



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Religious Org.
Intlt / Ref "P" ...

15 May 2008

Dear Mr. Hochberg,

I regret that I cannot be with you for your annual celebration of the Park East Synagogue and Day School on the important occasion of Israel's 60th anniversary.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier has always been a great friend of the United Nations, as you and your community know well, and I salute both you and him with great personal warmth. Your work for the Alliance of Civilizations and the Appeal of Conscience Foundation is known to all. Your efforts to promote human rights, interfaith dialogue and cross-cultural understanding are an outstanding model of what individuals, working together, can accomplish. The visit to your synagogue this spring by Pope Benedict XVI is testament to your good works.

Please accept my gratitude and best wishes on this august occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Ki Moon Ban
BAN Ki-moon

Mr. Herman Hochberg
President
Park East Synagogue
New York

MAY 19 2008

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Ruxandra Ferascu/NY/UNO
16/05/2008 11:44 AM

To "Laura Benton" <lbenton@pesyn.org>@UN-MAILHUB
cc
bcc
Subject Re: Park East Synagogue Dinner

Dear Ms. Benton,

Further to the below request, I am pleased to send you a message from the Secretary-General for your event on 5 June, along with our best wishes for a successful celebration.

Kind regards.

Ruxandra



SDOC2906.pdf

Ruxandra Ferascu
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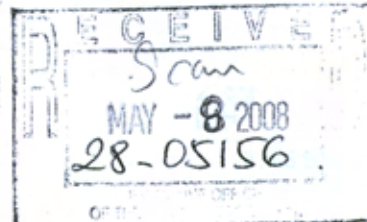
"Laura Benton"
<lbenton@pesyn.org>
05/05/2008 04:51 PM

To <ferascu@un.org>
cc
Subject Park East Synagogue Dinner

Dear Ruxandra,
Please let me know if we could get SG's message by the end of this week.
Many thanks,
Laura

Laura Benton
Office of Rabbi Arthur Schneier
Tel: (212) 439-6168
Fax: (212) 439-6174





By fax: (212) 972-6975

March 12, 2008

The Honorable Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary General,

We cordially invite you to be an Honorary Co-Chair at the 118th Annual Dinner Dance of Park East Synagogue and the Rabbi Arthur Schneier Park East Day School dedicated to the advancement of education on June 5, 2008, 6:00 p.m. reception, 7:30 dinner, at the Pierre Hotel. //

This year we are celebrating the State of Israel's milestone 60th anniversary. As part of that celebration Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Dan Gillerman and Janice Gillerman will be honored as *Patrons of Education*. Ambassador Gillerman is the eloquent voice of Israel on the world stage. He represents the Jewish State with pride and dignity and with firm conviction in the righteousness of his cause. Ambassador Gillerman became only the second Israeli ever to serve as Vice-President of the UN General Assembly.

It is with admiration that we will recognize Michael Scharf, our former President, for his 25 years of inspired leadership as our Synagogue's president. Michael has been a leading American industrialist for many years, while generously supporting many worthy charitable causes. Michael and Fiona Scharf have contributed greatly over the years to make Park East a center of Torah and excellence in education.


Jack and Pati Haber are the recipients of this year's *Parent Leadership Award*. Jack is Vice President, Global Marketing and eBusiness at Colgate-Palmolive. The Habers have been at the forefront of ensuring excellence in elementary education.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier, our internationally known spiritual leader has for the last 46 years, inspired the congregation to contribute much to New York City's quality of life as a religious, educational and cultural center. Founded in 1972 the Day School, named in his honor, has provided an excellent education through early childhood, elementary and middle school.

We would appreciate receiving your message to be included in our Commemorative Journal.

Sincerely yours,

Herman Hochberg
President



מה טוב אהלך יעקב משכנתך ישראל
PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE
How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob

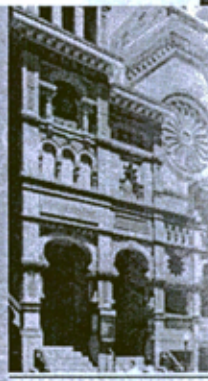
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Our Clergy and Staff

Here are the people who make Park East more than a place of worship, a true community, our Clergy and Staff:

Rabbi Arthur Schneier, Senior Rabbi

Rabbi Evan Hoffman, Assistant Rabbi
Rabbi Eliyahu Stern, Scholar-in-Residence
Rabbi Harold Einsidler, Ritual Director & Principal of Religious School
Chief Cantor Yitzhak Meir Helfgot
Cantor Azi Schwartz
Joel J. Baum, Executive Director
Toby Einsidler, Administrator
Laura Benton, Executive Assistant to Rabbi Schneier



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מה טוב אהליך יעקב משכנתך ישראל

PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE

How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob

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News

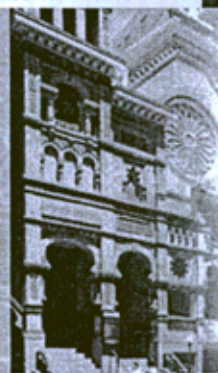
APRIL 18, 2008

Apr 10, 2008 -- On Friday afternoon, April 18, 2008 Park East Synagogue warmly welcomed H.H. Pope Benedict XVI. It was only the third papal visit to a synagogue in the 2000 year history of the Catholic Church, and the first such visit in the United States. Park East Synagogue was given this unique privilege of hosting the Pope because of the many decades which our Spiritual Leader, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, has devoted to inter-religious dialogue through the Appeal of Conscience Foundation. A small representation of synagogue and national Jewish communal leaders attended the event along with a delegation from the Vatican. A large contingent of press and media personalities was on hand to cover this historic occasion. Rabbi Schneier and Pope Benedict XVI walked down the center aisle as our children's Choir sang "Hevenu Shalom Aleichem" followed by a rendition of "Halleluyah" by the Park East Quartet. Rabbi Schneier welcomed the assembled crowd, which then stood as the Ark was opened for Shema Yisrael. Rabbi Schneier then addressed his remarks to the Pope. In a carefully crafted speech which was not to exceed four minutes, he touched upon several important themes. In a strong and resonant voice, Rabbi Schneier stated, "Am Yisrael Chai, the Jewish people and Israel live in concert with men and women of all faiths doing its share to preserve and extend life on this planet." Rabbi Schneier then presented the Pope with a beautiful silver Seder plate. Pope Benedict XVI addressed the audience and wished the entire Jewish community a Happy Passover. He presented Rabbi Schneier with an ancient Judaic manuscript from the Vatican Library. Lindsey Dresbach and Russell Rutter, on behalf of the children of Park East Synagogue and Day School presented the Pope with a Hagaddah and box of Matzah. The children's choir concluded the ceremony with the singing of "Oseh Shalom" during the recessional.

News Headlines

Text of Speech

POPE BENEDICT XVI VISITS PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE



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מה טוב אהלך יעקב משכנתך ישראל

PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE

How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob

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About the Park East Synagogue

Park East Synagogue strives to make the synagogue a meaningful, tolerant and supportive place for Jews of all levels of knowledge of tradition and all ages.

Park East Synagogue is an historic New York City landmark house of worship and one of the nation's leading modern Orthodox congregations. It plays a vital role in the cultural, civic and spiritual life of New York City.

Founded in 1888, with its cornerstone laid in 1889, the Synagogue was based on the unique design of Schneider and Herter, famous German-born architects who engaged European artisans to build an architectural monument of rare beauty and distinction in the heart of Manhattan's Upper East Side. Park East's architectural style is Byzantine, with dome-like cupolas set at various levels, each surmounted by a slender shaft supporting a Star of David. The façade of the building rises from an elaborately designed arched portico. Stained-glass windows are distinctive features of the Synagogue. From within the Sanctuary one appreciates two extraordinary circular stained-glass windows, one above the Ark in pink, blue, and silver, called the Moon and the other, the Sun, in the rear wall, facing the street.

Park East Synagogue was originally called Congregation Zichron Ephraim when Jonas Weil, its first President, and his brother Samuel, who named it in memory of their father Ephraim, founded it. Today, Park East is a vital congregation of families who are committed to practicing and living the traditional values of Judaism in their lives and in relation to the important issues of the city, nation and world. The Synagogue's influence, strength and dynamism in the community derive from the members of our congregation.

Today, Park East Synagogue is a vibrant spiritual and cultural center for Jewish life in New York City and beyond. The Synagogue is a welcoming house of worship; its doors are open daily from morning to evening for prayer, meditation and study. It is, in the words of its spiritual leader for forty years, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, a tent that embraces all, "How goodly are they tents, O Jacob." Its congregants are actively involved in the civic life of New York and many of its community educational and aid programs are its expression of tikkun olam (repairing the world).

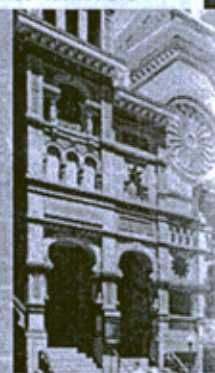
We hope you will consider becoming a member of the Park East Synagogue family.

Our Mission

- Park East Synagogue is dedicated to providing the opportunity for spiritual growth, Jewish education and spiritual comfort for individuals, families, and our community.
- Park East Synagogue is inclusive of all people seeking a meaningful Jewish life, regardless of degree of observance, knowledge of Jewish tradition, age, or affiliation.
- Park East Synagogue is committed to providing inspiring Jewish and general studies education to children and to adults; its Religious School, Early Childhood, and Day School with its emphasis on cultivating a Jewish life rich in tradition and unrivalled in general studies has been, and continues to be, a source of character and vitality for its congregation.
- The Synagogue's influence, strength and dynamism in the community derive from the members of our congregation. We value and honor the role our congregants fulfill in defining and shaping our future and that of the Jewish community, in New York City and beyond.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier, Senior Rabbi, Park East Synagogue

Rabbi Arthur Schneier has since 1962 been the spiritual leader of Park East Synagogue, a historic landmark in New York City. As Senior Rabbi he has brought local, national and international recognition to Park East Synagogue through his more than four decades of dedication to nurturing and cultivating Jewish life in New York, in Israel and around the globe. More than 25 years ago he founded the



Park East Day School, a unique Early Childhood through Grade 8 Jewish Day School based on a combined general academic and Jewish studies curriculum, with a decidedly global focus. His driving commitment to renew Jewish life globally has stretched from his pioneering campaign for Soviet Jewry in the 1960s to the recent revitalization of Jewish cantorial music in New York by bringing, in September 2005, Cantor Yitzhak Meir Helfgot of Jerusalem to Park East Synagogue as its Chief Cantor.

Rabbi Schneier has also worked for religious freedom and tolerance throughout the world as founder and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation (1965). A recipient of the U.S. Presidential Citizens Medal, 2001, he was cited as "a Holocaust survivor who has devoted a lifetime to overcoming forces of hatred and intolerance and set an inspiring example of spiritual leadership by encouraging interfaith dialogue and intercultural understanding and promoting the cause of religious freedom around the world." He was also a U.S. Alternate Representative to the U.N. General Assembly and was recently appointed to the High-Level Group, Alliance of Civilizations, by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

He is the recipient of ten honorary doctorates from U.S. and foreign universities. His alma mater, Yeshiva University, honored him by establishing the Rabbi Arthur Schneier Center for International Affairs in 2004. Rabbi Schneier is a Board member of the American Joint Distribution Committee; Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society; New York Board of Rabbis; and Honorary Chairman, World Jewish Congress, American Section and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations; United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Committee on Conscience; and the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations.

Born in Vienna, Austria, March 20, 1930, Rabbi Schneier lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II and arrived in the United States in 1947. He is married to Elisabeth Nordmann Schneier.

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 70TH BIRTHDAY
OF RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER

New York, 4 June 2000

It gives me great pleasure to join in celebrating the 70th birthday of Rabbi Arthur Schneier and in paying tribute to an outstanding and world-renowned public figure.

The United Nations is founded on universal ideals such as tolerance, equal rights, the peaceful resolution of disputes and the dignity and worth of the human person. But it takes dynamic, committed individuals to bring those ideals to life. Rabbi Arthur Schneier has taken that summons to heart. From the Balkans to China and the former Soviet Union, on issues ranging from religious freedom to democracy and conflict resolution, he has helped people and nations to overcome their differences and find a common interest in cooperation and peace. His work has complemented that of the United Nations and greatly enriched the global community.

Our world is changing, and the United Nations is changing with it, adapting to globalization as well as to new threats, new forms of armed conflict and new manifestations of bias and discrimination. With the efforts of Rabbi Schneier and the many men and women he has inspired to get involved, the world stands a better chance of meeting these complex and urgent challenges. In that hopeful spirit, I am pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate him for a lifetime of articulate and effective public service.

Kofi A. Annan



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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MESSAGE FOR THE APPEAL OF CONSCIENCE FOUNDATION
WORLD STATESMAN AWARD CEREMONY
New York, 25 September 2007

I am delighted to convey my greetings to all of those who have gathered for this important event. You meet on the opening day of the United Nations General Assembly's general debate, my first as Secretary-General. These next few days in New York promise to bring an intense period of multilateral diplomacy. World leaders are gathered on the banks of the East River with a renewed interest in multilateral solutions to the challenges facing our world.

Discussions are being held on many pressing issues, from Darfur to Iraq, from Afghanistan to the Middle East, as we seek to advance our quest for peace in those troubled lands. But if we are to build enduring peace around the world, we also need to protect the one and only planet we all share. So the issue of climate change will loom large at the UN. It is also at the top of the personal agenda of the recipient of this year's World Statesman Award.

Both at home and on the international stage, Angela Merkel has been one of the most dynamic leaders in the world on climate change. Thanks to her perseverance and diplomatic skills, Group of Eight leaders committed themselves in June to a multilateral process within the United Nations framework, accepted their responsibility to act on emission reductions and eventual cuts, and called for closure by 2009 on a global agreement, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to ensure that there is no gap between future climate change policy and the expiry of the Kyoto Protocol in 2012.

Yesterday, I hosted a high-level event on climate change at the United Nations. One by one, world leaders spoke of a new sense of commitment to tackling a problem that affects us all -- and above all the most vulnerable populations on our planet. I thank Angela Merkel for her part in galvanizing the consciousness and conscience of the world on this issue.

Let me also thank Rabbi Arthur Schneier and the Appeal of Conscience Foundation for their efforts in promoting human rights, inter-faith dialogue and cross-cultural understanding in our world. Please accept my gratitude and my best wishes for a memorable ceremony.

Ban Ki-moon

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESSAGE TO THE APPEAL OF CONSCIENCE FOUNDATION
40TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
New York, 21 September 2005**

It gives me great pleasure to convey my greetings to this annual awards dinner.

You gather just days after the end of the World Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the largest gathering of world leaders ever held. That event produced some important commitments from Member States: strong support for the Millennium Development Goals; the establishment of a new Peacebuilding Commission to strengthen our efforts to help countries recover from conflict; clear acceptance of a responsibility to protect people from genocide, war crimes and ethnic cleansing; and management reforms that will render the United Nations itself more transparent, accountable and effective.

Difficult as the negotiations were to produce this outcome, the true test comes now, in implementing the commitments made by world leaders. We will need to move ahead on all fronts – security, development and human rights – simultaneously, since these issues are so inextricably linked, and progress in one area depends on and reinforces gains in another. We will also need the force of global public opinion -- civil society groups and concerned citizens -- to monitor progress, and to tell us whether the reforms and the actions go far enough.

The work of promoting mutual understanding between people of different faiths and cultures, so central to the United Nations and the Appeal of Conscience Foundation alike, will also play a crucial role in building a safer, more human world. Events of recent years have heightened the sense of a widening gap and lack of mutual understanding between societies, in particular Islamic and Western societies. That environment has been exploited and exacerbated by extremists. With this in mind, last July I launched an initiative for an Alliance of Civilizations. Co-sponsored by the Governments of Spain and Turkey, the Alliance is intended to advance mutual respect among people of different religious beliefs and traditions, and to reaffirm humankind's increasing interdependence in all areas. Other governments and organizations are expected to take part, and I am grateful to Rabbi Arthur Schneier for agreeing to become a member of the High-level Group that will guide the initiative.

I thank the Foundation for its unwavering commitment to religious freedom and human rights, as well as its wide-ranging programmes to promote mutual understanding and conflict resolution. I congratulate this year's winners of the Appeal of Conscience awards. And I offer everyone in attendance my best wishes for a memorable evening.