

The HAD News

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MARK ZAUROV, A DEAF LEADER OF GERMANY WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER AT THE PRE-BANQUET CELEBRATION AT PSD



At the pre-banquet celebration on Saturday night, October 20, 2007, Mark Zaurov will give a presentation. The title of his presentation will be "History of the Deaf Jews in Europe". Mark is a PhD candidate in Sign Languages, Media and Literature at the University of Hamburg in Hamburg,

Germany. He is President of the Association of the Deaf Jews and Descendants (IGJAD) in Germany.

Accounting to the biography provided by Aneta Chavizon, Mark's mother, Mark is Deaf since birth. His older sister was born Deaf, too. Mark, at age 2, emigrated with his parents and sister to Israel from the former Soviet Union during the Brezhnev era. The parents, now retired engineers, sought freedom and, for their two Deaf children, Jewish identification, both of which were not possible at that time in Moscow. There in Israel, Mark learned his first languages: Hebrew and Israeli Sign Language. This was the beginning of his love for languages.

In 1981, the family moved to Germany, where Mark learned German, German Sign Language and American Sign Language. Mark attended Gallaudet University for six months. He completed his studies in 2001 at Friedrich Ebert Fellowship for a Master's degree in Sign languages/Deaf studies, pedagogy, and history.

Presently, Mark is doing research about the Deaf Jews in art, science, politics, and the Holocaust. In 2003, he wrote a book titled "Deaf Jews—a Double Culture Minority," published by European science publisher Peter Lang Verlag. For his next publication he is working on the translation of the panel interviews with the Deaf Auschwitz (Poland) and Siberia (Russia)

survivors. The interviews were made at the VI Deaf History International Conference in 2006 in Berlin. Mark himself coordinated this international conference.

At the University of Hamburg, Mark holds seminars about the Deaf Jews. He held seminars in several universities and also in Yad Vashem in Israel. He has been involved in various conferences all over the world. He will be in America next month for the ninth time.

Mark has a dream. He dreams of establishing an international exhibition in a museum in Germany about the Jewish Deaf people.

HAD, together with President Jean Gershman and Mr. and Mrs. Newby Ely, is pleased to sponsor Mark Zaurov at the pre-banquet celebration on October 20th. Come and enjoy.

CHANGE OF LOCATION FOR THE PRE-BANQUET CELEBRATION!!!

Ronnie Adler and Gay Balsam, Co-chairpersons of the HAD's 100th Anniversary Committee, are pleased to announce that due to a surprising increase of number of the banquet attendees, the location for the pre-banquet celebration with buffet for Saturday evening, October 20th has been changed. The pre-banquet celebration will be held at the Gym of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD) at 100 W. School House Lane, Philadelphia, PA (See the direction on next page.) It will not be at the Rose Olanoff Community Center as originally planned. Invitation cards will be mailed to the banquet attendees soon.

Happy 100th Anniversary
to
Hebrew Association of the Deaf!