreign prisoners gathered from all the camps in the area: Germans, Poles, Romanians, Hungarians, Czechoslovakians, Bulgarians, Chinese, Koreans, Japanese, Persians and also Stateless. I was put up in a special room in the hospital. The number of beds in the hospital is not over sixty. The arrangements in the hospital are satisfactory and even the equipment is good. The beds are good and wide. Up to now I have never seen such satisfactory arrangements and equipment in any other hospital in all the camps. The building is new too and it was obvious that it was especially built to be a hospital. The surgery is equipped with all the necessary equipment. I was assigned a special room for receiving patients. All this seemed odd to me. The director of the hospital was a pleasant person and did not treat the prisoners as some one of authority. He assigned to me a nurse who was "free" and an aide from among the prisoners who was also the supervisor of the laboratory of the hospital. All the

hospital attendants were stateless; the kitchen was manned by - Chinese.

Cinema entertainment was shown once a week, free of charge, and every two weeks another film was shown but this time the entry was charged. There is also a library in the camp, most of the books came from private libraries that were confiscated, it had good books and to my satisfaction one can borrow books without limitations.

The food given to the prisoners is not sufficient. Although the camp had a government sponsored sales stall, but the only item one can buy there is bread. Most of the prisoners do not have a ruble to their names. The Germans receive parcels while all the others do not receive anything.

One evening one of the prisoners entered my room, He identified himself as coming from the same city as I, and told me that he received a letter from his wife who is at present living in a city in Siberia, not far from our camp, she is a member of a drama group, the stage director of this group and his wife are old friends of mine whom I knew from my childhood days. They asked the wife to inform me that they know the address of my family in Israel and can transfer my letters to them. The visitor handed me his wife's letter to read and suggest that I write to my family. I was very happy with this information, but at the same time I became a little suspicious. The prisoner who brought me this information was completely unknown to me. Who is he? I fear that this might cause a problem to my friends, the director and his wife. Nevertheless, I decided to take a risk and wrote the letter and in this way, I started corresponding with my family in Israel.

Besides the various commanders and supervisors this camp has no Soviet citizens, all are foreign nationals and all are hoping to be freed soon. Finally the day of the releases arrived. At first all the Hungarian nationals were called to the camp offices. Where are

they being sent home, their mother country? A commotion arose in the camp, why only the Hungarians? The Germans, the Poles, the Japanese and many others were all agitated, why are they too not being called? After several days the Hungarians were loaded on trucks and sent off. All are maintaining that they are being sent home. The hospital at that time had several tens of people hospitalized; among them were several patients with jaundice, which is contagious, and several others in need of surgery. They are worried that when their turn to be freed arrives they will be still in the hospital and in this way will remain in the Soviet prison. They are eyeing me with a pleading look asking for any help from me, to speed up their recovery, so that, God forbid, they will not remain here.

After the Hungarians came the turn of Romanians, and the Poles and finally came the turn of the Germans. Two of them were crossed out of the list, one of the two, it was found, had in his possession seven passports from various countries and they did not know who he really is. The second one had a passport where the place of birth was listed as Krakow, and he too was left behind until this question was checked. The rest of the Germans, were sent off. Even the one who was previously supervising the operation of the gas chambers in the death camps. All were freed. Later it was published in the "Izvestia" and "Pravda" that in "West Germany all these criminals were given a festive reception on their arrival where it was said that all of these people are victims of Soviet tyranny".

So, the Germans came home, and what will be with us? When will our turn come? We too were arrested abroad, and we are not Soviet citizens. After some time the Chinese were sent out, and also the Koreans and the Japanese. The Chinese and the Koreans are in a state of concern, they are not being sent to Formosa but to Communist China and there

too a cruel fate awaits them. The Koreans too are concerned about their future. And indeed after some time we received information that all were arrested at the border by the Chinese authorities.

The only people remaining in our camp were the stateless and five foreigners who were held up until their true identities were checked. Every day we are being promised that we too will be sent out but nobody knows when and where to. One day, a committee group arrived at our camp headed by the commander of the central administration of hospital attendants of all the camps. The committee is checking the health condition of all the prisoners, and will decide where to send them. No one knows what this is all about. In my capacity as the hospital doctor I too participate in the medical examination of the prisoners, but I too am not told the reason for this medical examination. Later, I learned that our camp is being liquidated and the prisoners will be transferred to other camps.

All the camp officers and the various commanders are very sorry that the camp is being liquidated as they will be losing very good jobs here. In the past, more than once, the camps officers used to come to me for medical treatment for them and their families. Now they all are spilling their hearts to me. Their future is now foggy. They have no professions or any special knowledge. Their appointment to serve in this camp was for other reasons, and now with the liquidation of this camp they will remain jobless. One of the officers tells me that now he hopes to get work as a driver while another officer is planning to learn the driving profession. Most are at a loss as to what to do in the future.

Really "poor commanders and officers" my heart is breaking for them.

**From the Hebrew by Benny Tzur**

*To be continued*

## **On the Book Shelf**

(In anticipation of the appearance of "My China" by Amram Olmert) "My China" by Amram Olmert (379 pages) recently appeared in the Israeli bookshops. The author describes the past 90 years of the Olmert family, connected with their China experience, as well as the last 20 active years of his own, directly linked with this country.

During his sojourn in China at the initiative of the Israeli government soon after the establishment of the Sino-Israeli diplomatic relations, Amram Olmert established the first Israeli-type experimental agricultural farm. The two additional farms, also established by him, served as a base for the exportation of the Israeli agricultural technology to China. In his book he describes his diplomatic service in China, and writes about the Jewish presence in Harbin, mentioning the detail Association of the former Jewish residents in China (Igud Yotzei Sin), stressing the work of the organization in preserving the Jewish past in that country.

The book touches upon a wide circle of issues of mutual interest to Israel and China, i. e. customs arrangements and tariffs. His lively descriptions of the unique places in China and his meetings with various Chinese make a gripping reading, wholesomely informative. A colorful part of the book is the chapter dedicated to the birth of the new Jewish community and the bilateral endeavor to tighten the economic ties between the two countries, and his assessment of the possible success of such endeavor. The introduction to the book is written by the former Chinese ambassador in Israel, H.E. Chen Yun-long.

**Visit the Website of Igud Yotzei Sin**  
**[www.jewsofchina.org](http://www.jewsofchina.org)**

**The website contains a wealth of information on**

❖ The chronology of events of the Jewish presence in China



*Portrait of Misha Kogan*

*by artist*

*L. Smushkovitch*

## To the Misha Kogan Social Aid Fund

*a Donation of*

***US\$ 60,000***

*from*

**Asya Kogan (Tokyo)**

March 2009

## *The Moving Friendship of the Chinese Writer Yu Dafu and the Austrian Sculptor Karl Duldig in Singapore*

*by Xu Buzeng*

After the Anschluss (Annexation) of Austria by Nazi Germany on April 10, 1938 the Jewish sculptor Karl Duldig (1902-1986) and his wife Slava (nee Horowitz), also an artist, fled with their newly-born daughter to Switzerland, then to Singapore where his niece lived. In Singapore he met the famous Chinese writer Yu Dafu who was the editor of the Chinese language newspaper Sin Chew Jit Po (Singapore Daily). As a victim of Japan's aggressive war in China, Yu sympathized with Duldig the victim of German invasion. Yu published an article in his newspaper to introduce artistic achievement. Yu introduced Duldig to the Buddhist Abbot Guang Qia (one standing

and the others commissioned Duldig to make life-size statues for them. Duldig started an art school where he and his wife taught sculpture drawing and painting. Students flocked to the school—English, Malays, Americans, Eurasians, Dutch and Chinese. Some were consular wives and of considerable influence in the colony. Aw Boon Haw offered to rent them the second floor of his spacious two-storey home. The Duldig's decided to take it and transfer their overcrowded school there. Where the Duldig family left Singapore for Australia in September 1940 Yu wrote a poem of farewell and a letter to recommend Duldig to his overseas

Chinese friends there. Yu wrote the letter in Chinese and in English too, last his friends may not read Chinese.

On arriving in Australia the Duldig's were quite unexpectedly put into an internment camp. Karl's job was chopping woods. Later he left the camp to join the mainstream society. He gave exhibitions, and his sculptures were collected by the major art galleries of Australia.

After the Second World War Duldig revisited Singapore several times but could never meet Yu. Only long choked to death by the Japanese gendarme in the island of Sumatra, two weeks after Japan's unconditional surrender.



# The New Israel's Messenger



Vol. XI No. 1

IYS Sephardi Division

Editor: Rebecca Toueg

At the recent IYS Hannuka celebration and scholarship award ceremony held in December 2008, one award was made to by the Sephardi Division in the name of Sasson Jacoby and another award was given by the Yosef Yaakov Scholarship Fund.

The first award was received by Shani Talmor, granddaughter of Flori Cohen (nee Isaac) of Shanghai, and the second was received by Ester Hersh, granddaughter of Mozelle Beracha of Shanghai. We would like to thank Mr. Matook Nissim for his generous contributions that have made these awards possible.

Shani Talmor is this year's recipient of the IYS Sephardi Division Scholarship Award in the name of the late Sasson Jacoby, a former member of the Sephardi community in Shanghai and the previous editor of The New Israel's Messenger.

Born in Jerusalem on 2 August 1983, Shani is the daughter of Sharon and Motti Talmor, the granddaughter of Flori Cohen formerly of Shanghai, and the great-granddaughter of Mozelle Isaac (nee Toeg). The Isaac family is related to the family of Sasson Jacoby through common great-grandparents.

Shani served in the Israel Air Force and graduated as Lieutenant - heading the Officers Training & Development Program. During her service as an officer she participated in TAGLIT – the Israel Birthright Program. She has always been involved in social activities, participating in the Hasharon Local Council program hosting youths from Germany and Argentina, and in the LIONS Club, Kfar Saba in the International Voluntary Organization to help the needy.

She is presently in her second year of studies at the Ben Gurion University, on Industrial Management, and has

twice been awarded the title "Pupil of Excellence. She is also a member of the Students Committee at BGU. After being put on the Dean's list, he asked her to tutor and assist other students in her field.



**Shani Talmor - IYS Sephardi Division  
Scholarship Recipient**

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**Apologies are due by the editor for the error that occurred in our last issue of the New Israel's Messenger. The review article written by Rabbi Isaac Abraham was mistakenly printed twice, and the usual photocopy of a page from the original Israel's Messenger was omitted.**

# Babylonian Jewry in the Far East

**Programme for Permanent Exhibition**

**Reviewer and Editor: Ruth Attar**

**Curator: Idit Sharoni-Pinhas**

**Researchers: Prof. Y. Avishur, Dr. Zvi Yehuda**

## **The Programme and its Aims**

The exhibition will center upon Baghdadian Jews who have lived in the Far East, through a representation of his life experiences, commercial activities, and culture, as well as the links between the different Baghdadian communities. It will present the development of the Baghdadian Jewish communities in the Far East and their strong will to preserve the customs of Babylonian Jewry and their family traditions while at the same time trying to adapt themselves to the surrounding environment.

The Far East communities included in the exhibition: India, China, Singapore, Burma.

## **Aims of the exhibition:**

To give expression to the Baghdadians in India as an established community and to stress its standing as the commercial and spiritual center for Far Eastern Jewry.

To express the commercial and economic power acquired by the Baghdadians in the Far East.

To stress the contribution of the Baghdadians to the development of their new environment.

To express the bonds between the Baghdadians and their mother country (Babylon) in the spiritual and cultural spheres such as: religion, tradition, language, literature, journalism, dress, ceremonies, customs, marital ties, and personal and family relationships.

To express the economic support of the Baghdadians for schools, Talmud Torahs, synagogues, rabbis, burial places, and also political support.

To show the ties between the Baghdadian communities in the Far East and the Jews of the Land of Israel through support for

religious institutions, teachers, etc.

## **The Baghdadians - Iraqi Jews in the Far East**

The Baghdadians arrived in India in the 19th century and from there they dispersed to other countries of the Far East. The first to arrive were the families of wealthy merchants and later on other members of the community in Iraq came in search of new sources of livelihood. In the course of time the community in India gradually became established and set up its own special institutions:

They built many synagogues according to the accepted Babylonian traditions. They ordered religious accessories in order to conduct the traditional ceremonies and customs.

They set up special schools for the community, as well as libraries and commercial schools that were also open to the children of the local society.

They set up their own printing presses and published original literature as well as translations.

They developed international commercial ties that contributed a great deal to many Baghdadian communities as well as the local communities.

They developed local industries that employed thousands of their community members as well as local residents.

They cultivated diplomatic ties with the communities in their native Iraq, and supported them through contributions to their educational and religious institutions.

They maintained strong ties with the Jewish community in the Land of Israel and support religious institutions there. These ties were strengthened after the development of the national Zionist movement.

The special contribution of a few families will be stressed in this exhibition, such as the Sassoon family that was especially active in India and China, the Kadoorie, Sassoon and Haroon families in China, and the Ezra family in Calcutta.

## **The "Baghdadian" Community in China**

At the end of the Opium War in China in 1842, and the opening of trade possibilities for the British and others in Hong Kong, Shanghai, and other cities, merchant enterprisers began to arrive in the Far East to examine the potentialities there. Among the first Baghdadians in India to reach Hong Kong was Joshua Gabbay in 1843, and he was followed in 1843-1844 by Elias David Sassoon – the second son of David Sassoon, the head of the Baghdadian community in India. Elias arrived in Canton after a long and dangerous journey to set up a branch of the Sassoon Company. Many more Baghdadians arrived during the 19th century, most of them sent by the Sassoon family to work in their company offices. By the 20th century, a considerable number of Jews had also come from Baghdad and other cities to form established communities in China with synagogues, clubs, charitable organizations, youth organizations, hospitals, old age homes, and cemeteries. They continued to speak the Judeo-Arabic dialect within the family circle and invited religious teachers from Baghdad to teach their children, and to preserve their Baghdadian traditions and customs. Yet, since they were living within a cosmopolitan society, they dressed as Europeans, spoke English, and participated in all its social and cultural pursuits.

The exhibition will represent the life of the communities in China through stories and photographs of the various families and outstanding personalities. An electronic map will be set up to show the routes of migration from Iraq to the Far East.

Special treatment will be given to the story of the Sassoon family that were instrumental in establishing the communities in the Far East.

## **Endowment by the Exilarch's Foundation for the study of Monotheism at the Institute for Jewish Studies at Nanjing University**

The Exilarch's Foundation has made a generous initial endowment to the Institute for Jewish Studies to establish the Naim Dangoor Fund for Universal Monotheism Studies. Matched by University funds, the new program will enhance the Institute's research and teaching of the core concepts of three monotheistic faiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Philanthropist Naim Dangoor, an Iraqi-born Jew who moved to Britain in 1964 and became a successful property investor and developer in London, created the Exilarch's Foundation in 1978. This grew into a major philanthropic institution providing

support for education and other causes in UK and in Israel. He received the Order of the British Empire in 2006 for his generous contributions and far-reaching vision of today's world. Income from the endowment will be used to create a better understanding of the world by the Chinese people. It will also advance efforts to recruit and retain a distinguished director, who will be given the title Naim Dangoor, Director of the Institute for Universal Monotheism in honor of the Exilarch's Foundation's founder. Reflecting on the commitment of the Exilarch's Foundation to the Institute of Jewish Studies, Institute founding Director Xu Xin said, "This gift of an endowment from the Exilarch's Foundation will enable us to extend the scope of the Institute of Jewish Studies. It will enhance our ability to collaborate with other institutes, and with various doctoral programs in

co-sponsoring programs and in training and encouraging students to carry out research on Universal Monotheism important to understanding the world civilization in general and seek to find a universal project for world peace that recognizes the significance of each human being throughout the world.

The Institute of Jewish Studies at Nanjing University, established in 1992 to meet a growing demand for Judaic studies in China, is increasingly recognized as a leader in its field and an important resource for information and guidance in China due to its great efforts and the establishment of worldwide ties to Jewish academic circles. Its MA and Ph.D. programs on Jewish studies aim at training a new generation to promote the study of Jewish subjects among Chinese college students.

## **Liza Benjamin Recalls Life in Shanghai** 59

Liza Benjamin (nee Jacob Arzooni), now living in Haifa, Israel, still has wonderful memories of her earlier life in Shanghai, China. Now in her nineties and still going strong, she traces the story of her family who came from Persia to Shanghai at the beginning of the 20th century, her schooldays and experiences in the girl-guide movement, her marriage, children, social life, and many friendships with Chinese people. During World War II she and her family were interned by the Japanese together with British and American families. In spite of the many hardships she managed to organize a musical production in the Japanese camp which she called "Hell's Belles". After the war ended the family moved first to Hong Kong and then to Israel where they lived for nearly a year in a ma'abara (immigrant camp) near Haifa.

Undaunted, Liza held dancing classes and engaged in other social activities.

She both practices and teaches yoga even today.

Her youngest daughter, Sylvia Lief, a TV journalist, has recently made a documentary film about her mother which was broadcast in Israel over Channel 98. This film can be viewed on computer.

Sylvia writes: Making the film, which I started four years ago took longer than intended because while we were filming mom lost her brother, so we stopped. Then she had a hornet sting and I rushed her to hospital, so we stopped again. Then she got an ear infection and took strong antibiotics and we stopped again. However, as fits her character, she bravely tried hard to laugh her way through each set back and we advanced slowly. It was lots of fun going into my family history and discovering many things I had not known.

I recommend this experience to any of you who have a creative spirit, lots

of patience, and nerves of steel.

Digging into the past was of course a very emotional experience for mom and me as it meant having to recall some extremely sensitive moments in our lives. I found it especially difficult during the many hours of editing. The project involved sitting extensively in front of a computer and repeatedly playing specific sections of the film in order to decide where to place things. It was like continuously reviewing my life. The tears and laughter flowed a lot. I was so lucky to have a most wonderful, understanding efficient TV crew from among the "Zman Haifa" community TV group to do my documentary.

We worked hand in hand. Editor Zohar Rashit, Advisor Naomi Bak, Camera: Naphtali Hollander, Ruth Shenhar, Emil Naor and I, Sylvia Lief.

## NOTES FROM INDIA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Bombay July 1908

### Unrest in Bombay.

Unusual and unprecedented in a way, the tranquility of Bombay has been displaced by disorder, though it may be averred with certainty that this will not be allowed to assume a serious aspect. The middle of July opened with the trial of certain sedition cases at the Bombay High Court Sessions, the like of which was tried only a decade ago. The hero of the present—but most important—trial was Mr. B. G. TILAK B.A.L.L.B., the demagogue of the Hindoos, the distinguished Editor of the *Kesari* of Poona, and an Oriental scholar of note. Charged of exciting feelings of disloyalty and disaffection towards the British Government, he has been pronounced guilty of the charges and sentenced to transportation for six years in addition to a fine of Rupees One thousand. On account of misrepresentations, the effect on the minds of the credulous mass has been anything but salutary. The result of the spreading of false rumours throughout the city has been disorder and sad loss of life.

### Assault on a Jew.

Mill-hands and others not only struck work but exhibited riotous tendencies which compelled the English soldiers to have recourse to volleys. And we regretfully record the fact that a Jewish gentleman in the person of Mr. ABRAHAM REUBEN COHEN, custodian of the Jacob Sassoon Dye Works, Dadar, was roughly handled by these persons who demanded of him to close the works. Mr. COHEN, who has been

severely wounded in the head, is now an indoor patient at the European General Hospital, Bombay and is doing favourable progress. It is a pity that a member of the Jewish Community should have fallen prey to the idiosyncracies of the people, who receive their bread and salt at the hands of the Jewish Millowner. The Talmud is not silent on the subject of loyalty. Does not Rabbi Jannai (*Menahoth*) recommend one to perpetually submit to the superior authority of the ruler?

### Jewish Loyalty.

Turning to the Greeks we find SOCRATES refused the offer of his friends who wished to furnish him with the means of escaping from prison. He said he preferred dying unjustly to violating the laws of his country. These sentiments breathed by the philosopher are not far in sentiments from what the Talmud indites laconically 'Dina d'malchutha dina,—The law of the secular Government is good law and must even supercede the Jewish law in Civil matters. (Baba Kamma 113a).

### The Law Enforced.

The Governor of Bombay intervened for the peace of the city, convened a private meeting of the leading citizens of Bombay. His Excellency said that no thinking person could believe that the Government would be deterred from enforcing the law or the courts from the administration of justice by demonstrations of the useless kind employed in Bombay, such as inducing the Mill-hands to

abstain from work and closing the markets where business is transacted.

### Bene-Israelite Artist.

We will now turn to a pleasanter topic. *The Jewish Chronicle* of London has already announced in its issue of May 8th regarding the Exhibition of paintings from the brush of Mr. S. Rahamim Samuel held recently at Sir Jamsetji Jeejybhoy School of Art. We come forward to add that Mr. Samuel is the first Beni-Israelite to have attained a distinguished reputation as an artist. His merits were ably put forth by His Excellency in his opening speech before the brilliant gathering. Here we quote:

Mr. Samuel has been working hard in England for six years. For the last four years he has worked at the Royal Academy School where he was awarded the *Lanslet* Scholarship and many other prizes. He has exhibited his pictures in the Academy and elsewhere, and has brought back with him the good wishes of some of the leading artists in England.

### PUZZLE.

A man having a fox, a goose and some corn came to a river which it was necessary to cross. He could, however, take only one across at a time, and if he left the goose and corn while he took the fox over, the goose would eat the corn; but if he left the fox and goose, the fox would kill the goose. How shall he get them all safely over?

Method.—First he takes the goose over, then returns and takes the fox over, then brings the goose back and takes the corn over, and then returns and takes the goose over again.

A little girl, returning from church, where she saw for the first time a collection taken up, said, "A man passed around a plate that had some money on it, but I didn't take any."



# CHUSAN ROAD CHATTER

Issue 398 IYS

Hongkew Division

## The Ghosts of Shanghai

By Ron Gluckman

***A vibrant Jewish community appeared on the banks of the Huangpu River in old Shanghai, for a brief flash in history. Now scholars and former refugees of this amazing enclave are trying to make sense of it all***

Yu Weidong brings his bicycle to a stop alongside a corner dress shop. On the wall behind three mannequins is a tiny brass plaque. Puffing with excitement, Yu recites the inscription, a memorial to his favorite Shanghai ghosts. Three weeks later, on the other side of the world, Judith Moranz rests her head



upon her husband Karl's shoulder. Time peels away in Las Vegas's MGM Grand Hotel ballroom as they sway to big band tunes, soundtracks of their youth. Her eyes grow misty. The songs are sentimental favorites from wartime America, but they take Moranz back to that same street corner in Shanghai. Moranz was 8 when she left Shanghai in 1949, decades before Yu was born. They have never met, but are linked in an odd way. Yu has spent his life studying people like the Moranzes and

the couples dancing around them. In Vegas, they look like average tourists. Yu, though, sees them as holy spirits of a rich and mysterious age.

A half century ago, they inhabited an intriguing corner of China: Shanghai's boisterous Jewish ghetto. Viennese gentlemen sipped coffee outside Austrian bakeries so authentic that the neighborhood was called Little Vienna. Nearby were kosher butcher shops and German delicatessens. Diners read Shanghai papers printed in German, Polish, even Yiddish. Candles for Jewish holidays were sold nearby at Abraham's Dry Goods, and the tango was danced nightly at Max Sperber's Silk Hat.

A unique Jewish community once thrived in Shanghai, where Jews had worked since the opening of China's largest treaty port in 1842. A century later, European Jews fleeing Adolf Hitler poured into Shanghai where, even among the large international settlements, they stood out, a distinct community with its own hospitals, theaters, schools and sports leagues. Life wasn't always jolly, of course. Jewish refugees were later herded into Hongkou ghetto in the city's northeast, where food was scarce and disease rampant. But in Shanghai, unlike much of the world, nearly all the Jews survived the war.

Shanghai's role as savior of these souls is the stuff of classic cinema -- indeed, many books and films are being produced to tell a tale that makes

Schindler's List pale in comparison. Before and during World War II, some of Shanghai's richest men conspired to save tens of thousands of Jews. Exactly how many is not known, but some historians say Shanghai saved more Jews from the Nazi Holocaust than all Commonwealth countries combined. Among them were hundreds of religious scholars. A wartime chaplain in Shanghai wrote that 500 scholars in Shanghai maintained the nearly 6,000-year tradition of Jewish teaching, making it at that time one of the world's great Jewish cities.

Ironically, this remarkable religious community vanished even more



rapidly than it took root. When civil war enveloped China, the refugees fled again. By the end of the 1950s, Shanghai's synagogues were shuttered and its Jews gone.

And that should have been the end to this little-known tale. But, in another twist to the saga, about a decade ago Jewish culture returned to China, where religion has been suppressed for half a century. Stories from the Talmud are being retold and Hebrew scriptures studied again. Most remarkable of all, Shanghai's new Jewish scholars are all Chinese.

Yu is one of them. He is a graduate of China's first Jewish-studies program, which was pioneering in every way. Students used old Hebrew newspapers and concocted lessons themselves when no Jewish teachers could be found. Five other students joined the pilot program of Jewish and Hebrew studies launched by Peking University in the mid-1980s. The other students later went abroad, to Israel or the U.S., leaving Yu with an odd distinction: he's probably the sole Hebrew-speaking college graduate in a country of 1.2 billion people.

For years that distinction was meaningless. Yu found some work as a tour guide for a trickle of curious American Jews seeking what signs remained of the Jewish community in Shanghai. Yu also practiced Hebrew with visitors from Israel. But, up until a few years ago, they were even rarer. China and Israel, two ancient nations reborn after World War II, lacked ties until 1992.

Since then, there has been a steady increase in exchanges between sinologists studying Shanghai's Jewish community, and the local academics who are trying to make sense of the odd little Jewish settlement that flourished in their midst. "We have to rescue this history," insists Xu Buzeng, 70-year-old doyen of Jewish scholars in Shanghai, who realized a lifelong dream last fall when he visited Israel on a fellowship to Hebrew University. "We must research and write about this rich period of our history," he says. "Otherwise, in 10 to

20 years, when we are gone, this history will be lost forever."

Also desperate to salvage Shanghai's Jewish heritage are thousands of survivors of the wartime refuge. They have been meeting with greater urgency in the last few years. In Las Vegas last September, nearly 400 attended one gathering, the fourth and largest ever Old China Hands Reunion. Tables were piled with books, mostly self-published memoirs. Betty Grebenshikoff said she wrote *Once My Name Was Sara* for her children and grandchildren, "so they would know what happened. The Shanghai experience was amazing, and few in the world know about it." Added Evelyn Pike, author of *Ghetto Shanghai*: "I tell people to write. These stories ought to be told."

Jewish history in China dates to at least the 8th century, when West Asian traders roamed the Silk Road. A Jewish settlement was established in the city of Kaifeng, in what is now Henan province, where a synagogue was built in 1163 and thousands of Jews worshiped openly. Kaifeng today boasts some Hebrew writing on tombstones, but no living link to its Jewish past (although some residents claim Jewish blood). By the 20th century, the community in Kaifeng was eclipsed by cities like Harbin, Ningbo and Tianjin, which all had sizable Jewish settlements.

None rivaled Shanghai. Herman Dicker's *Wanderers and Settlers in the Far East* details three distinct periods of Jewish immigration to Shanghai. The first began in the 1800s, with the arrival of Jewish businessmen from West Asia, mainly Baghdad. Among them were the Sassoons and Kadoories, the latter one of Hong Kong's wealthiest families. They financed some of Shanghai's finest colonial architecture, including the magnificent Children's Palace (formerly the Kadoorie estate, Marble Hall), the art deco Peace Hotel (then the Cathay Hotel) and Shanghai Mansions, a Sassoon building that was used to process, and illegally house at times, hundreds of refugees. In 1932, the Shanghai Stock Exchange listed

almost 100 members; nearly 40% were Sephardic Jews. They joined the city's finest clubs, a privilege denied Jews even in liberal parts of Europe and America. As a measure of their security in Shanghai, flamboyant Victor Sassoon reportedly boasted, "There is only one race greater than the Jews, and that is the Derby."

This small Jewish circle was affected in the early 1900s by a second wave of immigration that brought Russian Jews fleeing the pogroms (campaigns of repression) and, later, the Russian Revolution. Most settled in northern China. By 1910, Harbin had 1,500 Jews, but the number grew to 13,000 by 1929. Many moved south to Shanghai after the Japanese took Manchuria in the early 1930s.

The Russians did not mix much with Shanghai's Jewish elite. Russian Jews ran their own stores and restaurants, read Russian newspapers and enjoyed



their own music and theater. Many settled in the French quarter, where they founded the Jewish Music Club. There were conflicts, especially over religious issues, but the Jews were no different than Shanghai's tens of thousands of other foreigners, whether British, American, French, German or Japanese. All kept to classes defined by ethnic and economic lines. Otherwise, rules were few in Shanghai, and opportunities endless.

"We lived our lives with great panache," says Shanghai-born Mario Machado (pictured left in front of a bulletin board where old friends post messages to and mementos of long-lost Shanghai pals) a longtime Hollywood broadcaster who organized last year's Old China Hands conference. "Shanghai was magical. We were a proud group of people, a diverse group, bound by a special camaraderie."

The community was self-contained. There were seven synagogues, four cemeteries and a club where performances were given by some of Europe's finest musicians. Children attended a Jewish school financed by Horace Kadoorie.

They joined Jewish scout troops, competed in Jewish football leagues and chess tournaments. Those with pocket money could ride one of 2,000 rickshaws -- Asia's largest fleet -- owned by A. Cohen. The building that housed his Star Garage still stands on Nanjing Road. And they cheered as Jewish boxers like Sam Lefko, Kid Ruckenstein and Laco Kohn pounded their opponents.

Why Shanghai? As the rest of the world closed to desperate Jews seeking escape from the Nazis, Shanghai remained one of the rare free transit ports. Explains *The Muses Flee Hitler*, a book by Washington's Smithsonian Institute released to honor the centennial of the birth of Albert Einstein (who visited Shanghai twice in the 1920s): "Shanghai required neither visas nor police certificates. It did not ask for affidavits of health, nor proof of financial independence. There were no

quotas."

Thus began the third phase of Jewish migration; an estimated 20,000 poured into Shanghai from 1937 to 1939. Some merely passed through, en route to the Americas, Palestine or Australia, but about 90% stayed. Restrictions were put on immigration in August 1939, but still they came in droves as war consumed Europe and other avenues of escape closed. Thousands arrived in rags, with neither entry permits nor any means of support. Housing for latecomers was extremely sparse -- hundreds languished in temporary shelters. The four-person family of Ralph Hirsch, who escaped from Berlin to Shanghai as a boy in 1940, had a tiny apartment for six months, then lived in one small room for six years. Other refugees recall sharing one room with several families.

It was a constant struggle, but the community took care of itself until Pearl Harbor in 1941. Foreigners from Allied nations were sent to prison camps. German and Austrian Jews, the largest group, were considered stateless refugees, and were confined to Hongkou ghetto in 1943. "There was no barbed wire and it wasn't heavily patrolled, but adults needed passes to go out," says Hirsch, American director of a group called the Council on the Jewish Experience in Shanghai. Yet, with all its deprivations, Hongkou was like summer camp compared with ghettos in Europe, where Jews were penned in by the Nazis, who eventually sent most to their deaths.

In Shanghai, the Jewish community quickly rebuilt itself after the war, but the city would never be the same. The Japanese were defeated, yet fighting continued in the civil war between the Nationalists and Communists. An exodus of foreigners began immediately. Options were puzzling. Zoya Shlakis fled Lithuania to escape the Nazis, only to find his nation occupied by the Soviets after the war. "I was considered a Russian immigrant," he says, "but I wanted nothing to do with the Communists." Shlakis went to Taiwan

and later emigrated to the U.S., "where I was termed a Chinese immigrant!"

Some Shanghai-born Jews were sent to third countries. Israel evacuated several ships of Jews from Shanghai as Mao Zedong's Red Army crept closer in 1948. Several towns in Israel were settled entirely by Shanghai survivors. The U.S. was the most desired destination; San Francisco has a synagogue founded by, and whose congregation is still largely made up of, former Shanghai residents.

Karl and Judy Moranz left in 1949 for Italy on the same boat. "We were from Vienna. We lived three blocks apart," Karl says. Yet they didn't meet until a decade later in New York, at a 10th-anniversary ball for Shanghai survivors. She was 17, he nearly 30. "I bought her a drink and she gave me her number." A year later, they were married. Not all stories ended happily. By 1953, 440 Jews remained in Shanghai, and the number fell to 84 by 1958. Most were sick or elderly, and in the care of the Council of the Jewish Community of Shanghai, which ran a shelter until 1959.

Afterward, virtually all trace of Jewish life in Shanghai was wiped away. Schools and shops closed, and most synagogues were demolished by China's new rulers. Shanghai remained unobservant of its Jewish legacy for three decades. Then, one by one, the spirits began stirring. I felt their presence during my first visit to the city in 1990. And little wonder, since I was staying at the old Jewish Music Club, now the Shanghai Music Conservatory. A foreign student mentioned some old professors who had formed a Jewish study association. After numerous calls, I finally tracked them down.

In a dingy basement, I found a dozen mostly retired teachers arguing odd points from the Bible. Odd, because it was apparent few, if any, had ever read a Bible. They had half a dozen associations, with ambitious names like the Center of Israel and Jewish Studies of the Chinese Institute For Peace and Development Studies. But all involved

the same men, exchanging the same second-hand scholarly gossip. Genuine information was rare, and for good reason: Such study was not sanctioned by the government.

"We've produced more than two dozen papers to date," one retired professor told me. When I asked for copies, he sheepishly admitted: "None of them has been published. We don't have permission." Some were thrilled to actually be meeting a Jew, and one with a Chinese connection -- my father and his parents also escaped from Germany through China, but not by way of Shanghai. Still, many were genuine scholars, with a keen interest in sharing information. I found this out after a meeting with one of the men. We sipped tea for hours, discussing practically anything but our common interest. Then at the door, the professor paused to casually mention a report from the city archives, barred to foreigners. Holding excitement in check, I said farewell. Just before the door closed, though, he pulled some papers from under his shirt and handed me the report. It sounds funny now, but China was a nervous place at the time. Since then, I have kept in touch with these scholars, watching with fascination as their field slowly gained credibility. As it did, so too did their lives improve. By my next visit, they had moved from their basement office to a large estate. On the doorway was a smart brass nameplate. And, best of all, the professors proudly showed me their first book, a collection of essays on Jewish subjects, written in Chinese. By then, the various associations had blended into the Center of Jewish Studies, headed by Pan Guang. A young history professor from the Shanghai Academy of Social Service, Pan is the official spokesman on this subject, and it is a sign of the times that he travels much of the year, a feted guest at Jewish conferences eager to have a Chinese speaker on board. Pan recently published *The Jews of Shanghai*, the first book about the community in English and Chinese.



Nor have the other academics been passed over. Xu Buzeng, who translated into Chinese David Kranzler's definitive 1976 work, *Japanese, Nazis and Jews: The Jewish Refugee Community of Shanghai, 1938-1945*, has also lived to see published several of his papers on prominent refugee musicians and composers. Xu Xin, perhaps China's leading Judaic scholar, heads a Jewish-studies program in Nanjing. He recently coordinated the release of an abridged Chinese version of the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, a 900-page volume that took three years and the work of 40 scholars to complete. And Yu tutors Shanghai residents in Hebrew. "People are interested in Jews," he says. "Everyone has heard about them and how they are good with money." China and Israel have only had diplomatic relations for five years. Politics kept them in separate spheres, even though Israel was among the first nations to recognize Communist China. "There's a lot of curiosity," says former Consul General Moshe Ram, who has been regularly reminded of the wartime Jewish community since opening the Israel mission in Shanghai in 1994. "But let's put things in perspective. It's a good story. In fact, it's a great story. But it's small, and the impact is minimal." He tries to focus on the present, particularly on increasing trade between Israel and China. "The Jews and China were always good friends," notes Pan Guang. Indeed, China was an early supporter of the concept of a Jewish state, according to Reno Krasno, a Shanghai refugee and author. In a paper published by

the 12-year-old Sino-Judaic Institute in California, Krasno reprints a letter of support from a founder of modern China, Sun Yat-sen. China was among members of the League of Nations that in 1922 voted in favor of the Palestine Mandate, proposing a Jewish homeland.

All this history wells up in Shanghai, where a determined researcher can still find Stars of David decorating old tenements in the French quarter. And interest is being rekindled by a growing number of Jewish businessmen, who hold regular religious services in the city.

"There's a real cultural connection between the Chinese and the Jews," Pan says. "Many people write about this. The Chinese have been called the Jews of Asia, you know. Both emphasize family and education. And both build cultures, the oldest in the world. Both peoples also live in many places, but the people never change."

Last year, Shanghai opened its first Jewish museum, inside the old Ohel Moïshe temple. There is no real collection, only a few framed photos of refugees and some of the prominent Jews who have visited. But outside, the narrow streets of Hongkou are as alive as ever.

In 1994, Hirsch returned to the city with a few former refugees. It was an odd step forward in Chinese-Jewish relations. The officially sponsored visit failed to take in many of the old Jewish sites, but did include a tour of Pudong and a pitch for investment.

Still, most were smiling: Shanghai's ghosts had come home. "Hardly anything has changed," Hirsch said, "least of all the people. It's cleaner now, but Shanghai looks the same, it sounds the same, and it smells the same."

### **FAMOUS SONS**

Among the Jewish community of Shanghai were many who made a mark on China, the region or the world. Among the famous sons and daughters of Shanghai were:

The Kadoories - This family made its

*(Continued on p. 65)*



# The Old Shanghai Street Life Lives in Bloch's Three Hundred Odd Woodcuts

by Xu Buzeng

David Ludwig Bloch (1905-2002), German Jewish artist, was born in Floss in the Upper Palatinate in Bavaria. An orphan because of the untimely death of both his parents soon after his birth, he was raised by his grandmother. Deaf since the age of one he manifested a precocious talent and began his artistic career by apprenticing to a porcelain decorator. He then studied with a scholarship at the Bavarian State Academy of Applied Arts in Munich. After the notorious "Crystal Night" on November 10, 1938 he was expelled from the Academy, and interned in the Dachau Concentration Camp near Munich.

With the help of his brother residing in the United States Bloch arrived in Shanghai in May 1940. In the nine years he lived in Shanghai he used the wood cutting techniques he learned at the Academy to make hundreds of woodcuts vividly depicting the street life —the rickshas, the beggars, the lovely kids, etc...., etc.... He was the member of ARTA—the Association of Jewish Artists and Lovers of Fine Art, Shanghai. He gave exhibitions, solo and with other Jewish artists. His *Ricksha*, an album of 60 woodcuts, was published in 1942. Bloch was married to a Chinese lady Lilly, nee Cheng Disiu, also deaf and dumb like him, since childhood.

The Blochs left Shanghai for the United States successively in 1949. They settled themselves in New York. They had two sons, one of them a musician and the other a gynecologist. In the United States Bloch continued

and flourished in his artistic career. From 1975 to 2000/2001 he gave eight exhibitions, including those in 1978 at the National Art Gallery, Washington, D.C, in 1996 at Leo Baeck Institute, New York and in 2000/2001 at the Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.

Bloch made the White House dinner set when Lyndon Johnson became the president of the United States, after Kennedy's assassination.

In Germany Bloch's exhibitions were held ten times, including the one far back in 1933 at the beginning of Nazi reign, to the ones in 2000 at the Jewish Museum in Munich, and in 2004 at the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Museum, after Bloch's death in 2002.

In 1996 Bloch revisited Shanghai and his old neighbors with his younger son (his wife had died years before).

In 1997 Bloch's *Woodcuts, Shanghai 1940-1949* was published in Germany by the Monumenta Serica Institute and the China Center, two major China-study institutions there. A picture album of 300 odd woodcuts it gave vivid depictions of the street life in old Shanghai and comprised six parts: China; Yin Yang; Chinese Children; Rickshas (with additions to the 1942 publication in Shanghai); Beggars; Miniature Woodcuts. Ricksha boys busy doing all kinds of jobs, Kids squatting in circle to watch the cricket fighting, and the cunning hat snatching from outside a running tramcar were common scenes of that time. However, a beggar building his home with a sewerage pipeline not

yet put underground was rarely seen by even the old Shanghailanders. Bloch's Woodcuts should also be judged from a specific Chinese perspective, thus shedding new light on the Jewish presence in China, especially the Jewish exile in Shanghai.

In September 2001 Bloch in his last letter to Shanghai from New York showed concern for the construction of the Lupu Bridge on the Huangpu River which he knew was in the former French Concession. He died not long afterwards in 2002, at the age of 97.

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*(Continued from p. 64)*

fortune in Shanghai and Hong Kong real estate and utilities; their Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotel chain (including the Peninsula) is among the finest in the world.

The Sassoons - One-time opium traders who went big-time into trading and property.

Morris Cohen - Known by his nickname Two-Gun Cohen, he served as bodyguard and aide-de-camp to Sun Yat-sen, eventually becoming a Chinese general.

Dr. Jakob Rosenfeld - An Austrian who spent nine years overseeing health care for the Communist army.

Michael Medavoy - Lived in Shanghai until age 7, he went onto a career as Hollywood mogul at Columbia, Orion and TriStar Pictures.

Peter Max - Influential American pop artist was born in Germany, but spent 10 years in Shanghai.

Mike Blumenthal - Became U.S. Treasury Secretary.

Eric Halpern - With other Shanghai Jews, he founded the Far Eastern Economic Review, and was its first editor.

# Historic Community of Bombay, India

Bombay, the capital of the Indian state of Maharashtra, is now known as Mumbai. Modern Mumbai boasts the highest population of any city in India, with approximately fourteen million people residing in this bustling port city. With the surrounding suburbs including the neighbourhoods of Navi Mumbai and Thane, the population tops an impressive 19 million people. Bombay is also home to the majority of India's rapidly dwindling Jewish population. At its peak, in the late 1940s, the Jewish population of Bombay reached nearly 30,000. The Jews of India lived in harmony with the Indian people and found that the Hindu religion was tolerant of their beliefs and practices, allowing them to preserve their own distinct culture for centuries.

The permanent impact of the Jewish residents on the landscape of the city is far greater than its numbers. A walk through Bombay is steeped in Jewish history and Jewish institutions. It is believed that the first Jews settled in Bombay as early as the 6th century, though they were small in number. By the 18th century, Jews began to arrive en-masse to Bombay from the nearby Konkan coast area.

The Jews of Bombay were mainly comprised of two very distinct groups, the Bene Israel and the Baghdadi Jews. The Bene Israel (Sons of Israel) trace their history in the city back over 1600 years ago and their presence in India back to nearly over 2,000 years after a shipwreck stranded seven Jewish families from Judea in a region south of Mumbai. They resided for the most part in the city's surrounding areas until the British precipitated a boom in the development and industry

in the city beginning in the 1800's. Prior to the arrival of the Baghdadi Jews, the Bene Israel who trace their own roots back to the oil pressers in the Galilee, refrained from work on Shabbat, practiced circumcision, and respected Jewish dietary laws. They however also practiced many customs unique to their own community in India. They adopted many more 'mainstream' customs after exposure to the Baghdadi Jews who were very much connected with the rest of modern world Jewry.

The Baghdadi Jews, actually a composite of Jews from Iraq, Syria, Iran and other surrounding areas, settled in the city in the 1800's. These Baghdadi Jews came to India to escape religious persecution and in pursuit of the enormous mercantile opportunities that this port city offered. Under British rule, the Jewish community of Bombay flourished. The Baghdadi Jews were well positioned to move between the worlds of East and West and they especially flourished during this time as traders and bankers. They retained their own distinctly Baghdadi identities, spoke Arabic, maintained the traditional Baghdadi style of prayer and deferred to the Baghdad Beit Din. Many later on came to choose English over Arabic and they often donned clothing in the English style.

The first synagogue was built in Bombay by Samuel Ezekiel Divekar, a Bene Israel. This synagogue, Shaare Rahamim or Gates of Mercy, built in 1796, was the first Bene Israel synagogue. While maintaining many Jewish practices, synagogue worship and Jewish texts were not central to their identity. The arrival of the Baghdadi Jews brought synagogue life

to its prominence. The establishment of many other synagogues followed in the region. These include Shaare Rason established in 1840, Tifereth Israel in 1886, Etz Hayim Prayer Hall in 1888, Magen Hasidim in 1904, Rodef Shalom in 1925, and Kurla Bene Israel Prayer Hall in 1946.

Central to Jewish life in Bombay was the Magen David Synagogue built by David Sassoon in 1861 in Byculla, a popular area for the Baghdadi Jews. Later, following further industrial development, many Jews relocated and resided in the Thane area.

The Magen David Synagogue was built on beautiful and massive grounds in a style that reflected the finest of Victorian architecture, though the interior was finished in traditional Baghdadi style. Sassoon also included a Torah school for elementary aged children in the community. The elementary school was later expanded by Jacob Sassoon to include a high school. The grounds themselves were said to have served as the centre for Jewish communal life in Byculla and housed a number of diverse community events as well as daily social interactions.

The rapid mercantile boom in Bombay resulted in an expansion of the city and further development of surrounding suburbs and the fort area as well. Jacob Sassoon, the grandson of David Sassoon, built the Knesset Eliyahu Synagogue in the Fort in 1884 near Mahatma Gandhi Road. The synagogue was named in memory of his father Eliyahu Sassoon. When it was built, this was an elite and fashionable district and a key location for the business-minded Jews. Knesset Eliyahu Synagogue also housed a number of activities of Jewish communal life and

included a mikveh, communal halls, and an elementary school. The Jewish population contributed greatly to the industrial and mercantile growth of Bombay. They were connected to the erection of many secular and philanthropic institutions in the city, including countless hospitals, libraries, schools and monuments.

It was the arrival of David Sassoon that truly changed the landscape of Bombay forever. The Sassoon Hospital of Puna and the Clock Tower at Victoria Hospital were built by David Sassoon. A history of the Jews of Bombay more often reads as a history of the legacy of David Sassoon. This legacy extends far beyond the city of Bombay and into the histories of the Jews of Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Hong Kong and China.

David Sassoon, a wealthy Jewish merchant, fled from Baghdad in 1832 along with other Baghdadian Jews. He achieved much success and established the house of David Sassoon & Co. with branches in Calcutta, Shanghai, Canton and Hong Kong, and quickly dominated the opium trade, making him one of the richest men in India. He was not unaware of his ability to impact the life of Jewry in India and he actively pursued his role as a community leader. He was known in the secular world for his leadership as the mayor of Bombay, his business skills, and for his extensive philanthropy.

His family's legacy also includes the Sassoon Hospital Building within the J.J. Hospital Complex in Bombay, the David Sassoon Industrial Institute & Reformatory School, the David Sassoon Library, Comtech House or the Sassoon Head Office, the Gateway of India, the Royal Institute of Science (now the Institute of Science Bombay – right wing), Bombay Flying Club, Nivara Old Age Home which was originally the David Sassoon Elderly & Destitute Persons Home, Flora Fountain, Messina Hospital and Sassoon Docks.

At the height of its prominence, the

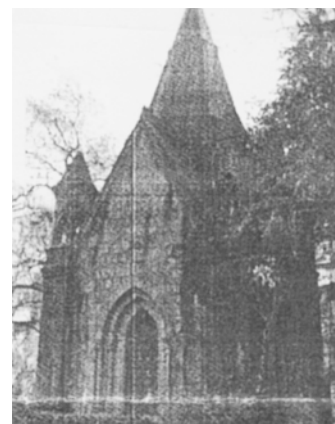
Bombay Jewish community also produced several Jewish newspapers as well as a prolific Jewish publishing industry. Periodicals were regularly produced in Arabic (the original language of the Baghdadi Jews), Hebrew, Marathi and English. A number of Zionist and social organisations were also popular.

Tied to the history of the Jews in Bombay is the history of the Jews in Puna, which is located approximately 100 miles south of Bombay. The wealthy Baghdadi Jews of Bombay summered here and also left marks of their tremendous legacy. David Sassoon maintained an impressive residence here, and in fact died in Puna in 1864.

Sassoon's tomb, an elaborate mausoleum, is located on the grounds of the Red Temple, or Ohel David Synagogue, as it was named, built in 1863. His former residence still stands across the street. Both structures are important landmarks in the resort town of Puna. The Succath Shelomo Synagogue is also located in Puna.

Beginning in the 1950's, many of the Baghdadis left India for Israel or for other Westernized countries, leaving many of the Bene Israel behind. The Jewish population of Bombay (Mumbai) is but a fraction of its peak in the 1940's. Many of these residents live in poverty and many struggle against assimilation. The echo of the voices from the days when the sounds of tens of thousands of Jews filled nearly a dozen houses of worship can still be heard if you listen closely enough. The architectural triumphs left behind in the city is a map of their history.

Information and photographs sourced from Nissim Moses. Background and synagogue sketches obtained from [www.jacobsassoon.org](http://www.jacobsassoon.org) of the Jacob Sassoon & Allied Trusts. Additional information and historical photographs from [www.jewsofindia.org](http://www.jewsofindia.org) and [www.jewsofindia.com](http://www.jewsofindia.com)



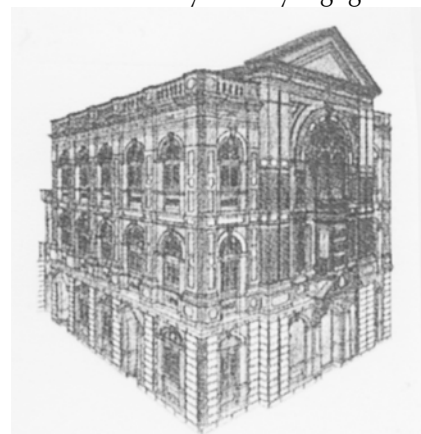
Tomb of David Sassoon, Pune



Sassoon Hospital, Pune



Keneseth Elijahoo Synagogue



Magen David Synagogue

# Jewish Beijing

By Dan Levin

*Excerpted from The Forward,  
July 31, 2008*

Beijing – The Chabad House here sits at the end of a quiet street in an upscale gated community just inside this city's Fourth Ring road and down the block from the Israeli Embassy. A caged duck and a stroller guard the entrance, as does a small army of young Chinese men who patrol the neighborhood of gaudy McMansions.

As a local to describe Shimon Freundlich, Beijing's Chabad-Lubavitch rabbi, and that person will raise hand to chin and stroke an invisible huzi or beard ...

Today, roughly 2,000 Jews call this city of 17 million home. Yet, building a thriving Jewish community in Beijing takes patience, humor and flexibility, especially as the capital has been gearing up for the Olympic Games.

"We try to fly below the radar," Freundlich said. As preparations for the Olympics have made clear, China is still a very centralized state – and one that has not historically had an easy relationship with religion of any color. Jewish locals take great care to work within the system, given that Chinese authorities are on constant alert against proselytizing and Western spiritual practices. Chabad allows only holders of foreign passports to attend prayer services and cultural activities, and refrains from public advertising. The synagogue is technically in Freundlich's home, since free-standing buildings are forbidden. Even bringing in Hebrew prayer books requires government permission.

Some Chinese have, in fact, expressed interest in conversion, according to Freundlich, who firmly discourages

such inquiries. "When you come to live in a country that has vastly different rules and regulations, you have to pay close attention to the government to make sure everything you do is respectful," Freundlich said. But "at the end of the day, they're not worried about us. We're not Mormons." ...

The success of Beijing's Jews, as a religious community, has come from many years of toil. Much of the groundwork was laid by a small group of North American Jews who first came to Beijing in the late 1970s.

"When I first got here there was nothing but a few Jews living in hotels," said Roberta Lipson, one of the founders of the Kehillat Beijing congregation, which is affiliated with the Reform movement. Lipson arrived in 1979 with the first handful of Western entrepreneurs, students and journalists. Along with some friends, Lipson, CEO of the medical technology company Chindex, organized the first Passover Seder in 1980 in a member's home and the High Holy Day services in a hotel conference room, starting Friday night Sabbath open houses shortly thereafter.

Over the next decade, they were joined by Jews from Europe and the Soviet Union, and in 1992, when China and Israel established diplomatic relations, Kehillat Beijing held a joint Seder with the Israeli Embassy. In 1995, the community began holding regular Friday night services in a local activities center, followed by the first brit milah in 1997, the same year that Kehillat Beijing established a Sunday school. Today that school, Ahavat Yitzchak, teaches 40 children. Despite never employing a permanent rabbi,

Kehillat Beijing now has around 50 families.

Yet because Kehillat Beijing was a progressive community that held egalitarian religious services and lacked kosher food, Beijing (and China) remained a major headache for halachically observant Jews who were coming in increasing numbers as China was becoming a major source for kosher-ingredient manufacturing and Jewish-owned businesses.

"When we were the only outlet for Jewish religious practice in Beijing, we felt a lot of pressure to be all things to all people," Lipson said. "We knew we weren't fulfilling more traditional religious needs."

Indeed, Orthodox Jews were forced to schlep suitcases of kosher food with them from abroad and to live and travel amid a society that was by and large ignorant of Judaism. To address these pressing issues, Chabad's Freundlich arrived in Beijing in 2001.

"My goal was to build a Jewish infrastructure starting from almost scratch," he said. Freundlich's presence has provided a place for Jewish children of all stripes. In 2002 his wife, Dini, opened Ganeinu International School, an accredited Montessori school that today educates 50 children up to age 12, from a diverse range of Jewish backgrounds and various levels of observance. This openness is a major theme that connects Chabad and Kehillat Beijing.

"We focus on what unites us, not what divides us," Freundlich said. "I'm God's agent, not his policeman. I need to be able to balance a Satmar in a shtreimel with a guy who brings

*(Continued on p. 70)*

# Rabbi Marvin Tokayer:

## Rediscovering Jewish History in Asia

Rabbi Marvin Tokayer continues to travel on unknown roads that reveal the history of our people in Asia. He has traveled many miles from his birthplace in Brooklyn, New York, from West to East and back again countless times on the most unusual journey.

Following his study at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and his Orthodox Rabbinic ordination in 1962, he enlisted in the United States Air Force as he was informed that, unlike the draftees, he would be able to choose his base. So Europe he chose and to Japan he was sent.

Japan, he was on circuit throughout Asia. Confined to life on the base, he had no opportunity to get a sense of life in Asia.

Following his return to the United States and civilian life, he served as a congregational rabbi in New York from 1964-1968. His path seemed clear, that is until an incredible and unexpected encounter with the Rebbe.

While attending a lecture in New York, he raised several questions that the lecturer was unable to respond to other than by replying that: "the Rebbe knows the answer." Although not a

his engagement to Israeli-born Mazal, it was suggested that he send the invitation to the Rebbe who would perhaps make a bracha for him on the occasion of his wedding in 1967. The Rebbe requested another face-to-face meeting with Rabbi Tokayer. Rabbi Tokayer explains that: "No matter how I attempted to steer the conversation, the Rebbe was able to direct it back to points east towards Japan." The Rebbe insisted that he and Mazal must go to Japan to serve the Jewish community there. He spoke of his vision with a "Peace Corps like mentality" and stressed that we cannot as Jews, abandon any community.

Rabbi Tokayer describes that despite protests and his "thanks but no thanks," the Rebbe looked at him with his deep blue eyes and said: "Now is the time for you to go." Quite frankly, Rabbi Tokayer explains that he was chosen to go because no one else was willing to go, nor capable of uniting this near forgotten community.

Finally, the newly wed couple agreed to go for two years. It was over a decade and four children later before they were able to say ja-ne to their community in Japan where he served as the Rabbi of Japan as well as Vice President and Director of Culture, Religion and Education for the Jewish Communities of the Far East. For many of his years in Japan, he was the only rabbi in the Far East, requiring him to simultaneously serve the needs of communities that included India, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore and Korea.

When he arrived in Japan, the community of Tokyo was comprised of under 1,000 Jews, with a smaller



Unbeknownst to him, this trip east would be spark that would later ignite an incredulous life adventure of startling discovery. From 1962-1964 he served as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force. While technically based in

member of the Lubavitch movement, he was nevertheless encouraged to write directly to the Rebbe, which to his surprise prompted a two-hour face-to-face encounter with the Rebbe himself. When he announced

community in Kobe. While there were American Jews and Israelis as well, this was a community with its roots born in the ravages of war. The congregation was made up of Jews from Siberia, Russia, Europe and Iraq who arrived on different routes that often took them first through China. Rabbi Tokayer was unaware that he was about to open the cover and step inside a "community of talking history books". These were truly "rare" books waiting to be discovered. His welcoming party alone was a prologue waiting to be written as community members introduced themselves as Manchurian or Japanese with family roots that traced the history of the Jewish people in Asia as far back to events such as the establishment of the Trans-Siberian railway or even to the early days of Jewish merchants who moved in and out of China, bridging two then very far off worlds.

Once the cover was opened and the prologue beginning to take shape, Rabbi Tokayer needed to learn more about the history of the Jews in China, India and Japan. Then one day an entire history book in the making was handed to him. A community member revealed that he was in possession of over 8,000 pages of classified Japanese government documents created between 1934 through 1940 outlining the Fugu Plan to create a have for Jews in Japan. Had this plan been implemented, countless numbers of Jews could have been saved and the course of history changed. His book, *The Fugu Plan: The Untold Story of the Japanese and the Jews During World War II*, co-authored by Mary Swartz, details the unbelievable story of the Japanese plan to harbor Jews in a complex plan to develop relations with the United States and to simultaneously capitalize on the 'extraordinary abilities' possessed by Jews.

The government had 'carefully researched' the Jews based on the

sources available to their intelligence agencies. These 'sources' even included the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. While many of their 'sources' were fictionalized and anti-Semitic, the Japanese decided that an 'if you can't beat them join them' approach would be the most beneficial as to the growth of Japan, thus the Fugu Plan was born.

Through his book, based on these intelligence file documents and the testimony of many who lived through this remarkable episode, the Fugu Plan was revealed to the world. Rabbi Tokayer's writing career had been launched and he has been prolific ever since. His works are however inaccessible to most Westerners.

Rabbi Tokayer has published well over twenty books in Japanese. His first book, in Japanese, *Wisdom of the Talmud*, has sold well over half a million copies and has since been translated into Chinese and Korean. He has written on Jewish wisdom, Jewish humor, and similarities between the Jews and the Japanese. It seems as though the Japanese are unable to learn enough about the Jews, but now from true sources.

While still writing, Rabbi Tokayer also serves as a lecturer for Jewish communities worldwide, equally eager to learn more about points east. He has been leading a number of Jewish tour groups through the Far East, giving him the opportunity to travel often between Asia and his home in the United States. On these tours he is able to share the incredible wealth of Jewish history that lies buried in remote and surprising places.

Rabbi Tokayer agrees that life as an expat affords one the opportunity to reinvent oneself. He has guided many of his congregants in Asia on exciting journeys inwards into their own souls to rediscover or reconnect with their Judaism. For Rabbi Tokayer, the journey was also outward. His congregants in Asia guided him on exciting journeys back into the rich

histories of the Jews of Asia. The cover has been dusted and the stories of the Jews in Asia have again come alive.

(From *Jewish Times Asia*, March 2008)

*(Continued from p. 68)*

his non-Jewish girlfriend to Shabbat dinner."

Chabad provides teachers for Kehillat Beijing's Sunday school, which shares both Ganeinu's building and the financial responsibility for it, Lipson said. The two almost come together for religious holidays and coordinate their Seders to avoid schedule conflicts.

"I'm sure some visitors will look askance at our close ties," Lipson said, "but we realize Jews come in all colors, shapes and sizes, and we are grateful to Chabad for helping us make a community where all Jews can feel at home."

In the past seven years, the Jewish community has grown to 1,500 people from 700, Freundlich said, and Chabad has established a downtown location in the city's central business district as well as a community center, in addition to the Chabad House that holds a synagogue. Satmar Hasids donated the funds for Mei Torah, a women's only mikvey and spa complete with massage, showers and manicures and pedicures.

(Reprinted from *Points East*, November 2008)

***The Society for  
Research on Jewish  
Communities***

***THE JEWISH  
ENCYCLOPEDIA IN  
RUSSIAN ON THE WEB***

***www.eleven.co.il  
jewishencyclopedia.ru***

# Legends of the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng

## 20. We Are Jews

From the time of modern China's first nationwide census, descendants of Kaifeng Jews have proudly listed "Jewish" as their nationality.

The synagogue no longer proudly stands on Teaching the Torah Lane. Hebrew is neither chanted nor understood. The Torah scrolls have been lost. Inter-marriage is rife. Nine hundred years have elapsed since Jews first settled in Kaifeng, and the passage of time, isolation, natural disaster, and war have all taken their toll on the Kaifeng Jewish community. And yet, visitors to Kaifeng still find Chinese who assure them "We are Jewish". These scions of Chinese Jewry have not forgotten their origin. The assertion "We are Jewish" is not limited to what they tell visitors. These words are also written down each time they fill out official forms. This is their identity.

In the early 1930s, Shi Zhongyu was about to enter senior high school. When asked his nationality, he wrote "Jewish" on the registration form. The school's principal was annoyed when he saw this; he knew nothing about the existence of Jews in China.

"That's ridiculous!" he said. "How could there be Jews in our city?" He thought that Shi was trying to make a fool of him. This made him so angry that he rejected Shi's application in spite of the fact that Shi had a fine academic record and was a highly desirable student.

The school administrator in charge of enrolment tried to persuade Shi to change his application, asking him to write Han (meaning "Chinese") rather than "Jewish". When the

youngster refused, he appealed to Shi's parents, stressing what a shame it would be not to allow Shi into the school. But the parents supported their son. He would not change what he had written. Shi's parents tried to reason with the principal; but they were unsuccessful. He was unshaken in his determination to reject Shi.

Shi Zhongyu lost his opportunity to attend the school, but he gained the respect of his friends, who considered his behavior honest and courageous. He was then recommended for admission to the National Minorities Institute. Shi was not the only person to meet with problems when officially claiming Jewish nationality. In 1953, when China's central government conducted the first nationwide census, a woman named Ai Fengming tried to register her family's nationality as Jewish. The household registry police wanted her to change this to Han. One night they went to Ai's house to question her. "Comrade Ai", they said, "how can you be Jewish when you are not different from us?" It was hard for her to answer, for a full explanation required more than a few words. She began to relate her family background and they listened carefully.

"How far back can you trace your history?" they asked.

"Since the Song Dynasty".

They were amazed at her answer, for she was claiming a history of nearly a thousand years. In spite of this, however, they told her that to have a national ethnic status, a person must possess certain requirements set by the government. These included three important elements: (1) distinctive

religious customs and practices; (2) residence of the group in a specific locality; and (3) a distinctive language.

"We had all these qualifications when our ancestors originally settled here", she assured them. But she admitted that Kaifeng's Jews had not retained specific religious practices and had lost their distinctive language.

"We have lost our knowledge of Hebrew, our nation's tongue, because we have lived in China for so many years", she said.

When they heard this, the registrars told her that she did not qualify for separate ethnic status.

"Comrades, that isn't right", she disagreed.

"My father was listed as Jewish in his registration form some thirty years ago. How could we, his children, be Han? We are what our father was, as far as nationality is concerned. Of course, we are Jewish".

They saw her point and acknowledged that it was a mistake to ask her to change her family status from Jewish to Han. In the end, "Jewish" was finally written next to nationality on Ai's registration form.

In the 1990s, the statement "We are Jewish" is still to be heard from those who consider themselves to be offshoots of Kaifeng's historic Jewish community.

**This is the final chapter of the book Legends of the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng.**

# THE OLD CHINA HAND GAZETTE

## WHAT WE DO IN SHANGHAI

In our Gazettes we try to bring you up to date on Old China Hands' activities and on our own projects, books, and ongoing research. We also inform readers what kind of help we can offer to Old China Hands and to others who seek to research their families' lives here, or any other aspects of the Western presence, either in old Shanghai or in China's other (49!) former treaty ports.

There was no Old China Hand Gazette last year because we had a log jam – lots of books in progress but in 2007 and 2008 lots of travel and no time to finish the books. Thus none in 2007, but a record five in 2008: two sets written and/or edited by Tess and two new books by Deke (more on which later).

## OUR ARCHIVES

For anyone who wants us to look up businesses, home addresses, families, friends, neighbors, schools, churches, clubs, etc., Tess has some Hong Books (for all China), and a variety of Shanghai directories for the following years: 1921, 1923, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1939 and 1941 (the last pre-war one). For the postwar years, she has: 1944, 1948-49 and 1949 but they list only businesses, with no residential addresses; these are, however, covered in the English-language telephone directories for 1941 and 1949. (Tess also has a 1937 Hong Book and a 1939 Shanghai Directory in German.) Her map collection spans the 1920s and 1930s (but most are too large to photocopy). She also has 200+ detailed strip maps for 1947 showing all the buildings on every street in both the concessions. (Only the French Concession ones can be copied.)

Tess can photograph buildings and photocopy directory entries and

mail copies to you (she has not gone digital, sorry). Although all of the Western cemeteries were long-ago destroyed, she has a listing of all the reproduced (who knows why?) Western tombstones in one cemetery here. (For a list of Shanghai's 80+ Jewish tombstones, contact Dvir Bar-

Gal at shanghaijews@hotmail.com.) Tess doesn't charge for any of this, but does hope for something in return. She is constantly scouring the old markets here for research material. The more she has the more she is able to assist readers and researchers. She especially treasures (and uses) manuscripts, diaries,



letters, newspaper clippings, old maps, photos, theatre programs, etc. – anything that adds to her knowledge of expatriate life in China over the past 150 years.

Deke also has a large collection of old books, records, and other resources on both Shanghai and China's history, and is now assembling an archive of old pictures obtained from several newly-found sources. Deke and Tess are totally dedicated to preserving

this valuable historical material for future generations. When Tess can no longer use it, most of her English-language material will go to the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. So in the future, look there for the "Johnston Collection" or visit Deke's Chinese archive at the Deke Erh Art Center.

## WHERE WE WENT

In 2000 Deke started to become interested in China's more ancient history. His portfolio has now broadened to include the exploration of sites along the old Silk Road. He joined 12 Chinese archaeological expeditions to China's western deserts, where he also renewed an interest in the finds of Auriel Stein. Research on this broader spectrum has taken Deke to Mongolia, Iran/Persepolis, Egypt, Turkey, Bulgaria, and most recently to the Stein Collection located in the Academy of Social Sciences in Budapest.

As Tess continues to be interested primarily in Western architecture and its architects, her travels were less exotic: to the Modernist city of Asmara (Eritrea), the Art Nouveau Czernowitz (Ukraine), Berlin, and Silesia (once Germany, now Poland), Melbourne for the World Congress on Art Deco and, along with Deke – and thanks to the Hungarian Consulate General here – to both Budapest and Slovakia on the trail of the talented Shanghai architect Ladislaus Hudec. All of our travels will generate either exhibitions or books – and sometimes both – with a coffee-table volume on Hudec slated to come out next year.

## WHAT OLD CHINA HANDS ARE DOING

Deke recently attended a Shanghai American School Alumni reunion in Boston, in order to solicit old photographs and documents and



to record the histories of the 100+ attendees. He plans to incorporate the material about the Old China Hands who graduated prior to 1949 in yet another (the third) book in the Old China Hand Histories Series, also to come out next spring.

## ART DECO NEWS

Following publication of our second book on Art Deco (Art Deco-Shanghai and Miami Beach), Tess was invited to present a Powerpoint lecture to the Art Deco Societies of Vancouver and Chicago. Officials from Miami Beach also visited Shanghai to see its Art Deco and the joint exhibition mounted at Deke's Art Center. (For further Art Deco news, log onto [www.artdecoinshanghai.com](http://www.artdecoinshanghai.com))

## DEKE BRANCHES OUT

The Old China Hand Reading Room at 27 Shaoxing Lu, a charming coffeeshop/bookstore/library in the heart of the former French Concession, now has a new branch. Deke has opened a larger salon in a local "Little Venice", the waterside village of Zhujiajiao, a tourist mecca some 20 kilometers west of Shanghai. The Deke Erh Art Center has also added a new branch, far from the burgeoning

center of creativity and art at Lane 210 Taikang Lu in Shanghai. Also to the west of Shanghai, in the village of Jinze, you will now find the Deke Erh Visual Art Center and Archives. In a complex of old buildings located on the village's waterway, this new center will better serve researchers in the visual arts. It will also allow Deke to share with researchers a vast collection of historical material (in both Chinese and other languages) covering his two main areas of interest: (1) Western architecture and lifestyles in post-Opium Wars China; and (2) the history of the areas along the old Silk Road of western China and beyond, and the remnants left behind by the Chinese and foreigners who once traveled it.

## TESS'S TWO NEW BOOK SETS

*TWO VIEW OF CHINA, edited by Tess:*

### MISSY'S CHINA – LETTERS FROM HANGCHOW, 1934-1937

by Doris ("Missy") Arnold. A "small town American girl" came with her family to live in China during a troubled era. In a memorable three years Missy wrote weekly letters home about her life in a small expat enclave surrounded by the culture and chaos of her host city. She is a keen observer of her little world, and her letters are rich in the minute details (and the humor) that enable her family (and the readers) to experience old China through her perceptive eyes.

Peking Sun, Shanghai Moon – Images from a Past Era  
by Diana Hutchins Angulo.

A rare glimpse into the private lives of wealthy foreigners living in Peking and Shanghai. Through the eyes of a beautiful young girl we are caught up in the lives of wealth and privilege, of social activities and obligations, of the foreign community in China between 1920 and 1940. Supplemented by photographs from family albums and contemporary newspapers, she

gives us an entrée into the glamorous expatriate world in the last frenetic days of pre-war Shanghai. Lanes of Changing Fortunes – Six Shanghai Walks (2nd edition) and Patterns of the Past – Six More Shanghai Walks, by Barbara Green, Tess Johnston, Ruth Lear, Carolyn Robertson, Jos Snoodjik. This second walks guidebook augments last year's popular first volume with still more histories and anecdotes on the old Western buildings that grace the city's major boulevards and lesser lanes. Detailed walking itineraries, with coffee (and comfort) stops, are supplemented by both Deke's and the authors' photos from their favorite walks. These books also offer great reads for out-of-towners who cannot experience Shanghai for themselves.

## DEKE'S TWO NEWEST

Observing Shanghai ever expanding, Deke is producing a series of new books on the innovative architecture of its satellite towns. The first volume is entitled discover qingpu – shanghai's vibrant new township, with another volume in the works on Songjiang, another fast-growing satellite borough. A recent exhibition of Deke's stunning black and white photos of both old and new Shanghai and of the western areas of China garnered a great deal of enthusiasm (as well as print sales). This was followed by a tall (33cm. tall, 12cm. wide) volume featuring the best – a cross-section – of the images. Appropriately entitled shanghai vertical, it will come out the end of this year.

## TWO STILL IN THE QUEUE

Tess and Deke have temporarily shelved forgotten ports, covering sixteen of China's lesser ports that briefly flourished and then languished. Sadly, the photo album, THE SECOND SHANGHAI WAR – SHANGHAI 1937 by Malcolm Rosholt is, alas, currently also shelved, following the death of the author.



## OUR CURRENT BOOK LIST

**SHANGHAI ART DECO** covers in 320 pages and nearly a thousand photos the wide range of Shanghai's Art Deco offerings. Its five chapters (Public Buildings, Apartments, Villas, Furniture, and Objects) are lavishly illustrated and offer historical background information in both English and Chinese.

**ART DECO – SHANGHAI AND MIAMI BEACH** features fifty photos of each city, chosen from the many that made up the two Art Deco exhibitions held in Miami and Shanghai. The text is in English with a Chinese introduction by Deke.

**A LAST LOOK, REVISITED – WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN OLD SHANGHAI** provides an updated, expanded and evocative overview of Western architecture and expatriate lifestyles in one of the world's legendary cities. It also includes 1939 listings of Shanghai's old apartment houses, banks and clubs.

**NEAR TO HEAVEN – WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN CHINA'S OLD SUMMER RESORTS** features Western buildings in the old hill stations, Kuling (Lushan), Kuliang, Kikungshan, Mokanshan, and the seaside resort Peitaiho. (Sold out)

**GOD AND COUNTRY – WESTERN RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE IN OLD CHINA** has contemporary photos of China's churches and synagogues plus old black and white ones of churches and church-sponsored hospitals and schools. There is a "Jewish Legacy" chapter plus a 77-page listing of Catholic and Protestant missions and missionaries in China in 1934.

**FAR FROM HOME – WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN CHINA'S NORTHERN TREATY PORTS** covers Harbin, Dalny (Dalian), Tientsin, Chefoo, Tsingtao and Hankow north of the Yangtze River, with a supplemental listing of European and American business concerns and representatives who were operating

in China and Hong Kong in 1928.

**THE LAST COLONIES – WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN CHINA'S SOUTHERN TREATY PORTS** covers Shanghai, Ningpo, Foochow, Amoy, Swatow, Canton, and the former British Crown Colony of Hong Kong. Included as an annex is a 1936 Shanghai Trade Directory.

**HALLOWED HALLS – PROTESTANT COLLEGES IN OLD CHINA**, generously illustrated with both new and old photos and site plans, covers China's thirteen top universities, all founded by Protestant missionaries over the past 100 years.

**FRENCHTOWN SHANGHAI – WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN SHANGHAI'S OLD FRENCH CONCESSION**, with old and new photos, is the most comprehensive of our books, covering the best buildings – plus a look into the lifestyle of the residents – of Shanghai's most cosmopolitan foreign concession.

**THE OLD VILLA HOTELS OF SHANGHAI** features Deke's contemporary photos of both the interiors and exteriors of nine of Shanghai's old mansions, all now converted into boutique hotels. Published for the local market, the captions and text are in both Chinese and English. (Sold out)

**EMIGRANTEN ADRESSBUCH**. Originally published in Shanghai in November 1939, this small replica contains the names, local addresses, cities of origin, and occupations of thousands of German and Austrian Jews who fled to Shanghai. (Sold out)

And in our edited series of first-person narratives:

**THAT LAST GLORIOUS SUMMER, SHANGHAI JAPAN 1939** by Rena Krasno. During that summer in Japan, Rena's sympathetic observations of the Japanese people, along with their government's preparations for war, yield some of the most perceptive insights in English ever written on pre-war life in Japan.

**SHANGHAI BOY SHANGHAI GIRL**

– **LIVES IN PARALLEL**, by George Wang and Betty Barr. In the 1920's and 1930's two children grew up in Shanghai, but only in the 1970's did their paths finally cross. This story of George, a poor Chinese boy, and Betty, a cosseted child of missionary parents, views life in old Shanghai from two totally different yet parallel perspectives.

**BETWEEN TWO WORLDS – LESSONS LEARNED IN SHANGHAI**, by the same authors, the sequel follows the lives of this Shanghainese and Shanghailander from 1949, where their first book ended, up to their marriage here 20 years ago.

**I LOVE CHINA**, edited by the same authors, is a series of 30 articles by Eleanor Margaret Wang, written from 1948-50 and 1978-83, during her tenure at the Shanghai Foreign Language Institute (where she taught from 1947 until her death in Shanghai in 1983). Few foreigners have written of those troubled decades so compellingly and with such keen insight as this British-born writer.

**MISSY'S CHINA – LETTERS FROM HANGCHOW, 1934-1937**, by Doris Arnold.

**PEKING SUN, SHANGHAI MOON**, by Diana Hutchins Angulo. (See descriptions under "Tess's Two New Book Sets" above.)

**LANES OF CHANGING FORTUNES – SIX SHANGHAI WALKS (2nd edition) and PATTERNS OF THE PAST – SIX MORE SHANGHAI WALKS**, by five authors. (See descriptions under "Tess's Two New Book Sets" above.) The Old China Hand Press also published these books by Deke, primarily for Chinese readers but with extensive English-language captions and text:

**GOLDEN XUJIAHUI** covers Shanghai's old "Sicawei" district, formerly the site of Catholic mission activities and now a center for major business and retail ventures. It is lavishly illustrated with old and contemporary photographs.

(Continued on p. 75)



*Portrait of Misha Kogan  
by artist  
L. Smushkovitch*

# To the Misha Kogan Scholarship Fund

*a Donation of*

**US\$ 35,000**

*from*

**Asya Kogan (Tokyo)**

December 2008

*(Continued from p. 74)*

**A TREASURE TROVE** covers a selection of exhibits from the new Shanghai Banking Museum in the heart of Shanghai's "Wall Street" in Pudong. There are not only photos of current banks in Shanghai, but also a wide array of old banking-related items of historic interest.

**CHINESE SPECIMENS PRINTED BY THE AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY** consists of three volumes of the Bank Museum's bank note specimens from 1905 to 1949. Photographed are 1113 specimens, 533 fronts and 580 backs, with full explanations in both English and Chinese. (Set of three volumes.)

**TREASURE HOUSES – HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK OF**

**CHINA**, jointly commissioned by the bank's Beijing and Shanghai offices, has photographs of old bank buildings in 52 cities in China, supplemented by extensive historical text.

**IN THE HEART OF THE FRENCH CONCESSION** parallels our earlier joint volume on the Concession, but here as seen from a Chinese perspective. It features thumbnail sketches (in Chinese) of famous Shanghainese who once lived in Frenchtown, ranging from KMT and

Communist officials to artists, writers and film stars.

**YANGPU – WHERE HISTORY LIVES ON** covers the lesser-known but historically rich northern district of Shanghai, previously – and still today – home to numerous government, educational and

research institutes.

**DISCOVER QINGPU – SHANGHAI'S VIBRANT NEW TOWNSHIP** (see description under "Deke's Two Newest" above).

**SHANGHAI VERTICAL** (see description under "Deke's Two Newest" above).



**Chusan Road in Honkew (Hongkou) district, Shanghai, 2009**

# From Shanghai to Atlanta, with Musical Accompaniment

By Balfoura Friend Levine

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra is world-class symphony of 100-plus musicians with a fabulous 200-voice chorus. You should have heard their “Hallelujah” chorus at last month’s Christmas program – it all but raised the roof of the concert hall. Magnificent! My subscription to the concert series is an annual gift from me to me. At the last concert I found myself “conducting” with my fingers. With eyes closed, I

conducting or drumming against his knees.

I may not recall what I ate for dinner last night, but I do remember that the Shanghai Municipal Orchestra’s conductor was Mario Paci, and Italian, and the concertmaster was Arriga Foa, a Sephardic Jew from Italy. Most of the other musicians were Russian. The orchestra had no Chinese musicians – only “foreigners” as the non-Chinese

was renowned violinist Cho-Liang Lin, a native of Taiwan. Go figure – there were no Chinese musicians in China, yet there are marvelous additions to the Atlanta symphony. Today China is producing world-class musicians and grooming their youngsters to excel, teaching music of such masters as Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart.

As I enjoy each concert, I feel my father’s presence. I know he’s so proud that I



went back 75 years to the Shanghai Municipal Orchestra, which played at the beautiful Lyceum Theatre. Each Sunday I would beg my father, Jacob L. Friend, to take me to a Shirley Temple movie, and his reply was always the same: “No, those movies are rubbish. And anyway Shirley Temple is not a little girl, she’s a midget!” End of story. Instead my father would take me to the symphony. I hated every minute of it, but didn’t dare protest. I recall even know that Papa’s fingers were either

were called.

Now fast forward to Atlanta and me “grooving” to the ASO – back from my reverie along memory lane. The ASO, in contrast to the Shanghai orchestra, has a half-dozen Chinese musicians, including Mei-Ann Chen, the new (female) assistant conductor; the associate concertmaster, an assistant concertmaster, and other principal chairs. Interestingly enough, they all play string instruments.

At a recent concert, the visiting soloist

finally love his music. Incidentally, I did manage to see many Shirley Temple movies during my childhood – and no, she was not a midget!

P.S. – As a point of pride for our Jewish community – I kvell that since the ASO began its professional existence in 1947, out of four conductors, two have been Jewish – Henry Sopkin, the first conductor, and Yoel Levi, the third.

(From The Jewish Georgian, January-February 2008)

## Visit the Website of Igud Yotzei Sin [www.jewsofchina.org](http://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)

# The Heir to the 'Atlantis House' visits Ulan-Ude

The name of Kapelman family is linked by the temporary Ulan-Ude residents to a large house of unusual design, adorned with the white figures of the inhabitants of the legendary continent Atlantis, vanished somewhere under the fathomless waters of the Atlantic Ocean. The building was erected in 1907, and is still considered of the most handsome houses of the old Arbat quarter. It belonged to the Verkhneudinsk merchant Naftali Kapelman. Naftali and his brother, Nahum, were the owners of flour and lumber processing mills. The Kapelmans were considered one of the most well-to-do families of Verkhneudinsk. In 1926 the brothers emigrated to China, and now, after 82 years, the only remainder of the family, Ilya-Eliahu Kama returned to Ulan-Ude.

We got in touch through the Internet. "My mother was born and grew up in Ulan-Ude, reminisces Eliahu, "loved the city very much and told me a lot

about it, so that Ulan-Ude occupies a special corner in my heart. That is why I returned."

During the 66 years of his life, Eliahu Kama's foot never stepped on the Russian soil, to say nothing about that of Ulan-Ude, but he heard a lot about it from his mother, Ida Kopeliovich, the daughter of Nahum Kapelman. Her childhood and youth passed in Verkhneudinsk Eliahu's mother died in 2005, at the age of 93. Since then Kama planned to return to Ulan-Ude. His relatives did not believe this was possible. For a half a year before his setting out, he watched daily the Ulan-Ude weather forecast. His route was Tel-Aviv – Moscow – Ulan-Ude. "He traveled incognito," relates Rada Jalsarayeva of Ulan-Ude Kama's guide and interpreter. He was strongly induced to give up his plans: "'Where are you going?" they asked him, "there is nothing left there. Everything is forgotten." According to Rada, Kama's

Russian is not bad. However, when he arrived in Ulan-Ude, he was completely confused. "Where is the house with the white figures? Where is the Noblemen's Assembly? Where is the : "Tzarskii Most (The tzar's Bridge?" he asked people. The "Atlantis House" was found easily. Eliahu was surprised to find it so well preserved. "The Noblemen's Assembly" hosts now The Museum of Nature" and the Puppet Theatre. But what on earth is Tzarskii Most? This remained a secret. Eliahu walked for hours. Walked, jotted down notes and photographed. He was thrilled to tears to find his mother's home still standing erect, with people living there. On the walls of "Café Verkhneudinsk Eliahu found the photographs of his grandparents. "I could have traveled to Nice or Switzerland," he exclaimed, "but where could I have sat with the portraits of my ancestors right at my side?"

Next year he intends to return to Ulan Ude, this time with his sister.

## Regards from Japan



Regards were received from Otaku, Hokkaido from the daughter of General Higuchi - Fyjiko Hashimoto and her husband Yoshikata Hashimoto. We were able to restore ties with them thanks to our friend Mutsuo Fukushima, a journalist from "Kyodo News" in Tokio

# Light and Shade

*Sketches from an Uncommon Life Solomon Matthew Bard*

February 2009 364 pp.  
Hardback ISBN 978-962-209-949-4  
HK\$275 / US\$37.50  
<http://www.hkupress.org/book/9789622099494.htm>

Solomon Bard's life has been an extraordinary story of a peripatetic youth, of incident and adventure, and of varied enthusiasms pursued with great energy to a very high level.

Illustrated with a large number of photos, some remarkable survivals, this collection of autobiographical essays tells of Dr. Bard's childhood in Eastern Siberia, with a fascinating detour to Moscow and the Crimea while Russia was still in post-revolutionary turmoil. He moved on to Harbin for high school where the musical talent that is a strong thread running through this story began to blossom. As did so many Russian émigrés, he moved to Shanghai in

the mid 1930s and spent his last school years there at the 'Eton of China'. Good fortune and his usual determination saw him move again to study medicine at the University of Hong Kong. Typhoons and epidemics were just precursors of the trauma of Japanese invasion in which the author served as a medical officer in the Volunteers. His just-learnt medical skills were most valuable and much tested in his years as a prisoner-of-war in the Sham Shui Po camp.

After the war and a few years in the UK, he came back to Hong Kong. He founded the medical service at the University, and also created and led orchestras for both Western and Chinese music. While music continued to be an outlet for his remarkable energies, another activity -- archaeology -- came to the fore, and in these essays he describes

both pioneering local digs and his worldwide travels to archaeological sites.

Dr Solomon Matthew Bard was born in Russia, but lived most of his working life in Hong Kong. He studied music but, setting it aside as a career, graduated in medicine from the University of Hong Kong in 1939.

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Website: [www.hkupress.org](http://www.hkupress.org)

# Learning Chinese

*By Alex Auswaks*

Learning Chinese is now available on-line at [ChineseVoice.com](http://ChineseVoice.com). Chinese Central Television (CCTV) broadcasts in English on Yes 111 and probably also on Hot.

History buffs are probably watching the History Channel (Yes 32, Hot 107) and the Biography Channel (Yes 31) for lots and lots on Israeli and Jewish history, biblical archaeology, ancient and modern wars in our neck of the woods.

TV Club, a weekly TV programme in Russian, goes on sale once a week (Fridays or Sundays, depending where

you live, but sells out quickly) with virtually a full complement of cable programmes. Israeli news on Russian cable stations (other than Channel Nine) and appearances from arrivals from over there. Osoboye Mnenie on Yes 183 twice daily tends on the whole to be sympathetic to us.

Top quality books on Judaism published in Russia and written and published in Israel are available in Israel in Russian bookshops. And books on Russians in China! Gesharim publish books of Jewish interest for export to Russia. Mercury sell

books of Jewish interest and lovely, lovely toys for your grandchildren for Hanukkah. They also sell feng shui objects.

Follow the American elections on Fox Channel News, which refers to us as America's ally. Not all bad on Aljazeera, which had a programme on Mizrahi food in Jerusalem and ... found the two best restaurants are Jewish!

# IT IS 60 YEARS SINCE THE WEDDING DAY OF ESTHER AND PAUL AGRAN

*Esther (Fira Pugach) and Paul (Pavlik Agranovsky) celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding-day in the "Moderne" Hotel in Harbin*



*Yesterday and today*



*Wedding cake*



*With Prof. Qu Wei, the President of the Academy of Social Sciences*



*With Mr. Lin, the director of the "Moderne" Hotel*



*With the solist of the concert program*



*The newly-weds*

# Kaifeng's Jews in Israel

By Anshel Pfeffer

Excerpted from *haaretz.com*, 13 June 2008

Jin Jin and Nina Wang are students in Hebrew University's preparatory program. They will soon commence their BA studies, but they already have long-term dreams. Jin wants eventually to serve as a diplomat in the Foreign Ministry. Wang hopes to use her diverse knowledge of languages to represent Israeli companies in China. The two women belong to one of the smallest Jewish communities in Israel – immigrants from Kaifeng, China – which numbers just 10 souls.

Jin, 22, and Wang 21, arrived in Israel at the beginning of 2006, together with two other friends from Kaifeng on tourist visas. They received temporary resident status after they began conversion studies and received citizenship after undergoing a conversion ceremony in a rabbinical court. Wang explains that as children, their parents and grandparents “told us we are Jews and that one day

we'd return to our land”. Jin Jin boasts, “We have a family burial plot that goes back dozens of generations and we have genealogy books showing our connection with earlier generations of Jews.”

Kaifeng Jews do not object to undergoing a “giyur l'chumra” – a conversion ceremony done for the sake of removing any doubt, in contrast to other groups such as Ethiopian Jews...

The town's Jews reconnected with mainstream Jewry thanks to visits by Jewish tourists, who brought learning materials and religious objects to local Jews. Jin's uncle Shlomo Jin went to the Israeli Embassy in Beijing eight years ago seeking to immigrate to Israel. Embassy officials did not want to hear about it, so he eventually came to Israel with his family via a European country. Shavei Israel, an organization which reaches out to lost Jewish communities, helped community members get accepted into a conversion program.

The girls describe their year in the conversion institute as stressful. ““We felt we needed to learn because that's what we lacked,” says Wang. In contrast to other conversion candidates, they did not feel insulted by being required to strictly observe Jewish commandments. Michael Freund, the head of Shavei Israel, estimates the potential number of immigrants from Kaifeng to be no more than a few hundred. However, he described the community members as “people with very high motivation whom we need to help.” Neither the Israeli government nor the Jewish Agency currently encourages the immigration or conversion of Kaifeng Jews, but Jin Jin and Nina Wang believe that within a generation a proper community of Jewish Chinese immigrants will be established in Israel.

(Reprinted from *Points East*, November 2008)

## OUR SOLDIERS WRITE

### *Liran Tsur*

I value and appreciate your gift for the Independence Day.

### *Grandson of Benny Tsur*

As always I wish to thank you for the gift on the Independence Day. I am proud to belong to the descendents of the former residents of China and am touched by the your attentiveness and concern. It's a good feeling to be able to keep in touch with compatriots from China and their families.

Once again with gratitude and admiration for your wonderful work

Nadav Duani

Grandson of Mary Biar(Beim)

### *Uri and Shahar Gilad*

We wish to thank you for your gift in honor of the Independence Day. We were truly moved by your concern. We received the gift when we came back on leave. It's a pleasure to realize that there are people who care. Thanks again to those who contribute to this wonderful project.

### *Tsahi Shihman*

I wish to offer my thanks for your gift for the Independence Day. My life as a soldier isn't easy, so it's heartwarming to see that you are not forgotten and reminded of your Chinese heritage. ( I am the son of Simon Shihman and grandson of Isaac Shihman)



# Searching and Researching

## **Mitzi (nee Gropper) Macgregor**

I will be making a visit to Dalian, China, 17th Sept-24th Sept, where my husband is attending an international conference. I would like to visit Harbin and seek out information about my grandmother's family. The family name was Levin, and they came from Odessa. My grandmother and one of her sisters went to New York City, via Paris, but two of her other sisters left Odessa circa 1917 to go to Harbin. I do not know their married names, or if they married. I believe I met one of them, who left China some time in the 1950's, at our family home in Brooklyn, but my sister has no recollection of this visit. Any information about my family, or how I can pursue this search, would be much appreciated. Email: axhx99@dsl.pipex.com  
Tel: (0) 141 848 1589

## **John Patrick Fano**

Bonjour! I am French living in Australia I am doing research on the end of the life of Michel Speelmann who was the General Director of the companies of my grandfather Rene Fano ( Chairman) in Shanghai ( FONCIM SA , PICARDIE SA & ISS SA ). I know that during the WWII he was involved with " saving the refugees of Eastern Europe". He became a prisoner in a camp around Shanghai. In the early 1950s he went to USA, and in 1954 his second wife was declared a widow. To complete my inquiry regarding his life, I would like to know the exact date of his death and where it occurred as well as where he is buried. He had a son or step-son called Marc by his first marriage to Gabrielle ( "Gaby"). P.S : Lately I did help a family from Israel regarding the death of Isidore Sydney Donn (Artist Painter ). I am very involved with South of France Jewish History (Nice, Marseilles,

Avignon).

Email: jpfano357@aol.com

Tel: (61) 8 95 82 03 85

I know that most people on your site are searching for relatives that migrated to China after the Holocaust, but my case is a bit different. My great-grandmother was a Chinese Jew who met my great-grandfather, a Polish Jew named Senderowicz, in Paris. Are there any records of marriages kept by Chinese Jews? Really looking to finding out more about my roots.

## **Peter Libkind**

Dear Mr. Peter Libkind I will send you the address of Qu Wei in Harbin after Sukkot on Monday when the Association of Former Residents of China offices will be open. What is your mother's maiden name? Perhaps we can find some information that may be of interest to her. Most probably she or her family are known to Teddy Kaufmann the President of our association.

Dear Teddy Piastunovich. My mother's maiden name is Pines. My grandfather had a trading company located on Kitaiskaya Street and lived above. My grandfather's name was Mordecai Pines. He was born in Bialostok Poland in 1870, emigrated to Harbin around 1900, and died in Harbin in 1946. He was apparently well known in the Jewish community. Two of his grandsons live in Israel, Mark Pines and Danny Oren, my first cousins.

## **Elia Weinbach**

Dear Mr. Mizuuchi,

I am Elia Weinbach, the son of Berthold (Bert) Weinbach. I live in Los Angeles and am a judge. My aunt, Sheila Weinbach, recently forwarded to me an email from you to Mr. Teddy Kaufman. As I understand, Mr.

Kaufman recently received a letter and photo from you, his friend, and the former Japanese ambassador to Israel. Your email and the photo are attached. As I understand the photo was taken from the Japanese archives and it is a photo of 6 young men who were the first "German" Jews to arrive in China.

My father died in 1997. He came to Tianjin in 1938 as an 18 year old from Vienna, married my late mother, who was born in Tianjin in 1923 and died in 2004. My parents lived in Tianjin until 1949 when they settled in the United States. I was born in Tianjin in 1945 as was one of my sisters in 1948. For some time, I have been trying to find the Austrian passport that my father had when he entered Tianjin in 1938 and your email suggests to me that one possible source of that might be the Japanese Foreign Ministry Archives. My father's name was Berthold Weinbach. When he came to the United States, he changed his name to Bert Weinbach.

Would it be possible to inquire whether the Japanese archives might have my father's passport as well as any other information relating to my father? I recognize that 70 years have now passed and these searches may be difficult but I do want to preserve for my family these historical documents which relate to my father. If you could advise me, I would be most appreciative of your kindnesses.

I am copying Mr. Kaufman, whom I do not know personally, but whose father apparently was very kind to my father.

With much appreciation,

Elia Weinbach

exwexw@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Weinbach,

Thank you so much for your email. Although there was some confusions

I was very pleased to hear from you. I worked in Israel 2004-2007 as Minister (not as Ambassador, as you mentioned) at the Japanese Embassy, and had the pleasure to have contact with Teddy Kaufman and others who have their roots in Harbin, Shanghai and other places in current China. For some reason I got interested in exploring Japanese-Jewish relations and tried to uncover things that had not been known publicly. It was under these circumstances that I learned of the incident which triggered the Japanese Government (officially for the first time) to deal seriously with the so-called Jewish issue of that time. Through Teddy Kaufman I had been introduced to Mr. Daniel Friedmann, son of Karl Friedmann who, together with your father, Berthold Weinbach and other 4 young men, ventured to flee the Nazis from Vienna via Warsaw and Moscow through the trans-Siberian Railway to Manchuria. Indeed, these 6 people are recorded as the first Jews with passport stamped with the letter "J" entering the Japanese sphere of influence. The report, dated November 1, 1938 and classified "highly confidential", was a diplomatic dépêche from the Vice-Consul stationed at Manchuli, a Manchurian town facing the Soviet border, to the Japanese Foreign Minister. This group of six appears later in other official documents but essentially the reports contain interviews conducted by the Japanese and Manchurian authorities concerning their personal background, intention of the journey, destination and future plans, etc., and some comments and observations made by the interviewers. Unfortunately, these documents are written in Japanese only (in part in handwriting). It was even difficult to spell out the actual alphabetical names of the persons. I once told Danny Friedmann and his wife approximately what is written there. Actually, his mother, wife of Karl Friedmann is still alive in a Kibbutz in Israel and he must have

transmitted to her what I told him.

Regarding the passport you have been searching for, in fact, a copy of the cover page of a passport had been attached to the document. I am afraid it is not your father's, but that of Paul Glesinger. I know Karl Friedmann's passport has been kept by his wife. Unfortunately, as far as I have looked through the documents in the Diplomatic Archive of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, I could not find any other travel documents of this group of six. By the way, the photograph of the young men you have sent me stems also from the Friedmanns. Danny's son sent me the same one after I left Tel Aviv. I gather he posted it on the website of Igud Yotzei Sin as well so that it must have caught attention of your aunt.

This is more or less what I know about your father through my work. But if you don't mind I would be willing to send you a copy of the relevant part of the document that concerns your father.

On a P.S. basis, I am glad to be able to tell you that the entry of the group of six into Manchuria ended in the Japanese Government's decision on December 6, 1938 titled "Temporary Guideline regarding the Jews" which remained valid till the outbreak of the Japanese-American war in December 1941. After obvious second, third or fourth thoughts on what to do with the Jewish refugees, the basic outline of the Japanese Government policy turned out to be a fair and equal treatment of Jews in accordance with relevant legislations as compared to other races and faiths. That enabled several thousand Jews from Austria and Germany to find their way through Manchuria to the free world. Others could travel straight to Japanese-controlled Shanghai as long as sea transportation was available. Finally, thousands of East European Jews were rescued subsequently by the visas issued by the Japanese Consul in Kaunas, Lithuania, or faked partially thereafter. There were also

assistance efforts by private citizens in Japan for the refugees in transit.

Ryuta Mizuuchi, Former Ambassador of Japan in Israel Email:

ryu\_miz@hotmail.co

Address: c/o Japanische Botschaft  
Hessgasse 6 A-1010 Wien Austria

### **Prof. Dr. Theodor Bergmann**

Stuttgart, Germany

To T. Kaufman: Hereby I repeat my letter of July 19, which was lost in the mail due possibly to change of the POB number. I am working on a booklet about the volunteers who assisted the Chinese Communists in the anti-Japanese and in the civil war until 1949. In a Chinese publication I found inter alia the names of Dr. Kranzdorf and his wife from Romania. Later Mrs. Tanja Jancu, daughter Dr. Jancu, informed me that the Kranzdorfs had left Romania and settled in Israel. Now my query is: Do you have the address of the Kranzdorf family (or their children, in case the couple has passed away)? Are there more volunteers in Israel who have helped the Chinese Communists? Did you publish anything about these persons? All the data about Dr. Rosenfeld are in my hands. Naturally I am willing to pay all your expenses for any publication which is useful for my research project.

### **Jason Bressack**

I know that most people on your site are searching for relatives that migrated to China after the Holocaust, but my case is a bit different. My great grandmother was a Chinese Jew who met my great grandfather, a Polish Jew named Senderowicz in Paris. Are there any records of marriages kept by Chinese Jews? Really looking forward to find out more about my roots

Email: jbressack@gmail.com

### **Wilhelm Baum**

I am publishing the German translation of James Ross "Escape to Shanghai". I want ask you, if you can send me some old fotos (Scans) from

Jewish places of Shanghai for the cover of the book. After printing I will send you a copy of the book.

All the best your William Baum  
An Büchern interessiert? Besuchen Sie  
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Mobil: 0650-5561305

### **Alexander Gershtein,**

Producer,

Documentary director

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

Working on the documentary project about the Harbiners of different backgrounds living in Canada, particularly in Toronto, I'd like to ask you for assistance. I sure that you know everything and everybody in this field, all over the world. I'll appreciate it if you can refer me to some of Harbin's Jews living here. Toronto is a point. My contact phone (24hrs) is: (1)- 416-826-07339 (cell)

### **Irem Mizrahi**

Istanbul

The uncle of my grandpa fled to China during the Second World War. He was from Istanbul originally. Before he died my grandpa once told me that one of his uncles, Izak Habib died in China. My grandpa was born in 1922. Therefore I imagine that that uncle was born around the beginning of the 20th century or the end of the 19th century. I also know that he married a German lady and had a child who was not looking German at all.

Is there any chance that you could help me locate this part of my family?

Tel.: 902122779099

Email: iremmizrahi@gmail.com

### **Mark Leef**

USA

Re: Inquiry about Paul Glesinger, a refugee who resided in Tientsin  
As an 18 year old, having graduated

from high school in 1939, I remember him studying in the British School of Commerce (BSC), which I also attended in 1940-41. He was a few years older, perhaps 22-23. That was a small school teaching accounting, typing, shorthand and letter writing. In fact, Paul Glesinger is on the photo taken of the students with calendar on the wall indicating Dec. 6, 1940. During the war I remember him interested in football (soccer) with the local Tientsin Football Club. I have seen him practice but not actually play. After the war, I observed Paul with many of his friends, mostly young Americans from the newly arrived firms. Saw him often in the popular Country Club. He seems to have been liked, acted proper. I am not sure, but it seems to me that he worked in a foreign firm, possibly a car agency. Possibly, with his connections, he obtained a visa to the USA and must have left around 1947.

Address: 4008-3F-Calle Sonora,  
Laquan Woods, CA, USA.

### **Israel in Numbers**

#### **Population in Israel**

In 1948 the population in Israel numbered 806000, including 600000 Jews.

In the year 2008 it numbers 7282000 citizens, of which the Jews number 5499000.

The Jews comprise 75.5% of the population (5499000), the Arabs – 20% (1461000), the new immigrants from Russia and the former Soviet Republics, who are not considered Jews – 4.4% (322000).

The population reached 1 million in 1949. By 1958 there were 2 millions, by 1991 – five millions, by 1988 – six millions, and in the year 2006 – seven millions.

At the establishment of Israel the majority of the Jewish residents were native born (35%) Today the native born comprise 69%.

In Israel there are 15 cities with a population of over 100000.

During the period, lasting from the year 1955 until the year 2007, 2 million apartments were constructed.

In the year 2007 nearly twenty eight million passengers used the railway transportation. In comparison: from 1955 till 1989 - 4.2 millions.

During the 60 years of its existence Israel registered 60 million departures of its citizens abroad ( in 1950 – 38000, in 2007 – 4.2 millions ).

During the 60 years of its existence 22437 people died in wars. Terrorist acts took the lives of 1634 citizens.

### **Emigration from Russia and the former Soviet Republics**

Between the years 1989 and 2008, 1200000 emigrants arrived at Israel from the former Soviet Republics.

24% are working in the scientific and academic fields; 55% have higher education; 16% work in government institutions.

43% of the emigrants are residing in the country 11-13 years; 62% own their apartments; 54% own a means of transportation.

Among the newcomers there are 40 thousand teachers, of which only 10% work in the field of education.



**“Ohel Moshe” synagogue in  
Shanghai, 2009**

# Letters

## **Assaf Bar-Moshe**

I am very interested in your activity. I have learned Chinese in Israel and in China for 4 years, and I wrote two papers about the Jews in China. I will be glad to become a member of your association and to take part in your activities.

Address: 4 Mikve Israel, Tel Aviv

## **Bernard Vitenson**

I would like to receive the supplement you publish in English. But first I would like to know the price. I am from the Vitenson clan and I was born in Shanghai. We had a store on Rue Joffre. Thank you for your time.

Address: Mivtza Kedem 5/13 Beer Sheva 84799

Email: mikiv@netvision.net.il

## **Paul Agran**

Dear Teddy,

I am enclosing ALL photographs that I and our son Ray took while we were in Harbin. I did not want to select just a few myself as I do not know what might interest you. Of course, you can throw away all of no interest to you as I have duplicates of all the photos. I put some notes on the back of most of the photos. Just to recapitulate what we discussed briefly on the phone and in my e-mail to you, I would like to give you the details of why we were invited and what we did while in Harbin.

In 2004 during the convention in Harbin, our daughter Miriam became friends with a lady by the name of Guo Qiuping, when they learned that they both, as well as myself, were all born in Harbin and all in the same Central Hospital. This lady is a professor of history at the Harbin University and is writing a book and researching histories of Jewish families who lived in Harbin. In the spring of 2008 she came to California with an interpreter, where she received information from Prof. Gregory Grossman and Prof. Peter Berton, as well as from Mark Leef (Lifshitz). She also left some artifacts of Jewish life in Harbin with the Jewish Museum in Los Angeles. When she came to Chicago she interviewed us and collected quite a few of our old photographs. She became quite excited when she learned that we were married in Harbin and were celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary, and that I attended the old Harbinsky Polytechnichesky Institute, which is known now as Harbin Institute of Technology, or H.I.T. This Institute today has about 50,000 students, with several campuses including a most impressive main campus. It is considered a very prestigious university that accepts only the best students. After Chicago, she went to New York where she also interviewed a few people including my sister's son Ted, who also gave her some family photographs.

A few months later, we received unexpectedly an e-mail from Prof. Guo that her Harbin University is planning a celebration in honor of our Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary in early September 2008. They called it "Diamond Anniversary" and that they have already prepared rooms for us at the Modern Hotel (Modern now is without letter "e" at the end) and that all the expenses there will be borne by the Hotel and her University. (I assume, probably with the consent of the Foreign Affairs Dept. of the Municipal Gov.), but the airfare we have to pay ourselves. So we felt we should go, though we were concerned about the trip at our age.

And so we went. However, with the security clearances, delays in departures, changes of planes and two and a half hours spent at the Beijing airport to change plane to Harbin, it took us twenty-three and a half hours of travel to arrive in Harbin. Incidentally, if you plan to go to Harbin, you will arrive at the new International Airport in Beijing, which is fantastic, modern and gorgeous. But it is so huge. You have to make sure to allow two or better two and a half hours or more for connection to

Harbin from Beijing. The reason for it is that plane for Harbin leaves from a Domestic airport (Terminal 2) and you will arrive at the International (Terminal 3). There is a train shuttle to take you to the Domestic terminal, but with waiting for luggage in Beijing and rechecking it back for your flight to Harbin, and with all the people and some red tape, everything takes time. I suggest, when ordering tickets, order wheelchairs for yourselves (whether you need them or not). It will make everything much easier, simpler and faster. This is worth a small tip, which is sometimes accepted and sometimes refused.

When we arrived in Harbin, we surely did not expect to be met with flowers and newspaper reporters with TV and photo cameras, asking us questions. We were exhausted from the long flight and surely did not need all the commotion. As we came to the beautiful rooms at the Modern Hotel with Prof. Quo, in walks a Doctor Li. When we asked: Why? They told us that after such a long flight he came to examine us. So he gave us a very thorough and complete medical examination. The next morning came a lady in the hotel who was introduced as a tailor. She measured Esther for a traditional Chinese black velvet gown with red trim worn at Chinese weddings (you can see her wearing it at the “official” banquet). They wanted to make one for me also, but I politely refused.

The next few days were spent visiting our old familiar places with banquets of different size every night. Then our son, Ray, who is an attorney, and was on business in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing, flew into Harbin to see where he parents lived. So we spend 3 days with him, showing him around Harbin. Harbin University provided all transportation and we were followed everywhere by a large car with journalists, TV crews, microphones, etc. which was a little bothersome.

One of the trips was to my old “Harbin Polytechnicheskyy Institute” which is now the Harbin Institute of Technology or H.I.T. The old building where I studied is now a “preserved building” and the building, which was built in 1920, is empty and serves as a museum to show students where the H.I.T. started. We went through the building. They wanted to know in which classrooms I used to study, where did I sit, etc. We had lunch with the president of the Institute, a nice lady, and the vice-president, Mr. Song Ya Wu who spoke perfect English. He has a Doctorate from the University of Chicago and is a very pleasant man. (His wife is a director of the “Historical District” of Harbin, which includes “Kitaiskaya Ulitsa”). They also showed us a photo exhibition on the history of the Institute, with the full credit, appreciation and reverence given to the “founding fathers” of the Institute in the 1920’s. It was a nostalgic visit for me. Later we drove to the Cemetery (again followed by cameras, etc.) where we said memorial prayers for Rabbi Kiselev, for my father, grandparents and other relatives and for the Kaufman family members at the cemetery.

Then came the “official” wedding anniversary banquet, with most of our old photographs enlarged to posters by the Harbin University and displayed during the banquet. They all (including Qu Wei) seemed to be very interested in my grandparents (who came to Harbin nearly 100 years ago) and they seemed to consider them as being important and kept asking me about them. The “wedding anniversary” banquet at the Modern Hotel was very elaborate. There were girls in white gloves standing behind the guests and putting food on guests’ plates with their chopsticks from the large rotating glass on the huge round table. There were music students from the university playing American tunes. Before the banquet they took us into a large hall and made me write in Chinese in a large red book what I think about the Modern Hotel, of their service and general impression of the Hotel. However, after nearly 60 years that have elapsed since I studied Chinese written language, my abilities in Chinese writing were a little “rusty”. So I told them to write in Chinese what I wanted to say and then I easily re-wrote it with no problem, while all the cameras and TV were recording it for the press and broadcasting as I was writing Chinese in a big red book. During the banquet however, I delivered a five-minute speech in Chinese, which I did all by myself. They were quite impressed. Of course, I also made a longer speech in English (which was translated into Chinese as I spoke.) I thanked them all of course, and talked about our roots in Harbin and about Chinese hospitality and of China opening its doors to the Jewish refugees, be it during the German persecution of Jews or even during the Russian persecution of Jews and the Pogroms in the early Twentieth Century. There were several speeches (all translated into English). First speech was by Guo Qui Ping – the Prof. of History at the Harbin University and the organizer of the whole event; a warm speech by Professor Qu Wei – president of the Heilongjiang Academy of Social Studies; by Mr. Zhang Tian Bo – Director General of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Harbin Municipal Government; by the President of Harbin University; and of course by our son Ray (in English).

Overall it was a very pleasant trip. Why they singled us out? Why us? I don’t know. Possibly they wanted to bring more attention to the city of Harbin with all the “hoopla”, the publicity, the TV interviews, newspaper coverage, etc. They even made a luncheon banquet for us with the Deputy Mayor of Harbin, Mr. Zhang Xian You, with all the TV and cameras clicking full blast. (See one of the photos with him that I am sending you – I wrote on the back the names of the people with him in this photo). I think they wanted to bring attention to the city of Harbin, to show that: “Here is a Jewish couple, who came back after so many years just to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in the city where they were married – So this must be some special city if they traveled so far just to be here.”

But overall they were all very hospitable and accommodating and we truly enjoyed the trip. The next day we flew home.

### **Peter Berton**

A young Jewish student, Beckie Lowenstein, who graduated in International Relations at the University of Southern California, for some unknown reason, decided to spend the summer in an intensive Chinese language course at Heilongjiang University (or Hei Da) in Harbin. She has a knack for writing and she shared with me some of her writings about present-day Harbiners of whom there are now almost 4 million. She brings a fresh eye to China and I wonder if you will agree with me that some of her escapades in Harbin might be of interest also to us old Harbiners. She gave me permission to send on her writings to you, with a possible publication in the English edition of the Bulletin. So it's up to you and the editorial committee to decide whether this merits publication. She is still in Harbin and there may be follow-up pieces. I will send you a little description of how I got the recording of the Harbin Symphony Orchestra made in Tokyo, it is quite an interesting story. By the way have you had the chance to listen to the CD? The sound is not too good but then again there were only 66 of us if I remember. Nowadays the orchestras have over 100 musicians.

### **Balfoura Friend Levine**

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

To T. Kaufman: I am enclosing here a little gift to the Social Aid to Landsmen for Yontef. I am also enclosing two articles that you may reprint in the next Bulletin. By the way, I thoroughly enjoy reading each and every one that I receive here – it keeps me in touch with friends from long ago, although I keep up by phone with your sister-in-law Dora, Luba Tuck, and many others in the States. I have given all my father's (Jacob L. Friend) letters, articles, etc. to our local William Breman Jewish Museum and they made reprints of them all to me. One of these, written by Papa was about Rabbi Kiseleff in the Israel's Messenger, Feb. 8th 1924. Rabbi Kiseleff also married my parents in Harbin in 1923. I believe the Rabbi's granddaughter serves in the Israeli army, and I once wrote her a note, which she didn't acknowledge! I write a column for our local Atlanta's Jewish Georgian and I hope you can reprint it sometime, since it has a connection to our Shanghai Municipal Orchestra, and therefore of interest to your readers. My personal regards to you and Rasha, Bella and Avrom, for a very sweet New Year and most importantly, a year of Shalom for our valiant little homeland.

Address: 3755 Peachtree Road NE, Apt. 206, Atlanta, GA 30319 USA

### **Beba Leventhal**

To T. Kaufman: Thank you for sending me the last issue of the Bulletin (July-August 2008). I liked the issue very much and learned a lot from it. I learned a lot of history of the Jews in China. I am sending you my contribution in the amount of \$50 to honor my late uncle, Mr. Lasar Davidovich Epstein, his wife Sophia and their son Izzy (Israel). My uncle was an angel. He brought me to the U.S. from Sweden after a series of concentration camps. I am forever grateful to him for making it possible to build this beautiful family that I have. And so is the whole family. I hope you can print this letter. In reading the Bulletin I have never seen any of my family's names mentioned. And yet I know that they played a role in the life of the Jewish Community of China, and especially of Tientsin. When I lived in New York I met many of his close friends from China. Maybe somebody still remembers them?

### **Jeffrey Neiman**

#### **Japan, Tokyo**

Dear Teddy,

After my wedding I have become a photographer. I am sending you the story of my wedding and the photographs of "East meets West – A Jewish wedding in Jerusalem". Do believe you can use these photographs as exhibits in your planned exhibition?

### ***Debbie Bernstein***

I am planning our synagogue's annual Sukkot program. We have decided on an international theme, specifically China. Your site has some great information on the various cities where Jews have lived. I am having trouble viewing whole articles, I only see the 1st pages.

Emai: [dbernstein@ymail.com](mailto:dbernstein@ymail.com)

Tel: 480-221-5913

### ***Man Ling Steinfeld***

My name is Man Ling Steinfeld and I am originally from HK.

I immigrated to Israel just 1.5 years ago and your contact was forwarded by a lady, Ms. Reva Freima who used to live and was raised in HK. I would like to know more about your society and please let me know your website and activity. I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Man Ling,

Man Ling Gallery

Tel Aviv Harbor

3 Ta'arucha Street

Tel: 03- 5442761

[www.galleryml.co.il](http://www.galleryml.co.il)

[manling@galleryml.co.il](mailto:manling@galleryml.co.il)

### ***Ido Krakowsky***

My name is Ido Krakowsky, and I was born in Hong Kong in 1988. My parents resided in China since 1985, and I grew up in Hong Kong until 1998, at which time I moved with my family to Canada. As a child in Hong Kong, I went to school at the Carmel Jewish School in its first class. During those years, my father (Misha Krakowsky) worked at U.D.I. Limited as Managing Director. Today, I'm serving in the IDF in the Paratroops Brigade as a Platoon Sergeant. I am supposed to be released next summer, in July 2009. Next October I am planning on starting school in Israel, and seeing as my father no longer works in a full time position, financial issues have come into consideration. I am interested in possible scholarships granted by your association, and would be glad to receive information about them.

Email: [ido@krakowsky.net](mailto:ido@krakowsky.net)

Tel.: 972544783151

### ***Joel Fetter***

I am trying to find details of my ancestors who left Lithuania (Luoke, I think) for Shanghai (possibly via Harbin), around the turn of the 20th century. The head of the family was Yudel Saks (also known as Yudel Feter), and his children were Fruma, Sonya, Myer and Gita. I am not sure how long they stayed in China for. Do you have any idea how I can find out what happened to them?

Thanks.

### ***Israel Hanin***

Dear Members of Igud Yotzei Sin in Israel It is with great sorrow that I must report to you that my father, Lyova, has passed away. He died peacefully in his sleep at 4:45 am, on Sunday 21st of September. He will be buried beside my mother, Rebecca, on September 25th, 2008. He leaves behind a sister (Celia Nirim), two sons (Israel and Daniel), and a daughter (Miriam Marks). He also is survived by four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. My father was a very dedicated Jew in his lifetime, and has a long history of active function in helping the Jewish cause in many countries, particularly in China and Japan. His role in helping and caring for hundreds of Jewish immigrants from Nazism have been enumerated in many scholarly books, and his tireless efforts in this regard have been described in numerous publications. He also was sought after as a living reference by the Simon Wiesenthal Archives, and the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. Arie was a lifetime contributor to the IYS, and used to look forward with anticipation to each issue of the Bulletin. His mind and memory were sharp until almost the end. He loved to discuss politics, especially those that affected Eretz Israel in any way. And of course, he was an entertaining and fabulous storyteller about some of the incidents related to his Far Eastern activities. He was a proud and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He cared very much about his extended family in Israel. Unfortunately, diminishing health precluded his coming to visit Israel during the past decade. We will all miss him greatly. He will always be remembered for his charm, wit, wonderful stories, and love of all things Jewish. I intend to send the IYS a contribution in my father's memory. That will come after the funeral is behind us, and things have settled back to normal. In the meantime, I thought that you might be interested in receiving the above sad information. Shana Tova and Gmar Hatima Tova.

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### ***Jonathan Goldstein***

Dear Teddy:

I have become good friends with a Russian-speaking, Shanghai Jewish survivor who is a distant relative of Rena Krasno. She lived there in the 1930s. Her father represented the Soviet trading company. She knows nothing about Igud Yotzei Sin. Would it be possible for you to airmail her an assortment of recent Igud publications in Russian and English? I am certain that she would be most appreciative. Her name/address is: Mrs. Terry Rohe, 1427 US Hwy 1, Hancock ME 04640 USA. Please mention my name if/when you do send the materials. Cpacibo bolshe, und a shana tova mit freiliche harzen.

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### ***Yisroel and Alizah Silberstein***

Wishing you a sweet new year! May god grant us a year filled happiness, health and all good things.

Tikoseiv vi sechoseim Lishona tova umisukah! May you be signed and sealed for a good sweet year!

Rabbi Yisroel Silberstein Jewish Community Center Vladivostok, Russia

Full Name: Erez Zinman

Company:

Address: 1

City:

State / Province:

Country:

Zip/Postal Code:

E-mail: erezinman@gmail.com

Phone: 04-8252968



# DONATIONS

## SOCIAL AID FUND

### USA

#### SAN FRANCISCO

#### THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE FAR EASTERN SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO

From	The FAR EASTERN SOCIETY of SAN FRANCISCO for the Passover Holidays	US\$	2000
"	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph FROOMKIN for the Social Aid Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin	"	1000
"	David FAMILIANT towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	2500
"	Al RAYSON towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	750
"	Golda LAZAROVICH in honour of Mary WOLFF's 90th Birthday	"	90
"	Golda LAZAROVICH in honour of Mr. & Mrs. Morris ESKIN Golden Anniversary	"	100
"	Raissa GOLDIN in honour of Mary WOLFF's 90th Birthday	"	54
"	Raissa GOLDIN in honour of Mr. & Mrs. Morris ESKIN Golden Anniversary	"	50
"	Mary WOLFF in honour of Raissa GOLDIN's Birthday	"	25
"	Mary WOLFF with gratitude for remembering friends	"	50
"	Mary WOLFF in honour of Golda LAZAROVICH's Birthday	"	25

### USA

From	Kurt P.DULDNER for the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	1000
"	Rabbi Marvin TOKAYER for the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Bonnie and Ronald FEIN and family in loving memory of Deanna and David FEIN	"	1000
"	Aya PIVO (nee Machlin) for the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	1000
"	Theodore M.BELL in honour of Michael BELL, Lala BELL and Ilona FLINT BELL	"	750
"	Benjamin W.HENKIN for the Social Aid Fund in the name of HENKIN family	"	100
"	Benjamin W.HENKIN in memory of his mother Elka HENKIN on her Yahrzeit date	"	100
"	Benjamin W.HENKIN in lieu of flowers for the approaching Holiday of Pesach in the names of his parents Elka and Zeev-Wulf HENKIN	"	100
"	Paul BOGART in honour of Eleanor GALPERIN, Sydney, Australia	"	100
"	Archie and Mirna OSSIN in honour of their new granddaughter, Brooke Lauren KALMANSON, who was born on June 25, 2008	"	250
"	Archie and Mirna OSSIN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund for the PASSOVER	"	250
"	Nadia EHRlich FINKELSTEIN in memory of Anatole OSSINOVSKY	"	100
"	Inna and Morrie MINK in honour of Rasha and Ted KAUFMAN	"	50
"	Carol W. SKYDELL (Skidelsky Family in the USA) in honour of Mr. Teddy KAUFMAN	"	15

Many happy returns of the day to  
Mary WOLFF on her 90th Birthday  
Dora MEDAVOY,  
Larry and Veronica DRESSLER

From	Dora MEDAVOY, Larry and Veronica DRESSLER in honour of Mary WOLFF's 90th Birthday	US\$	50
"	The VAHN LIVING TRUST towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	250
"	Anna OSTROVSKA in memory of Mrs. A.JACOBSON	"	700
"	Charles and Ellie (Dinaburg) ELBAUM in memory of Roza and Ziana DINABURG and Bella DINABURG TAGLER	"	100
"	Jenny NEMIROVSKY in memory of her late husband NATHAN	"	30

From	Betty SHERR-LIAS in memory of Isaac LIAS	US\$	50
"	Tania SALTER in memory of Zina and Joseph ROBINSON	"	36
"	Beba LEVENTHAL in memory of her uncle Lasar Davidovich EPSTEIN, his wife SOPHIA and their son Izzy (Israel) EPSTEIN	"	50
"	Peter SCHULHOF in memory of his parents Joseph and Charlotte (Shari) SCHULHOF	"	50
"	Mark LIFSHITZ (LEEF) in memory of our group of students, then in Shanghai, who are all celebrated their 85th this year and those who are no longer with us	"	100
"	Nadia EHRlich FINKELSTEIN in loving memory of her parents Morus and Debora OSSINOVSKY EHRlich	"	100
"	Illo HEPPNER in memory of her husband Ernest HEPPNER on his Jahrzeit	"	18
"	Dora WAINER in memory of her father Shmuel Aba SEGERMAN on his Jahrzeit	"	100
"	Eugene and Guita BASOVITCH in memory of Joseph LERNER	"	18
"	Diane PTAK towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	25
"	Luba TUCK in memory of her sister Olga MALTZER (nee Schifrin)	"	100
"	Alla ELKIN in memory of her parents Saadia and Malka LITVIN and her husband Israel ELKIN	"	100
"	Matook R.NISSIM in honour of Mordecai BEN PORAT	"	200
"	Mariam MASE in honour of Nelli KOCHANOVSKY	"	25
"	Esther and Martin BATES in memory of Solomon and Rebecca BIHOVSKY	"	36
"	Dina VINCOW in memory of her parents Sofia Abramovna and Lev Moiseevich LICHOMANOV	"	250

### *In lieu of flowers for Passover*

From	Helga ALCONE	US\$	100	From	Maisie MEYER	US\$	18
"	Mr. & Mrs. Roger BERG	"	200	"	Joe MRANTZ	"	100
"	Basil G.BERNSTEIN M.D.	"	18	"	Matook R. NISSIM	"	100
"	Sol BIRULIN	"	200	"	Eva and Josef REICH	"	10
"	George FRANKE	"	25	"	Terry F.ROHE	"	25
"	Lena FRIEDEL-FELD	"	36	"	Zena SAILER	"	25
"	Raissa GOLDIN	"	25	"	Nina SAPOSNICK	"	100
"	Faith Ann GOLDMAN	"	100	"	Gina STEINBERG	"	200
"	Dr. & Mrs. Moses GROSSMAN	"	50	"	Freda TERFANSKY	"	25
"	Eve GROVER-STERN	"	20	"	Luba TUCK	"	180
"	Anne HUDSON	"	80	"	Dina and Gershon VINCOW	"	200
"	Gutia KATZEFF	"	50	"	Judith WEINSTEIN	"	36
"	Golda LAZAROVICH	"	65	"	Mordechai YADIN	"	100
"	Balfoura F.LEVINE	"	50	"	Henry ZIMBALIST	"	500
"	Vera D.LEVINE	"	180	"	Seema ZIMMERMAN	"	150
"	Eva McCOY	"	20				

### *GERMANY, Berlin*

From	Hellmut STERN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	100
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### *SWITZERLAND*

From	Judith MEYER – KRUGLAK for the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	118
"	Mrs. H.OSSINOVSKY in memory of her husband Anatoly OSSINOVSKY	"	70

### *ENGLAND, London*

From	Dr. Henry STRAGE in loving memory of his mother Sonya DINABURG STRAGE	US\$	180
"	Alex FAIMAN in memory of his parents LUCY and JULIUS and his wife AUDREY	"	135
"	Dr. Mark EROOGA towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	GBP	50

### *JAPAN, Tokyo*

From	Isumi SATO, Associate professor of the Faculty of Humanities at Toyo Gakuen University, in honour of Ilana Chava BAUMAN's Bat Mitzvah and her parents, Cindy and Joel BAUMAN	NIS	800
"	Rivka Sue NEWMAN and Geoffrey K.NEWMAN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	36

## AUSTRALIA

The Board of Directors of IGUD YOTZEI SIN and Jesse and Naomi TRACTON, who conducted the 2008-2009 I.Y.S. ANNUAL APPEAL in Australia, wish to express their sincere thanks to all contributors.

TOTAL A\$ 9445.-

We list below the names of contributors in order of generosity (in alphabetical order).

From	Mr & Mrs Harry TRUGUBOFF	A\$	3500	From	Mrs Nora KROUK & family	A\$	90
"	Mrs Bella SHANNON & family	"	1500	"	Mr Michael REDHILL	"	75
"	Mr and Mrs D.LEVITAN	"	1000	"	ANONYMOUS	"	50
"	Mr and Mrs David UDOVITCH	"	1000	"	Mr & Mrs Morris ESKIN & family	"	50
"	Dr. Samuel SAKKER M.B.E	"	500	"	Mrs Amalia GOLDBERG	"	50
"	Mr and Mrs Bob SHTEINMAN	"	500	"	Mrs Anya GOODRICH & family	"	50
"	Mr Alfred KANT	"	250	"	Mrs Lika KAGANER	"	50
"	Mr & Mrs G.VORON	"	150	"	Mrs Vera KARLIKOFF	"	50
"	Ms Nora FENBOW	"	120	"	Mrs Helen LEIBOVITCH	"	50
"	Mr. & Mrs. M.BRAUN	"	100	"	Mrs Rachel RIVKIN & family	"	50
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"	Mr David LEVITAN	"	100	"	Mrs Sophie SAKKER	"	50
"	Mr & Mrs Peter NASH	"	100	"	Dr. Samuel SAKKER	"	50
"	Mr. & Mrs. Larry SITSKY	"	100	"	Mr & Mrs R.SHAW	"	50
"	Mr & Mrs Jesse TRACTON	"	100	"	Mrs Leah ONIKUL	"	30
"	Mrs Hanna STERN	"	95				
From	Nora KROUK in memory of Efim KROUK	A\$	2000				
"	Harry TRIGUBOFF in memory of his brother Joseph TRAVERS	"	200				
"	Asya (Froumson) DEANE in honour of her parents David and Sarah FROUMSON	"	200				
"	Sopha SAKKER in honour of the FREIMAN family	"	50				
"	ANONYMOUS towards the IYS most valuable work	"	30				
"	Bluma KOTZ in memory of her husband Leova KOTZ, her parents Sarah and Alexander STEINER and her dear brother Nohum STEINER	"	50				
"	Jesse and Naomi TRACTON, Ian and Michelle and families for the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	200				
"	Stella and David UDOVITCH for the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	50				
"	Bronia SCHEER for the IYS Social Aid Fund in the name of Sonia and Max SCHEER	"	50				
"	Bronia SCHEER for the IYS Social Aid Fund in the name of Gita SILBERSTEIN, Bella BARON and Eve DEAR	"	50				
"	Roy and Gloria STEWART in memory of Gloria's dearest parents Solomon Davidovitch and Eugenia ZIMMERMAN	"	30				
"	Bella SHANNON in memory of her husband George SHANNON	"	500				
"	Leah ONIKUL in memory of her mother Essia MEEROVICH	"	18				
"	Leah ONIKUL in memory of her late husband Jacob ONIKUL	"	18				
"	Hilia RIVKIN in memory of her sister Mifa YACOBI KATZNELSON	"	150				
"	Nora VINSON in loving memory of her beloved husband Jim VINSON	"	100				
"	Solomon M.BARD towards the Social Aid Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin	US\$	50				
"	Juliet SEIFERT towards the Social Aid Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin	"	75				

## CANADA

From	Lily and Dov LIFSHITZ in memory of Lily's beloved parents Raya and Sam VAINER	C\$	100
"	Musia WEREK in memory of her beloved husband Chaim WEREK, father, grandfather and great grandfather	"	200
"	Jeannette POLOTSKY in memory of her brother-in-law George LEONOFF	"	100
"	Jeannette POLOTSKY in memory of her brother Evsei POLOTSKY	"	50
"	Lessy KIMMEL in loving memory of her parents Lucy and David ASHKENAZI	"	100
"	Lily FRANK in memory of her beloved parents Rivochka and Phillip FRANK	"	125
"	Lily FRANK in memory of her dearest friend Verochka YAPPO	"	25

From	Sandra SOUCCAR in memory of her mother Vera YAPPO	C\$	18
"	Frank and Nadia OGNISTOFF in memory of the parents Gregory and Maria OGNISTOFF	"	150
"	Frank and Nadia OGNISTOFF in honour of Mrs. Donia FUX on her past memorable birthday	US\$	100
"	Natalia WILSON towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	40
"	Stephen MARGLES towards the IYS Social Aid Fund for the Passover	"	36

### **Annual Appeal**

From	Abe ULAINE	C\$	1000	From	Leon LIFSHITZ	C\$	100
"	Mika HMELNITSKY KERNER	"	500	"	Lily and Dov LIFSHITZ	"	30

### **ISRAEL**

From	Marianna BARLY towards the IYS Social Aid Fund in memory of her parents Dr. Ernst and Gertrude MICHAELIS	"	5000
"	Varda and Shalom YORAN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	2350
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN in memory of dear mother Bertha Matveevna, son ZEEV and wife IRA	"	1000
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN in memory of his father Moisei Borisovich FLEISCHMANN	"	500
"	Ada GORFUNG in honour of her father Emmanuel INGERMAN's 81st Birthday	"	1000
"	Eli ALGOR (Grohovsky) and family on the occasion of his daughter EINAT's Wedding and Yahrzeit of his beloved mother Roza GROHOVSKY	"	1000
"	The OLMERT family towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	"	350
"	Shulamit EVEN in honour of Teddy KAUFMAN's Birthday	"	180
"	Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN in honour of Leonfrid HEIMAN's 80th Birthday	"	120
"	Shalva BRODSKY for Teddy Kaufman's book "The Jews of Harbin live on in my heart"	"	50
"	Rivka KOTICK and Luba TSINMAN towards the IYS Social Aid Fund	US\$	300

#### GIFT

From Ilana and Giora LESK and Carmela MADPIS  
for the Social Aid Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin  
NIS 25000

### **On occasion of Bobby BERSHADSKY's 80th Birthday**

From	Lily and Tzvi KOROSHI	NIS	250	From	Benny TZUR	NIS	150
"	Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN	"	120	"	Pearl KANPOL	"	100
"	Bella and Avram GOLDREICH	"	120	"	Hanna and Shmuel MILLER	"	100
"	Ilana OLSHEVSKY	"	100	"	Joe LEVOFF	"	150
"	Tamar and Shmuel KISLEV	"	300	"	Yakov BROSH	"	400
"	Tsofia and Shmuel POLIAK	"	180				

In honour of our wonderful parents  
Flora and Bob FREIMAN on their 58th Wedding Anniversary  
NIS 1000

Reva, Miriam, Peter, Tamara  
Abigail and Eliana

From	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of her grand-niece NOA's Bat-Mitzva	NIS	100
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Alia RECHES's Birthday	"	18
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Aya ROSENBLAT's Birthday	"	18
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Mary KAMIONKA's Birthday	"	18
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Vera BEGUN's Birthday	"	18
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Lily KOROSHI's Birthday	"	18
"	Genia OLSHEVSKY in honour of Rasha KAUFMAN's Birthday	"	36
"	Lily KOROSHI, Mira PISETSKY, Mary KAMIONKA, Tamara FAIBUSOVICH, Haya BRAHA, Eva LAU and Ety GINANSKY in honour of Genia OLSHEVSKY's Birthday	"	140
"	David GOOTMAN in loving memory of his dear parents Mary Davidovna and Hertz Abramovich GOOTMAN	"	300
"	Ran VEINERMAN in memory of George LEONOFF	"	250
"	Menakhem MISHORI, Malka OREN and family in memory of their wife, mother and grandmother Rachel MISHORI on her Yahrzeit	"	180
"	Sophia FUCHS in memory of her dear parents, brothers and sister-in-law PERSOFF and sister Musia (Mania) HENIGSBERG (Persoff)	"	500
"	Hanna and Samuel MULLER in memory of their PARENTS	"	500
"	Mifa (Udalevich) GORTSTEIN in memory of my late grandparents Dvora and Yaacov GEISLER and Olga and Abraham UDALOVICH	"	180
"	Teddy PIASTUNOVICH in memory of his mother Ella PIASTUNOVICH	"	200
"	Abraham OZRELOVICH in memory of his late RELATIVES	"	400
"	Alina KRINKEVICH in memory of her dear RELATIVES	"	500
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her cousin Esther LERMAN	"	200
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her aunt Braha LEV	"	200
"	Leonfrid HEIMAN in memory of his uncle Mordechai (Max) HEIMAN	"	100
"	Leonfrid HEIMAN in memory of his dear wife HENRIETTA	"	180
"	Lily FOLAD in memory of her mother Anya ODER	"	500
"	Aya ROSENBLAT in memory of her husband Moshe ROSENBLAT	"	100
"	Jeanne TIKOTSKY in loving memory of her dear mother Mira KANER	"	180
"	Bella GOLDREICH in memory of her father Shmuel Aba SEGERMAN on his Yahrzeit	"	360
"	Golda TOLEDO in memory of her mother Sonia PESELNICK	"	100
"	Luba BRUNNER in memory of Iza YARCHO on her Yahrzeit	"	300
"	Orit DUANI in memory of Mary BEYAR	"	150
"	Riva HOFFMAN in memory of her mother Fania SOKOL	"	150
"	Esther KATZ, Menakhem BASIN and Rina ZHELEZNIK in memory of their parents Riva and Shimon BASIN	"	180
"	Alex AUSWAKS in memory of his grandfather David SHPREHMAN	"	150
"	Baruch LEVITIN in memory of his mother Esther LEVITIN	"	180
"	Yona PONIMONSKY in memory of his wife Genia SHIFRIN	"	150
"	Esther ALON and Seva PODOLSKY in memory of their parents Efim and Leah PODOLSKY	"	180
"	Isabella NADEL in memory of her husband Yitzhak OREN (NADEL)	"	200
"	Renata SHANY in memory of her mother Miriam HALPERN on the 2nd Yahrzeit	"	300
"	Eugenia and Tamar GRAUSE in memory of their husband and father Yura GRAUSE	"	100
"	Musia ROSENBLUM in memory of her dear son Shlomo ROSENBLUM	"	300
"	Fira KANER in memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather Sioma KANER	"	200
"	Alter ROSENBLUM in memory of his wife IRA and daughter DALIA	"	200
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her aunt Braha LEV	"	200
"	Minia TSEM in memory of his dear PARENTS and wife TAMARA	"	180
"	Shmuel KISLEV in memory of his mother Sonia KISELEV	"	200
"	Maurice BEYAR in memory of his wife Mary BEYAR	"	200
"	Raya BOYANOVER in memory of her parents Sheila and Eliyahu SENBERG	"	100
"	Sara ROSS in honour of Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN's house-warming with the best wishes	"	100
"	Abram OZRELOVICH in memory of his friend of life Kira RUBIN	"	500

## In lieu of flowers

From	Mr. & Mrs. T.PIASTUNOVICH	US\$	200	From	Moshe LICHOMANOV	NIS	150
"	Mr. & Mrs. A.ABRAHAM	NIS	100	"	Tamar and Arie MADORSKY	"	100
"	Pesia and Roni AHARONI	"	150	"	Celia MAIMANN	"	300
"	Leah and Raphael ALPER	"	150	"	Alexander NAHUMSON	"	250
"	Shoshana and David ARAMA	"	300	"	Dana and Moshe MAROM	"	100
"	Abraham BARANOVSKY	"	200	"	Fania and David MINDLIN	"	200
"	Yakov BEN-AMI	"	600	"	Ilana MUNBLAT	"	100
"	Bernard DAREL and family	"	50	"	Isabel NADEL	"	200
"	Polina and Alexander EPSTEIN	"	100	"	Ernst and Irmgard NEUMAN	"	100
"	Shulamit EVEN	"	180	"	Cecilia PAYAS	"	100
"	Michael FLEISCHMANN	"	500	"	Tania PRISH	"	400
"	Abraham FRADKIN	"	500	"	Arie RAAM	"	150
"	Flora and Boris FREIMAN	"	300	"	Serafima RIBINICK	"	200
"	Inna GLOBIN	"	250	"	Nadia and Zeev ROBINZON	"	500
"	Elia and Dan GODER	"	100	"	Naomi ROLBANT	"	350
"	Mira GOLDBERG	"	100	"	Dr. Mira RONA	"	200
"	Pesia GOLDSTEIN	"	100	"	Israel ROSENBLAT	"	180
"	Jacob GURY	"	180	"	Judith and Israel SANDEL	"	200
"	Daphna GURI-BEN GARA	"	100	"	Eva SHAFRAN	"	200
"	Shoshana and Shabtai HAZAN	"	200	"	Miriam SHAHAM	"	150
"	Yair HENDEL	"	500	"	Edward and Tatiana SHEINGEIT	"	180
"	Itta HOROL	"	200	"	Marina and Alexander SHERMAN	"	100
"	Eli KAMA	"	100	"	Riva SCHMERLING	"	380
"	Ruth and Israel KARNY	"	300	"	Tsipora SCHNEIDERMANN	"	150
"	Esther and Yosef KATZ	"	100	"	Clara SCHWARTZBERG	"	400
"	Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN	"	500	"	Dalit SHIKMAN	"	200
"	Ilana and David KIMELMAN	"	200	"	Yakov SHTOFMAN	"	360
"	Tamar and Shmuel KISLEV	"	200	"	Rina (Shtofman) TISH	"	360
"	Pnina and Yosef KLEIN	"	360	"	Sarah UMANSKY	"	160
"	Rachel and Iona KLIGMAN	"	200	"	A. VAINBERG	"	100
"	Alina KRINKEVICH	"	300	"	Aviva and Benjamin VEINERMAN	"	300
"	Frieda KUPERMAN	"	250	"	Lutz WITKOWSKI	"	250
"	Linor LANKIN	"	500	"	Yosef YAKOBSON	"	100
"	Joe LEVOFF	"	180	"	Vera YOSELEVICH	"	100
"	Katy LEVY	"	300	"	Lena YUDIN	"	180
"	Timna LILACH	"	300	"	Aviva and Gershon ZALTSMAN	"	120

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

### USA

From	Raissa GOLDIN in memory of her son Yosef FRENKEL	US\$	90
"	Archie OSSIN in memory of his mother Sarah OSSIN	"	50
"	Mark KAPTZAN for the Synagogue Fund of Igud Yotzei Sin	"	100

### CANADA

From	Allan RAYSON in memory of his parents Danil and Fania RESNIKOV	US\$	180
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### ISRAEL

From	Isai PIASTUNOVICH in memory of his wife Haya PIASTUNOVICH	NIS	260
"	Esther GINANSKY in memory of her sister Mary BEYAR	"	150
"	Lily and Zvi KOROSHI in honour of the marriage of their grandson Gil SHMUELSON and Orly BRAZ	"	300
"	Lily KOROSHI in memory of her beloved grandmother Itta KRUGLIAK on the Yahrzeit of 55 years	"	50
"	Shalva BRODSKY in memory of her husband Vova BRODSKY on his Yahrzeit	"	100
"	Shoshi MAYMON (Lilchuk) in memory of her grandfather Noah LILCHUK	"	50
"	Tamar NISANOV in memory of her parents Fania and Yakov KESLER	"	200

From	Rachel VECKSLER in memory of her husband PAVEL and son RAPHAEL	NIS	180
"	Judith MAROM and Inon PERRY in memory of their mother Rachel PERSOFF	"	100
"	Eva SHAFRAN in memory of her husband Boris SHAFRAN	"	150
"	Ran VEINERMAN in memory of his father Albert VEINERMAN	"	80
"	Isabel SHARON in memory of her parents Gavriel (Gava) and Rosetta RABINOVICH	"	120
"	Yona PONIMONSKY in memory of Ziama SHIFRIN	"	120
"	Israel KARNY in memory of his mother Mina KRIMCHANSKY	"	100
"	Riva HOFFMANN in memory of her father Itzhak SOKOL	"	150
"	Mary KAMIONKA in memory of her parents Hana and Motia SCHWARTZ on her mother's Yahrzeit	"	100
"	Raphael LUDIN in memory of his father Haim LUDIN	"	100
"	Joe LEVOFF in memory of his father Zelick LEVOFF	"	100
"	Mara BRODSKY in memory of her husband Grisha BRODSKY	"	180
"	Shoshana MAYMON (Lilchuk) in memory of her father Shimon LILCHUK	"	50
"	Rivka SCHMERLING in memory of her sister Ella MATZOVER and parents Haya and Feivel MARKIN	"	300
"	Alina KRINKEVICH in memory of her dear RELATIVES	"	80
"	Tema BLUM in memory of Fania and Yakov SEGAL	"	180
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear sister Miriam ELBERG	"	200
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear parents Rabby Yehuda Zelig and Dina SLUTSKER and the late RELATIVES	"	500
"	Luba TSINMAN in memory of her dear husband Abraham TSINMAN	"	300
"	daughter Judith MAROM and son Yenon PERRY in memory of their father Yitzhak (Issai) PERSOFF	"	100
"	Genia KAUFMAN in memory of her parents Musia and Pana SAMSONOVITCH	"	180
"	Leah BECKER in memory of her mother Anna Borisovna ALTCLASS and family friend Shimon FUCHS	"	250
"	Esther YARHO in memory of her parents Iza (1st Yahrzeit) and Aharon YARHO (10th Yahrzeit) and in memory of her grandparents Esther and Avraham YARHO and Enya and Michael KONDAKOFF	"	360
"	Shulamith EVEN towards the Synagogue Fund	"	180
"	Yakov SHTOFMAN in memory of his mother Musia SHTOFMAN	"	180

## **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

### **USA**

#### **THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE FAR EASTERN SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

From	The ALEXANDER M. AND JUNE L. MEISIN FOUNDATION to Igud Yotzei Sin for Scholarship Awards to the grandchildren and other descendants of former residents of China in Israel (The Scholarship Fund in memory of Alexander and June MEISIN)	US\$	30000
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### **AUSTRALIA**

From	Lyka KAGANER and family in loving memory of our dear husband, father and Deda Yasha KAGANER towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Yasha KAGANER	NIS	1100
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### **ISRAEL**

From	Sarah UMANSKY in memory of her husband Gary UMANSKY towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Gary UMANSKY	NIS	5000
"	Sarah UMANSKY towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Gary UMANSKY	"	1250
"	Abraham FRADKIN in memory of his parents Zina and Osia FRADKIN towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Zina and Osia FRADKIN	"	2000

#### **DONATION**

From Baruch LEVITIN and Mira NAGAR to establish  
The Scholarship Fund in memory of their late parents  
Alexander and Esther LEVITIN  
NIS 10000

*(continued on p. 107)*

It is with deep sorrow that we express our deepest condolences  
to ISRAEL, MIMI, DANNY and their families  
on the loss of their father, grandfather, great-grandfather and our dear friend

## **Leo HANIN**

Raissa GOLDIN

Golda LAZAROVICH

Lea and Jack LIBERMAN

Dora MEDAVOY and family

Mira MRANTZ and family

Mary WOLFF and family

96

We mourn the loss of our cherished lifelong friend

## **Leo HANIN**

and extend heartfelt sympathy to dear ISRAEL, MIMI, DANNY,  
and to their families

Tamara and Dorik ROZANSKI and family

Irene BOROVITZ and family



Deeply saddened by the passing of my old friend

**Leo HANIN**

My heartfelt condolences to his entire family

Joe MRANTZ

Nora KROUK is very saddened by the passing of an old friend

**Leo HANIN**

and expresses her deepest sympathy to the children and the entire family

We deeply mourn the untimely loss of our nephew and cousin

**George GRAUER**

and express our heartfelt condolences to his mother FRIDA

GOLDA, ESTHER and families

We are deeply saddened by the passing of

**George GRAUER**

and express our heartfelt sympathy to his mother FRIDA and family

Lillie BERK

Bella BERKOVITCH

Stassia FELDMAN

Rissia IONIS

Olga and Isai KAUFMAN

Lydia LIBERMAN

I am deeply saddened by the passing of

**George GRAUER**

and express my heartfelt sympathy to FRIDA and family

Raissa GOLDIN

We are saddened by the death of our dear cousin and great aunt

**Mania HENIGSBERG**  
(nee Persoff)

and express our deepest condolences to her sister, Sonia FUCHS and  
to Judy MAROM and Yenon PERRY and their families on the loss of their aunt

Frank, Nadia and Jack OGNISTOFF  
Paul and Donna ROSENBLUM

With great sadness we mourn the loss of our dear cousin

**Anne BASHKIROFF**

and extend our deepest condolences to NICK, PEGGY, and to their family

Rose and Norman PEISER  
Susan and Mark BRITANISKY

We announce with deep sorrow the passing of our brother-in-law and uncle

**Israel BRUNNER**

and extend our condolences to RAFIC and family

Luba BRUNNER

Shirley HERSHCOVICH and family

Ella TANDET and family

Ilana SEGAL and family

Esther YARHO is very saddened by the passing of her relative and family friend

**Israel BRUNNER**

and extends her deepest sympathy to RAFI and family on the loss of their father and grandfather

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

**Israel BRUNNER**

and extends heartfelt sympathy to his family

We are deeply saddened by the passing away of our friend

**George LEONOFF**

and extend heartfelt condolences to RITA, NORA, DAVID and family

Lily and Dov LIFSHITZ

Stassia FELDMAN expresses her condolences to the bereaved family

on the passing of

**Victor KOHANOVSKY**

The BOARD of DIRECTORS of IGUD YOTZEI SIN

is saddened by the passing of

**Raya BERGMAN**

(nee Gusinsky)

and extends heartfelt sympathy to her family

It is with sadness we advise the passing of

**Lena SEIFERT**

aged 95, after years of lingering illness.

Devoted and loving wife of Zygmunt SEIFERT (deceased),

mother of JULIET, mother-in-law of Tom BOWEN,

cousin of Dora WAINER (US), Rasha KAUFMAN

and Bella GOLDREICH (Israel).

May she have found restful peace at last.

We extend heartfelt condolences to Juliet and Tom on the loss of our beloved cousin

**Lena SEIFERT**

She will remain in our hearts forever

Dora and Joe WAINER

Rasha and Teddy KAUFMAN

Bella and Avram GOLDREICH

We extend our deepest condolences to Batia, Misha OZER and family,  
Judy and Hanan ZAUBERMAN and their family on the loss of their mother,  
mother in law and grandmother

**Lilly OZER**

Dora MEDAVOY and family

With great sadness, we announce the passing of two of our lifelong members,

**Blanche ORJELIK**  
and  
**Laura DMITROVSKY**

and extend our deepest condolences to their families

American Far Eastern Society, NY

The Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin and  
The Committee of Israel China Friendship Society

deeply mourn the passing of our dear friend

**Danny BERKOVITCH**

and extend heartfelt sympathy to Ilana and Giora LESK, Carmela MADPIS  
and their families

Rasha and Teddy Kaufman deeply mourn the loss of their dear friend

**Danny BERKOVITCH**

and extend heartfelt condolences to Ilana and Giora LESK, Carmela MADPIS  
and their families.

With great sadness we announce the passing of our member

**Ludmila GOODRICH**

American Far Eastern Society  
New York

# LARRY TUCK

In deep sorrow, Mark and I, his wife Lynn, his daughter Jessica, his brother Jeffrey  
and all our family, mourn the terrible loss of my beloved son.

Luba TUCK

I am deeply saddened, dear Luba, by the untimely death of your cherished son

## LARRY

and extend my sincere condolences.

Abe FRADKIN

We deeply mourn the loss of our dear friend

## Larry Tuck

and extend heartfelt condolences to Luba and all her family

Rasha and Teddy Kaufman  
Bella and Avram Goldreich

The Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin  
is deeply saddened by the passing of

## Larry TUCK

and extends heartfelt sympathy to Luba TUCK and her family

Words are Redundant

Joe and Dora Wainer and family  
send their condolences, love and prayers to  
Luba, Lynn and Jessica Tuck  
and their extended family

May Larry rest in peace

We wish to extend our heartfelt condolences  
on the passing of dear

**Larry Tuck**

to his wife Lynn, his daughter Jessica, his mother Luba,  
his brother Jeffrey, his father Mark and their families

He will be sorely missed

Angelica and Mike Klebanoff

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to  
Luba, Mark, Lynn, Jessica, Jeffrey  
and extended families, on the passing of dear

**Larry**

son, brother, uncle and cousin

Much love

Funk and Doktori families



With deep regret we announce the passing of our President

# Frances Greenberg

February 19, 2009.

You touched the lives of so many all around the world and helped  
keep us together. May your Memory be a Blessing

Dr. Nicholas Koffler

Stephen, Marcella, Nicholas, Kayla, and Seth Koffler

Pamela, Russell, Georgia, and Lionel Koffler Fine

Richard, Lauren, Will, and Daisy Koffler

Kenney, Gregg, Jaegger, and Sage Linsky

Andrea Linsky

Jennifer Linsky and Zane

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of our  
lifelong member and President

## **Frances Greenberg**

We will forever treasure her unconditional service filled with love for us

Our deepest condolences to her wonderful family

American Far Eastern Society, NY

The Board of Directors of Igud Yotzei Sin  
is deeply saddened by the passing of

## **Frances GREENBERG**

Long-time President of the American Far Eastern Society of New York.

Honorary member of Igud Yotzei Sin  
and a very devoted friend of our Association  
we extend heartfelt sympathy to her family

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear friend,

## **Frances Greenberg**

We so admired her for her strength of character, her warm personality,  
and the unconditional love she gave to her family and to her friends.

We will miss her so much

Our heartfelt condolences to Nick, the Grandchildren, the Great Grandchildren,  
Nephews and Nieces

Peiser Family  
Saragossi Family  
Britanisky Family

# FRANCES GREENBERG

Goodbye, my friend, a life well lived. Condolences to your dear family

With love,  
Luba TUCK

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

## **Ben (Benjamin) LITVIN**

and extends heartfelt sympathy to his family

Lubochka, we share with you the tragic loss of your son

## **LARRY**

and express our deepest condolences to your entire family

Lea and Jack Liberman

We express our deepest condolences to Luba and her family on the loss of her son

## **LARRY**

Sophie Veinerman and Mira Mrantz

### *(Continued from p. 95)*

From	Ran VEINERMAN in memory of his father Albert VEINERMAN towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Albert VEINERMAN	NIS	1000
"	Sarah and Danny ROSS in memory of a dear husband and father Eli ROSS towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Eli ROSS for the Chinese students in Israel	"	200
"	Shulamit EVEN in memory of her parents Mara and Sarah MORGULEV towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Sarah and Mara MORGULEV	"	180
"	Alon and Ella GOLDREICH towards the Scholarship Fund in memory of Tania and Shmuel Aba SEGERMAN	"	800

# In Memoriam

## Frances Greenberg

Frances Greenberg, the President of the American Far Eastern Association, passed away in New York on February 19. More than half a century the active work of our oldest is generally connected with the name of Frances. All through these long years Frances took the most active part in the work of the New York Far Eastern Association. For many years she was the chairman of the ladies' committee of the Association, and for more than 20 years after the death of M. Britanishsky - the previous President of the Association. She was a dedicated public worker and in the course of long years she worried about the prosperity of Igud Yotzei Sin. Until the last days of her life she conducted the work of the much shrunken ranks of our New York Association. Frances enjoyed great love and respect from all those who knew her. She also participated in the activities of the synagogue center in



her region and contributed to social aid funds for Jews from the former USSR, who arrived in New York. For her services to our association Frances was awarded the title of an Honorary Member of Igud Yotzei Sin: She participated in our reunions and she was the chairwoman of one of them.

Frances visited Israel frequently and was in touch with her relatives who made the Aliya from the former USSR to Israel in the years of mass repatriation in the 90's.

The death of Frances is a great loss not only for her family and her compatriots in America, but also for Igud Yotzei Sin in Israel. Frances was connected with many former residents of China who had lived in Tientsin and Shanghai in the past. Frances and her late husband Jack (Yakov) were our great friends in the Far Eastern Association in New York. Their devotion to the cause of rendering social aid to former residents of China and her compatriots did not know boundaries. She leaves behind grandchildren and great grandchildren. In spite of her age (Frances was 92) she was always full of strength and desire to help Igud Yotzei Sin in Israel. She was a warm-hearted Jewish woman and a dedicated social worker. She will live forever in the hearts of all of us who knew her and who had walked together with her many kilometers of the path of public life. May her memory be bright forever!

T. Kaufman

## The advertisement in the New - York Times:

With deep regret we note the passing of Frances Greenberg on Feb 19 from complications of a stroke. Family leader and bedrock, Frances was known to all as the "glue" of her extended family which spanned three continents. Born in China in 1917, she came to New York with her late husband, Jack Greenberg, and two daughters before WWII. Always dedicated to her people, she volunteered for several Jewish organizations, was President of the American Far Eastern Society, and also an active member of Cong. B'nai Jeshurun for over fifty years. The youngest of eight, she saw many loved ones off to the next life including, sadly, her two daughters Rosalie and Anne. We strove in your model to bring dignity and peace to your final hour, Grandma. Survived by her son-in-law Dr. Nicholas

Koffler, grandchildren Stephen, Pamela, Richard Koffler and Kenny, Andrea, and Jennifer Linsky, as well as nine great-grandchildren. You showed us how to live with strength, common sense, and humor. We'll miss you. Gifts to Cong. BJ Rabbi Discretionary Fund, 2109 Broadway, Suite 203, NY NY 10023. Funeral Sunday Feb 22 9:30am at Plaza Memorial, 91st and Amsterdam.

## Dear Steve,

It is so difficult to accept news of a beloved person passing away. She was a special person in every aspect, not only family wise. She was kind helpful and thoughtful, clear minded, original in her beliefs always showed interest and was interesting and a wonderful story teller. Nothing escaped her.

Although her health escaped her, she was always a willing and wonderful host. For quite a long time she lived

alone but was never lonely, involving herself in different activities.

She loved all of you and accepted all of you as whole persons. Never criticizing always had only the best to think of you and to say about you. She was very confident and assured of your love for her. On our last trip to New-York in October Oded I Naama and Shaked paid her a visit. Both girls are quite shaken and so very sorry they haven't thanked her for her hospitality.

My parents feel a deep sorrow as if being abandoned by their last well beloved cousin.

Our children Yael Assa Dan Haim and their families share with us our love and respect for Frances. Her persona and memory will always remain vivid in my eyes.

We grieve with all of you, and offer you our condolences. 'Sh' lo tedoo od tza-ar'.

Henia and Oded

# 25 years since Misha Kogan passed away

T. Kaufman

The 6th of February 2009 was 25 years since the departure of our friend Misha Kogan.

Misha's history resembles that of other youth in Harbin. He was born to a wealthy family, graduated from "The First Commercial School" in Harbin in 1937, and was an active member of the Zionist youth movement "Brit Trumpeldor" (Betar). He continued his studies at the UMCA college in Harbin and in order to acquire a higher education went to Japan, unlike many others who went to the USA, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Belgium. He was accepted at the Japanese "Oxford", the Vasedo University in Tokyo. He graduated, acquired an excellent command of Japanese and through numerous Japanese friends achieved insights into Japanese psychology.

On his return to China, Misha set up a business in Tienzin and soon married Asia Kachanovska, an eighteen year old beauty from Harbin. The young couple had two children, a daughter Rita and son Abba. During their life they lived in Israel and Hong Kong but their main residence had been in Tokyo. In Tokyo they owned a business and a house, had family

and friends and a respected position in the commercial world in Japan.

When 25 years ago, Misha passed away, at the age of 64, the Japanese Industrialists Association dedicated an article to him in a local newspaper both in English and Japanese. He was mentioned as one of the leading industrialists in Japan whose contribution to the Japanese industry at the end of the war was tremendous.

Another important aspect of Misha's life concerns the history of the Jews of China and the Far East. "Kogan's Papers" (the documents and papers of Misha Kogan), contain materials taken from Japanese sources. They relate to the development of the relationship between the Jews and the Japanese during the period of the Second World War, the war in the Far East when Japan, which was an ally of Nazi Germany, didn't adopt the anti-Semitic racial laws as did Italy. On the basis of this documentation many documents have been published concerning the question of the Jews in the circles of the Japanese regime, and later on – the war in Asia and the Pacific. It's an invaluable, unique material which the Kogan family

intends to transfer to the Archives of the Jewish People in Jerusalem.

Since Misha's death, his widow Asia, who resides in Japan, has dedicated her life to charity in perpetuation of his memory and the memory of her beloved family. Many departments in the "Assaf Harofé" hospital commemorate Misha.

Asia has set up two funds in Igud Yotzei Sin a scholarship fund, which for the last 20 years awards scholarships to 50 Israeli students, and a social aid fund, from which 25 Israeli families receive a monthly sum.

At present, in addition to the existing funds, Asia has set up two more funds to commemorate Misha: a scholarship fund for ten students from China studying in the higher education institutions in Israel, and a fund for the preservation of the Jewish past in China.

Misha has left us prematurely. He was a man of wisdom, of initiative in business. His memory will always stay with us, and in the hearts of all those who knew him in faraway Harbin, Japan and the United States. Let his memory be blessed!

## Fira Hershkovich - In Memoriam

T. Kaufman

Our dear friend from Harbin Esther (Fira) Hershkovich (Patkin) passed away at the age of 86 in Haifa.

Fira was born in Harbin, studied and graduated from The First Commercial School and was an active member of "Betar". She married Shura Hershkovich and together with her parents, brother and his family and

her mother in law Gusta Yevseivna Hershkovich arrived at Israel in 1950 with the wave of mass immigration of the Jews of China. Fira had a good command of Hebrew and for many years until her retirement worked in "Hamashbir Hamerkazi" in Haifa.

Fira was a very devoted daughter and took great care of her parents

and her mother in law who were in need of lengthy medical treatments in the hospital and at her home. Later came long years of coping with her husband's serious illness and here again Fira proved her loyalty and devotion. During the years of his illness she enveloped him with her

*(Continued on p. 110)*

## ***Kira Rubina***

Kira Rubina, the life partner of our friend Avram Ozrelovich, has passed away at the age of 70 on December 17th, 2008. Kira arrived with the wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union. For many years she worked in the laboratory of the hospital in Afula until her retirement. Kira had a pleasant and friendly disposition and was greatly loved and respected by friends and acquaintances. As a partner of our friend Abrasha Ozrelovich she surrounded him with love and care throughout their shared life.

Her funeral took place in the cemetery of Migdal Haemek. Many people – friends, neighbors, colleagues – came to pay their respect. We lost a good friend who left her mark in the hearts of all who knew her. Proof to that was the great number of people who eulogized her. The fresh grave was covered by wreaths and flowers. She left behind, her partner Abrasha, a son, a brother, and their families. Let her memory be blessed!

T. Kaufman

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## ***(Continued from p. 109)***

care. She wasn't only a beautiful woman but a good and warm person. She excelled as a community worker, as a volunteer, as an organizer and a leader. From the 1990's, when a million of newcomers from the former Soviet Union were making their way to Israel, many of them enjoyed her care and assistance. Her home was open to all- for help, advice, contacts, and these she gave freely and wholeheartedly.

Unfortunately, in recent years Fira was seriously ill, however she remained kind hearted and beautiful as ever.

Our dearest friend from China and Israel is gone. A warm Jewish heart beats no more, but she will remain in the hearts of all those she met in her lifetime.

## ***Shura Vailer***

On the 21st of December, our friend from Harbin and Tienzin, Alexandra (Shura) Vailer (Goldstein) passed away in Haifa.

Shura and her family arrived in Israel with the wave of mass immigration from China in 1950. She was active (in the Haifa branch of Igud Yotzei Sin) -Her main occupation was her volunteer work in the oncology ward of the "Rambam" hospital in Haifa.

The funeral took place on December 22nd in the Haifa cemetery. Her many acquaintances, friends, representatives of the hospital employees and volunteers accompanied her to her last resting place. She was eulogized by B. Darel and R. Veinerman and a wreath on behalf of IYS was laid by E. Vandel.

She is survived by a son and family.

Let her memory be blessed!



**The Jewish High School in Harbin, 2009**



**The "Main" Synagogue in Harbin, 2009**

## **The memoirs of Mina Krimchansky**

The memoirs of our compatriot Mina Krimchansky "The Ways of my Life" have been published in Hebrew. It's a novel describing life in Russia, China and Israel. The book is richly illustrated with numerous photographs reflecting a long lifetime journey of this extraordinary woman.

## **Benjamin Litvin**

Our compatriot from Harbin, Tienzin and Hong Kong, Benjamin Litvin, passed away on the 1st of September at the age of 94.

Ben belonged to the well known Litvin family in Harbin. His father, rabbi Saadiah Litvin served as the deputy to rabbi A. M. Kisilev. On his mother's side he came from the well known family of rabbi Z. Slutsker, the Hebrew teacher, remembered by many young people of Harbin. Ben graduated from the first Harbin Public Commercial School with a gold medal. He continued his higher education at a university in Hong Kong. Ben returned to Tienzin where he taught at the Jewish school.

Ben married Raya Gleiberman and their marriage lasted 60 years. When the mass emigration of the Jews of China began in 1949, Ben and his family arrived in Israel. At the beginning of the fifties he left for Colombia where he started a business.

On the return of the family to Israel Ben settled in Tel Aviv which he never left.

Ben was an exceedingly talented, cosmopolitan person. His interests embraced many fields. His knowledge, wisdom and talents were enormous. In Israel he made two large donations: to the "Tel Hai" college and to the Center of the Youth Education "Kfar Hayarok" in memory of his beloved wife Raya. Throughout his life Ben had close ties with Igud Yotzei Sin.

His funeral was held in the Kfar Sirkin

cemetery. Ben was interred near his wife Raya. A large number of people came to pay their last respects, among them family, friends, acquaintances and graduates of "Kfar Yarok". He was eulogized by his daughters, Rina and Yosefa, his grandchildren and representatives of the "Tel Hai" college and "Kfar Yarok". The grave was covered by wreaths and flowers. T.Kaufman laid a wreath on behalf of Igud Yotzei Sin.

The deceased left two daughters, Rina Bitterman and family and Yosefa Frenkel and family, eight grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and three sisters – Alla Elkin, Hannah Muller and Leah Alper, and his sister in law Dina Gleiberman.

May his memory be blessed!

T. Kaufman

## **The first anniversary of Kurt Maiman's death**

The memorial service (azkara) for our compatriot from Shanghai (Hongkew), the Chairman of the Hongkew section in Igud Yotzei Sin, Kurt Maiman, was held at the Holon cemetery on the 5th of September. His family, friends and compatriots were present. R. and T. Kaufman laid a wreath on behalf of Igud Yotzei Sin.

## **Fira Hershkovich**

At the age of 86 and after a long and serious illness, our friend from Harbin Esther (Fira) Hershkovich (Patkin) passed away on the 20th of December, 2008 in Haifa. The funeral took place on the 21st of December in a cemetery in Haifa and many of her friends, acquaintances, and neighbors accompanied her to her final resting place. IYS was represented by R. and T. Kaufman, R. Veinerman, E. Vandel, and B. Darel. T. Kaufman said "Kaddish" and spoke in her memory at the fresh gravesite. A wreath on behalf of IYS was laid on the grave. She is survived by a brother Avram Patkin and a nephew Boris and family who sojourns in Australia.

## **Leva Hanin (Leo)**

A couple of years ago I wrote an obituary for my dear friends Lucia and Mara Grossman. Little did I know that I would be writing this obituary in memory of a wonderful human being, my friend Leo.

But before I begin I would like to quote a little poem called "Dash" that I just heard at a funeral of another friend.

*I read of a man who stood to speak  
at the funeral of a friend*

*He referred to the dates on his  
tombstone from the beginning to the  
end*

*He noted that first came the date of  
his birth*

*And spoke of the following date with  
tears but said what mattered most of  
all was the*

*Dash between those years*

*For the Dash represents all the time  
he spent alive on earth ...*

*And now only those who loved him  
know what that little line is worth.*

This little dash applies to Leo; who did so much good in his life, his kindness, knowledge of Jewish history, and being proud to be a Jew. His involvement with Yeshiva that was brought from Poland to Kobe, Japan, during war, helped them to settle by being able to interpret from Yiddish to Japanese.

My last visit with him this past June, was a good one for both of us, he was so happy that "Mirkale" came to visit him, but I had a feeling with tears in my eyes that this would be the last time I would see my friend. Losing Leo is a terrible loss to me personally, to his family, and to those who really knew him.

Rest in peace my dear friend; I will always cherish my time with you.

Mira Mratz

## **Anya Lichtig**

Our compatriot, Anya Lichtig (nee Chaplinsky), passed away on the 22nd of September in the city of Vrotslav (former Breslau) in Poland at the age of 88.

Anya graduated from the first Harbin Language School (former 1- HOKU) and was an active member of the Harbin "Maccabi". In 1942 she married Yuzik Lichtig and they had a daughter. At the beginning of the fifties the family emigrated to Poland and settled in Vrotslav. Anya and Yuzik were married for 66 years. She leaves behind her husband and her daughter Zilla.

Blessed be her memory!

### **Yuzik Lichtig**

Yuzik Lichtig, our compatriot from Harbin, passed away at the age of 90 on the 4th of October in the city of Vrotslav (former Breslau), Poland.

Yuzik belonged to the well known Lichtig family in Harbin owners of knelling factories in the city. He graduated from the first Harbin Commercial School. He was an active member of "Maccabi" and a talented chess player. In addition he acted in the dramatic circle of "Maccabi". In 1942 he married Anya Chaplinsky and they had a daughter. At the beginning of the fifties Yuzik, who held a Polish citizenship, emigrated to Poland and has since then lived in Vrotslav. Yuzik and Anya were married for 66 years and passed away shortly one after the other.

Yuzik was extremely pleasant and friendly and had lots of friends and acquaintances in China and many other countries. He leaves a daughter Zilla in Germany and a brother Avi Lichtig in Israel.

Blessed be his memory!

### **Danny Berkovitch**

Danny Berkovitch, our compatriot from Harbin, passed away in Raanana on the 4th of October.

Danny belonged to the group of Betar members who immigrated to Palestine at the beginning of the thirties. He arrived together with his wife Musia (nee Diatlovitsky) and her sister Ella, the wife of Moma Lesk. The two couples were inseparable and together went through all the hardships of those days in Palestine.

After the establishment of Israel, Danny entered the world of business. For many years he served as a sole representative of the Japanese "Subaru" car company.

Throughout the years Danny was closely associated with Igud Yotzei Sin and the Israel-China Friendship Society. When the need arose he generously donated to our Association. Danny had many friends among former residents of China and among the old timers in Israel.

The funeral took place on the 5th of October at the Kiriya Shaul cemetery in Tel Aviv. He was buried alongside his wife Musia and other members of the family. Danny's many friends participated in the ceremony. His nephew Giora Lesk said the Kaddish, and T. Kaufman eulogized him. The new grave was covered by flowers and wreaths, among them a wreath laid by T. Kaufman on behalf of Igud Yotzei Sin.

Let his memory be blessed!

### **Izya Brunner**

Izya Brunner, our compatriot from Harbin, passed away on the 27th of October.

For many years Izya took an active role in the work of Igud Yotzei Sin. He was an Honorary Secretary, a Treasurer, Vice-President and a President of IYS. He was also the Vice President of the Israel-China Friendship Society.

The funeral took place on the 28th of October at the Yarkon cemetery. He was laid to rest alongside the grave of his wife Lily. He left behind a son, daughter in law and grandchildren. Blessed be his memory!

### **Lyova Hanin**

In September, in Los Angeles, our compatriot from Harbin and Shanghai, Lyova Hanin passed away at the age of 95.

Lyova graduated from the First Harbin Public Commercial School in 1930. He later moved to Shanghai and there, just like in Harbin, he was an active member in Betar.

For a certain period he lived in Japan where he served as a salaried secretary of the Jewish community that had done so much for the European refugees arriving before the outbreak of the Second World War.

Lyova had always taken an active role in public life and for many years was an active member of the Far East Association of Los Angeles, serving as a member of the Association committee until the very end.

He leaves behind his son Israel Hanin, a university professor living in the USA and his sister Zila Nirim living in Israel.

Blessed be his memory!

### **Mr. Fang Falang passed away**

I received a sad announcement that Mr. Fang Falang, the guardian angel and devoted caretaker of the Ohel Moshe museum in Shanghai, has passed away on the 29th of April. He was 88 or 89 years old, but he tirelessly recounted to numerous tourists visiting the museum the history of the Jewish refugees who found shelter in Shanghai during the Second World War. The announcement of his death was received from Mr. Chen Tzian, who seems to have replaced Mr. Fang Falang.



**Anyone interested in memorializing their deceased loved ones should contact Igud Yotzei Sin**



# Obituary for Helen (Lena) Seifert



Born Helena Brumberg, Lena was the oldest child to Borys (Boruch) and Fajga Brumberg, in the town of Zgierz, Poland, 14th March 1913. She had a sister Julie and brother David.

The family was a very Jewish one, not just in the purely religious sense. Jewish culture prevailed in the home, and learning and study generally were highly valued.

Lena received a thorough Jewish educational grounding, attended a Jewish high school in Swięciany, becoming particularly proficient in Yiddish and delighting in reciting Heine for her rather anti-Semitic German teacher in a highly Yiddish - accented German. It was expected of her to be a good student – and she was.

Hard work and application was a family trait. Lena's mother, Fajga, ran a reputable and successful retail textile business. She later opened the first cinema in the town, Kino-Teatr "Lux", showing the first silent movies. Fajga's husband, Borys, travelled regularly to Riga to purchase textiles for his wife's business.

Borys's real work, however, was as a deputy Mayor of the town – a very unusual position to be held by

a Jew in Poland. However, he was recognised as a wise man, with a good deal of practical common sense – for example, solving local infrastructure and communication problems by drawing up plans for the construction of a bridge over the river running through the town, organising its construction and thereby opening up opportunities for increased local trade. Letters would arrive for the Deputy Mayor, addressed to "Borys Rozumny – Gówny Rynek" – Borys the Wise, Main Market Square.

The family was a very large one, with numerous aunts, uncles, cousins from both Lena's mother's and father's side of the family. There were very religious elements, Bundists, as well as core Communists. During the many pogroms, each in turn suffered for their beliefs and political involvements.

In 1928, the system of university 'numeris clausus' in Poland, led Lena to leave the closeness of this family environment to study in Strasbourg, France. This meant, of course, that she had first to learn the language in order to be accepted into the university. After one year of intense study of French, she was accepted into the Faculty of Dentistry. She graduated with 'felicitationes' (Honours and a medal of recognition) and then practised in the University clinic for a year, while her fiancé, Zygmunt, completed his studies.

Lena and Zygmunt were married on the 20 December, 1938 in Strasbourg by the Grand Rabbi of France. They left very shortly thereafter for Shanghai. Lena's family were well aware of what was already brewing in Europe and one of her uncle's arranged passage for her and her new husband, organised an apartment for them in Shanghai and helped them settle.

The nine years they spent in Shanghai

were a very mixed set of experiences. Lena and Zygo were fortunate enough to live in the International Compound and work in the French Concession, successfully applying for exemption from moving to the ghetto in Hong Kew, and to have many kind friends and almost substitute parents, particularly in the white Russian community,

Lena nevertheless found the isolation from her true home and roots extremely difficult. She had been back home only a couple of times during her years in France. In the beginning of her period in Shanghai, letters still arrived from home and she would still send parcels and "kisses" (the code for US dollars) back home. Letters told in disguised form (referencing biblical and other historic events) of what was happening in Poland. However, increasingly the difficulty of communicating with family in Poland preyed on her severely.

The health problem that was to plague her for the rest of her life began, with the onset of bronchial asthma for which there was not much treatment available. She spent some months in Japan in the care of nuns but never really recovered properly.

She brought her asthma with her to Australia, together with her prized collection of Chinese linen embroidered tablecloths and doilies and a Chinese carved camphor chest – the only items of any "value" with which she and Zygo emigrated.

Life in Sydney began in rooms in Potts Point, together with other immigrant Jews, sharing facilities and planning a new future. When Lena became pregnant, Zygo rented a home in Dover Heights, where he began a discreet dental practice, whilst returning to university to re-do his degree. Life was relatively good and safe but also a huge adjustment.

The birth of Juliet, named after Lena's

sister Julie, gave Lena a new focus. She made Juliet's upbringing her primary occupation from an early age, encouraging a Jewish education, teaching her French and overseeing her school progress. Unfortunately, Lena's asthma saw her hospitalised for months at a time, meaning that Juliet had to become moderately self-sufficient from quite an early age and help generally in the household.

It was not until 1962 that Lena had to face the prospect of returning to university herself – not a prospect she was at all keen on at that stage. However, Zygo had suffered the first of several severe heart attacks and she really had no choice in the matter. As always, she applied herself with diligence but learnt very quickly that diligence did not necessarily lead to the expected results. There was a different sort of "numerus clausus" operating in those years, reflecting some of the then still persistent anti-foreign sentiment.

Lena eventually achieved registration as a dental surgeon in 1964 and began a joint practice with Zygo. She later opened her own small practice at home in Chatswood, dealing mainly with children and the elderly with whom she had a great deal of patience.

She finally retired after Zygo's passing in 1979, using her time now to take up her interests. She became an avid student of Italian, attended art lectures, was involved in the University of the Third Age, went to theatre and movies with friends, maintained and deepened several close friendships and also travelled. She went for the first time to the United States to see an uncle to whom she was particularly close and a very special cousin. She travelled to Europe and Israel, seeing other family and friends from her years in France. She stopped in Hawaii on her way home from the US and fell in love with the islands, thereafter travelling back each year for several weeks of holiday. She made local friends there

with whom she kept in touch over many years. For the first time in many years, she was free to live her own life and indulge herself a little.

She had good years well into her eighties, with the exception of a short bout with breast cancer in her early seventies. However, in her eighties other health problems began to surface, necessitating her going into the hostel at the Montefiore Home.

This was a very difficult time for her, signalling the end of independent living, of being in the home she loved and enjoying the garden she cherished. She fought hard for a long time to delay the moment, and when it came she was still very reluctant.

However, with time came acceptance, helped also by the opportunity to get out on weekend with Juliet and with those friends of hers and Juliet's who continued to show an interest and visit. She valued this enormously, and so did Juliet.

Gradually, however, her illness caught up with her. She became more withdrawn, much harder of hearing and less communicative generally. The time came when she had to move into the nursing home section of Montefiore. Surprisingly, she accepted this much more easily than expected and settled quickly into the new environment. Over time, she became especially attached to her part-time carer, Tami, whom she had known from the hostel years.

Last year Juliet began visiting her together with her husband-to-be, Tom Bowen. Lena remarked in Yiddish on "the goodness in his face" and admired his shock of thick, white hair. After a few visits, Lena apparently understood that they were a couple. This was clearly confirmed when she reprimanded Juliet in no uncertain terms and told her 'don't eat his sandwich off his plate - take some of mine'. Tom had a new found 'protector' on his side!

Lena Seifert had, as they say, a 'good innings'. There were over her lifetime many good times, as well as difficult

ones. She always seemed to have the capacity to value both – the good and the bad – and to understand their significance and relationship, one to the other.

She was a woman who valued charity and kindness and always acknowledged it, right to the end, when, with the very broadest of bright smiles, she lifted herself in her hospital bed and thanked Rabbi Lampert in Yiddish for coming to see her that day – the day before she died.

May Lena Seifert finally be 'with the angels', as she always dreamt of being.

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### *Frances Greenberg*

With great sorrow we mourn the passing away of our beloved cousin and Aunt, Mrs. Frances Greenberg, on 19 Feb, in New York.

Frances was very involved in our life in Israel, and bestowed us with love and warmth. She was kind, helpful and thoughtful, clear minded, original in her thoughts and beliefs, curious and interesting.

In the United-States She volunteered for several Jewish organizations and was President of the American Far Eastern Society.

We send our deepest condolences to her family in the United States: her Son-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

May you know sorrow no more.

We carry Frances in our hearts.

Her family in Israel:

Yona and Rachel Kligman

Henia and Oded Abramsky

Avram and Shoshana Kligman

Sima and Tzvika Maoz

Miri and Kuti Schar-Am

Maya Viezman

And their respected families.

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