



TARGUM SHLISHI

תרגום שלישי



MISSION STATEMENT

Targum Shlishi Incorporated. An Aryeh and Raquel Rubin Foundation

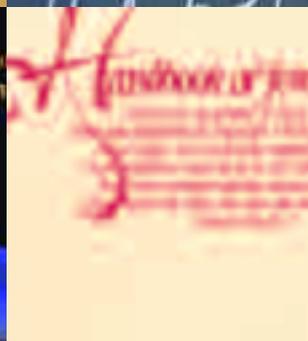
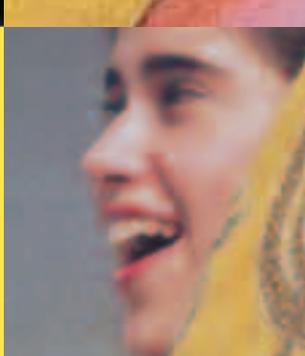
Targum Shlishi is a foundation dedicated to providing a range of creative solutions to problems facing Jewry today. Premised on the conviction that dynamic change and adaptation have historically been crucial to a vibrant and relevant Judaism and to the survival of its people, Targum Shlishi's initiatives are designed to stimulate the development of new ideas and innovative strategies that will enable Jewish life, its culture, and its traditions to continue to flourish.



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NOGALINATI RUMBULA.
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AL COLLABORATORS DROVE TO
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ONER BORIS KLIOT, WHOSE FA
ERS PESA, MIRA, BERTHA AND
ALSO KILLED IN RUMBULA.





DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Time for Change

Although Targum Shlishi (*Third Interpretation*) has been in existence for more than 10 years and has funded over 60 initiatives, the foundation has maintained an extremely low profile, almost to the point of anonymity. The release of this report marks the first time we have publicized our philosophy and focus. This report is not only a record of the foundation's history but is also a means by which potential co-funders and recipient organizations can learn about Targum Shlishi and determine whether our philosophy and style are a good match for theirs. As we look forward to the next decade, we believe that joining with other funders is key to effecting positive change in the Jewish community. We hope this openness will inspire significant cooperative initiatives with new partners and new funders.

Projects described herein include those that were funded through a private foundation (Targum Shlishi), personal family funds, a family trust, and/or a communal fund. These sources are collectively referred to as Targum Shlishi. Targum Shlishi invests in the present and future of the Jewish people while honoring the past by concentrating on four core areas: education, women's issues, the State of Israel, and justice for Nazi war crimes. In funding projects in these four areas, we focus significant attention on and investment in technology, because we believe that when used effectively, technology can be an invaluable tool in furthering our goals.

While Targum Shlishi has allocated a small percentage of its distributions to traditional charities, the better part of our focus — and all of our heart — is on innovative initiatives that have the potential to positively change the status quo. We tend not to fund the groups we grew up with. Because of the size and budgets of long-standing, well-funded national Jewish organizations, we would not be able to meaningfully impact projects and their direction. Rather, we seek out groups that can help us look at problems in a new light and that stimulate us to find forward-thinking solutions. Unsolicited grant applications account for less than five percent of our annual distributions.

Today, more than 5,000 family foundations contribute to Jewish causes. According to some sources, these foundations give more in aggregate than the United Jewish Communities. A figure often cited, but not verified, is that such family foundations have assets exceeding \$25 billion. Some of these organizations are venture philanthropists and they are truly making a difference in Jewish life. In addition to their capital, venture philanthropists invest their time, energy, and know-how. In true entrepreneurial fashion, they encourage taking risks.

They work with organizations on the fringes because, all too often, it is only from the margins that meaningful change can emerge. These are the qualities I wanted Targum Shlishi to embody—to serve as an agent of real, tangible change.

The foundation and the communal fund have collective assets of approximately \$2.6 million. The family trust and our family distribute additional funds as warranted. In the past, we allocated from \$1,000 to \$50,000 per project and granted between \$200,000 and \$350,000 annually; depending on the circumstances (both of our financial condition and the status of our endowed projects), we are prepared to grant up to \$500,000 in a year. The amounts we distribute are small compared with the mega-funds available in the broader Jewish landscape. But we allocate our grants strategically, with specific goals and achievements in mind and with built-in follow-up mechanisms. Our objective is to employ the same creativity, efficiency, and criteria for accountability in the philanthropic world that we successfully employed in the for-profit world.

Targum Shlishi was founded in 1992, after I sold my publication company in New York. When I looked at the organized Jewish community I saw parameters, priorities, and structures into which I knew I could not fit. I saw funding organizations that were well-intentioned but that were guided by priorities I considered misplaced. There was overlap of purpose; there were organizations collecting huge sums of money but representing only their own very narrow interests. Little power was in the hands of thought leaders with genuine commitments to their communities—the clergy, academics, and activists.

While we understand and respect the roles of the larger mainstream organizations and the generous donors who fund them, we focus on projects that include these often-neglected thought leaders in the process. We are interested in projects that allow us to contribute financial and venture resources in manners that amplify the potential of the grantee, with the hope that each successful project will impact the community in a significant way and eventually alert the larger organizations to such opportunities.

After years of stagnation, a renaissance—spearheaded by a new generation of activists and funded by a few visionary philanthropists—is underway within the Jewish community. If this renaissance is to continue, the Jewish community needs to tap into this rich vein of energy and funding. If we fail to do so, donors will go elsewhere, activists will find other causes, and we will miss out on extraordinary opportunities.

As a people we have always believed that history has a purpose and that all Jews are responsible for one another. We face formidable challenges to our physical well-being and spiritual survival in both Israel and the Diaspora. These challenges require creative and novel approaches if we are to find solutions and to endure as a thriving people. It is time to redouble our efforts, time to take action, if we are to uphold our proud tradition as a “light unto the nations.” It is time for new ideas.

At Targum Shlishi, we are seeking these new ideas. We invite you to join us in our quest.

Aryeh Rubin
Aventura, Florida
5 Iyar, 5763
May 7, 2003







INTRODUCTION

Education / Women's Issues / Israel / Justice for Nazi War Crimes

Targum Shlishi is a philanthropic foundation devoted to supporting positive change. Effecting positive change in the world is a creative act, an often noble endeavor that deserves attention, imitation, and support. There are many daunting problems facing Jewry today, and those problems need to be addressed. At Targum Shlishi, we believe in working toward solutions. Our goal is to find and support organizations that are dedicated to innovative problem solving. We celebrate the art of positive change by funding initiatives we believe will make a difference in a variety of areas related to Jewish life.

Education. Women's Issues. Israel. Justice for Nazi War Crimes. These are the areas of primary focus for Targum Shlishi. Although they belong to a diverse group of categories, the many causes we fund have one thing in common: They are dedicated to improving the quality of Jewish life throughout the world. Change is vital if Jewish life, culture, and traditions are to continue to flourish. Change is essential if we are to continue to grow, to learn, to aspire. To dream.

Targum Shlishi seeks innovative, unpublicized, and behind-the-scenes initiatives working for meaningful change that otherwise might not attract funding. Such are the causes that need our support most, and it is where our funding can have the greatest impact. The projects we fund range in scope from local to international; our goal is not to fund the highest profile projects but to fund those that are creative and, when possible, replicable. We give strategically and we give knowledgeably, extensively researching the concepts and their supporting organizations. Many of the projects Targum Shlishi supports are initiated by us, and we then work with others to implement the ideas. In addition, Targum Shlishi has partnered with other funders in collaborative endeavors several times. One of our goals is to leverage our impact through meaningful partnerships with major philanthropic organizations.

Targum Shlishi thinks and acts both locally and globally. Several of the programs Targum Shlishi has funded are applicable in communities throughout the US and the world. Where practicable, Targum Shlishi promotes its ideas to other communities and distributes information and guidelines for establishing similar programs.

Targum Shlishi was founded in 1992 by Aryeh and Raquel Rubin and is based in Miami. To date, the foundation has supported more than 60 projects and organizations, ranging from a free-loan program for educators to promoting Jewish-Christian dialogue through a church in New Jersey to bringing to justice a Croatian Nazi war criminal. The majority of our funding initiatives have been remarkably successful. On some occasions, projects have not lived up to the promise we saw in them, but such situations are learning experiences; the insight generated is applied to future projects or shared with other organizations. Toward the end of this report we discuss some of the projects we supported that did not get off the ground, and we explain what we have learned from them (see “Lessons Learned”).

There is no blueprint for the type of organization or the type of project we support. In a very meaningful way, our choices are subjective — we need, quite simply, to sincerely believe in the project and its ability to make a difference. And while there is no overriding formula that dictates our funding, successful projects tend to be a complex mix of vision and practicality. We invest in management. We look for strong, committed leaders with senses of purpose, realistic work plans, concrete goals, and abundant optimism. We look for the promise of creative change.

THE
MILLENNIUM
SCHOOL

בית רבבן

BEIT RABBAN



The Shul



*“Education is not the filling of a pail,
but the lighting of a fire.”*

— WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

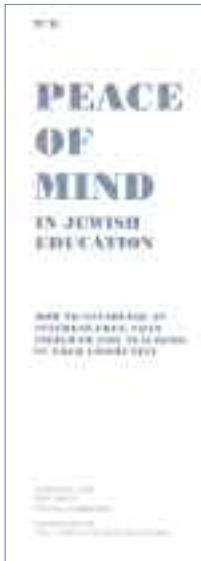


EDUCATION

Jewish education is the key to our future, and we are deeply committed to furthering causes related to education. Providing the best possible schooling for our children, and supporting lifelong learning among adults, are of urgent necessity. There are many challenges facing Jewish education and educators today. One is the challenge of fully incorporating progressive educational practices and theories into Jewish day schools. Another challenge is the emergence of technology. We believe the digital era must be fully acknowledged and embraced—to that end, we have nurtured and funded several technology-related projects, websites, CDs, and other innovative learning tools.

Helping Educators Educate

Peace of Mind Program, Miami



The Peace of Mind Program was initiated by Targum Shlishi and implemented by the Shul of Bal Harbour. It has met with great success and is now being promoted across the US and Canada in an effort to encourage other communities to implement similar programs.

This unique free-loan program for educators exists to provide some measure of financial relief to teachers and operates on a no-questions-asked policy. The program provides funds to teachers in Jewish day schools of all denominations. To date, funds have been used for purposes ranging from summer camp to emergency medical treatment to down payments on cars. In the program's first three years, 38 loans have been provided to teachers from 11 different schools. There are no interest charges associated with these loans.

“There are times when, financially speaking, situations can become quite difficult on a teacher’s salary,” wrote a teacher at Miami’s Hebrew Academy who received a loan through the program. “Such an occasion arose for my family. I was able to borrow...\$4,000, and this helped us out tremendously.”

“This is not a new concept in Judaism — it is part of the Jewish tradition,” explained Miriam Gitman, special projects coordinator for the Shul of Bal Harbour. However, the program is unique in the area in its focus on helping educators in Jewish day schools and in its no-questions-asked policy. Many of the communities that have received information on the Peace of Mind program have responded with interest. “We have been receiving phone calls from different parts of the country,” Gitman said. “People are talking about it.” www.theshul.org

Central Agency for Jewish Education, CAJE 100 Supporter, Miami



From early childhood programs to adult education opportunities, such as courses and an annual film festival, the Central Agency for Jewish Education (CAJE) is dedicated to improving the quality of Jewish education in order to create a knowledgeable community of Jews with an appreciation of Jewish heritage. CAJE works with individuals and organizations—including day schools, synagogues, and community agencies—to support the development, implementation, and coordination of Jewish education programs. It is currently concentrating its efforts on teacher training, expanding its services, and creating a distance learning program. Targum Shlishi has donated funding for general support of CAJE's initiatives. www.caje-miami.org

The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora of Bar-Ilan University, Principals' Seminar, Ramat Gan, Israel



The mission of the Lookstein Center is to improve the quality of education in Jewish day schools by improving the quality of their leadership. In 1999, the Lookstein Center established a series of professional development programs targeted specifically to principals of Jewish day schools, who face unique challenges in the workplace. The Principals' Seminar programs have attracted principals from all over the world to summer seminars in Israel and follow-up mid-winter regional conferences.

Targum Shlishi has provided funding for several years to allow principals from South Florida day schools of different denominations (Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and Lubavitch) to attend the summer seminars. Topics covered in the seminars include leadership, supervision of instruction, the dynamics of change, the use of technology in Jewish education, team building, and more. The Principals' Seminar exposes principals to the latest theories, to experts in the field, and perhaps most importantly, to each other. Principals are encouraged to build community and to share experience—objectives the Lookstein Center promotes with its continuing education approach to the Principals' Seminar, which incorporates e-mail discussion groups, follow-up mid-winter and summer sessions, and the development of regional associations of Principals' Seminar graduates.

Many Principals' Seminar graduates have reported that the knowledge and skills they gained through the program had a significant impact on the ways they approach their jobs, including their personal leadership styles, their interactions with staff, and their strategic planning. "...found this program to be an extremely enriching professional experience," wrote Michelle Schneck, an assistant principal at the Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy in Rockville, Md. "It provided me with a good balance of the theoretical and the practical, with training in leadership skills as well as updates on educational issues and interesting approaches from various academic disciplines. It also helped establish excellent networking opportunities." www.lookstein.org, www.biu.ac.il

Principals' Seminar Mid-Winter Conference, Miami Beach



The Lookstein Center's Principals' Seminar Mid-Winter Conference is an extension of the Lookstein Center's Principals' Seminar described above. The goal of both programs is to promote professional development for principals of Jewish day schools. The Mid-Winter Conference is offered to principals who have attended the summer seminar; it reinforces the community and sense of purpose fostered during the summer session.

Virtual Resource Center, website www.lookstein.org, Ramat Gan, Israel



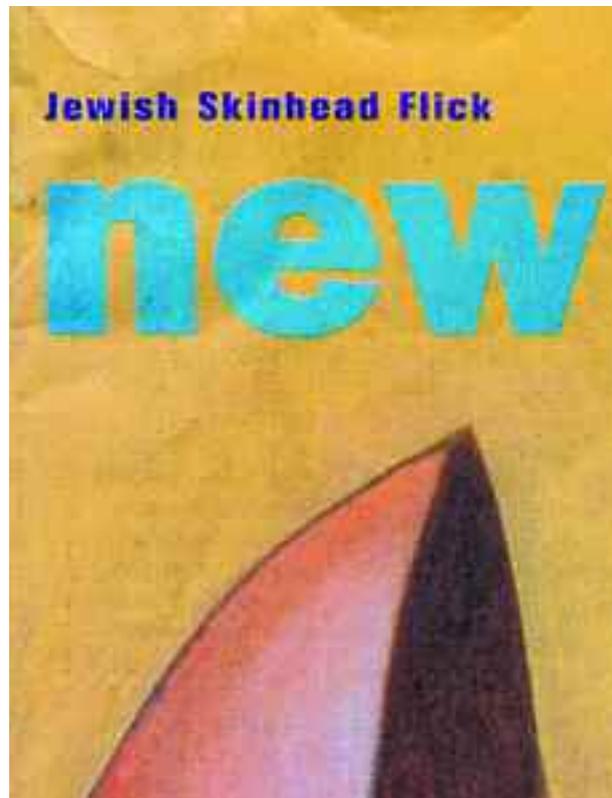
Targum Shlishi provided initial support for the development of the Lookstein Center's website. The Center, which is dedicated to the advancement of Jewish education worldwide, has created an extensive website that is a valuable resource for teachers and administrators in Jewish day schools.

Among the primary educational challenges for Jewish day schools is to unite curricula of Jewish and secular education with current educational theories and techniques. The Lookstein Center helps communities throughout the world to meet today's challenges.

The website is an online resource from which educators can access educational material and ideas. It is also an online community and as such, it promotes interaction and information exchange between educational professionals. The Lookstein Center's objective is for the website to have a global impact. In addition to providing material on the Lookstein Center and its programs, the website offers important interactive features. These include a resource library, a forum for educators, and an electronic bulletin board. www.lookstein.org

New Voices, Jewish Student Press Services

New Voices is a national literary publication written by and for Jewish college students. The monthly publication, established in 1991, has a readership of almost 10,000 on more than 300 campuses across North America. *New Voices* publishes a wide range of stories that cover student life and issues in the Jewish community from a progressive, pluralistic viewpoint. Targum Shlishi supported the redesign of the print publication several years ago and funded the establishment of its website in 2002. www.newvoices.org



J.J. Greenberg Memorial Lecture Series for Educators, Central Agency for Jewish Education and Ohel, Miami

Targum Shlishi established this lecture series with both short- and long-term objectives in mind. Short-term goals included providing training for educators — teachers, principals, and administrators — so that they will continue to grow, to improve, and to sharpen their skills.



The short-term goal of strengthening Miami's Jewish education providers fed directly into the long-term goal of helping Miami become a model for Jewish education. Part of the lecture series focused on the problem of sexual abuse in children; workshops instructed educators on warning signs of childhood sexual abuse with the goal of helping curtail this problem in the Miami community. These workshops were conducted by Ohel, a New York-based organization with expertise in this field.



Miami's Central Agency for Jewish Education joined Ohel in administering the lecture series. The series honored the memory of Jonathan Joseph (J.J.) Greenberg, the son of Rabbi Irving (Yitz) and Blu Greenberg. J.J. was tragically killed in a traffic accident in Israel in September 2002. Targum Shlishi intends to support this program in other Jewish communities after the data for the initial program has been analyzed and the program deemed successful.

Machon Ahavat Emet, Jerusalem



The Jerusalem-based organization Machon Ahavat Emet (Institute of Lovers of Truth) develops and implements curricula to sensitize people to ethical behavior in daily and business life. Run by Rabbi Naftali Weinberg, the organization provides weekly training for teachers at Orthodox institutions. Targum Shlishi provided both general funding and support for the organization's newsletters.

Lifelong Education

Community Lecture Series, Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center and other venues, Miami

Targum Shlishi is dedicated to bringing prominent and visionary lecturers, authors, and educators to South Florida for thought-provoking presentations. These events, held primarily at the Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, have attracted large audiences and promoted much discussion.

Lecturers have included rabbi and author Harold Kushner, renowned for his international best seller, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*. He lectured on the topic, “Three Jewish Messages for the Millennium.” Dr. Efraim Zuroff—investigator of suspected Nazi war criminals, Holocaust scholar, and director of the Israel Office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center—has lectured twice in recent years, once on the subject “Murderers Among Us: Should the Hunt Continue?” and most recently on the response of American Orthodox rabbis to the Holocaust (this lecture was held at and in conjunction with the Shul of Bal Harbour). Blu Greenberg, co-founder and first president of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, spoke on “One Jewish Feminist’s Perspective for the 21st Century.”



A series of themed lectures delivered in the winter and spring of 2002 explored the subject of spirituality and meaning in daily Jewish life. Titled *The Divine Within*, the series began with a talk by Rabbi Alan Lew, author of *One God Clapping* and a leader in the Jewish meditation movement. Other speakers included Rabbi Michael Comins, who spoke on “Finding God in Nature,” Rabbi Mitchell Chefitz on “Partnering with the Divine through Kabbalah,” and Rabbi Elie Kaplan Spitz on “Does the Soul Survive?” www.marjcc.com

Photos: from left, Harold Kushner, Blu Greenberg, Elie Kaplan Spitz.

Visiting Lecture Tour, American Friends of Cambridge University, New York City and Miami



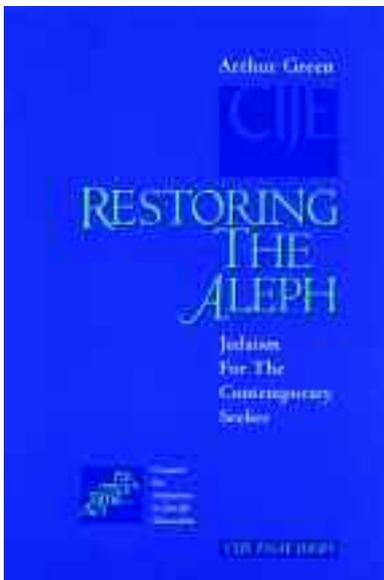
Prominent scholars from Cambridge University's Taylor-Schechter Genizah Collection traveled to the US and presented lectures on this remarkable collection of Hebrew manuscript material and Judaica. Speakers included Dr. Stefan Reif, director of the Genizah Collection. Research at the library has led to significant discoveries about Jewish religion and culture from as early as the ninth century. Targum Shlishi helped to fund this lecture tour.

Restoring the Aleph, essay and study guide

Written by historian and theologian Arthur Green, *Restoring the Aleph: Judaism for the Contemporary Seeker* raises provocative questions about how our community and theology might respond to the spiritual quests of Jews in our times. Targum Shlishi initiated publication of the accompanying study guide, designed for those interested in grappling with issues of spirituality.

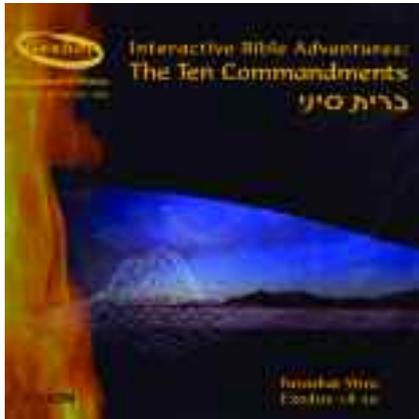
"If you were born a Jew, or if you are drawn to Judaism, perhaps it is not just by chance," Green wrote. "Perhaps what the human future needs of you is your reading of, your encounter with, this great portion of our shared spiritual legacy. You can raise up sparks that belong to your soul alone, reveal worlds that can be found by no other." The works were published by the Council for Initiatives

in Jewish Education. Targum Shlishi funded their distribution to 2,000 synagogues, rabbis, and Hillel directors. Those recipients were then offered up to 15 free copies to share with congregants or students.



The response to this initiative was extremely positive, with many requests for copies. "Outstanding essay. Thank you for making it available," wrote Rabbi Sid Schwarz of Rockville, Md. "A marvelous adult education course," Rabbi Howard Simon of Knoxville, Tenn., reported. "Very provocative...used during Friday evening sermon — reaction very enthusiastic," wrote Rabbi Daniel Friedman of Deerfield, Ill.

Gesher Educational Affiliates, Jerusalem



Gesher means “bridge” in Hebrew, which describes the goal of Gesher Educational Affiliates: to bridge the gap between religious and secular Jews and between the right and left, to promote a society in which being Jewish forms the bond that unites, not the wall that divides. “Our mission is to encourage dialogue,” said Dr. Daniel Tropper, director of Gesher. “One way of doing that is by educational programs.”

Among Gesher’s educational initiatives is the groundbreaking *Gesher Multimedia Bible Curriculum Series*, which is transforming the study of the Bible in Israeli classrooms. Targum Shlishi helped fund the production of an English-language version of Gesher’s educational CD-ROM, “The Ten Commandments,” which is part of the series.

The impetus for creating a multimedia Bible curriculum was to help educators develop new and challenging ways to teach the subject. With the CD-ROM, students do not merely read the primary text; they can download maps of historic locations, hear audio of texts read in different languages accompanied by music of different styles, and read commentaries. The series was introduced to Israeli junior high schools beginning in 1997 and has had impressive results, which include dramatically enhancing students’ comprehension and appreciation of Biblical texts. www.gesher.co.il

National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), general support, New York City



Targum Shlishi provided general support to the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), an organization dedicated to establishing bonds with unaffiliated Jews. Established in 1987 to address the issues of Jewish assimilation and intermarriage,

NJOP offers Jewish educational experiences that are positive and joyful. NJOP programs are offered at more than 3,500 locations in North America and in 27 countries around the world. Among its offerings are free courses in Hebrew Reading and Basic Judaism and the popular program, “Turn Friday Night Into Shabbat.” NJOP also sponsors advertising campaigns geared at raising Jewish consciousness.

Berlin Lecture Series, Hagalil Online, Berlin

Targum Shlishi funded a series of well-attended lectures in Berlin organized in conjunction with Hagalil Online, the only German-language website on Judaism. The lectures explored Nazi war crimes as well as the contemporary presence of Nazis on the internet. Dr. Efraim Zuroff, director of the Jerusalem office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, delivered a lecture entitled, “War Crimes in Our Century.” Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate director of the Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, spoke on the subject of combating Nazis on the internet. www.hagalil.com

Spark: Partnership for Service, website, Baltimore



Spark is a new national Jewish non-profit organization whose objective is to inspire an ongoing commitment to service as part of each person’s life, and as an expression of Jewish identity. To this end, Spark works with other organizations to encourage volunteering. Spark also provides training, workshops, and learning materials with an emphasis on the connections between service, reflection, and advocacy. Spark encourages a range of intergenerational programming designed to support the elderly and the ill. The organization was incubated at the Jewish Life Network, under the leadership of Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg. Targum Shlishi helped support the development of Spark’s website. www.sparkpfs.org

Chabad House, Torah Donation, Dharamsala, India

Dharamsala, where the Dalai Lama fled in 1959 and still lives, is located in the Himalayan mountains in northern India. Today Dharamsala is the center of Tibetan Buddhism and a destination for those who want to learn more about Buddhism. Each year many Jews, primarily Israelis, travel to Dharamsala, most of them seeking spiritual guidance. In March of 2000 a Chabad House was established in Dharamsala to offer a welcoming place for Jews to learn about the Jewish tradition. “Some Jews live here for many years, dedicating their lives to other spiritual systems, without knowing anything about Judaism,” said Rabbi Dror Moshe Shaul, manager of the Chabad House in Dharamsala. The Chabad House has become the center of a vibrant Jewish community — there are often as many as 300 guests for Shabbat and more than 800 for Rosh Hashanah services. The Chabad House also offers several educational classes and activities. Until now the community has not owned a Torah, and has borrowed one when needed. Targum Shlishi partnered with another organization to donate a Torah to the community. “A Torah in this place is very important,” Rabbi Shaul said. “Many have told us that looking at the holy letters of the Torah they felt, for the first time, something opening inside them.” www.unity.co.il

Community Education

Judaism: Philosophy & Practice, Croatia



Rabbi Kotel Da-Don, L.L.B., is the first chief rabbi of Croatia since the Holocaust. Appointed to this position in 1998, he found that the country's 3,000 remaining Jews have great enthusiasm for and eagerness to learn about their traditions. However, his attempts to foster Jewish education have been severely hampered by a lack of materials available in the Croatian language. Since the time of the Holocaust, there has been no Jewish educational literature published in Croatian.

To remedy the situation, he began work on *Judaism: Philosophy & Practice*, a comprehensive book about Jewish issues. "One of my primary duties is to give some basic information and instructions for everyday life to my congregation in their spoken language," he said. The book covers topics such as the Jewish home, Jewish law, and the Jewish circle of life. In addition to its function as a guide for everyday Jewish life, it is also a reference source on Jewish thought and philosophy. Targum Shlishi's support has funded the forthcoming publication and distribution of the book, scheduled for 2002, including preparation, translation, and printing.

"The importance of this book is simply enormous," noted Rabbi Da-Don. "It is intended not only for the Jews of Croatia but for all Jews from the rest of what was formerly Yugoslavia, who speak nearly the same language." Rabbi Da-Don also hopes the book will serve as a source of information for Christians, Moslems, and theology students and that it will foster open dialogue between the area's different religious movements. www.communities.moreshet.net/zagreb

***Handbook of Jewish Thought*, translation into Serbo-Croatian, Belgrade**



Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan's *Handbook of Jewish Thought* is a comprehensive work that clearly explains traditional Jewish practices, principles, and ideas. Targum Shlishi funded the translation of this work into Serbo-Croatian in Belgrade under the aegis of the Chief Rabbi of Serbia, Rabbi Isak Asiel. The text will serve as a valuable resource for the small community of Jews in Serbia, many of whom have little knowledge of the Jewish tradition. There is currently a marked lack of Jewish educational materials available in Serbo-Croatian; this text helps address a pressing need.

The Sussex Area Jewish-Christian Dialogue, Sparta, New Jersey

In Sparta, New Jersey, a community with very few Jewish residents, Targum Shlishi partnered with Reverend Daniel Murphy, pastor of Blessed Kateri Parish, to initiate a series of programs to foster Jewish-Christian dialogue. The initiative, which began in 1993 and continues today, had three goals at its inception: to establish educational projects that would help Christians to better understand and respect their religion's roots in Judaism; to create a model of Jewish-Christian interaction to be shared with other churches and groups; and to create a Holocaust memorial on the church grounds.



These goals have led to the creation of innovative programming that has met with impressive results. “We...fostered harmony and understanding and helped both Christians and Jews deepen their own faith,” said Reverend Murphy (left). Many participants reported that the activities and ensuing discussions changed the perceptions of both the Holocaust and Judaism for hundreds of the area’s Christian citizens. The initiative has proven so enduring that groups from the parish have repeatedly visited the US Holocaust

Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. There are several programs that Blessed Kateri Parish now holds on a regular basis. Each year, the parish hosts an ecumenical Holocaust service in November and invites guest speakers — usually Holocaust survivors. In addition, the local rabbi has addressed the parish community on several occasions. Blessed Kateri has also presented programs on preaching about Jews and Judaism to local clergy in the area. The parish has a model Seder each year at Passover, for which a local synagogue hosts the church’s fifth-grade students. There are two Jewish-Christian forums annually that explore various topics, including prayer, medical ethics, and ritual. The church also erected a wall plaque in its outdoor garden commemorating righteous gentiles who helped individual Jewish victims during the Holocaust. “Death shall be forever destroyed,” words from *Isaiah*, are inscribed on the plaque.

Most of the programs described above have been aired on local television channels. Targum Shlishi has provided seed funding for the parish to produce a video treatment based on this documentation, with the goal of distributing it to other churches to encourage them to establish similar programs.

“Had our great-grandparents supported programs like this in Berlin, Warsaw, Rome, and Brussels, perhaps there would have been more Christians who spoke out 60 years ago,” said Aryeh Rubin of Targum Shlishi. www.blessedkateri.org

Edah, general support and communications initiative, New York

Edah is an organization dedicated to strengthening the modern Orthodox community from both within and without by promoting the movement and directly addressing the challenges posed by modernity. “Orthodoxy has, in a sense, been engaged in a struggle with modernity and with the question of whether its primary response should be withdrawal or engagement,” explained Rabbi Saul Berman, Edah’s director. “It’s Edah’s position that open engagement in society is our goal.” Targum Shlishi’s Aryeh Rubin was one of Edah’s founding partners.



Since 1997, Edah has sponsored several conferences in the US and Israel. On the occasion of Joseph Lieberman's bid for the vice presidency of the US, Edah undertook a communications initiative, which Targum Shlishi helped fund, with the goal of addressing the profound lack of understanding of Judaism, and especially of Orthodox Judaism, that exists in the media and in US society. "Our aim was to convey the perspective of modern Orthodoxy to the media," said Rabbi Berman. "We wanted to convey that there is an Orthodoxy within Judaism that is open to the world, respects democratic values, and remains true to its traditions." The campaign, which ran for several months, employed direct mail, editorials, and communications with the media to foster understanding. The upshot? According to Rabbi Berman, "We believe we created a more accurate sense of Judaism and of the role of Judaism in political life. Targum Shlishi's funding has helped further the consciousness that there is an Orthodoxy in the US that is open and engaged." www.edah.org

The Shul of Bal Harbour, Spanish Edition of Bulletin, Miami

Targum Shlishi supports both the print and online publications of the Spanish language version of the weekly bulletin for The Shul of Bal Harbour. The Shul is a unique synagogue with a varied membership that includes experienced congregants, Jews who are returning to or learning about their roots, and an active Sephardic component. Targum Shlishi contributes to the Spanish edition of the bulletin in order to better serve the Spanish-speaking members of the congregation. www.theshul.com



Jewish Investigative Journalism Fund, New York City

The goal of the Jewish Investigative Journalism Fund is to provide American Jewish newspapers with investigative reporting on vital issues that would not otherwise be covered in depth, primarily owing to the expense. The initiative was established in 2000 with the intention of producing several articles each year. The first piece the fund supported was an analysis of media coverage of the intifada, written by David Margolis, an award-winning journalist based in Israel, which was published by more than 20 American Jewish newspapers in the spring of 2001. "The fund provides hundreds of thousands of American Jews with vital information they may not otherwise have," explained Gary Rosenblatt (left), chair of the fund.



The Schools



Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School, outreach program, New York City

Targum Shlishi has supported the innovative Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School in New York City for a number of years. Much of the foundation's donations were predicated on Heschel establishing an outreach program to teach educators and administrators in other schools about its approach to both Jewish and secular education. The school recently established this outreach program and is now sharing its knowledge and educational philosophy with other schools. The Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School is known for its creativity, the enthusiasm of its teachers, and the high caliber of its students. www.heschel.org

Beit Rabban Day School, New York City



Targum Shlishi has provided general support for Beit Rabban, a Jewish day school for kindergarten through grade five. Beit Rabban's philosophy of education places an unusual degree of emphasis on independent thinking. In return for funding from Targum Shlishi, the school was asked to share its approach and curriculum with several Miami Jewish day schools.

Lehrman Community Day School, various programs, Miami Beach



Support of this Jewish day school included helping to fund the purchase of both a Torah scroll and computer software as well as establishing a needs-based matching scholarship fund for selected students. Targum Shlishi also contributed to a discretionary fund for the school's principal. www.myschoolonline.com/fl/lcds

Miami-Dade Scholarship Initiative, Tuition for Students, Miami

Targum Shlishi provides assistance to help with tuition for a small number of elementary school students at Jewish day schools in Miami. This assistance is given anonymously and is intended to help individual students in need and to serve as an example to the community. To date, the foundation has funded scholarships for students at Lehrman Community Day School in Miami Beach and at Hillel Community Day School in North Miami Beach.

Hillel Community Day School, various programs, Miami



Targum Shlishi has supported several initiatives at Miami's Hillel Community Day School over the past several years. In 1996, Targum Shlishi funded a professional development program in which four Hillel administrators traveled to New York City to observe Jewish day schools there. The program's objective was to stimulate thinking about the different techniques of Jewish education. For another project, the foundation donated funds to a fourth-grade English literacy effort, allowing for the purchase of books. In 1997, Targum Shlishi funded a workshop on Hebrew prayer for teachers and students, led by Dr. Saul Wachs of Gratz College. A study and report on Hillel's methods of Bible instruction, conducted by the Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora, was funded in 1997. www.hillel-nmb.org

Landow School and Hebrew Academy, curriculum evaluations, Miami



The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora conducted curriculum evaluations of two Jewish day schools in Miami. Targum Shlishi helped to fund these studies. www.rasghebrewacademy.org

Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, Pardes Israel Incentive Program for North American Jewish Educators, Jerusalem, Israel

The Pardes Institute offers a creative curriculum based on classical Jewish texts to adults from all backgrounds and all levels of religious observance. It adheres to the model of yeshiva learning, but it emphasizes co-education — it was among the first institutions to offer women immersion in the classic method of Talmud study as well as the first to put women on the Talmud faculty. Length of study time at Pardes varies widely, ranging from a week to several semesters.



Funding from Targum Shlishi was applied to retooling Pardes' Summer Program, an intensive experience in which educators from all over North America were brought to Israel for a mini-Pardes experience that included classes, trips, and the creation of a dynamic community feeling.

“The summer program provided an authenticated Jewish experience for these educators in Israel,” noted Pardes’ administration. “Targum Shlishi’s trust was helpful in giving us the confidence to approach other organizations to leverage seed gifts, and it gave us credibility with those organizations.” www.pardes.org.il

The Academy for Jewish Religion, general support, New York City

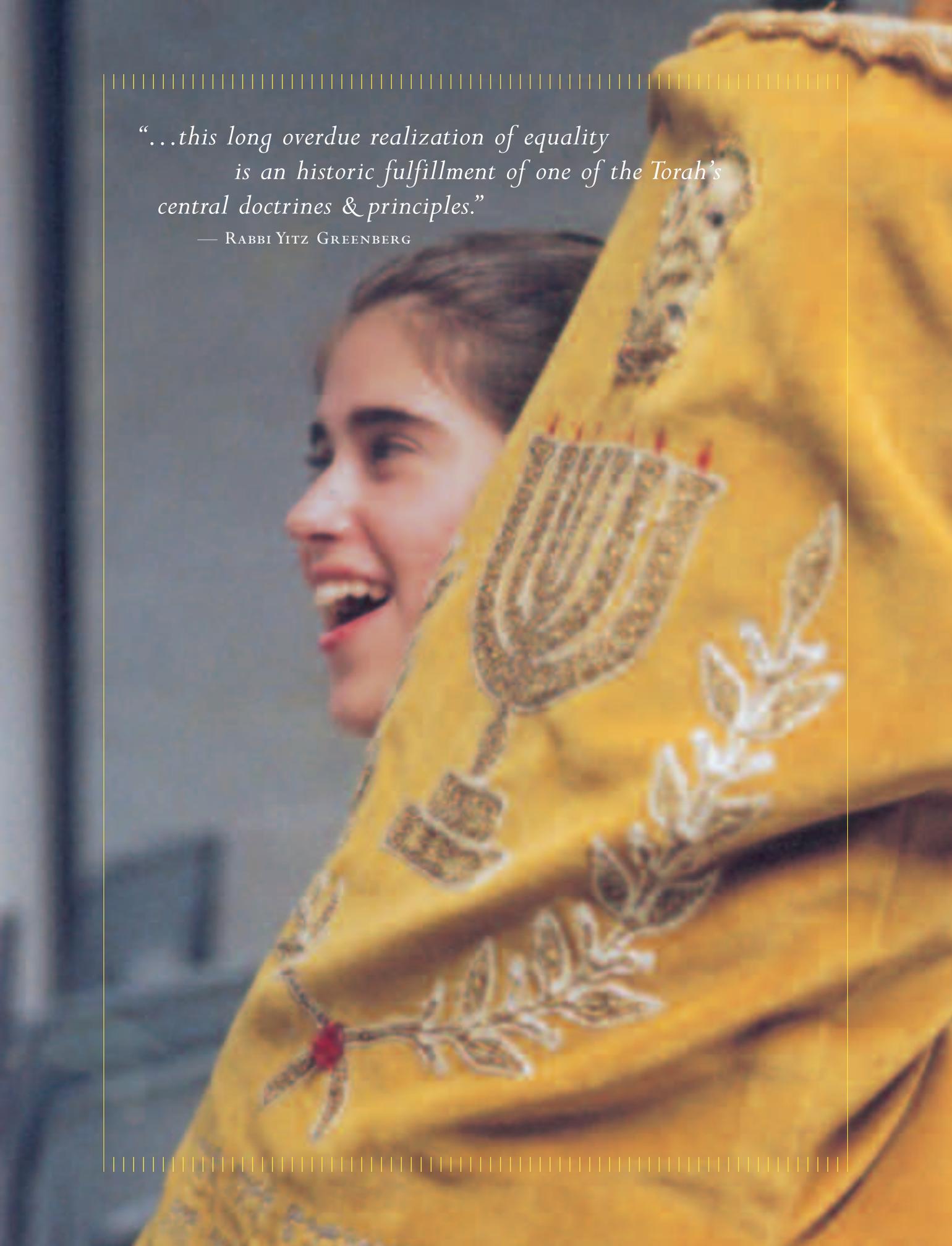


The Academy for Jewish Religion is an innovative institution dedicated to providing a pluralistic, inclusive education. The Academy prepares men and women to be rabbis and cantors and boasts a remarkably diverse population, with students from all denominations of modern Judaism, most of whom attend the school after successful careers in other fields. “Our student body includes educators, writers, therapists, performers, business people, a surgeon, a professor of classical musical composition, and even a professor of Talmud at another seminary,” said Rabbi David Greenstein, president of the Academy.

Targum Shlishi’s support helped enable the Academy to promote the pluralistic nature of the school. In addition, Targum Shlishi’s funding helped the Academy publish a volume of essays, *See the Voices*, collecting the work of scholars at the school as well as other experts. www.ajrsem.org

*“...this long overdue realization of equality
is an historic fulfillment of one of the Torah’s
central doctrines & principles.”*

— RABBI YITZ GREENBERG





WOMEN'S ISSUES

For women this is a time of change. True, lasting, positive change must be nurtured, tended, and enthusiastically encouraged over time for it to take root. The women of today are assuming different roles than what was expected in the past, when women typically were relegated to supporting roles. It is essential that our women and girls receive the same rigorous intellectual and spiritual training and support that men and boys receive. Targum Shlishi is wholly dedicated to supporting the changing roles that women and girls are assuming in spiritual, religious, communal, and social settings. Targum Shlishi has supported several initiatives designed to enable the voices of Jewish women to be heard loudly and clearly, from within the synagogues and without. Projects supported vary widely, and range from conferences to publications to addressing gaps in the tradition of worship.

Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA), 2001: JOFA in Progress Conference, New York City



Targum Shlishi was a sponsor of the conference, “2001: JOFA in Progress,” a dynamic event designed as an informal way in which to discuss ideas and issues of concern to Orthodox feminists. The conference, which attracted approximately 400 attendees, broke new ground because it addressed many issues that were previously ignored or overlooked, such as child abuse in communal organizations, the challenges of motherhood for Orthodox feminists, sexuality, body image, raising feminist children, and the use of the term “Orthodox.”

“The event allowed people to share their ideas and thoughts about these issues and others, and to generate ideas about how to address the issues in the future,” said Andrea Levin, associate director of JOFA. “The conference was exciting for both organizers and participants because of its energy and vitality.”

Targum Shlishi’s funding helped make the conference affordable for a wide range of participants who otherwise may not have been able to attend, including students and young professionals. This assistance was crucial, because young women are the future leaders of the gender-equality movement and of Judaism, and this conference was an opportunity for their voices to be heard. www.jofa.com

JOFA, Third International Conference on Feminism and Orthodoxy, Columbia University, New York City

This conference, which attracted a crowd of almost 500 people, had as its overarching theme the question from *Genesis*: “Where have you come from, and where are you going?”

The two-day conference included lectures, workshops, study sessions, films, programming for high school students, and an authors’ roundtable. Some of the topics were: “Invisible No More: New Roles,” “Spirituality: Ritual and Prayer,” “Breaking the Silence: Family Issues,” and “Wrestling With the Text: Halakhic Issues.” Targum Shlishi provided general support for the conference. www.jofa.com

JOFA, Fourth International Conference on Feminism and Orthodoxy, New York City

Targum Shlishi's funding helped support JOFA's 2002 conference, "Discovering/Uncovering/Recovering Women in Judaism." The three-day conference of workshops, exhibitions, lectures, performances, and other activities included in-depth consideration of topics such as gender and Jewish education, prayer, and women in public life. www.jofa.org

One Voice: Jewish Women for Israel, JOFA, New York City

Newly created in 2002, One Voice is a coalition of American Jewish women's organizations united in support of Israel. The organizations represent a broad spectrum of Jewish political and religious views, all of which support a strong US-Israel relationship and are committed to fighting terrorism, anti-Semitism, bigotry, and racism.

Projects to date have included the inaugural event, a national call-in day to Congress in support of Israel in June 2002 called "Take Five: Call Congress for Israel," and a follow-up call-in to the President in September 2002. Targum Shlishi's funding was used to help publicize the inaugural event: advertisements were placed in 16 Jewish-American newspapers. www.onevoice4Israel.org

Harvard Hillel, Jewish Superwomen: Living in Two Realms Conference, Harvard University, Cambridge



What is a Jewish Superwoman? This national collegiate Jewish women's conference, hosted by the Harvard Hillel, addressed that question. The conference, which took place over the course of a weekend, focused on modern Jewish women's balance between living Jewish and secular lives.

Speakers and discussion leaders presented 18 workshops and several lectures exploring a wide range of thought-provoking topics. "Personally, the speakers hit the heart of my troubles," said Rebecca Rakow, co-chair of the conference and a 2001 Harvard graduate. "They showed me and others that religious and secular life do not have to be in conflict with one another if one really wants them both to be part of one's life."



Workshops included “Weaving Together Torah and Psychology,” an examination of how Torah can teach us about ourselves, our choices, and our relationships; “Ima on the Bimah,” a look at the balancing act between career and motherhood; and “Superwomen Who Founded the State of Israel,” which surveyed some of the lesser-known women who were instrumental in the founding of Israel.

In addition to the workshops, several prominent speakers addressed various aspects of the Jewish woman question. US Assistant Surgeon General Susan Blumenthal and playwright Wendy Wasserstein were among the speakers.

Targum Shlishi’s funding not only “made the conference happen,” according to Ms. Rakow, but the foundation’s support “will affect Jewish women’s programs at Harvard Hillel for many years to come. The generous donation was applied to subsidizing conference fees for attendees, bringing in renowned speakers...and advertising the conference. A good portion of the donation provided the means for a new Jewish Women’s Studies section of the Hillel library.” www.hillel.harvard.edu

Toward a Meaningful Bat Mitzvah, book project



“I don’t think there’s anything like this out there. I don’t think anyone else in an Orthodox context has ever broached this subject in a comprehensive way; it’s pretty controversial,” said Nancy Wolfson-Moche, editor of *Toward a Meaningful Bat Mitzvah*.

The book is a resource for traditional families who are exploring ways in which their daughters can play more active roles in their bat mitzvahs.

Toward a Meaningful Bat Mitzvah, which includes a very intimate look at one bat mitzvah and a comprehensive list of references, arose out of personal experience — the bat mitzvah of Felissa Rubin, the Rubin’s oldest daughter. When it came time for Felissa’s bat mitzvah, the Rubins faced a dilemma. They wanted Felissa to have an active role in her bat mitzvah, one that would include her reading the Torah portion. However, the family’s shul, run by a Chabad rabbi, does not allow women to read from the Torah.

The family members devised an innovative solution; they held their own service in a makeshift synagogue early Shabbat morning before going to the shul in time for the Torah reading and Musaf service, where Felissa was called to the bimah to give a d'var Torah. At the private service, there was an emphasis on the participation of all women. The men sat behind the mechitzah, while the bat mitzvah led the service and read the Torah, and the women the aliyot. One of the guests, and the first person called for an aliyah, described the experience as magical, “I felt closer to the Torah, closer to God, and spiritually uplifted. I felt my soul, and I found that happening throughout the service—not just when I went up for my aliyah,” she said.

Toward a Meaningful Bat Mitzvah begins with a description of Felissa’s bat mitzvah and includes the reactions of many of the guests, which ranged from positive to questioning to negative. And, of course, Felissa herself had some things to say about the experience: “When I was practicing with the Torah, it was so heavy I practically dropped it. I was worried that I might drop it on the day of my bat mitzvah. But on that day, the Torah felt as light as a stuffed animal!”

Simchat Bat, Miami



The Simchat Bat service is a ceremony in which a new daughter is welcomed into the family and the Jewish people. The Simchat Bat is a relatively new service, with no formal tradition. The objective of this project was to create a model for and stimulate interest in and adoption of the Simchat Bat service.

Because the Simchat Bat is so new and is not widespread, the practice and substance of the ritual varies considerably. To address this issue, when their youngest daughter, Maya Johanna, was born, the Rubins researched and produced a brochure on the Simchat Bat for Maya’s service.

“Previous generations did not face the same challenges of bringing up their daughters in a society such as ours, in which the roles of women are rapidly evolving,” Aryeh Rubin wrote in the introduction to the Simchat Bat brochure. “There is a place and there is a need for creativity within our tradition.”

Note: The Simchat Bat brochure was produced by the Rubin family, not by Targum Shlishi. However, it is included here to emphasize the director’s personal interest in Jewish women’s life cycle issues.

Re://collections

JOFA EDITOR

Recollections of Beatrice Holtzman Schneiderman

SHE WAS THE SMARTEST WOMAN I HAVE EVER KNOWN, but she could flirt with the best of them, batting her eyelashes and putting on plenty of Southern charm. That was the grandmother Miriam, who was born in Atlanta, Georgia.

Miriam had loved various, deeply committed causes as well as to do literature. Miriam Dea's charge philanthropy. At times the coldest Chica Warden, she believed in the places to give people.

Her courage was infectious. Postwar activities, if a cause was attending talks, social and organizing leaders.

I did not know her as I remember her as (ex) looking forward, and so. An excerpt from one of

"The Fall season we involved in any big job. No, I'm sure to be at a group of women in Cleveland... I wrote to her the next week. Next Sunday the Bill of Rights, with a speaker. The following to Tuspeville..." (October)

While the details also the story of women change in this country office, but would have meetings and write them and others were leaders African Americans, and a progressive African continued on page 11

WHAT'S INSIDE

"Mafarsky was eager to create a 'visual language' that would 'transform'

es, But Will it and Up in Court? forceability of Religious nuptial Agreements

Michelle Greenberg-Kobrin

religious prenuptial agreements attempt to anticipate issues that at the end of Jewish marriage: the issues, which include the ground of a 21, occur because of the practical nature of halachic marriage.

Women's Experience of Forgiveness—It's NOT a Virtue!

Lilith

the independent Jewish women's magazine

The Right Stuff?

The Surprising and Growing Market for Jewish Women's Eggs

THE JE

WINTER TV ISSUE 2

More stories, more on the journey to the future. From the past.



Love this or not, it's time to get a new period. [www.jofa.org](#)

FALL

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Community Awareness, magazine subscriptions

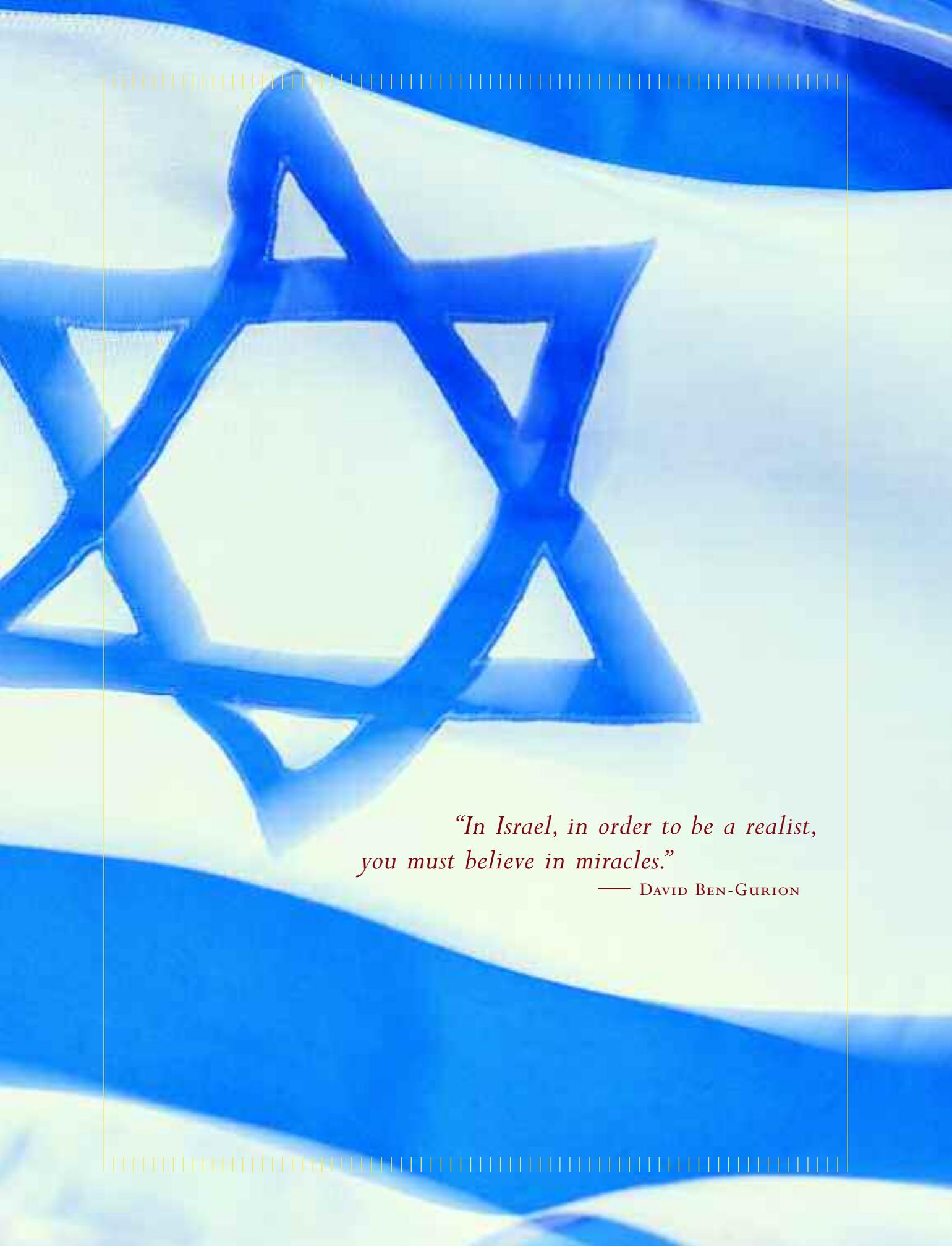
Community awareness is an essential precursor to any lasting, significant change. Women's roles are in flux in US society and within all denominations of Judaism. Because this is a critical time of great change, it is of paramount importance that Jewish women and the greater community be as aware of and as educated as possible about women's issues.

In an effort to promote this type of general community awareness, Targum Shlishi gifted more than 100 Jewish women in South Florida with annual subscriptions to each of three Jewish women's publications. The publications were *Lilith Magazine*, a Jewish women's quarterly; *Re://collections*, the newsletter of the Jewish Women's Archive; and *JOFA Journal*, the newsletter of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance. Many of the people who received the publications would not otherwise have been exposed to them, but they took the time to read and reflect on the materials.

An article in the summer 2000 issue of *JOFA Journal*, which all of the women received, describes the importance of continuing to think hard about the role of women in the Jewish community. In the article, Blu Greenberg, co-founder and president of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, wrote, "Clearly, we are in a transitional state. At the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations Rabbinic Awards dinner last March, most of the 13 honorees mentioned women's issues as critical to their congregational work. While women's learning is no longer an 'issue' — with learned and learning women now accepted as a treasured community asset — women's roles in the synagogue remain a source of confusion, exhilaration, or frustration — all signs of a community in flux. There is a great deal of sorting out to do..." www.lilithmag.com, www.jofa.org

Ohel Dvora Synagogue, renovation, Rechovot, Israel

For description, see "Israel" section, page 40.



*“In Israel, in order to be a realist,
you must believe in miracles.”*

— DAVID BEN-GURION



I S R A E L

Causes related to Israel are of core concern to us. Targum Shlishi supports Israel unconditionally and has worked diligently to promote understanding and peace in the Middle East through a range of endeavors. The foundation has long supported organizations that are working toward conflict resolution. Targum Shlishi has taken part in several fact-finding missions to Israel, both privately and with official delegations. In addition, Targum Shlishi supports programs that provide aid to Israeli citizens, such as free loans and food for the holidays. We also support educational and spiritual initiatives for children and adults.

Israel Policy Forum, general support



Established in 1993, the Israel Policy Forum's (IPF) mission is to support active American efforts to achieve stability and peace in the Middle East in order to strengthen Israeli security and further US foreign policy interests in the region. Since that time, IPF has consistently delivered a solid message of support for an active American role in resolving the Middle East conflict. It is an independent, nonpartisan organization.

"I want to congratulate you for your foresight in establishing the Israel Policy Forum," former Vice President Al Gore said at an IPF tribute dinner in 1999. Referring to the time just after the Oslo Accords had been signed — when it seemed the peace process was purposefully moving forward — he said, "You understood in this organization that winds can blow in both directions, that things can change. And so you founded a new organization committed to the cause of peace in the Middle East and organized to support it intelligently and actively."

In its effort to generate support for the peace process, IPF involves leaders from a variety of professions, including those associated with business, politics, arts and entertainment, academics, and philanthropy. IPF programs have included meetings between Jewish leaders and Washington policy makers to promote the peace process and satellite teleconferences between Israeli and American leaders. IPF also regularly publishes and disseminates assessments and reports analyzing the situation in the Middle East and conducts regular surveys of American and American-Jewish opinion on the peace process.

Targum Shlishi has been a full supporter of Israel and of ending terrorism in the Middle East. To this end, Targum Shlishi has supported IPF with regular donations over the course of several years. However, in 2001 as a result of the ongoing violence and a difference in opinion with IPF's policies on the uprising, the foundation reduced its funding to IPF by 75 percent to reflect the change in Targum Shlishi's position on the peace process. Recent events merit a dramatic change in approach to the problems in the Middle East, a change the foundation does not see reflected in the IPF, although it remains a vital counter to some of the more right wing organizations. In 2002, Targum Shlishi elected not to provide any funding to IPF.

Israel Policy Forum, Peace and Jewish Tradition Sessions, New York City

Targum Shlishi provided the seed funding for a series of 10 class sessions entitled “Peace and Jewish Tradition,” organized by the Israel Policy Forum (IPF). The classes, taught by rabbis, each explored a distinct topic. For example, Rabbis Adam Mintz and Michael Paley led a discussion with Congressman Jerrold Nadler about what the Jewish tradition teaches about negotiating peace.

“The sessions were enlightening, inspiring, and motivating,” said Debra Wasserman, executive director of the IPF. The program was so successful that the Reform Movement has incorporated some of the ideas, and the IPF has decided to hold another series of similar sessions.

Israel Policy Forum, Fact-Finding Mission to Israel

During the waning days of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s administration, and shortly before Ehud Barak’s election as prime minister, the Israel Policy Forum (IPF) organized a fact-finding mission to Israel to explore ways to strengthen American support of conflict resolution in the Middle East. Targum Shlishi’s Aryeh Rubin participated in the mission. The group’s efforts focused on gaining information that would strengthen IPF’s education and advocacy efforts and on building relationships between IPF leadership and Mr. Barak’s advisors. The group met extensively with senior Israeli officials, including candidates Barak and Benny Begin. It also held talks with Dan Meridor, Chemi Shalev, the faculty of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, and others to discuss their views on issues regarding Israel’s security, Jerusalem, and the Palestinians.

Ohel Dvora Synagogue, renovation, Rechovot, Israel

The Ohel Dvora Synagogue in Rechovot, Israel has a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. It is home to a unique congregation, consisting of Jews of both Sephardic (Spanish and Mediterranean) and Ashkenazi (Eastern European) descent. The building, originally constructed in the 1950s, was very much in need of repair, nowhere more so than in the women's section (in Orthodox congregations, men and women are segregated). The women's section had no air conditioning, temporary walls, and poor acoustics. Targum Shlishi provided partial funding



to renovate and refurbish the section. The foundation dedicated this effort to all Israeli women who served in the army or national service. This support has meant a great deal to the community; since the repairs were completed, the number of women attending Shabbat services has doubled.

Yad Eliezer, food for low-income families, Israel

Yad Eliezer is a Jerusalem-based organization that provides food for approximately 2,500 low-income families in several Israeli cities. Much of the food is donated and prepared by volunteers; other sources include surplus produce and slightly damaged products donated by industry and the government, as well as food purchased at substantial discounts. In 2001, Targum



Shlishi provided funding that made it possible for large jars of honey to be added to 1,000 packages distributed to families for Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year). According to tradition, eating apples dipped in honey at Rosh Hashanah assures a sweet year to come. In 2002 Targum Shlishi helped to fund the purchase of 36,000 kilos of first-quality potatoes that were distributed in 20 kilo bags to 1,800 families.



Betovat Rachel, free-loan fund, Israel

Established by Targum Shlishi in conjunction with other organizations, Betovat Rachel offers interest-free installment loans to individuals experiencing temporary financial difficulties. A portion of the fund is earmarked for the Breslover Hasidim in the Israeli city of Safed. In its first year, the fund extended approximately 40 loans.

Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO), Florida branch



Founded in 1920, WIZO is a well-established international organization dedicated to serving the needs of women in Israel and promoting Jewish education in Israel and throughout the world. The organization is large, with more than 50 federations and 250,000 volunteer members throughout the world. It has established and runs a host of programs in Israel, where it has worked steadily to advance the status of women. WIZO provides services including day care centers, schools, youth villages, legal advice bureaus, shelters for battered women, centers for the prevention and treatment of violence in the family, emergency hot lines for battered women, and services for single parent families. Targum Shlishi's funding was directed to WIZO's violence prevention programs. www.wizo.org

Tank Corps Project, Israel Defense Forces, Israel

Targum Shlishi "adopted" a unit of the Israeli army and provided funds for the purchase of noncombat items that are not covered by the Israel Defense Forces expense allocations but which help raise soldiers' morale. The foundation's adopted unit is Company Lamed, Battalion 71, Brigade 188. This tank unit is involved in antiterrorist activities. Among the items to be purchased through Targum Shlishi's funding are warm winter jackets, stereos, and computer-related equipment. In addition to supporting the Tank Corps project, Targum Shlishi has provided general support to the Israel Defense Forces at various times during the past several years.

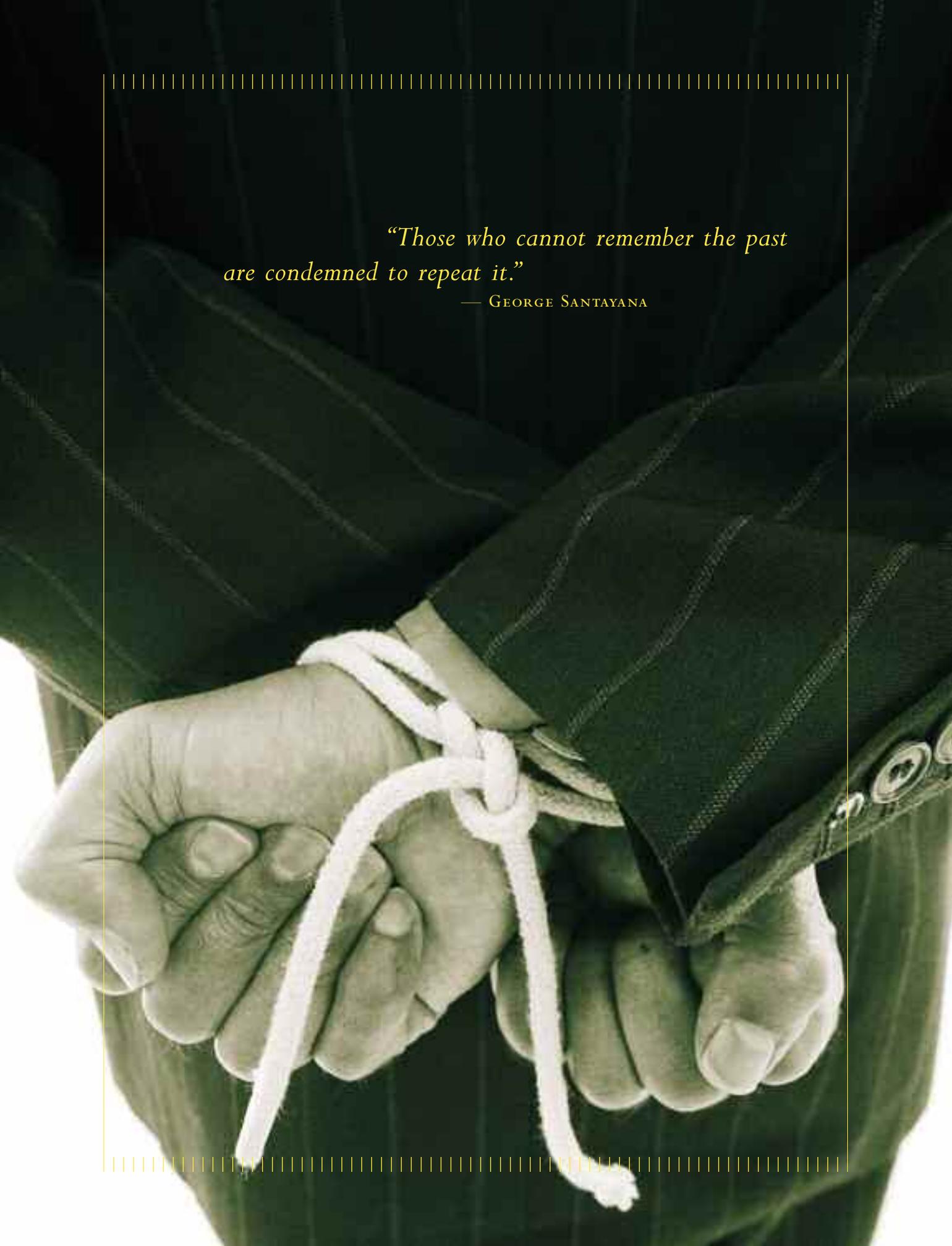


One Voice: Jewish Women for Israel, JOFA, New York City

For description, see "Women's Issues," page 31.

*“Those who cannot remember the past
are condemned to repeat it.”*

— GEORGE SANTAYANA





JUSTICE FOR NAZI WAR CRIMES

Targum Shlishi is committed to bringing the remaining Nazi war criminals to justice, in the belief that these individuals must be held fully accountable for their crimes, regardless of the passage of time. To that end, Targum Shlishi has provided ongoing support for the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, an international Jewish human rights organization that focuses on preserving the memory of the Holocaust and promoting justice. In particular, Targum Shlishi works closely with Dr. Efraim Zuroff, director of the Israel office, and the foundation often assumes an active role in initiatives. Targum Shlishi has supported Dr. Zuroff's efforts in locales as diverse as Costa Rica, Croatia, Iceland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

Bogdan Koziy, Costa Rica



Bogdan Koziy, a member of the Ukrainian Security Police during World War II, is accused of Nazi war crimes, including killing 12 people and helping the Gestapo round up Jews for eventual transfer to concentration camps. Targum Shlishi provided essential support and input for the Simon Wiesenthal Center's efforts seeking the extradition of Koziy from Costa Rica.

These efforts followed several earlier attempts to bring Koziy to justice. During the past 20 years, Koziy has repeatedly been a focus of attention for the US and USSR governments, and he managed to avoid extradition to the USSR twice. Koziy lived in the US from 1949 until 1984, when he fled to Costa Rica to avoid extradition. In 1986, the USSR requested his extradition from Costa Rica, which was first denied, then approved, and then canceled in 1987. The World Jewish Congress launched a global campaign in 1994 for his extradition, but it was unsuccessful. In 1995, the Simon Wiesenthal Center kicked off a new campaign to convince Costa Rica to expel Koziy.

Targum Shlishi also initiated a letter-writing and e-mail campaign to Costa Rica's then-president, Jose Maria Figueres. The letter read, in part, "During World War II, Koziy personally participated in the murder of at least 12 Jews...It is a travesty of justice that this murderer is allowed to live in Costa Rica." Tens of thousands of letters and e-mails were sent.

Targum Shlishi then conceived, developed, and funded an advertising strategy with Dr. Efraim Zuroff, the director of Jerusalem office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, designed to pressure the Costa Rican government to expel Koziy. An advertisement ran in the local San José newspaper *Extra*, urging this action. Then a second, extremely



incendiary ad targeting the travel industry was prepared and sent, ready for print, to the Costa Rican ambassador to the US expressly for the purpose of urging him to action. That ad's headline was, "Costa Rica: The Land of Tropical Rain Forests. Also, the Land that Gives Safe Haven to a Nazi Murderer." Soon after that, in early 2001, the supreme court of Costa Rica upheld an expulsion order against Koziy. He is now in hiding. Targum Shlishi did not run the ad; the threat alone spurred Costa Rica to take action against Koziy.

Dinko Sakic, Zagreb, Croatia



Dinko Sakic was the commander of Croatia's Jasenovac concentration camp in 1944. Jasenovac, known as the "Auschwitz of the Balkans," was where up to 85,000 inmates perished between 1941 and 1945. In 1999, the 78-year-old Sakic, the last known living commander of a concentration camp, was convicted by a Croatian court for crimes against humanity after a six-month trial. He was found responsible for the killings of 2,000 people during the months he ran the camp. He received a 20-year sentence, the maximum punishment.

Sakic had lived in Argentina from 1945, when he fled Croatia, until 1998, when he was extradited. During the trial, Sakic admitted to being the commander of Jasenovac and said he was proud of it. He pleaded not guilty, claiming that during the few months of his rule over the camp no crimes were committed. According to Reuters wire service, "He showed little visible remorse during the trial and even jeered at some inmates' testimonies." When the verdict was announced, he smiled and applauded, according to the *New York Post*.

Targum Shlishi helped support the Wiesenthal Center's efforts in this case, and representatives from both organizations traveled to Croatia on two occasions, including the trial, to meet with officials and present evidence.

"The passage of time in no way diminishes the crimes committed or the responsibility of the perpetrator," the Wiesenthal Center's Efraim Zuroff wrote in a description of the trial.

Evald Mikson, Reykjavik, Iceland



Evald Mikson, an Estonian living in Iceland, was accused of Nazi war crimes in conjunction with his position during World War II as the leader of an Estonian vigilante squad. Among the accusations were that he had murdered 30 people and was responsible for the deaths of an additional 150. He had changed his name to Edvald Hinriksson and was a well-known and popular figure in Iceland, who was known as “the father of Icelandic basketball”; his sons were members of the national soccer team.

Targum Shlishi provided funding for the Wiesenthal Center’s Efraim Zuroff to travel to Iceland, present documentation to government officials, and meet with members of the local media. Targum Shlishi’s director, Aryeh Rubin, accompanied Dr. Zuroff on this trip and negotiated the appointment of a special prosecutor. In addition, Targum Shlishi worked with the Simon Wiesenthal Center on a letter-writing campaign to Icelandic Prime Minister David Oddsson in an effort to persuade the Icelandic government to take action. About 10,000 letters were sent, including a petition from 85 members of the Knesset (Israel’s parliament). In 1993, the Icelandic government made the decision to pursue a criminal investigation of Mikson, who died before he could be brought to trial.

DLANG (Don’t Let Australian Nazis Go), Australia

In 1992, the Australian government decided to shut down its Special Investigations Unit responsible for investigating suspected Nazi war criminals living in Australia. Of major concern to the Simon Wiesenthal Center was the large number of alleged Nazi war criminals residing in Australia and the coincidence of Australia’s decision with the emergence of democracies in much of Eastern Europe. With countries such as Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and others adopting democracy, there would be greater access to wartime records and new opportunities to investigate and prosecute Nazi war criminals.

Targum Shlishi initiated and coordinated a letter-writing campaign to Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans with the objective of generating tens of thousands of letters to the Australian government. “Bearing in mind the surge in neo-Nazi activities worldwide, the atrocities being committed in Yugoslavia, and the new evidence coming out of the Baltic states, the free world has an obligation to ensure that perpetrators of war crimes be brought to justice, regardless of the passage of time,” the letter stated.

In addition, Targum Shlishi provided funds that allowed the Wiesenthal Center's Efraim Zuroff to travel to Australia and draw public attention to this issue. Dr. Zuroff submitted a new list of Australian suspects, which attracted notice and helped "to keep the issue alive — despite government attempts to ignore it," Dr. Zuroff said.

Operation Last Chance: Rewards for Justice, Simon Wiesenthal Center

Targum Shlishi, in conjunction with the Simon Wiesenthal Center, has initiated a campaign to maximize efforts to bring the remaining Nazi war criminals to justice by offering financial rewards for information leading to their arrest and conviction. Targum Shlishi proposed the project and provided the core funding for it. The project is coordinated through the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center under the aegis of Dr. Efraim Zuroff (pictured below).



A major impetus for this project is the rapidly diminishing chances of successfully prosecuting Nazi war criminals. Suspects and witnesses are aging, and there is a lack of political will in the countries where the crimes occurred and the countries in which suspects reside. Operation Last Chance seeks to combat these circumstances by encouraging eyewitnesses to come forward with the promise of \$10,000 rewards.

The program will be publicized through intensive advertising and media campaigns in countries such as Germany, Austria, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Poland, where Nazi war crimes were committed with the acquiescence or participation of the local populations. Émigré newspapers in countries of refuge, including the US, Australia, Canada, and Argentina, will also be targeted. The rewards will be awarded to informants only if suspects are convicted, sentenced, and punished by courts of law.

The project has been launched in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, and dozens of leads have already resulted from the advertising and local publicity. The Lithuanian government has initiated formal investigations into two collaborators and private investigations sponsored by Targum Shlishi are ongoing. Belorussia and the Ukraine are the next target countries. www.wiesenthal.com



AND MORE

Although Targum Shlishi concentrates its efforts on the areas already discussed — Education, Women’s Issues, Israel, and Justice for Nazi War Crimes — we don’t restrict ourselves to those categories. We are always looking for worthy causes, and have funded several that we felt were in keeping with our mission even if they did not fit one of our primary areas of focus. Here we discuss several of those projects.

United Nations Association of the USA Demining Initiatives, Africa and Lebanon



Millions of people the world over are affected either directly or indirectly by landmines. The International Committee of the Red Cross estimates that landmines kill or maim approximately 26,000 people annually, including 8,000 to 10,000 children. In addition to the obvious threat to human life, minefields hinder development — by preventing use of the land for farming or grazing or construction — in the approximately 70 countries in which they have been found.

Removal of landmines is of utmost importance; however, this is impeded by the cost of clearing a minefield, which ranges from thousands to millions of dollars. “Landmine survivors worldwide long for a day when the weapon that scarred our bodies and killed our loved ones is forever abolished from the face of the earth,” wrote Jerry White and Ken Rutherford, co-founders of an organization called the Landmine Survivors Network.

In 1998, Targum Shlishi participated in and helped to support a UNA-USA Landmine Clearance Inspection Tour of Africa. The tour, which included Mozambique, Angola, Eritrea, and Ethiopia, consisted of fact-finding meetings with key local decision makers and investigation of the landmine situation and challenges to demining.

The trip yielded significant results, including the development of a series of programs aimed at accelerating demining efforts. Targum Shlishi has donated funding for one of these new programs, the K-9 Demining Corps. Administered by the Marshall Legacy Institute, the program supplies teams of explosive-sniffing dogs, which are extremely effective in detecting the weapons. The dog team that Targum Shlishi supported was sent to southern Lebanon in early 2001 to assist in demining efforts there.

“We greatly appreciate the support of Targum Shlishi, through which invaluable public/private partnerships were created to find innovative solutions to long-standing problems with critical issues, such as reducing the threat of landmines, UN Peacekeeping operations, and other international affairs,” said Ralph Cwerman, senior advisor for the Landmine Clearance Inspection Tour and president of the Humpty Dumpty Institute. www.unausa.org

UNA-USA, Peacekeeping Mission to Russia



Targum Shlishi's director, Aryeh Rubin, took part in a peacekeeping mission to Russia to explore the US role in United Nations' peacekeeping operations and to look into regional peacekeeping operations. The trip began in Moscow with a meeting with representatives of Russia's foreign ministry to discuss Russia's performance in peacekeeping operations. Other regions explored included Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Republic of Georgia. The tour then traveled to Abkhazia to explore the landmine situation there. Targum Shlishi supported the efforts of the UNA-USA.

The Shul of Bal Harbour, Mortgage Campaign and General Support, Miami

The Shul of Bal Harbour under the guidance of Rabbi Sholom Lipskar is an innovative synagogue with a welcoming atmosphere and an emphasis on Jewish education for all ages. Targum Shlishi has supported The Shul in numerous ways. In addition to supporting the mortgage campaign for several years, Targum Shlishi purchased five seats in The Shul, donated funds for computers, and donated funds for general expenses for the Hebrew month of Adar. In addition, Targum Shlishi has initiated well-received joint programs with The Shul (see "Peace of Mind Program," "The Shul of Bal Harbor, Spanish Edition of Bulletin," and "Holocaust Lecture Series for Jewish High School Students"). www.theshul.org



The Aleph Institute, Surfside, Florida



The 20-year-old Aleph Institute is a national organization that provides important social services to families in crisis and individuals in institutional environments, such as prison and the military, regardless of religious affiliation. Aleph also addresses issues related to the criminal justice system and implements initiatives that center on faith-based rehabilitation and preventive ethics education.

Aleph has created several programs that aim to provide alternatives to incarceration and that rehabilitate inmates and assist their families. Among these are the “Spiritual Freedom” Passover Program, in which Aleph ships Passover food and ritual-observance materials to over 3,500 incarcerated Jews and their families who could not otherwise obtain these goods. Targum Shlishi has helped support this program on numerous occasions. In addition, Targum Shlishi has supported the Aleph Institute’s program of sending packages to overseas armed forces for Purim. It also supported Aleph’s initial outreach program to the military.

Aleph’s Center for Halacha and American Law develops educational materials on Torah ethics and values that are distributed in classrooms and to the general public. Targum Shlishi sponsored *Articles on Torah Ethics and Values*, a collection of articles on ethics that were reprinted from the *Jewish Observer*.

“Targum Shlishi has long been an important supporter of various Aleph projects, including those addressing ethical education,” noted Isaac M. Jaroslawicz, Executive Director of the Aleph Institute. www.aleph-institute.org

Aid to Argentinean Jewry, The Greater Miami Jewish Federation



Targum Shlishi has donated funding to help Argentine Jewry as the country faces a devastating economic, social, and political crisis that is continually worsening. As of late 2002, the financial crisis had affected all 200,000 Argentine Jews, not only the 26,000 below the poverty line. Other issues facing the Jewish community (and the population at large) are job instability, a lack of public safety, and lack of access to health care. Many Argentine Jews see no future for themselves in the country and are emigrating to Israel; it is estimated that 5,000 Argentine Jews emigrated to Israel in 2002 (up from 800 in 2000). In the country as a whole, 100,000 members of the 37 million population emigrated in 2001.



P E N D I N G P R O J E C T S

Holocaust Lecture Video for Jewish High School Students, Higher Authority Productions, Miami

Targum Shlishi has provided funding for a video treatment of a series of lectures on the Holocaust geared to high school students in Jewish day schools. The lectures were developed and presented by Rabbi Sholom Lipskar, leader of The Shul of Bal Harbour in Miami and an internationally known educator.

Website on Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, Aleph Society, New York



Targum Shlishi has pledged funds for the creation of a website focusing on the work of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz. Rabbi Steinsaltz is among the preeminent Jewish thinkers of our era. He is best known for his translation of and commentary on the Talmud and for his works on chassidut and Jewish mysticism. The website will offer introductions to Rabbi Steinsaltz's writings, his educational initiatives, and the institutions he helped found in Israel, the former Soviet Union, and the US. The Aleph Society was formed in 1989 to support Rabbi Steinsaltz's efforts. www.judaicaru.org

Building Bridges from Bar-Ilan to the Baltics, The Lookstein Center of Bar-Ilan University, Israel and the Baltic States

In its mission to improve the quality of Jewish education worldwide, and at the request of Targum Shlishi, the Lookstein Center will develop programs for Jewish educators in the Baltic States. These programs will likely include both internet learning and seminars in Israel and the Baltic. Targum Shlishi's funding is being used in curriculum development and adaptation. www.lookstein.org, lookstein.data.ac.il/russian/

Holocaust Memorial Sculpture, Riga Jewish Community, Rumbula, Latvia



Rumbula is a wooded site near Latvia's capital city of Riga where 38,000 Jews were murdered between the end of November and December 1941. Most of those killed (28,000) were from the Riga ghetto. The site was neglected for many years after the war. In 2002 a memorial was created. Targum Shlishi provided support for the names of 1,000 of the victims to be inscribed on stones as part of the memorial.

The J.J. Greenberg Memorial Torah Lending Service, Aleph Society and the Shul of Bal Harbour, Miami

Targum Shlishi established this Torah lending program in memory of Jonathan Joseph (J.J.) Greenberg, Executive Director of the New York-based Jewish Life Network and the son of Rabbi Irving (Yitz) and Blu Greenberg. Greenberg, 36, died in September 2002 of injuries sustained in a traffic accident in Israel. He was actively involved in Jewish community service and worked with several national programs.

Torahs will be lent on a short-term basis to groups that would not typically have access to a Sefer Torah but that want to conduct formal services. The program will be administered by the Aleph Society and the Shul of Bal Harbour. The program will begin with three Sefer Torahs.

Rosh Hodesh Journal for Teenage Girls, Miami

Targum Shlishi is developing a journal/handbook for teenage girls based on Rosh Hodesh (the new month in the Jewish calendar) and the lunar cycle and its particular relevance to Jewish girls and women. This publication will commemorate Angelica Rubin's bat mitzvah and will be distributed to Jewish day schools and synagogues.



LESSONS LEARNED

We aren't always successful in the projects we choose to fund. Sometimes we support projects that, for whatever reason — lack of commitment, lack of other funding, unrealistic goals, personal circumstances — don't come to fruition.

In this section we share a sampling of the projects that didn't work out. They were great ideas at the time we funded them, and they remain great ideas. We still wish they were more than ideas.

If there's anything we've learned from our failures, it's that we can't let them bog us down — and we can't let them sour us on the next great idea, because it is often right there, waiting to be discovered and supported.

Curriculum on the Peace Process in the Middle East

Targum Shlishi funded the development of a curriculum on the situation in the Middle East through the Israel Policy Forum aimed at junior high school students at Jewish day schools in the US. The objective was to promote understanding of the peace process. Ultimately, the curriculum was not implemented. The head of the project did some initial work, but abandoned it due to personal problems, and the fees were never returned. This occurred early in Targum Shlishi's funding process. Since then, participant backgrounds are thoroughly reviewed and additional precautions taken.

Taylor-Schechter Geniza Collection, Cambridge University Library

Targum Shlishi provided both general support and funding for the development of a CD-ROM to document the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Collection at Cambridge University Library. The collection includes 140,000 centuries-old fragments of Hebrew and Jewish literature and documents recovered from the Ben Ezra Synagogue in Cairo in the late 1800s. Despite the great promise of the project and interest in it, the CD-ROM was never completed. The Cambridge faculty's focus was of a scholarly nature; bringing the Geniza Collection to the public was not a priority, which contributed to the abandonment of the project.

Millennium School, New York City



Targum Shlishi was active in the establishment of a progressive educational high school offering a high-quality Jewish and secular education; its mission was to compete academically with the best private schools in the country and to attract non-Orthodox as well as Orthodox students. Ultimately, this project was aborted by its founders owing to lack of an initial enthusiastic response from the community. The model, however, spurred the creation of a new high school in New York City. On initiatives of this magnitude, major funders and financing need to be committed prior to launch so that there is a feeling of ownership in the project.



ADDITIONAL RECIPIENTS

Abraham Fund	Chamah
Abraham Joshua Heschel School	Children of the Holocaust Memorial Hospital
Academy of Jewish Learning	Congregation B'nai Jeshuron
Academy of Jewish Religion	Congregation Kol Arie
Alzheimer's Association of Northern NJ	Conservative Synagogue of Riverdale
American — Israel Chamber of Commerce	Council for Initiative in Jewish Education
American Association of Ben Gurion University	Disabled Businesspersons
American Cancer Society	Discovery Museum
American Friends of Shiloh	Dorot
American Friends of Sanz Medical Center	Educational Center in the Galil
American Israel Economic Research & Education	Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey
American Jewish Committee	Exit Art / The First World
Bais Medrash of South Florida	Foundation for the Jewish Community
Bais Shandel High School	Friends of Sheba Medical Center
Bais Yaakov of Spring Valley	Gemilath Chasodim of Flatbush
Ben Gurion University	Goldring Woldenberg Institute
Beth Medrash Gevoha	Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Beth Oloth	Guild for the Blind
Biodiversity Associates	Hatzolah of Flatbush
Camp HASC	Hatzolah Westside
Camp Mogen Avroham	Hebrew Academy of Miami Beach
Camp Morasha — Yachad Program	Hebrew Free Burial Society
Casa Lubavitch	Hesder Yeshiva Shiloh
Chai Lifeline	Higher Authority Productions
	Highland Lakes Shul
	Humpty Dumpty Institute

Institute of Southern Jewish Life	National Jewish Center for Learning & Leadership
International Academy of Homeopathy	National Yiddish Book Center
Israel Chesed Fund	New Alternatives for Children
Israel Religious Action Center	New Hyde Park Jewish Center
Israel Sephardic Education Foundation	New York Botanical Gardens
Israel Tennis Center Association	New York Press Club Foundation
Jewish Communal Fund	Noam Shabbos
Jewish Community Relations Council	North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry
Jewish Foundation for The Righteous	PRAT
Jewish Funders Network	Red Cross
Jewish Hospice	Rodeph Sholom School
Jewish Leadership Institute	Save a Child's Heart Foundation—US
Jewish Life Network	Shaare Zedek Hospital
Jewish Museum	Shehebar Sephardic Center
Jewish Student Press Service	Shuvu
Jewish Theological Seminary of America	Tehilla
Junior Achievement of NY	Temple Emanu-El
Kailash Foundation of New York	Temple Sinai of Hollywood
Kerem Aniyim	Temple Sinai of North Dade
Little Orchestra Society	The Shul Sisterhood
Lyra Mixed Choir Of Zagreb	Tomche Shabbos of Boro Park and Flatbush
Machon Ahavat Emet	UNICEF NY Metropolitan Committee
Maimonides School	United Israel Appeal
March of Dimes	United Jewish Appeal of Jewish Philanthropies
Mazon	United Lifeline
Memorial Sloan Kettering	Whitney Museum
Mesivta Chaim Berlin	WLRN Public Radio
Miami Beach Community Kollel	World Union of Judaism
Michael—Ann Russell JCC	WPBT
Mount Sinai Children's Center	Yad Vashem
MUSE Film and Television	Yeshiva Chasam Sofer
Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami	Yeshiva Rambam
Museum of Modern Art	Yeshivat Bnei Akiva
Museum of The Southern Jewish Experience	
Nachal Novea Makor Chochma	
National Institute for Jewish Hospice	



LOOKING AHEAD

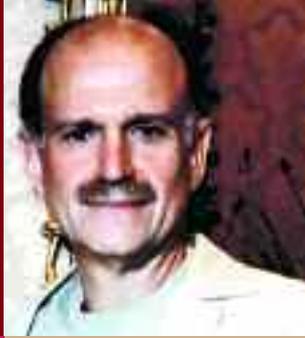
Targum Shlishi is now embarking on its second decade. There is much to be done. At times, the possibilities seem endless and at once exhilarating and overwhelming. With 10 years and more than 60 projects to our credit, our objective remains exactly as it was when we set out: to support constructive, creative change for the greater good. Likewise, our method is the same: to seek out the most promising projects and organizations, determine how best we can help them, and then help them. For a foundation dedicated to promoting change, some things remain the same.

And yet, we've learned much from the past 10 years, from both our successes and our failures. We have learned, for example, that substance wins over style, every time. We would rather support a great idea from a small, struggling organization than a vague notion from a high-profile group or personality; vague notions have a way of dissolving, while great ideas remain just that.

We have learned that a great idea can be replicated, and we derive substantial satisfaction from supporting the implementation of successful projects in new communities.

Finally, we have learned that we do not have to do everything ourselves. As we look ahead, among our objectives is to work more often with other foundations to support a larger scale of programs for a greater portion of the population.

That is it, really. More of the same — only more of it.



*Aryeh Rubin
Founder, Director*



*Raquel Rubin
Co-Founder, Director*



*Ivan Berkowitz
Director*



*Tania Castellanos
Project Director*

*Note: Staff members
are paid \$1 annually
for their Targum
Shlishi-related work.*



*Lisa Hardy
Communications*



*Cuqui Maya
Financial*



*“Being a seeker means
understanding that there is work to do.”*

— ARTHUR GREEN, *RESTORING THE ALEPH*,
A PUBLICATION SUPPORTED BY TARGUM SHLISHI

