

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

RUTH FREDMAN CERNEA has been researching the history of the Baghdadi Jews of Southeast Asia since her first visit to Burma in 1987. She has authored several studies of immigrant Sephardic communities in the United States, including *Cosmopolitans at Home: The Sephardic Jews of Washington, D.C.*, as well as other articles on the Jewish experience in Burma and on Jewish ritual and symbolism. She is the author of *The Passover Seder: Afikoman in Exile*, an anthropological perspective on Jewish culture, and editor of the collection, *The Great Latke-Hamantash Debate* (2006). For many years, she served as the Director of Research and Publications for the Hillel Foundations in Washington, D.C.

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PETER LEVENDA is pursuing graduate religious studies at Florida International University after a career of more than twenty-five years in international trade. His first book, *Unholy Alliance: A History of Nazi Involvement with the Occult*, has been translated into six foreign languages, bears a foreword by Norman Mailer, and is the result of research undertaken in America, Europe, and Latin America in the Nazi and neo-Nazi underworld as well as in the National Archives and the Library of Congress. His book on China trade, *The Mao of Business*, was published in October 2007 simultaneously in the United States and China.

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MYER SAMRA is an Accredited Specialist in Children's Law and works as a legal officer in the Department of Community Services in New South Wales, Australia. He earned a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from the University of Sydney for his dissertation on the Jews of Iraqi background living in Australia. He began working with the Benei Menashe in Israel, India, and Tamu in Burma from 1989 as a Golda Meir Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has taught at Sydney University, the Hebrew University, and the Shalom Institute at the University of New South Wales.

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MADHURI M. YADLAPATI received her Ph.D. from Yale University in 2002. Her dissertation title was "The Religious Foundations of Hegel's Ethical Thought." She is currently an adjunct instructor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She teaches courses on world religions, modern Christian thought, and faith and doubt. Her research interests in the philosophy of religion include the philosophical basis for interreligious dialogue, issues of religious pluralism, and the role of religious doubt.