This column lists selected reference materials that appeared in 1987 and 1988. Works from 1985 and 1986 are included if deemed significant. The purpose of this list is to recommend current Judaica reference books basic to research, both general and special. 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. Prices are listed when available.

Hebrew reference works are starred, and corresponding Hebrew bibliographic data appears at the end of the list.

The reference works are classified under the following subject headings:

- Bibliographies (Personal)
- Biographies
- Christian-Jewish relations
- Education—Curriculum
- Education—Directories
- Encyclopedias—Bibliography
- Family
- Genealogy
- History
- History—Aleppo
- History—China
- History—United States
- Holocaust
- Israel
- Jerusalem
- Law
- Literature
- Organizations
- Periodical indexes
- Press
- Rabbinic literature
- Rare books—Bibliography
- Reference (General)
- Travel
- Women
- Yiddish

### Bibliographies (Personal)


   This annotated bibliography is a continuation of Louis Dembitz Brandeis, 1856–1941: A Bibliography by Roy M. Merkley (New Haven: Yale Law School, 1958). It lists books and articles written about Justice Brandeis since 1957, correspondence to and from Brandeis in manuscript collections, as well as speeches by and about Brandeis. The entries which chronicle Brandeis’s Jewish and Zionist activities will be of special interest to the Judaica librarian. The lack of author and subject indexes detracts from the usefulness of this important bibliography.

### Biographies


   Like its predecessors, the 1987 edition provides biographical data on Jewish men and women who have distinguished themselves in the arts, sciences, government, academia, business, or Jewish communal life. This edition includes photographs of some of the biographees and a special section on Soviet-Jewish refuseniks.

### Christian-Jewish Relations


   A bibliography of books, pamphlets, tracts, and periodicals published by various organizations that are currently engaged in Jewish evangelism, i.e., missionary efforts aimed at converting Jews to Christianity. Each organization is identified, and the literature that it has produced is listed. The remainder of the work provides the reader with an historical overview of the evangelical movement, which began in the nineteenth century. Publications pertaining to the historical development of the evangelical movement, materials in support of Jewish missions, as well as publications on Christian-Jewish relations, are also cited. The bibliography includes an author index.

### Education—Directories


   This new edition, with updated bibliographies, features “Research Tools for Jewish Education,” by Micha F. Oppenheim, which lists indexes, periodicals, bibliographies, directories, dissertations, organizations, and institutions; and “Resource Guide for Jewish Education,” by Audrey F. Marcus, which enumerates 25 sources, including bookstores, for everything a teacher might need—from Hebrew letters to posters.

### Encyclopedias—Bibliography


   Ninety-four high schools in the United States and Canada are arranged alphabetically by state and then city. Information provided includes name, address, phone number, names of staff, description of school and curriculum, and fees.


   This work, the second in the series Jewish Research Literature, continues the author’s pioneering work A History and Guide to Judaic Bibliography (Cincinnati, Ohio: Hebrew Union College Press, 1977). The author describes in detail over three hundred...
and sixty general and specialized encyclopedias and lexicons dating from the mid-eighteenth century to the present. The specialized works relate to such topics as Bible, Talmudic/Rabbinic literature, Biography, Israel and Zionism, and Diaspora Communities. The work is enhanced by the chronological lists and summaries that follow the narrative in each chapter, as well as by the extensive notes which serve as a guide to further reading. Indexed.

[See the review by Zachary Baker in the APPROBATIONS section of this issue.—Ed.]

Family


In a lengthy essay, Bubis examines and evaluates the factors affecting the Jewish family in the post-emancipation period. The essay is accompanied by a selective bibliography of over 1200 articles in English published between 1970 and 1982, intended to guide individuals "involved in developing strategies to work with Jewish families." The citations are confined primarily to social work and communal literature, and include materials on such topics as abortion, the aged and aging, conversion, divorce, Havurot, and women. Also included in the book are thirteen demographic tables.


A classified bibliography of English-language materials published between 1960 and September 1986, focusing primarily on Jewish family life in the United States, Canada and Israel. The 524 citations are arranged under 76 topical headings dealing with marriage, children, family, and women.

Genealogy


Genealogical archival resources of Israel carefully described in this work include the Hall of Names at Yad Vashem, Central Archives of the Holocaust, Search Bureau for Missing Relatives, Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People, and libraries, private collections, and research institutes. Key sources such as yiskor books, landsmanschaften, "pages of testimony," and chevrot kadisha (burial societies) are detailed and listed.


A name index to a portion of the material generated by Russian consular offices in the United States and Canada during the period 1849–1946, the majority dating from 1917 to 1926. Much of the material pertains to Jews from Russia who emigrated to the United States and Canada during this period. The work is intended for genealogists, and is just about the only finding aid printed in English for those seeking family data on Russian ancestors. The consular materials are currently housed at the National Archives.

History


A continuation of a series of classified bibliographies, the last volume of which was edited by M. Mor and U. Rappaport and entitled: Bibliography of Works on Jewish History in the Hellenistic and Roman Periods, 1976–1980 (Jerusalem, 1982). The present, expanded bibliography lists 1,214 books and periodicals published from 1981 to 1985 in a variety of languages, and encompasses the entire Second Temple Period, i.e., the years 538 B.C.E. – 135 B.C.E. Author and subject indexes are included.


This study deals with the history and culture of the Jews of Aleppo and Damascus in Syria, as well as in other countries in which these Jews founded communities. The book focuses primarily on the Syrian community of Brooklyn, and serves as a companion volume to the author's earlier work Magic Carpet: Aleppo-In-Flatbush (New York: Thayer-Jacoby, 1979). Of particular interest to the reference librarian are the oral histories of some fifty Syrian Jews and the section containing Judeo-Arabic proverbs, phrases, and vocabulary.

History—China


This work includes a brief essay on the history of the Jews in China and a letter dated 6 February 1979 from Lord Lawrence Kadoorie, a leading figure in the Jewish community in Hong Kong, to his former secretary, Mrs. Luba Arkin. The letter contains information on the history of Kadoorie's family. Of particular importance to the Judaica reference librarian is the bibliography of books and articles in both Western languages and Chinese on the Jewish experience in China.

History—United States


A definitive, illustrated catalog of the archival and oral history collections of the Western Jewish History Center, the holder of the most significant collection on Jews of the Western United States. The guide lists 300 archival collections and 95 oral histories. The descriptive annotations for each entry include historical or biographical background, a general description of contents, and detailed notes on items of special research interest. A glossary and name and subject indexes are appended.

Holocaust


This directory lists institutions and organizations in the United States and Canada that provide services, assemble resources, and conduct programs related to the Holocaust. Ninety-eight Holocaust institutions are arranged alphabetically by name. These include museums, resource centers, archival facilities, memorials, research institutes, and libraries. Information given for each institution includes address, phone number, staff, hours, activities, services, purpose, collections, and publications. The directory features a geographical index (by state) and an index of institutions by activity.

A bibliography of fifty-five bibliographies published through 1986, grouped by language, which "treat the Holocaust, in toto or in some aspect(s)." A directory of Holocaust associations and foundations, survivor organizations, archives, libraries, school and university teaching programs, and monuments, plaques, etc. is included. Each section of the directory is indexed.

Israel

In some 450 articles arranged alphabetically by topic, this work attempts to give the reader basic, reliable information on all aspects of Israeli politics, including prominent personalities past and present; political figures; parties; outstanding events; the Knesset; coalition agreements; media; Israel's economic and foreign policy; its relations with Great Powers and other nations, and with the Diaspora. Historical background is provided in entries such as Mandatory Palestine, Zionism, and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Jerusalem

A classified bibliography of books and articles written in English and other Western European languages about Jerusalem, from ancient to modern times. The bibliography is divided into eight parts: 1. general studies on Jerusalem; 2. Jerusalem during the Biblical period; 3. Jerusalem during the Second Temple period; 4. Roman Jerusalem; 5. Jerusalem in Judaism; 6. Christian Jerusalem; 7. Jerusalem as a Muslim city; 8. Jerusalem in modern times. Author and subject indexes are included.

Law

Originally written in Hebrew, this illustrated work describes and explains "the foundations of the Halakah and the principles and methodology involved in its development as they are reflected in the literature of the oral law." The work includes a list of sources, a bibliography, and a general index.

Literature

A collection of essays on "the rise of modern Jewish letters, literature, theology, and cultural mediation from approximately 1880 to the present." The book's purpose is twofold: "to acquaint the general reader with the major subjects and themes of American-Jewish literature and to renew the scholar's familiarity with this material and its interpretation." Each essay is accompanied by a short bibliography and, where necessary, a "For Further Reading" list. Indexed.


This work contains the papers of the 1986 Jerusalem workshop sponsored by the International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization. The book includes papers dealing with modern Hebrew literature, as well as six syllabi on the subject. The following bibliographies will be of particular interest to the Judaica reference librarian: "Hebrew Literature in Translation: Selected Bibliographies," by Ezra Spicehandler; "Bibliography of Modern Hebrew Literature," by Leon Yudkin; "Bibliography Of Holocaust Literature," by Naomi B. Sokoloff.

Organizations

Arranged alphabetically by state, then by city. For each city, synagogues are listed first, followed by Jewish organizations and schools, all in alphabetical order. The only exception is Brooklyn, NY, for which Jewish organizations are listed in alphabetical order, and synagogues and schools in zip-code order. Each entry gives address, telephone number, and names of the organization's officials (rabbi, president, etc.).


A listing of thirty-two American Jewish organizations that maintain offices in Israel. The activities of each organization are described in a brief paragraph, and its address and telephone number in the United States and Israel are given.

Periodical Indexes


Press

The first of a projected multi-volume work on the history of Hebrew periodicals, this book surveys the publications for the period 1891–1856. The author provides the following information for each publication cited: 1. bibliographic data, i.e., title and imprint; 2. number of volumes published; 3. biographical data on the editors; 4. a statement of the purpose of the periodical and a summary of its contents; 5. a list of the prominent contributors to the journal. At the end of each article, there are references to other related periodicals as well as a short bibliography. Included are indexes of the periodicals, editors, contributors, and places of publication.

Rabbinic Literature

This guide includes key words and phrases from the Gemara in vocalized Aramaic with English translation; commonly used abbreviations explained and translated into English; a concise survey of Aramaic (Talmudic) grammar; chronological charts of Tannaim and Amoraim; an English translation of Shmuel ha-Nagid's Introduction to the Talmud; tables of Talmudic weights and measures; chronological charts of Talmudic sages; and a map of Torah centers in the time of the Mishna and Talmud.

Previously published as: Aids to Talmud study.

An English subject index to the seven-volume responsa of this generation’s leading Orthodox posek (Halachic authority) Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, zt”l. The index is divided into 117 major categories, with each category subdivided further. The largest number of entries appears under the heading Ishus (matrimony).

A cautionary note states that the index was compiled to further knowledge, but is not to be used for deciding issues of Jewish law, as each responsum was given for an individual situation under particular circumstances.

A Hebrew edition is in preparation.

30. The Literature of the Sages. Editor: Shmuel Safrai. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1987. 464 p. ISBN 0800606051. This collection of scholarly essays is part of the series Compendia Rerum Judaicarum Ad Novum Testamentum. The essays deal with the Orai Torah, Halakha, Mishna, Tosefta, Babylonian Talmud, Palestinian Talmud, and the External Tractates, describing the form and content of the literature. In addition to individual chapter bibliographies, the collection features a cumulative bibliography. A list of extant manuscript editions follows the chapters on the Mishna, Tosefta, and Talmud. The book includes an index of personal names up to and including the Gaonic period, as well as an index of sources.


This tentative catalogue consists of a dual listing of all extant manuscripts of the Rashi commentary to the Talmud. The first list arranges the manuscripts according to the libraries in which they are found. References are made to: 1. previous catalogs; 2. citations in Les Gloses Francaises Dans Les Commentaires Talmudiques De Rashi, by A. Darmesteter and D. S. Blondheim (Paris, 1929); 3. microfilm or photostat number of the Institute of Microfilmed Hebrew Manuscripts, where applicable. The second list is arranged in the order of the tractates of the Talmud. The compilers view this publication as a first step towards the publication of a scholarly edition of the Rashi commentary to the Talmud.


This guide and catalog of Hebrew antique and rare books covers 18 auctions. It includes a Hebrew title index listing over 1600 books, giving for each title, place and year of publication, price, and firm. Facsimiles with brief descriptions are included for some 150 books.

To date, two volumes out of a projected three have appeared. Volume 1 covers incunabula, Italian imprints, Chasidic books, and Polish-Russian imprints; volume 2 treats Constantinopal, Saloniki, Smyrna (Ismir), Holland, London, Paris, and Central Europe (part 1). Volume 3 will cover Central Europe (complete), New York, Argentina, Brazil, Siddurim, Mahzorim, Selihot, Kinot, and Haggadot.


This volume, which was prepared by the Institute of Computerized Bibliography and published by The Society of Judaica Collectors, covers books that were sold between 1976 and 1987 at 43 public auctions; over 1400 books are listed. Information given for each book: title, author, place and year of publication in Hebrew and in romanization; name of auction firm, sale date, number of book in sales catalog, condition of book per table (coded 1–5), estimates, closing price, and currency. The list includes Hebrew and English indexes of authors, titles, places, and dates of publication.

Reference (General)


This, the sixth EJ yearbook to appear, contains 18 feature articles. Among the topics included are: Women and Jewish law, Education of Jewish women, Status of women in Israel, Jewish humor, Cults and missionaries, Modern Hebrew calligraphy, Jewish communal life in the U.S., Computers in Jewish life, Modern Orthodoxy, Righteous of the Nations, French Jewry, Falashas, and Jews in Argentina. A diary of events, new articles and updates, necrology, and an index round out this work.


This is the third edition of the Almanac. The first part has over 70 articles divided into 13 categories, including demographics, current issues, Holocaust, Israel, history, institutions, Torah, campus, media, and sports. Among the novel features included in this edition are a Hebrew-English linear Pipke Avot; a digest of Israeli laws, and calendars to the year 2001.

A two-page general index to the articles is included. (The entries for the articles on Jewish War Veterans, and on Jews in China and Nairobi are missing.) The tables of contents of the previous two editions are reproduced; more helpful for users of this reference tool would be a cumulative subject index with specific subdivisions of general headings.

Part 2, the Yellow Pages, is a directory listing 17,000 Jewish communal organizations and commercial establishments in the United States and Canada. (In many cases, the addresses are not up-to-date.) A helpful alphabetical table of contents to the directory is provided which lists the headings—from Advertising agencies to Zionist organizations.

Travel


Arranged alphabetically by state, the detailed listings cover cities, towns, and resorts. The guide features kosher restaurants, food shops, hotels, motels and other accommodations, synagogues and temples, and mikvehs. The authors provide address and telephone numbers for each establishment listed.


Two volumes have appeared to date: vol. 1 covers the Northeast, and vol. 2, the South. The Guide contains brief histories of Jewish settlement in each state as well as background information on Jewish historic landmarks and museums. There are also lists of synagogues, kosher restaurants, hotels, butchers and bakeries, mikvehs, and Chabad Houses. Includes an index.
Women


More than 4000 citations are included, with an extensive introduction evaluating trends in writing about Jewish women. Part 1 of the bibliography is a reprint of the first edition published in 1979, with supplements (92 pages) and a new introduction (92 pages). The chapters document Jewish women in history; religious life and law; women in the United States, Canada, Israel, and other countries; women in the Holocaust and resistance; and women in poetry. At the end of the bibliography, there is an author index to both parts.


First published in 1982, this edition contains an updated collection of course syllabi on the Jewish woman. It includes 18 syllabi classified under the following headings: university courses in Jewish women's studies; integrating Jewish women's studies into the university curriculum; and adult and continuing education courses.


A selective bibliography of 842 items on women in Judaism, covering monographs, journal articles, essays and articles from collections, and doctoral dissertations, in English, German, French and the Scandinavian languages, but not Hebrew. The majority of works listed were published in this century. The bibliography is arranged alphabetically by author, and is complemented by indexes of countries, subjects, and co-authors. The subject index features broad headings. Under "Women in Halacha," there are, for example, seven references, but under "Marriage" there are sixty. Breaking up the broad categories with subdivisions would have made this index more useful.

The materials cited in this work were collected in libraries in Oslo, Copenhagen, London, and New York. The author is a librarian at the Royal University Library in Oslo, Norway.

Yiddish


A selective, finely classified bibliography of books and articles in English, Yiddish, and other languages published since 1959 pertaining to Yiddish linguistics and intended for scholarly use. The bibliography supplements Uriel and Beatrice Weinreich's Yiddish Language And Folklore (The Hague: Mouton, 1959). The author includes, in addition to general works, materials on the following topics: 1. structure of Yiddish; 2. history of Yiddish; 3. dialectology; 4. interaction of Yiddish with other languages; 5. onomastics; 6. stylistics; 7. semiotics; 8. history of linguistics and biography of linguists; 9. sociolinguistics; 10. psycholinguistics; 11. applied linguistics. Includes a name index.

Hebrew Bibliographic Data

(Title Index, next page)

If you want the facts, all the facts, and nothing but the facts, then you want THE JEWISH FACT FINDER. And that's a fact!

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BRISMAN

(Continued from p. 185, col. 3)

again. Still, here we are marking the publication of the volume, the second in a series of three, while the third volume is nearing completion, and a fourth—a dictionary of Hebrew printing—is already moving out of the planning stage.

During a siyum, the participants recite a prayer in which they say: "Just as You had helped us in completing this tractate, so please help us to begin and finish other tractates and works." On the threshold of my double siyum—the publication of A History and Guide to Judaic Encyclopedias and Lexicons and the forthcoming conclusion of my close to four decades as a Judaica librarian—I pray that I be granted the privilege to complete the projects I have already begun and to be able to start and finish new ones. All for the sake of Li'mod U-lelamed.

For a detailed description and review of A History and Guide to Judaic Encyclopedias and Lexicons, see the APPROBATIONS section in this issue.—Ed.

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWERS

Shimeon Brisman, Editor, APPROBATIONS

Book reviews are expected to include descriptions, evaluations, and critical comments (preferably in this order).

The descriptive part should acquaint the reader sufficiently with both the purpose and contents of the work. Data about the author, or additional information about the work (part of a series, illustrations, etc), may be included in this part.

The evaluation of the material should consist of an objective examination of the contents, a spot checking of sources, and summarization of findings (whether the work meets the stated objectives of the author, whether the work meets scholarly standarts, etc.). Critical comments pertaining to the technical aspects of the work (arrangement of material, order of chapters, bibliography, etc.) may be included in this section.

Basic criticism, including the reviewer’s opinions and final judgment of the work, should be relegated to the end of the review.

Note to publishers: Reference books for review should be sent to Charles Cutter or Micha Oppenheim.