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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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India, visit, 1958.

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
1855 Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Hon. Miss Lily Montagu has asked me to support the several letters which she has sent you inviting you to participate in the program of the forthcoming Conference of the World Union for Progressive Judaism to be held in London, July 9th to 15th, 1959.

I am sure that nothing that I could write could possibly add to the cordiality of her invitation, nor to the tremendous impetus which your acceptance would give to the cause of progressive Judaism throughout the world. I am sure that you understand this, and I am, therefore, humbly hopeful that you will write to her in the affirmative, and that you will join our colleague, Solomon Freehof, on the program. I do hope that I may have a note from you indicating your acceptance.

With every good wish and personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

JKS/rl

Jacob K. Shankman





Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President

838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, N. Y. Regent 7-8200

November 12, 1958

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Congregation Tifereth Israel  
1855 Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

It was wonderful news that I received from Danny yesterday when he informed me that Virginia and you plan a trip to the Far East. Having just recently returned, I can assure you that you will have one of the most enriching experiences of your rich life although I want to add the caveat that you should take the trip in a somewhat more leisurely manner than did we.

In accordance with Danny's suggestion, I have already written to Miss Montagu expressing the hope that your trip can be made an official mission, particularly for you to visit our Progressive Jewish community in Bombay, India being led by our fellow alumnus, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, who recently was ordained at the HUC-JIR. I know nothing that would bring greater inspiration and stimulus to this wonderful little congregation than your presence there. In this regard, I am going to make a request of you that would utilize your presence there for an event that would, I am confident, never be forgotten in that community.

When I was in Bombay I found the congregation worshipping in indescribably horrible surroundings and I learned that, with some help from ourselves, they would be able to acquire a decent building for religious services and instruction. I offered to try to raise the requisite sum in America but with wonderful self-respect and unstandable pride they requested merely a loan rather than a gift. Happily, I have succeeded in procuring from some of our larger congregations a loan of \$10,000.00; they will raise an equivalent amount of their own and with this they expect soon to buy a building which I saw while I was with them. I think it would be a wonderful link between them and ourselves if you were to be the bearer of this remittance. Please let me know if you would be willing to do this.

Naturally, I have a number of names that I acquired during my own recent trip in the various places that we visited and which I would gladly make available to you as soon as I know just how much of this you want to do. Do you want people to be bothering you or do you want to visit with some of our Jewish friends, such as the Kadoories in Hong Kong, or with some of the leaders of the World Brotherhood whom I met? Or do you want to be pretty much on your own? If you will let me know just what you would like in this regard I will be glad to be as helpful as possible.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maurice".

Maurice N. Eisendrath

MNE:bb



November 13, 1958

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy  
Centre International  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Dr. Clinchy:

Mr. A. M. Luntz, who has been in New York attending the NCCJ meetings, spoke to me about Rabbi Silver's proposed trip to Japan, India and possibly other parts of Asia. Mr. Luntz felt that you would want to take advantage of this visit in order to have Dr. Silver meet some of your friends in various Asian cities. Possibly you may wish to write directly to Dr. Silver but you will want to wait until we have been able to send you his itinerary.

You will be glad to know that you were very much missed at the NCCJ meetings and that Mr. Luntz, in particular, regretted your absence. He and I had a very good talk about the past and future work of World Brotherhood, in which, as you undoubtedly know, he is very much interested indeed. It was a pleasure to talk with him and we intend to keep him informed regarding our activities and our plans to be carried out in this country, as well as in other parts of the world. I explained to Mr. Luntz that World Brotherhood will have a program in this and other countries, but that our activities will be in the field of genuine international interests and will deal with matters which are outside the range of NCCJ's normal domestic and internal interests.

I shall give you a fuller report of the meetings and of the affairs of World Brotherhood later. With best wishes to you and Winifred.

Sincerely yours,

MG:mp

Margaret Grant,  
Executive Secretary

cc: Mr. A.M. Luntz  
Dr. A.H. Silver



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Margaret Grant

November 13, 1958

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
19810 Shaker Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Mr. A. M. Luntz, who, as you know, is an old and good friend of Dr. Clinchy and of World Brotherhood, has been in New York the last few days attending meetings of the Board of NCCJ. He has told us of your planned trip to Japan and India.

I should be very glad to have a copy of your itinerary or, in any case, to know the principal places you intend to visit so that I may write to Dr. Clinchy about your trip. Undoubtedly he will wish to suggest that you arrange to see a number of persons whom he knows and who are interested in World Brotherhood.

As you know, Dr. Clinchy is now in Geneva and will remain in Europe for several months. I shall write you again as soon as we have been able to inform him of your trip and to receive his suggestions. Possibly also you will have word directly from Dr. Clinchy.

Sincerely yours,

*Margaret Grant*

Margaret Grant,  
Executive Secretary

MG:mp

cc: Mr. A.M. Luntz  
Dr. Everett R. Clinchy



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Tel. no. Murray Hill 7-3650

November 14, 1958

Miss Margaret Grant  
Executive Secretary  
World Brotherhood  
43 West 57th Street  
New York 19, New York

My dear Miss Grant:

Thank you for your letter of November 13th. Mrs. Silver and I are planning a visit to India and the Far East in December and January. We shall leave New York on December 10th by plane. We plan to spend a few days in Athens and arrive in India about the 17th or 18th of December - perhaps a day or two later. We should like to spend about ten days in India and from there we shall move on to Bangkok, Honolulu and Japan. We will probably spend about ten days in Japan and leave for the States by boat on February 2nd.

Mr. Luntz told me of the very fine meeting which was held in New York and I was very happy to hear about it. With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm



November 17, 1958

My dear Maurice:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of November 12th, and for your thoughtfulness in writing to me. Both Virginia and I are looking forward to our visit to the Far East. We hope to be in India around the 20th of December; we will probably stay there for about ten days to two weeks. I shall, of course, be very happy to visit the Progressive Jewish community in Bombay and to meet Rabbi Hugo Gryn. I shall be very happy to be the bearer of the remittance which you are so liberally making to this congregation, and to address the community. I shall be very happy to meet the Kadoories in Hong Kong.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Dr. Maurice Eisendrath  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York 21, New York



# THE WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

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LM/jr

21st November, 1958.

The Rev. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
1855, Ansel Road,  
CLEVELAND 6,  
Ohio, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Abba Silver,

Thank you very much for your kind letter; we were very disappointed that you could not come to our Conference and lead one of the discussions. I understand from Rabbi Eisendrath that you will visit some of our Constituents in the far East.

We should be grateful, if you would let us have your itinerary, so that we might give you official introductions to our leaders, who I know, will be delighted to ask you for your help and advice.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Lily H. Montagu*



November 25, 1958

The Hon. Lily H. Montagu  
The World Union for Progressive Judaism  
51 Palace Court  
London, W.2, England

My dear Lady Montagu:

Let me thank you for your letter of the 21st of November. Our present plans call for a visit to India, beginning in Bombay, which will last ~~for~~ about two weeks beginning December 20th. We shall also be in Hongkong for a few days beginning January 10th and in Japan for about two weeks beginning January 15th. I shall be very happy to meet the leaders of the Liberal communities in these places and be of whatever service I can.

With warmest regards, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:lg





Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President

838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, N. Y. Regent 7-8200

November 26, 1958

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
Congregation Tifereth Israel  
1855 Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

It was good to hear from you and I am already sharing with Virginia and yourself your enthusiasm for what will undoubtedly be a most stimulating and enriching trip to the Far East. Since you plan to be in India on December 20th, I am hastening to reply to you and send you some further information. I am enclosing a copy of the letter that I am writing to Mr. Horace Kadoorie and I know you will find it most profitable to meet ~~them~~ and observe the magnificent work they are doing for the refugees from Red China. If there are any other contacts that you wish to have, please let me know.

I gather from your letter that you do not want to have too many introductions but prefer -- wisely enough -- to be pretty much on your own. However, I think you would be fascinated by at least a brief contact with the little group in New Delhi if you are going to be there. There is a small group of B'nai Israel -- no more than a dozen or so families -- who have maintained their identity for generations and have recently built a simple but quite remarkable little synagogue and school in New Delhi. Their devoted and dedicated leader is an humble but most capable person who has a most responsible position in the Ministry of Finance of the Indian Government. His name is Mr. E. Kolet and while I do not want to burden you with too many suggestions, I am confident that you will be rewarded by meeting with Mr. Kolet and this little group. It is an inspiring experience.

I have already heard from Miss Montagu that she is delighted to have you represent the World Union at such places on your itinerary in which World Union congregations exist. She does, however, request you to send your itinerary so that you may receive the proper official credentials. It looks now as though Bombay and Israel will be the only spots where your journey and the World Union congregations coincide. Please let me have your itinerary as soon as possible so that I may forward it without delay to accelerate your receiving your credentials.

I am going to be in Cleveland for Lelyveld's installation most of the day on December 5th and am most eager to see your new building. Perhaps we can then discuss any additional information you are interested in.

With warmest greetings to Virginia and yourself in which Rosa joins,

Cordially,

Maurice N. Eisendrath

MNE:bb

enclosure



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LONDON, W.2.

TELEPHONE: BAYSWATER 5263

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LM/jr

28th November, 1958.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,  
CLEVELAND 6,  
Ohio, U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Thank you for your note of November 25 and your willingness to help us. Unfortunately, we have not yet found a progressive Jew in Hongkong; if you should make this valuable discovery, you would, I am sure, tell us that we could find in him a correspondent, or better still, if it will be possible for him to create a group and to make a start. On hearing from you we would send relevant literature.

In Japan we have heard from various travellers, that there are some individuals interested in progressive Judaism, but we have no real facts; we should like to send literature to someone who would become a correspondent and perhaps develop our cause; we know that there is an orthodox Rabbi trying to deal with those to whom Shintoism means no longer an appeal. We should be most grateful for your advice.

As regards Bombay, I believe you are already acquainted with Rabbi Hugo Gryn, who went to India at the request of the World Union. The progressive community in Bombay has been affiliated to us for well over 35 years; it was founded by our friend Dr. J. Jhirad a very distinguished physician. Under the young rabbi all the activities have developed and he will welcome you, I am sure, most warmly and I have no doubt that you will be able to give some stimulating addresses. Rabbi Gryn has already had considerable influence over the youth of the ~~country~~ community and has made Judaism better understood by Indian Jews and non-Jews.

Thanking you so much,

Yours very sincerely,

Enc.

*Lily H. Montagu*





Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President  
838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, N.Y. Regent 7-8200

December 8, 1958

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Congregation Tifereth Israel  
1855 Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

It was good to see you, Virginia and Danny the other day and I was especially thrilled by your wonderful new building. You have done a tremendously creative job, particularly in the limited space that you had and you have certainly one of the most magnificent and at the same time functional temples and schools in existence.

I am writing this in haste on the eve of your departure for the Far East first of all, once again, to wish Virginia and yourself God-speed on what I know will be a most enriching experience.

I have just heard from Hugo Gryn who is, of course, thrilled about you coming to Bombay and I attach hereto the paragraphs from his letter pertinent to your visit there. I know full well just what your being with that wonderful little congregation will mean to them.

I am likewise enclosing what I described to you the other day as a "dummy" check which, I reassure you, is a far cry from a "fake". We do have the money available and will transmit it either in dollars or rupees as soon as we have the definite details as to which will net the J.R.U. in Bombay the largest amount. On their part, they now have a building definitely in view and as you can see from Rabbi Gryn's comments, they are ready to go.

You will note that they are most anxious to know when you plan to be in Bombay so I wish you would let Rabbi Gryn know as soon as possible, and also your address there, so that they have sufficient time to make their plans for this really extraordinary occasion.

The address of the Jewish Religious Union, once again, is:  
Sajun Building  
2nd Peerkhan Street  
New Nagpada  
Bombay, India

With warmest good wishes to Virginia and yourself for a deeply satisfying and healthful journey, I am

Cordially yours,

*Maurice*  
Maurice N. Eisendrath

MNE:bb  
enclosure



December 9, 1958

Rabbi Hugo Gryn  
Jewish Religious Union  
Sajun Building  
2nd Peerkhan Street  
New Nagpada  
Bombay, India

My dear Rabbi Gryn:

Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath has asked me to indicate to you when Mrs. Silver and I plan to be in Bombay. Our present plans call for our arrival in Bombay on December 17th. He has also sent me a check to be presented to the Jewish Religious Union. My trip around the world is for purposes of rest and I would therefore greatly appreciate if you would not schedule me for any major addresses while in Bombay. It will give us great pleasure, indeed, to see you there.

With warmest regards and looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm



Rabbi Hugo Gryn

"SETT MINAR"  
16A PEDDER ROAD  
BOMBAY 26

TEL. 42084



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## Administrative President

Everett R. Clinchy

## Executive Secretary

Margaret Grant

December 9, 1958

Doctor and Mrs. A. H. Silver  
Hotel Commodore  
New York 17, New York

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Silver:

Airmail letters have been written to World Brotherhood officers in the following cities:

Bombay, New Delhi, and Calcutta, India;  
Rangoon, Burma;  
Bangkok, Thailand;  
Hong Kong;  
Tokyo, Japan;  
Manila, Philippines  
Honolulu, Hawaii.

These individuals all hold volunteer relationships with newly formed World Brotherhood Chapters. In every case, they are persons who are worth knowing, and capable of giving you dependable information and accurate interpretations of current happenings in their countries. These letters are based upon your letter of November 14 to Dr. Margaret Grant. In this letter you give no detailed travel schedule, but simply say that you are leaving New York by plane on December 10, spending a few days in Athens, and arriving in India about the 17th or 18th of December. Please note that we have stated in the letter your approximate time in India and that you will be moving gradually eastward through a number of other countries. For this reason we have given you names in the principal cities.

We shall list below the names of the World Brotherhood officers and tell you a little about each person.

Professor J. C. Daruvala, Executive Secretary of the Bombay Chapter, heads the Department of English Studies at Wilson College.

Bhai G. D. Singh, whose address is Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi, is a person of renown and of wide contacts. He is one of the pioneer airmen in India. In recent years he has given a great deal of time, thought, and service to the World Brotherhood Chapter in New Delhi.



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Sri S. C. Ghose, 63/1 Mahanirban Road, Calcutta 29, is one of the leading men in Calcutta and India. You will find that he can give you a great deal of information about both the old and the new India.

Mr. Oo Thein, 340 Maha Bandoola Street, Rangoon, Burma, is a journalist and printer, and a man with a deep interest in international affairs. He has done a great deal of pioneering for World Brotherhood in Burma along with his personal and business interests.

Mrs. Ubol Huvananda is the Director of the College of Education, Chulalongkorn University, the oldest and largest in Thailand. Mrs. Huvananda is a graduate of the University of Michigan. Her husband is Associate Director of the Department of Social Welfare, and Dean of Public Administration in Dhammasat University.

Mr. A. de O. Sales, 833 Alexandra House, Hong Kong, is one of the leading businessmen in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. He has been active in the founding of the Junior Chamber of Commerce movement throughout Asia, and has given his time to many other new and important undertakings. He is the President of the Hong Kong Chapter of World Brotherhood.

Mr. Tomas C. Benitez, One Mariposa, Manila Heights, Cubao, Quezon City, P. I. (P. O. Box 1886, Manila) is a member of one of the Philippines' most distinguished families. His father, Conrado, has held many distinguished posts in the education of the country; he is the national head of the YMCA movement, and Vice President of the World Alliance, YMCA. Tom's mother is the present President of the Philippines Women's University. A sister is active in international women's organizations as well as the United Nations; she is also on the Fulbright Foundation Board. Tom himself was once Secretary of the Philippines Legation in Washington, D. C.

In Tokyo the World Brotherhood Chapter is not at the present time active, but our contact in Tokyo is Mr. Takashi Komatsu, Secretary of the America-Japan Society, 370 Marunouchi Building, Marunouchi, Tokyo. Mr. Komatsu is widely known in the United States as well as in Japan. We hope it will be possible for you to meet him and see Japanese affairs through his eyes.

You may know that Dr. and Mrs. William A. Shimer returned to Honolulu on October 15 after spending a little more than two years travelling among Asian cities on behalf of the World Brotherhood movement. They set up active Chapters of World Brotherhood in a large number of cities. They were chosen for this important pioneer undertaking because of the prestige of the Hawaiian Chapter of World Brotherhood, which has supplied a pattern that has proven very useful in introducing World Brotherhood to new countries. Dr. Shimer's mailing address is P. O. Box 3106, Honolulu 1. If possible, it would be well to drop the Shimers a word several days before you arrive. I am sure they'd like to have an opportunity to show you their city and enable you to see some of the work carried on by World Brotherhood in that metropolis of races and peoples.



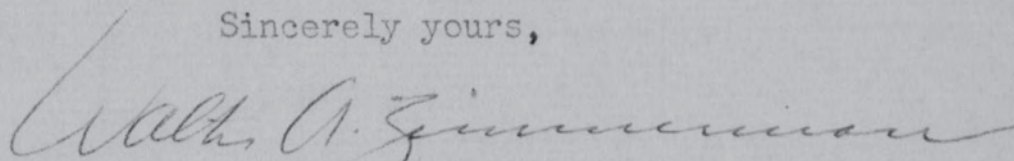
Doctor and Mrs. A. H. Silver

Page 3.

Each of the persons listed above will have received an airletter telling of your forthcoming visit.

Members of the World Brotherhood staff wish you and Mrs. Silver a good trip and happy landings.

Sincerely yours,



Walter A. Zimmerman  
Assistant Secretary for Asia

WAZ:jr

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Everett R. Clinchy

Dr. Margaret Grant





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December 15, 1958.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Taj Mahal Hotel  
Bombay, India

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Hank Zucker telephoned me last week to say that you are on a round-the-world trip and will be covering much the same ground as I did. I hope that you and Mrs. Silver have as stimulating and exciting a trip as I did and the few suggestions I make to you may be of help.

Without doubt, you will be in touch with Rabbi Hugo Gryn, who as you know had been sent out by the World Union of Progressive Judaism to the pulpit he now occupies. Both Hugo and Jackie, his wife, made the impression on me as one of the most devoted and dedicated couples I have met in a long time. When you meet them, you will understand what I mean. I am writing them about your visit. In New Delhi, I shall write to Mr. Ezra Kolet who is the secretary of the New Delhi Jewish Community, and a very engaging person. He will be most happy to be of service to you and I am sure you will want to visit the little prayer hall which the tiny community of New Delhi has built for themselves. Mr. Kolet is one of the senior officials in the Indian Government and as you probably will realize, one of the B'nai Israel group.

Presumably you will be going up to Agra to see the Taj Mahal and I would suggest that you make sure to visit a smaller tomb on the bank of the Jammeau River which is a jewel. Some of the Indians think it is more exquisite than the Taj Mahal. My own feeling was that the Taj has majesty as well as perfect beauty, although this tomb, which I think is in honor of Iskanader, one of the old moguls, is an extraordinary beautiful piece of work. I assume you will not be going to Kashmir because the weather is bad at this time. One of the highlights of my trip was the week I spent in Kashmir visiting the slopes of the lower Himalayan Mountains.

I stopped only one day in Calcutta and probably that is too much. At best, the city is very unattractive and depressing.

To go back for a moment to New Delhi and as long as you plan to be in that area for some time, it might be of interest to you to visit one or two of the Indian agricultural villages in the vicinity of New Delhi. I will suggest that to Mr.



Kolet and will ask him to get in touch with the Catholic Relief representative in whose company I visited one such village. The utter destitution and poverty in that place appalled me. It was worse than anything I had ever seen, far worse than the Jewish villages in the Atlas Mountains, which I thought was just about the bottom.

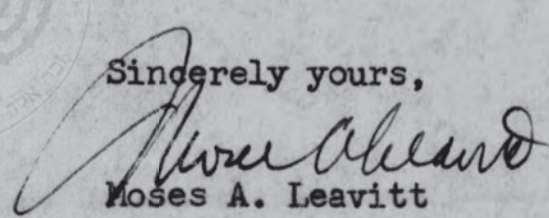
I did not go to Rangoon, but did spend some 7 or 8 days in Bangkok. I am sorry you have not provided in your Bangkok visit, the two day trip to Angkor Wat, which maybe you could not make at this time because of the break in diplomatic relations between Thailand and Cambodia. However, Angkor Wat is such an extraordinary place to visit that it seems a great pity to be so close and not go there. If you could somehow get to Angkor Wat, the only way I see to do it, is to fly from Saigon to Phnompenh and from there to Angkor Wat which is a matter of an hour and a half flight. Despite the change in your schedule, I think you will find it an amply rewarding off beat type of excursion.

In Singapore there is an unusual Jewish personality by name of David Marshall, very well known in South Asia. I shall write him too about your visit. I did not go to Saigon but in Hong Kong there is the Kadoorie family, famous throughout India and Asia, and I shall send a note to Horace Kadoorie advising him of your coming. I shall enclose copies of the various notes I am sending to the people mentioned in this letter.

I do hope you and Mrs. Silver have a most enjoyable journey.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

  
Moses A. Leavitt

encls.



December 15, 1958.

Mr. Ezra Kolet, Financial Adviser  
Minister of Irrigation & Power  
New Delhi, India

Dear Mr. Kolet:

First, let me thank you for all your many courtesies and kindnesses to me during my Indian stay. I have just returned to New York and am sitting down belatedly to say Thank You to all the nice people who made my trip so much more interesting.

I know how pleased you will be to meet with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and his wife who will be arriving in New Delhi on December 23rd and will be staying at the Imperial Hotel until January 4th. I am sure I need not tell you of the position of leadership which Rabbi Silver enjoys in the American Jewish community. As he is staying in the New Delhi area for about ten days, I am sure you will help to make his visit most stimulating. I wrote to him that he ought to visit one or two Indian agricultural villages. The Sonnageres, whom you know, of the Catholic Relief Services, took me out to a little village about 15 miles from New Delhi so that I saw the life of the Indian countryside. I feel it is important to see this if one wants to get a complete picture of India today. Perhaps, it would be well for the Silvers to see both a village where nothing has been done, and one where some assistance has been given to raise the standard of living. I am sure Mr. Sonnagere will be glad to tell you where the village is and if you can arrange for the Silvers to visit it, it would be an interesting experience for them.

Please give my best greetings to your wife and with kind regards to you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Moses A. Leavitt



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December 15, 1958.

Mr. Horace Kadoorie  
St. George's Building  
Hong Kong

Dear Horace:

I am writing to introduce to you Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Mrs. Silver who will be in Hong Kong on January 15th. They will be staying at the Peninsula Hotel. As you undoubtedly know, Rabbi Silver is one of our great spiritual leaders and a personality whom it is a pleasure to meet. I know he will be interested in seeing some of the life of Hong Kong which is outside the usual scope of the every day tourist, and I feel sure he will be interested in seeing the tremendous experiment you are making in trying to raise the living standard of Chinese farmers in Hong Kong.

I have just returned to New York and in the last three weeks have been so busy that I had no opportunity to write and thank you for the many courtesies and hospitality you extended to me.

With best wishes to you and your brother and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Moses A. Leavitt



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December 15, 1958.

Mr. David Marshall  
Singapore

Dear David Marshall:

Somehow, I have no record of your address, but I am sure this letter will reach you, addressed as it is!

First, let me thank you for the wonderful day I had with you. It was a revealing experience and one which I shall remember for a long time. I saw Sydney Einfeld in October in Geneva and he told me he had the pleasure of seeing you in Australia during the summer. I knew you were going there for your holiday.

I am writing you also to introduce to you Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Mrs. Silver who will be at the Raffles Hotel from January 10th to 13th. I would love to be present when you two meet. You will find Rabbi Silver one of the outstanding personalities of our day and I know he will find in you the same electrifying person I did. Would you please call him at the Raffles as I couldn't tell him where to call you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Moses A. Leavitt

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8-B, Reading Road,  
New Delhi 24th December 58.  
(INDIA)

To

Rabbi Aba Hillel Silver,  
Room No. 133, Imperial Hotel,  
New Delhi.

24-1609

Dear Rabbi,

We are very grateful to you for giving us the pleasure of your company last evening, and we learned so many good things from you during that short time. Indeed it is truly said :

כִּי שִׁפְתֵי כֹהֵן יִשְׁמְרוּ דִבְרֵי

As promised, I am giving you the address of Rabbi Ezekiel Musleah, which is 12/1a, Lindsay Street, Calcutta.

I also enclose for your information a copy each of the letters which I have addressed to the principal synagogues in India, concerning their federation. The response so far received is very encouraging, and I propose to have the first Round Table Conference of the leaders of the Synagogues sometime in February 1959. I also intend to publish a journal shortly, which will aim at raising the educational and spiritual standards of the Bene-Israel community of India. In fact I have already made a beginning by issuing leaflets on important subjects, and I enclose a copy each of the two leaflets so far issued be me, for your information.

I hope you will find these enterprises interesting and worthy of your blessings. With kindest greetings to self and Mrs. Silver.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

B.B. Benjamin