

Theorizing Jewish-Arab Transculturation

Workshop at the Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies, February 7–9, 2023

Supported by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research

Organized by Johannes Becke (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies) in cooperation with Assaf David (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute), Nimrod Lin (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies), and Menna Abukhadra (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies)

Tuesday 7 February

1:00pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH**

2:00pm – 2:15pm **WELCOME (Werner Arnold, Dean of the Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)**

2:15pm – 2:30pm **INTRODUCTION (Assaf David, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, and Johannes Becke, Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)**

2:30pm – 4:30pm **AMBIVALENT ENMITY**
Chair: Elisabeth Becker-Topkara, Heidelberg University

Performing Zionism by Performing Arabness: A Theory of Hista'arvut
Nimrod Lin (Heidelberg University)

Learning from the Enemy: The Invention of Israel Studies in the Arab World

Menna Abukhadra (Heidelberg University)

The Arab 'Uncertain Body' and Passing in Israel
Liora Sion (Copenhagen University)

When Arabs love Dead Jews: The Politics of Memory in Egypt
Tom Würdemann (Heidelberg University)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

COFFEE BREAK

4:30pm – 6:00pm

HYBRIDIZATION IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Chair: Bareez Majid, Heidelberg University

Modern Jerusalem's Religious Shrines, Festivals and Customs: Toward Theorizing Jewish-Arab/Muslim Transculturation and Its Break.
Menachem Klein (Bar Ilan University)

Transculturation and Hybridization as Characteristics of Identity and Belonging Among South-Lebanese Second-Generation Children Residing in Israel
Lilach Grunfeld-Yona (University of Haifa)

The Beginning of the Raise of the Shekhina is in Tiberias: Zahir al-Umar, the Urbanization of the Galilee, and Eighteenth-Century Jewish Perceptions of the Land
Avi-Ram Tzoreff (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

6:30pm – 7:00pm **BREAK**

Chair: Susanne Härtel, Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies

7:00pm – 8:00pm **KEYNOTE (Alte Aula, Grabengasse 1)**
How Israel Became a Middle Eastern State
Oren Barak (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The Alliance Israélite Universelle and the Jewish Communities of Egypt 1914-1956
Taqadum al-Khatib (Heidelberg University)

8:00pm – 10:00pm **DINNER BUFFET (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)**

Cultural Revivalism in Israel and China: Living Lives against the Present
Johannes Becke & Joachim Kurtz (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies & Heidelberg University)

Wednesday 8 February

9:00am – 10:30am **TRANSLATION AND EXCHANGE**
Chair: Teresa Bernheimer, University of Munich

Relationality and Translation: Jewish Knowledge Production in the MENA Countries
Ottfried Fraise (Halle University)

The Turkish Diaspora in Israel: Long-Distance Nationalism and Intra-MENA Divergences
Tamir Karkason (Halle University) and Aviad Moreno (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)

How Do You Say “Kibbutz Megiddo” in Arabic?
The Problematics of Translating Zionist Children’s Literature into Arabic
Loay Wattad (Tel Aviv University)

12:30pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH (optional: Guided Tour through Heidelberg’s old town, 45 minutes)**

Three Models of Cultural and Intellectual Relationship between Jews and Muslims in 20th-Century North Africa
David Guedj (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

2:30pm – 4:30pm **JEWISH-ARAB RELATIONS BEFORE NATIONALISM**
Chair: Henning Sievert, Heidelberg University

10:30am-11:00 am **COFFEE BREAK**

Black, White, and Blue? Colour Terms in Medieval Judaism and Islam
Teresa Bernheimer (University of Munich)

11:00am – 12:30pm **TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES**

Perspectives from a Tenth-Century Jewish Academy in the Muslim World

Ronny Vollandt (University of Munich)

Transculturation and Neoculturation among
Jewish Physicians in Fatimid Cairo

Nathan Gibson (University of Munich)

Meshovah Nizāḥat: Jewish-Christian Polemics in
Kaf Naki by R. Kalifa Ben-Malka (1650–1750) of
Agadir

Michal Ohana (Halle University)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

COFFEE BREAK

5:00pm – 6:30pm

CONTESTED SPACES IN ISRAEL

Chair: Tamir Karkason (Halle University)

Transculturation Through the Construction of a
Cultural Nexus of Place-Based Interdependency
Ameer Fakhoury (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

A Folkloric Civil Sphere?
Arabs/Palestinians/Muslims in Israeli Symbolic
Space

Hizky Shoham (Bar-Ilan University)

Blurring and Expanding: Cultural Processes and
the Advancement of Peace

Limor Yehuda (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

6:30pm – 8:30pm

DINNER AND DISCUSSION

Thursday 9 February

9:00am – 10:30am

JEWISH-ARAB RELATIONS IN CULTURE AND ARTS

Chair: Anna Kollatz, Heidelberg University

Zouj: Dialogical Interactions in Judeo-Arab
Maghribi Popular Culture

Sami Everett (University of Southampton)

Khawaga Cohen: The Representations of Egyptian
Jews in Egyptian Cinema

Eyal Bizawe (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Cinema as a Transcultural Event: Exploring
'Memories of Pleasure'

Sigal Yona (Ghent University)

10:30am – 11:00am

COFFEE BREAK

11:00am – 12:30pm

**ROUND TABLE: THEORIZING TRANSCULTURATION
BEYOND THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

Chairs: Johannes Becke, Heidelberg Center for
Jewish Studies, and Assaf David, Van Leer
Jerusalem Institute

Joachim Kurtz (Heidelberg University)

Monica Juneja (Heidelberg University)

Menna Abukhadra (Heidelberg University)

Nimrod Lin (Heidelberg University)

12:30pm – 1:00pm **BREAK**

1:00pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH AND DEPARTURE**