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This reference department is available in Judaica Librarianship: https://ajlpublishing.org/jl/vol9/iss1/29
The purpose of this column is to recommend current Judaica reference sources, both general and specialized. It is intended to serve as a guide to new tools for scholarly research as well as to more popular, but reliable works. The annotations describe the scope and use of each work.

This column lists selected reference materials that appeared from 1992 to 1995. Works published in 1990 and 1991 that were not reviewed in prior columns are included as well. Hebrew reference works are starred, and Hebrew bibliographic data corresponding to the Romanized entry appears at the end of the list.

The reference works are classified under the following subject headings:

- Alcoholism and drug addiction
- Archives
- Bible
- Bibliographies
- Biographies
- Careers
- Genealogy
- Hebrew language
- Hebrew literature
- Hebrew literature—Bibliography
- Hebrew printing—India
- History
- History—Asia
- History—Canada
- History—Czechoslovakia
- History—Hamburg
- History—Hungary
- History—Poland
- History—Soviet Union
- Holocaust
- Human rights
- Intermarriage
- Israel
- Jewish education
- Jewish law
- Judaism—History
- Judezmo
- Liturgy
- Manuscripts
- Memorial books
- Museums
- Press
- Sephardic studies
- Travel

**Alcoholism and drug addiction**


This classified, annotated bibliography is divided into twelve chapters and cites 583 items. It covers such subjects as Jewish involvement in Alcoholics Anonymous, alcoholism in Israel, and minorities within the Jewish community (women, youth, lesbians and gay men, blacks). The descriptive annotations “focus on the Jewish material included in the citations” (p. xii). Includes an author index, a title index, and a subject index.

**Archives**


Includes records of: WZO (World Zionist Organization); the Jewish Agency; JNF (Jewish National Fund); Keren Hayesod; Hovevei Zion organizations; the Jewish community in Palestine; the World Jewish Congress; the Central Zionist Archives’ photograph collection, its printed material collection (e.g., posters), and its library and newspaper collection (over 100,000 volumes); and of the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive. Not indexed.

**Bible**


This illustrated almanac has 56 chapters divided into six sections: (1) Ancient Near East (peoples, religions, languages); (2) World of the Bible (geography, Jerusalem, calendar, warfare, musical instruments, weights, metals, jewelry, animals, plants, miracles); (3) Old Testament; (4) Intertestamental Period; (5) New Testament; (6) Bible in Civilization (translations, art, fiction, drama, poetry, music, motion pictures, stamps). Includes index.


Translation of *Ishe ha-Tanakh*, first published in 1964. Contains biographical information regarding the lives of Biblical personalities gleaned from the two Talmuds (Bavli and Yerushalmi) and Midrashic literature. Entries are arranged alphabetically by name in Hebrew characters. Within each personality’s life, the information is arranged chronologically, from birth to death. Entries for famous individuals such as the Patriarchs, Moses, and David are divided into sections, with a list of the section headings at the beginning of the entry. Includes an alphabetical index of the English form of the name.


A reference book for people studying the Bible. It may be used to find answers to the question “What does the Bible say about . . .?” Bible concordances enable one to find verses containing a given word, while a thesaurus links passages with similar meanings. Includes a list of categories, an index of Bible references, and a subject index.

"The present dictionary covers the Twelve Prophets alone. It was originally conceived as a pilot project for exploring a whole range of difficulties associated with Septuagintal lexicography. . . . [T]he Twelve Prophets were thought to constitute a single coherent literary unit most likely produced by a single translator . . . [I]t is hoped that this venture will provide a useful stepping stone towards a full-scale Septuagint lexicon" (p. [vii]).


A comprehensive bibliography of books and articles on both the Old and New Testaments, covering all the books of the Bible. Includes introductory essays and detailed tables of contents. Rhetorical criticism is defined as "a form of literary criticism which uses our knowledge of . . . literary composition practiced in ancient Israel and its environment to discover and analyze the particular artistry found in a specific unit of Old Testament text" (p. 4).

Bibliographies


"This catalogue lists by 13 subjects books in Russian published in Israel in 1980-91" (Introduction, unpaginated). Entries are in English with full bibliographical information and brief English annotations. Includes title and publisher indexes.


Includes descriptions of close to 900 Judaica reference books arranged in 35 subject categories covering every aspect of Jewish life and knowledge—history, culture, religion, and contemporary issues. With author and title indexes. [See review by Zachary Baker in the APPROBATIONS section of this issue.—Ed.]


This guide to Jewish books in Spanish is divided into sections covering periodicals, bibliographies, Judaism, The Jewish community, Jews in Spain, Sephardim, and Jewish literature. Each entry has full bibliographical information. Includes author and subject indexes.

Biographies


Contains almost 24,000 brief biographies of American Jews, from colonial times up to those who died by the end of 1985. This is by far the largest such bibliographical dictionary ever produced. [See a full-length review in the APPROBATIONS section of this issue.—Ed.]

Careers


"The objective of this guide is to outline the range of educational and professional opportunities within Jewish community work in North America" (p. 13). Divided into two major sections. Part one, entitled "Career Alternatives & Educational Programs," provides an overview of professional fields, such as the rabbinate and the cantorate. Part two, "Resources & References," includes information about associations, scholarships, job placement, and salaries, as well as a listing of selected books and periodicals. (Judaica librarianship and the Association of Jewish Libraries are not mentioned.)

Genealogy


"The purpose of this guide is to provide a source book for new genealogists who do their work in the Dallas, Texas area, or any location far from the larger cities on either the East or West Coast" (p. VII). Geared primarily toward Jews whose ancestors come from East Europe and the former Soviet Union. Chapters on: How to Begin; Computers and Genealogy; U.S. Public Records; Mormon Records; Jewish Names; Back to the Old Country; Jewish Genealogical Resources in the Dallas Area. Includes three appendices: Foreign Language Alphabets; Map of the Pale of Settlement; Soundex Systems.


Completely revised and updated (the first edition appeared in 1980), this detailed guide to Jewish genealogical research provides step-by-step advice on gathering information from family members and family papers, Holocaust research, and immigration and naturalization records. It also includes information on how to locate birth, marriage, and death records; how to do research in Eastern Europe, and more. In addition, this work contains the "Bibliography of Eastern European Memorial (Yizkor) Books," compiled by Zachary M. Baker (1993). This 64-page revised version supersedes previous editions with the same title, also compiled by Baker (see Judaica Librarianship vol. 2 [1985], p. 74 and vol. 5 no. 2 [1991], p. 231). This valuable bibliography is arranged in three sections: General Reference Works, Countries and Regions, Localities. The last two sections are arranged alphabetically by place name.

Hebrew language


This is no. 7 of the series From the Workshop: Studies and Research for Teachers of Hebrew as a Second Language. This work lists publications, articles, and M.A. and doctoral theses dealing with contemporary Hebrew that were not written in Hebrew, and which were published in Israel and other countries between 1948 and 1988. Arranged alphabetically by
The first dictionary of the classical Hebrew language ever to be published. Unlike other dictionaries which cover only the texts of the Hebrew Bible, this dictionary records the language of all texts written in Hebrew from the earliest times to the second century of the common era. This includes the Hebrew Bible, the works of Ben Sira, the Qumran manuscripts, and related texts.

The dictionary is arranged by Hebrew word and gives the English translation. It includes sources, a comprehensive listing of classical Hebrew texts, abbreviations and signs, and an English-Hebrew index of words and romanized names.

**Hebrew literature**


A biobibliographic dictionary of contemporary Israeli authors of fiction, poetry, and drama. Each entry includes a portrait of the author, biographical data, a brief discussion of the author’s major works, a list of the author’s books published in Hebrew and, if applicable, a list of books in translation. Authors of children’s literature are excluded. The dictionary includes an author index, i.e., both the body of the work and the index are arranged alphabetically by author.

**Hebrew literature—Bibliography**


Part I, “Indexes,” covers books and authors; Bible, Talmud, and prayers, subjects and printers, chronology and languages, honorees and institutes.

Part II, "Places of Print," is a gazetteer of Hebrew imprints from the beginning of Hebrew printing, circa 1469, through 1863. The author provides the following information for each title listed: author, subject, place and year printed, name of printer, number of pages, and format. Entries are annotated and include bibliographical references. An Index of Places in Roman characters is provided. [See a lengthy review by Roger Kohn in the APPROBATIONS section of this issue.—Ed.]

**Hebrew printing—India**


This catalog, compiled by Fred Astren, represents a supplement to Abraham Yaar’s ha-Defus ha-iivr be-Artsof ha-Mizrah (Jerusalem, 1940). It is divided into the following four parts: I. Calcutta; II. Bombay; III. Other Indian Cities; IV. Christian Missionary Publications. The titles are arranged by year of publication and subdivided alphabetically under each year. The compiler provides the following information for each title: when known and/or applicable: author, editor, translators, city of publication, date and name of publisher, collation, the Magnes Museum’s accession number, and Yaar’s reference number. Each entry includes a brief annotation about the book. The catalog includes a title index; an author, editor, and translators index; and a publisher and printer index.

**History**


"This atlas traces the worldwide Jewish migrations from ancient Mesopotamia to modern Israel" (Preface, unpaginated). This new edition is brought up to date with maps of Jews in the former Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia. Includes bibliography. (See description of the third edition in Judaica Librarianship vol. 3 [1987], p. 108.)


Arranged chronologically, from the period of the Patriarchs to 1992. Each chapter is presented as a spread featuring text, a map, a chronological table, and lavish colored illustrations on facing pages. Includes 200 maps, 581 illustrations, and an index. The table of contents is at the end of the book.

**History—Asia**


This directory, issued in conjunction with the conference “Jewish Diasporas in China” (Cambridge, MA, 1992), is an alphabetically-arranged listing of 216 individuals and ten organizations worldwide with an expressed interest in some aspect, past and/or present, of the Jewish experience in the countries of East, Southeast, and South Asia. (p. iii.) The mailing address, fax number, institutional/business affiliation, country (countries) and topic of interest/research are noted for each entrant. Four indexes facilitate the retrieval of relevant information: country of residence; institutional/business affiliation; topic of interest or research; country (countries) of research interest.

**History—Canada**


This dictionary is divided into two parts: I. Topical Entries, e.g., Bar Mitzvah and confirmation announcements, deaths and obituaries, general news items; II. Geographical Entries. It is a sequel to A Biographical Dictionary of Canadian Jewry, 1897–1909: From The Jewish Times (Preface, date not given). The surname index enables the user to find individuals within the dictionary.

**History—Czechoslovakia**


A comprehensive list and description of the historical monuments, which have remained after more than 600 Jewish communities, and a survey of the history of Jewish settlement in the Czech Republic. The guide contains 138 comprehensive encyclopaedic entries, arranged in the [I]
This guide includes historical background, detailed lists of synagogues, cemeteries, and other places of Jewish heritage. The index of towns includes entries for over 250 communities of significant interest to Jews today.

History—Soviet Union


A survey of resources in the New York area, many of which are valuable for research on Jewish history and culture in Russia and Eastern Europe. This directory lists 154 institutions, societies, libraries and archives, museums, and special collections. Each entry includes address, telephone number, schedule, access policies, a description of facilities, history of the institution, holdings, as well as data on catalogs and bibliographies of the institution's holdings. Includes a detailed index of names and subjects.

Holocaust


This collection of bibliographical essays is intended for "researchers, teachers, and students primarily in the English speaking world" to help them "gain an understanding of the Holocaust" and "to apply its lessons to our present world" (p. xxvii). The collection is divided into three sections:

I. Conceptual Approaches to the Holocaust—The essays in this section deal with such topics as the theological implications of the Holocaust, and the role of the onlooker; II. Holocaust Area Studies—In this section the focus is on the Holocaust in a particular country or region; III. The Holocaust in Education and the Arts. A "Select Bibliography" is found at the end of each essay. Includes an author/title index and a subject index.


A detailed guide to the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., as well as a guide to other places to visit in the city. Includes chapters on Jewish provisions (kosher food), synagogues, and historic Jewish sights.

Human rights


In this bibliography, the author cites 752 books and journal articles that deal with such subjects as human rights in the Bible and Talmud, Jewish theories of human rights, Judaism and freedom of conscience, Judaism and the rights of women, and human rights and contemporary Judaism. The bibliographical survey is preceded by an introductory chapter in which the author "analyzes the problems involved in studying Judaism and human rights, the specific rights generated by Jewish theory, and the modern dilemmas facing Jews seeking to make moral choices concerning human rights" (p. xiv). Cross references link the introductory survey to citations in the bibliography, and refer the reader from specific citations to related material in the bibliography. Includes an author index, a title index, and a subject index.

Intermarriage


A catalog of Jewish community programs and other resources that respond to the challenge of interfaith marriage. Arranged alphabetically by state. Information given for each entry: workshops offered; other programs; address; telephone number; contact person.

Israel


This chronology reviews the most important events in the history of the State of Israel from 1948 to 1993. It serves as a useful introduction to the history of Israel and the Middle East. An introductory essay, "From Holocaust to Rebirth," helps to place the events in their broader context. Includes a glossary; a bibliography; and name, place, and subject indexes.


The first compilation of references in the English language that highlight the contributions of Israeli social scientists to the literature of criminal justice. Includes more than 820 entries for articles, books, and book chapters. Each entry is followed by a short annotation and by key words (KW) that provide a brief description of the publication. Includes a merged index of authors’ names, periodical titles, and subjects (derived from the key words).


This atlas traces the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict (warring in Preface) from the turn of the century to the present day. The majority of the maps depict wars, conflicts, and violence, but there are also maps that show the various attempts to bring the conflict to an end, through proposals for agreed boundaries, the signing of cease-fire agreements, and negotiations. New maps bring this edition up to 1993, just prior to the September 13th signing of the Declaration of Principles by Israel and the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization). (The prior edition was published in 1992.)


A comprehensive directory for men and women interested in studying in Israel. It includes the following sections: Men's yeshivot, Hesder yeshivot, Women's yeshivot, Additional institutions, Making the most of your year in Israel, and Services offered by sponsoring organizations of the Yeshive Guide.


Contains information about hotels, youth hostels, walking and driving tours to Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, and Haifa, as well as smaller cities, villages, and kibbutzim. Also includes information about: hiking in the Golan, the Galilee, and the Negev; picnic sites; nature reserves; water parks; and kids' activities. There are lists of synagogues, mikvehs, kosher restaurants, and Chabad Houses. Indexed.

Jewish education


The aim of this directory is to publicize the range of Jewish educational materials, information, and services available to North American Jewish educators. Includes: resources arranged by organization; resources arranged by subject; lists of kibbutz museums, bookstores, and educational publishers; an index of places to visit, and a general index.


A collection of creative teaching methods, innovative and imaginative ideas, strategies, and teaching tools. "Resources for Jewish Educators" (pp. 459-467) lists organizations, institutions, publishers, periodicals, and distributors of AV materials.

Jewish law


The Mishna Berura was published by Yisrael Meir Kagan (1838-1933), who was known as the Chafetz Chaim. The six-volume work, published between 1883 and 1907, is this century's authoritative Halakhic guide to Jewish observance and practice. It is a digest of previous Halakhic works, summarizing alternative positions and presenting practical guidance. This English index "was designed to be a precise guide for finding material concealed in the intricate labyrinth of the Mishna Berura" (p. II). The author also prepared an index to the responsa of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein (see Judaica Librarianship vol. 6 [1992], p. 149).


This classic study of the development of Jewish law, from Biblical times to the contemporary State of Israel, was originally published in Hebrew under the title ha-Mishpat ha-'lvri (Jerusalem: Magnes, 1973). Features of particular interest to the reference librarian are the glossary, the "Cross Reference Table—Mishneh Torah and the Shulhan Arukh" (Appendix A), and a listing of some of the best-known collections of responsa (Appendix C). The work is enhanced by the inclusion of an extensive bibliography, an index of sources, and a subject index.


Designed to assist anyone with a need to study or work with the main sources of Jewish law. Wherever possible, the guide directs the reader to the most recent editions of traditional sources. Contains chapters on: Sources (Bible, Mishnah, and Talmud), Geonic Literature, Halakhic Literature; Modern Scholarship (Books, Journals,
Collections): Reference Books and Services (Encyclopedias, Indices, Bibliography, Biography, Reference, Dictionaries, Abbreviations, Anthologies, Modern Law). Includes abbreviations of the tractates of the Mishnah and Talmud, and an index.

Judaism — History


A selective interdisciplinary bibliography listing close to 2,000 works pertaining to Judaism between the third century B.C.E. and the second century C.E. The entries are arranged chronologically. Each entry includes, whenever possible, the following information: genre, author (including biographical data), title, imprint, and language. The author notes, wherever applicable, "when a work is fragmentary, no longer extant or when a manuscript has been published." He also provides some information on the "editiones principes of manuscripts, on the first translations of books and librettos, on the premiers of dramas, oratorios and movies and on the places where the works of art are now exhibited" (p. xxvii). The catalog includes five indexes: Index of Authors; Index of Literary Genres; Index of the Arts; Index of Subjects in the Arts; Index of Languages.

Judezmo


The first comprehensive dictionary of the Hebrew and Aramaic component of Judezmo—the traditional language of the Turkish and Balkan Sephardim. Contains over 500 entries in Hebrew characters. Includes an overview of the Judezmo (also known as Judeo-Spanish or Ladino) language in its historical development, bibliographical references, and an alphabetical index of Romanized entries. [See article by Zachary Baker on the Romanization of Judezmo in the Catalog Dept. of this issue.—Ed.]


This catalogue records Widener Library’s holdings of Ladino books and pamphlets, newspapers and periodicals, and audio-visual material. The entries are arranged alphabetically in two sections: I. Author/Title; II. Subject. A full bibliographic description of each item is given, as is the call number and Hollis record number (when applicable). The corresponding entry numbers in Henry V. Besso’s Ladino Books in the Library of Congress (Washington, D.C., 1963), Avraham Yaari’s Reshimat Sifer Ladino (Jerusalem, 1934), and Moshe D. Ga’on’s ‘Itnut be-Ladino (Jerusalem, 1965) are noted.

Liturgy


This classic study of prayers said in the synagogue was first published under the title Der jüdische Gottesdienst in seiner geschichtlichen Entwicklung (Leipzig: G. Fock, 1913). The English-language edition, translated by Raymond P. Scheindlin, is based on the “1931” (introduction) German edition and the 1972 Hebrew edition. Although the translator incorporated all the supplementary material found in the 1972 Hebrew edition and completed the incomplete citations for books and articles in the bibliographies, he did not update the bibliographies in the “Selected Bibliography” or in the “Section Bibliographies” (Appendix). An index of prayers arranged by parallel Hebrew and English incipits [initial phrases] enables the reader to locate references to a particular prayer. This edition includes an index of names and subjects.


This alphabetically arranged work, containing approximately 13,000 entries, is intended to provide, in a single volume, essential background and information for each and every prayer recited in the Ashkenazic and Sephardic tradition (p. ix). Bibliographical notes follow each entry. The Encyclopedia includes a glossary, a list of prayers, a list of Hebrew first lines, an index of Biblical verses, and an index of names.

Manuscripts


During the past 150 years, many of the most important collections of Hebrew manuscripts (MSS) have changed owners or have been dispersed, making it difficult for the scholar to trace MSS referred to in publications of the past. The purpose of this guide is to enable readers to locate the MSS referred to in the scholarly literature, and to provide researchers with the basic bibliographic information concerning those MSS and their present whereabouts.

Entries are arranged in alphabetical order under headings for libraries, private collections, collections of MSS in private or public libraries, booksellers’ and auction catalogues, and names of compilers of major catalogues. There are additional chapters of Hebrew entries; 16 appendices of catalogues listing a large number of MSS and their locations; a list of collections microfilmed for the Institute of Microfilmed Hebrew Manuscripts; a list of abbreviations; an index of names of libraries, persons, and places; and an index of individual manuscripts mentioned in the Guide. (For a union catalog on microfiche of Hebrew manuscripts, see The Collective Catalogue of Hebrew Manuscripts from the Institute of Microfilmed Hebrew Manuscripts . . . of the Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem. Paris: Chadwyck-Healey, 1989, described in Judaica Librarianship, vol. 5 no. 2 [1991], p. 233.)

Memorial books

See no. 14.

Museums


A directory of 40 American Jewish museums giving full information regarding personnel, collections, exhibitions, research fields, facilities, activities, loans (policy and names of contact people), print and non-print media, hours, membership, and traveling exhibitions.

Arranged geographically; covers North America, South America, Commonwealth of Independent States (USSR), Europe, Israel, South Africa, India, Australia. Includes an index of cities, but lacks an index of museum names.

Press


Of use to companies involved in target marketing and advertising. Includes a "Yiddish-English dictionary," which defines Yiddish words that have entered American English; metropolitan and regional Jewish publications (arranged by state); national Jewish publications; Jewish publications in Canada; and an alphabetical index of Jewish publications. Each entry for a periodical includes circulation, staff, deadline, editorial coverage, size and mechanical requirements.

Sephardic studies


Part 1: Directory of personal names arranged alphabetically, with institutional affiliation, address and telephone number; Part 2: Alphabetical arrangement of the same names, briefly describing the people listed in the directory.

[See Rachel Simon's guide to resources in Sephardic Studies in the Reference Department of this issue.—Ed.]

Travel


Arranged by state and subarranged by city, with separate sections for the U.S. and Canada. Entries give addresses and telephone numbers of restaurants, bakeries, Chabad houses, etc. Includes an index of places—both cities and states. All of the establishments listed in this guide are under local rabbinical supervision. Restaurants and delis that are open for business on the Sabbath are not listed in this guide.


Another in the author's series of Jewish travel guides. Arranged by province; subarranged by city. Includes an index of places.

Hebrew Bibliographic Data


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Catalogue of Russian Language Books on Jewish Topics 8
Central Zionist Archives 2
Concise Dictionary of American Jewish Biography 11
Criminal Justice in Israel 35
Dallas Jewish Genealogical Guide 13
The Dent Atlas of Jewish History 20
The Dent Atlas of the Arab-Israeli Conflict 36
Dictionary of Classical Hebrew 16
Directory of Individuals Interested in the Jewish and the Jewish Communities of East, Southeast, and South Asia 22
Directory of Jewish Educational Resources in Israel 39
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