



Abraham
Events

The Sephardim

Friday May 20, 2022

By Alain Farhi

The Fascinating Origin and Riveting History of Sephardi Jewry

20th May 2022

The Sephardim

Summary

- Origins
- Migration
- Sephardim Traditions
- Famous Sephardim
- Sephardim Synagogues

Sephardim

- Origins & Meaning
 - Sepharad means Spain in Hebrew
 - The label Sephardim did not exist before 1492
 - Attributed to Jews fleeing the Inquisitions
 - Now the label refers to Jews who are **not** Ashkenazim regardless of their ethnic ancestry
 - Many ethnic Ashkenazim became Sephardim by assimilation in the countries they lived in

Jews in Biblical Times (© Alec Nacamuli)

The Biblical narrative...



Amenhotep III
-1390 – -1352

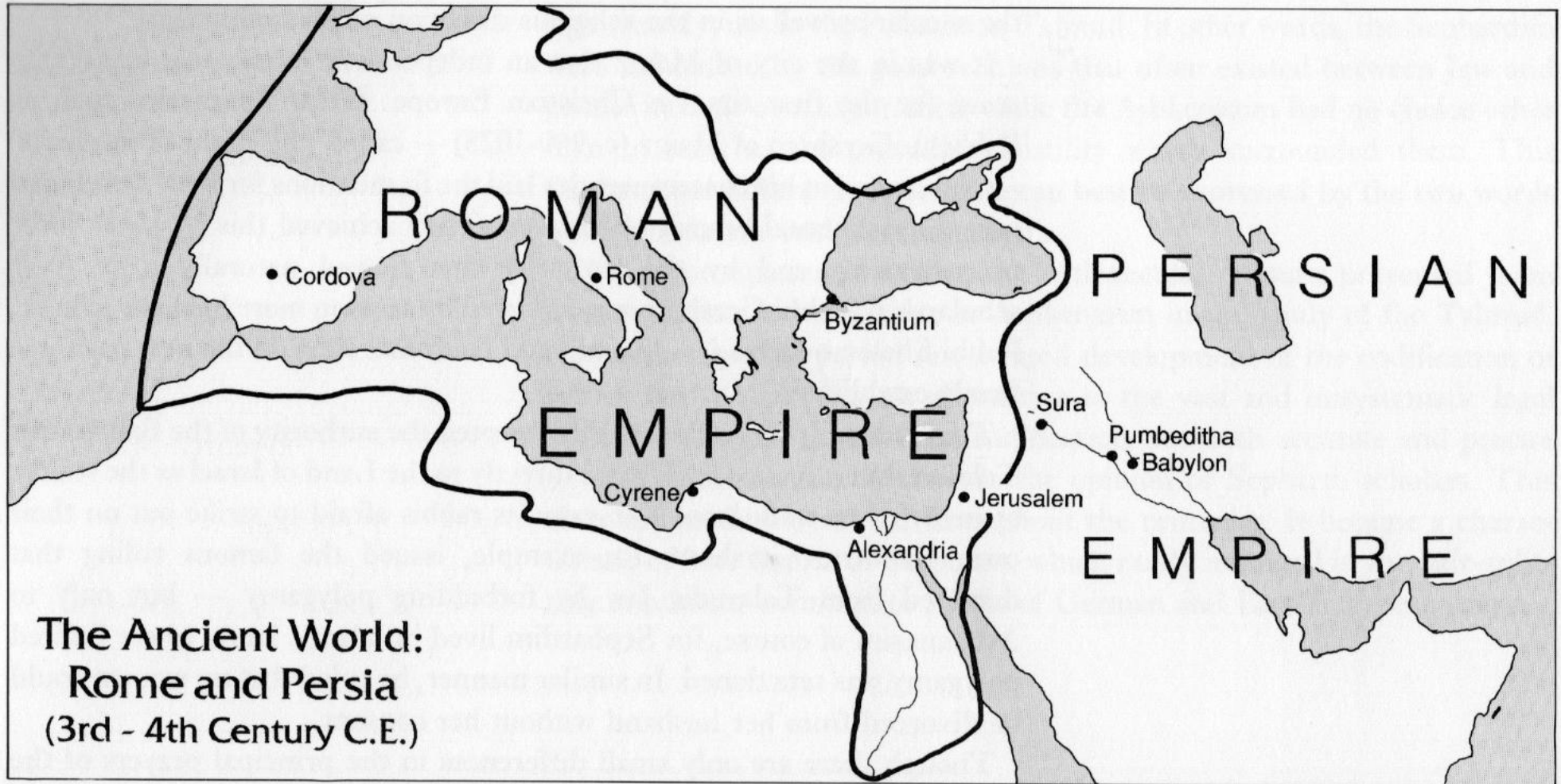


Ramses II
-1279 – -1213

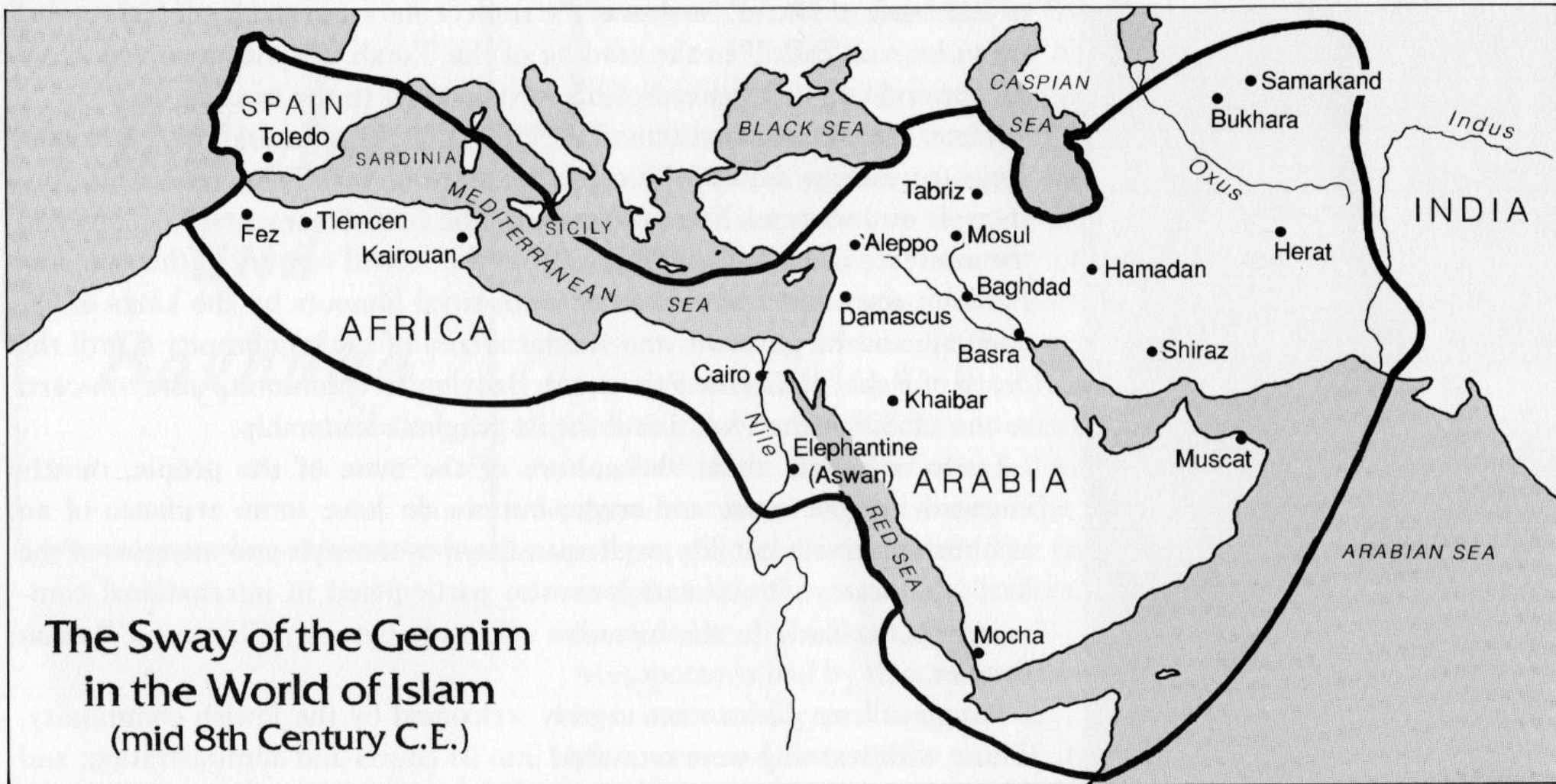
Jews after the Exodus

- The Promised Land (Israel today)
- Babylon & Baghdad
- Central Asia /Persia /Kurdistan
- The Alledged 10 Lost tribes
 - East Africa (Beta Israel of Ethiopia, Zimbabwe)
 - West Africa (Igbo of Nigeria)
 - South Africa (Lemba of Valhemba)
 - Asia (Assyrian, Kashmiri, Bnei Menashe of Indian, Pashtun of Pakistan and Afghanistan, Japan)
 - China (Kaifeng)
 - New Zealand (the Maori)

Jews in the Roman Empire (© Lucien Gubbay)



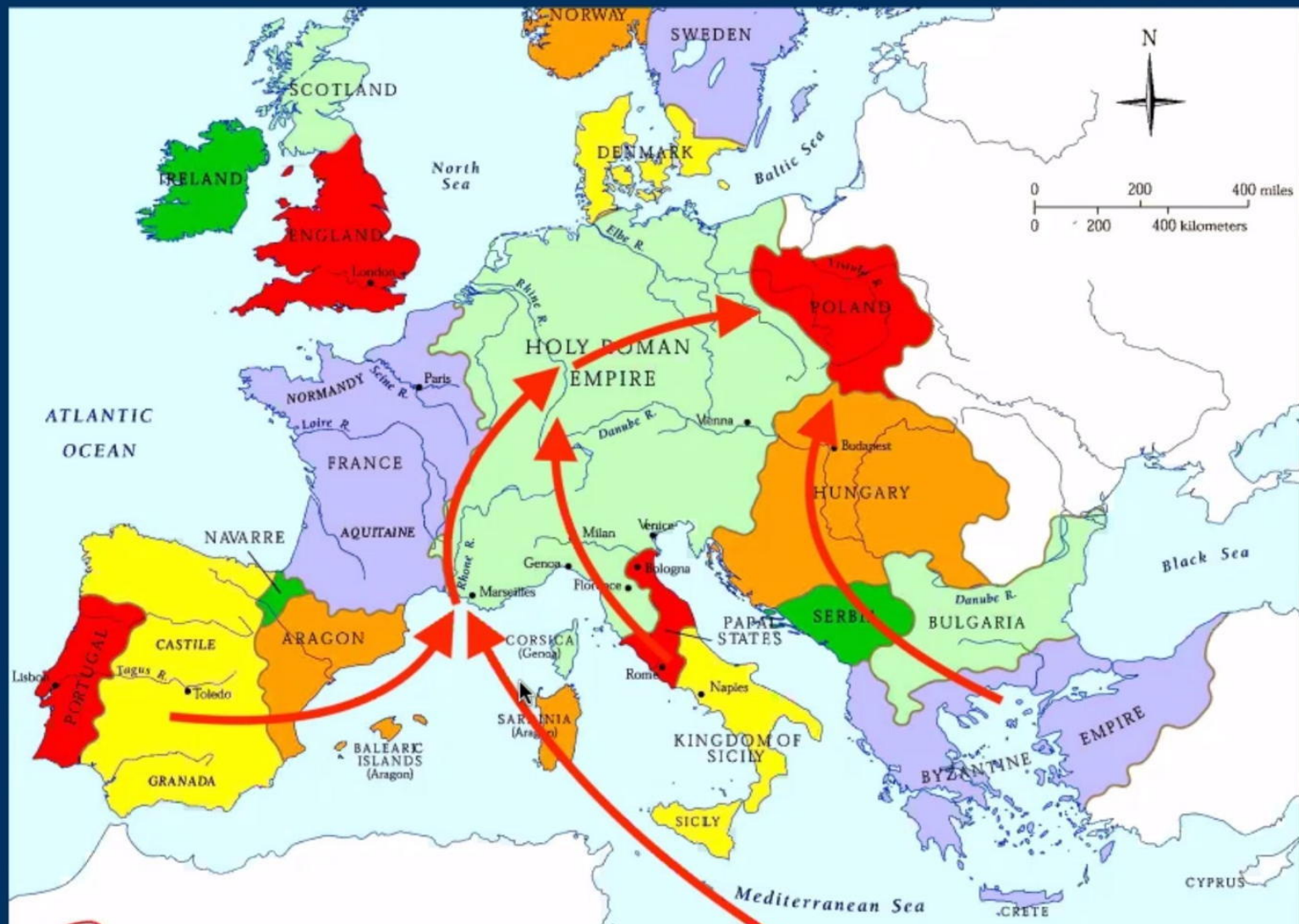
Jews in the Moslem World (© Lucien Gubbay)



Migration 547 BCE 1650 CE (© Adam Brown)



Migration of Ashkenazi Jews (© Adam Brown)



The Karaites

- Fundamentalist movement founded ca 800 by Anan ben-David HaNasi in Baghdad OR ca 640 in Egypt
 - They follow only Torah laws and reject oral traditions like the Mishnah and Talmud
 - Originally from Mesopotamia later Lithuania, Poland, Southern Ukraine, Iran, Turkey and Egypt
- Today 40,000 in Israel, 10,000 worldwide including many in the US
- For them, all the other Jews are labelled Rabbanites

The Inquisition in Europe

- 12th century in France
- Started in Spain ca 1300
 - Persecuting Jews & Muslims who allegedly converted to Christianity
- Expulsion from Spain in 1492 & their colonies later after the Alhambra decree
- Expulsion from Portugal in 1536 & their colonies (Goa) later
 - To England, Holland and Latin America
- Expulsion from Sicily in 1493
 - To Calabria and northern Italy
- Expulsion from Calabria in 1540's
 - To the Ottoman Empire

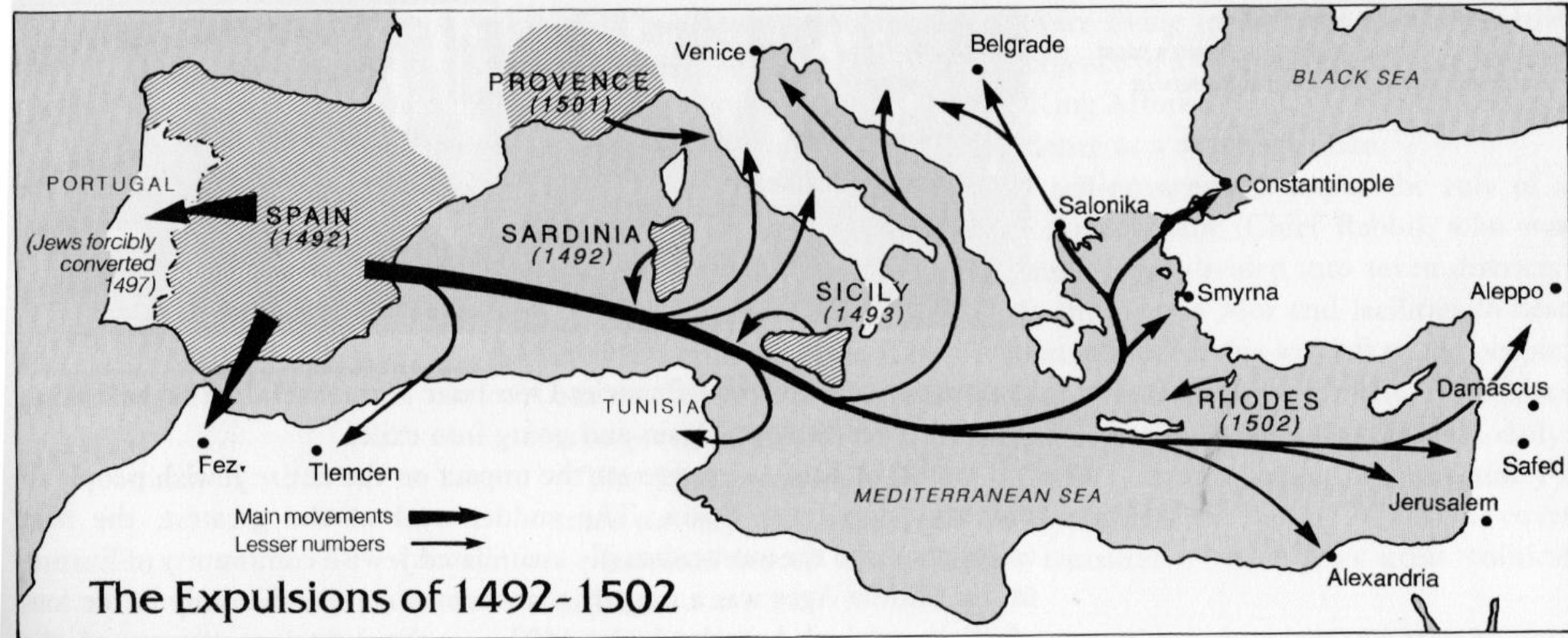
The Conversos and Laws of Return

- Conversos ou Anussim
 - The Jews who converted to Catholicism under pressure but kept Jewish traditions secretly at home
- The Laws of Return
 - In 2015 Spain allowed Sephardim and Conversos to claim their Spanish nationality during a 3 years period (extended to 2019)
 - In 2015, Portugal allowed Sephardim and Conversos to ask for Portuguese nationality (no time limit)
 - In April 2022, the Portuguese government has put on hold all new applications following the granting of the nationality to a Russian oligarch

Jewish Pre-Expulsion Migration (© Lucien Gubbay)

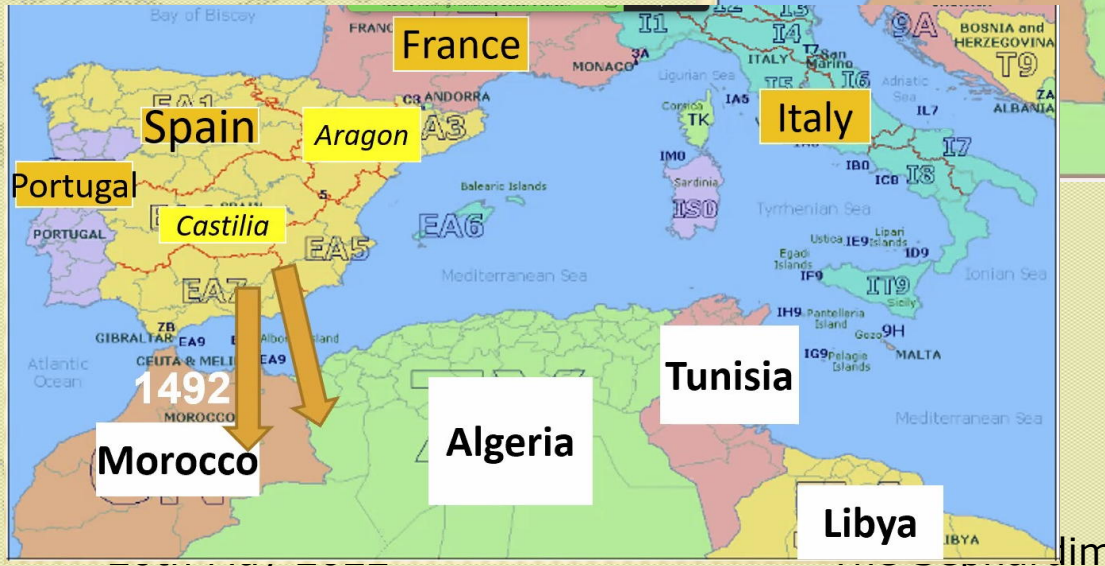
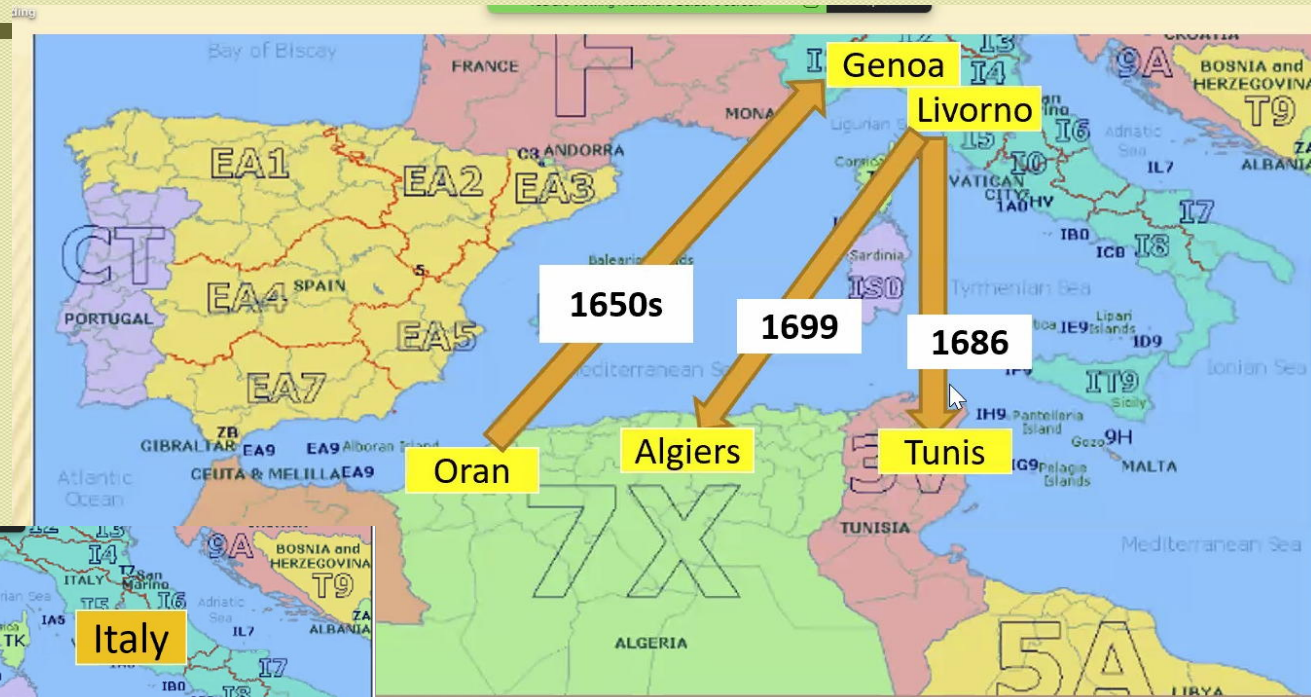


Jewish 1492 Migration (© Lucien Gubbay)



Sephardim Migration to North Africa ©Alexandre Bieder

Sephardim from
Majorca 1391
Spain 1492
Italy 1650



Iraqi Immigration & Diaspora (1723-1940)



Syrian Emigration and Diaspora © Sarina Rofe



During the 19th and 20th Centuries

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The Sephardim

Jews of the Ottoman Empire

- Romaniot (Greek)
- Franco (Italy, Venice/ Livorno/Ancona)
- Sephardim (Spain post 1492)
- Portuguese and New Christians
- Sicilian / Calabrian
- Moustarabim (aka Misrahim) in Middle East before 1492
- Ashkenazim
- Kavkazim (Caucasian)
- Yemenites
- Karaites

1492 Sephardim Diaspora

- From Spain
 - Portugal
 - France
 - Italy
 - North Africa
 - Ottoman Empire
- From Portugal
 - England
 - Holland
 - Caribbean & Latin America

The World Sephardi Communities

(past and some current)

- Europe France, England, Italy, Spain, Netherland, Switzerland, Greece, Portugal
- Middle East: Rhodes, Israel, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Yemen, Iraq, the Gulf States
- America & Caribbean Islands: USA, Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Jamaica, Curacao
- Latin America: Dutch Guyana, Brazil, Panama, Argentina, Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela
- Africa: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, South Africa, Rhodesia, Ethiopia
- Central Asia: Iran, Bukhara, Meshed, Afghanistan, Caucasian countries Georgia
- Asia: India, Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, HK, The Philippines, Taiwan, China, Japan
- Pacific: Australia and New Zealand

Sephardim and the Holocaust

Fewer Sephardim were deported and murdered

– Only those living in Europe perished (Greece including Kastoria, Salonika, Rhodes and the Balkans. Some from Tunisia and Libya.

Many were spared as they were living in

- Shanghai . The Japanese refused Germany's demands
- Bulgaria (like the Danish) spared by royal objections
- Japan and Turkey, their governments did not comply with German requests to surrender them.
- The British colonies
- Karaites of Lithuania were spared as considered non-Jewish by the Nazis.

Sephardim and the Holocaust

Fewer Sephardim were deported and murdered

–7,000 in France out of total of 80,000 Jews (1)

- None in French Algeria (1)

–4,000 died during WW2, including (2)

- 3,400 Sephardim living in Europe
- 600 dead at Giado camp in Libya,
- about 50 in Tunisia.

–1) Source: Jean-Pierre Stroweiss https://stevemorse.org/france/distribution_of_birthplaces.pdf

–2) Source: Lyn Julius <https://www.jewishrefugees.org.uk/2011/01/massacre-of-jews-by-muslims-before-1948.html>

Anti Jewish Riots in Arab lands

- 20th century notable riots were (in brackets Jews dead):
- Fez, Morocco 1912 (45)
- Constantine, Algeria 1934 (25)
- Farhud, Iraq, 1941 (179 – 600?)
- Tripoli, Libya, 1945 (130)
- Jerusalem 1920/1 (6)
- Hebron, Jerusalem 1929 (133)
- Aden 1947 (87)
- Aleppo, Syria 1947 (unknown)
- Bahrain 1948 (2)
- Oujda, Morocco 1948 (48)
- Haret al-Yahud 1948 (200?)
- Tripoli, Libya 1948 (14)
-

DNA - Analysis of their Chromosomes

Diversity of the Jewish population in the 20th Century

- More Y-DNA diversity of Sephardim than Ashkenazim which were decimated by the middle ages by plague, pogroms and the holocaust.
- mtDNA indicates 40% of today's Ashkenazim are descendants of 8 Sephardim women who emigrated north from Rome a thousand years ago

Sephardi Traditions

- Naming of children
 - First son is given the first name of the paternal grandfather
 - First daughter is given the first name of the paternal grandmother
 - Second son is given the first name of the maternal grandfather
 - Second daughter is given the first name of the maternal grandmotherNow that tradition remains as a 2nd first name.
- Second Wives (
 - Husband of a deceased wife will marry her sister
 - Brother of a deceased husband will marry his widow
 - In old Damascus, the man of a barren wife was allowed to take a 2nd wife who will live with them.

Sephardi Traditions

- Sepharim (Torah scrolls)
 - In wooden casings with silver, velvet, mother of pearls inlay etc



Sephardi Traditions

- Torah & Haftarah scrolls
- Elaborate silver Casings with bells (rimonim)



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The Sephardim

Sephardi Traditions

- Rimonim (Torah bells)

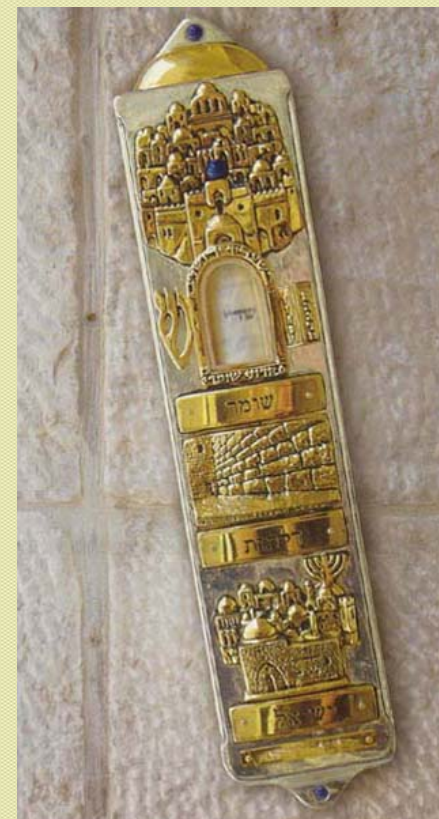


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The Sephardim

Sephardi Traditions

- Position of a Mezzuza on door posts
Vertical not at an angle



A Few Sephardi Traditions

- Auctioning of the honors during religious services
- Special celebrations for
 - Henne party (Moroccan) honoring the bride on the eve of her wedding . her elaborate dress is passed from mother to daughter in the family
 - Bidyon: 30 days after the birth of a first born boy when the son is “bought” from a Cohen with silver coins.
 - Party to celebrate the first tooth of a baby (using sweetened boiled wheat)

Sephardi Pronunciation and Script

- Northern Ottoman countries (Turkey, Greece, Salonika, Bulgaria, Rhodes, Kos)
 - Ladino (Spanish written with Hebrew letters)
 - Judeo Spanish : mixture of Spanish and Hebrew
- Arabic Ottoman countries (Syria, Egypt)
 - Arabic written with Latin letters (when uneducated in Arabic script)
 - French with Arabic words and a special local vocabulary & grammar
- Morocco
 - Haketieh mixture of Spanish, Arabic and Hebrew
- Iraqi
 - Basrawi: mixture of Arabic and Hebrew

Sephardi Congregations in the 20th Century

- Mainly Orthodox rites
- No Conservative (where women share the same sanctuary)
- No Reformed or Liberal
 - Except in France led by the late Rabbi Daniel Farhi (from Turkey)
- The Tanaka
 - Excommunication of families with a non Jewish spouse
 - Enacted in “Syrian” communities of New York and Argentina
- Some adopting Eastern European orthodoxy
 - Habad, Lubavitch

Sephardi Prayer Books

- Hebrew Liturgy
 - Small differences between countries (Spanish Portuguese synagogues, Baghdad, Aleppo)
- Arabic Translation of the Hebrew text
 - In 910, Rabbi Saadia Gaon compiled a Siddur **transliterated** the Torah in Arabic
 - In 1917, Dr. Hillel Farhi **translated** Siddurim in classical Arabic

Sephardi Cooking

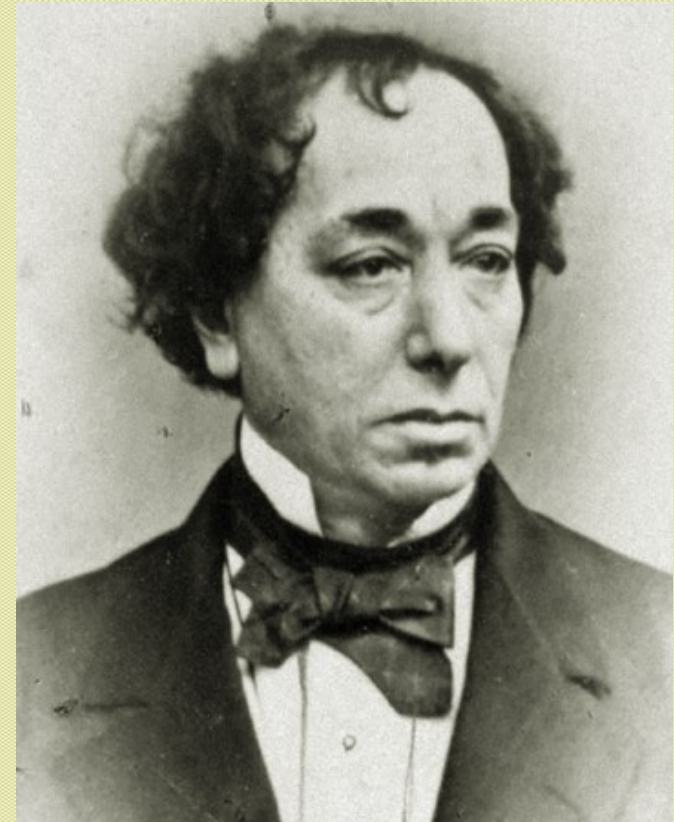
- Many Ashkenazi dishes remain an acquired taste for Sephardim
- Many Sephardim dishes are well known to Ashkenazim
 - Middle Eastern, North African, Iraqi, Turkish
- The first Sephardi cooking book was by Claudia Roden née Douek in 1968, her latest published in 2021
- Many more published every year in various countries

A few famous Sephardi from

- England
- France
- Netherland
- Ottoman Empire Syria, Lebanon, Egypt
- Iraq
- India
- South East Asia Burma, Singapore, Indonesia, HK ,
Shanghai

Famous English Sephardim

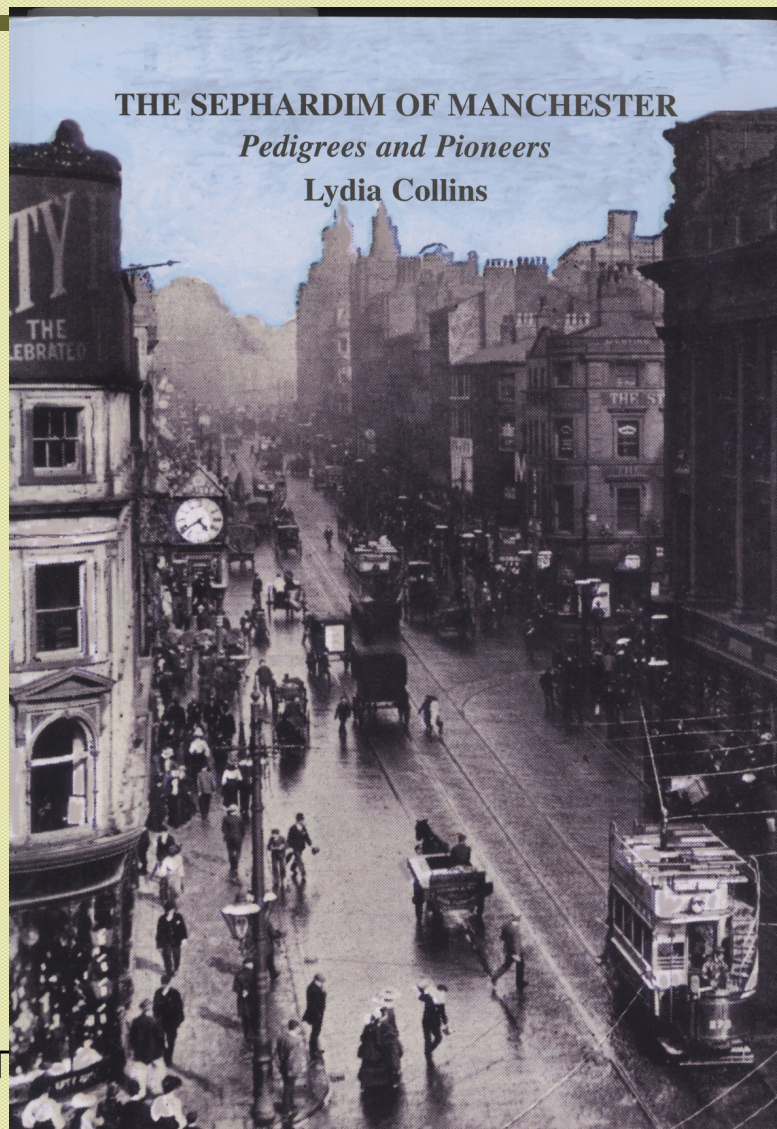
- Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)
- Lady Nicole Farhi (Fashion Designer)
- Moris Farhi (1935-2019) Pen International
- Edwin Shuker (Businessman and philanthropist)



Benjamin Disraeli

The Sephardim of Manchester

- Pedigrees and Pionneers by Lydia Collins (and Morris Bierbrier)
- First edition 2006
- Reprinted 2021
- The Sephardi Congregation of South Manchester
- 24 Wicker Lane, Hale Barns, Cheshire WA15 0HQ,
- tel: +44 (0)161 980 1877,
- [e-mail: shaarehayim@clara.co.uk](mailto:shaarehayim@clara.co.uk).



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T

Sir Moses Montefiore (1784-1885)

Born in Livorno



Drawn by Dr. Hillel Farhi

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The Sephardim

Sir Moses Montefiore

3 facets of Jewish leadership

Palestine

- Visits 1827, 1839, 1849, 1855, 1857, 1866, 1875
- Founds medical dispensary (1842), girls' school, weaving establishment and Jaffa orchard (1855); builds windmill (1858), Mishkenot Sha'ananim (1860)

Fundraising

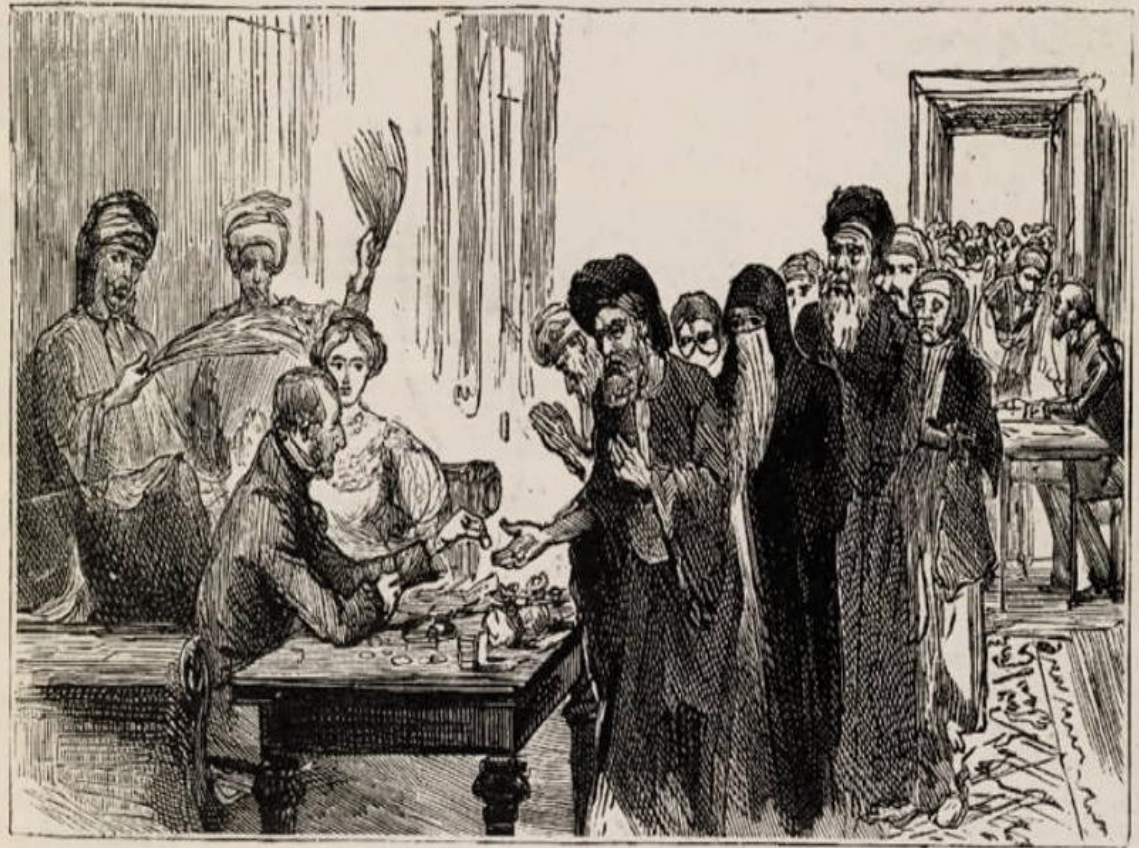
- 1841 (Great fire of Smyrna); 1844 (Sack of Mogador); 1855 (Famine in the Holy Land); 1859 (Moroccan Jewish refugees in Gibraltar); 1860 (Syrian Christians); 1872 (Persian Famine)

Diplomacy

- Main foreign missions: Damascus Affair (1840); Russia (1846, 1872); Rome (1859); Morocco (1864); Romania (1867)

Sir Moses Montefiore

- Organized and paid for Censuses in Alexandria and Palestine
 - 1839, 1840, 1849, 1855, 1866 and 1875
- Charities
- Defended Oppressed Jewish Minorities
 - The Damascus Affair 1840.



THE VISIT TO THE EAST, 1839—DISTRIBUTING ALMS AT ZAFED

The Damascus Affair 1840.

- February 5, 1840, Father Thomas Tomaso and his servant disappeared in the Jewish Quarter of Damascus
- Count Ulysse de Ratti-Menton, French consul at Damascus, investigates on behalf of the Egyptian governor of Syria, Sherif Pasha
- Eight of the most notable Jews, among them Joseph Lañado, Moses Abulafia, Rabbi Jacob Antebi, David Harari and Aslan, Joseph & Mourad Farhi are arrested and tortured. A few died in prison.
- Ratti-Menton took 100 women and children hostage

The Damascus Affair 1840.

- Picciotto seeks refuge in Austrian consulate
- Merlato, the Austrian consul takes the case to Vienna.
- Jews of Europe press for action as Austria alerts France and England.
- 4 to 28 August Sir Moses Montefiore and Adolphe Cremieux travel to Alexandria to negotiate with Mohamed Ali their release
- 4 September 1840 Mohamed Ali agrees to release (not pardon) them after a bribe of 60,000 ghurush is offered
- 6 November 1840 Sultan Abdulmecid 1 (Constantinople) issues an edict banning Blood Libel cases and releasing the Jews of Damascus

One Dutch Sephardim

- Amsterdam
Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677)
Philosopher 17th century
Rationalist and Enlightenment
of the Dutch Golden Age.



Caribbean Sephardim

- Cuba Pre WW 1 mainly “turcos” , i.e. Turkish, Lebanese. Syrian
- Jamaica
 - Jewish shipowners “pirates” at the service of England
 - Abraham Henriques Cohen (1600)
 - Samuel Pallache (ca 1600)
 - The Matalon family from Damascus
 - Businessmen, Politicians
- Curacao
 - Abady family from Aleppo



Mayer Matalon

Famous Sephardi

- France
 - Emile (1800-1875) and Isaac Pereire (1806-1880)
 - Bankers in Bordeaux and Paris
 - Adolphe Cremieux (1796-1880)
 - Lawyer, Politician
 - Daniel Ifla Osiris (1826-1907)
 - Banker and philanthropist
 - Count Abraham Camondo (1785-1873)
 - Banker and philanthropist in Istanbul then France

The Sephardim in France

- In 1302, Jews were expelled to Spain by King Philippe Le Bel
- Jews lived in Provence ca 1305-1378
 - In the Papal States of Avignon, Arles, Carpentras, Beziers
 - The pope was their landlord
- Settled unofficially in Bordeaux after 1492
- Napoleon granted all Jews full rights after the French Revolution
- After WW II, immigration from North Africa and the Middle East , enlarged their ranks

Adolphe Cremieux Politician (1796-1880)

- Adolphe Cremieux created the Alliance Israélite Universelle in 1860
 - To safeguard the human rights of Jews around the world
 - Network of schools to give a French education to Sephardim Jews in the Middle East and North Africa
 - Granted French citizenship to Jews in Algeria



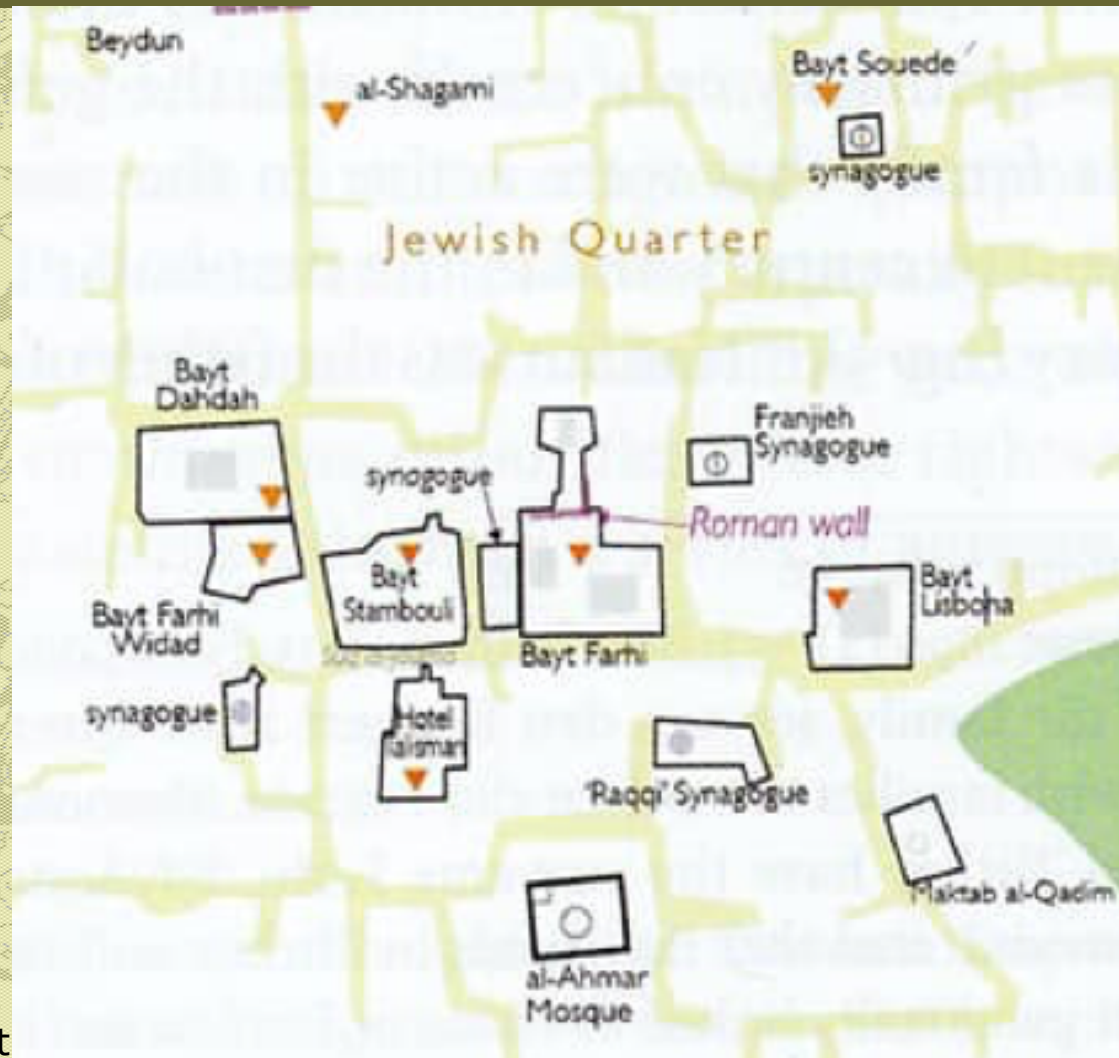
Bahrain Sephardim

- Iraqi from Basra
- Kadoorie family brother of the ones who went to India, Shanghai and HK
 - Nancy Kadouri member of the Shura (Upper chamber)
- Nonoo family gold trading and banking
 - Ebrahim Nonoo banker and president of the Association of Gulf Jewish Communities, past member of the Shura
 - Nancy Nonoo former Ambassador of Bahrain to the US, past member of the Shura

Syrian Sephardim

- *El Sham* Ottoman provinces included Damascus, Aleppo and Beirut
- First migration during the English industrial revolution
- Large emigration after the Suez Canal opened in 1875
- Prior to the 1st World War (1914-1918)
- After the creation of Israel in 1948
- After the 1975 Civil War in Lebanon

Damascus Jewish Quarter



Famous Syrian Sephardim

–Damascus

- Farhi
 - Politicians, Tax collectors, bankers. real estate
- Lisbona
- Angel Bankers
- Linaido Politician
- Stambouli
- Harari

Haim el Muallim (1740-1820)



Famous Sephardim from Aleppo

Jacob Anzarut (1830-1891) Trader in Manchester and around the world

Edmond Safra (1932-1999) Banker in Switzerland, UK, US, Brazil

De Picciotto Consuls of Austria, Italy, US for over 100 years

Dwek/Douek/Dowek/Duek (all British citizens)
and many others

- Many families sent their sons to
 - Manchester (special bris prayer)
 - Latin America
 - USA

Syrian Emigration and Diaspora © Sarina Rofe

- 80,000 in New York
- 30,000 in Mexico
- Europe
- Buenos Aires, Brazil, Panama, Peru, Columbia, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Cuba
- Asia

Mexico Sephardim Community © Claude Trink

–1900 : 134 Ashkenazim

–2021:

- » 50,000 (Sefardim : Halebim (Aleppo) Shami (Damascus) +Arabic speaking countries Morocco
- » Sefaradim from the Balkans, Bulgaria, Turkey) and
- » Ashkenazim

Famous Egyptian Sephardim

- Josef Aslan Cattau Pasha, Finance Minister 1922, landowner
- Salvator Cicurel, Sir Victor Harari Pasha Board members of the National Bank and Misr bank (the Bank of Egypt)
- Togo Mizrahi founder of the Egyptian movie industry
 - » Many Jewish and Karaites, dancers, singers, musicians, actors and actresses.
- Felix Benzakein Victor Sansino and David Hazan members of Wakf party

Famous Egyptian Sephardim

- Henry Curiel (1914-1978 assassinated in Paris), Jacques Rosenthal, and Hillel Schwartz (1923-2007) founded the Egyptian Communist party. Members Albert Arie (d 2021, Youssef Darwish (1910-2006) were jailed by Nasser.
- Chief Rabbi Haim Nahum (1872-1960) Senator
- Department stores: owned by Cicurel, Ades, Gattegno, Orosdi Back (also in Istanbul).
- Mosseri, Suares, Rollo, de Menasce, Zilkha Bankers
- Lawyers, architects, journalists and doctors

Famous Egyptian Sephardim

- Spies (for israel) : Moshe Marzouk, Shmuel Azar Marcelle Ninio, Robert Dassa, Philip Natanson, Victor Levy (caught in 1953 in Cairo) in the Lavon Affair, Elie Cohen (caught in 1967 in Damascus)
- Real Estate development: Smouha City in Alexandria
- Rabbis: Elijah Israel, Elija Hazzan, Raphael ben Simon, Haim Douek and Chief Rabbi Haim Nahum (previously of the Ottoman Empire)

Famous Egyptian Karaites

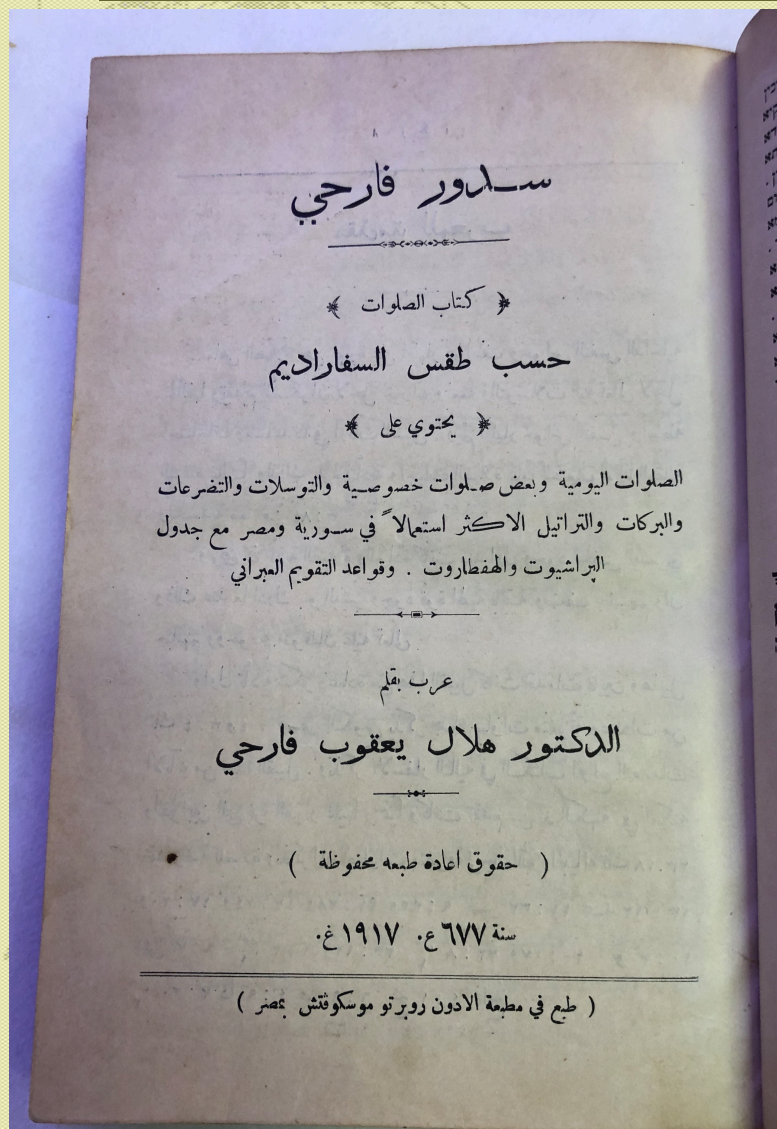
- Mourad Farag Lichaa (1867-1956): author of the 1st Egyptian Constitution (ca 1936) poet, philosopher and grammarian.
- Leila Mourad (1918-1995) actress and singer
- Many more actors, musicians and composers
- One Schemuel woman was lady in waiting to the wife of Gamal Abdel Nasser (president of Egypt)

Dr. Hillel Farhi Effendi (1868-1940)

- Physician, poet, linguist and historian
- Fluent in Turkish, Arabic, Hebrew, English, French and Italian
- Founder of the local Jewish Historical Society and Youth Jewish Society
- Member of several literary circles
- Contributor to
 - The local Arabic press
 - L'Aurore (Cairo)
- Freemason
- Author & translator of Siddurim



Siddur Farhi 1917



Famous Iraqi Sephardim

- Sassoon Traders in Bombay, Shanghai and Hong Kong
- Khedouri Traders in Bahrain, Shanghai and Hong Kong
- Khedouri Zilkha & Sons Bankers in Middle East, US and UK
- Selim Zilkha (Founder Mothercare chain)
- Smouha Real Estate developers in Manchester and Alexandria
- Sir Naim Dangoor Publisher of the Scribe
- Lucien Gubbay Author, Trustee of the Montefiore Trust

Naim Dangoor



Khedouri Zilkha & Sons

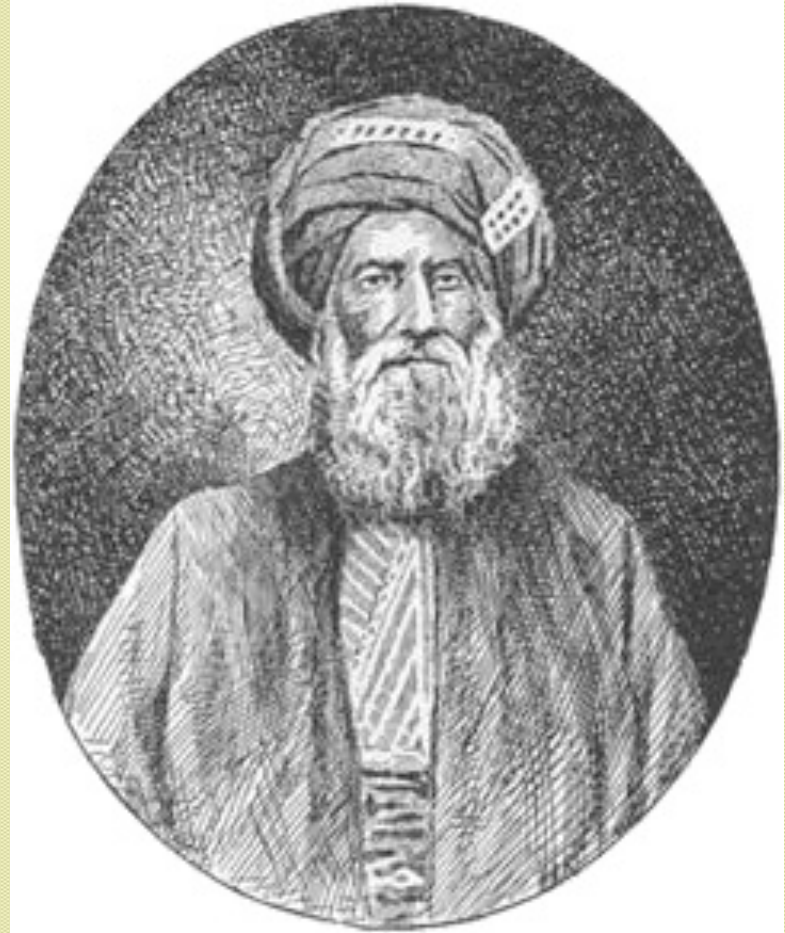
- Khedouri Zilkha & Sons
Bankers in Middle East, US and UK
- Selim Zilkha (Founder
Mothercare chain)



Ezra and Cecile Zilkha (US)

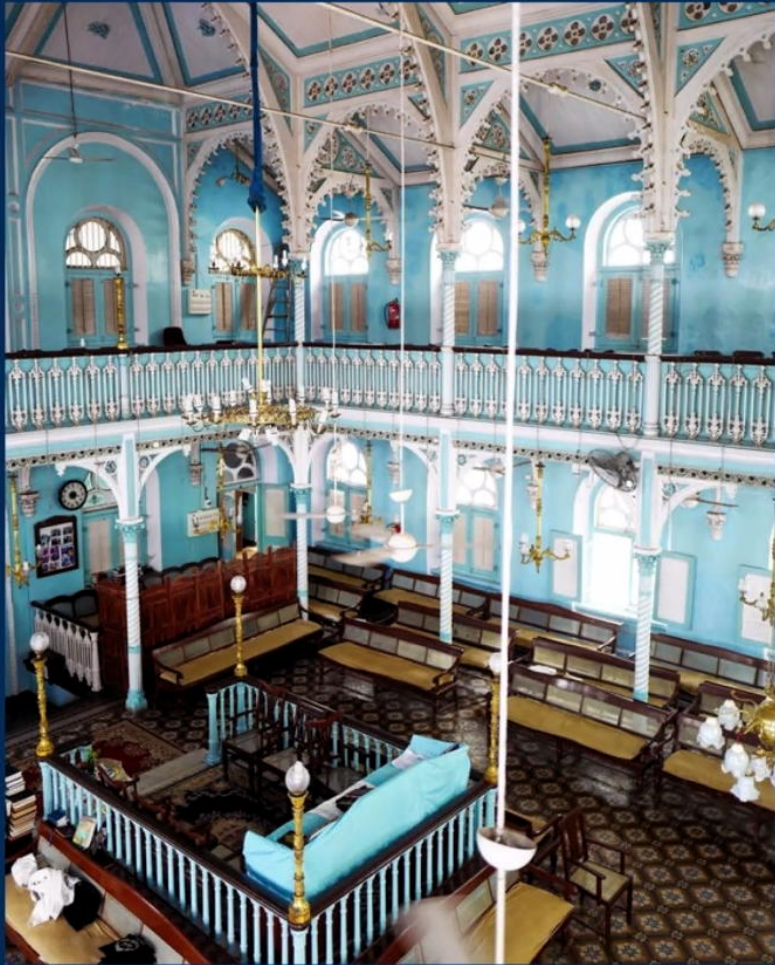
The Sassoon in India

- David Sassoon (1792-1864) & sons



e Sephardim

Sassoon Synagogues

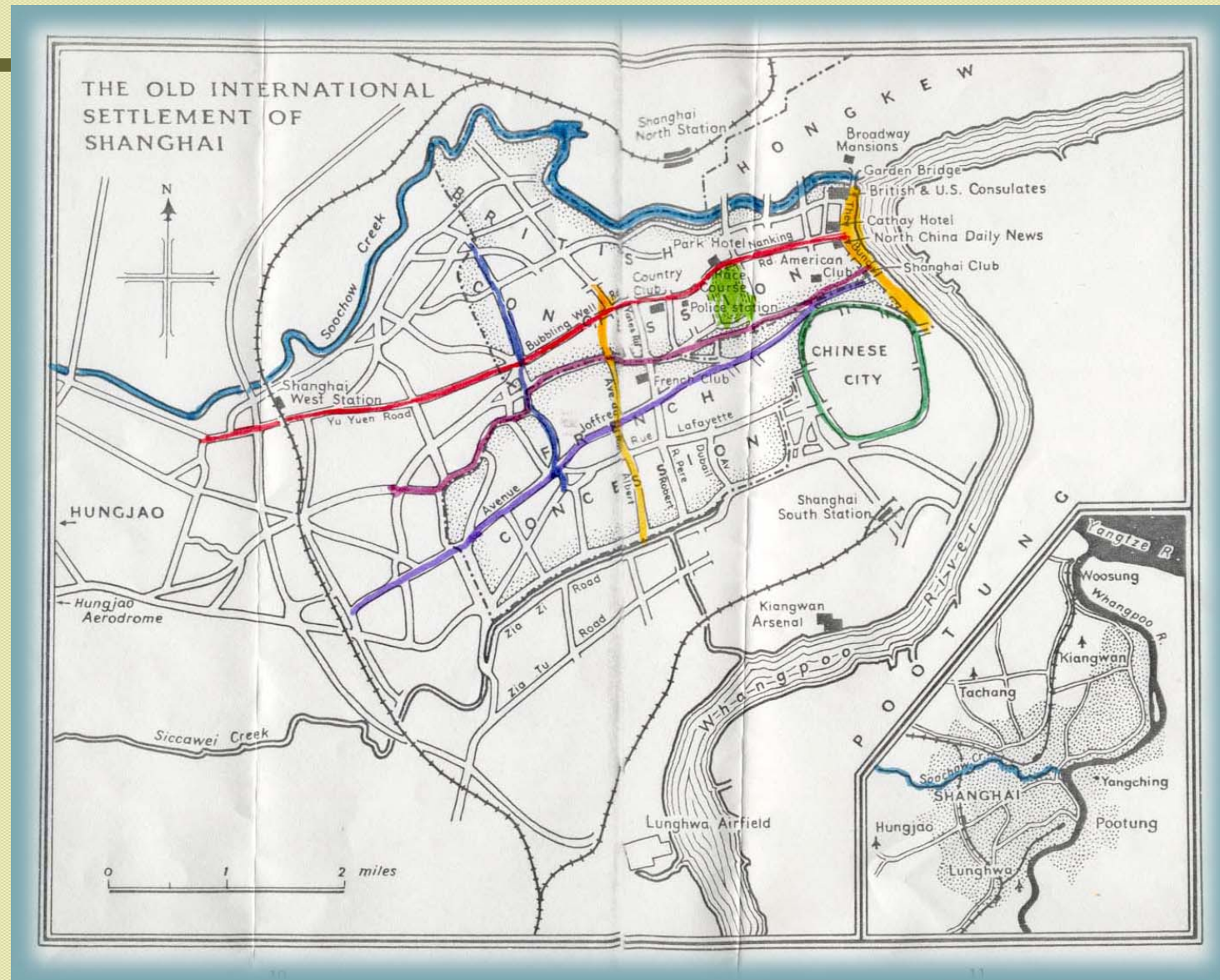


Keneseth Eliyahoo, 1884 Bombay



Ohel Rachel Synagogue, Shanghai, built by Jacob Elias Sassoon

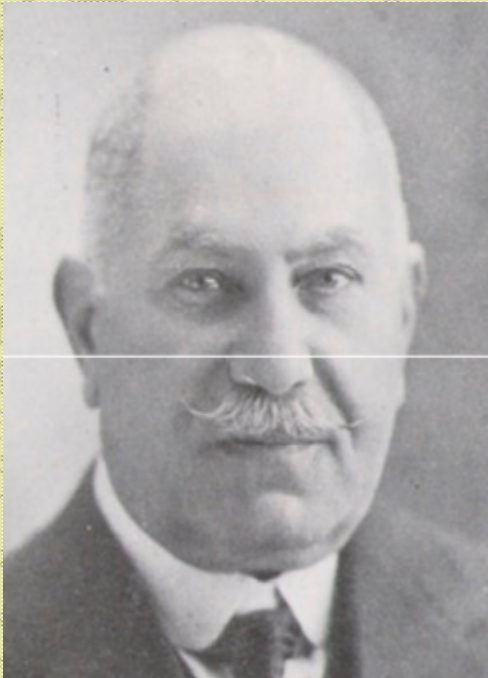
Shanghai



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Famous Shanghai Sephardim

- Sir Victor Sassoon (1881-1962)
 - Opium trader, banker, real estate
- Sir Elly Kadoorie (1864-1944)
 - Power supply (electricity) and hotel business



Famous Hong Kong Sephardim

- Lord Laurence Kadoorie (1899-1993) Real Estate and Philanthropist
- The last of Hong Kong colony's traditional taipans
- His son Sir Michael Kaddorie owner and chairman of HongKong and Shanghai Hotels (The Peninsula)

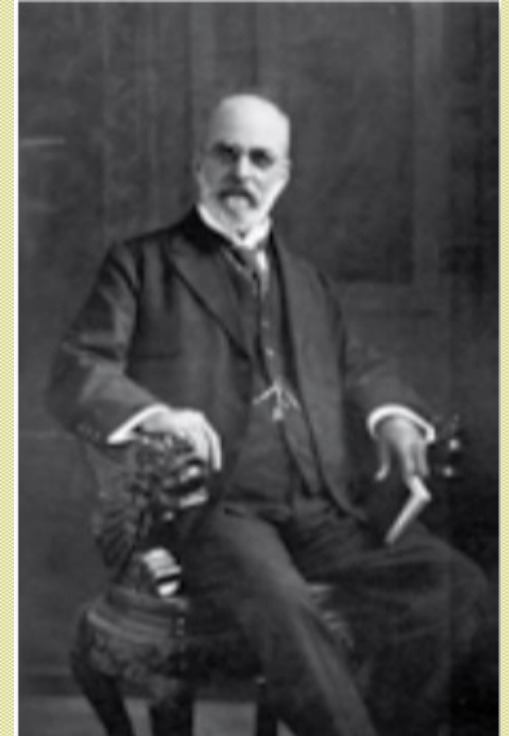
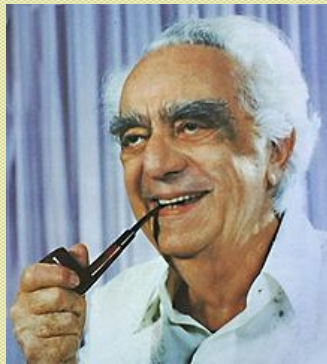


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The Sephardim

Famous Singaporean Sephardim

- Sir Manasheh Meyer (1846-1930)
 - Opium trader and philanthropist
- David Marshall (1908-1995)
 - Lawyer and First Prime Minister of Singapore



Famous Indian Sephardim ©Maisie Mayer

Bollywood Actress

Rachel Sofaer [Arati Devi]



Life in Calcutta



Rachel as Arati Devi in the movies

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Famous Indian Sephardim ©Maisie Mayer

– Bollywood Actor

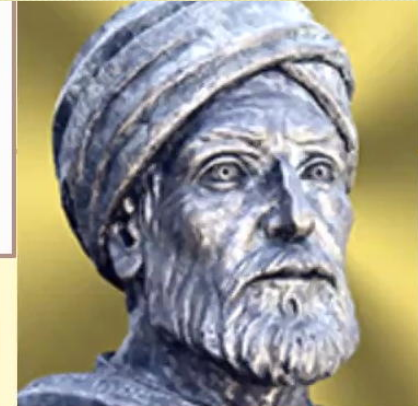
Arati Devi's Cousin:
Abraham Sofaer



North Africa Sephardim Migration ©Alexandre Bieder

- Berbers
- Some may have converted to Judaism later

Ibn Khaldun (14th century)
*History of Berbers and Muslim dynasties
of North Africa*



Ancestor of Berbers was Berber, the son of Temla,
the son of Mazigh, the son of Canaan,
the son of Ham, the son of Noah

Berbers were expelled **from Syria** by **King David**
after the death of Goliath

Before the invasion of Arabs, Berbers of
North Africa professed the Christian religion

One Famous Moroccan Sephardim

- André Azoulay
 - Advisor to the Kings of Morocco



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The Sephardim

Who is a Chief Rabbi

- Chief Rabbi is
 - The recognized religious leader of that country or city's [Jewish community](#)
 - Can be appointed by the secular authority
 - Since 1911, Israel has had two Chief Rabbis
 - Ashkenazi
 - Sephardi
 - Only Montreal has 2 Chief Rabbis
 - Israel has a Military and Karaite Chief Rabbis

Why Two Chief Rabbis in Israel

- Initially a temporary measure in Yaffo in 1911
 - To reflect the two communities in that city
- Expanded in 1922 to the whole British Mandate
- Provided jobs for more rabbis and appointments by politicians
- Impossible to abolish one Chief Rabbi as competition among them continue even if intermarriage between the 2 communities eliminated the distinction for many Israelis.

The Chief Rabbis of Israel

- Ashkenazi [David Lau](#) (2013–present)
- Sephardi [Yitzhak Yosef](#) (2013–present)
- Military [Eyal Karim](#) (2016–present)
- Karaite Moshe Piroz (2016- present)

Sephardic Websites

- Harif (UK)
- Jimena (US)
- American Sephardi Federation (US)
- Sephardi Voice (UK) and Sephardi Voice (US)
- Sephardic World (UK and Amsterdam)
- Spanish and Portuguese Synagogues (UK, US, CA)

Sephardi Synagogues

A few photos of
selected
synagogues from
around the world

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The Sephardim

Synagogue New York City

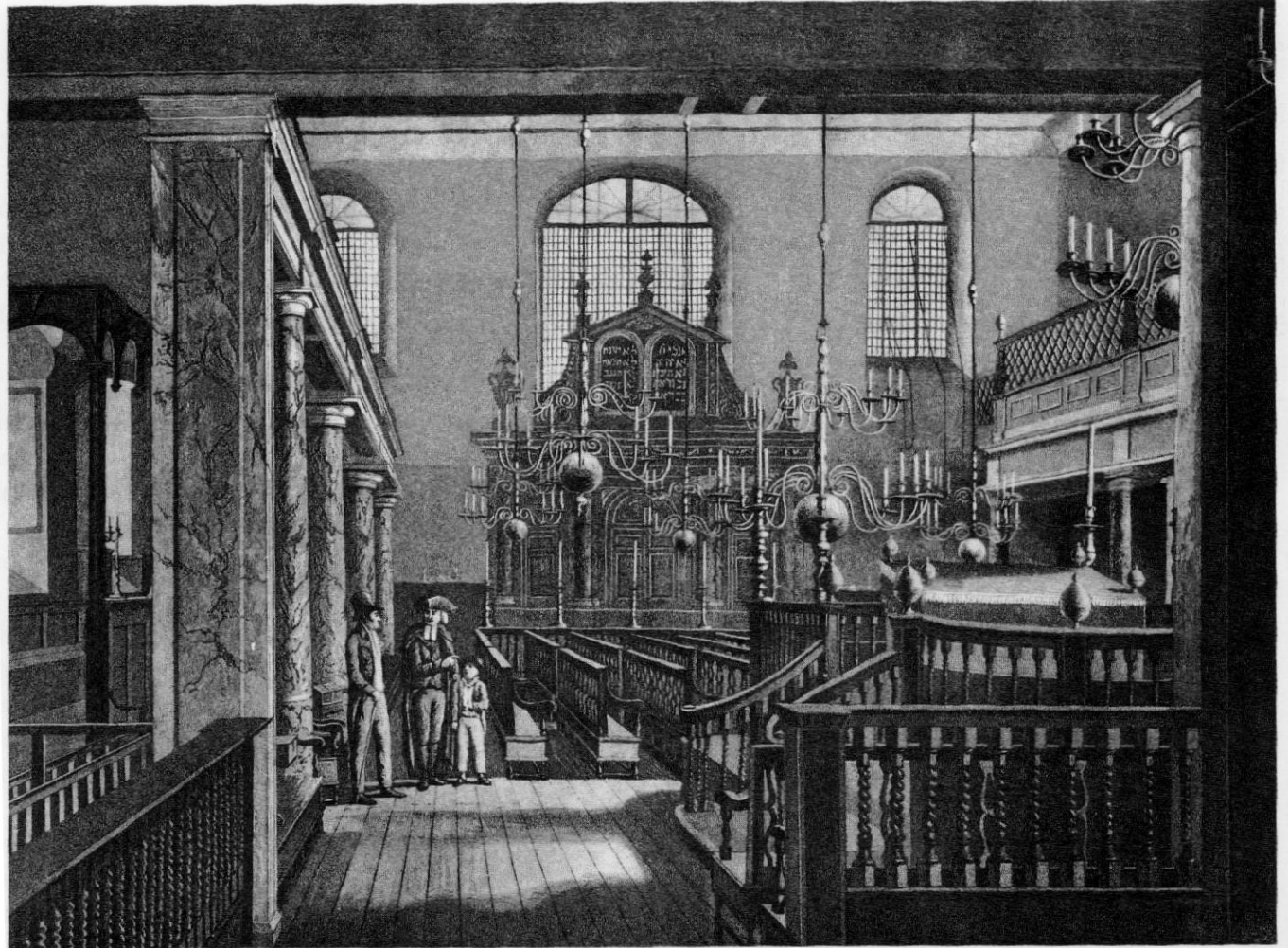
Sheareth Israel



Sephardi

English Sephardi Synagogues

- London
 - Bevis Marks (1701)
 - Spanish Portuguese Synagogue, Lauderdale Road
- Manchester
 - Shaare Hayim Congregation of Didsbury



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Bevis Marks (est 1701)



Shaare Hayim (Didsbury)



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The Sephardim

Shaare Hayim (Didsbury)



Spanish Portuguese Amsterdam (Main)



Spanish Portuguese Amsterdam



20th

Spanish Portuguese Amsterdam (Winter)



La Grande synagogue de Bordeaux France

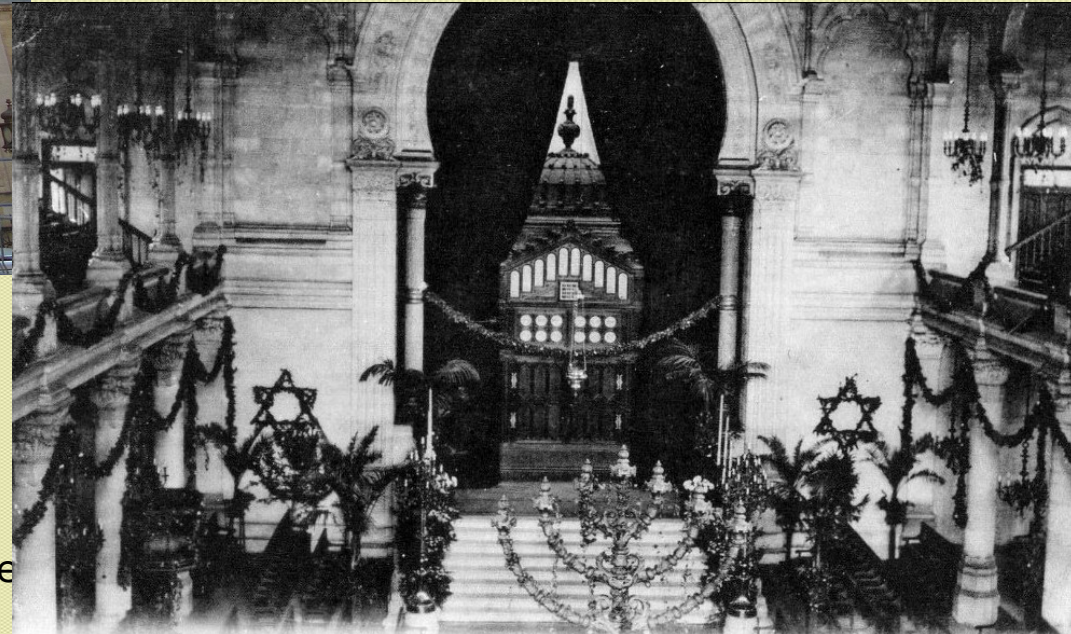


1900-1920

Rebuilt 1882

20th May 2022

The Se



62. BORDEAUX. — La Synagogue, intérieur. D. D.

Buffault synagogue Paris (built 1877)

Built by Daniel Ifla aka Osiris



who also financed the synagogues of Arcachon (1877), Vincennes (1907), Tours (1908), Bruyères (Vosges) and Lausanne (Switzerland)



Arcachon synagogue (est 1877)



Sepha

La Synagogue de la Victoire Paris (built 1875)

Built Ashkenazi but fully integrated with the immigration of North Africa Sephardim



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The Sephardim

Italy Venice Synagogues

- Venice Ghetto
– German

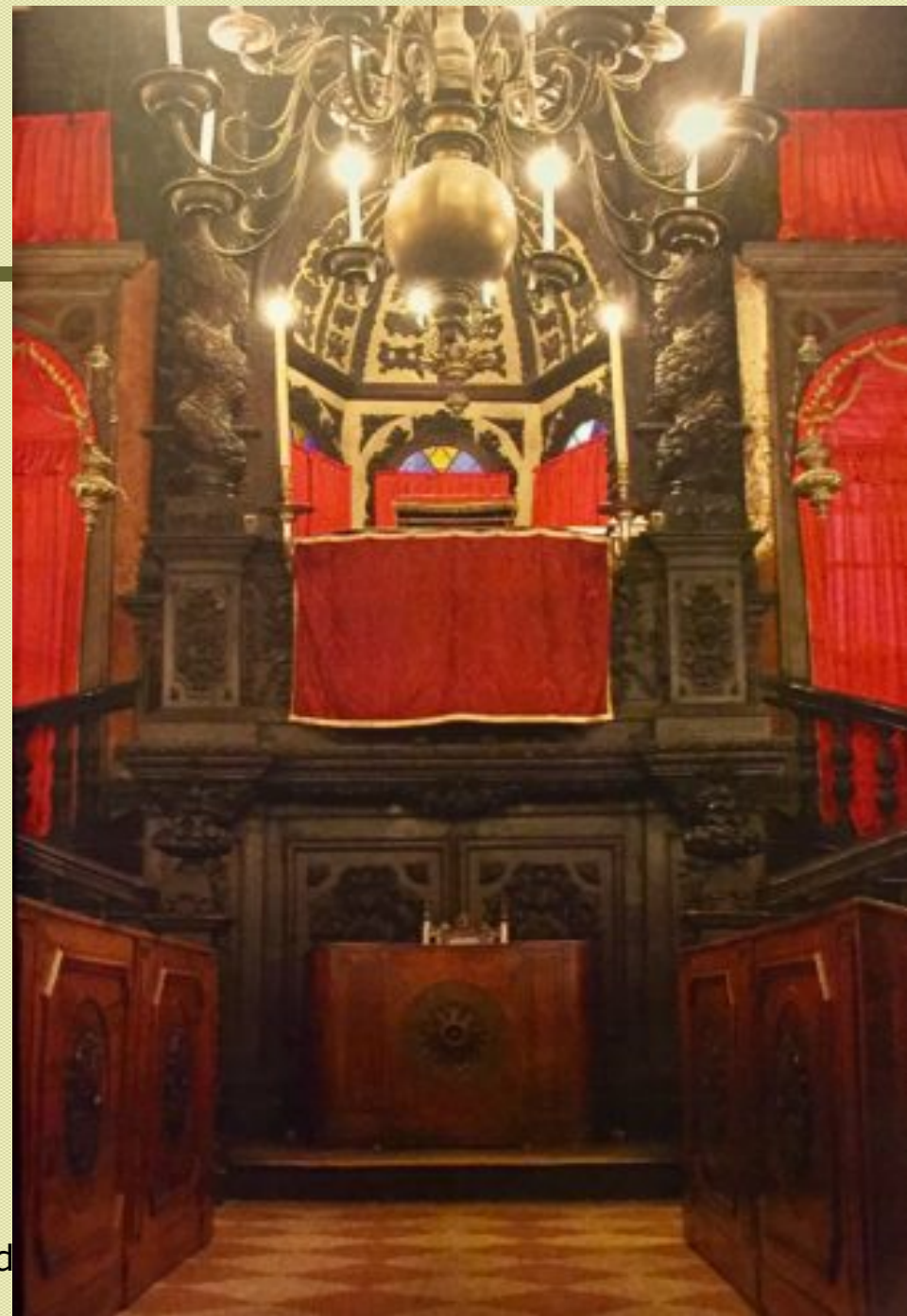


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The Sephardim

Italy Venice Synagogues

- Venice Ghetto
– Levantine



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The Sephard

Italy Venice Synagogue

- Venice Ghetto
– Spanish Sephardi



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The Sep

Italy Synagogues

- Casale Monferrato 15th century



Casale Monferrato (est 1595)



Hekhal Haness synagogue Geneva



20th May 2

Libertad synagogue Buenos Aires



Ben Ezra synagogue Fustat Cairo (1030)

Built in 1030

Building erected 1890

Renovated ca 1980

Currently being renovated again

Held a Geniza with a trove of Jewish and Arabic moslem religious documents (including a translation of the Koran, all written in Hebrew script.

Moses ben Maimon aka Rambam / Maimonides (1135-1204) prayed there



Ben Ezra synagogue Cairo (1030)



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Ben Ezra synagogue Cairo (1030)



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The Sephardim

Synagogue Cairo (©Alec Nacamuli)

Cairo: the Shaar Hashamayim synagogue



Eliahou Hanabi Alexandria 2020 (© Alec Nacamuli)

Restored Eliahou Hanavi synagogue



Synagogue Alexandria Egypt (Elihau Hanabi)



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Eliahou Hanabi Alexandria 2020 (© Alec Nacamuli)

Interior Eliahou Hanavi synagogue



Karaite synagogue (© Alec Nacamuli)

Cairo: the Mussa Dari Karaite synagogue



Karaite Synagogues



Moshe Dery in Cairo

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In Jerusalem

The Sephardim

Magen Abraham 1926 Beyrouth



20th May 20

Magen Abraham 2011 Beyrouth



Eliayou Hanabi synagogue Jobar Damascus (©Diarna)

Photo pre-
destruction
during the civil
war of 2011



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The Sephardim

El Franjieh synagogue old Damascus

Franjieh
means
European



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The Sephardim

Magen David Synagogue Bombay



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The Sephardim

Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue Bombay



Neve Shalom Calcutta (1831) © David Ashkenazy

NEVEH SHALOM
previously the
OLD HOUSE
of Shalom A. Obadiah Cohen

built by:
EZEIKEL JUDAH &
SHALOME A. OBADIAH COHEN

FIRST BUILT IN 1831
REBUILT 1910- 12
RENOVATED- 2014



Neve
Shalom
Synagogue
1831, Kolkata

Maghen David 1884 Calcutta © David Ashkenazy



*The foundation stone for the Maghen David was laid on the 23rd of
January 1883.*

MAGHEN DAVID SYNAGOGUE

1884 – 2020

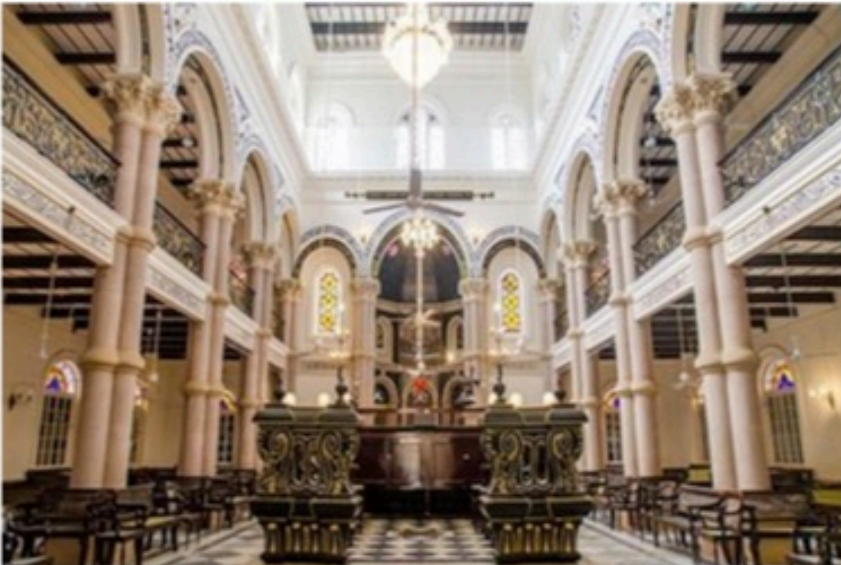
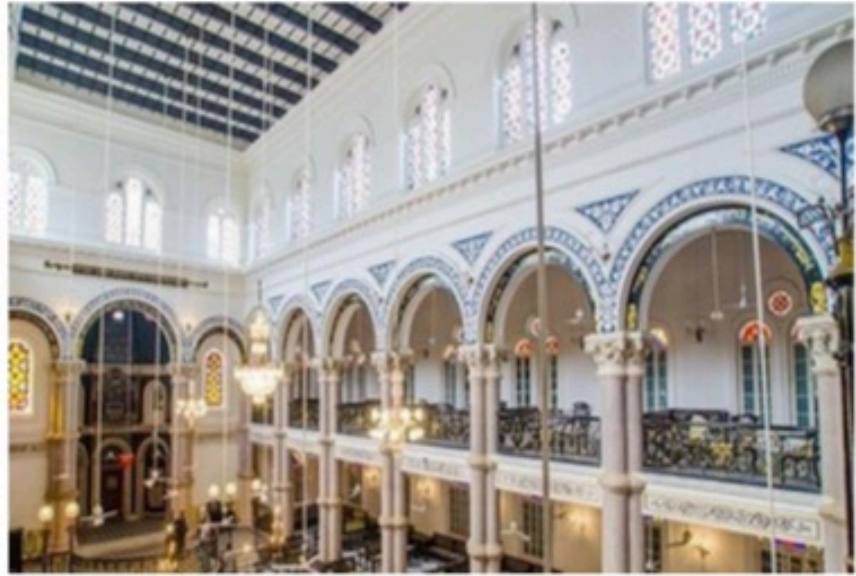
Built By:

Sir Elias David Ezra (1871 – 1947)

Restored: 2015 – 2017

photographs - after restoration

Maghen David 2017 Calcutta © David Ashkenazy



Mushmeah Synagogue Rangoon

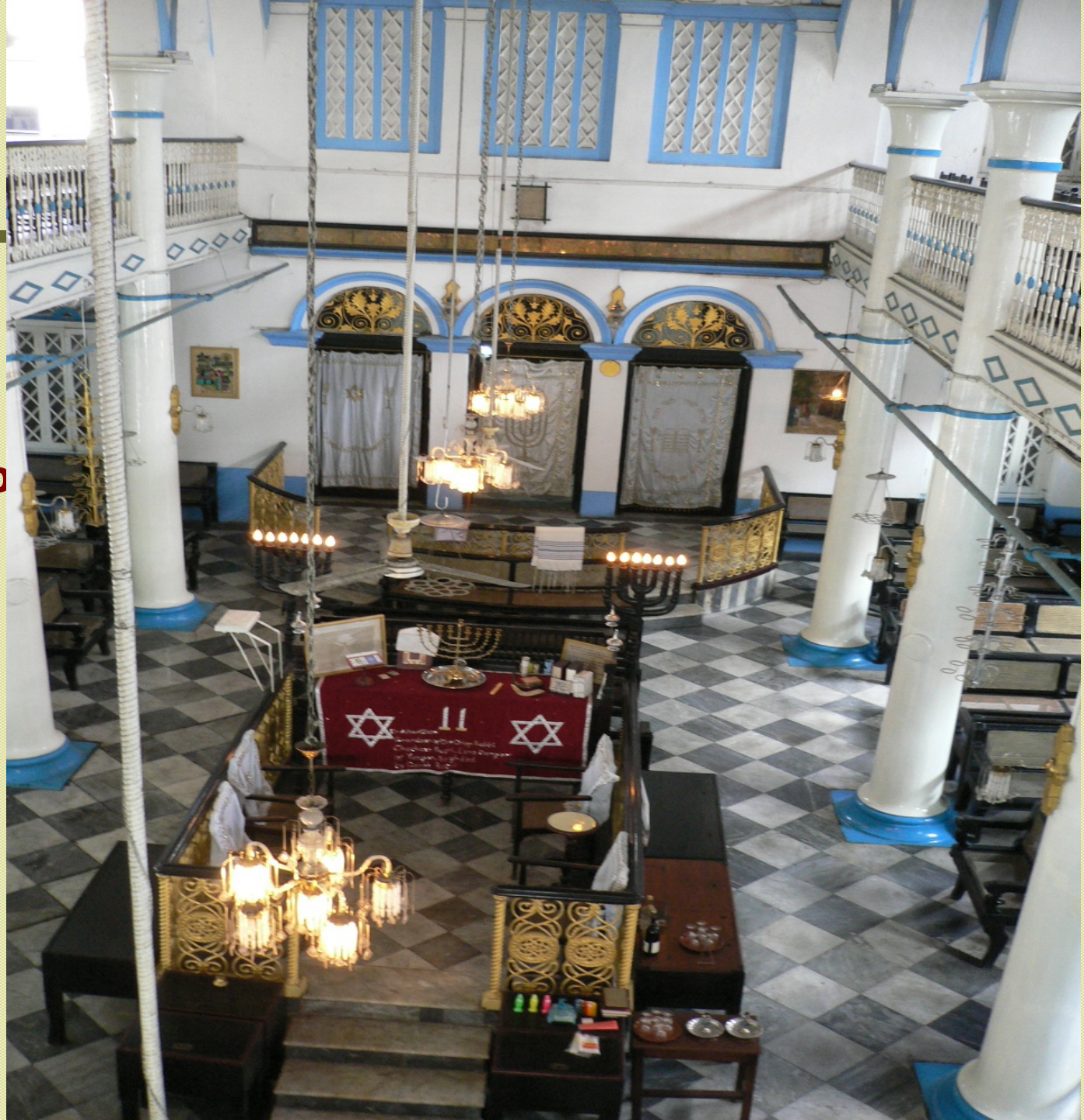


Mushmeah Yeshua Synagogue Rangoo

Erected in 1854
Rebuilt in 1893

Photo 2006

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Maghen Aboth Singapore (est 1875)



Maghen Aboth Singapore (est 1875)



Chesed El synagogue in Singapore (b 1905)

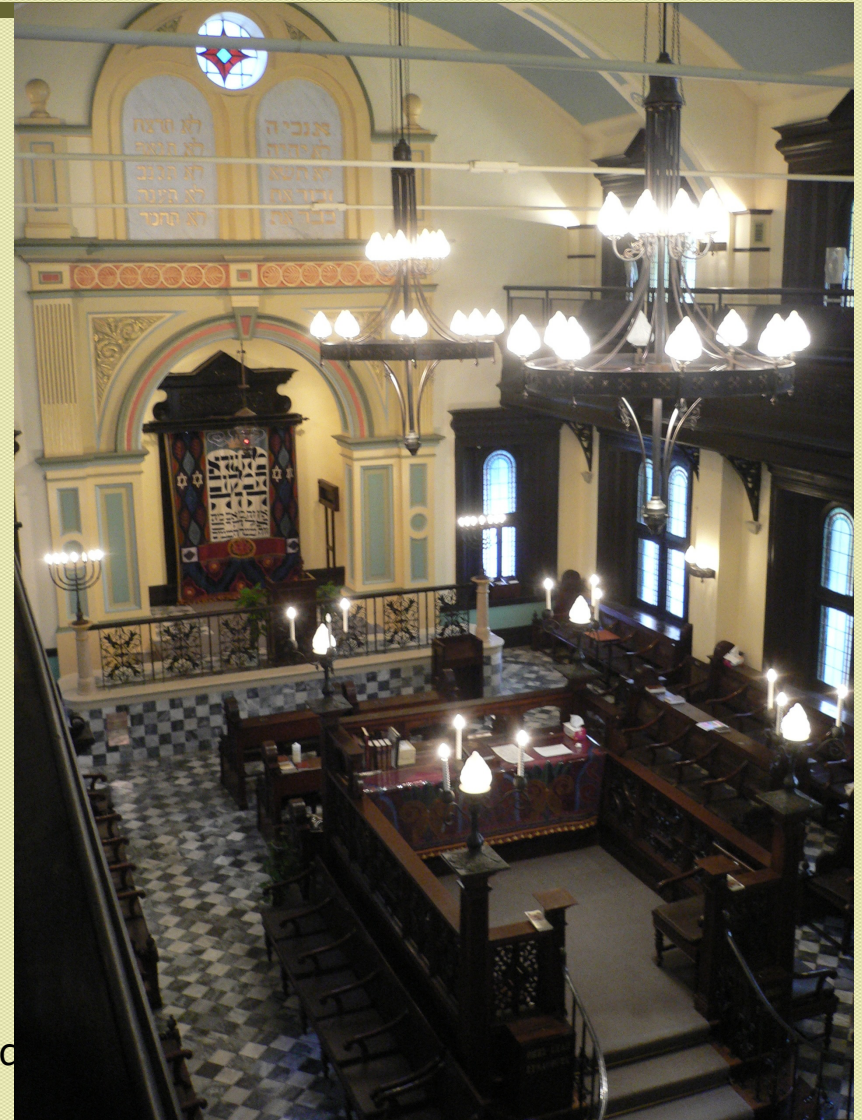


Oleh Leah synagogue Hong Kong



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The Sephard



Synagogue Ohel Rachel Shanghai



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Ohel Rachel built 1920

Synagogue Ohel Moshe HongKew



20th May

Synagogue of Lausanne (Est 1910)

Initially financed by Daniel Iflah (France), local Askenazim and the City of Lausanne.

After WWII adopted Sephardi rites



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The Sephardim



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Welcome to Les Fleurs de l'Orient

This site contains the genealogy of the major sephardi families from the Ottoman Empire and beyond, documents as submitted by members of the Fleurs de l'Orient, a bibliography list, links to other genealogy websites. The genealogy databases include all families that are related to them by marriage regardless of their country of origin & religion. Each additional branch is listed with its own ancestors and descendants.

For a description and history of the website, please read the following documents : [History \(English 2005\)](#), [History \(English 2015\)](#), [Historia \(en Español, 2015\)](#). [Histoire \(en Français 2011\)](#).



El-Muallim Haim Farhi at the Court of El-Jazzar Pacha (ca 1800, Acco)

2,146 Pageviews
Feb. 14th - Mar. 14th



NEWS FLASH

[Video recordings of presentations & papers written by Alain Farhi \(webmaster\)](#)

[A Jewish house in Damascus, Bayt Farhi](#)

A conversation between Dr. Elizabeth Macaulay-Lewis and Dr. Steven Zucker on Bayt Farhi, a Sephardic palace in Ottoman Damascus. (Video of 7 1/2 minutes)

"Out of Egypt" , is a 96 page booklet published by [Congregation Shearith Israel of New York](#). Eighteen members and Fleurs contributors wrote a few pages about their families in Egypt.

Azar & Antoinette Farhi (1961)





Thank You

*The Fascinating Origin
and Riveting History
of Sephardi Jewry*

Alain Farhi

webmaster@farhi.org

https://farhi.org/documents_webmaster.htm

20th May 2022

The Sephardim