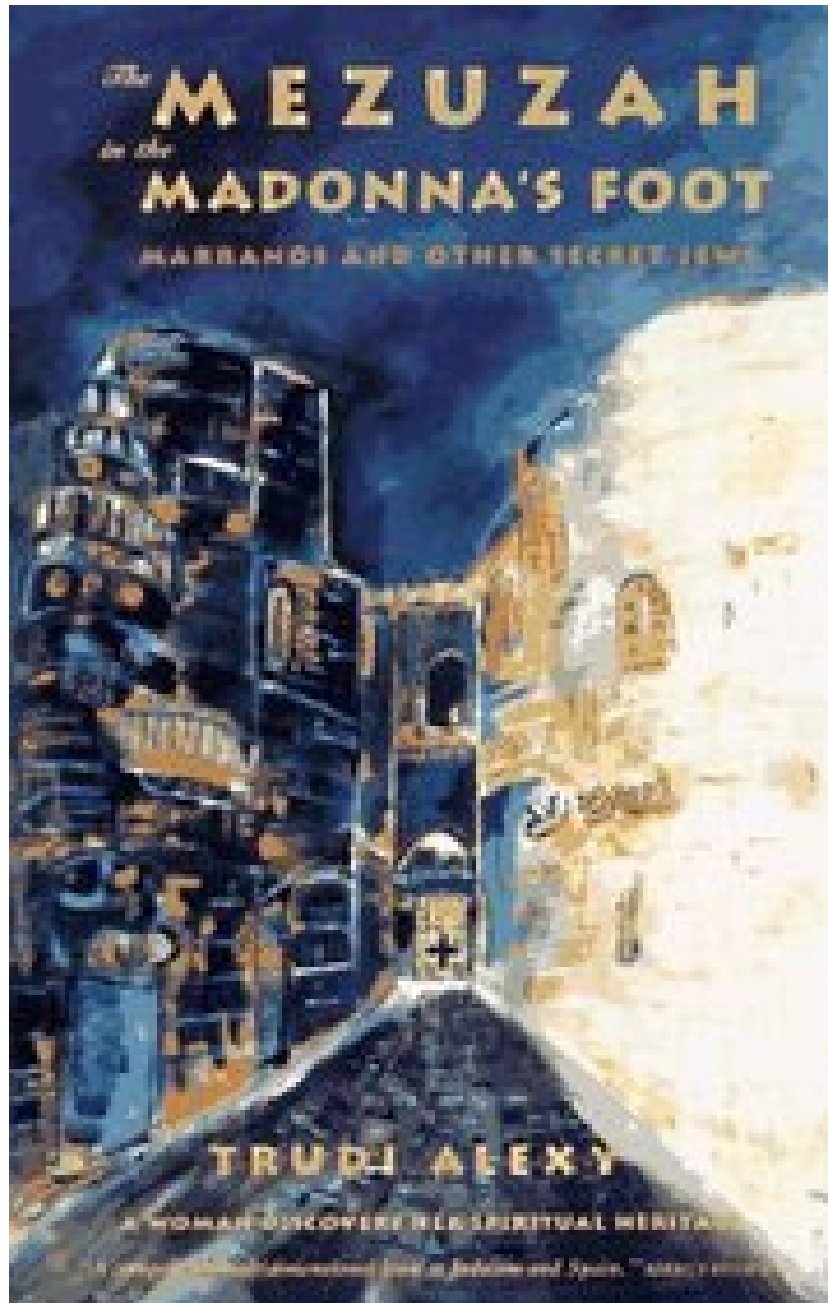


CRYPTO -JEWS

Rabbi Baruj Garzon



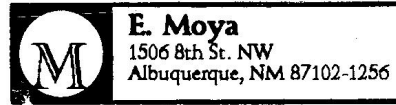
MEZUZAH
IN THE
MADONNA'S FOOT

by
Trudi Alexy



Gilvanci de Oliveira del Portillo
and João Madeiros

Playing Cards
as part of the High Holidays



Editor-Jewish Historical Society of Southern Arizona
5425 N. Via Frassino, Tuscon, Arizona 85750- 5979

July 16, 1999

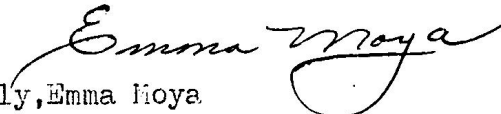
Dear Sirs:

April
A copy of your Chronicle, was sent to me, from Tuscon, via, my Publisher,
Ana Pacheco, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. I write you regarding the Arthur L. Ben-Viste
talk. Mr Ben-Viste refers to Sephardic families playing cards while deterring away,
any suspicion of their practice of hidden Judaism.

In Nuevo Mexico, Cards are called PA_RA_JAS. In other South Western
areas, the cards are referred to as CARTAS.

Our Academia Hebraeica, in Alburquerque, had researched and recorded
the following information, that may or may not, relate to Mr. Ben-Avites statements in
the CHRONICLE.

The word BARAHA or BARAJA alludes to the word PARAHAN, (Prayer)
Our ancestors, including our Sephardic grandparents, cleverly hid their home prayers ,
away from the Catholic Church, and its members.


Sincerely, Emma Moya

Playing Cards
“Barajas”



Jews In Portugal

- 1492 Spanish Jews emigrate to Portugal
- 1493 Portuguese Jews enslaved
- Children sent to São Tome of the coast of Africa
- 1497 Forced conversion
- 1506 Anti Jewish Riots
- Shlomo Malka – false Messiah
- 1536 Portuguese Inquisition

JEWS AMONG THE SPANISH EXPLORERS

- **Luis de Torres** on Columbus ship
- **Hernando Alonso** with Cortez
 - First person tried by Inquisition and burned at the stake in the Americas.

1642 Trial of Blanca Mendez de Rivera and five daughters.
Known as: “Las Blancas”

Trial transcript:

Blanca: “Ay, how has so much misery come to me. They’ve just thrown us in here and already we’re lost without honor and no one will look us in the face even though we didn’t say a thing.”

Maria replies “Were are lost and we will have to flee to the ends of the earth.”

~~~

“If they torture me and I talk they will have to arrest half of Mexico”



- Don Luis de Carvajal

Conquistador extraordinaire

Founder of the city of Monterrey

**Advocate of Indian rights**

staunch Defender of the Catholic Faith

but alas!

of Jewish ancestry

and inevitably,

Victim of the Mexican Inquisition.

- Advertisement for The Conquistador
- Of the San Diego Opera Co.

1590 1<sup>st</sup> Trial of Luis de Carvajal and family

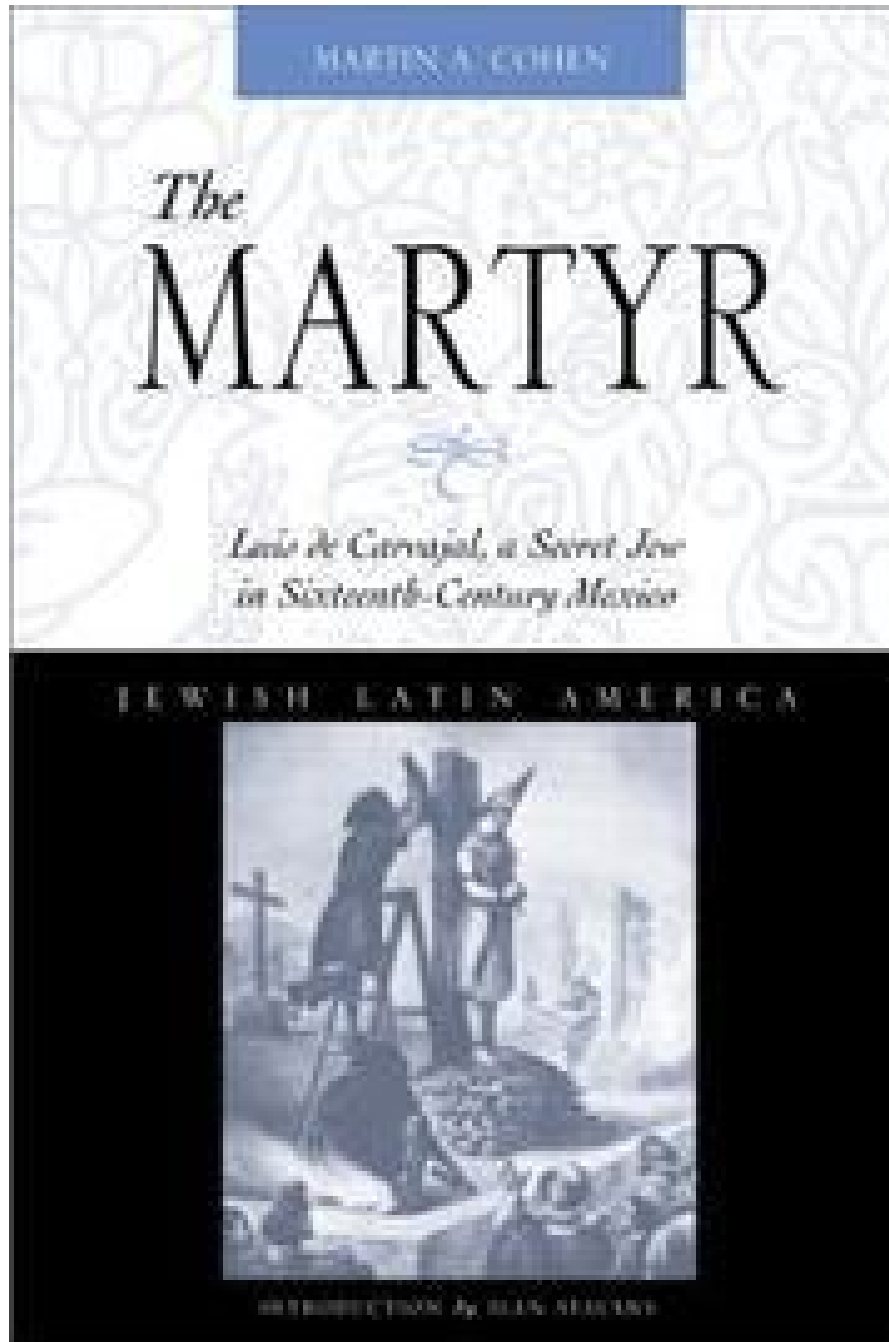
1596 2<sup>nd</sup> Trial

Luis de Carvajal y de la Cueva (the elder)

Luis el Mozo (the younger)

Leonor

Etc.



**The Martyr**  
**Martin A. Cohen**

~

**The story of**  
**Luis de Carvajal**



Auto da fe of  
Mariana Núñez de Carvajal

December 8, 1596

---

*Suplicio de dona Mariana Núñez de Carvajal. Litografía  
del Libro rojo, Archivo General de la Nación de México.*

**Yo dixere con gran  
dolor,  
¡Ay! Que en medio  
de mis días  
Volví as las puertas  
sombrias  
De esta cárcel por  
mi horror  
Y por las maldades  
mías**

**I say with great pain  
Ay! That in the middle  
of my days  
I returned to the  
shadowy doors  
Of this cell because of  
my error  
And because of my bad  
deeds**

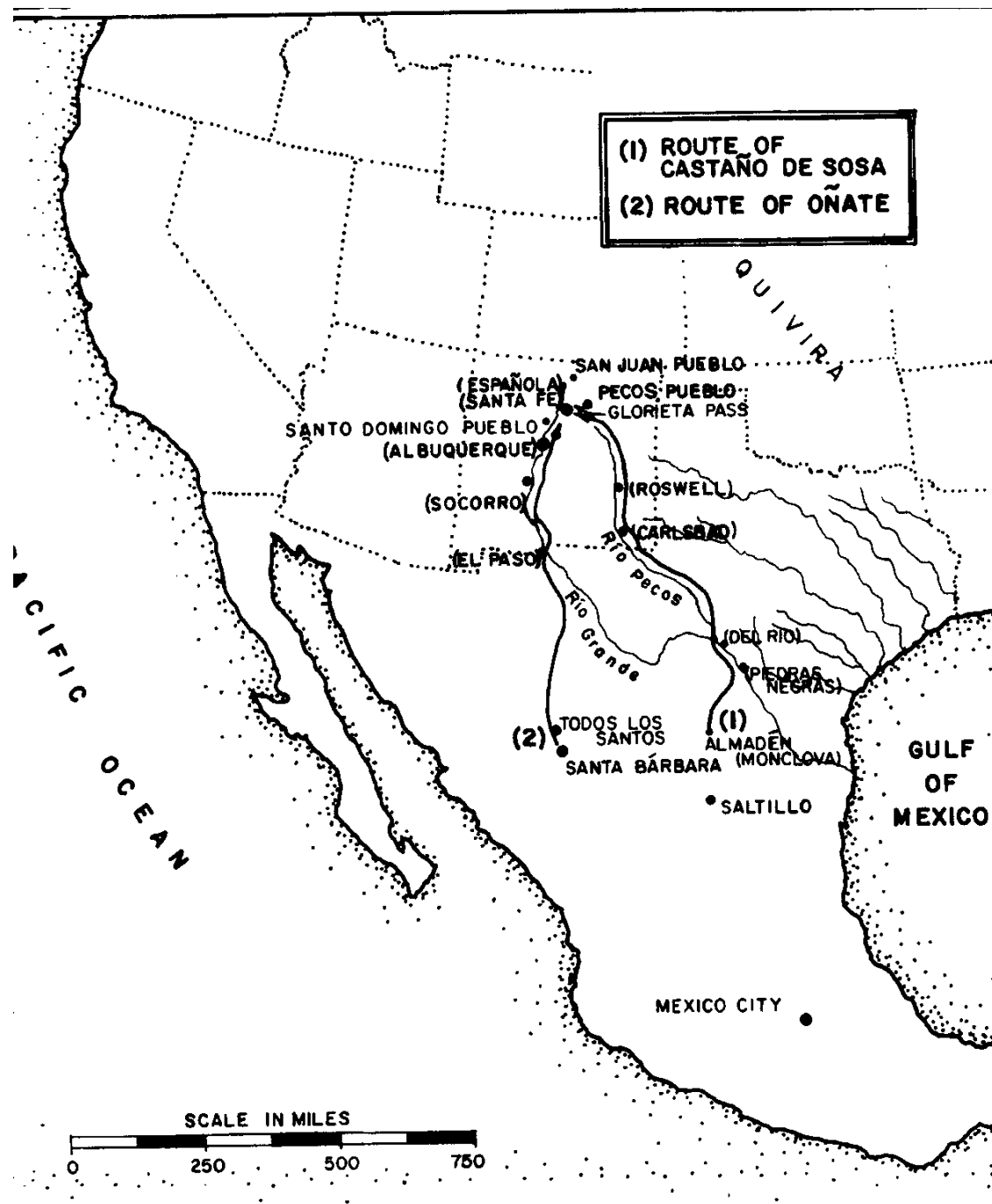
**Leonor de Carvajal**



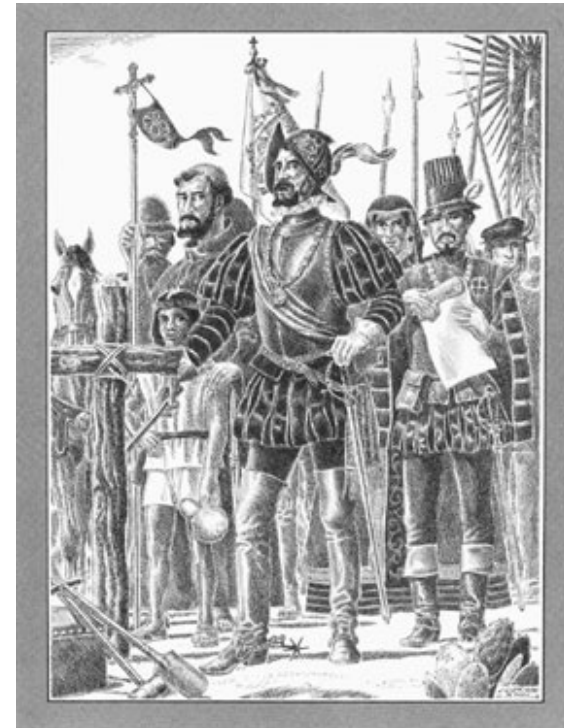
**En todas vuestras  
moradas  
Fuego no encendáis  
En el sábado que  
holgáis  
Porque serán  
condemnadas  
Las almas si tal  
obráis**

**In all of your homes  
Do not light a flame  
On the Sabbath when  
you rest  
Because your soul  
will  
Be condemned for  
this act**

**Leonor de Carvajal**



- Routes of:
- Castaño 1590
- Oñate 1598



Juan de Oñate



Stanley Hordes

# Crypto Jewish Practices

(from a woman in San Antonio)

Clean house and dress up on Friday

Sabbath Candles

No Pork or shellfish

No mixing milk and meat

In the week before Easter

A large meal with a big, flat “cracker”

# Slaughtering Animals In New Mexico and Brazil

- Sharp knife with no nicks
- Slit throat, drain blood
- Remove sciatic nerve
- Wash in salt
- The blood and water had to be taken outside and buried

# Crypto Jewish Funerals

Buried in shroud,

Buried within a day or two

Covering mirrors and Radio and TV.

Children not allowed to go to the funeral.

Eating oven-roasted eggs (Guevos Haminados)

Simple wooden box

Wearing of a Black Ribbon with a rip in it

“The designs on family gravestones were six pointed lillies”

# Wedding Rituals

- To fast on the wedding day (both bride and groom, as well as two male friends of the groom and two female friends of the bride).
- To bind the bride and groom's hands with a white cloth while a prayer is said.
- To follow the wedding ceremony with a light meal consisting of a glass of wine, salt, bitter herbs, honey, an apple, and unleavened bread.
- At the wedding ceremony bride and groom eat and drink out of the same plate and glass.
- Marrying “Los Muestros”

# Birth Rituals

- To place a rooster's head over the door of the room where the birth will occur.
- After the birth the mother must not uncover herself or change clothes for 30 days.
- To throw a silver coin in the baby's first bath water.
- To say a prayer eight days after birth in which the baby's name is included.
- Circumcision
- • “Babies were also given an amulet that looked like a hand and that was also pinned to the baby. I was silver and tied with red ribbon too.”
- “When a baby was born he was given a pin to wear to ward off the “evil eye”





The Evil Eye

# Crypto Jewish Practices

- **Sabbath**

Dress up and cleaning on Friday night as if to prepare for Sabbath candles

special event

- Passover (Week Before Easter)

Large meal with a flat “Cracker”

(Venhaver, Brazil No bread during holy week)

(Belmonte, Portugal – Santa Festa)

- 

- Diet

No pork or shell fish

No Mixing milk and meat

Pan de Semita

# Crypto Jewish Practices

“During the week of lent our family could not eat any bread we ate Matzo”

“At Christmas time The women would make a desert for the kids called ‘**bunuelos**’”  
(Burmuelos?)

Sweeping towards the center of the room

To kiss any piece of bread that falls on the floor

Biblical first names, like Esther

Venerating Jewish saints, with celebrations: Santa Esterika, Santo Moises,

Eight candles for Christmas.

Secret synagogues; secret prayer groups.

Saying: "Hashem es mi dio"

"El Sabado sea el dia la gloria"

Avoiding church.

Homes without icons.

# Ladino Terms

(Could be from old Spanish rather than Jewish)

- Muncho (mucho)
- Ansi (Asi)
- Guerko (Little Devil)
- Haftunah (Spanking)
- El Dio (God - Dios)

# Folk Songs

Dr. Rowena Rivera, UNM

- Songs also sung by Sephardic Jews
- La Sagala (La Serena)

# OTHER PRACTICES OF CRYPTO JEWS

- Pan de Semita (matzos)
- Banuelos (Burmuelos)
- Farolitos or Lumenarias (Hanukkah?)
- Dreidle (May be of Ashkenazi origin)

**Other secret Jewish practices:**

Richard Santos: Bunuelos for Bourmuelos

Magnolia Albalat: Found pendant, Esto no es suyo,  
somos judeos.

Woman in San Antonio: Nosotros son los limpios ellos son  
los susios

Michelle Greene:

- a “You are my Jewish daughter”
- b. Songs, Gerineldo and Anderlito
- c. El Nora Ha Lila

Flavio Montoya: Father would light eight candles on roof for  
Hannukah

## Farilotos or Luminerias – New Mexico style





# BELMONTE PORTUGAL

- 1919 Samuel Schwarz discovers crypto Jews in Belmonte
- 1987 rediscovered by Rabbi Joshua Stampfer
- 1988 Openly practice Judaism-first wedding

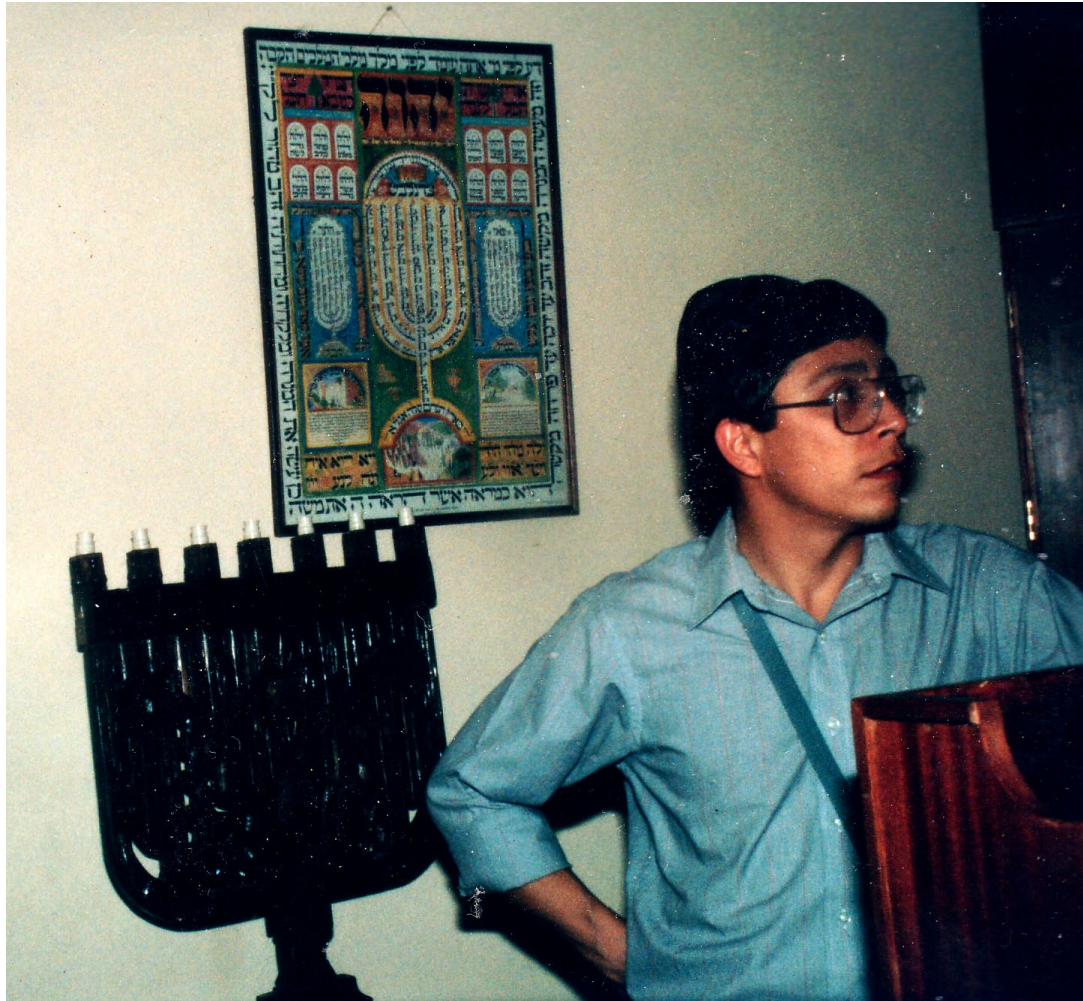
# Ben Eliaju Synagogue Belmonte, Portugal



- Cemetary, Belmonte







Dennis Duran of  
New Mexico visits  
Belmonte



Marranos  
celebrating  
Santa Festa  
(Passover) in  
secret,  
Belmonte,  
Portugal,  
1988





- Sabbath Candles – Belmonte
- Note hooks at top of candle holders

# Stan Hordes and Mr. Nunhes





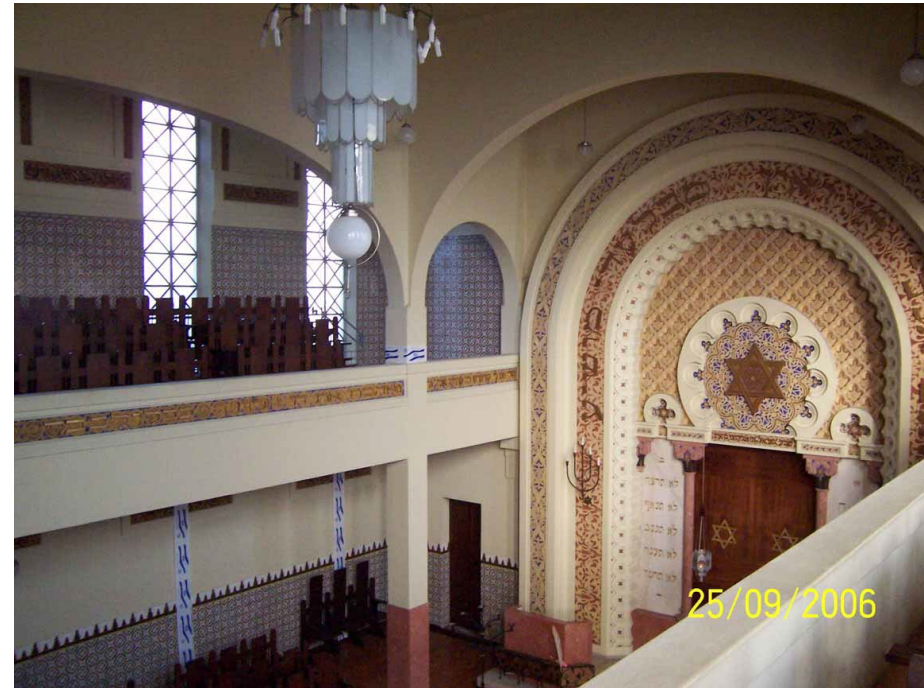
# Artur Carlos Barros Basto

- Founder of Portuguese Boy Scouts
- Founder of Kadoori Synagogue, Porto
- Publisher of HaLapid





# PORTO, PORTUGAL





Porto  
Synagogue  
Interior





**Daughter of  
Barros Basto**



**Daughter of  
Barros Basto**

N. 156

PORTO—Lua de Setembro—5719 (1958 e. v.)

ANO XXXII

Tudo se ilumina  
para aquele que  
busca a luz.

BEN-ROSH

הלפיד

(HA-LAPID)  
O F A C H O

...aluma-vos  
e aponta-vos o  
caminho.

BEN-ROSH

EDITOR — A. C. DE BARROS BASTO (BEN-ROSH)  
Redacção na Sinagoga Kadourie Mekor Haim  
Rua Guerra Junqueiro, 340 — PORTO

COMPOSTO E IMPRESSO NA TIPOGRAFIA MENDONÇA  
Rua Jorge Viterbo Ferreira, 12-2.  
PORTO

## A mulher, na tradição judaica

Um dos maiores erros divulgados, até entre os judeus, é de que a nossa religião não soube elevar a mulher do nível secundário em que se achava no meio da antiguidade pagã. É também erro julgar que foi preciso sobrevir o cristianismo para que a mulher fosse colocada num plano mais elevado no conceito social.

Abramos a Bíblia. Que lemos num dos primeiros capítulos deste venerável livro?

«Por tanto deixa o homem a seu pai e a sua mãe e se une a sua mulher; e são uma só carne.»

Genesis II, 24

Aonde se acha pois essa desigualdade de condições de que fazem alarde os detractores do judaísmo?

Vemos também mais adiante; o Senhor diz a Abraham quando este hesita em despedir a Agar e Ismael:

«Escuta tudo o que Sarah te diz; ouve a sua voz.»

Genesis XXI, 12.

Enfim, a nossa história antiga está cheia de mulheres de grande valor, como Deborah, Esther, Ana, etc.

Mais recentemente vemos no Talmud os seguintes aforismos sobre a mulher:

«A—Se a tua mulher é pequena, abaixa-te para lhe falar.

«B—Deus deu à mulher mais inteligência que ao homem.

«C—Honra tua mulher acima de tudo, porque é por causa dela que a bênção entra no teu lar.

«D—Quando a mulher chora durante a noite, as estrelas do céu choram com ela.»

A mulher judia tem a missão de estender a sua solicitude entre a grande família dos infelizes, sejam eles de qualquer culto; de ajudar o marido a seguir o caminho da justiça, de educar os seus filhos dentro dos sentimentos da honra, e de procurar com leveza minorar as dores que só Deus saberá curar.

HALAPID  
published by  
Barros Basto



# Mikve, Belmonte Synagogue





- Sign of conversion on old Synagogue (now a locksmith) in Guarda, Portugal













Hordes and Mr. & Mrs Vasco in Tomar

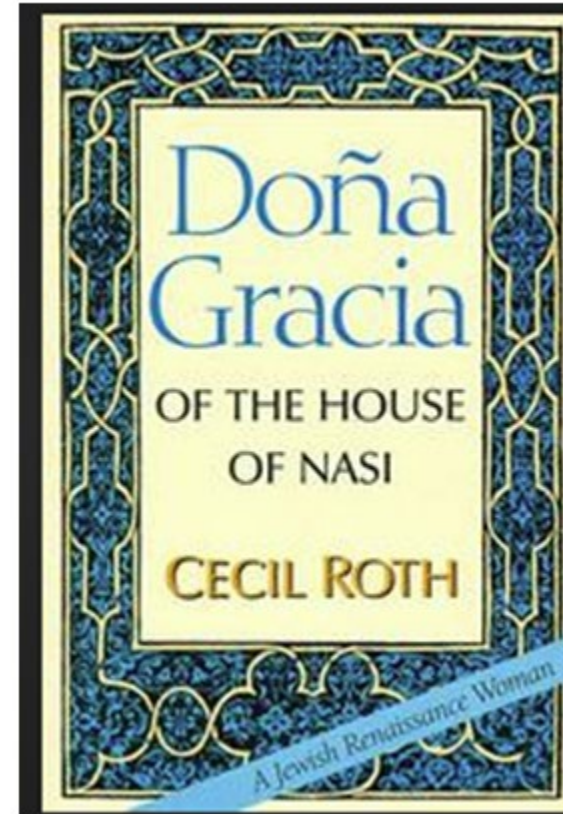
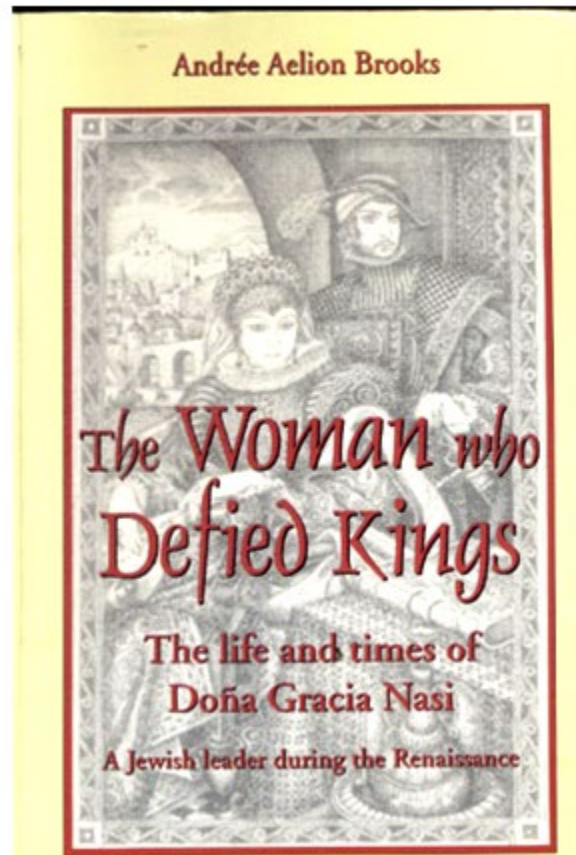


Interior, Synagogue, Tomar

# Mikve Tomar, Portugal







Doña Gracia Naci (Mendes, Benveniste)

# BRAZIL



# PORTUGUESE EXPLORATION

- Henry the Navigator
- 1468 Bartolomeo Dias – Cape of Good Hope
- 1497-98 Vasco da Gama – India finds Gaspar da Gama
- 1500 Pedro Alveres Cabral and Gaspar da Gama to Brazil

- 1580 to 1640 Union of Portugal and Spain
- 1630 to 1654 Dutch in Brazil

Two synagogues open in Recife

1654 Portuguese retake Recife & Natal

Jews leave or go underground. Some move to New Amsterdam



# BRAZIL



- Helio Daniel Cordeiro
  - Founder of SHEMA



- Rabbi Henry Sobel, São Paulo



Gilvanci and João Madeiros



From Natal  
to Caico

# Rio Grande do Norte





# Araujo's castle in Caico



# Monsignor Manuel Tavares de Araujo

