INFORMATION PACKET SERIES

SYRIA

SYRIAN JEWS:

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE AND CURRENT EVENTS

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All the sources of information contained in this document are identified and are publicly available.

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Factual demographic, political and social information.

Canada, Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board Documentation Centre, *Syria Country Profile* (Ottawa, September, 1989)


Historical perspective; locations of Jewish communities in Syria; social characteristics of Jews; Syrian government classifications of Jews; discrimination of Jews.

Aziz Abu-Hamad, Senior Researcher, Middle East Watch (New York), personal interview, 12 August 1992

Update on new laws affecting travel and sale/possession of assets; travel to Israel; family ties and immigration.


General human rights in Syria; freedom of religion; freedom of movement.


Changes in laws affecting Jews; immigration of Jews; social profiles; discussions of emigration by Jewish citizens.


New laws affecting Syrian Jews; social commentary; discussions of emigration of Jews and laws.


Statement of National Task Force on Syrian Jewry on situation of Syrian Jews.


B'nai Brith Canada perspective on general situation of Syrian Jews, human rights and travel, and politics.

Michael Schelew and Paul Marcus, "Window of opportunity for Syrian Jews to Leave," The Jerusalem Post, 28 November 1991 (as reported in NEXIS)

Restrictions on Syrian Jews; prospects of more relaxed laws; political perspective.


Hearing of the Human Rights and International Organizations Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, testimony of Mr. Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary Of State For Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, 4 March 1992 (as reported in NEXIS).

Discussing level of improvement of human rights in Syria with regard to Syrian Jews.

Hearing of the Europe and the Middle East Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, testimony of Thomas M.T. Niles, Assistant Secretary Of State for European and Canadian Affairs, 31 October 1991 (as reported in NEXIS)

Freedom of Syrian Jews; travel.


Profile, restrictions and emigration of Syrian Jews.