



האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים  
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

# The Eighth Irano-Judaica Conference

*in Memory of Professor Shaul Shaked*

**June 18-21 / 2023**

**Beit Maierdorf, Mt. Scopus Campus**

*The National Library of Israel*



**The May and Rolando Schinasi Foundation  
for Iranian and Central Asian Studies /**

*Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies*



בית ספר ג'ק, ג'וזף ומרטון מנדל  
ללימודים מחקרניים במדעי הרוח



מנדל סכוליון  
Mandel Scholion

## Sunday, June 18, Beit Maersdorf, Room 405

17:00 | Reception

17:30 | Introduction to the Conference: Julia Rubanovich and Ofir Haim

Keynote: Ab de Jong (University of Leiden) *Iranian and Jewish Textual Cultures*

## Monday, June 19, Beit Maersdorf, Room 503

### SESSION I: JEWS AND IRANIANS IN ANCIENT TIMES

Chair: Michael Shenkar (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

9:15 | Ran Zadok (Tel Aviv University) *Connections between Israelites-Judeans as well as other West Semites, and Iranians in pre-Hellenistic Mesopotamia and Adjacent Regions*

10:00 | Peter Zilberg (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) *The Influence of Iranian Languages on Imperial Aramaic in the Persian Achaemenid Period*

10:45 | Coffee

### SESSION II: RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC INTERACTIONS IN PRE-ISLAMIC IRAN

Chair: Simcha Gross (University of Pennsylvania)

11:00 | Adam Silverstein (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) *Did Esther lose her huile d'olive? Bi-Lingual Puns in MT Esther*

11:45 | Shai Secunda (Bard College) *In a Name: Iranian and Zoroastrian Elements in Late Antique Babylonian Jewish Onomastics*

12:30 | Lunch

### SESSION III: RABBIS AND MAGI: RITES, MAGIC, AND STORYTELLING UNDER THE SASANIANS

Chair: Yakir Paz (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

14:00 | Geoffrey Herman (École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris) *Zoroastrian Water Rituals in the Babylonian Talmud*

14:45 | Reuven Kiperwasser (Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Ariel University) *Walks in the Narrated Spaces of Rabbis and Sasanian Storytellers*

15:30 | Simcha Gross (University of Pennsylvania) *Does an Arrow a Day Keep Satan Away? Magical Subtexts in Babylonian Rabbinic Narratives*

16:15 | Coffee

### SESSION IV: INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIP

Chair: Reuven Amitai (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

16:30 | Dan Shapira (Bar-Ilan University) *New Approaches to Late Sasanian Jewish/Christian/Zoroastrian Syncretism*

17:15 | Jonathan Brack (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev) *Ibn Kammuna is Going to Hell!': Refuting Judaism in Ilkhanid Iran*

## Tuesday, June 20, Beit Maersdorf, Room 503 / The National Library of Israel

### SESSION V: JUDEO-PERSIAN LITERATURE AND MINIATURE PAINTING

Chair: Galit Hasan-Rokem (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

9:15 | Rachel Milstein (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) *Miniature Painting in Judeo-Persian Manuscripts*

10:00 | Julia Rubanovich (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) *Shāhīn's Biblical Poems: Why Versify the Torah?*

10:45 | Coffee

### SESSION VI: NEW DISCOVERIES IN JUDEO-PERSIAN POETRY UNDER THE SAVAVIDS

Chair: Julia Rubanovich (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

11:00 | Paul Fenton (Université Paris-Sorbonne, Paris IV) *The Recent Discovery of an Unknown 16th-century Judeo-Persian Poet from Qazvin: Darvīsh Sabzavārī and his Dīvān*

11:45 | Vera Basch Moreen (Independent Scholar, USA) *Three Panegyric Poems by Darvīsh-i Sabzavārī (16th century)*

12:30 | Lunch

13:30 | Trip to the National Library of Israel (Giv'at Ram Campus) – Exhibition

### SESSION VII: COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES, THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ISRAEL

14:30 | Samuel Thrope (National Library of Israel) *Judeo-Persian Collections at the National Library of Israel*

15:15 | Exhibition

16:00 | Coffee

### SESSION VIII: RELIGIOUS PRACTICES OF IRANIAN JEWS

16:15 | Shervin Farridnejad (Hamburg University) *Tradition and Transformation: Reconsidering the Judeo-Iranian Ketubot*

18:30 | Dinner

## Wednesday, June 21, Beit Maersdorf, Room 403

### SESSION IX: JEWS IN EARLY MODERN AND MODERN IRAN

Chair: Gershon Lewental (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

9:00 | Nahid Pirnazar (House of Judeo-Persian Manuscripts, Los Angeles) *Hayat al-Ruh by Simantov Melamed the Jewish Spiritual Leader of the 19th Century* (Zoom)

9:45 | Daniel Amir (Oxford University) *Continuing a Canon: Popular Poetry and Iranian Jewish Nationalism in the Twentieth Century*

10:30 | Miriam Nissimov (Tel Aviv University) *Jews and Wine in Shī'ite Iran: Religious Impurity and Social Practices*

11:15 | Coffee

### SESSION X: JUDEO-PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND THE EXEGETICAL TRADITION

Chair: David Yeroushalmi (Tel Aviv University)

11:30 | Ofir Haim (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) *From Ruin to Redemption: Exploring a Lost Karaite Work in Early Judeo-Persian and Its Perception of Jewish History*

12:15 | Ludwig Paul (Hamburg University) *Judaeo-Persian Tafsirs of the 11th-17th Centuries and their History of Transmission*

13:00 | Maximilian Kinzler (Hamburg University) *Linguistic Peculiarities of 19th-Century Judeo-Persian*

13:45 | Concluding Remarks, Buffet Lunch

Organizers: Dr. Ofir Haim and Dr. Julia Rubanovich