

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES



**TWENTIETH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

PROGRAM

Copley Plaza Hotel
Boston, Massachusetts

December 18–20, 1988

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
Widener Library M, Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

President
Ruth R. Wisse
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The Association for Jewish Studies is a constituent society of
The American Council of Learned Societies.

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

All sessions are at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Copley Square, Boston, Massachusetts (Tel. 617-267-5300). The hotel offers a full array of facilities and services, including dining rooms, child care, and parking. For information, contact the hotel directly.

Main Lobby:

Venetian Room
Ballroom Foyer
Directors' Room
Oval Room

Lower Level:

Forum Room
Back Bay Room
State Suite

Hotel reservations at the special conference rate must be received by the Copley Plaza Hotel by December 3, 1988.

The Conference at a Glance

Meeting Room	Sunday, 11:00 A.M.	Sunday, 1:15 P.M.	Sunday, 3:30 P.M.
<i>Venetian Room</i>	New Areas of Holocaust Research (I,A)	Hebrew Literature in America (II,A)	New Sources for the Study of Jewish Women (III,A)
<i>Forum Room</i>	Bible: Stylistic and Linguistic Studies (I,C)	Qabbalah (II,D)	Contemporary American Jewish Communities (III,D)
<i>Directors' Room</i>	20th-Century Writers and their Motifs (I,E)	Rabbinic Thinking (II,C)	Themes in Turn-of-the-Centuries Hebrew Writers (III,C)
<i>Oval Room</i>			
<i>Back Bay Room</i>	Medieval Commentators and their Contexts (I,D)	New Approaches to Popular Jewishness (II,B)	Aspects of Early 20th-Century New York Jewry (III,E)
<i>State Suite</i>	Modern Jewish Social History in Central Europe (I,B)	The Experiences of Medieval and Renaissance Jewish Women (II,E)	The Emergence of Modern Orthodoxy (III,B)

Meeting Room	Sunday, 8:00 P.M.	Sunday, 9:30 P.M.	Monday, 9:00 A.M.
<i>Venetian Room</i>		Jews in Renaissance Italy (V,B)	The Origins of American Jewish Scholarship (VI,A)
<i>Forum Room</i>			Jews and Poland (VI,C)
<i>Directors' Room</i>		Edges of the Diaspora (V,A)	Contemporary Jewish Thinkers (VI,E)
<i>Oval Room</i>	The AJS at Twenty: The Cutting Edge of the Study of Judaica (IV)		
<i>Back Bay Room</i>		Studying the Jewish Aged (V,C)	Bible: Literary Themes (VI,D)
<i>State Suite</i>		Constructive Jewish Theology: The Doctrine of Creation (V,D)	Women in Jewish Law (VI,B)

Meeting Room	Monday, 11:00 A.M.	Monday, 1:30 P.M.	Monday, 3:30 P.M.
<i>Venetian Room</i>	Perspectives on Early Modern Jewish History (VII,A)	The Immigrant Motif in American Jewish History (VIII,A)	
<i>Forum Room</i>	The Political Context of Hebrew Fiction in the 1980s (VII,D)	Jewish Political Studies (VIII,C)	Ahad Ha'Am: Historical Reappraisals (IX,A)
<i>Directors' Room</i>	The Akedah (VII,C)	19th-Century Modernities (VIII,E)	Hasidism (IX,D)
<i>Oval Room</i>			ASSSJ Annual Meeting (IX,E)
<i>Back Bay Room</i>	Maimonides (VII,E)	Midrash (VIII,D)	American Jewish Women in Search of Themselves (IX,C)
<i>State Suite</i>	Jews and the Media (VII,B)	Jewish-Christian Polemics in Late Medieval Spain (VIII,B)	Gersonides on the 700th Anniversary of his Birth-Year (IX,B)

Meeting Room	Monday, 8:00 P.M.	Tuesday, 9:00 A.M.	Tuesday, 11:00 A.M.
<i>Venetian Room</i>	Rabbinic Judaism: Historical Studies (X,F)	The Modern Immigrant and Economics (XI,A)	Class, Culture and Ethnicity in Jewish Immigrant Experience (XII,A)
<i>Forum Room</i>	Recent Hebrew Literature (X,B)	E. Levinas and Contemporary Jewish Philosophy (XI,D)	Social and Economic Development of the Yishuv (XII,B)
<i>Directors' Room</i>	The Alliance Israélite — "Oriental" Jewry and Modernity (X,C)	Diaspora Jews and Zionism (XI,E)	Medieval Hebrew Literature (XII,D)
<i>Oval Room</i>	Israel in the Mind of American Jews (X,A)		
<i>Back Bay Room</i>	Traditional Intellectual Styles in the Early Modern Era (X,E)	Midrash and Psychoanalysis (XI,C)	Post-Modern Theologians (XII,E)
<i>State Suite</i>	German-Jewish Thinkers (X,D)	Holocaust Writing by Victims, Refugees, and Witnesses (XI,B)	Agnon Himself and In Relation to Other Writers (XII,C)

Sunday, December 18, 1988

10:30 A.M. Registration

Meeting of AJS Board of Directors

Main Lobby

State Suite Foyer

1:00 P.M.—6:00 P.M. Book Exhibits

Ballroom Foyer

Session I, 11:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

11:00 A.M. Session I, Section A

Venetian Room

New Areas of Holocaust Research

Chair: James E. Young (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Adaptation of Holocaust Survivors to Life in America: An Analysis of the Case Worker Files of the United Service for New Americans (USNA) and the National Council for Jewish Women (NCJW)

William B. Helmreich (City College)

The Scholarship of Death: A Comparative Analysis of Nazi Historical Institutes in the Third Reich

Sandra G. Gereau (Brandeis University)

The Archaeology of Testimony in Holocaust Narrative

Sara R. Horowitz (University of Delaware)

Eleanor Roosevelt and the Plight of World Jewry

Monty Noam Penkower (Touro College)

11:00 A.M. Session I, Section B

State Suite

Modern Jewish Social History in Central Europe

Chair: Alexander Orbach (University of Pittsburgh)

The Social Background to the Crisis of Berlin Jewry, 1780-1820

Steven M. Lowenstein (University of Judaism)

An Aspect of the Economic History of Rural Jewry in Central Europe: The Case of Jewish Cattle Dealers in Switzerland, 1780-1930

Uri Kaufmann (Hochschule für Jüdische Studien, Heidelberg)

Jew by Culture (Bildungsjuden) or German by Culture (Bildungsdeutscher): An Appraisal of Post-Emancipation German Jewry

Gerda C. Schmidt (University of Pittsburgh)

The Centrality of Jewish Education in the Politics of the Weimar Berlin Jewish Community

Judith Friedman Rosen (New York University)

Sunday, Dec. 18

11:00 A.M. Session I, Section C

Forum Room

Bible: Stylistic and Linguistic Studies

Chair: Frederick E. Greenspahn (University of Denver)

The Language of Satire in the Hebrew Bible

David Marcus (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Decisive Evidence for the Derivation of Biblical Hebrew Hishtahaveh from the Root het-vav-yod

Chaim (Harold) Cohen (Ben-Gurion University)

Job's Symptoms — Hyperbole or Medical Condition?

Nahum M. Waldman (Gratz College)

Simplification Processes Underlying Historical Change of Hebrew [in Hebrew]

Mordechai Rimor (Brandeis University)

11:00 A.M. Session I, Section D

Back Bay Room

Medieval Commentators and their Contexts

Chair: Moshe J. Bernstein (Yeshiva University)

The Impact of German Pietism on Tosafists in Northern France: The Study Hall at Evreux

Ephraim Kanarfogel (Stern College, Yeshiva University)

Rashi's Commentary on the Pentateuch and Sefardic Logic

Abraham Gross (Ben-Gurion University)

"When Israel Was A Child, Then I Loved Him": Divine Teaching and Human Pupils

Stephen D. Benin (Memphis State University)

The Karaite Yefet ben 'Eli and Jacob ben Reuben on Christianity and Christendom

Daniel Frank (Oxford University)

11:00 A.M. Session I, Section E

Directors' Room

Twentieth-Century Writers and their Motifs

Chair: Janet Hadda (University of California, Los Angeles)

Radio of Perets Markish

Seth Wolitz (University of Texas, Austin)

Aspects of the Yiddish and Hebrew Poetry and Drama of Aaron Zeitlin

Emanuel S. Goldsmith (Queens College)

Elias Canetti and his Sephardic Heritage

Gloria J. Ascher (Tufts University)

Malamud's Midrash on Paul's Letter to the Romans

Carole S. Kessner (State University of New York, Stony Brook)

Sunday, Dec. 18

Session II, 1:15 P.M.-3:15 P.M.

1:15 P.M. Session II, Section A

Venetian Room

Hebrew Literature in America: A Reappraisal

Chair: William Cutter (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles)

American Hebrew Writing and the Larger Context of Jewish Literature
Benjamin Harshav (Yale University)

B. N. Silkiner and his Circle: The Genesis of the New Hebrew Literature in America

Jacob Kabakoff (Lehman College)

A Research Agenda for Hebrew Literature in America: The American Scene

Alan Mintz (University of Maryland)

Respondent: David G. Roskies (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

1:15 P.M. Session II, Section B

Back Bay Room

New Approaches to Popular Jewishness

Chair: David Berger (Brooklyn College)

Envy in Jewish and Christian Devotional Literature: A Comparative Psychological and Moral Analysis

Sol Schimmel (Hebrew College, Boston)

16th- and 17th-Century Child-Rearing: A Matter of Discipline

Kathryn Sather (McGill University)

The Samson Nazirite Vow in the Sixteenth Century

Samuel Morell (State University of New York, Binghamton)

The Publication of Hebrew "Hanhagot" (Regimen Vitae) in the Eighteenth Century and Its Historical Significance

Zeev Gries (Boston University)

1:15 P.M. Session II, Section C

Directors' Room

Rabbinic Thinking

Chair: Robert Goldenberg (State University of New York, Stony Brook)

Restricting the Gezerah Shavah: Background Data and History

Michael Chernick (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York)

Case Citation, Wishful Thinking, and Some Misunderstood Talmudic Terms

Eliezer L. Segal (University of Calgary)

The Affective Association of the Verbal and the Dramatic Expressions in Rabbinic Literature

Asher Finkel (Seton Hall University)

Rephrasings of Midrashic Texts in Early Piyyut

Menahem Schmelzer (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Sunday, Dec. 18

1:15 P.M. Session II, Section D

Forum Room

Qabbalah

Chair: Lawrence Fine (Indiana University)

Dualism in Pre-Zoharic Qabbalah

Mark Verman (St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota)

Hieros Gamos and Early Qabbalah: On the Use of Marital Imagery in the Teachings of Judah ben Yagar and the Problematic of Its Interpretation

Elliot K. Ginsburg (Oberlin College)

Peshat and Sod in Nahmanides' Commentary on the Torah

Elliot R. Wolfson (New York University)

The Zohar on Jonah: Exegesis and Archetype

Aryeh Wineman (Troy, New York)

1:15 P.M. Session II, Section E

State Suite

Medieval and Renaissance Social History: The Experiences of Women

Chair: Marsha Rozenblit (University of Maryland)

The Education of Girls in Medieval Jewish Society

Judith R. Baskin (State University of New York, Albany)

Medieval Jewish Widows: Their Control of Resources

Cheryl Tallan (York University)

The Dark Side of Women as Depicted in Some Medieval Hebrew Narratives

Judith Dishon (University of Maryland)

Jewish Women in Renaissance and Counter-Reformation Italy

Howard Adelman (Smith College)

Session III, 3:30 P.M.-5:30 P.M.

3:30 P.M. Session III, Section A

Venetian Room

Dilemmas and Discoveries: New Sources for the Study of Jewish Women (in conjunction with the Women's Caucus of the AJS)

Chair: Hannah Kliger (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Learning about Women Through (of All Things) a Study of Bar Mitzvah: Toward a Dialogical Research Paradigm

Judith Davis (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Oral History: Untapped Resource

Harriet Davis-Kram (Queens College)

"Women Don't Wear Wigs Here": Attitudes Toward Dress and Acculturation in Jewish Immigrant Fiction, 1900-1930

Barbara A. Schreier (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

The Real "Yiddishe Mama": Jewish Women in Jewish Film

Sharon Pucker Rivo (National Center for Jewish Film)

Sunday, Dec. 18

3:30 P.M. Session III, Section B

State Suite

The Emergence of Modern Orthodoxy

Chair: Mel Scult (Brooklyn College)

The Mithnagdim and the Enlightenment — A Reassessment

Allan Nadler (Harvard University)

The Mishnah Berurah as a Reaction to 19th-Century Jewish Secularism in Eastern Europe

Simcha Fishbane (Wilfred Laurier University)

Reason and Revelation in Early American Orthodox Jewish Thought

Gershon Greenberg (American University)

Halakhic Leniency in Modern Responsa Regarding Conversion

Shmuel Shilo (Hebrew University)

3:30 P.M. Session III, Section C

Directors' Room

Themes in Turn-of-the-Centuries Hebrew Writers

Chair: Yael Zerubavel (University of Pennsylvania)

Utopia as a Literary Genre in Hebrew Haskalah Literature

Moshe Pelli (University of Central Florida)

The Autobiographical Vision of Michah Yosef Berdichevsky

Marcus Moseley (Oxford University)

Socialists and Socialism in the Writings of Y. H. Brenner [in Hebrew]

Samuel Schneider (Yeshiva University)

H. N. Bialik as a Religious Writer

Shmuel Litov (Baltimore Hebrew University)

3:30 P.M. Session III, Section D

Forum Room

Contemporary American Jewish Communities: Historic Roots and New Developments

Chair: Rela G. Monson (Gratz College)

Small-town Jewish Communities in Western Pennsylvania: A Century of Continuity and Change

Ewa Morawska (University of Pennsylvania)

“Judaism Started in South Philadelphia”: A Look at Those Who Stayed

Rakhmiel Peltz (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Toward the Golden Land: Jews in the Postwar Urban West

Deborah Dash Moore (Yivo Institute)

From Poland to Pittsburgh: The Resettlement of Holocaust Survivors

Barbara Burstin (University of Pittsburgh)

Sunday, Dec. 18

3:30 P.M. Session III, Section E

Back Bay Room

Politics and Entertainment: Aspects of Early 20th-Century New York Jewry

Chair: Jenna Weissman Joselit (Yivo Institute)

Der Tog's First Year (1914-15): Non-partisanship and Jewish Nationalism

Ellen Kellman (Columbia University)

Yiddish Music-Halls in New York: More than a Favorite Immigrant Pastime

Nina Warnke (Yivo Institute)

5:45 P.M. Annual Business Meeting of the Association

State Suite

All members invited

6:30 P.M. Dinner

Oval Room

8:00 P.M. Session IV

Oval Room

Chair: Leon Jick (Brandeis University)

The Association for Jewish Studies at Twenty: The Cutting Edge of the Study of Judaica — Reflections by Past Presidents

Baruch Levine (New York University)

Marvin Fox (Brandeis University)

Michael A. Meyer (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati)

Arnold J. Band (University of California, Los Angeles)

Session V, 9:30 P.M.-10:30 P.M.

9:30 P.M. Session V, Section A

Directors' Room

Edges of the Diaspora

Chair: Jane S. Gerber (City University of New York Graduate School)

Repentance and Ma'aser (Tithe) as Means to Hasten Redemption: The Preachings of the Yemenite "Messiah" Shukr Kuhayl II

Bat-Zion Eraqi Klorman (University of Miami)

Bukharan Jews in the USSR Today

Igor Kotler (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati)

9:30 P.M. Session V, Section B

Venetian Room

Jews in Renaissance Italy

Chair: David Ruderman (Yale University)

Joseph Shelomo del-Medigo: A Jewish Follower of G. Galilei and Giordano Bruno

Joseph Levi (Hebrew University)

Leone Ebreo and the Italian 15th-Century Academies

Shulamit Levi (Hebrew University)

Sunday, Dec. 18—Monday, Dec. 19

9:30 P.M. Session V, Section C

Back Bay Room

Studying the Jewish Aged

Chair: George Getzell (Hunter School of Social Work)

The Morale of Elderly Jews: A Comparative Analysis

Allen Glicksman (Philadelphia Geriatric Center)

“Rabbi, A Mi-She-Berakh Couldn’t Hurt”: Elderly Congregants Face Illness and Death

Gail Gaisin Glicksman (University of Pennsylvania)

9:30 P.M. Session V, Section D

State Suite

Constructive Jewish Theology: The Doctrine of Creation

Chair: David Blumenthal (Emory University)

Creation From Nothing Out of the Hebrew Scriptures and Classical Rabbinic Bible Commentaries

Norbert M. Samuelson (Temple University)

Respondents: Arthur Green (Reconstructionist Rabbinic College); Ellen M. Umansky (Emory University); Steven T. Katz (Cornell University)

Those planning to attend this session are asked to read the paper in advance; copies are to be ordered from Professor Norbert Samuelson, Temple University Religion Department, Philadelphia PA 19122.

Monday, December 19, 1988

8:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M. Book Exhibits

Ballroom Foyer

Session VI, 9:00 A.M.–10:45 A.M.

9:00 A.M. Session VI, Section A

Venetian Room

The Origins of American Jewish Scholarship (In Honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Jewish Publication Society)

Chair: Nahum Sarna (Jewish Publication Society)

Preaching, Teaching and Reaching: The Emergence of Jewish Scholarship in America

Shuly Rubin Schwartz (Brightwaters, New York)

The Schiff Classics and the Profession of Jewish Scholarship in the United States

Jonathan Sarna (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati)

Harry Wolfson and the Problem of Modernism

Henry D. Shapiro (University of Cincinnati)

9:00 A.M. Session VI, Section B

State Suite

Women in Rabbinic Law

Chair: Neil Danzig (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

The Relative Impact of Mishnah Gittin's Enactments on Husbands and Wives

Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Women in Rabbinic Law: Status of Women in the Public Cultural Domain

Judith Romney Wegner (Williams College)

Women and the Sacred: Menstrual Pollution in Judaism and Christianity

Shaye J. D. Cohen (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

9:00 A.M. Session VI, Section C

Forum Room

Jews and Poland

Chair: Michael Stanislawski (Columbia University)

Polish Plays for Jewish Audiences in Turn-of-the-Century Warsaw

Michael Steinlauf (Harvard University)

Jewish Self-Government in Poland: Lodz, 1914-1939

Robert Moses Shapiro (Baltimore Hebrew University)

Zionists and Jewish Communists in Postwar Poland — Emigration and the Battle for the Jewish Street

David Engel (Tel-Aviv University)

9:00 A.M. Session VI, Section D

Back Bay Room

Bible: Literary Themes

Chair: Edward L. Greenstein (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Ambiguous Lies in Biblical Narrative

Ora Horn Prouser (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Interpretation of Dreams

Shaul Bar (New York University)

Did King Solomon Write Poetry?

Ziony Zevit (University of Judaism)

9:00 A.M. Session VI, Section E

Directors' Room

Contemporary Jewish Thinkers

Chair: Michael L. Morgan (Indiana University)

A Theory of Jewish Ethics: The Ethical Realism of Seymour Siegel

Richard A. Freund (St. Lawrence University)

Creative Jewish Theology in Traditionalist Context: The Case of David Hartman

Moshe Sokol (Touro College)

Baruch Kurzweil and Yeshayahu Leibowitz: The Orthodox Intellectual as Crank

David Singer (American Jewish Committee)

Monday, Dec. 19

Session VII, 11:00 A.M.-12:45 P.M.

Venetian Room

11:00 A.M. Session VII, Section A

Characterizing a Period: Perspectives on Early Modern Jewish History
(in conjunction with the American Section of the International Association of Historical Societies for the Study of Jewish History)

Chair: Benjamin Ravid (Brandeis University)

Toward a Social and Religious History of the Jews in Early Modern Europe

Elliott Horowitz (Ben-Gurion University)

Tradition and Crisis a Generation Later: A Non-Ashkenazi Angle

Daniel Swetschinski (University of Arizona)

The Creation and Transformation of Ottoman Jewry

Benjamin Braude (Boston College)

Respondent: Bernard Cooperman (Harvard University)

11:00 A.M. Session VII, Section B

State Suite

Jews and the Media

Chair: Jack Kugelmass (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

The Creation of an "Other" in Jewish Photographic Works

Aviva Weintraub (Yivo Institute)

The Simcha that Speaks Your Language: Contemporary Jewish Programming on WEVD

Lynn Dion (Columbia University)

Broadcast Jews: Self-imaging in Contemporary Film and Television

Jeffrey Shandler (Yivo Institute) and Jack Kugelmass

11:00 A.M. Session VII, Section C

Directors' Room

The Akedah

Chair: Murray Lichtenstein (Hunter College)

The Binding of Ishmael: A Feminine Subplot on Parenting, Castration and the Faith

Ilana Pardes (University of Pennsylvania)

Between Exegesis and Narrative: A Comparison of Two Midrashic Presentations of the Akedah

Lewis M. Barth (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles)

An Unknown Sermon on the Akedah from the Generation of the Expulsion and Its Implications for 1391

Marc Saperstein (Washington University)

Monday, Dec. 19

11:00 A.M. Session VII, Section D

Forum Room

The Political Context of Hebrew Fiction in the 1980s

Chair: Arthur Avnon (Consulate of Israel, Boston)

Apocalypse Now? — The Fictionalizing of Politics and the Politicization of Fiction

Gila Ramras-Rauch (Hebrew College, Boston)

The Vilna Ghetto — Jerusalem or Yavneh? — Y. Sobol's Misreading of Berdichevsky, Freud and the Identification-with-the-Aggressor

Yael Feldman (Columbia University)

Fiction and Publicistics in the Work of Aharon Megged

Stanley Nash (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York)

11:00 A.M. Session VII, Section E

Back Bay Room

Maimonides

Chair: Jacob Staub (Reconstructionist Rabbinic College)

The Moral Psychology of the Shemonah Perakim

Daniel H. Frank (University of Judaism)

Maimonides on Shilu'ah ha-Kan

Roslyn Weiss (University of Delaware)

Was Thomas Aquinas a Maimonidean?

Leonard S. Kravitz (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York)

Session VIII, 1:30 P.M.-3:15 P.M.

1:30 P.M. Session VIII, Section A

Venetian Room

The Immigrant Motif in American Jewish History (conjointly with the American Jewish Historical Society)

Chair and commentator: Edward S. Shapiro (Seton Hall University)

Aspects of Immigration During the Sephardic Period

Eli Faber (John Jay College)

Aspects of Immigration During the East European Period

Gerald Sorin (State University of New York, New Paltz)

The Impact of Restrictionism on American Jewry

Henry L. Feingold (Baruch College)

Monday, Dec. 19

1:30 P.M. Session VIII, Section B

State Suite

Jewish-Christian Polemics in Late Medieval Spain

Chair: Robert Chazan (New York University)

Gazing into the Countenance of Gentile Women: Unlocking the Riddle of 15th-Century Jewries

Benjamin R. Gampel (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

The Language of Polemic: Abner of Burgos' Book of Three Beliefs

Dwayne E. Carpenter (Columbia University)

Jewish Skepticism in Late Medieval Spain

Theodore A. Perry (University of Connecticut)

1:30 P.M. Session VIII, Section C

Forum Room

Jewish Political Studies

Chair: Harold M. Waller (McGill University)

The Understanding of Bible in Modern Zionist Thought

Harvey Shulman (Concordia University)

Political Cleavages in Jewish Communities: Electoral Patterns in Inter-war Europe

Alan Zuckerman (Brown University)

Communal Political Leadership in Montreal

Yogev Tzuk (Herzliah High School, Montreal)

1:30 P.M. Session VIII, Section D

Back Bay Room

Midrash

Chair: Marc Brettler (Brandeis University)

"Tannaitic" Materials in the Sifra

Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)

Midrashic Questions in Rabbinic Homilies

Brigitte Kern-Ulmer (Brown University)

The Suffering of the Righteous in Palestinian and Babylonian Sources

Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)

1:30 P.M. Session VIII, Section E

Directors' Room

19th-Century Modernities

Chair: Todd Endelman (University of Michigan)

Marx and the Definition of Modern Jewish Thought: Die Judenfrage

Ori Z. Soltes (Cleveland College of Jewish Studies)

French Jewry and the Second Republic

Jonathan I. Helfand (Brooklyn College)

Hebrew Revival, Zionist Awakening and Social Change among Libyan Jews during the 19th and 20th Centuries

Rachel Simon (University of Washington)

Session IX, 3:30 P.M.-5:15 P.M.

3:30 P.M. Session IX, Section A

Forum Room

Ahad Ha'Am: Historical Reappraisals

Chair: Jehuda Reinharz (Brandeis University)

Ahad Ha'Am as Leader: Elitism in an Age of Mass Politics

Steven J. Zipperstein (University of California, Los Angeles)

Ahad Ha'Am as the Sage of Zionism: an Assessment

David Vital (Tel-Aviv University and Northwestern University)

Respondent: Jacques Kornberg (University of Toronto)

3:30 P.M. Session IX, Section B

State Suite

Gersonides, On the 700th Anniversary of his Birth-Year

Chair: Seymour Feldman (Rutgers University)

Particulars and Contingents in Divine Knowledge

Shmuel Klatzkin (Brookline, Massachusetts)

Logic and its Applications in the Philosophy of Gersonides

Charles Manekin (University of Maryland)

Individuals and Individuation in Gersonides

Tamar Rudavsky (Ohio State University)

Some Remarks on Gersonides' Astrology

Zvi Langermann (Jewish National Library, Jerusalem)

3:30 P.M. Session IX, Section C

Back Bay Room

American Jewish Women in Search of Themselves

Chair: Chava Weissler (Lehigh University)

Variations and Dilemmas in American Jewish Feminist Thought

Maurie Sacks (Montclair State College)

Anzia Yezierska: A Hunger Artist

Ruth Knafo Setton (Lafayette College)

Rose Haas Alschuler: A Chicago Woman

Norma Spungen (Spertus College of Judaica)

3:30 P.M. Session IX, Section D

Directors' Room

Hasidism

Chair: Yaffa Eliach (Brooklyn College)

Miriam: The Image of Woman in Hasidic Theoretic Literature

Nehemia Polen (Hebrew College, Boston)

Portraits of Hasidism in 20th-Century Hebrew and Yiddish Literature

David C. Jacobson (Wesleyan University)

Pilgrimage to Poland 1988: A Study of a Hasidic Ritual

Shifra Epstein (University of Texas, Austin)

Monday, Dec. 19

3:30 P.M. Session IX, Section E

Oval Room

Association for the Social Scientific Study of Judaism (annual business meeting)

Presiding: Rela G. Monson (Gratz College)

5:30 P.M. Reception

Venetian Room

Sponsored by Brandeis University in honor of the 40th anniversary of the founding of Brandeis.

Greetings: Evelyn Handler (Brandeis University)

7:00 P.M. Dinner

Oval Room

Presidential Address

Session X, 8:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section A

Oval Room

Israel in the Mind of American Jews (co-sponsored with the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Judaism)

Chair and Commentator: Nathan Glazer (Harvard University)

How Has the Uprising Affected American Jewish Attitudes Toward Israel?

Steven M. Cohen (Queens College)

Has the Cause of Israel Undermined American Jewish Liberalism?

Leonard Fein (Boston, MA)

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section B

Forum Room

Recent Hebrew Literature

Chair: Michael Taub (State University of New York, Binghamton)

"Hellenism" Revisited: The Judaisation of Non-Judaic Mythological Sources in Modern Hebrew Poetry

Glenda Abramson (Oxford University)

Weddings, Grooms and Brides in the Plays of Hanoch Levin

Baruch Link (University of California, Los Angeles)

Sone' hannissim by Shulamith Hareven: A Marxist and Freudian Analysis

Yudith Nave (Wellesley College)

Theme and Style in Anton Shammas's Arabesques

Avraham Balaban (University of Michigan)

Monday, Dec. 19

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section C

Directors' Room

The Alliance Israélite — "Oriental" Jewry and Modernity

Chair: Yedida K. Stillman (State University of New York, Binghamton)

The Alliance Teaching Body 1860-1939

Aron Rodrigue (Indiana University)

The Alliance Israélite Universelle and the Crisis of Leadership in the Moroccan Jewish Community

Daniel J. Schroeter (George Washington University)

The Effect of the Alliance Israélite Universelle on the Tunisian Jewish Communities and Its Conflicts with the Local French-Educated Elite, 1900-1965

Michael Laskier (Tel-Aviv University)

Respondent: Norman A. Stillman (State University of New York, Binghamton)

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section D

State Suite

German-Jewish Thinkers: Retrospective

Chair: Michael Riff (Leo Baeck Institute)

Arational Religion Out of the Sources of Judaism

Robert Schine (Middlebury College)

Anti-Historicism in Interpreting Jewish Sources: Leo Strauss versus Hermann Cohen on Maimonides

Martin D. Yaffe (University of North Texas)

Leo Strauss on Modern Jewish Philosophy

Ehud Luz (Haifa University)

The Spiritual Roots of Contemporary Israeli Peace Initiatives: Samuel Hugo Bergman and Berith Shalom

M. Dean-Otting (Kenyon College)

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section E

Back Bay Room

Traditional Intellectual Styles in the Early Modern Era

Chair: Isaac Alteras (Queens College)

Rabbi Moses Hagiz and the Art of Rabbinic Controversy

Elisheva Carlebach (Queens College)

Three Gates Tehinno: A Seventeenth-Century Prayer by Sarah Bas Tovim

Norman Tarnor (University of Judaism)

The Interaction Between Qabbala and Science in Sefer ha-Berit

Ira Robinson (Concordia University)

A Political Agenda for Iggeret Teshu'at Yisrael?

Philip E. Miller (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York)

Monday, Dec. 19–Tuesday, Dec. 20

8:00 P.M. Session X, Section F

Venetian Room

Rabbinic Judaism: Historical Studies

Chair: Martin A. Cohen (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York)

Characterization of the Development of the Jewish Armed Forces from Hasmonean Times to Herod's Day

Aryeh Kasher (Tel-Aviv University)

Philo's Joseph between Judaism and Hellenism

Maren Niehoff (Oxford University)

Abba Kolon, Rome, Persia, and Palmyra

Louis H. Feldman (Annenberg Research Institute)

New Light on the Composite Character of the Babylonian Talmud

Richard Kalmin (Jewish Theological Seminary of America)

Tuesday, December 20, 1988

8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. Book Exhibits

Ballroom Foyer

Session XI, 9:00 A.M.-10:45 A.M.

9:00 A.M. Session XI, Section A

Venetian Room

The Modern Immigrant and Economics

Chair: Egon Mayer (Brooklyn College)

Russian-Jewish Immigration to the United States and the Idea of Agricultural Productivization

Scott Miller (Hebrew University)

Immigrant Human Capital and Occupational Attainment at the Turn of the Century, with Special Reference to Jewish Immigrants

Barry R. Chiswick (University of Illinois, Chicago)

"Said to be a very honest Jew": the R.G. Dun Credit Reports and Jewish Business Activity

Gerald Tulchinsky (Queen's University)

9:00 A.M. Session XI, Section B

State Suite

Holocaust Writing by Victims, Refugees, and Witnesses Through the Imagination

Chair: Ellen Schiff (North Adams State College)

The Warsaw Ghetto Poetry of Wladyslaw Szlengel

Frieda W. Aaron (Kingsborough Community College)

Refugee Writing and the Shoah

Alan L. Berger (Syracuse University)

"The Shawl" and "Rosa": Cynthia Ozick's Holocaust Haggadahs

Sara Blacher Cohen (State University of New York, Albany)

Tuesday, Dec. 20

9:00 A.M. Session XI, Section C

Back Bay Room

Midrash and Psychoanalysis: A Discussion of Mordechai Rotenberg's Re-biographing and Deviance

Moderator: Steven Kepnes (Colgate University)

Panel members: Susan Handelman (University of Maryland); Jeremy Zwell-
ing (Wesleyan University); Richard Rubenstein (Florida State University)

9:00 A.M. Session XI, Section D

Forum Room

Emmanuel Levinas and Contemporary Jewish Philosophy

Chair: Laurence J. Silberstein (Lehigh University)

The Unique Other: Hermann Cohen and Emmanuel Levinas

Robert B. Gibbs (St. Louis University)

The "He," the "I," and the "You" in Levinas and Rosenzweig

Richard A. Cohen (Owings Mills, Maryland)

Levinas, Buber, and the Vocation of Philosophy

Alan Udoff (Baltimore Hebrew University)

9:00 A.M. Session XI, Section E

Directors' Room

Diaspora Jews and Zionism

Chair: Stanley Moses (Hunter College)

The Realistic Imagination of Palestine in the Early Zionist Movement, 1897-1914

Michael Berkowitz (St. Lawrence University)

Mission and Survivalism in American Zionism, 1898-1948

Allon Gal (Ben-Gurion University)

The Conservative Rabbinate and Zionism: A Reappraisal

William M. Batkay (Montclair State College)

Session XII, 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Venetian Room

11:00 A.M. Session XII, Section A

Class, Culture and Ethnicity in Jewish Immigrant Experience

Chair: Jeffrey Gurock (Yeshiva University)

The German-Jewish Establishment and East European Jews, New York 1880-1900

Hadassah Kosak (Stern College, Yeshiva University)

"The Outsiders": Immigration Patterns and Ethnic Diversity in Palestine

Nitza Druyan (Stern College, Yeshiva University)

Various Paths in the Immigration of North African and Islamic Jews

Esther Benaïm-Ouaknine (Université de Montréal)

Tuesday, Dec. 20

11:00 A.M. Session XII, Section B

Forum Room

The Social and Economic Development of the Yishuv

Chair: Sara Reguer (Brooklyn College)

Zionism and Colonialism: The Case of Otto Warburg

Derek Penslar (Indiana University)

Palestine Jewry during World War I

Donna Robinson Divine (Smith College)

Arabs, Jews and the British: The Land Triangle in the 1940s in Palestine

Kenneth W. Stein (Emory University)

11:00 A.M. Session XII, Section C

State Suite

Agnon Himself and in Relation to Other Writers

Chair: Arnold J. Band (University of California, Los Angeles)

An Emerging Theory of Writing in Agnon's Short Stories

Gila Safran-Naveh (University of Cincinnati)

Speech Acts and Silences in Agnon's Bidmi Yameha

Naomi Sokoloff (University of Washington)

Imperfect Peace in A Perfect Peace by Amos Oz and in A Simple Story by S. Y. Agnon

Nitza Ben-Dov (Princeton University)

Images of the Text in Agnon, Kafka, Jabès and Schulz

Anne Golomb Hoffman (Fordham University)

11:00 A.M. Session XII, Section D

Directors' Room

Medieval Hebrew Literature

Chair: Michael A. Signer (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles)

Halakhah in the Balkan Piyyut

Leon J. Weinberger (University of Alabama)

New Look on Medieval Mannerism: The Case of Multiple Texts Within One Poem

Hayim Y. Sheynin (Gratz College)

Philosophical Conceptions of the Soul in the Poetry of Moses Ibn Ezra

Adena Tanenbaum (Harvard University)

Abner of Burgos' Minhag Qena'ot: Causality, Determinism or Predetermination?

Shoshanna Gershenzon (California State University, Northridge)

Tuesday, Dec. 20

11:00 A.M. Session XII, Section E

Back Bay Room

Post-Modern Theologians

Chair: Richard C. Hertz (University of Detroit)

The Unpublished Letters of Franz Rosenzweig to Eugen and Margrit Rosenstock-Huessy

Harold M. Stahmer (University of Florida, Gainesville)

Franz Rosenzweig's Theory of the Jewish-Christian Relationship: Is It Dialogical?

David Novak (Baruch College)

After Modern Jewish Philosophy: The Case of Max Kadushin

Peter Ochs (Drew University)

1:00 P.M. Meeting of AJS Board of Directors

State Suite Foyer

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