

Dear Editor,

It was with surprise and pleasure that I received the inaugural issue of *Asian Jewish Life*. Surprise, because I didn't know this idea was even a twinkle in somebody's eye; pleasure, because I was absolutely thrilled to see a publication address this unmet need.

The Sino-Judaic Institute has been working in the field of Jewish-Chinese relations since 1985 and we marvel at the changes we've seen in the past 25 years. Your magazine is one significant indication of the growth and maturation of Jewish life in Asia.

We look forward to years of cooperation with your magazine and to the furthering of Jewish-Asian relations and to Jewish life in the "Far East".

Rabbi Anson Laytner
President
Sino-Judaic Institute

Dear Rabbi Laytner,

We look forward to working with the Sino-Judaic Institute in the future. Thank you for your 25 years of pioneering scholarship in this important field.

Erica Lyons
Editor-in-Chief

Dear Editor,

I just received the *AJL* first issue and wanted to send you my congratulations. It has an attractive look, interesting stories and seems to have a long future ahead.

What I would have liked to see was a "Mission Statement", presenting the purpose and logic behind the magazine. In your Editor Mission piece, you really only touched briefly on those issues, using most of the column to thank people, explain what was in this issue, etc. Since this is a new journal, it might be a good idea to introduce the reader to some of your ideas, plans and themes which you feel should be part of future issues and get feedback from readers as well.

All the best,

Rabbi Joel D. Oseran
Vice President, International Development
World Union for Progressive Judaism

Dear Rabbi Oseran:

The feedback is much appreciated. The Editor's letter in this issue explains more about *Asian Jewish Life's* mission and direction. While we do not 'theme' our issues, we start with a focus to help loosely guide us in choosing articles. The current issue has a food focus running through it. Other issues will focus on education, travel and historical preservation. We welcome suggestions and comments from readers at info@asianjewishlife.org.

Erica Lyons
Editor-in-Chief



Menorah at the Forbidden City,
photo by Nicholas Frisch



David Rose, Rafael Aharoni (in ZAKA vest),
Yehuda Meshi-Zahav and Motti Bukchin (left to right)

See your photos here
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