AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK

THE ANNUAL RECORD OF JEWISH CIVILIZATION

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
The year 2006–07 marks the centennial of the American Jewish Committee, which took on the responsibility for editing and compiling the AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK in 1908, two years after its own founding. To mark this auspicious occasion, the 2006 YEAR BOOK features a special article by David A. Harris, executive director of the American Jewish Committee, which gives a detailed and nuanced picture of the organization’s key historical accomplishments; its evolution over the years; its current challenges; and a look ahead at the potential impact of demographic, social, political, and religious changes on its work.

In its regular articles, the volume covers the events of 2005. The YEAR BOOK’s coverage of American Jewish life includes treatments of national affairs, anti-Semitism, Jewish communal affairs, the national celebration of 350 years of Jewish life in America, and, for the first time in several years, a fresh look at American Jewish population trends.

The article on Israel describes diplomatic, political, economic, and social developments during 2005. Manifestations of anti-Semitism in many countries continued to be linked to opposition toward Israel. These disturbing events are carefully described in the articles on individual countries, as are important events and trends within the Jewish communities of these countries. Updated demographic data are provided in the article on world Jewish population.

Carefully compiled directories of national Jewish organizations, periodicals, and federations and welfare funds, as well as religious calendars and obituaries—including an appreciation of the esteemed thinker and longtime YEAR BOOK editor Milton Himmelfarb—round out the 2006 AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of our colleagues, Cyma M. Horowitz and Michele Anish, of the American Jewish Committee’s Blaustein Library, and the contribution of Rachel Arnold, our assistant, in preparing the index.

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