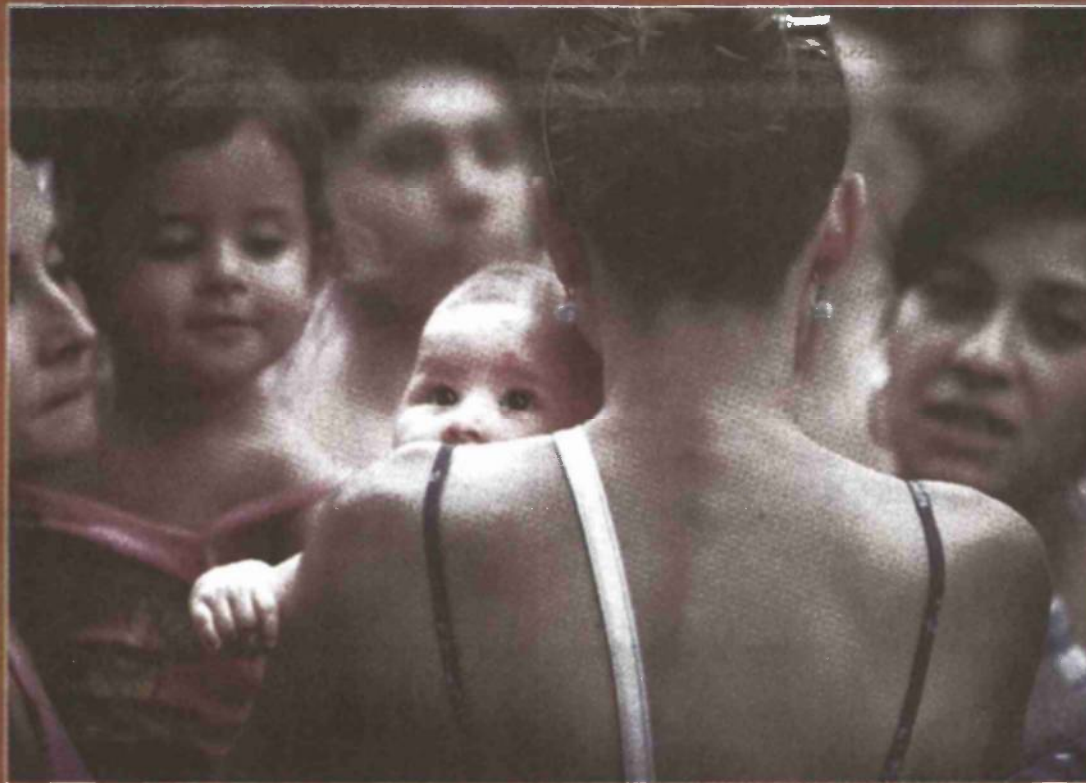


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SHEBA DOCS SAVE ROMANIAN PREMIES



Patients, pregnant women and relatives stand in the street following a fire in Bucharest's Giulesti Maternity Hospital on Monday that killed four premature babies. Dr. Yosef Hayek, head of the burns unit at Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer, Dr. Leah Leibovitz and a third unnamed staffer flew to Romania yesterday to treat the seven remaining premature babies, who weigh between 1 and 2.5 kilos and suffer from serious burns over 40-80 percent of their bodies. Two of the babies are attached to artificial respiratory systems and are in very serious condition. Dozens of newborns and women, some in labor, were evacuated late on Monday from the hospital, which functions as part of the country's inadequately funded and staffed health system. Romanian health authorities had requested Sheba's assistance, said hospital staff, adding that some of the infants may be flown to Israel for advanced treatment. The Israeli doctors brought basic medical equipment to Romania and more will be sent if needed, the hospital said.

(Text: Judy Siegel, photo: Vadim Ghirda, AP)