

Compact Memory Has the Most Important German-Jewish Periodicals in Full-Text

By Edward Luft, Washington, DC, USA

Between the time this article was submitted and the publication of Stammbaum, there are likely to have been significant improvements in the website described. Readers are encouraged to check out this very interesting site. - Editors

"Compact Memory," [URL: <http://www.compactmemory.de>] is a project jointly undertaken by three academic institutions, the "Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule RWTH Aachen," the "Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Frankfurt am Main," and the Germania Judaica Library in Köln. It offers actual reproductions of the most important research journals for German-Jewish history and genealogy research, covering the entire German-speaking world. Since some of these journals carried news about Jews in areas outside Germany as well, they are worth consulting for news of other locations, such as the United States and Russia. [See especially the news carried by the *Allgemeine Zeitung des Judenthums*, but also other publications shown below.] This non-commercial project began in 2000 and is estimated to be complete by 2006. Soon a search function will be added to enable researchers to look for articles by author or title.

So far, the website contains the following journals in full text:

Allgemeine Zeitung des Judenthums (1837-1922)

Altneuland (1904-1906)

Die Welt (1897-1914)

Jahrbuch für jüdische Geschichte und Literatur (1898-1914, 1936-1938)

Mitteilungen des Gesamtarchivs der Deutschen Juden (1908/09-1914/15, 1926)

Ost und West (1901-1923)

Palästina (1902-1938)

Der Jude (1916-1924/29, published by Martin Buber)

Eventually, the list of publications on the website will also include:

C. V.-Zeitung

Der Jude

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Der Morgen

Der Orient

Im deutschen Reich

Israelitisches Familienblatt

Jeschurun [1854-1888] Frankfurt

Jeschurun [1914-1930] Berlin

Jüdische Rundschau

Menorah, Wien

Neue jüdische Monatshefte

Selbstwehr

Sulamith

Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift für jüdische Theologie

Zeitschrift für Demographie und Statistik der Juden

Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland [1887-1892]

Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland [1929/30-1937]

No other publications will be added after that. At the moment, the website is not in English, but the sponsors are working on it. They will add a Simple and an Advanced

Search to browse the articles more efficiently and an English version of the site as well as a function for downloading and printing selected pages.

Some of the journals to be added will carry items wholly or partly in Yiddish or Hebrew. When the website is complete, while it will offer the periodicals covering the German-speaking world in general, researchers may well still have to consult regional and local journals not on this website.

Unfortunately, the annual index for the *Allgemeine Zeitung des Judenthums*, perhaps the most important journal for genealogical research, does not appear at the beginning of each volume so you must find the source elsewhere or await the search function installation. Even then, you will need to know the terms for which you are searching. It would have been far better to post the index for each year at the beginning of the year or separately. One further problem is that the pages do not always correspond with the pages indicated in the list of issues so that when I sought to open what was designated as page 113, I was sent to page 115 and had to go

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back to try again, using another method. Hopefully, the Webmaster will soon fix this shortcoming. Nevertheless, the project is very useful and valuable, especially if you already know what you are looking for, and alternative ways already exist for printing in most computer systems which can access the website.

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