

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  אוניברסיטת תל-אביב

הפקולטה למדעי הרוח ע"ש לסטר וסאלי אנטין
המכון להיסטוריה ותרבות אירופאית ע"ש פרד לסינג
ג'ון לסינג
המרכז לחקר התפוצות ע"ש גולדשטיין-גורן

**JUDAEA/PALAESTINA, BABYLON AND ROME:
JEWS IN THE ROMAN, PARTHIAN AND
SASSANIAN EMPIRES**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN HONOUR OF AHARON OPPENHEIMER
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT



יא'-יב' בטבת, 28-29 בדצמבר, 2009
אוניברסיטת תל-אביב

בניין גילמן, אולם דראכליס (חדר 496)

הכניסה לאוניברסיטה דרך שער רמניסיאנו (4) או שער פרנקל (7)

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  אוניברסיטת תל-אביב

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities
Fred W. Lessing Institute for European History and Civilization
Joan Lessing
The Goldstein-Goren Diaspora Research Center

**JUDAEA/PALAESTINA, BABYLON AND ROME:
JEWS IN THE ROMAN, PARTHIAN AND
SASSANIAN EMPIRES**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN HONOUR OF AHARON OPPENHEIMER
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT



28-29 DECEMBER, 2009
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

GILMAN BLDG., DRACHLIS HALL (ROOM 496)

ENTRANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY:
RAMNICEANU GATE (4) OR FRENKEL GATE (7)

Monday, 28 December, 2009



9:45-10:00 Greetings

Benjamin Isaac

Shlomo Biderman, Dean, Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities, Tel Aviv University

10:00-11:30 Session I

Chair: **Benjamin Isaac**

Albert Baumgarten (Bar-Ilan University)

The "Outreach" Campaign of the Ancient Pharisees

Joshua Schwartz (Bar-Ilan University)

How Jewish to be Jewish? Jewish Self-Identity and Jewish Christians in First Century CE Palestine

11:30-12:00 Break

12:00-13:30 Session II

Chair: **Aryeh Kasher**

Yoram Tsafrir (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Two Notes on the Last Days of Masada: A Suggested Reconstruction of the Siege-ramp and the Discovery of the Skeletons in the "Southern Cave"

Tessa Rajak (Oxford and Reading Universities)

Martyrdom and Resistance, from Josephus to Akiva

13:30-15:00 Break

15:00-16:30 Session III

Chair: **Moshe David Herr**

Günter Stemberger (University of Vienna)

The Birkat ha-Minim and the Separation of Christians and Jews

Shaye Cohen (Harvard University and Sackler Lecturer of the

Mortimer and Raymond Sackler Institute of Advanced Studies)

Christian Authors on Jewish Observance of Shabbat

16:30-16:45 Break

16:45-18:15 Session IV

Chair: **Daniel R. Schwartz**

Peter Schäfer (Princeton University)

New Research on Toledot Yeshu

David Weiss-Halivni (Columbia University and Bar-Ilan University)

Can we deduce from the Mishnah that Rabbi was a Descendant of Hillel?

Tuesday, 29 December, 2009



9:15-10:45 Session V

Chair: **Susan Weingarten**

Richard Kalmin (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Evil Eye in Rabbinic Literature of Late Antiquity

Vered Noam (Tel Aviv University)

Another look at the Rabbinic Conception of Gentiles from the Perspective of Impurity Laws

10:45-11:15 Break

11:15-12:45 Session VI

Chair: **Moshe Fischer**

Jonathan Price (Tel Aviv University)

Beth She'arim and its Relation to the Necropolis at Jaffa

Yuval Shahar (Tel Aviv University)

Why a Quarter? The Rule of Siqarikon and Roman Law

12:45-14:15 Break

14:15-15:45 Session VII

Chair: **Mordechai Akiva Friedman**

David Goodblatt (UC San Diego)

The Jews in the Parthian Empire: What We Don't Know

Isaiah Gafni (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Biblical "Archaeology" and Babylonian Rabbis: On Jewish "Homeness" in Sasanian Babylonia

15:45-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Session VIII

Chair: **Gideon Bohak**

Youval Rotman (Tel Aviv University)

Captives and Redeeming Captives: the Law and the Community

Werner Eck (University of Köln)

The Jewish Community in Cologne from Roman Times to the Early Middle Ages

Academic Steering Committee:

Benjamin Isaac and Yuval Shahar