Dear Friends of Kehila Kedosha Janina,

We wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year surrounded by family and friends. May 5778 bring peace throughout the world. May we continue to grow and flourish. May our wealth be counted, not in material possessions but rather, in the love of family, friends and community. L'Shanah Tovah, Xronia Polla, Anyos Munchos i Buenos. Attached to this E-Newsletter you will find our Holiday schedule. Do join us for services. Our seats are free and our hearts are open.

This newsletter is in memory of Samuel Cohen, who left us in August. For many years Samuel served as the spiritual leader of the Ioannina Jewish Community. This year he will be watching us from Heaven as the Jewish Community in Ioannina celebrates the High Holidays.

There are many reasons why we blow the shofar on the High Holidays, one of the most important ones being the awakening to spiritual awareness. Do join us at Kehila Kedosha Janina for our traditional blowing of the shofar.
On Yom Kippur it is traditional to recite memorial prayers for the dearly departed.
In many synagogues this ritual is observed by conducting a Yizkor service. At Kehila Kedosha Janina we follow the centuries-old Romaniote custom of our people by reciting Hashkavoth (memorial prayers) and the individual names of our dearly departed during the Kol Nidre/Yom Kippur Eve service. If you wish to honor the memory of your family members or friends in this very special way, please email us their names ASAP. This can also be done via PayPal on our website. It is customary to include a voluntary donation of your choosing.

Wishing you good health and happiness as we approach the High Holidays

Kehila Kedosha Janina
280 Broome Street
New York, NY 10002

Our Museum Director, Marcia Haddad Ikonomopoulos, will be joining the hundreds coming to Ioannina for Yom Kippur, as she will be honored by the Community for her work in helping the Community over the years.

This newsletter, our 102nd will, as always, cover news regarding Kehila Kedosha Janina and news concerning Greek Jewry. We hope you find our newsletter interesting. Your feedback is of utmost importance to us. If you missed previous issues, they can be accessed on our website kkjsm.org

We now reach over 8,500 households worldwide, with our community of ‘friends’ continually growing with each newsletter. If you know others who wish to be part of this ever-growing network, please have them contact us at museum@kkjsm.org

As always, you are all invited to attend our Saturday morning Shabbat Services. Just give our Shamas, Sol Kofinas, a heads up by emailing info@kkjsm.org so we are sure that our Kiddush (traditional Greek Jewish Kosher lunch) is sufficient. If you wish to sponsor a Kiddush for a special occasion or an Adara, contact Sol.

Passings

This past month has been a truly sad one for us, as we lost icons of our Greek Jewish world, people who will leave a deep void in our lives. In the United States, we lost Ivan Hametz grandson of Israel Hametz, Ralph Abraham and Litzie Solomon (Eliasof, Pinhas) from the Solomon family, and in Ioannina, we lost Samuel Cohen.

Ivan Hametz of Blessed Memory was born July 7, 1937 and died on August 12, 2017, shortly past his 80th birthday. He had been battling cancer for some time. Ivan was the son of Haim (Hyman) Hametz and Miriam Tagger Hametz, both of Blessed Memory. Ivan's father Haim, along with his grandparents (Israel and Pernoula Hametz) along with seven of his eight aunts and uncles, arrived from Greece to the United States in 1928, four years after the 1924 immigration quotas had become law. How fortunate, since the community in Ioannina would be destroyed a short sixteen years later. Ivan is survived by his wife of 57 years, Marilyn, his three daughters, Maura, Patricia and Sharon, loving grandchildren, relatives and friends.
We are grateful to Richard Solomon for this photo of Ivan as a young boy. His smile never changed. Richard enclosed this personal obituary which it is our pleasure to reprint:

“Ivan Hametz was an attorney and radio host. I met Ivan when a friend from college said, Ivan may be a relative. Turns out that he certainly was. This is a picture of Solomon Ben David Hametz (buried under the name “Solomon David”) and sometimes known as Solomon Solomon. He was married to Sophie Solomon. A few years ago, I interviewed Ivan about all this detailed family history to get his unique perspective and showed him the photo of “Papoo” . . . . he said that he was the boy in the photo giving proof that it is a small world. He had the same smile as an adult as he did in the photo.

Ivan hosted an FM Broadcast called “Through the Opera Glass” and played a lot of music from his very extensive and comprehensive private collection. He was a history buff and shared a lot of his insights on the Greek/Romaniote Jews. He loved our community and was proud of its history.”

Richard Solomon
Attorney and radio host
We were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Litsy (Esther) Solomon, widow of Aaron Eliasof and Irving Pinhas. Litsy was born in 1920 and passed in August 2017 and 97 years old. Litsy was always a favorite at the Florida Pasha reunions. She will be greatly missed. She is survived by her son Michael Eliasof and his family, loving relatives and friends. Her son Richard died in 2002 at the age of 39.

Shirlee Paganetti with Litsy Pinhas (Solomon)

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Ralph Abraham at the age of 91. He was the son of Simon and Rachil (Belil) Abraham, both early immigrants to our New York Community, Simon arriving in 1909 from Ioannina and Rachel arriving in 1911 from Volos. Ralph is survived by a loving family and friends.

It was with great sorrow that we learned of the passing of Samuel Cohen (1921-2017), beloved member of the Jewish Community of Ioannina. He is survived by his wife, Stella Mioni Cohen, his daughter in Israel, Flora, granddaughter, Esther, and grandson, Samuel Cohen. Samuel was predeceased by his son, Aaron (died suddenly in 1984), and grandson, Jacob (died defending Israel in the War with Lebanon in 2006). May his memory be for a blessing. After the passing of his son, Samuel studied the traditional style of Romaniote chanting, learning to read Hebrew and officiating during services in the synagogue in Ioannina. His voice was always strong and his previous musical training was obvious in his chanting abilities. Many times, as we visited Ioannina with groups from the United States, we were treated to Samuel’s strong voice leading the congregation in prayer.
We will miss you Sam
Simchas

In August we celebrated two special 50th anniversaries from our community, that of Ephraim and Laura Hadjis, and Steve and Fani Negrin. Ephraim and Steve were among those Greek Jews who survived the Occupation in hiding with the help of Greek Orthodox Christians. Coming to the United States in the 1950s, they worked hard and created beautiful families. Mazal Tov to both couples.

Ephraim and Laura with granddaughter

Fani and Steve Negrin with children 1970s

Negrin family in Greece
Dikoi Mas (Our Own)

In August, we were honored with the visits of members of the Gani (Matsa), David and Asser Families. For many, from all over the world, Kehila Kedosha Janina has become a means of reconnecting to their roots.

Family of Rebecca Gani Wencel from France

Ruhama Piperno family—Ruhama is from the David family from Ioannina and the Bonfil family from Karditsa. The family was visiting from Israel.

Matt Hanson from the Asser Family and Ayse visiting from Turkey
Even in the heat of the summer, groups come to Kehila Kedosha Janina to enjoy our air-conditioning and Greek-Jewish kosher lunch. If your group would like to plan an event an Kehila Kedosha Janina, contact us at museum@kkjsm.org.

Visiting from Oakdale Long Island

News from Kehila Kedosha Janina

Thanks to the hard work of our youngest Board of Trustees member, Andrew Marcus, we are already on our way to our 4th annual Greek Jewish Festival on May 6th, 2018 with generous support from the New York City and Company Foundation and Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, presented at Kehila Kedosha Janina by Borough President Gale Brewer.
Upcoming Events

Special Sephardic Concert with the Elias Ladino Ensemble on Sunday September 10th

Kehila Kedosha Janina invites you to a

SPECIAL SEPHERDIC CONCERT
WITH THE
ELIAS LADINO ENSEMBLE

Sunday September 10th at 5:00pm
Kehila Kedosha Janina
280 Broome Street NYC

Since 1976, The Elias Ladino Ensemble has performed the songs of the Sephardic Jews in venues all over the world. “We learned these songs from within the Sephardic Community, so we understand the connection that they had to everyday life. Many of the songs date back to ancient Spain, while some reveal melodies and rhythms of the Balkan and Middle Eastern communities where we lived in exile. In our hands, the music remains as vibrant as the community once was.”

Tickets: $20 by advance check or cash at the door
$10 special discount for members of the Greek Jewish Young Professionals Network

Seats Are Limited

Checks can be made out to Kehila Kedosha Janina and mailed to 1 Hanson Place, Huntington, NY 11743. RSVP to museum@kkjsm.org
Special Event hosted by the Greek Jewish & Sephardic Young Professionals Network on Sunday September 10th

If you are in your 20s or 30s, and you are not yet a member, you can join the Network that day! Just RSVP at GreekJewishYPN@gmail.com. The Special Ladino concert is discounted for Greek Jewish Young Professionals.
Special Event with Professor Devin Naar

Join us on Monday October 16th for a special lecture by our dear friend, Professor Devin Naar. Open to the public and all are invited. We just ask you to please RSVP at museum@kkjsm.org. Professor Naar’s book, “Jewish Salonika: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece” will be available for sale at the event for $25. Professor Naar will be signing the books.

Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue and Museum and the Greek Jewish & Sephardic Young Professionals Network are honored to welcome

PROFESSOR DEVIN NAAR

WHO WILL LEAD A SPECIAL DISCUSSION

Greeks, Jews, and Greek-Jews
IDENTITY AND CULTURE IN A CHANGING WORLD

Monday October 16th at 7:00pm
Kehila Kedosha Janina
280 Broome Street NYC

Once the uncontested capital of the Ladino-speaking Sephardic Jewish world, Salonica (Thessaloniki) also became a vibrant center of Greek Jewish life in the twentieth century.

Drawing on recently discovered archives in Ladino, Greek, Hebrew, and French, this talk will explore how Romaniotes and Sephardim came together to forge a new Greek Jewish identity and transform Salonica into the capital of “Hellenic Judaism” prior to the Holocaust.

Professor Naar will be available to sign copies of his excellent book, Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece, recipient of a 2016 National Jewish Book Award.

Refreshments will be served
Please RSVP to museum@kkjsm.org
Trezoros Film Screening

Join us on Sunday October 22nd for a special showing of Trezoros in memory of Lena Russo. All proceeds from the showing will be donated towards the creation of the Holocaust Education Center in Thessaloniki.

Kehila Kedosha Janina Museum is honored to show the film

TREZOROS
THE LOST JEWS OF KASTORIA

Sunday October 22nd at 1pm
Kehila Kedosha Janina
280 Broome Street NYC

Tickets are only $10
All proceeds will be donated to the Holocaust Education Center in Thessaloniki
This special showing is in memory of Lena Russo
Refreshments will be served after the film
Please RSVP to museum@kkjsm.org
Updates on News from Jewish Greece

TRIKALA

A substantial number of donations have come in towards the restoration of the Synagogue in Trikala and, we would like to thank those who sent in donations, but please continue to do so. We want to make this restoration a reality. Those interested in taking part in this important project can contact the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece directly (info@kis.gr) and the Jewish Community of Trikala (iakov.venouziou@gmail.com). For those who wish to give a donation within the United States (tax deductible) you can send your contributions to The Association of Friends of Greek Jewry, 1 Hanson Place, Huntington NY 11743. All funds collected will go towards saving the synagogue.

IOANNINA

We are happy to report that the synagogue in Ioannina has been partially repaired, securing the building after a recent earthquake, additional repairs, including replacement of windows is needed. As a reminder, “I just received an appeal from the Jewish Community of Ioannina. An earthquake in late October caused severe damage to stone walls of the synagogue. While a grant was received from Germany, it was not sufficient. The Association of Friends of Greek Jewry will be spear-heading an appeal. Funds can be sent directly to the Jewish Community of Ioannina (make notation that the funds are for repair of synagogue) or to The Association of Friends of Greek Jewry, 1 Hanson Place, Huntington NY 11743. If you wish to make a bank transfer to the community’s bank account (or to that of the Association) email us at museum@kkjsm.org”

This year for Yom Kippur, members of the New York Community will be joining Yanniotes from around the world for services. One of the honorees this year is our own Museum Director, Marcia Haddad Ikonomopoulos. Included in our group will be members of the Cohen, Cantos and Hametz families. Yanniotes never forget where they come from.
LARISSA

It is with great sadness that the Jewish Community of Larissa announced the closing of its Jewish School, functioning since 1931. The simple fact is that there are no students.

Moses Magrizos, President of the Jewish Community of Larissa with Beatriki Magrizou, Secretary of the Community. Full article (in Greek) is available here.
RHODES

There’s A Reason This Holocaust Survivor Goes Back to His Synagogue in Greece Every Summer

Full article in Huffington Post available here.

“I promised myself that no matter where I wound up, I would return to Rhodes every summer to say ‘never again.’” – Sami Modiano

THESSALONIKI

It was announced by Mayor Yiannis Boutaris that at the end of October, they will break ground for the creation of the Holocaust Education Center in Thessaloniki.
This August marked the 100th year anniversary of the devastating Fire of 1917, a fire so ingrained in the history of the city that, although there were many fires, the one in 1917 became known as THE FIRE. It changed the landscape of the city, caused a massive wave of Jewish emigration since, of the close to 80,000 Jews who were living in the city at the time of the Fire, half were left homeless. Many mark the beginning of the end of the Jewish Community of Thessaloniki with the Fire of 1917. For an interesting article by our Museum Director and Bob Bedford of FASSAC, see the attachment.

CRETE

Kosher olive oil from Crete!
https://youtu.be/SK99iELiyOo
Rosh Hashanah will be celebrated this year on September 21st and 22nd, with Yom Kippur coming out on Shabbat, September 30th. And while Rosh Hashanah - the "Jewish New Year" has both global and particularly Jewish significance, Yom Kippur, is a totally "internal" Jewish holy day, where each and every Jew confesses his or her transgressions before G-d, while begging forgiveness for them and hoping that he or she will be sealed for the coming year in the Book of Life. We therefore "afflict our souls", including a 26-27 hour fast. There is even an "extra" prayer added to the usual morning, additional, afternoon and evening prayers, called "Ne'ilah" – 'locking' – which is recited just before the end of the day, in order to cry out once again for G-d's forgiveness, just before the Gates of Heaven and Forgiveness are "locked" for another year.

However, our Sages made it very clear at the outset that though Yom Kippur is THE day of forgiveness for each and every Jew, G-d's forgiveness is limited to sins and transgressions committed "between Man and G-d", and not those committed between "Man and one's fellow man". This means that I can pray for G-d's forgiving those ritualistic and "religious" practices that I willfully or inadvertently violated: not keeping Shabbat as demanded by Jewish law, not praying properly, not performing Torah commandments, showing contempt and disrespect toward G-d, the Torah, the commandments and Jewish law and lore, and more. But if I have wronged another person, whether by insult or financial or physical harm, humiliation, slander, cheating, acting unethically, or in any other way – G-d will not forgive me for those wrongdoings, no matter how sincere my regret and full understanding of what I have done. If I am to obtain G-d's forgiveness, I must first ask the person I harmed for forgiveness, and repair the damage I have done, no matter how difficult this may be. In fact, it is considered the duty of each Jew to approach any individual who he or she has wronged on the eve of Yom Kippur to ask for his/her forgiveness. And since most of us can't really remember how many individuals we may have insulted, hurt or embarrassed over the year, it is customary to call or email as many friends, family members and acquaintances as possible asking for forgiveness for any inadvertent transgression I may have done to any one of them. After making this gesture – which is hopefully sincere – I can approach G-d with greater confidence that I will be forgiven for all my transgressions, both against G-d and my fellow human beings. Likewise, many people send out a "collective" forgiveness to as many people as possible, thereby waiving the need to be asked for forgiveness by others. Nonetheless, specific incidents where I know I harmed another individual demand a specific request for forgiveness and even compensation for the wrongdoing. However, if the person refuses to forgive me, I must ask again, up to three times. After that, if the person remains unforgiving, Jewish law says that I have done my part as best I could, and the other person's lack of forgiveness becomes his/her problem, and relieves me of any further attempts to gain forgiveness.

In its insistence on gaining the forgiveness of my fellow human beings and not relying on pleas to G-d, Judaism teaches us some fascinating and very unique ideas: First of all, we must take responsibility for our actions at all times, and not even G-d is willing to "cover" for us. This also illustrates how much respect and care Judaism demands of us toward our fellow man, and not just for G-d; After all, we are all created in "G-d's image", so we all actually represent G-d in our own way. Furthermore, nothing can foster true brotherhood and unity like personally asking forgiveness from others, ostensibly leaving no grudges or resentment against one another that can explode at any time. Finally, by insisting on human forgiveness for other human beings in the same way we are granted Divine forgiveness before G-d, we are raised to a spiritual level and closeness
to G-d that forms the heart of our pleas and prayers at all times, but especially on the High Holy Days: to become one with G-d and emulate G-d's ways, which will eventually lead to the final Redemption and Messianic era. 
Shanah Tovah to one and all!!!

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

BARCELONA

In light of the recent terrorist attack in Barcelona, we are printing this article in support of the Jewish Community of Barcelona.

The Barcelona Jewish Community is Not Doomed
SARAJEVO

Why Sarajevo’s Tiny Jewish Community Believes It’s in the Safest Place in Europe for Jews

SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina – The gate to the old Ashkenazi synagogue is unlocked. There are no security cameras or metal detectors, no police vehicles parked out front. No one even takes your name as you walk in. This might just be the synagogue with the least security in Europe – here, in a Muslim country where ethnic hatreds run deep. Could Bosnia and Herzegovina, the site of the worst genocide in Europe since the Holocaust, be the safest place on the Continent to be a Jew?

Jakob Finci, president of the Jewish community of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which numbers some 1,000, thinks it may well be. “We think we’re safe here with open doors,” Finci, a mischievous-eyed septuagenarian tells Haaretz in a recent interview in his office in the synagogue, the only functioning Jewish house of worship in the entire country. “This country is one of the few free of anti-Semitism.”

People may know about the Muslim Bosniaks, Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croats, and especially about the violent war between them in the 1990s. But not many are aware of the existence of a fourth religious and ethnic group here – the Jews, who have resided in this area for centuries. Touted over the centuries as the “European Jerusalem” and “Jerusalem of the Balkans,” modern Sarajevo, the capital of and largest city in Bosnia and Herzegovina, was a cosmopolitan melting pot at the crossroads between East and West, ruled first by the Ottomans and then subsumed within the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Its heady mix of cultures and religions is still very much in evidence on the city’s streets today, as Paris-style espresso bars vie for space with Turkish hookah lounges.

“What’s different for Sarajevo is we [the Jews] have been in a very good relationship with the neighbors,” Finci says. “After 450 years we’re very well incorporated into Bosnian society.”

Never forced to live in ghettos, the Jews of what is modern-day Bosnia and Herzegovina – most of them descendants of Sephardim (the Spanish and Portuguese Jews expelled from Spain in 1492) – were treated much better during Ottoman times than in most of Western Europe, according to Finci. By the 1930s there were about 12,000 Jews in Sarajevo and another 2,000 elsewhere in the country, according to census figures quoted by Finci and other sources. But the population was decimated during the Holocaust: Some 10,000 of its members were killed by the Ustasa, Croatia fascists who sympathized with the Nazi regime.
Even then, though, many Muslims tried to protect their Jewish neighbors, and their bravery is memorialized today at Sarajevo’s Jewish Museum, housed in a former Sephardi synagogue. Some Muslim individuals are listed there as Righteous Among the Nations. While part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia – formed in 1946 and comprising six Balkan republics – religious practice was discouraged in Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, explains Finci, the Jews there were treated well by Josip Broz Tito, the communist revolutionary who would later become president of Yugoslavia, because many of them had fought with Tito’s Partisans during World War II.

Subsequently, following the breakup of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s, about half of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s remaining population of 2,000 Jews fled to Israel, fearing the worst. Finci was one of those who stayed on, feeling an obligation to his country and the local Jewish organizations that were heavily involved in providing humanitarian aid to their fellow Sarajevans, their neighbors, irrespective of their ethnicity or religion, since the city was under siege.

According to one story documented at the Jewish Museum here, which reads like a Hollywood screenplay, the Kavilios – a family of Bosnian Jews who had been hidden from the Nazis by their Muslim neighbors, the Hardagas – returned the favor 50 years later when they helped the Hardagas’ daughter escape the Sarajevo siege by bringing her to Israel, where she eventually converted to Judaism. Although now depleted in numbers, Finci believes Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Jewish community will hold its own.

“What is a good sign is that in the last 15 years only one person left for Israel,” he says. In fact, about 20 young, locally born Jews have moved back to Bosnia and Herzegovina from Israel in the past few years, Finci says, attracted by the desire to preserve their unique heritage, free university studies and the relaxed, work-lite lifestyle. Then came a “baby boom.”

“In 2015 we suddenly got 10 newborns, which was a real miracle,” Finci says. “That means these young people think there is a future here for them.”

While Shabbat is observed every Friday night at the ornate old Ashkenazi synagogue on the banks of the Miljacka river, the Sarajevo community lacks a full-time rabbi. A rabbi who was born in the country but is now based in Israel returns to officiate during High Holy Days. At one Shabbat this month, about 40 members of the community turned out, with much of the service in Ladino – the historic language of the Spanish Jews. Afterward, the atmosphere was festive with the candelabra lit, the challah blessed, and wine and song. One of those attending, 24-year-old Andrea, was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and said she celebrates the mix of cultures and tolerance in the country.
“Most of our neighbors are Muslim. It’s a tradition to go and drink coffee with the neighbors for Ramadan and eat baklava and sweets,” the music student says. “It’s a Muslim country, but European. Jews here never have any problems.” Her friend, Tea, 21, agrees, adding, “People here are not interested in hating Jews.”

While most Bosnian Muslims are fiercely protective of their secular identity, in a country where a woman is more likely to don a miniskirt than a hijab, there have been fears of creeping Wahhabism, and some 200 people from Bosnia and Herzegovina have reportedly left to fight with the Islamic State group in the Middle East. But Finci, for one, thinks an attack against Jews on home soil like those in recent years in Western Europe is very unlikely. Terror aimed at Jews in Brussels or Paris is much more worthwhile for the perpetrators in terms of international press coverage than an attack in Sarajevo would be, he notes. With far-right parties gaining ground, as well as a spate of deadly attacks on Jewish institutions in Paris in 2015 and Brussels in 2014, Jews in Western Europe may have reason to fear, Finci says. But in Bosnia, because of resurgent tensions between the Serbs, Croats and Muslims, no one pays them much attention.

“It doesn’t mean they like you,” he says. “But these three ethnic groups are too busy hating each other

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PORTUGAL

Portuguese Town Reopens Renovated Museum About Crypto-Jews

(JTA) — The Portuguese town of Belmonte has reopened its Jewish museum — the largest in the world about crypto-Jews — following a $350,000 renovation project.

The reopening earlier this month, with new interactive exhibitions, was timed to be ready for the annual European Days of Jewish Culture project in early September.

“You could say that this is a totally new museum and we are confident that it will become a reference point for Sephardic culture,” Belmonte’s mayor, António Dias Rocha, told the Lusa news agency earlier this month. “The aim is for visitors to understand how it was possible for our Jews to remain so many years in Belmonte.”

The museum, which was founded in 2005, includes reconstructed murals and features the individual stories of Belmonte Jews. Dias Rocha said it is projected to attract 100,000 visitors annually.
Thirty-five countries will be participating in culture project. Spain will feature a Jewish film festival in Barcelona. In the Netherlands, visitors will be able to access the Middelburg Synagogue, an 18th-century establishment that was built by exiled Portuguese Jews and is the oldest of its kind outside Amsterdam. It is generally not open to the public.

This year’s theme of “Diasporas” is particularly relevant to Belmonte, which in the 15th century saw an influx of Jewish refugees fleeing the Inquisition from Spain. When the Inquisition spread to Portugal in 1536, many of the hundreds of Jewish families in Belmonte fled and became refugees. But many stayed and continued to practice Judaism in secrecy, becoming crypto-Jews, or anusim. The community existed as such as late as the early 20th century before disappearing.

In recent years, rabbis and activists from the Shavei Israel group, which seeks to reconnect the descendants of the anusim to Judaism, have re-established a small community in Belmonte.

Belmonte is one of only three locales in Portugal with a functioning synagogue, along with Lisbon and Porto. In recent years, local and national tourism bodies have invested millions of dollars in attracting tourists to Belmonte, including by setting up a kosher market each year in September since 2010.

Separately, in Lisbon, Jewish community leaders and municipal workers are preparing for the opening of that city’s Jewish museum scheduled for this year.

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**RESEARCH**

We recently received a number of requests for our help. We are sending these out in our E-Newsletter hoping that among our many readers, we can find those who will be able to be of help.

Our first request is from one of our long time readers, Joseph Nacmias, who is looking for help in finding others with his surname in the United States.

“Hello. I read the newsletter with interest and would appreciate your help in reaching the descendants of Max Nachmias. My grandfather (Giuseppe Nacmias) was born in Corfou around 1885 moved to Egypt in 1911 with seven siblings and died there in 1936. My family came to NYC in 1961 and is In touch with several branches of that family in several countries but have not met any others in the US. Many thanks in advance."

Joseph Nacmias
90 Eighth Avenue, Apt. 6B
Brooklyn, NY 11215
718-857-8784 (direct)
718-857-2288 fax
917-6537222 (cell)

Our second request is from Esther Fino:

“I am wondering if anyone reading this has photo of a man named Saul Aelion. He was my mother’s husband during the time of German occupation. He was taken away with most of the other men of Salonika. He is listed as being taken away with his brother and his nephew named Marco. I have not been able to find anyone who knew of him and his family. My mother loved him very much and spoke of him all her life. If anyone knows of the family, has a photo or can give me information about it, please let me know. Thank you”

Esther Fino
The next request is from Robert Coneliano who is trying to find relatives. The family originally came from Corfu but one branch settled in Australia. There is a synagogue in Jerusalem named after the town in Italy that was the source of the surname. Robert knows that there were members of the family in Zakynthos and visited the cemetery there this past summer. It appears that his great-great grandmother, Esther Mordo married a Salomone Koneliano (born in 1859) who is buried in the Zakynthos cemetery. Esther’s mother, Miriam Mordo (born Vivante) was the daughter of Moshe Vivante who died in Zakynthos. Robert sent us some beautiful photos.

If any of this rings a bell, get back to us.

Our last request is from Sarina Menahem in Israel who is looking for Mioni relatives. Her family was from Ioannina. This is a photo of her grandmother Sarina Mioni, wife of Israel Mioni.
Your donations enable us to continue our work. You can send donations via mail directly to 280 Broome Street, New York, NY 10002 or you can donate via our website www.kkjsm.org