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MEDIA RELEASE

The Association of Jewish Libraries Announces the 2013 Judaica Reference and Bibliography Award Winners

The Association of Jewish Libraries encourages the publication of outstanding works of Judaica reference and bibliography through its annual awards. We are pleased to announce the award winners for titles published in 2013.

Solon Beinfeld and Harry Bochner's *Comprehensive Yiddish-English Dictionary* was chosen for the AJL Judaica Reference Award. The work includes 37,000 words and 53,000 definitions. It is a massive achievement and is a valuable resource for students, readers and researchers.

The *Comprehensive Yiddish-English Dictionary* is an important tool of reference for anyone in the anglosphere wanting to study the vast array of Yiddish literature. The entries in this dictionary are derived from an earlier landmark reference tool, the *Dictionnaire Yiddish-Français* by Yitskhok Niborski and Bernard Vaisbrot, published by the Bibliothèque Medem in Paris in 2002.

This is a far-reaching reference tool that is not only accessible to beginners, it also serves as an indispensable guide for advanced students, researchers and translators, as well as providing a major teaching aid for instructors. The work underwent thorough review with every one of the 53,000 definitions being checked at least four times by no less than three different team members. Standard and literary forms were analyzed alongside forms recovered from conversational usage and from all sources of written Yiddish, including those of Aramaic, Germanic, Romance and Slavic origin.

Mosheh Peli's *Mi-kitveha- 'itim : 'itonut ha-haśkalah me-1820 'ad 1845* was chosen for the AJL Judaica Bibliography Award. It is a bibliography of eight journals of Haskalah from the Netherlands, Galicia, Germany and Lithuania. The bibliography analyzes each title separately and makes it possible to find articles that are written in archaic Hebrew.

This is the fourth book in a series of bibliographies by Moshe Peli on the periodicals of the Haskalah. The book is a bibliography of eight journals of Haskalah from 1820 - 1845. The

journals are from the Netherlands, Galicia, Germany and Lithuania. The author provides historical background and information about each periodical which is very helpful to understand why each periodical was published. Each periodical, like Zion and Bikurei To'elet, is analyzed separately. The author organizes the bibliography alphabetically by topic. For each periodical, he provides a list of articles dealing with various subject matter such as Talmud, Hebrew language, the Jewish calendar, etc. For scholars of the Haskalah period, this book is a key to finding materials in periodicals of the time.

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