Jewish Life in the Medieval Christian and Muslim Worlds

April 22-23, 2018
McKenna Hall
Notre Dame Conference Center
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 Andalusi 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.–  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-Maximillian 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.  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

4:30–6 p.m.  Coffee Break

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
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Eva Haverkamp
Professor of Medieval Jewish History
Ludwig-Maximilian Universität Munich

Katrin Kogman-Appel
Alexander Von Humboldt Professor of Jewish Studies
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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