



## Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County\* (JGSCV) (\*and surrounding areas)

The JGSCV will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim,  
on Sunday, April 1, 2012 at Temple Adat Elohim 1:30-3:30 p.m.  
2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

This program will commemorate Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial) Day  
which is April 19<sup>th</sup>.



### The Program: The Holocaust and Sephardic Jews of the Balkans and North Africa

Much has been written and many documentaries and dramas have been made concerning the Holocaust. Overwhelmingly, these deal with the horrors experienced by the Jews of Eastern Europe. Less well known is the plight of the Sephardic Jews of the Balkans and North Africa. Benveniste's talk will focus on the story of the Jews of Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and North Africa. He will include the personal stories of people he has known from Salonika, Athens, Rhodes and Morocco. The Anti-Semitic policies of Nazi Germany are well known, Benveniste's talk will cover the policies of Fascist Italy, Franco Spain, Vichy France and the kings of Bulgaria and Morocco.

**Speaker:** Arthur Benveniste. His parents were from the Island of Rhodes where his ancestors lived for four hundred years. He grew up in a community of Ladino speaking Jews from Rhodes. For many years, he has been interested in tracing the roots of Sephardic culture. Arthur has been active in the Society for Crypto Judaic Studies since 1993, where he was president of the society from 2001 to 2003. He served as the co-editor of *Halapid*, the newsletter of the society. Mr. Benveniste has visited Brazil, Spain, Portugal, Peru, Italy, Morocco, Turkey and Greece. In 1992, he was invited by King Juan Carlos to return to Spain to commemorate the quincentennial of the expulsion of Jews.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques, and research tools with anyone interested in Jewish genealogy and family history. There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV.

For more information contact: [information@jgscv.org](mailto:information@jgscv.org) or Jan Meisels Allen@ 818-889-6616