

SAM SPIEGEL ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED



An endowed fund to promote research and publications in Medieval Hebrew Literature has been established by a generous \$500,000 bequest, from the late Mr. Sam Spiegel, CEO of Academy Pictures. Spiegel is known for producing such classic American films as: *Tales of Manhattan* (Charles Laughton, Rita Hayward, Henry Fonda, Ginger Rogers), *The African Queen* (Humphrey Bogart, Katherine Hepburn), *On the Waterfront* (Marlon Brando), *Bridge on the River Kwai* (Alec Guinness), *Lawrence of Arabia* (Peter O'Toole) and *The Last Tycoon* (Robert De Niro). This bequest to the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, through the Jerusalem Foundation (Zurich), was Mr. Spiegel's way of honoring the memory of his beloved brother, Professor Shalom Spiegel, a highly respected researcher in this field.

Long a vocal proponent of Jewish studies, the Israel Academy has published a landmark series of major scholarly publications on Medieval Hebrew Literature and has helped establish such allied research centers as the Geniza Research Institute for Hebrew Poetry. The endowment's funds will help complete the computerization of the Geniza Institute, help encourage enthusiastic young scholars and help open the huge corpus of medieval codices that still await due scholarly attention. Many new publication projects are under consideration, including one related to the works of Professor Spiegel himself.