

With the rise of new technologies, HUC-JIR's library system is preparing its collections and outreach for the 21st century. Cyberspace will now link our libraries with communities across the globe.

HUC-JIR will soon have an integrated online library system which will link the libraries of the Los Angeles, New York, and Cincinnati Schools. New York and Los Angeles librarians are currently converting 40,000 paper catalog records to a computerized format. These will be added to the existing computerized catalog, creating a database of over 200,000 bibliographic records.

The database, which should be available on the Internet in the late fall, will use Hebrew and English alphabets. HUC-JIR's Klau Library will thus become available not only to our family of students, faculty, alumni, Governors, Overseers, and staff, but to a worldwide community of students, scholars, Reform Movement congregants, and the larger public seeking information on the history and culture of the Jewish People.

*From Cincinnati
to Kaifeng,
China:*
**A Library
For The
21st
Century**

In addition, the library is embarking on the creation of a CD-ROM of Judaica and manuscript materials relating to the Jewish community of Kaifeng, China. This CD-ROM will include scholarly commentary and historical analysis of this unique community, which flourished in the Honan province of central China from 1127 through the late

17th century. The community originated with the arrival of Jews, from Persia or India, whose expertise in the production of printed cotton was extremely useful at a time when China, with its rapidly increasing population, was just introducing cotton in order to meet the acute silk shortage. (During the 18th and 19th centuries, the community declined due to its complete isolation from other centers of Jewish life).

HUC-JIR's internationally renowned collection of rare Kaifeng items, including fifty-nine manuscript volumes, will be digitized for this CD-ROM. It will feature HUC-JIR's genealogical roster in Chinese and Hebrew of the Kaifeng community (1660-70) as well as a large collection of prayer books obtained by Christian missionaries from Kaifeng in 1850-51. HUC-JIR has entered into an agreement with the Bridwell Library, Southern Methodist University, to include Bridwell's Kaifeng Torah scroll. In addition, other libraries are being invited to contribute unique Kaifeng manuscripts for this CD-ROM.

John L. Frankel, of Los Angeles, has donated

MUSICAL MANUSCRIPTS FROM NÜRNBERG

four volumes of musical manuscript containing the regular Sabbath and holiday liturgy used at the Hauptsynagogue in Nürnberg. They had been the property of his father, Theodor Fraenkel, who served as Cantor there from 1901 until his untimely death in 1930.

Two volumes, "Hohe Festage" and "Sabbath," had belonged to his predecessor, Cantor Moritz Rosenhaupt* (1841-1900). The other two volumes contain entries, both compositions and arrangements of the compositions of others, by Cantor Fraenkel.

These constitute a most unusual and certainly unique artifact of Jewish musical life in that community.

* *The Klau Library, HUC-JIR/NY has Rosenhaupt's three-volume work, "Schire Ohel Jaakov" in the Rare Book Room.*



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