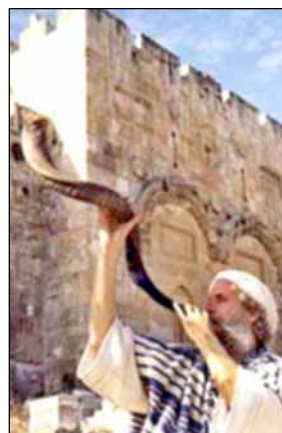


JEWISH REALITY



ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR 5767

In this edition we dedicate a page to the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur 5767 holidays by publishing the message for the New Jewish Year addressed to our community by Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R., and Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen, as well as excerpts of commentaries of Chief Rabbi Dr. J.J. Niemirower published in an anthology of the scholar's texts at "Hasefer" Publishing House. His philosophical meditations offer the spiritual and emotional dimension of the Judgment and Forgiveness Day.



The anniversary of Great Rabbi MENACHEM HACOHEN – spiritual leader dedicated to our community

The religious service of Shahrit on July 26th at the Choral Temple was also marked by the anniversary of our spiritual leader, Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen. His appeal to love for mankind, the commentary for Tesha B'Av had a special echo in the participants' soul. In the Choral Temple library, Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R., Dr. Osy Lazar, president of the J.C.B., adv. Iulian Sorin, counsellor, Dr. Alexandru Elias, director of the Center for Medical Aid of F.J.C.R. in Bucharest, José Iacobescu, president of "B'nai B'rith" Forum, Dr. Liviu Beris, vice-president of A.E.R.V.H., Simona Brenner (Israel), Erwin Shimshensohn, member in the Leadership Committee of F.J.C.R., Mirela Ashman, coordinator for the Jewish Identity Department emphasized the benefic impact of the celebrated spiritual leader on our community. Dr. Irina Cajal, member in the Leadership Committee of the Federation, Anette Vainer, member in the Leadership Committee of J.C.B. and "B'nai B'rith" Forum, Ioana Nitescu, publicist, expressed their praising words for Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen. The written congratulation card, the flowers, the presents, the excellence diploma were the expression of the community gratitude. The thanking words of Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen increased the cohesive soul feeling of the meeting.



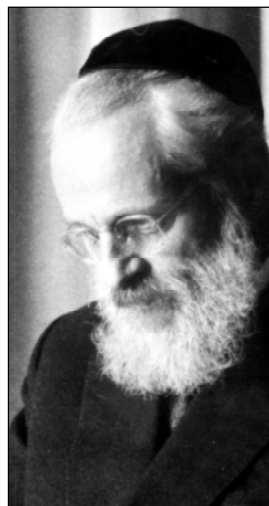
ISRAEL IN WAR AND AFTER

On August 7-9 a 14 persons delegation, including representatives of F.J.C.R., of Z.A.R. and of A.E.R.V.H., the actress Maia Morgenstern, journalists of foreign press and television, at the initiative of Eng. Tiberiu Roth, president of the Zionist Association from Romania, participated at the "Solidarity with Israel Mission", launched by the World Zionist Organization. This is the way the members of the Jewish Community from Romania wished to express their solidarity with the sufferings endured by the Israeli citizens in the war against the terrorist movement Hezbollah. In the same time, a great solidarity meeting with Israel organized by F.J.C.R., B'nai B'rith, J.C.B., took place in Bucharest, with the participation of Her Excellency Rodica Radian Gordon, ambassador of Israel in Romania, of many members of the Community, academics, cultural and clerical personalities, and friends of Jews.

Haifa represented one of the sites visited by the "mission" where the participants could see in real dimensions the damages provoked by the missiles launched by the terrorists. At the youth centers from Lod, Rishon LeZion, Kiriath Yaarim the participants to the "Solidarity Mission" met the children refugees from the North – Jews, Israeli Arabs, Ethiopian Jews evacuated by the authorities, and they were informed on the Sderot (a Southern city) children's tragedy, where for six years the Islamic Jihad launches Quassam missiles.

SAFRAN BETWEEN IMMORTALS

The Romanian cultural press mentioned widely the passage to eternity of Dr. Alexandru Safran, z.l., Chief Rabbi of Romania in the period 1940-1944, honorific member of the Romanian Academy, an elite European scholar. Condolences messages were addressed to F.J.C.R. by King Mihai I, by leaders of the National Loge "Dacia". The Israeli press in Romanian also mentioned the sad event. Adv. Iulian Sorin, counsellor, participated to the funeral on behalf of the Federation. The *shloshim* ceremony took place at the Choral Temple from Bucharest. In this edition we publish the articles appeared in the Romanian and Israeli press, evocations and meaningful commentaries on his life, as well as excerpts from the *Cultural Review of the Jewish Reality* dedicated to this memorable Jewish Romanian personality, "Safran between Immortals".



In the page dedicated to Judaism we offer some of Eng. Baruch Tercatin's biblical reflections (September 23 – October 14, 2006), "Divrei Torah", as well as two portraits: "Moses Gaster, a scholar in Judaism as well as the first great Romanian folklorist", and the "Testimonial of the disputed A.L. Zissu" (50 years after his death). We consider these personalities' portraits bring into the light important segments of the Jews' contribution to the Romanian and universal, humanistic culture and civilization.

JUDAICA

LOCAL AND NATIONAL SEMINARIES FOR THE MIDDLE AGE GENERATION

- GALATI, July 21-23, 2006
- SINAIA, September 1-3, 2006

The seminars for the middle age generation organized by F.J.C.R. (Eng. Paul Schwartz, vice-president, Rudy Marcovici, responsible for the middle age generation activities, Tatiana Zadoina, psychologist) received the sponsorship of "Joint" organization. The lecturers and moderators, Dr. Lya Benjamin and Dr. Hary Kuller, researchers at the Center for the Study of the Romanian Jews History, approached as main topics: the role of the personality in the history of the Romanian Jews; religious, social-political and cultural trends in Judaism; the Jewish identity; social and political stages in the history of the Romanian Jews, and others. The local seminary from Galati outlined the modality through which an important activity can be achieved at its best, with few human resources, but united in a powerful team with a high personal involvement. The national seminary from Sinaia enjoyed two premieres: • "the appearance in light" of Sharli Israel Sabag, as permanent representative of Joint in Romania; • the lesson of community marketing of Aurel Vainer, president of the Federation, Member of the Parliament, an economics specialist. The seminars represented successful achievements through the value of the transfer of knowledge, through the experience exchange between communities, through the relationship they initiated.



MEN OF OUR PRESENT

These pages present three personalities with different pre-occupations. The sculptor Jana Gertler Zalman shares to us her artistic ideal, her ideas concerning her work and creation, her friends, colleagues and family. Marius Rosenfeld, president of Petrosani Community, is one of the few Jews who worked under the ground, being still employed at present in miner work. He tells us about his life, about the motivation of becoming a miner after the career of coaching in table tennis, what means the work in such a dangerous place, about the problems confronting the Jewish Community from Petrosani. The two presentations are included in the "Audio Library of the Jewish Reality". Professor Dr. Carol Friedmann, also present in these pages, is president of the Constanta Jewish Community. He speaks about the role of the community president. Beyond the daily issues, he has to be a go-between Jews and society in order to present the truth about the Judaism.

THE WORKING AGENDA OF THE F.J.C.R. LEADERSHIP

Starting from this edition we will regularly going to publish a column, or in case, a page, including information about the working agenda of the F.J.C.R. Between July 12th – August 25th, Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R. and Member of the Parliament, visited the Jewish communities from Ploiesti (accompanied by Eng. Albert Kuperberg), Craiova (accompanied by Tiberiu Benedek, the head of the Assets Department), Constanta (accompanied by Eng. Paul Schwartz, vice-president of the Federation and by Rodica Boc, head of the Patrimony Department of F.J.C.R.), Botosani, Dorohoi, Targu Mures, the Jewish community from Sf. Gheorghe. They also visited the respite centers from Borsec, the Comandau and Blaj cities. In all the sites the visitors made assessments of the patrimony problems and agreed upon strategies of efficient preserving of cemeteries and synagogues. The president of the Federation also met the young people gathered at the Seminary on Judaism and Jews' History at Cristian, participated at the "ProEthnica" Festival in Sighisoara. Vice-president Paul Schwartz made a visit in Israel where he met Her Excellency Dr. Mariana Valeria Stoica, ambassador of Romania in Israel, and Moshe Sharoni, president of the Committee for Health, Work and Social Issues in the Knesset.

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Fondată în 1956
de Șef-Rabin dr. Moses Rosen
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Tiparul: SINOROM PRINTING &
PACKAGING CORPORATION S.R.L.
I.S.S.N. 1223 - 7736

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