

Jewish Life in the Medieval Christian and Muslim Worlds



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April 22-23, 2018

McKenna Hall

Notre Dame Conference Center



ARTS AND LETTERS

Conference Schedule

Sunday, April 22, 2018

- 1:15–1:30 p.m.** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Deborah Tor, Conference Co-Organizer
Timothy Matovina, Chairman,
Department of Theology
Thomas Burman, Robert M. Conway Director
of the Medieval Institute
- 1:30–3:30 p.m.** **Panel I: Jewish Travelers in the Medieval World**

“Rereading Benjamin of Tudela”
David Abulafia, University of Cambridge

“Jerusalem as Ideal and Reality: Merchant Migrants
of the 11th century”
Jessica Goldberg, University of California,
Los Angeles

“Judah al-Harizi: A Self-styled Andalus Arabist-
Hebraist from Late 12th Century Christian Toledo”
Ross Brann, Cornell University
- 3:30–4 p.m.** **Coffee Break**
- 4–6 p.m.** **Panel II: Jewish Religious Life**

“Re-conceptualizing Jewish-Christian Conversion in
Medieval Christendom”
Paola Tartakoff, Rutgers University

“Words to Rouse the Soul: David ben Joshua
Maimuni on the Liturgy”
Arnold Franklin, Queens College, City University of
New York

“This One is not his Brother and is not from Israel”:
Apostates and their Jewish Kinsfolk in Gaonic
Responsa”
Uriel Simonsohn, University of Haifa
- 6 p.m.** **Dinner**

Monday April 23, 2018

8:30–10 a.m.

Panel III: The Medieval Jewish Family

“Aging and the Medieval Jewish Family: Grandparents in the Genizah Documents (10th–13th centuries)”

Elisha Russ-Fishbane, New York University

“‘For Death Severs All Bonds’: Family and Eschatology in Medieval Ashkenaz”

David Shyovitz, Northwestern University

10–10:30 a.m.

Coffee Break

10:30 a.m.–
12:30 p.m.

Panel IV: Jewish-Christian and Jewish-Muslim Interactions

“The Jews in the Medieval Islamic West — Acculturation and its Limitations”

Norman Stillman, University of Oklahoma

“Managing Plague and Jews: A Medievalist’s Perspective on Plague Literature from the Ghetto”

Susan Einbinder, University of Connecticut

“Muslim Writings about Jews in the 11th-Century Islamic Heartlands”

Deborah Tor, University of Notre Dame

12:30–2 p.m.

Lunch

2–4 p.m.

Panel V: Jews and Material Culture

“Coins across Medieval Europe — Their Production and Discussion by Jews”

Eva Haverkamp, Ludwig-Maximilian Universität Munich

“Throne of Wisdom, Seat of Wickedness: Symbolizing Authority in Late Medieval Iberian Visual Cultures”

Sara Lipton, Stony Brook University

4–4:30 p.m.

Coffee Break

4:30–6 p.m.

Panel VI: Jewish Theology and the Surrounding Culture

“Toledot Yeshu in Judeo-Arabic: Polemic and Entertainment in the Jewish Communities of the Mediterranean”

Miriam Goldstein, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

“Reading the Talmud under Christianity and Islam”

Robert Brody, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

6:15 p.m.

Final Dinner



Conference Participants

David Abulafia

FBA– Emeritus Professor of Mediterranean History
University of Cambridge

Ross Brann

Milton R. Konvitz Professor of Judeo-Islamic Studies
Cornell University

Robert Brody

Professor of Talmud
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Thomas E. Burman

Robert M. Conway Director of the Medieval Institute and
Professor of History
University of Notre Dame

Susan Einbinder

Professor of Hebrew & Judaic Studies and Comparative
Literature
University of Connecticut

Arnold Franklin

Associate Professor of History
Queens College, The City University of New York

Jessica Goldberg

Associate Professor of History
University of California, Los Angeles

Miriam Goldstein

Senior Lecturer in Arabic
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Professor of Medieval Jewish History
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Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster

Sara Lipton

Professor of History, Stony Brook University

Timothy Matovina

Professor and Chair of the Department of Theology
University of Notre Dame

Tzvi Novick

Associate Professor and Abrams Chair of Jewish Thought
and Culture
University of Notre Dame

Elisha Russ-Fishbane

Assistant Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
New York University

David Shyovitz

Associate Professor of History
Northwestern University

Uriel Simonsohn

Lecturer, Department of Middle Eastern History
University of Haifa

Norman Stillman

Professor, Schusterman/Josey Chair in Judaic History
Emeritus
University of Oklahoma

Paola Tartakoff

Associate Professor of History and Jewish Studies
Rutgers University

Deborah Tor

Associate Professor of History
University of Notre Dame

Conference organizers

Margot Fassler
Keough-Hesburgh Professor of
Music History and Liturgy

Tzvi Novick
Associate Professor and Abrams Chair
of Jewish Thought and Culture

Deborah Tor
Associate Professor of History

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