SERIALLY SPEAKING

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This column features brief notices of new journals as well as critical reviews. Contributions from readers are welcome.


This publication was designed to serve as a "central forum for sharing news, raising questions, suggesting innovations or making announcements" pertaining to all aspects of Jewish genealogy. The issues published to date contain original articles of general interest to the genealogist, abstracts of Jewish genealogical societies' newsletters, book reviews, announcements, etc.


A national journal of Holocaust studies, whose purpose is to orient public discussion towards interpreting the significance of the Holocaust and its impact on our society and culture. The journal contains articles, listings of educational materials, book reviews, reviews of periodical literature, an international calendar of events pertaining to Holocaust related activities, etc.


A quarterly whose purpose it is to introduce the reader to the land of Israel, its culture, history, archaeology, geography, and nature. The magazine contains popular articles and is lavishly illustrated.


A journal whose purpose it is to present "a scholarly examination of the Holocaust in all its multi-disciplinary aspects." In view of the fact that the editors believe that the Holocaust and other forms of genocide are closely related, scholarly studies pertaining to the Armenian genocide, the Native Indian population of the Americas, and other similar issues will be published in the journal. Among the articles in the first issue are the following: "An interview with Elie Wiesel," by Henry J. Cargas; "Concerning authentic and unauthentic responses to the Holocaust," by Emil Fackenheim; "Ethnocide and ethnogenesis: a case study of the Mississippi band of Choctaw," "A genocide avoided," by Seena B. Kohl. In addition, the first issue includes book reviews, a listing of recent books in English on the Holocaust and genocide, as well as a listing of major research centers on the Holocaust.


A bulletin whose purpose it is to gather and present information pertaining to "the image of the Jews and Judaism, Israeli, and Zionism, as they are depicted in various Soviet publications, or by certain publishers, public and government circles, etc." In addition to articles and studies of books, the bulletin will contain an annotated listing of books received by the Centre with material regarding Jews or Israel. Also, the editors plan to publish documents relating to Soviet Jewry, the nationalist activities in Russia and the Jews of Eastern Europe.


The Journal of Aging and Judaism plans to publish articles by scholars and practitioners pertaining to the "issues facing the Jewish community in its delivery of services to the aged." It also includes reviews of relevant books and audio-visual materials. The journal's focus on presenting the practical application of research and technical data, framed in a popular format, makes this a valuable resource for anyone involved in human services delivery within the context of a faith community. The premier issue includes the following articles: "The age-integrated community center as a local service base for the elderly: an Israelian analysis," by Howard Litwin; "The obligations of adult children to aged parents: a view from Jewish tradition," by Norman Linzer; "When should a rabbi retire?" by Malcolm Stern.


The Journal is a bi-annual publication which publishes original scholarly studies by Russian-Jewish authors on historical and sociological subjects. It also includes abstracts of scientific papers by Soviet Jews published in journals or presented at seminars within the Soviet Union. The first issue includes the following articles: Salmon, Mihail. On the question of the origins and frequency of ritual murder trials in Poland; Beizer, Mikhail. The Jewish Preobrazhensky Cemetery, Leningrad; Praisman, Leonid. pogroms and Jewish self-defence; Zafoni, Yigal. Bibliography of the Holocaust for those regions of the Soviet Union occupied by German forces from June 1941-Part 1.


The journal represents a revival of an earlier publication under the same name, published by Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel from 1960–1973. It aims to explore aspects of the Jewish experience as well as topics of general student interest. The major focus of the first issue is on Israel and the dilemmas it faces. Among the articles are: “A complex edifice: the dangerous politics of the Israeli-ultra-Orthodox,” by Josh Henkin; “Without saying a word: Israeli soldier protest against the Lebanon War,” by Jonathan E. Meyer; an excerpt from Ariel la Dim Goldberg’s Zotha-Pa’am, entitled in English translation Sarah, a portrait of a matriarch. In addition, the issue contains poems, a book review, and photographs of Israel by Micha Bar-Am.


The National Jewish Law Review is the scholarly publication of the National Jewish Law Student’s Network. It has as one of its principal goals “the advancement of the comparative study of Mishpat Ivri—that part of the Jewish law dealing with matters roughly equivalent to those dealt with in municipal legal systems.” Included in the first issue is “A bibliographic guide to Mishpat Ivri: books and articles in English,” by Ronnie F. Warburg.


The magazine sees itself as a “progressive alternative to Commentary.” The premier issue contains articles on various literary, political, and social topics of both Jewish and general interest, including: “Sodom as Nexus,” by Robert Alter; “A new anti-nuclear strategy,” by Arnold Waskow; a translation of Yehuda Amichai’s poem “Travels of the Last Benjamin of Tudela.” Short book reviews are also found in this issue.

Hebrew Serials


A publication whose purpose it is “a) to describe the activities, research and others, being carried out within the framework of the Institute of Holocaust Research in particular and in Bar-Ilan University in general; b) to serve as a focal point for holocaust research” pertaining to “religious Jewry (in the broad sense) and its problems.”


A periodical whose aim is to serve as a forum for discussion and clarification of spiritual, religious, as well as contemporary issues of concern to world Jewry. The first issue is devoted to the topic: Is there a need for religious dialogue? The second issue deals with the subject: Ethiopian Jewry and the Rabbinate. The third issue will deal with: The status of women in Judaism.

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