



AMERICAN SEPHARDI FEDERATION / SEPHARDIC HOUSE
15 West 16th Street New York, NY 10011
212.294-8350

PRESS RELEASE

International Symposium on Moroccan Jewry to be held in New York City

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Point of Contact: Shelomo Alfassa (917.606.8262)

New York, NY (May 4, 2011) – The country of Morocco has been in the news lately more for its travails than its triumphs. In reality, Morocco can be looked at as a model for a modern contemporary Muslim state.

The *American Sephardi Federation* (ASF) will conduct a two-day international symposium on Sunday, May 15 and Monday, May 16, 2011 at the *Center for Jewish History* in New York City. Entitled: ***2,000 Years of Jewish Life in Morocco: An Epic Journey***, the symposium will feature international scholars and dignitaries from Morocco, France, Canada, Israel and the U.S., who, over two days, will focus on a compendium of subjects including: Moroccan Jewish history, social diversity and interaction, diplomacy, rabbinic tradition and influence, art, literature, and religious and secular musical history.

Open to the public, this symposium is being held under the High Patronage of His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco and made possible through the generous support of the Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation.

Contributing scholars from the following academic institutions will be participating: The University of Paris, France; The Sorbonne, Paris, France; The University of Quebec, Canada; Tel-Aviv University, Israel; The University of Haifa, Israel; Princeton University, New Jersey; The University of Arizona; The University of Minnesota; The University of Pennsylvania; The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, and The Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals in New York.

Florence Amzallag Tatistcheff, ASF Vice President, Chair of Cultural Programs, said: "This symposium is testimony to the great legacy of the Moroccan Jewish community in the United States. Everywhere they live, Moroccan Jews carry with them a passion for their culture, spirit and Moroccan identity, one which remains steadfast, even in the face of changing situations in the world today."

The *American Sephardi Federation* is a founding partner of the *Center for Jewish History*, located at 15 West 16th Street in Manhattan. **For program details, ticket information and the event syllabus**, please visit: www.americansephardifederation.org/morocco-symposium.html or call 212.294.8350.