



THE UNITED JEWISH CONGREGATION OF HONG KONG SHABBAT SHALOM

16 – 17 June, 2005

10 SIVAN, 5765

Parashat Beha'alotcha
(Numbers 8:1 - 12:16)

Rabbi Michael Schwartz
Cantorial Soloist Julie Howard

D'var Torah from Rabbi Michael Schwartz

Shalom Chaverim,

Many of us seem to have more time during the summer to read.

Take advantage of your opportunities this summer to expand your Jewish horizons and your Jewish knowledge, to continue (or to embark) on a journey of Jewish self-discovery, and simply to enjoy quality works of literature, philosophy, history, and much more from off "The Jewish Bookshelf."

A few recommendations, by no means comprehensive; purposefully broad enough to motivate you to explore your Jewish library, bookstore, and the internet for more...

History:

The Origins of the Modern Jew, by Michael Meyer; A History of the Jewish People, by H. H. Ben-Sasson; The Timetables of Jewish History, by Judah Gribbetz; The Making of Modern Zionism, by Shlomo Avineri

Biography:

Sages and Dreamers, by Elie Wiesel; An Orphan in History, Paul Cowan; As a Driven Leaf (fiction), by Milton Steinberg; Maus, by Art Spiegelman

Israeli Literature (in translation):

The Lover, A.B. Yehoshua; Blue Mountain, Meir Shalev; A Trumpet in the Wadi, by Sami Michael

Philosophy:

God in Search of Man, by Abraham Joshua Heschel; The Kuzari, by Yehuda HaLevi; A Living Covenant, by David Hartman; The Lonely Man of Faith, by Joseph Dov Soloveitchik; To Mend the World, by Emil Fackenheim

Mysticism and Chasidut:

The Language of Truth, translated by Arthur Green; Tales of the Chasidim, by Martin Buber; A Call to the Infinite, by Aryeh Kaplan

General and Classic:

The Book of Legends, by Bialik and Ravnitzky (Transl. W. Braude); Back to the Sources, by Barry W. Holtz; A Jewish Theology, by Louis Jacobs; A Guide to Jewish Religious Practice, Isaac Klein; On Being a Jewish Feminist, by Susana Heschel; Duties of the Heart, by Bachya Ibn Pakuda (Transl. D. Haberman); 50 Ways To Be Jewish, by David J. Forman

Novels:

The Chosen, by Chaim Potok; Exodus, by Leon Uris

Jephthe's Daughter, Naomi Ragen; Goodbye Columbus, by Philip Roth; Debra, Golda, and Me, by Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Books by S.Y. Agnon, Yehuda Amichai, Primo Levi, Grace Paley, I.B. Singer

Children:

Something for Nothing, by Phoebe Gilman; The Return, by Sonia Levitin; Guni, by Raiya Harnick; Does God have a Big Toe, by Marc Gellman; Jeremy's Dreidel, by Ellie Gellman; When Jessie Came Across the Sea, by Amy Hest; About the Bnai Bagels, by E.L. Konigsburg

If you are staying in Hong Kong, remember that the JCC has a wonderful lending library for your use.

"A parent must not ignore the study of Torah, for just as it is a mitzvah to educate your child, so too is it a mitzvah to educate yourself." [Moses Maimonides, Mishna Torah - Laws of Torah Study 1:4]

Shabbat Shalom,
Rabbi Michael
9 Sivan 5765

16th June, 2005