

A Brief Note on the Passing of Hakham Dr. Jose Faur, z”tl

I have only just now learned of the death of Hakham Dr. Jose Faur, z”tl, on June 10, 2020. He left behind two major works about Maimonides, *Homo Mysticus: A Guide to Maimonides's Guide for the Perplexed*, and an essay on the historical “Maimonidean Controversy” titled *Anti-Maimonidean Demons*, which is linked on my website *maimonides-guide*, which I will post separately.

My copy of *Homo Mysticus*, from 1999, when it came out, is covered with notes, underlining, highlighting, post-it tabs, and dog-eared. It is difficult but fascinating. I never understood his semiological references, and I confess to being somewhat suspicious of them, since it does not reflect what I would consider an appropriate rejection of postmodernism. Nonetheless, he was a great man and a great scholar.

I heard him lecture, perhaps a half a dozen times, at Spertus Institute (back when it was still Jewish), where I was fortunate enough to be able to question him several times, and talk to him privately. I’ve never forgotten those important exchanges. His championship of the Old Sepharad was pathbreaking in our amnesiac times.

Copyright © 2020, Scott Michael Alexander, no copying or use permitted without express written permission of the author.

scottmalexander@rcn.com