

## P R E F A C E

In this issue of *Immanuel* we pay respect to two outstanding Jewish personalities in Israel, who have recently passed away. Firstly, in the rubric "Hebrew Bible", an article is devoted to one of the greatest Israeli archaeologists, Professor Yohanan Aharoni, who died at the zenith of his life and career. We are proud that in the previous issue of *Immanuel* we were able to publish an article by him on some aspects of the excavations he conducted at Beer-Sheva. It is clear from this and many other publications that Israeli archaeology has lost in him one of its most competent representatives.

In the rubric "Contemporary Religious Life and Thought in Israel", Professor Nathan Rotenstreich contributes an article in memory of the Jewish philosopher and religious thinker Shmuel Hugo Bergman, who died at an advanced age. He was a staunch and passionate protagonist for interfaith understanding in Israel, always looking out for signs of religious renewal and mutual respect and interchange between people from different traditions and convictions. No wonder that he was among the first who warmly greeted the publication of *Immanuel*, which is inspired by the ideals he stood for.

We apologise to our readers for the delay in publication of this issue of *Immanuel*. Lack of qualified people at the editorial level who can devote sufficient time to the preparation of the bulletin is the main factor in this delay. We do, however, have hopes that this situation will be remedied in the near future.

The Editorial Board  
of "Immanuel"