

## **ISRAELI SOURCES FOR RESEARCH MATERIAL ON BESSARABIA/MOLDOVA: STATUS REPORT**

Harriet Kasow, Israel, July, 2012

Project: **World Federation of Bessarabian Jews.** Located in Tel Aviv and established in 1940 to help rescue Jews from Transnistria, it is active today. It sponsors many events around the country mainly connected with Holocaust commemorations but hosts educational conferences as well.

It has a substantial library and maintains an archive of all their activities over the years. In my opinion this is a source of genealogical worth. They at one time provided financial aid for college for children of Jews of Bessarabia. Those records would be useful for genealogical research.

Investigations to be pursued: The establishment of a website. Interviewing various heads of groups from towns in Bessarabia connected with the Federation. Getting an in depth overview of the Library's holdings. Writing an article for the Bessarabia SIG describing the organization in depth.

Publications: *A man of vision and realization Itzhak Korn's life and action. 1911-1994 (Hebrew). Tel Aviv.* This was written by his son Dr. Dany Korn and published by the Federation and the Institute for researching Jews from Bessarabia. This latter is a source for investigation.

Another book is being published (in Hebrew) about the Organization and will be available shortly. Hopefully some excerpts can be translated for the Bessarabia SIG.

Project: **Examining the sources in the National Library of Israel.** Thus far, there are 176 entries for the subject Bessarabia and 442 for Moldova. They are primarily in 3 languages: Romanian, Russian and English. Further subject searching and identifying of possible uses in genealogical research is necessary.

The Library also has a genealogical collection which needs to be described in terms of our SIG.

Project: **Locating the current addresses and heads of the landsmanschaftn** in Israel as documented in Sallyann Amdur Sack's *A Guide to Jewish Genealogical Research in Israel. Rev. Ed. 1994.*

Future projects: **A survey of Holocaust museums, other libraries, museums and interviews.**