**Amir Banbaji** October, 2021

CURRICULUM VITAE

• **Personal Details**

Amir Banbaji

Date of Birth**:** July 4, 1968, Israel

Institutional Address: Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University P.O.B 653, Beer Sheva, Israel 84105.

Home Address: 8/A Shlayn Street, Jerusalem, Israel 9622311

ORCID ID: 0000-0001-5138-7135

• **Education**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.A | 1990 – 1993 | Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Comparative Literature and Philosophy, Cum Laude. |
| Exchange Student | 1994 – 1995 | Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, German literature and philosophy. |
| Ph.D. | 1995 – 2003 | University of California, Berkeley, Department of Comparative Literature.  Advisers: Robert Alter, Anthony Cascardi (co-chairs), Martin Jay.  Thesis: “Dialectical Criticism: A Study of Adorno and Abramovich”**.** |

• **Employment History**

2011- Present Senior Lecturer, Department of Hebrew Literature. Ben-

Gurion University of the Negev.

2007 – 2011 Lecturer, Sapir College.

2008 - 2009 Visiting Research Fellow, Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2005 - 2011 Lecturer, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2005 - 2007 Adjunct Lecturer, Sapir College.

2003 - 2005 Kreitman Post-Doctoral Fellow, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

1997 - 2002 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Comparative Literature, UC Berkeley.

• **Professional Activities**

1. Positions in academic administration:

2016-2021, Director, OFEK Community Extension Program, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2010-2017, Co-Editor of *Massa Kritit* Book Series, *Heksherim* Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2007-2012, Head of Program in Literary Studies, Department of General BA Studies Sapir College.

(b) Professional functions outside universities/institutions

(c) Significant professional consulting

2013-2014, 2018, The Open University, Consultant the Course "History of Modern Hebrew Literature."

(d) Editor or member of editorial board of scientific or professional journal

2020, *Mikan*, Guest Editor.

(e) Ad-hoc reviewer for journals

Referee, Teoriah U-Vikoret, Mehkarei Yerushalayim BeSifrut Ivrit, Jewish Social Studies, Mikan, Leo Beck Institute Yearbook.

(f) Membership in professional/scientific societies

2009-2011, 2020-Present, National Association of Professors of Hebrew.

2017 – present, American Comparative Literature Association.

2015 – Present, Association of Jewish Studies.

` 2018 – Present, European Association of Jewish Studies.

• Educational activities

(a) Courses taught

Literature and Politics, undergraduate reading and composition class, UC Berkeley

Philosophy and Literature, Undergraduate course, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Realism and Mimesis, Undergraduate Seminar, Ben-Gurion university of the Negev.

Enlightenment, Science and Literature, undergraduate course, Sapir College.

History of Modern Hebrew Literary Criticism, MA seminar, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Marxism and Modernism in Hebrew Literature, MA Seminar, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Radical Haskalah and its Critics, Undergraduate seminar, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

History of Modern Hebrew Literature, Eighteenth to Nineteenth Century, Undergraduate Introductory Class, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Haskalah and Jewish Modernity: A Critical Reading, MA Seminar, Ben-Gurion University 2017

Complimentary Chapters in Literary Theory, MA class, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

The Politics of Hebrew Literature, National Renaissance to State Generation Period, undergraduate course, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

1. Research students

Doctoral Student

Yael Balaban, PhD., 2014, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Jointly supervised with Yitzhak Ben Mordechai).

Chen Shtrass, PhD., 2016, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Jointly supervised with Yigal Schwarz).

Orel Sharp, PhD., 2021 (expected), (Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-

Gurion University of the Negev (Jointly supervised with

Haim Weiss), 2016- 2021 (expected)

Isaac Meller, PhD., 2021 (expected), Department of Hebrew literature, Ben- Gurion University of the Negev (Jointly supervised with Haim Weiss).

MA Students

Hagai Benson, MA., 2022 (expected). Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

• **Awards, Citations, Honors, Fellowships** (including here all internal university support and prizes. Note that this section does not include research grants.)

a) Honors, Citations Awards

1993 Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Cum Laude BA.

2003 ISEF (International Sephardic Education Foundation), Award for Academic and Social Excellence.

(b) Fellowships

2000 - 2001 Mellon Foundation, UC Berkeley, 12,000$, Dissertation Writing Grant.

2003 - 2005 Israel Ministry of Absorption, $10,000, Post-Doctoral Research.

2003 - 2005 Kreitman Foundation, Ben-Gurion University 40,000$, Post-Doctoral Research.

2006 - 2008 Heksherim Institute, Ben-Gurion University, 10,000$, Research Fellowship.

2007 - 2008 Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, 4,000$, Research Fellowship.

2008 - 2009 Frankel Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 50,000$, Visiting Research Fellowship.

2009 Dubnow Institute Leipzig, $2,500, Guest Scholar Fellowship

**Scientific Publications**

(a) Authored books

(1) Amir Banbaji, 2009. מנדלי והסיפור והלאומי, *Mendele and the National Narrative,* Beer Sheva: Heksherim Institute and Dvir Publishing House, Beer Sheva, 396 pages.

Reviewed: *Haaretz* Books Supplement, July 1, 2009.

(b) Editorship of collective volumes

(1) Amir Banbaji, 2010. Nitza Ben-Dov, Ziva Shamir, 2010. מבטים מצטלבים: עיונים ביצירת א “ב יהושע, *Intersecting Sights: New Critical Essays on A.B. Yehoshua*. Tel Aviv: Ha-kibbutz Ha-Me`uhad, 592 pages.

(2)Amir Banbaji and Hannan Hever, 2014. ספרות ומעמד: לקראת היסטוריוגרפיה פוליטית של הספרות העברית החדשה, *Literature and Class: Towards a Political Historiography of Modern Hebrew Literature*, Jerusalem: Van Leer Institute, 395 pages.

\*(3)Amir Banbaji and Shai Ginsburg, מכאן כ’: מחשבת הספרות העברית .2020,Mikan 20: *Hebrew Literary Theory*, Tel Aviv and Beer Sheva, Pardes and Heksherim Institute, 402 pages.

(c) Refereed chapters in collective volumes, Conference proceedings, Festschrifts, etc.

(1) Amir Banbaji, “A. B. Yehoshua and the Debate over Realism,” 2006. in *Leggere Yehoshua*, ed. Emanela Trevisan-Semi, Enaudi Publishing House, pp. 107-117 [Italian].

(2) Amir Banbaji, 2010. “הכשלונות של מולכו: ריאליזם, מודרניות, מזרחיות”, “Molcho’s Three Fallacies: Realism, Modernism, Mizrahiyut”, in *Intersecting Sights: New Critical Essays on A.B. Yehoshua*, eds. Amir Banbaji, Nitza Ben Dov, Ziva Shamir, Tel Aviv, Ha-kibbutz Ha-Me`uhad, pp. 173-194.

(3) Amir Banbaji, 2010. יהושע בראי ביקורת הספרות העברית”, “A. B. Yehoshua’s Reception in Hebrew Literary Criticism, in *Intersecting Sights: New Critical Essays on A.B. Yehoshua*, eds. Amir Banbaji and Nitza Ben Dov, Ziva Shamir, Tel Aviv, Ha-kibbutz Ha-Me`uhad, pp, 15- 30.

(4) Amir Banbaji, 2011. "יחסי ההשכלה והלאומיות במחשבת הספרות העברית: קיטוב ניגודי או רציפות אידיאולוגית?", “National Renaissance and Haskalah in the history of Hebrew Literary Theory: Excessive Polemics and Artificial Reconciliation,” in *Literature and Life: Poetics and Ideology in Modern Hebrew Literature A Festschrift dedicated to Menachem Brinker*, eds. Hamutal Tsamir and Iris Parush, Tel Aviv: Carmel Press, pp. 334-364.

(5) Amir Banbaji, 2014a. “היסטוריה ספרותית וביקורת הספרות“, Literary History and Literary Criticism”’ In *Literature and Class,* eds. Amir Banbaji and Hannan Hever, Jerusalem: Van Leer Institute, 2014, pp. 17-101.

(6) Amir Banbaji, 2014b. "דוד כנעני והריאליזם הסוציאליסטי" ,"David Kena`ani and Socialist Realism,” in *Literature and Class,* eds. Amir Banbaji and Hannan Hever, Jerudalem: Van Leer Institute, pp. 204-231.

\*(7) Amir Banbaji, 2017. “הרפתקאותיה של המליצה המשכילית העברית בתקופת ההשכלה: המקרה של “יצחק סטנוב, “Hebrew *melitsah*: The Adventures of a Maskilic Concept in Isaac Satanov’s *Mishle Assaf”, in The Maskil in Our Time: Studies in Honor of Moshe Pelli*, eds. Zev Garber, Lev Hakkak, Shmuel Katz, Tel Aviv: Hakibutz Hameuchad, 2017, pp. 15-39.

(d) Refereed articles and refereed letters in scientific journals, running numbers

(1) Amir Banbaji, 2008a. "בין אלגוריה לסמל, בין שחוק לדמע: מנדלי מוכר ספרים והאידיאולוגיה של שלילת הגלות", “Mendele the Book-Peddler and the Ideology of Negation of Exile” in *Iyunim b- Ttkumat Yisrael* 17, pp., 81- 106.

(2) Amir Banbaji, 2008b. "מהי ספרות פוליטית? אדורנו והאסתטיקה המרקסיסטית, הקדמה למסה "מעורבות", , “What is Political Literature? Adorno and Marxist Aesthetics”, *Mikan* 9, pp. 216-234.

(3) Amir Banbaji, 2010. "ניסיון לרהביליטציה של האלגוריה בביקורת העברית: קריאה מחודשת ב'אמת ואמונה' של אדם הכהן ובכתביו הביקורתיים של א"י פפירנא" ,“Attempting to Rehabilitate the Allegory in Hebrew Criticism: a New Reading of Adam ha-Cohen's *Emet ve-Emuna* and A. Y. Paperna's Criticism”, *Bikoret u-farshanut 42,* pp. 333-365

(4) Amir Banbaji, 2011. "The Orient in the Literature of the Haskalah: A Levantine Reading of Euchel, Löwisohn and Mapu", *Journal of Levantine Studies* 1 pp. 95-130

(5) Amir Banbaji, 2012a. “The Broken Promise of Transcendence: A New Reading of the Haskalah Allegory,” *Prooftexts* 31:3 (2012) pp. 143-180.

(6) Amir Banbaji, 2012b. “Two Paradigms of Aesthetics in Haskalah Literary Criticism: From Satanov to Lebenssohn,” *Hebrew Studies* 53, pp. 143-177.

(7) Amir Banbaji, 2013. “Defending Haskalah Poetry on Its Own Turf: Poetry, Time and the Deconstruction of Selfhood in Mikhal’s *Shlomo VeKohelet*”, *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* 12 (1), pp. 117-136,

\*(8) Amir Banbaji, 2015. “The Literary Character of the Haskalah”, Review Essay, *Contemporary Study of Judaism* 29, pp. 264-270.

\*(9) Amir Banbaji, 2016. “Sabbatian Haskalah: Abraham Mapu’s`The Visionaries`”,  *El Presente: Studies in Sephardic Culture* 10, pp, 11-39.

\*(10) Amir Banbaji, "המשכילים כמגיני הטקסט: פרדיגמה שלישית של נאורות יהודית" .2017 The *Maskilim* as “῾Defenders of the Text’: A Third Paradigm of Jewish Enlightenment.” *Mehkare Yerushalayim be-Sifrut Ivrit* 29 (2017) pp. 107-144.

\*(11) Amir Banbaji. 2019. “Haskalah (Jewish Enlightenment) Literature.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*. Ed. Naomi Seidman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019

\*(12) Amir Banbaji**,**  2020a. בעד המליצה: לקראת היסטוריוגרפיה מודרנית של הספרות העברית המודרנית" **, “**Melitsah and Haskalah: Towards a Rhetorical Historiography of Modern Hebrew Literature” *Mikan* 20, pp. 141-173

\*(13) Amir Banbaji and Shai Ginsburg ,2020b. “הקדמה: מחשבת הספרות העברית”, “Forward: Hebrew Literary Theory”, *Mikan* 20, pp. 5-25. (Hebrew)

\*(14) Amir Banbaji, 2020c. “*Melitsah*, Rhetoric and Modern Hebrew Literature: A Study of Haskalah Literary Theory,” *Prooftexts* 38 (2) 2020, pp. 238-277.

\*(15) Amir Banbaji, 2021. “Conflicted Anagoge: The Renewal of Jewish Textuality in Haskalah Rhetoric,” *Jewish Social Studies* 26 (2) pp. 126-169.

(f) Unrefereed professional articles and publications

(1) Amir Banbaji, Scientific Editorship of Theodor W. Adorno, “Commitment,” translation into Hebrew by Danit Dotan, *Mikan 9*, 2008, pp. 235-251.

\*(2) Amir Banbaji, 2013, “Moykher Sforim, Mendele (1835-1917)**”** in *Encyclopedia of Jewish Folklore*, eds. Raphael Patai, and Haya Bar Itzhak v.2, pp. 379-382.

• **Lectures and Presentations at Meetings and Invited Seminars**

(b) Presentation of papers at conferences/meetings

(1) Amir banbaji, 1997. “Vitalism in Shaul Tchernichovsky’s Poetry,” National Association of Professors of Hebrew in America, Los Angeles

(2) Amir banbaji, 2000. “The Negation of ‘Negation of Exile:’ Abramovich’s Representation of Eastern European Exile,” the MLA Annual Convention, Washington DC.

(3) Amir banbaji, 2000. “The Negation of ‘Negation of Exile:’ Abramovich’s Representation of Eastern European Exile,” the annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Boston.

(4) Amir Banbaji, 2001. “The Making of What is Unmade: Truth, Morality and Social Critique in Adorno’s *Aesthetic Theory*,” UC Berkeley.

(5) Amir Banbaji, 2001. “Representation of Jewish Exile after the Holocaust: A Reconsideration of the ‘Kariv Debate’and Mendele Mocher Sefarim’s Work,” the Annual Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew, New York.

(6) Amir Banbaji, 2002. “The `Self-Criticism Dispute` between Brenner and Gordon, A Literary and Philosophical Perspective,” the Ben-Gurion Research Center, Sede Boker.

(7) Amir Banbaji, 2005. “A. B. Yehoshua and the Debate over Realism,” International Conference on A.B. Yehoshua, Ca’Foskari University, Venice.

(8) Amir Banbaji, 2005. “Nationalism and Haskalah: a Pro-Maskilic Reading in Hebrew Literary Theory,” the Annual Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew in America, Stanford.

(9) Amir Banbaji, 2005. “Mendele The Book-Peddler: A Symbol of Modern Jewish Identity?” 14th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.

(10) Amir Banbaji, 2009. “*Mizrahiyut* in Hebrew Literary Criticism,” Annual Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew in America, London.

(11) Amir Banbaji, 2010. “The Arab, the Jew, and their Poetry: Concepts of Belonging in Jewish Enlightenment,” 2nd Annual German-Israeli Frontiers of Humanities Symposium, Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Potsdam.

(12) Amir Banbaji, 2011. “Haskalah Allegories and the Dialectics of Jewish Enlightenment”, Annual Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew in America, Washington DC.

(13) Amir Banbaji 2013. “Is it Possible to Envision Haskalah Historiography without Relying on the Secularization Thesis?” 16th World Congress of Jewish Studies.

(14) Amir Banbaji, 2014. ?Medieval and Haskalah Hebrew Literary Theory,” Conference of on Hebrew Literary Theory, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

(15) Amir Banbaji, 2014. “A New Look at the Story of Hebrew *Melitsah*” Heksherim Institute and the Chinese Academy for Social Sciences, Beijing.

(16) Amir Banbaji, 2015. “Two Views of Hebrew Literary Modernity: The Melitsah in Haskalah Discourse,” The Rise of Nationalism and the Nineteenth-Century Jewish Literary Imagination, Department of Comparative Literature and the Program for Judaic Studies, Yale University.

(17) Amir Banbaji, 2015. “Sabbatianism and Haskalah: The Case of Abraham Mapu,” Echoes of Sabbatai Zvi in Jewish Literature, Ulcinj, Montenegro.

(18) Amir Banbaji, 2016. “A New Paradigm of Jewish Enlightenment,” Third Bremen Conference on Language and Literature in Colonial and Postcolonial Contexts, Bremen.

(19) Amir Banbaji, 2017. “Spinoza and Mendelsohn on Prophecy and Rhetoric,” American Comparative Literature Association, Annual Meeting, Utrecht

(20) Amir Banbaji, 2017. “Moses Mendelssohn and Hebrew Literary Modernity: Melitsah and Rhetoric,” 17th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.

(21) Amir Banbaji, 2017. “Mendele the Book-Peddler and the Poetics of National Renaissance Literature,” Commemorative Conference Dedicated to Sh. Y. Abramovich, Odessa.

(22) Amir Banbaji, 2018. “Mendele The Book Peddler and the Melitsah,” Commemorative Conference Dedicated to Sh. Y. Abramovich, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

(23) Amir Banbaji, 2018. “Naphtali Herz Wessely’s Poetic Theory,” European Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Krakow.

(24) Amir Banbaji, 2018. “Haskalah and *Melitsah*: The Curious Persistence of Rhetoric in

Modern Hebrew Literature, Annual Conference of Association for Jewish Studies, Boston.

(c) Presentations at informal international seminars and workshops

(1) 2012, “Literature and Secularism,” Research Workshop, Duke University, Durham, “Ethnicity, Secularization, and Nationalism in Hebrew Culture.”

(2) 2013, “Poetics of Translation,” Research Workshop, Brandeis University. “Two Notions of Beauty in Haskalah Aesthetic Theory.”

(3) 2013 A Conference Honoring Dan Miron’s 80th Birthday, Tel Aviv University

“Two Concepts of Modernity in Haskalah Literature: Miron On Wessely.”

(4) 2016, “Growing Old: Post Utopian Personhood in Israeli Cultural Production.” Research Workshop, University of Florida, Gainesville, “Old Age in Haskalah Poetry: Micah Joseph Lebenssohn.”

(5) 2019, “Letters and addressees in Modern Hebrew Literature” Research Workshop, University of Chicago, “David Frishman’s `Letters on Literary Matters’.”

(d) Seminar presentations at universities and institutions

(1) 2003, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University on the Negev. “Abramovich and the Disgust.”

(2) 2005, Department of Hebrew Literature, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. “Before and After Mendele: on Gershon Shaked’s Book.”

(3) 2005, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, “Ahad Ha`am and Brinker on Haskalah and Nationalism.”

(4) 2007, Department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature, Haifa University. “National Renaissance and Hebrew Enlightenment in the history of Hebrew Literary Theory: Between Excessive Polemics and Artificial Reconciliation.”

(5) 2008, Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem. “A Curious Version of Cultural Criticism: On Hannan Hever’s *ha-Sipur ve-Hale`on*.”

(6) 2009, Frankel Centre for Advance Judaic Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. “A New Look at the Literary History of Jewish Enlightenment.”

(7) 2009, Townsend Centre for the Humanities, UC Berkeley. “Maskilic Allegories: a New Reading the Literary History of the Haskalah.”

(8) 2010, Journal of Levantine Studies International Research Workshop, Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem 2010, “Aesthetics, Oriental Despotism, and Secularization: the Political Identity of Isaac Euchel’s *Igrot Meshulam*.”

(9) 2014, Department of Hebrew Literature, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. “Haskalah Literary Theory”

(10) 2015, Cherrick Forum, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, “Three Paradigms of Haskalah Scholarship.”

(11) 2017, Van Leer Institute: Jewish and Middle Eastern Perspectives Research Group, “Three Paradigms of Haskalah Scholarship.”

(12) 2019, Van Leer Institute, World Literature Research Group, “Sacred Poetry in Haskala Literature.”

**Research Grants**

2015: ISF 131\15 (declined with high marks)

**Present Academic Activities**

Book in preparation: “Melitsah: History of Hebrew Figurative and Eloquent language.”