



## TARGUM SHLISHI

תרגום שלישי

Current Projects Fall 2004

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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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he projects described here are those funded during 2003. Collectively, the projects we support represent Targum Shlishi's beliefs and hopes. Some projects are practical and straightforward. Others are more creative and far-reaching. Some are practically guaranteed to meet with success. Others are risks. All point the way to a better present and future for the Jewish people the world over.

The projects are grouped by category, beginning with our primary areas of focus: education, women's issues, Israel, and justice for Nazi war crimes. There are other sections of the report: "Special Projects" describes projects that don't fit into the four major categories, "In the Works" lists projects in early development, "Ongoing Projects" provides an update on projects that are continuing, and "Additional Recipients" lists projects to which Targum Shlishi contributes smaller amounts of general support. For more information on Targum Shlishi or on past projects please visit our website at www.targumshlishi.org.

## DIRECTOR'S LETTER

wards for exemplary teachers of Jewish education. Translations of survivor testimonies from an archive in Poland that's been essentially untouched for almost sixty years. A virtual think tank dedicated to democracy in the Middle East. An advocacy organization that helps Jewish women obtain gets (writs of divorce). The expansion of a reward program for information leading to the conviction of Nazi war criminals. A Torah lending library. A Jewish women's quarterly that explores the interrelationships of Jewish identity and feminism...

These are just a few of the more than thirty-five projects Targum Shlishi is currently funding. The initiatives we fund are a testament to the many people and organizations working for a better Jewish world and persevering despite difficulties, indifference, and even hostility.

We are living in daunting times — daunting for Israel and for Jews throughout the world. There are challenges being faced in all of the areas Targum Shlishi funds: education, women's issues, Israel, and justice for Nazi war crimes. At times these challenges can seem overwhelming. The state of Jewish education is dismal; women are still struggling for equality in many aspects of Jewish life; Israel is besieged with terrorist attacks and with an unprecedented lack of international support; and as the murderers age, there is less support for bringing remaining Nazi war criminals to justice.

What difference can thirty-five projects annually make?

We at Targum Shlishi believe that even one modest project can make a difference if it is effective. One innovative lesson plan can be something a child remembers for his/her entire life; one meeting of Kolot's Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!, a support group for adolescent girls, can help girls feel a sense of community and acceptance at a crucial time in their lives; one article on Israel published in *New Voices* may deepen or even change readers' views on Israel...and there's a domino effect. We have the ability to be flexible and creative in the projects we fund, and at times to go out on a limb for programs we believe in.

Our goal is to fund (and often initiate) projects we feel will create positive change. We actively seek out ways to use technology effectively. One example of a project that combines our interest in technology with our goal of making a difference is our funding of website improvements for Yad Eliezer, an Israeli program that provides a myriad of services, including food, to indigent families and individuals. The people involved are so dedicated and the program is so busy that funding tends to go straight to food. However, we specified that our support be applied to improving the website, in an effort to improve online representation and, eventually, online efforts to solicit funding.

Highlights from the past year include Operation Last Chance, which offers \$10,000 for information leading to the conviction of a Nazi war criminal and has made a significant impact to date. While nothing to do with this project will ever be cause for celebration, we have been pleased with the response. As of July 2004, the Wiesenthal Center had received names of 286 suspected Nazi war criminals from the countries where the program's been introduced: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Austria, Hungary, Croatia, and Romania. Regrettably, Nazi war criminal Bodgan Koziy died in November 2003 as he was finally facing extradition from Costa Rica to Poland. We had worked for many years to bring Koziy to justice.

Current Projects lists our projects and includes financial information, in response to requests from readers of our previous publication, released last year, which was an overview of projects funded during our first decade. What you'll find here, though, is more than a simple list of project descriptions — Current Projects is, bottom line, a reflection of our hopes for a better present and future and a record of our efforts to realize those hopes.

Sincerely,

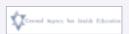
Aryeh Rubin

Hoshana Rabba 5765 October 6, 2004 Aventura, FL

#### EDUCATION



#### Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education, Targum Shlishi Excellent Learner / Educator / Mentor Awards



Targum Shlishi conceived the Targum

Shlishi Excellent Learner/Educator/Mentor Awards (TSELEM) for the Miami Community and approached the Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE) to administer the program. The impetus behind the awards program is to encourage and motivate educational innovation and excellence. Awards will be based on exemplary dedication and contribution to the field of Jewish education and will enable recipients to deepen their knowledge of and commitment to Jewish education. Targum Shlishi has made a five-year, \$50,000 commitment to the program; the awards will be distributed annually for the next five years, beginning in May 2004. There will be ten award recipients each year from a variety of educational settings in the Greater Miami area, including teachers from Jewish day schools, congregational schools, early childhood education, and one lay leader of a Jewish day school. Each of the teachers will receive \$1,000 as credit to be used for professional growth and education; the TSELEM committee will decide the use of the funds. The lay leader will be able to designate the \$1,000 award for a specific project, pending approval by the TSELEM judges' committee. "This program will have a dramatic impact on the way in

which the Miami Jewish community bestows honor and respect upon its Jewish educators," said Dr. Chaim Y. Botwinick, president and CEO of CAJE.

www.caje-miami.org

## Gemara Berura, Computer Learning Tool, Jerusalem



Gemara Berura is a software tool that helps students learn Gemara (Talmud) by using computer technology to make

learning fun and at the same time emulating the way that leading scholars learn Gemara. The tool is interactive, allows students to learn at their own pace, and employs multiple intelligences utilizing visualization, color coding, and textual reformatting. This teaching tool has been adopted by the Ministry of Education in Israel as the leading methodology for teaching Gemara, and many schools in Israel are using it. In the US, it is now being used by twelve leading day schools. The objective of Targum Shlishi's funding is to bring the Gemara Berura teaching methodology to the attention of North American Jewish schools. This will be done by developing an informational cd-rom that will be sent to targeted schools. Targum Shlishi's funding will support the development of the cd-rom and its dissemination to schools. The cd-rom will include a presentation of the methodology, an example of Gemara Berura's textual analysis, and a lesson taught using the methodology.

In addition, Targum Shlishi provided funds for a Miami day school to adopt the program. www.gemaraberura.com

#### Jewish Education Service of North America, Inc., Jewish Education Leadership Summit, Ft. Lauderdale



Targum Shlishi was a sponsor for the first Jewish Education Leadership Summit, organized by the Jewish Education Service

of North America, Inc. (JESNA) and held in February 2004 in Ft. Lauderdale. More than 150 leaders from the fields of Jewish education, religious and communal life, and philanthropy gathered in Ft. Lauderdale for the event, entitled "Aseh Lekha Rav": Recruiting and Retaining the Next Generation of Jewish Leaders. The conference focused on one of the major challenges facing Jewish education today: the shortage of quality personnel for Jewish educational programs and settings. Attendees came from all denominations, represented both local and national interests, and were united in a commitment to work for change. At the summit, attendees learned from one another and shared examples of best practices. Targum Shlishi was a Summit Sponsor; its support helped keep the registration fee modest so that the conference was affordable for educators and other professionals. www.jesna.org

for Film on Hebrew Illuminated
Manuscripts, New York City

MUSE Film and Television, Seed Funding



MUSE Film and Television is a nonprofit company that creates films on the visual arts and culture. The

company's mission is based on the belief that film is one of the most important ways to appreciate and understand art. By examining art through historical and cultural contexts, MUSE documentaries seek to enhance the art experience. Targum Shlishi is providing seed funding for a film on Hebrew illuminated and illustrated manuscripts. In the past, MUSE made a well-received film on the Book of Kells and is currently working on a corpus of Spanish Romanesque manuscripts. The documentary on the Hebrew manuscripts will be the first of its kind. "The finest works of art in the Hebrew tradition are the manuscripts, and though there are some books that have been published on great pages or codices, nothing of quality has ever been done on film," said Karl Katz, executive director of MUSE. www.musefilm.org

www.musejiim.oig

#### Jacobson Sinai Academy, Multi-Media Film Production Jewish Journeys Project, North Miami Beach



Jacobson Sinai Academy has an on-site, multi-media film production studio that is often

underutilized. Targum Shlishi's funding is supporting the establishment of the Jewish Journeys Project, in which students will use the production studio and computer technology to create multi-media films that will trace their Jewish roots. The project will not only teach students technical skills, but will educate them about their family histories. It is hoped

#### EDUCATION

that through exploring their ancestry, students will begin to consider their unique place in the world and will be encouraged to develop passions in the areas of tzedakah, tikkun olam, values, and ethics.

www.jacobsonsinaiacademy.org

Lehrman Community Day School, Hebrew Tutorial Program for Lateral Transfers, Miami Beach



Targum Shlishi's support is being applied to a tutorial program estab-

lished in 2003 at this Jewish day school. The program employs a tutor who works with students whose Hebrew skills are below grade level, often because they have transferred from other schools where Hebrew was not part of the curriculum.

Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education, Fundraising Education for Hillel Community Day School, North Miami Beach



The Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE) is dedicated to strength-

ening Jewish day schools in North America and developing philanthropic leadership devoted to this goal. The organization, founded in 1997, is a collaborative of visionary Jewish philanthropists who seek to create a vibrant and sustainable Jewish future through strengthening the Jewish day school movement in North America. PEJE has a program that teaches those affiliated with Jewish day schools (both professional and lay leaders) about fundraising. Last year, the program was introduced in thirty-eight day schools and

achieved impressive results. Targum Shlishi's funding enabled the PEJE program to be brought to Hillel Community Day School in North Miami Beach.

www.peje.org

Centropa: Jewish Heritage in Central and Eastern Europe, Hillel Community Day School, North Miami Beach

Centropa is an innovative founda-Centropa tion dedicated to helping people explore Jewish history by utilizing technology and research methodology in an effort to "take Jewish history off the shelf" and bring it into people's homes, classrooms, synagogues, and elsewhere. Targum Shlishi's support made it possible for students at Miami's Hillel Community Day School to participate in Centropa's program "From March of the Living to a Virtual Visit to the Living." This multi-stage program focuses on broadening students' study of the Holocaust to show that Jewish life existed in Central and Eastern Europe before the Shoah and that in many places, it is being rebuilt today. During the program, students in the U.S. are put in touch with students in Central and Eastern Europe – the students communicate with and learn about each other by using multimedia tools such as a website to upload family history photos and student-created videos. As part of the program, students from Hillel travel to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest where they meet many of the students they communicate with virtually and tour historic and contemporary centers of Jewish life.



#### Voices from the Ashes Foundation, Inc., Translation of Testimonies, Coral Gables, FL

Voices from the Ashes is a newly established foundation whose purpose is to assist in translating and publishing what is believed to be the largest extant archive of early testimonies from Holocaust survivors. The archive, housed in the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, includes more than 7,000 accounts from survivors throughout Poland from as early as August 1944. The testimonies are written primarily in Polish - and in many cases are handwritten by the survivors. They have essentially been dormant for almost sixty years. "Virtually every town and village in Poland (and beyond) is represented [in the archive], as well as every ghetto and camp," noted David Swiatlo, president of Voices from the Ashes. "In addition to their potential as a historical source, these personal narratives can be an invaluable didactic instrument and an effective response to the growing disease of Holocaust denial." The foundation is embarking on a multi-stage plan to translate and publish the testimonies, beginning with the translation of a group of five hundred testimonies. Targum Shlishi's funding will be applied to the translation project. Aryeh Rubin, Targum Shlishi's director, will sit on the Advisory Board. Other board members include Holocaust scholars Yaffa Eliach, Saul Friedlander, Raul Hilberg, Aaron Lansky, and Deborah Lipstadt. www.voicesfromtheashes.org



#### Early Testimonies from Poland

Most of the survivor testimonies in the Jewish Historical Institute (JHI) in Warsaw were gathered by local Jewish committees formed in newly liberated Polish territory. The committees interviewed Jews as they emerged from death camps and hiding places. Many of the testimonies are just a few pages long. It is likely that the JHI archive holds the first large-scale attempt to gather Holocaust survivor testimonies.

The JHI archive is the largest such compilation of survivors' stories in existence. Until now, these testimonies have been largely inaccessible – decades of Communist rule prevented the documents from being translated or made available.

The effort to translate these testimonies and bring them to international attention was initiated by the late Mark Swiatlo, curator of the Judaica Library Collections of Florida Atlantic University. Mr. Swiatlo was shown the collection in 1997 by Dr. Felix Tych, director of the JHI. "I just couldn't walk away," Mr. Swiatlo said. "I felt a strong moral obligation to help get these stories into print...These testimonies describe experiences that have just taken place. Some authors died soon after writing their stories. Their last act was to try to tell the world what had happened to them."

Mr. Swiatlo oversaw the translation of seventy testimonies, which are now scheduled for publication. He passed away in May 2003 and his son, David Swiatlo, established the Voices from the Ashes Foundation to ensure that the project continues.

"Their last act was to try to tell the world what had happened to them."

#### EDUCATION

#### Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education, Miami Jewish Film Festival, Miami



Now in its seventh year, in 2003 the

Miami Jewish Film Festival screened more than fifty Jewish-themed films from around the world. The festival focuses on international films that are artistically significant, touch on some aspect of the Jewish experience, and speak to the diverse Jewish community. The films included personal documentaries, short films, and Academy-Award nominated features. Many screenings were accompanied by special programs, such as discussions with producers, directors, and actors. Screenings took place in five different venues, helping to attract a diverse audience. Targum Shlishi sponsored the closing film of the festival, Leo and Claire (dir. Joseph Vilsmaier, Germany, 2001), in its Florida premiere. The film tells the story of a wealthy Jewish businessman who becomes involved with a young German woman in the early years of Hitler. The film festival is organized by the Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE). www.caje-miami.org/filmfestival

#### Miami-Dade County Scholarship Initiative, Miami

Targum Shlishi provides several scholarships for students in need who attend day schools in Miami-Dade County.

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



The Lookstein Center works intensively with leaders of Jewish day schools to improve their

leadership abilities in the belief that stronger leaders will result in a better quality of education. The Principals' Seminar programs attract principals from Jewish day schools throughout the world to attend summer seminars in Israel. Targum Shlishi funded the attendance of two administrators from Hillel Community Day School in North Miami Beach and two administrators from a day school in Riga, Latvia. www.lookstein.org

The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora of Bar-Ilan **University, "Creating A Caring Learning** Community" Seminars, Ft. Lauderdale and New York City



Targum Shlishi was one of three sponsors for two seminars

on the topic of "Creating A Caring Learning Community" that took place during 2003 the mid-winter seminar was held in Ft. Lauderdale and the July seminar was in New York City. The goal of these two seminars was to provide the participants, who were educational leaders from day schools throughout North America, with an opportunity to experience the real process and growth necessary for change and for creating a caring school environment. "The experience of attending [the seminar]...was and continues to be a life altering experience. It forced me to reflect deeply and honestly on my leadership and interpersonal style," explained Pinchos Hecht, head of school for Fuchs Mizrachi in Cleveland. www.lookstein.org

The Lookstein Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora of Bar-Ilan University, Jewish Educational Leadership journal, Ramat Gan, Israel



Targum Shlishi was a co-sponsor of the Lookstein Center's Jewish Educational

Leadership journal's Winter 2004 issue. The center's publications target educators at Jewish day schools. The journal, which is distributed to the center's members, is dedicated to improving the quality of Jewish educational leadership by nurturing and strengthening professional development and fostering new ideas. The journal aims to increase the exposure of Jewish educators to research and developments in education, with a concentration on how these advancements can apply to Jewish education. In addition, the journal provides a wealth of information related to Jewish education: it is a forum for publishing research and publicizing innovations in the field, it showcases translations into English of classic Hebrew texts focused on education, and it offers access to developing trends in Jewish education. The Winter 2004 issue of the journal collects articles by leading academics and educators on the topic of "What We Teach." A section of the journal offers a compendium of specific curricula. www.lookstein.org

## WOMEN'S ISSUES



Kolot: The Center for Jewish Women's and Gender Studies, Kolot's Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!, Miami



Navigating the challenges of adolescence

is no easy task. The program "Kolot's Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!" provides a supportive monthly forum for groups of teenage girls. Led by a trained adult facilitator, the girls socialize, learn, and engage in hands-on activities. The premise of the group is to celebrate the new Jewish month and then use the theme of the month as a springboard for discussing other issues relevant to adolescent girls. Now in its second year of national implementation, data has indicated that the program has a positive effect on the selfesteem of the girls who participate. "Adolescent girls today travel in a teen culture that makes dangerous values and risky behaviors...seem normal," said Dr. Catherine Steiner-Adair, a clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School. "...this program...gives girls a deeper and more meaningful connection to Jewish culture, women, rituals and values." Targum Shlishi funded the establishment of two Rosh Hodesh groups hosted in Miami, with additional groups planned for the future. "Targum Shlishi planted the seed for 'Kolot's Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!' in Miami, making it possible to bring this program to

Jewish adolescent girls in the area. With Targum Shlishi's help, we believe this program will keep growing and make an impact on the lives of Jewish girls in Miami," said Mindy Shapiro, national project director for Kolot. www.kolot.org

Women's International Zionist Organization (Florida), Workshops for Single-Parent Women, Miami



The Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) is an international organization that serves

the needs of women in Israel and promotes Jewish education throughout the world. Established in 1920, it has more than fifty federations and 250,000 volunteer members worldwide. Targum Shlishi's funding is being used to establish a twelve-session workshop for single mothers in the Miami area. The workshop will focus on developing and strengthening parenting skills such as strategies for stress management, financial management, communication skills, and assertiveness training. www.wizofl.com



# LILITH magazine, investigative journalism fund, website improvements, and Spanish translations, New York City

LILITH magazine is a Jewish women's quarterly now in its twenty-eighth year of publication. The magazine is dedicated to exploring the interrelationships of Jewish identity and feminism. Targum Shlishi's funding supports three projects:

- An investigative journalism fund to help LILITH maintain and expand its in-depth reporting, which in the past has resulting in groundbreaking articles on topics such as the growing market for Jewish women's eggs in the IVF marketplace.
- Website improvements to increase content and user-friendliness.
- Spanish translation and dissemination of previous *LILITH* articles, including posting the translations on the website in a dedicated section to be created.
   www.lilithmag.com



#### An Interview with LILITH's Editor

LILITH was launched in 1976 by a group of women journalists and editors. Since its inception, LILITH has published investigative reports, memoirs, news, fiction and poetry, reviews, resource listings, and feminist scholarship with the goal of challenging Jewish women and girls to work toward a just and egalitarian Judaism. LILITH has frequently published stories on difficult issues; according to editor-in-chief Susan Weidman Schneider, it was "the first to publish women's Holocaust memoirs, women's accounts of abuse and incest in their Jewish families, college women talking about the conflicts they experience as Jews in a multicultural environment that doesn't value their specificity," and many other controversial topics. Susan has been editor-in-chief since the first issue and calls herself one of LILITH's "founding mothers."

Q: What was the impetus to start LILITH?

**A:** In mid-1973 a group of Jewish women journalists and editors began to talk about creating the magazine. It was striking to us that there were no major Jewish publications edited by women. There was no place in the Jewish media universe where women's issues were being addressed, and in the feminist press, Jewish issues were give short shrift.

Q: Who is LILITH's reader?

A: LILITH's readers are an amazingly diverse lot. Based on surveys we've done, we know that readers range from college students to women in their eighties. And there is a split among our readers – we have women who say "I never knew I was a feminist until now" and women who say "I never knew there was anything in Judaism for me until now."

Q: Has LILITH's role changed since 1976?

**A:** I don't think our *role* has changed but our approach has changed. As the issues we explore become more complicated and more nuanced, we feel that we are needed more than ever. One change over the years is a less hortatory quality to the publication and more of an interest in exploring issues in as complete a way as possible. Our approach has become richer.

Q: What are the major opportunities you see for Jewish women today?

A: I'm very interested in women's roles in revitalizing Jewish practice. What's remarkable is that men are getting galvanized because of women. As women become more involved, men are getting interested – figuratively, women are opening the door for men. We are seeing rituals such as adult bat mitzvah ceremonies paving the way for men; some who might not have had an adequate Jewish education themselves are coming forward as adults to learn more after they see how satisfying this has been for women. As more women have been exploring creative ways to express their Judaism within the tradition, this energy is reinvigorating all Jews, well beyond those women and men who would define themselves as feminists. For this reason among many others, I think feminism has been very good for the Jews.

"...feminism has been very good for the Jews."

## WOMEN'S ISSUES

#### One Voice: Jewish Women for Israel, Website Improvements and Take Five: Call the President for Israel, New York City

One Voice is new organization, founded in 2002 in response to crises in Israel. It is a coalition of eleven national Jewish women's organizations united in support of Israel. The organizations represent a broad spectrum of political and religious views. One Voice has spearheaded four national call-in days to the president, congressional representatives, and the Finnish government in support of Israel. Targum Shlishi's funding supported two initiatives – the revamping of the organization's website and a national call-in day to the president held October 22, 2003 called "Take Five: Call the President for Israel." "Targum Shlishi's funding has helped us extend our reach," noted Sari Kahn, director of programming. "We now have a user-friendly website that can educate women on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as inspire them to become advocates for Israel." www.onevoice4Israel.org

#### Edah, Women and Orthodoxy, test cities



Targum Shlishi is providing funding for Edah to initiate a model program for

Simchat Bat celebrations. The long-term goal for this program is to make the observance of Simchat Bat celebrations, which welcome the birth of daughters, normative and universal in the Orthodox community. Currently, Simchat Bat celebrations occur only sporadically in most Orthodox communities and are viewed as being elective in nature. There is also no standard format for Simchat Bat celebrations.

The lack of consensus and standardization contribute to the sense that such celebrations are optional and that welcoming a baby girl is less "important" than welcoming a boy. In order to change this status quo, Edah will select five congregations in different cities and work with them to evolve a way of making Simchat Bat celebrations normative. The idea behind the project is that the celebrations that occur after the birth of a child set in place the religious values inherent in raising that child. Thus, to put into place a celebration of the birth of daughters will help advance the acceptance of a more prominent and central role for Jewish women within the tradition. www.edah.org

#### Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, Fifth International Conference on Feminism and Orthodoxy, New York City



Targum Shlishi was a sponsor of the conference, "Women and Men in Partnership," the fifth

international conference on the topics of feminism and orthodoxy organized by the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA). The conference focused on both the attemps to increase opportunities for women within the Orthodox tradition and also on broader social problems that impact the Orthodox population as a whole. www.jofa.org

#### HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

#### Mavoi Satum, Targum Shlishi Legal Aid Fund for Agunot, Jerusalem

Founded in 1996, the Jerusalem-based organization Mavoi Satum, which translates literally as "Dead End," is an advocacy organization calling for justice, compassion, and change in the struggle of Jewish women whose husbands will not grant a *get* (a Jewish writ of divorce). These women are known as *agunot* and *mesuravot get*. Mavoi Satum offers legal services to these women; since its founding, the organization has helped more than ninety women obtain divorces and has helped countless more through its education and advisory programs.

Targum Shlishi's funding provides financial assistance to help women pay for legal services. "We are very excited about working with Targum Shlishi and grateful for the foundation's generous donation," said Judith Garson Djemal, co-chair of Mavoi Satum. "Having the funds to help women through the legal process is tremendously beneficial. The get has, unfortunately, become a tool by which men can attempt to run away from their responsibilities and extort money, property, and custody from their wives. Women have to fight back. Good legal representation is essential if women are to obtain their freedom." In the first five months of the Targum Shlishi Legal Aid Fund for Agunot, the program enabled eight women to use professional legal services to further their cases in the divorce process. Two of these women received their *get*. www.agunot.org



#### Orit:

Orit has been waiting for a *get* for six years. A secular woman with two young children, Orit works full time as a math teacher while studying for her master's degree. Her husband fled Israel after completing a jail sentence for sexually abusing their daughter, and he is now in Canada. He pays no financial support, refuses to give Orit her *get*, and maintains no contact with her.

In October 2003, Orit received a \$1,500 grant from Mavoi Satum's Targum Shlishi Legal Aid Fund for Agunot. The funds enabled her to sue her husband's parents for financial support for her children, a claim recognized by Israeli law. It is her hope that this will not merely provide her with muchneeded financial support, but that the pressure on his parents will help persuade her husband to give her a divorce.

#### Shoshana:

Shoshana met her husband in the army and was married at age nineteen. She has three young children, ages five, eight, and eleven. After their third child was born, her husband left her and the children. He provides no maintenance and has almost no contact with the children. He is living with another woman, with whom he has had two children but Shoshana does not know where he lives or works. Shoshana had been waiting for a *get* for three years when she approached Mavoi Satum. She was in need of additional legal intervention. She received a \$1,000 grant from the Targum Shlishi Legal Aid Fund for Agunot. Since then, the attorney hired with the grant funds requested an arrest order on her husband for the money he owes in maintenance. The arrest order was granted. Mavoi Satum is helping to provide a private detective to locate Shoshana's husband's home and workplace so that his salary can be seized and he can be placed under arrest — it is hoped that these actions will persuade him to reconsider his decision and to grant Shoshana a *get*.

"Good legal representation is essential if women are to obtain their freedom."

#### ISRAEL



#### Yad Eliezer, Website Re-development, Israel



Yad Eliezer is a Jerusalembased organization that provides food and financial assistance to

over 50,000 people in seventeen cities across Israel. Yad Eliezer is most known for the monthly food baskets of staples such as eggs, flour, sugar, and canned goods that it supplies to 6,000 families, but the organization has thirteen programs in all, ranging from providing baby formula to sponsoring weddings for needy couples to its Big Brother program. Donations to Yad Eliezer typically go to directly to food for meal or holiday packages.

Targum Shlishi specified that the majority of its current funding go to website improvements in an effort to improve the organization's ability to market itself, publicize its programs, and build on its fundraising initiatives. Yad Eliezer's website had launched in November 2002 and although it helped the organization raise funds, it was not interactive and not as effective as it could be. Among planned improvements for the website are the addition of an interactive section for the Big Brother program, an interactive calendar for the "Adopt a Wedding" program, a calendar of

upcoming fundraising drives and events, an online fundraising auction, and posting of informational videos on Yad Eliezer and on the Big Brother program. In addition to funding website improvements, Targum Shlishi also provided support for food donations.

www.yadeliezer.org



HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

Jerusalem Project for Democracy in the Middle East, "Virtual Think Tank," Jerusalem

Established in 2003, the Jerusalem Project for Democracy in the Middle East "Virtual Think Tank" is an online think tank where scholars present papers on issues related to the Arab-Israeli conflict and hopes for a peaceful coexistence. These ideas are disseminated to readers and listeners worldwide through both multimedia presentations and radio interviews, in cooperation with the Jerusalem Post. The website has a forum where readers can send feedback and discuss how these issues impact the development of democratic thinking that could lead toward resolution of the conflict. The think tank provides in-depth exploration of issues that ordinarily would not be presented to the public at large. Targum Shlishi provided seed funding for this project. "Targum Shlishi has created an opportunity for high level thinking on critical issues in Israel and the Middle East by stimulating discussion and presenting important views by major scholars and public figures in Israel," said Irwin J. Mansdorf, PhD, director of the Jerusalem Project.

The project launched in 2004 with three papers: "Israel's Security Obsession: Prudence and Precaution or Unwarranted Fear?" by Maj.-Gen. (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, "Territorial Exchange within the Framework of an Israeli-Palestinian Peace Agreement" by Dr. Mordechai Kedar, and "The Geneva Accord: Mellifluous Music, Miserable Lyrics" by Dr. Joshua Teitelbaum. www. IPDME.org

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t is a virtual "think-tank"
esenting a variety of ideas
ab braid conflict.

and Raquel Rubin
other organizations that
rating a fair and foness.

#### Virtual Think Tank Excerpt

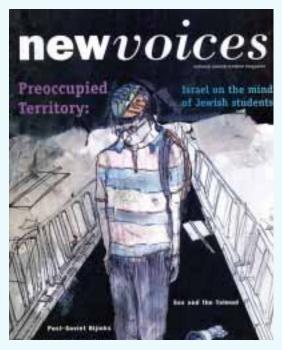
The following is excerpted from "The Geneva Accord: Mellifluous Music, Miserable Lyrics" by Dr. Joshua Teitelbaum of Tel Aviv University, posted on the JPDME website.

On December 1, 2003, a group of Israelis and Palestinians signed the Geneva Accord in the city that gave the Accord its name. Greetings were read from Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, and it appeared that peace was just around the corner. Amidst much fanfare and hailed by its well-meaning Israeli protagonists as a model for a peace agreement, the Israeli side sent out two million Hebrew translations of the Accord to Israeli homes. Israelis, numbed by years of Palestinian terrorism, would have been grateful for such an achievement. Alas, a close examination of the Accord reveals that not only is it a not a viable peace agreement: it gives way on crucial issues related to the historical claim of Jews to the Land of Israel, and makes some serious concessions that endanger Israel's security as a democratic and Jewish State.

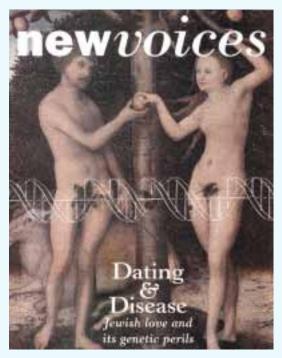
"Targum Shlishi has created an opportunity for high level thinking on critical issues in Israel and the Middle East..."

#### ISRAEL









#### HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

#### New Voices (Jewish Student Press Service), Israel Correspondence Program, New York

New Voices is a national magazine written by and for Jewish college students and is read by nearly 10,000 students on over 300 campuses in the US. It has been published since 1991 by the independent, non-profit, student-run Jewish Student Press Service and affords an opportunity for young Jewish journalists to both engage with Jewish issues and develop their journalistic careers. Targum Shlishi's funding supports the Israel Correspondence Program by compensating the magazine's several Israel correspondents for their time and their research expenses. New Voices has recently published several Israelrelated pieces, including a forum on Birthright and other youth trips to Israel. "Targum Shlishi has made possible one of the most fundamental aspects of New Voices' editorial mission: to allow students to engage with Israel and Israel-related issues in their own words and on their own terms," said Miriam Felton-Dansky, director of the Jewish Student Press Service. "Because of the Israel correspondents that Targum Shlishi has made possible, students from across the country are learning about Israel from their peers and engaging in open debate about the issues they care about most."

www.newvoices.org



#### New Voices Excerpt

The following excerpt is from "Home at Last: Reactions to the Israel-Hezbollah Prisoner Exchange," an article by Victoria Blint published in the Feb./March 2004 issue of New Voices. The article is an account of the Israeli prisoner exchange with Hezbollah on January 29, 2004, in which the remains of three kidnapped I.D.F. soldiers and the return of kidnapped Israeli businessman Elhanan Tennenbaum were exchanged for freeing more than 400 Palestinian prisoners as well as three dozen prisoners from Lebanon, Syria, and other Arab states. The article was made possible by funding from Targum Shlishi.

The memorial for the three soldiers was held in a cavernous airplane hangar on the evening of January 29th. All three received full military honors. The service was broadcast live on Israel's three national television stations, with all regular evening programs cancelled. Jewish prayers of mourning and somber orations made up much of the proceedings, but the most touching moment came when the father of Bedouin soldier Omar Suwad stood at his son's casket, decorated with the blue and white Israeli flag, and read aloud the *Salatui Janazah*, the Muslim funeral prayer. As an Arabic melody echoed through the hangar, television cameras panned the tear-soaked faces of Suwad's family. For a brief moment, the nation focused its attention on this Bedouin family, whose son volunteered for the I.D.F. and sacrificed his life for Israel.

"When the Bedouin soldier's father got up to read the Muslim memorial prayer, it gave me goose-bumps because it revealed how connected the Bedouin are to us," says Limor Siton. Gil, the law student, expected nothing less. "I would have been very upset and surprised if it would have been otherwise. The fact that Suwad is a Muslim doesn't matter at all. The army is very good at that. They keep a very strict and equal regimes to make sure that they don't differentiate between blood and blood."

Indeed, in a country where tensions between Jew and Arab run deep, the Government's commitment to all its soldiers, no matter their ethnicity or religion, has produced a rare feeling of unity among Israel's citizens.

"Because of the Israel correspondents that Targum Shlishi has made possible, students from across the country are learning about Israel..."

### JUSTICE FOR NAZI WAR CRIMES



#### Postscript: Bogdan Koziy, Costa Rica



For several years Targum Shlishi and the Israel Office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center were involved in an effort to bring to justice accused Nazi war criminal Bogdan Koziy.

Koziy was a member of the Ukrainian Security Police during World War II and was accused of Nazi war crimes that included killing twelve people and helping the Gestapo round up Jews for transfer to concentration camps. He lived in the US from 1949 to 1984, and had repeatedly been a focus of attention for the US and USSR governments. In 1984 he fled to Costa Rica to avoid extradition from the US to the USSR. Targum Shlishi worked with the Simon Wiesenthal Center to pressure the Costa Rican government to expel Koziy. Efforts included a letter writing campaign and a threatened ad campaign. The image at right was part of this successful campaign; it never ran in the media. In early 2001, the supreme court of Costa Rica upheld an expulsion order against Koziy, and he went into hiding. Koziy was facing extradition to Poland when he died in November 2003.

"The fact that Bogdan Koziy died before he could be tried on criminal charges for his Holocaust crimes is undoubtedly a travesty of justice," said Efraim Zuroff, director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. "The blame for this sad state of affairs rests squarely on the shoulders of Costa Rican bishop Roman Arrieta who protected Koziy for many years from deportation or extradition from Costa Rica, the Costa Rican governments of the eighties and nineties who afforded him a haven, and the Ukrainian government which totally ignored his crimes even though they were committed in territory which is currently part of the Ukraine."



#### HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

#### Simon Wiesenthal Center, Operation Last Chance: Rewards for Justice, Jerusalem

In July 2002 Targum Shlishi and the Simon Wiesenthal Center launched a campaign to bring remaining Nazi war criminals to justice by offering financial rewards of \$10,000 for information leading to their arrest and conviction. This multi-year project was conceived by Targum Shlishi's director, Aryeh Rubin, who developed it together with Efraim Zuroff, director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and coordinator of the project. Operation Last Chance was initially launched in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. In Fall 2003 the program was expanded to Poland, Romania, and Austria. In Summer 2004 it was launched in Croatia and Hungary.

As of July 2004, the Wiesenthal Center had received the names of 198 suspected Nazi war criminals from Lithuania, 43 from Latvia, 13 from the Ukraine, and 6 from Estonia, of which 72 have been submitted to local prosecutors. Currently, there are eighteen official pretrial murder investigations being carried out in Lithuania and Latvia involving several dozen suspects. "The amount and quality of the information received in the framework of 'Operation: Last Chance' is the best proof of the necessity of such a project and its historic significance," Dr. Zuroff noted in September 2003. Although still in early stages in Poland, Austria, and Romania, by July the Center had received the names of an additional twenty-six suspects from those countries. The campaign will launch in Germany and other countries in the near future.

www.wiesenthal.com

## Mira Grunberg şi-a ţinut la piept cel mai bun prieten până în ultimul moment

Povestea ei este în același timp și povestea celor

#### Operation Last Chance in Austria, Romania, and Hungary

On December 15, 2003, Operation Last Chance launched its Austrian advertising campaign with a controversial ad in the country's mass circulation daily *Kronen Zeitung*. The ad's headline, "Die Morder sind unter uns," translates as "The Murderers are Among Us," which was the title of Simon Wiesenthal's first book on Nazi hunting. Efraim Zuroff, director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and coordinator of Operation Last Chance, noted that the ad campaign is critical for publicizing the project and bringing it widespread attention. When the ad campaign was launched in Austria, Dr. Zuroff said, "This is really the last chance for Austria, which has not convicted a Nazi war criminal in more than a quarter of a century, to finally take legal action against Austrian Nazi murderers while justice can still be achieved."

Results of the Austrian ad campaign, while not directly yielding much information in terms of suspects (in contrast, earlier ad campaigns in Latvia and Lithuania did result in a significant amount of information), had "a serious educational impact," according to Dr. Zuroff. The ads received extensive coverage in the Austrian and world media. The ad campaign's impact in Austria has been reinforced by a website dedicated to the program. The website URL is <a href="https://www.krieqsverbrecher.at">www.krieqsverbrecher.at</a>.

In Jassy, Romania, in addition to the campaign's customary strategy of placing newspaper advertisements, Operation Last Chance for the first time used street signage and billboards, which were posted in April 2004. Jassy is one of the largest cities in Romania, with a population of 500,000. The city is viewed by many as the historic capital of Romanian anti-Semitism; approximately 14,000 Jews were murdered in a pogrom there in the summer of 1941. The street signage and billboards announce Operation Last Chance and refer to Romania's history toward the Jews.

Operation Last Chance was launched in Hungary in July 2004. Aryeh Rubin, director of Targum Shlishi, announced the launch in a speech delivered at the Budapest Press Club on July 13, 2004. In a statement widely quoted by the media, he said, "And one final message to the world: If you harm a Jew, whether you are in Paris, Brussels, Tehran, Jerusalem, Debrecen, or Budapest, somebody – maybe even somebody who is yet unborn – will seek justice. Maybe it will happen right away, maybe ten years from now, maybe fifty or sixty years from now. We will not forget."

"This is really the last chance for Austria, which has not convicted a Nazi war criminal in more than a quarter of a century..."

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

#### Aleph Institute and the Shul of Bal Harbour, J.J. Greenberg Torah Lending Library, 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. He was actively involved in Jewish community service and worked with several national programs. J.J. died in September 2002 of injuries sustained in a traffic accident in Israel.

He was thirty-six years old.

Torahs are lent out 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 is administered by the Aleph Society and the Shul of Bal Harbour. The program, which is in its start-up phase, is currently lending out three Torahs. To date, Torahs have been lent to women's tefillah groups, bat mitzvahs, hospitals, and prisons. The program administrators are developing a database of individuals and institutions nationwide willing to lend out Torahs and in this way will forge relationships with people and groups throughout the country.

www.aleph-institute.org and www.theshul.org

#### The Jewish Week, Jewish in America: A Conversation, New York City



This unique project will gather prominent American Jews from a multitude of professions and bring them together annually for a three-day event designed to facilitate learning, networking, socializing, and the exchange of ideas.

The goal of the project is to stimulate attendees to think about and discuss how being Jewish informs their work and/or their personal lives. The program will have sessions ranging from small discussions to workshops, seminars, and larger plenaries. The first conference is in the planning stages, and will be held in Fall 2004 or Spring 2005. Targum Shlishi is one of the sponsors of the event, which is organized by *The Jewish Week* and receives major support from The Covenant Foundation.

www.thejewishweek.com

#### The Jewish Museum, donation of Tobi Kahn's sculpture Saphyr, New York City

Tobi Kahn is an internationally acclaimed painter and sculptor whose work has been shown in more than thirty solo and sixty group shows at museums and galleries. His work has been acquired by several museums and corporations including The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The Houston Museum of Fine Arts, The Jewish Museum in New York, and others. Targum Shlishi and four others individual donors (Nick Bunzl, Marvin Haas, Daniel Sawicki, and Michael Sonnenfeldt) joined with The Jewish Museum to purchase Kahn's *Saphyr* for the museum's collection. The sculpture represents the counting of the Omer, a ritual performed for seven weeks following the second night of Passover. Tobi Kahn has said that in his art, his objective is "to create work that seems unaffected by time, work that appears to have been here always. I am continually aware of time's passing, of the possibility of loss, an abrupt reversal of safety. In the face of the world's instability, I want to reveal those elements that are transcendent…"

www.jewishmuseum.org



Toby Kahn, 2002 Saphyr, acrylic on wood,  $27\frac{1}{2}$  X  $22\frac{1}{4}$  X  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches

#### IN THE WORKS

Targum Shlishi is working on several projects that are in the early development stages. The selection of projects described here have been initiated by Targum Shlishi; in some cases, collaboration with other organizations will be sought to bring these projects to fruition.

#### The New Sages of Israel

Who are our heroes? Who inspires us, makes us think, gives us hope? Who are the people making a difference in the Jewish world today? *The New Sages of Israel* is a book and multimedia project that will profile twenty-five professionals engaged in meaningful and inspiring work that impacts the Jewish world.

#### **Multimedia Learning Project**

For most students in most Jewish day and congregational schools, a day with a substitute teacher is a day devoid of learning. Typically it is a day when students are shown movies that have nothing to do with the curriculum and often, little educational value. To address the problem Targum Shlishi is working with a team of consultants to develop a series of single-unit, engaging, high-quality multimedia educational materials for middle and high school students on days when the classroom teacher is absent.

#### **Lecture Series**

Targum Shlishi is sponsoring a lecture series to be held during the winter of 2004 in Miami. The series will feature nationally renowned speakers exploring the state of Judaism today. Targum Shlishi is organizing the lectures in partnership with the University of Miami, Florida International University, and the North Miami Beach JCC. The lectures series is a collaborative effort and will be held in different venues in Miami in an effort to attract and bring together different audiences. The overall objective of the series is to foster a sense of enthusiastic inquiry in the Jewish community.

#### The Laws of Sabbath

Targum Shlishi is partially underwriting a book on the laws of Sabbath. The book examines the laws of Eruvin.

#### The Targum Shlishi Jewish Library in Thane, India

A new Jewish Learning Center was opened in fall 2004 to serve the population of Thane and Bombay, India. The center is run by the foundation Hazon Eli (Vision of My God) and offers a variety of programs to the 3,000-member Jewish community, including adult education; in winter 2005 the center will begin a kindergarten program, a supplementary program for children studying for their bar/bat mitzvahs, and a yeshiva program for young adults. Targum Shlishi is supporting the establishment of a library in the center. The library holdings will include translations of the Jewish classics, works on Jewish thought and history, children's books, and Jewish literature. The library will be designed as a user-friendly space and membership will be free. The Jewish library will fill a need in the community, as there is no similar resource in the region and these materials have not been readily accessible for the Jewish community, which is a unique Sephardic community with little Jewish education.

### ONGOING PROJECTS

Many of the projects that Targum Shlishi supports are ongoing in nature, and continue to grow and develop after the funding period is over, or with moderate amounts of continued funding. In addition, the educational books, multimedia projects, and websites that Targum Shlishi has supported have long lifespans, and are disseminated, read, and studied for years. For more information on any of the projects described here, see the Targum Shlishi website at <a href="https://www.targumshlishi.org">www.targumshlishi.org</a> for full descriptions.

Among the ongoing projects are the Peace of Mind Program, a free-loan program for educators in Jewish day schools established in 2000...Chabad House in Dharamsala, India, which received a Torah from Targum Shlishi and a partner organization, has enjoyed a steady growth in the numbers of Israelis and Jews from around the world attending services, including large gatherings at Rosh Hashanah and Passover...Gesher Educational Affiliates' cd-rom "The Ten Commandments" has been introduced in Jewish day schools in additional cities, including Miami and Milwaukee...Live from the Y, an initiative that uses satellite equipment funded by Targum Shlishi to transmit lectures from the 92nd Street Y in New York to the North Miami Beach ICC, continues to broadcast lectures about once a month that attract audiences that typically range from about sixty to eighty people. Recent lecturers have included Elie Wiesel, Anita Diamant, Alan Dershowitz, and Thomas Friedman...the second volume of Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan's *Handbook* of Jewish Thought has just been translated into Serbo-Croatian and published in Belgrade... Toward a Meaningful Bat Mitzvah, a book that explores ways for the daughters of traditional families to play more active roles in their bat mitzvahs, is now available for downloading from the Targum Shlishi website and is also posted on Edah's website...the Sussex Area Jewish-Christian Dialogue Program in Sparta, NJ, overseen by Reverend Daniel Murphy, continues to hold a series of events that foster Jewish-Christian dialogue, including an annual, ecumenical Holocaust service and an annual model Seder with a local synagogue, attended by the church's fifth-grade students.

#### ADDITIONAL RECIPIENTS

American Red Magen David for Israel (Ambulance)

Beit David

**CHAMAH** 

Dharamsi "The Inner Wellspring"

Goldring Woldenberg Institute

Greater Miami Jewish Federation

Hesder Yeshiva Shiloh

Highland Lakes Shul

International Sephardic

**Education Foundation** 

Joint Distribution Committee

Machon Ahavat Emet

Ohel

Orr Shalom

PTACH

Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies

Shul Kolel

Skylake Synogogue

Temple Sinai of North Dade

The Shul of Bal Harbour

Yeshiva Shaarei Torah

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"The United Nations votes, the Presbyterian Church divests, the International Court rules, the European Union acts, the worldwide media discriminates, the Arabs incite, the university faculties foment, and I see a very timid response and very little concerted effort to counter the damage to the world's perceptions of our people, our standard of morality, and even the way we conduct war....

"These are daunting times for Israel, the Jewish people and the Western world. But as difficult and as precarious as our situation is today, we are far better off than at any point in the last 2000 years..."

—Aryeh Rubin, excerpt from introductory letter for the Jerusalem Project for Democracy in the Middle East, a website supported by Targum Shlishi