

# JEWISH REALITY

## 5768 AUTUMN HOLIDAYS IN OUR COMMUNITY



Foto: ALEXANDRU CĂLȚIA

"May God sign you in the Book of Life with good health, peace and prosperity!" The traditional wishing for the New Jewish Year was heard again in all our communities. On Rosh Hashanah – the day of judgment, representatives of the national minorities' organizations, diplomats, important cultural personalities were present near us. Congratulating messages arrived from the President of Romania, from the Prime Minister, from representatives of the government and others. His Excellency Oren David, ambassador of the State of Israel, read the message of Shimon Peres, President of Israel. The meanings of Rosh Hashanah – the day of judgment, of self-judgment, of the search for the light inside us – were mentioned by Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R. and by Rabbi Shlomo Rosen. A group of young volunteers organized an artistic program for the "Rosen" Home residents. Before *Izkor*, Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen and Rabbi Shlomo Rosen spoke about Teshuva and the dialogue with God on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, and Day of Forgiveness. Then Sukkoth came, the holiday of our joy, the Festival of tabernacles, the holiday of the harvest. Dr. Aurel Vainer and Rabbi Shlomo Rosen both underlined in the Sukkah built by the Jewish community from Bucharest in front of a large number of members, the importance of unity in diversity for the Jewish people. At the end of the autumn holidays, Simhat Torah, the holiday of the joy of Torah, of the dance with the Book, where younger and older members participated as a sign of perennial presence of its teaching and of the Jewish nation, we strongly felt the force of our continuity.

## THE 6<sup>TH</sup> REUNION OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF F.J.C.R.

The common theme of the reunion was the need for a change of mentality in the approach to the problems, according to the rapid changes in the Romanian society. The main topics on the work agenda were: ● the new concept for holidays and treatment presented by the responsible of the Department Education and Recreation Centers, Ivan Truzer; ● the organization and functioning status of the Jewish cemeteries presented by professor Tiberiu Benedek; ● the stage of improvement of the residents' state in "Rosen" Home, presented by the vice-director of the Medical and Social Assistance Department, director of the "Amalia and dr. Moses Rosen" Home, Attila Gulyas; ● the report of the consulting Commission for the fight against the anti-Semitism and denial, presented by the Commission president, Dr. Alexandru Elias. The reunion debates outlined the importance of the community management and its results, the inalienable right of F.J.C.R. to the Jewish patrimony from Romania, the necessity to determine the most efficient means to fight the anti-Semitic, anti-Israeli propaganda, the importance of the ecumenism. The reunion took place in the same time with the inauguration of the new ritual restaurant in the Medical and Social Assistance Department. Rabbi Shlomo Sorin Rosen participated to the reunion. His Excellency Oren David, ambassador of the State of Israel in Romania, honored the meeting and in his speech underlined the cohesion role played by our community in the relationship between Romania and Israel.

## JCC ORADEA OR THE CHANGE OF REVIVAL

The First Jewish Community Center from Romania was inaugurated on September 10<sup>th</sup> in Oradea. The delegations of the F.J.C.R. leadership and of JOINT, led by Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of

F.J.C.R., and Jorge Diener, regional director of JOINT, participated to this meaningful event. Members of the Leadership Committee of F.J.C.R. – eng. Albert Kupferberg, general secretary, eng. Nilu Aronovici, president of the Department of Medical and Social Assistance, vice-president Attila Gulyas and Erwin Shimshensohn, presidents of other Jewish communities from the country and representatives of the local authorities, of the intellectuals and of the army also participated to the manifestation. The president of the Jewish community from Oradea, eng. Felix Koppelman, was the host of this reunion, the first of the kind in the after-war history of this community. Israel Sabag, director of the JOINT programs for Romania, coordinated the finalization of the project.

## AT HOME, AT JCC BUCHAREST

The gates of JCC (Jewish Community Center) in Bucharest officially opened on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. A party dedicated to the different generations prefaced the event on Saturday, with the performances of Ada Milea and Adrian

Daminescu, in distinct locations. Eng. Paul Schwartz, vice-president of F.J.C.R., revealed the plaque of the center, and Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen set the *mezuzah* at the main entrance of the Center. Leaders of F.J.C.R., Jews and non-Jews, presidents of some Jewish communities, guests from all over the country, from U.S.A. and Israel honored the unique manifestation for the Jewish community from Bucharest. The message of Mr. Traian Basescu, President of Romania, was read. Israel Sabag, director of the JOINT program for Romania and the team he coordinates had the decisive role in the concrete achievement of the Center tutored by F.J.C.R. and JOINT. Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R. and member of the Parliament, and Jorge Diener, director of JOINT for Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania, shared the common joy of this success. The presence of the JOINT director for Europe, Alberto Senderey, and of Mrs. Patricia Uhlman, member of the Management Committee of JDC, and of her daughter, Meg Uhlman Show, increased the festive feeling of the meeting. An extraordinary concert given by A.G. Weinberger (Romania) and David Broza (Israel) at the Romanian Athenaeum emphasized the special atmosphere of the inaugural event.

## The reception dedicated to the consecration of a new Rabbi to the Jewish Communities from Romania SHLOMO SORIN ROSEN

On September 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 many Jews from Bucharest, presidents of Jewish communities, leaders of F.J.C.R. and of the Jewish Community from Bucharest, Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen, leaders of JOINT from U.S.A., from Europe, regional leaders of JOINT, representatives of other religious cults participated to the reception dedicated to the consecration of Rabbi Shlomo Sorin Rosen in the Jewish communities from Romania. The new Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church, His Holiness Daniel, sent a congratulation message. Iusuf Murat, Mufti of Moslem Cult, expressed the same ecumenical openness.



## THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION "GEORGE ENESCU" (the 18<sup>th</sup> edition, September 1–23, 2007)

## THE CULTURAL VALUES, THE IMAGE OF THE ETERNAL ROMANIA

The tradition and the modernity illustrated in this 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Festival its capacity to answer to various preferences, with high values as primordial criteria. The Romanian music which included important names of the Romanian Jewish composers was also promoted. The international competition for piano, violin, composition, the international symposium of musicology, the exhibitions, the free air concerts from the Festival Plaza, the book releases asserted once again the communication between the art of sound, color and words. Ioan Holender, for the third time the honorific president of the Festival, provided a wonderful opportunity of gathering in the concert halls, in the opera house, orchestras, conductors and famous soloists, or to discover powerful talents less known in Romania. The pages of the baroque, romantic, modern music, the two performances of Bejart Company, the musical serrate "In memoriam September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001" at the Romanian Athenaeum, a regal of ideas provided by remarkable Romanian intellectuals, and a musical event, due to the artistic performance of some valuable Romanian interpretations, these were some of the major moments of the three weeks of the Festival, an inspired homage to Enescu, to the Romanian and universal music.

## THE AUDIO LIBRARY OF THE "JEWISH REALITY"

## HARRY ELIAD

## "Burst of applauses for a scene passionate"

In a life time which now, in October reached 80 years, Harry Eliad gathered millions of tears and smiles that he offered us, the public. Invited by our "audio library", the director of the State Jewish Theater walked with delicacy through the years backstage in order to share in premiere the content of a book in preparation, where his memories and life lessons will find a shelter. We wish him bursts of applauses and "Ad Meah Ve'Esrym".

### REALITATEA EVREIASCĂ

www.romanianjewish.org

E-mail: re2000@rdslink.ro

realitateaevreiasca@yahoo.com

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Traducători:

Ebraică: SARIT BLONDER,  
Ing. B. TERCATIN (Israel)

Engleză: SANDA LEPOIEV

Tehnoredactare

computerizată:

ANCA MEȘINĂ

REDAȚIA: București,  
str. Popa Nan, nr. 70.

Tel. / fax: 322.75.60

ADMINISTRAȚIA:

Str. Negustori nr. 5

Telefon: 314.96.90

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