*Introduction by the Karaite Jews of America*

About this Edition: *The Sayings of Moshe* is the Hebrew-English anthology of practical insights on living by the Tanakh (the “Hebrew Scriptures”), as taught by the Egyptian-born Karaite Rabbi Moshe ben Shabbetai Ratzon, of blessed memory (OBM). Not unlike his Biblical namesake, this pioneering community leader actively participated in the twentieth-century exodus of thousands of Egyptian Jews as they moved their ancient communities and institutions from the largest city in Egypt to towns and villages throughout their ancestral homeland: Israel. Join Rabbi Moshe as he uses weekly Torah portions and popular misconceptions alike to explain the truth about Biblical Judaism while challenging readers to embrace a deeper personal connection with the God of Israel. In a few places, the translations reflect the wishes and intent of Elisha Ratzon, who compiled his father’s works into the Hebrew edition of this book. Because we wanted to preserve the essays of Rabbi Moshe Ratzon in as close to their original form as possible, we made very limited changes (with approval by Elisha Ratzon) to the Hebrew text provided here. Finally, readers of Hebrew will observe that Rav Ratzon used various epithets (such as “Scripturalists” and “Traditionalists”) to refer to adherents of different approaches to the Torah; in order to help English readers, we have translated them all as “Karaites” or “Rabbanites,” as the case may be, unless context absolutely required a different translation. The Karaite Jews of America extends its gratitude to the compiler of this anthology, Mr. Elisha Ratzon of Ashdod, Israel, for his mentorship as we bring the warmth of his late father’s legacy to a global audience, and we thank him for his own service to the people of Israel during his tenure as Vice President of the Karaite community of Israel. English translations are based on the JPS 1917 Holy Scriptures.

*Incline Your Ear and Listen to the Words of Wise Men*.

(Proverbs 22:17)

About the Translator:James Walker (*Yaʻaqov Ben Avraham Hadani*) is CEO of Informative Technologies Inc. in Charlotte, North Carolina and is a married father of three children. Having personally enjoyed this book (*Imrot Moshe*) in the Hebrew original issued by the Ratzon family in 2005, he sincerely thanks Mr. Elisha Ratzon and Mr. Shawn Lichaa for their guidance and patience in making this bilingual edition possible. He regularly serves as a lay leader at Hebrew Family of Charlotte and Temple Israel-Charlotte, and is soon to become the first African-American Hazzan (worship leader) trained by the Karaite Jewish community.