



THE KARAITE JEWS OF AMERICA Congregation B'nai Israel

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1982 - '86

September 28, 2022

Dear Aaron:

As President of the Karaite Jews of America (KJA), it is with great pride that I extend my heartfelt congratulations and thanks on the production of this on-line exhibit, “**Out of Egypt**”, the first in a series focusing on Jewish history in the Bay Area undertaken by the Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice at the University of San Francisco.

Visitors to this site will surely enjoy and learn from this monumental work reflecting a tremendous amount of research and storytelling, that brings alive the remarkable heritage of our Karaite Jewish community’s millennium-long history, all the way up to our renaissance today, in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. I commend and thank the Directors of this project, Dr. Aaron Hahn Tapper and Dr. Oren Kroll-Zeldin and your colleagues, who have worked so diligently to achieve our shared goals.

I look forward to sustaining our dialogue with you as KJA’s efforts to serve our Bay Area community and impact the larger world in positive ways continue to evolve and grow.

In many ways, we are bringing our long history full circle in November 2022, with my return to Egypt as President of the KJA, to pay homage to our ancestors at the celebration opening the Garden of Remembrance at Basatin Cemetery to honor the Karaite Jewish community of Cairo. This project has recently been completed by the KJA in cooperation with the American Research Center in Egypt and the Drop of Milk Association in Cairo. We are delighted that this, our most recent initiative has been highlighted in this exhibit. Stay tuned for updates!

Again, many congratulations to a great team at the University of San Francisco.

David

David Ovadia,
President, Karaite Jews of America