

FOREWORD

Within the framework of the Cultural Agreement between Israel and The Netherlands an international Symposium on the history of the Jews in The Netherlands was held from November 28 till December 3, 1982. It took place on the campuses of the Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem Universities. Of the lectures, delivered at this Symposium, twenty-eight are published in this volume. The lectures on Hebrew and Yiddish literature will be published in the forthcoming fourth volume of the *Mehkarim Al Toldot Jahadut Holland*, but summaries are included in this volume.

All but one of the lecturers sent us the full texts of their presentations with additional notes; some of them submitted an enlarged and more scholarly version. Instead of the lecture of Dr. Morgenstern we decided in consultation with the author to publish the English translation of his analytical article on the correspondence of the *Pekidim* and *Amarcalim* of Amsterdam, that originally appeared in the journal *Cathedra*. We want to thank the Yad Ben Zwi Publications for their permission to include this article.

Many people assisted us in the preparation of this volume. Mr. Yohanan Eldad translated articles from Dutch and Hebrew into English. Mr. F. Graber aided with the copy-editing. Ms. Y. Mendelsson took care of the correspondence. Ms. Daniela Ashur of the Mercas Dinur helped us in solving many problems.

As always the Daf-Chen Press carried out successfully the extremely difficult task of producing this book.

Without the help of various institutions, both in Israel and The Netherlands, we would not have been able to publish this volume. We wish to extend our deep gratitude to the Prins Bernhard Fonds in Amsterdam, De Maatschappij tot Nut der Israëlieten in Nederland, the Fronika Sanders Fonds and the Foundation Nathan ben Shimshon Gitter for their material contribution.

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