

Sephardim's progress

Review by JUDY CARR

Unequal By Chance, by Eliezer David Jaffe. Published by Gefen Publishing House, Jerusalem, New York. 73 pp.

Eliezer Jaffe writes about a serious social characteristic that appeared in the early days of the State of Israel. A good proportion of the population was educationally disadvantaged. And very few of them got to university. These were the Sephardic Jews, or Jews from Arab-Asian countries.

The book tells of the programs,

pioneered by Jaffe, to enter these Israelis for university and fit them for academic skills. Jaffe taught many of them in his school of social work at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and his pupils succeeded and helped others to conquer their disadvantages.

This major project is little known and should be better known, as it is due to these efforts that we no longer consider the Sephardic Jews disadvantaged, but Israelis have attained a new degree of equality.