



A remarkable man:
retrospective
of Monty
Sack at UJ
(page 12)

South African Jewish Report

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Maputo's historic shul comes to life!

The Sefer Torah is carried into the Maputo Synagogue by Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies. Holding the tallit above it are Alex Greenbaum, Uri Raich, Nuno Sociero and Rogério Levy. The historic Maputo Synagogue was rededicated on May 19 in a lavish ceremony attended by Mozambican officials, a delegation of the African Jewish Congress and representatives of other faiths. The day's events included the unveiling of the commemorative stone, followed by the Hachnasat Sefer Torah ceremony, the formal return of the community's Sefer Torah, from safekeeping in South Africa. See page 10.

VOX POP: How do our kosher restaurants rate in world terms?

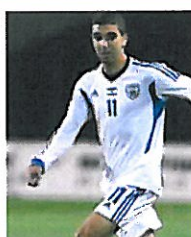
Former SA chef and food expert Sandy Sonnenfeldt: "I do not understand why kosher food has been left behind in the 'food revolution'. Kosher should not mean overcooked, too sweet or using hydrogenated fats."

2

David Shapiro: Strikes and uncertainty stymie SA growth prospects

"Investors will not come into a country where property rights are not protected and proper business policies are not in place, and where they do not know from one month to the next what policy changes there will be."

4



MILNER: Israel tries to curb racism ahead of Euro U-21

Next week Israel will host the Euro Under-21 Soccer Championships, scheduled to run from June 5 - 8 and the country will need to demonstrate to the world that it will not tolerate any form of racist action.

16, 3

ADL's Foxman looks at intersection of online hate and free speech

"In the last 10 years we've seen a communication revolution in terms of the Internet changing how we talk to each other. It had magnificent impact, but it also provided a super highway... for bigots, racists and anti-Semites."

6

Fundamentalists or exemplars of the purpose-driven life?

Forward columnist Jay Michaelson, in culling headlines from haredi-related scandals, argues that contemporary haredi Jewry looks less like the benign world of Tevye, and more like that of The Sopranos.

7

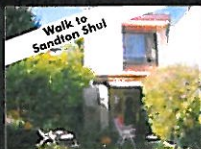
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Mozambique's historic shul rededicated

SAM LEVY

The historic Maputo Synagogue was rededicated on Sunday, May 19 in a lavish ceremony attended by Mozambican government officials, a delegation of the African Jewish Congress, representatives of other faiths, members of the diplomatic corps, international donors, and many friends of the Jewish community of Mozambique.

The day's events included the unveiling of the commemorative stone, with the text reading: "This historic synagogue of Maputo, patrimony

of Honen Dalim - the Jewish community of Mozambique - was re-inaugurated in the presence of HE the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Mozambique, Dr Maria Benvinda Delfina Levi, on May 19, 2013 (10 Sivan 5773)."

The unveiling was followed by the Hachnasat Sefer Torah ceremony, the formal return of the community's Sefer Torah by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, amid shofar blowing and joyful songs led by Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft.

This Torah scroll had originally been given to the Maputo Jewish community by the late Chief

Photos by Sonia Sultane



Larry Herman, Lay Leader and Treasurer of Honen Dalim addressed congregation and guests.

Rabbi Cyril Harris in 1994, and it was fitting that his wife, Ann, officially presented the same scroll that had been returned to South Africa for safe-keeping after the Maputo Synagogue had fallen into disrepair.

Ann Harris explained the history of this scroll and of its importance to the people who congregated there for the occasion.

In the course of the ceremony, the crowd of more than 100 guests entered the beautifully restored synagogue, passing in front of the newly-installed wall of commemoration with the community's motto, "Spread Over Us Your Shelter of Peace" in three languages.

Welcoming addresses were offered by the president of Honen Dalim, Samuel Levy and Mervyn Smith, president of the African Jewish Congress.

Andrew Davey, community member and manager of the restoration project, explained the reconstruction process and thanked the many Mozambican firms that contributed time and materials.

Remarks were offered by the Ambassador of Israel to Mozambique, Irit Savion, Alex Greenbaum of Tel Aviv and Dvora Joseph Davey of Maputo, all praising the work of the small community, not only to restore the building to physical splendor, but also to create a warm and welcoming Jewish community within its doors and in the homes of the members.

The representative of the delegation of Corem, the Council of Religions in Mozambique, Sheik Aminuddin, gave a particularly warm and inspiring speech, emphasising what the major faiths had in common, crediting Judaism for its historic contributions to the development of the other faiths and calling for dialogue and understanding across all dimensions of Mozambican society.

Dr Larry Herman, lay leader of the community, offered a final reflection, in which he recounted some of the history of the community and the building, explaining the diverse and unique nature of the community, and leading the participants in the Shehechyanu prayer of thanks-giving.

The ceremony closed with prayers for Mozambique and for the State of Israel, and with the singing of the Mozambican national anthem, followed by Hatikvah.

Earlier in the day a memorial service was held at Maputo's Jewish Cemetery.



Ann Harris and Li Boiskin visiting graves at Honen Dalim in Maputo.



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