25th Annual Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies

ORDER, REORDER, & DISORDER

Jews and Muslims Encountering the Modern Era

May 5–6, 2019

Houston Hall
Ben Franklin Room

HERBERT D. KATZ CENTER
FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC STUDIES

University of Pennsylvania
Order, Reorder, and Disorder
Jews and Muslims Encountering the Modern Era
25TH ANNUAL GRUSS COLLOQUIUM IN JUDAIC STUDIES

This colloquium seeks to re-envision the circumstances of Jews and Muslims living in the modern era by reconstructing the myriad ways that social, cultural, political, and economic relationships were ordered, and by shedding light on their “reordering” in modernity.

The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies’ 2018–19 fellowship year has been focused on Jewish life in modern Islamic contexts and culminates by welcoming this interdisciplinary group of scholars to examine these themes while deliberately “disordering” prevailing paradigms, geographies, and categories that have governed the study of Jews in the modern Middle East and North Africa and beyond.

Sunday, May 5

11:30 am–12:45 pm | WELCOME LUNCH
For participants and invited guests only
Golkin Room, Houston Hall

1:00–1:15 pm | INTRODUCTION
Please note that all panels will take place in Houston Hall’s Ben Franklin Room unless otherwise indicated
Steven Weitzman, Ella Darivoff Director, Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

1:15–2:30 pm | OPENING PANEL
Chair & Moderator: Alan Verksin, University of Rhode Island
Norman Stillman, University of Oklahoma, Emeritus
Edwin Seroussi, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Ort Bashkin, University of Chicago

2:30–3:00 pm | COFFEE BREAK

3:00–5:00 pm | PANEL 1: LAW & ORDER
Chair: Joseph E. Lowry, University of Pennsylvania
Zvi Zohar, Bar Ilan University
Giyyur and Dissimulation: The Sensational Case of Latifa and the Muslim Convert
Kerstin Hünefeld, Free University of Berlin
“Dhimma Space” and Beyond: Reordering the Relationship between Jews and Muslims under Sharia Rule as a Social-Political Field
Bernard Haykel, Princeton University
Reflections on the Relationship between the Jews and the Zaydis in Yemen
Respondent: Lawrence Rosen, Princeton University and Columbia University

5:00–8:00 pm | RECEPTION, DINNER, & MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY DAVID’S HARP
For participants and invited guests only
Hall of Flags, Houston Hall

Monday, May 6

9:00–9:30 am | COFFEE & LIGHT BREAKFAST

9:30–11:30 am | PANEL 2: COEXISTENCE & CONFLICT
Chair: Heather J. Sharkey, University of Pennsylvania
Annie Greene, University of Chicago
Investing in Empire: Ottoman-Iraqi Jews as Imperial Subjects
Sarah Frances Levin, University of California, Berkeley
Affinity and Differentiation: The Role of Language among Jews and Muslims in Morocco’s Atlas Mountains
Marc David Baer, London School of Economics and Political Science
Turkish Jews and Armenian Genocide Denial: The Long View
Respondent: Bedross Der Matossian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

11:30 am–1:00 pm | LUNCH

1:00–3:00 pm | PANEL 3: BOUNDARIES & NETWORKS
Chair: Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano, University of Pennsylvania
Matthias Lehmann, University of California, Irvine
Borderline Beneficence: The Politics of Jewish Philanthropy in the Late Ottoman Period
Hadar Feldman-Samet, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
On the Margins: Text, Paratext, and Context in Ottoman Sabbatian Sources
Bat-Zion Erasqi Klorman, Open University of Israel
Jewish Migration Trends from South Arabia during the Ottoman Era, 1870–1914
Respondent: Francesca Trivellato, Institute for Advanced Studies

3:00–3:15 pm | COFFEE BREAK

3:15–5:15 pm | PANEL 4: MEMORY & LITERATURE
Chair: Nancy E. Berg, Washington University in St. Louis
Mark Wagner, Louisiana State University
“An Ape Man in the Dark Mountains”: A Picaresque Novella from 20th-Century Yemen and 21st-Century Israel
Esra Almas, Istanbul Şehir University
Longing without Belonging: Sounds and Spaces of Sephardi Istanbul
Keren Dotan, Open University of Israel
Arab Modernisms through Mizrahi Eyes in Early 20th-Century Eretz Yisrael
Respondent: Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania

5:15–6:00 pm | CONCLUDING DISCUSSION

6:00 pm | CLOSING RECEPTION
Arthur Ross Gallery, Fisher Fine Arts Library
220 South 34th Street, Penn Campus
The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania is a global leader in the study of Jewish civilization, opening new vistas in the humanities and social sciences. With a prestigious fellowship program, a vast Judaica library, and a leading scholarly journal, the Katz Center links scholars to scholars, researchers to resources, and ideas to the wider world.

The 2018–19 academic year has been focused on Jewish Life in Modern Islamic Contexts. The fellows include:

- Esra Almas
- Nancy E. Berg
- Chen Bram
- Dina Danon
- Keren Dotan
- Yuval Evri
- Hadar Feldman Samet
- Annie Greene
- Alma Rachel Heckman
- Kerstin Hünefeld
- Sarah Frances Levin
- Yoram Meital
- Aviad Moreno
- Yigal S. Nizri
- Joseph Sassoon
- Edwin Seroussi
- Reuven Snir
- Alon Tam
- Alan Verskin
- Mark Wagner

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Here’s how: select the AirPennNet-Guest SSID, open a browser of your choice, follow the instructions on the pop-up screen, and confirm.