Mission Of National Conference On Soviet Jewry Visits Ben-Gurion University

BEER SHEVA, ISRAEL - "We have come to visit Ben-Gurion University of the Negev because you are known as one of Israel's success stories in absorbing Soviet immigrant scientists,' declared Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, Founder and member of the presidium of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry during a visit to BGU. Thirty-five members of the National Conference Mission, attending a seminar in Israel, organized in conjunction with the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry, met with eight immigrants from the Soviet Union, representing the numerous Soviet Olim who are now teaching and researching in the University's various faculties.

The immigrants spoke of their absorption experiences, praised the University for smoothing their path and stressed the urgent need to create new job opportunities in the University and the Negev industries for future highly-qualified immigrants from the Soviet Union. Professor Dmitri Golenko Ginsberg of the Dept. of Industrial & Management Engineering, a "refusenik" who arrived in Israel only eighteen months ago, appealed to the Mission Members to make every effort to help his teacher, Prof. Alexander Lerner, who has been trying to leave the Soviet Union for sixteen years.

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National Conference On Soviet Jewry



At a recent meeting of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry at the Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem, Israel, are, from left to right, Charlotte Jacobson, chairperson of the National Conference and treasurer of the Jewish National Fund; Anatoly Scharansky, freed Soviet Jewish dissident, and Evelyn Sondheim, Hadassah chairperson for the National Conference. "We must not forget for one moment the Jews who are desperate to get out of the Soviet Union," Mr. Scharansky told the American activists. He stressed that only deeds, not words, count in judging Soviet intentions toward Jews. Mrs. Jacobson stated, "I am reinspired by the new arrivals from the Soviet Union. After listening to their many stories about their years of waiting, their struggle makes each Jew living in freedom feel humble." Conference members visited absorption centers for Soviet Jews and discussed Aliya and absorption issues related to Soviet Jews and Israel.

For A Joyous Pesach



Volunteers from Project Dorot assemble Passover foods for distribution to the elderly poor in Greater New York. Included in each package was a copy of a large-print Haggadah by Dr. Philip Birnbaum, made available by the Jewish Braille Institute. Each year before Passover, the JBI itself directly distributes hundreds of Haggadoth free of charge to persons who have difficulty in following the Seder from a standard-size text.

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