This conference suggests exploring perspectives that dispense with the modern notion of monolithically constructed "cultures". It suggests to replace it by a concept like thinking in polyphonic relationalities and translations within a multicollective environment. How can be reconstructed in this way consistent arguments of the Sephardi/Mizrachi/Mustarabi Jews towards the Muslim Nahda, towards modernity, towards a possible "Jewish Enlightenment" in the South.

It is generally accepted that Jews in particular living under Islam in medieval Baghdad, Cairo, Tunis, Fez, Sevillia or Tóledo not only frequented and interacted with a remarkable great number of local and translocal collectives – such as manufacturers, physicians, rabbis, falāsifa, members of Sephardi synagogues, mutakallimun etc. - but also translated as virtuosi between their different vocabularies and forms of knowledge under the conditions of Islam. There are good reasons to argue that a replacement of the prism of culture can also shed new light on the relational rationality of Jewish groups within Islamicate contexts beyond the period of the Middle Ages.





A Jew and a Muslim playing chess in 13th century al-Andalus.

Location:

The conference will take place in the Interdisciplinary Center for European Enlightenment Studies (IZEA), Thomasius-Room, on the site of the Francke-Foundations, Halle/Saale (Franckeplatz 1, House 54).

Organized by:

Department of Jewish Studies, University Halle-Wittenberg, Großer Berlin 14, D-06108 Halle (Saale)

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MARTIN-LUTHER UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG

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Beyond Cultural Identities - The Jews of Polyphony, Relationality and Translation in Muslim Contexts

Halle, 18-20 July 2022

Organized by the Department of Jewish Studies

Conference Venue: Interdisciplinary Centre for European Enlightenment Studies



Monday 18.7.2022

16:30 Beginning

Welcome: Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Décultot, director of

the IZEA (Interdisziplinary Centre for

European Enlightenment Studies)

Dr. Björn Bentlage Welcome:

(Oriental Institute, Leipzig)

Introduction: Ottfried Fraisse

(University of Halle-Wittenberg)

17:00 First session

Chair: Ottfried Fraisse

Opening lecture

1) Irene Zwiep (University of Amsterdam): Translation as De-essentialization: Zunz's and Steinschneider's Attempts at Overcoming Eurocentrism.

18:15 Catering

19:00

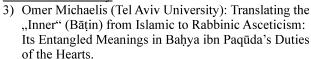
Wrestling with European heritage

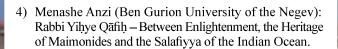
2) Nili Belkind (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Cultural Intimacy Through Conflicting National, Ethnic and Social Relations in Israel: Jowan Safadi's Music Video "To Be an Arab".

Tuesday 19.7.2022

9:00 Second session Translating Concepts between Contexts Chair: Nili Belkind

Jewish Translocality



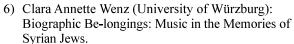


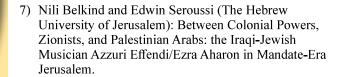
5) Oded Zinger (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Schmoozing Outside of Court? Informal relations between Jews and Qadis in Medieval Egypt.

11:15 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 Third session Mashriq: Relationality of Sound

Chair: Jonathan Hirsch Jewish Music in Motion



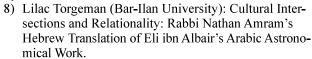


13:00 Lunch

14:30 Fourth session

Maghrib: Polyphony of Andalusian, North-African and European Traditions of Knowledge

Chair: Oded Zinger Spaces of Translation



9) Michal Ohana (University of Halle-Wittenberg): Raphael Moshe Elbaz's Kise ha Melakhim: Merging Jewish, North African and Universal History.

10)Ottfried Fraisse (University of Halle-Wittenberg): Combating Orientalism and Fundamentalism: Relational Reasoning in Israel Moshe Hazan's Sheerit ha-Nahala.

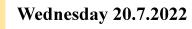
Coffee break 16:45 – 17:00

17:00 Fifth session (Hevrutha)

Chair: Lilac Torgeman Relationality of Law

11) Zvi Zohar (Bar-Ilan University): Conditional Overlap between Jewish Law and Non-Jewish Religious Law: Rabbi Israel Moshe Hazan's Responsum on "Huggot ha-Goyyim" (Hevrutha).

19:00 Dinner



9:00 Sixth session

Between Mashriq and Maghrib: Polyphony of Traditional and Bourgeois Mind

Chair: Noah Gerber Jewish Nahdas

12) Tamir Karkason (University of Halle-Wittenberg): "Haskalah and Jewish Reformism in the Islamic Countries: Between Edirne, Baghdad and Tunis".

13) Jonathan Hirsch (University of Potsdam): Reclaiming the Arabic Maimonides in Cairo - the Quest for Arab-Jewish scholarship in interwar Egypt.

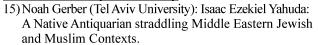
14) Annie Greene (University of Chicago): Translating the concept of "Tanzimat" in Baghdad: Modeling Civic Practices for Ottoman Jews.

11:15 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 Seventh session Mashriq: Spaces of Translation

Chair: Menashe Anzi

Intellectual History's Materiality



16) Tom Fogel (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): "we-hāda al-hirz lil-Gōyim" [And this is an amulet for the Gentiles]: Relationality and Translation in Jewish Yemeni occult sciences.

13:00 Final Discussion







