An International Workshop on the Jews of Iran: Society, Culture and Politics through the Ages
June 10-12, 2018
Special Collections Wiener-Gruss Building, 3rd Floor
Entrance through parking lot behind Central Library, Tel Aviv University

Sunday June 10, 2017
0900: Greeting: Meir Litvak
David Yeroushalmi, Alliance Center
The Study of the Jews in Iran: Continuity and Change
0930: Judeo-Persian Culture in the Sassanid Era I
Chair: Judith Goldstein
Domenico Agostini, Tel Aviv University
Ludrige and the Destruction of Jerusalem: A Note on Jewish-Iranian Synchronicity
James Russell, Harvard University
The Hezbolat literature as viewed from the standpoint of Sassanian Zoroastrianism
1100: Break
1130: Judeo-Persian Culture in the Sassanid Era II
Chair: David Yeroushalmi
Shai Secunda, Bard College
A Sea of Text: The Formation of the Talmud and the Islamic Iranian mythology
Thamar E. Gindin, Shalem College and Haifa University
Who wrote the Bible? Jews and Judaism in pre-Islamic and early-Islamic Iranian mythology
1230: Break
1400: Jews and Muslims: Conversions and Acculturation
Chair: Dan Shapira
Dennis Halt, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Muslims: Conversions and the Destruction of Jerusalem: A Note on Jewish-Iranian Synchronicity
Jonathan Brack, Hebrew University
Jews and Shi‘a in medieval Baghdad and the Ilkhanid court: between conversion and Confessionalization
1500: Jewish-Iranian Culture in the Early-Modern and Modern Period
Chair: Hilda Nissimi
Rachel Milestein, Hebrew University
Illustrations for Judeo-Persian manuscripts in their artistic Iranian context
Judith Goldstein, Vassar College
Object Lessons: Jews and Iranian Material Culture
Orit Carmeli, Alliance Center
A newly discovered illuminated Judeo-Persian Khorasen and Shirin Manuscript
1600: Break
1630: The Periphery of Iranian Jews
Chair: Shai Secunda
Offr Haim, Hebrew University
The Jews of the Ramen Valley: Social and Economic Aspects
Dan Shapira, Bar Ilan University
Persian-speaking Jews in the Golden Horde
Monday June 11th
0930: Jewish-Iranian Culture in the Early Islamic Period
Chair: Nahid Pirnazar
Julia Rubanovich, Hebrew University
Patterns of Cultural Accommodation in the Judeo-Persian Tale of Yūsuf and Zulaykhā by Shīhlīn
Liora Tamir, Hebrew University
The Story of Yūsuf and Zulaykhā in Judeo-Persian by Shīhlīn’s Shirzī: A Perso-Islamic Rendering of the Biblical Story
1100: Religion and Culture during the Qajar Period
Chair: David Yeroushalmi
Esther Shkalim, Tel Aviv University
Why Didn’t Iranian Jews light Menorah in Hanukkah?
Vera Moreen, Independent Scholar
Judeo-Persian Laments on the Death of Nā‘īr al-Dīn Shīhlī (d. 1848-1896)
Hilda Nissimi, Bar Ilan University
The poem of the Mystic and the Lamentation of the Exiled Mother: Zīrūn before Zionism in a Mashhadi Family (1903-1913)
1300: Break
1500: Jewish Society in Qajar Iran
Chair: Rachel Milestein
Soli Shalvar, Haifa University, Jewish Conversion to Bahaism in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries
Nahid Pirnazar, UCLA
Minutes of Zionism Association of Iran
Miriam Nissimov, Alliance Center
Dilemmas of Identity: Ma‘ṣa Ta‘bū and Salehman Hayyim between Iranian Nationalism and Zionism
Doron Izhakov, Alliance Center
The ‘Alīyā Camp in Tehran: Intersecting Interests and Geopolitical Changes
Lior Sternfeld, Ben Gurion University
Jews and Political Activism in Iran in the 1940s and 50s
Tuesday June 12th
0930: The Jews of Iran between the Pahlavis and the Islamic Republic
Chair: Liora Hendelman-Raavur
David Menashri, Alliance Center
1030: Modern Shi‘ism and the Jews
Chair: Vera Moreen
Samuel Thorpe, National Library of Israel
Jews are Good for Thinking With: Jews, Judaism, and the Jewish State in the Writings of Jalal Al Ahmad, Husein Derakhshah, and Payam Feili
Orly Rahimian, Ben Gurion University
The Image of Israel and its Impact on Iranian Attitudes Towards the Jews in the Pahlavi Period
Meir Litvak, Alliance Center
New Trends in Modern Shi‘i-Iranian anti-Judaism
1200: Concluding Discussion
Continuities and Change in Jewish Iranian History
1230: Light lunch

Co-sponsored by:
The S. Daniel Abraham Center for International for International and Regional Studies,
The Lester and Sally Esken Faculty of Humanities
Tel Aviv University

Sponsoring the event:

THE PARVIZ AND POURAN NAZARIAN CHAIR FOR MODERN IRANIAN STUDIES