

# Guide to the Central Committee Knesseth-Israel Records

MS 2033



compiled by Julie Cohen

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 2033

**CREATOR:** Central-Committee Knesseth-Israel (Jerusalem)

**TITLE:** Central Committee Knesseth-Israel records

**DATES:** 1924-1943

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** The materials are primarily in Yiddish or English, with some in Hebrew.

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains approximately 350 pieces of correspondence and financial documents from the archive of the Central Committee Knesseth Israel Charity of Rabbi Meier Baal Haness in Jerusalem, an organization providing financial assistance to the poor. The archive includes letters from Jewish businesses on letterhead stationery, as well as from private individuals, with handwritten notes concerning their contributions, frequently accompanied by requests for information, prayers, or items from the Holy Land. The majority of the letters are from the United States, but others are from locations in Canada, England, and other countries.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the Judaica Collection Curator, 2015. The materials were originally purchased from Bery Gross on the Rosalyn and Joseph Newman Collection Fund, 2011.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Central Committee Knesseth-Israel Records (MS 2033). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

The Central Committee Knesseth Israel was a charitable organization of the Ashkenazic Jewish community in Jerusalem founded in 1866 to provide financial support to needy individuals and religious institutions. According to Mark Wischnitzer's 1946 report prepared for the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, its "activities included financial relief to needy members of the Kolelim [institutes for advanced Talmud study], free loans, support of various institutions, promotion of vocational training, distribution of matzoth and holiday gifts, and the supervision of holy places and religious observances."

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## Scope and Contents

The collection contains approximately 350 pieces of correspondence and financial documents from the archive of the Central Committee Knesseth Israel Charity of Rabbi Meier Baal Haness in Jerusalem, an organization providing financial assistance to the poor. The archive includes letters from Jewish businesses on letterhead stationery, as well as from private individuals, with handwritten notes concerning their contributions, frequently accompanied by requests for information, prayers, or items from the Holy Land. The majority of the letters are from the United States, but others are from locations in Canada, England, and other countries.

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## Arrangement

The materials are arranged chronologically.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-18	Correspondence and financial documents	1924-1943
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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Charity organization -- Jerusalem  
Halukkah -- History -- Sources

### **Corporate Bodies**

Central-Committee Knesseth-Israel  
(Jerusalem) -- History -- Sources -- 20th  
Century  
Tsidkat Rabi Me'ir Ba'al ha-Nes