

JEWISH REALITY

The Special Meeting of the General Assembly of F.J.C.R. Adopted the Federation Regulations

In the center of the debates of the special meeting of the General Assembly of F.J.C.R. that took place on December 16 -17, 2007 were three main subjects: the Federation Regulations, the collaboration between Joint and F.J.C.R. and the religious life aspects, analyzed by Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen and Rabbi Shlomo Sorin Rosen. The General Assembly voted a temporary form of the Regulations to which the observations made by the editing committee and by the participants have to be added. It was decided to name the document "F.J.C.R. - Mosaic Cult Regulations" and Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R.

Minorities. In the debate concerning the collaboration between JOINT and F.J.C.R., the JOINT organization objective to reach an autonomous Federation were underlined, with the achievements and difficulties encountered till now in the process. Great Rabbi Menachem Hacohen and Rabbi Shlomo Sorin Rosen outlined the importance of the religious life and of the Jewish education for the preservation of our ethnic community and the role of the various organisms (Rabbinat, communities, and youth organization) in increasing the participation of the community members to the religious life.



Rabbi SHLOMO
SORIN ROSEN

Tu B'Shvat - holiday and responsibility

Either on national or on personal level, Tu B'Shvat, this day of the Jewish calendar, offers everyone, Jew or non-Jew, from Israel or from the Diaspora, an opportunity to reflect and then to act for the preservation, development and protection of the world we are living in. From recycling to volunteering in the field of ecology and environmental protection, from informing to increasing the public awareness to the possibilities we have in our daily life to respect the principles of the Jewish tradition and found in the Midrash Koheleth Raba. When God shows Adam the Eden Garden, He tells him: "All I created, I created for you; take care not to ruin My world; since if you ruin it there will be no one to restore it after you."

"The Contribution of the Romanian Judaism to the European Culture"

An interview with
Dr. AUREL VAINER, MP,
president of F.J.C.R.

"The Day of the Romanian Judaism in Paris" took place at "Espace Rashi" from the French capital on January 6, 2008, and its main organizer was Professor Carol Iancu from "Paul Valéry" University from Montpellier; his honor guest, Dr. Aurel Vainer, MP, president of F.J.C.R., offered an interview to our review and brought us details on the manifestation: ● a panel dedicated to the life and work of Great Rabbi Dr. Alexandru Safran, an emblematic personality of the Romanian and European Judaism; ● a panel which dealt with Jewish writers and artists from Romania, whose work became well-known in Europe; the opening of the exhibitions dedicated to Joëlle Dautricourt and Tudor Banus; ● the concert of Sarah Iancu, violin player. Dr. Aurel Vainer made a synthesis of the presentations and of his own interventions.



JCC BUCHAREST Programs and Participants Diversity

The Jewish Community Center (JCC) Bucharest offers a series of attractive programs for all ages. If "Beit HaBuboth" (the "Doll House") is addressed to the little ones, the Coffee Club, the computers room and the modern fitness equipment and sauna represent a relaxing space for everyone who looks for entertainment or for learning in a Jewish atmosphere. The most ambitious program of February is called "Bereshit - the University of the European Jewish Community", a course led by well-known Israeli university teachers. All those wishing deeper knowledge of Jewish religion, history and civilization are invited to attend the program.

SYMPOSIUM "Anti-Semitism and Anti-Democracy in the Legionary Movement"

Under this title the Center for the Study of the Romanian Jews' History and F.J.C.R. organized a panel dedicated to the commemoration of 67 years from the bloody pogrom in Bucharest. The manifestation was largely attended by many Romanian intellectuals who honored the event which, according to Dr. Aurel Vainer, MP, president of F.J.C.R., aimed to initiate an opening toward the Romanian society. The speakers emphasized the role of the legionary movement in the organization of the pogrom from Bucharest, the nature of the legionary's ideology, the presence of some remarkable Romanian intellectuals and members of the Orthodox Church in the movement, the anti-Semitism and the anti-democracy as the main features of the movement. The discussion underlined the necessity of a warning signal regarding the present situation in Romania, because there are attempts of revitalizing the right and extremist right-wing ideology, and as outlined again during the debate, in spite of the fact that an adequate legislation exists and condemns the xenophobic, racist and anti-Semitic manifestations, it is still not implemented.

Interviews in Stockholm with the laureates of the Nobel Prize 2007 for economy

In the page "Science and Life" we are publishing two interviews realized in Stockholm by Corina Negrea with two economy Nobel Prize laureates for 2007: Eric Maskin and Robert Myerson. The two scientists explain to the public their theories, as well as their impact on the conception of the problem of the global heating of the planet climate and on the better understanding of the regulation modalities of the economical mechanisms in the modern society. Eric Maskin and Robert Myerson speak about their personal life, about their family and share their perspective on other developments of the scientific fields.



SUPPLEMENT

Margareta Sterian - at the intersection between reality and chimera

At the beginning of the year the "Jewish Reality" initiates a serial supplement, with the aim of bringing to the readers' attention personalities from the past that became known in the literary and artistic field, representative values in the rich Jewish-Romanian cohabitation in our country. The first of these supplements is dedicated to Margareta Sterian, painter and writer with multiple merits in promoting a modern artistic vision. Beside an anthology of literary texts, the reader will find a selective painting album meant to attract and educate his artistic taste.

Symposium and Book Release

"The Memory of the Jewish Cemeteries"

An uncommon book release dealing with one of the sacred duties to our ancestors - the preservation of the "Memory of the Jewish Cemeteries" took place at the Library of the Choral Temple: the bilingual brochure (Romanian and English) with the same title appeared in exceptional graphic conditions, edited with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Religions. The event became an authentic symposium dedicated to the preservation and valorization of the sacred Jewish patrimony from Romania, through the speeches of the secular and spiritual leaders of F.J.C.R. and of the Jewish Community from Bucharest, of the historians, of the Holocaust survivors, of the representatives of the Romanian Orthodox Church, of the Roma ethnical minority. The event was moderated by Eng. Paul Schwartz, vice-president of the Federation.

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