

# Back to Babylon

2600 YEARS OF JEWISH LIFE IN IRAQ

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## SAVE THE DATE

### CONFERENCE

## *Back to Babylon: 2600 Years of Jewish Life in Iraq*

Opening Program of the Inaugural Series  
HISTORIC JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

**Thursday November 2 – Sunday November 5, 2006**

### EXHIBITIONS

#### *Baghdad Revisited*

Art and Artifacts from Iraqi-Jewish Private Collections

#### *By the Rivers of Babylon*

Photographs from the London Jewish Museum

**At the Center for Jewish History  
15 West 16th Street - New York City**

### WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF

**Professor Shmuel Moreh**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
**Carole Basri**, University of Pennsylvania School of Law  
**Professor Yaakov Elman**, Yeshiva University  
**Salim Fattal**, Filmmaker  
**Professor Norman Golb**, University of Chicago  
**Professor Lev Hakak**, UCLA  
**Professor Naim Kattan**, Université du Québec à Montréal  
**Professor Shalom Sabar**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
**Professor Yona Sabar**, UCLA

## INAUGURAL BENEFIT DINNER

**Thursday Evening November 30, 2006  
The Pierre - New York City  
Keynote Speaker Ezra K. Zilkha**

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## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EXHIBITION

# Baghdad Revisited

Art and Artifacts  
from Iraqi-Jewish Private Collections

A central component of the *Back to Babylon* program will be the exhibition *Baghdad Revisited: Art and Artifacts from Iraqi-Jewish Private Collections*, on display in the American Sephardi Federation Leon Levy Gallery at the Center for Jewish History, located in the heart of Manhattan, beginning on November 2, 2006. The American Sephardi Federation curatorial and design team will showcase a selection of ritual objects, memorabilia, photographs and documents depicting the Iraqi Jewish heritage as preserved and perpetuated in the Diaspora. We invite you and other Iraqi-Jewish families from the New York area and beyond to contact us to suggest particular items in your possession that can be included in the exhibit.

**Do you have synagogue artifacts (Torah cases, *rimonim*, *siddurim* etc.), or samples of objects devoted to home rituals, silver, jewelry or other significant possessions that you would like to have included in the exhibition? Can you send us a story to go with your memorabilia?**

Your precious items will be catalogued through specific loan forms, professionally handled for preservation, and stored in the state of the art facilities of the Center for Jewish History prior to and after the display. Photographic reproductions of the items displayed will be considered for a forthcoming edition of an exhibition catalogue celebrating the selections and the contributors.

If your family is interested in being a part of this unprecedented effort, please contact Ellen Cohen, at the American Sephardi Federation, **212.294.8350**, or send an email to **[ecohen@asf.cjh.org](mailto:ecohen@asf.cjh.org)**.

Thank you for your interest in our program.

Our staff will be in contact with you to examine your proposed contributions to the exhibit *Baghdad Revisited: Art and Artifacts from Iraqi-Jewish Private Collections*.

AMERICAN SEPHARDI FEDERATION WITH SEPHARDIC HOUSE