



Mr. **Sami Michael**, acclaimed Israeli author, traveled to the United States upon the invitation of the Stanford University in North California. After lecturing at a Humanities conference at the University, he and his wife and some personal friends attended a gathering with the members of the Graduate Society Foundation in Los Angeles on September 24, 2007. This gathering, held at the Iranian American Jewish Federation, was attended by Mr. Manouchehr Nazarian, President of the Federation along with the Foundation's Board as well as many supporters of Mr. Michael's work.

To begin, Mr. Jamshid Nowain, welcomed the guest of honor and his wife and expressed greetings for the Jewish New Year. He continued to say that the Graduate Society Foundation is honored to publish the Farsi translation of *A Trumpet in the Wadi*. Mr. Nowain went on to express his hope that Mr. Michael's ideas with respect to values and human rights will result in peace and coexistence among all people. Mr. Michael was then presented with an award inscribed with the Cyrus Cylinder, which he expressed great interest and pleasure in receiving.

In his remarks, Mr. Michael recalled that after fleeing Iraq in 1948 he spent a year living in Tehran, during which time he developed a deep fondness for the Iranian Jewish people. He added that Iranian and Iraqi Jews comprise one society. He expressed deep happiness and appreciation about the translation and publication of his book by the Graduate Society Foundation.

In this gathering, many subjects and questions were discussed. Not only did Mr. Michael answer every question, but he went on to add his own opinions about each topic. To conclude, the participants took part in the traditional Shabbat blessings and enjoyed dinner afterwards.

Mr. Michael's book was originally published and formally introduced to a large group of supporters of Jewish culture and literature in April 2007. At this time, the book received a very positive response. The September event was the Foundation's first opportunity to honor its author in person.