CURRICULUM VITAE AND LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

 • **Personal Details**

Name: Gideon Nevo

Date and place of birth: 8.4.59, Israel

Regular military service: 1978-1981

Address and telephone number at work: Department of Hebrew literature,

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, P.O.B. 653, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel. Tel: (972) 8-6471090

Address and telephone number at home: 10/1, Shezaf Street, Be'er Sheva, 84144, Israel. Tel: (972) 8-6909476

 • **Education**

B.A. 1981-1985. Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Hebrew Literature

And Philosophy (cum laude)

M.A. 1997-1999. Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Hebrew Literature

Name of advisor: Prof. Dan Miron. Direct doctoral track

Ph.D. 1999-2001. Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Hebrew Literature

Name of advisor: Prof. Dan Miron

Title of thesis: Seven days in the Negev: Man, space and time in *Days of Ziklag* by S. Yizhar

 • **Employment History**

2000-2001 Doctor-instructor, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion

University of the Negev

2001-2007 Lecturer, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

2007-2009 Senior lecturer, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion

University of the Negev

2009-present Senior lecturer, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion

University of the Negev

 • **Professional Activities**

(a) Academic functions in the department/institute

2005-2009 Chair, B.A. Teaching committee, Israel Studies Track

2011-2017 Chair, B.A. Teaching committee, The Department of Hebrew Literature

2012-2016 Member, Committee for doctoral studies, The Faculty of Humanities and Social Studies

2016-present Member, M.A. committee, The Faculty of Humanities and Social Studies

(b) Professional functions outside the university

2008 Member, Literature committee of the Israel Science Foundation

2009 Member, Literature committee of the Israel Science Foundation

2014 Member, Publication support committee – Humanities, The Israel

Science Foundation

2018 Member, Literature committee of The Israel Science Foundation

(c) Editor or member of editorial board of scientific or professional journal or series

2007-2014 Member of the editorial board of the Massa Kritit [Critical Mass] Series

 of The Heksherim Institute and Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir

(d) Membership in professional/scientific societies

2000-present NAPH (National Association of Professors of Hebrew)

2003-2008 AJS (Association of Jewish Studies)

**• Educational Activities**

(a) Courses taught (all courses taught at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

 unless otherwise indicated)

M.A. Seminars

From *City of the Dove* to *Summer Festival*: Nathan Alterman’s Later Poetry

‘The Alien Poem’: Alterman and his Critics in the Maze of ‘Joy of the Poor’

The Seven Deadly Sins in Hebrew Culture

‘Summer Feud’: Nathan Alterman and Yonatan Ratosh

A Story that Doesn’t End: S. Yizhar’s Narrative Fiction

‘The Silver Platter’: Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry

Hebrew Literary Criticism in the Maze of Agnon’s ‘Ido and Einam’ and Other Murky Affairs

Perl, Sholem Aleichem, Kishon, Levin: Stalwarts of Hebrew Satire

“From Frogs’ Legs to Falafel Turds”: The Greatest Food Stories in Modern

Hebrew Literature

The Midrash in Modern Hebrew Literature

Agnonian Readings

Altermanian Readings

B.A. Seminars

Arab Woman, Who Knows Thy Life?: Nationality and Gender in Israeli Culture

“An Infiltrator, a Scion to Generations of Infiltrators”: To Be a Jew, to Be a

Human Being According to Alterman

The Destroyed Temple: Israeli Landscape in the Literature of the Yishuv and the State

“The Desert of the Real”: Milestones in Hebrew Realism

They Walked in the Fields: The Writers of the 1948 Generation

Hebrew War Literature

Jewish Secular Thought in Modern Hebrew Culture (with Dr. Gideon Katz)

The Hebrew Short Story

B.A. Courses

“You Disqualify me on Account of an Onion?!”: Milestones of Israeli Satire

From Alterman to Berry Sacharof: Heroes of Israeli Culture

How to Read a Story? Introduction to the Poetics of Prose

“Pink Sunset Between the Roofs”: Poems Set to Music in Israeli Culture

“Heed My Call”: Secular/Jewish Identity in Israeli Popular Music

Whips and Scorpions: Hebrew and Jewish Satire

Lone Infiltration: Yehoshua Kenaz and the Naturalistic Tradition in Modern

Hebrew Literature

From Joseph Perl to the Kameri Five [Hachamishia Hakamerit]: Milestones

of Hebrew and Jewish Satire

“We’ve Got Love”: Israeli Rock Music

Achtung Baby: Violence in Modern Hebrew Culture

Jewish and Israeli Humor

Israeli Popular Music

“My shadow and I”: The ‘Other’ in Israeli and Jewish Literature and Culture (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia)

Heroes and Anti-Heroes in Modern Hebrew Literature

The State of Israel in a Multi-Disciplinary Perspective (jointly taught)

(b) Research students

1. Adi Adler, Ph. D. candidate
2. Eli Eshed, Ph. D. candidate
3. Rivka Rosner, Ph. D. candidate
4. Hadar Azran-Te'ena, Ph. D. candidate
5. Ron Yeshu’a, Ph. D. candidate
6. Ilan Bar-David, M. A. candidate
7. Hadar Azran, M.A. Graduated 2018
8. David Peretz, M. A. (with Prof. Haviva Pedaya) Graduated 2017
9. Uri Meir, M.A. Graduated 2013
10. Adi Adler, M.A. (with Prof. Itzhak Ben-Mordechai). Graduated 2009
11. Hadas Yatom, M.A. (with Prof. Nissim Calderon). Graduated 2008

 • **Awards, Citations, Honors, Fellowships**

(a) Honors, Citations, Awards

1997 The Bernstein prize for a Hebrew novel (for the novel *So Far* [Ad Kan]) granted by The Association of Publishing Houses in Israel

2004 Yad Ben-Gurion award for excellence in academic work

(b) Fellowships

1998 The Institute for Jewish Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2,000$

2000-2001 The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, 15,000$

2000-2001 Yitzhak Rabin Center for the Study of Israel, 30,000$

2004-2005 Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 27,000$

* **Belletristic Publications**

Gideon Nevo. 1996, *So Far* [Ad Kan] (a novel) [Hebrew], Tel Aviv: Hakibbutz

Hame’uchad, The New Library.

 • **Scientific Publications**

(a) Authored books

1. *שבעה ימים בנגב: על 'ימי צקלג' לס. יזהר*

Gideon Nevo. (2005), *Seven Days in the Negev: On ‘Days of Ziklag’ by S. Yizhar* [Hebrew], Tel-Aviv: Hakibbutz Hame’uchad and The Ben-Gurion Research Institute

1. *"מושב לצים": הרטוריקה של הסאטירה העברית*

Gideon Nevo. 2010, *“The Seat of the Scornful”:* *The Rhetoric of Modern Hebrew Satire* [Hebrew], Sidrat Massa Kritit, the Heksherim Institute and Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir

1. *לאור המציאות: שירתו העיתונאית של נתן אלתרמן \**

Gideon Nevo. 2018, *In the Light of Reality: Nathan Alterman's Journalistic Poetry*, Tel-Aviv: Hakibbutz Hame'uchad

(b) Editorship of collective volumes, variorum and annotated editions, etc.

1. *עתות של שינוי: ספרויות יהודיות בתקופה המודרנית: קובץ מאמרים לכבודו של דן מירון*

Gideon Nevo, Michal Arbell, Michael Gluzman, (eds.). 2008, *Times of Change: Jewish Literatures in the Modern Era: Essays in Honor of Dan Miron* [Hebrew],Sede-Boker: The Ben-Gurion Research Institute

1. *נתן אלתרמן: רגעים, כרך ראשון 1934-1935* (מהדורה כרונולוגית מוערת) \*

Gideon Nevo, Oren Kalman (eds.). 2011, *Nathan Alterman: Moments vol. 1, 1934-1935* (fully annotated and chronological edition) [Hebrew], Tel-Aviv: Hakibbutz Hame'uchad

(c) Refereed chapters in collective volumes

1. "הרג חיות בספרות העברית המודרנית: גלגולו של מוטיב"

Gideon Nevo. 2007, “The Killing of Animals in Modern Hebrew Literature: The Transformations of a Motif”, H. Hever (ed.), *A Moment of Birth: Studies in Hebrew and Yiddish Literatures* [Hebrew], Jerusalem: Mossad Bialik, pp. 448-466

1. "דיוקנו של דן מירון כמבקר ספרות"

Gideon Nevo. 2008, “A Portrait of Dan Miron as a Literary Critic”, G. Nevo, M. Arbell & M. Gluzman, (eds.), *Times of Change: Jewish Literatures in the Modern Era: Essays in Honor of Dan Miron* [Hebrew], Sede-Boker: The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, pp. 7-24

1. "הומור יהודית במחלצות עבריות: על 'ממבחן הצבא' לשלום עליכם בתרגום י. ד. ברקוביץ"

Gideon Nevo. 2009, “Jewish Humor in Hebrew Garb: On ‘Back from the Draft’ by Sholem Aleichem in Y. D. Berkovic’s Translation”, A. Lipsker and R. Kushelevsky (eds.), *Ma'aseh Sippur: Studies in Jewish Narrative*, vol. 2 [Hebrew], Ramat Gan: Bar-Ilan University Press, pp. 241-278

1. Gideon Nevo. 2010, “Eternal Jews and Dead Dogs: The Diasporic Other in Natan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry”, S. Jellen, M. Kramer & S. Lerner (eds.), *Modern Jewish Literatures: Intersections and Boundaries*, Philadelphia: The University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 237-262

(d) Refereed articles in scientific journals

1. "כמה הרהורים על הטבע ביצירתו של אברמוביץ על פי 'ספר הבהמות' ו'מספר הזכרונות'"

Gideon Nevo. 2001, “The Conception of Nature in Mendele Mocher Sphorim According to ‘The Book of Cattle’ and ‘From the Book of Memories’” [Hebrew], *Jerusalem Studies in Hebrew Literature*, 18, 163-185

1. "טקסט, פרשנות, מרחב: קריאה ב'בגנים' של גנסין"

Gideon Nevo. 2003,“Text, Interpretation, Space: A Reading of Gnessin’s ‘In The Country’ (‘Baganim’)” [Hebrew], *Jerusalem Studies in Hebrew Literature*, 19, 143-166

1. "עיצוב המרחב ב'ימי צקלג'"

Gideon Nevo. 2004, “The Depiction of Space in *Days of Ziklag*”

[Hebrew], *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel* 13, 123-143

1. Gideon Nevo. 2005, “The Organon of Humiliation in Hanoch Levin’s Narrative Fiction: The Case of *A Man Standing behind a Seated Woman*”, *Hebrew Studies*, XLVI, 25-47
2. Gideon Nevo. 2005, “Arbinka, Shtucks and Co.: The Makings of Kishon’s Social Satire”, *Israel Studies*,10 (2), 129-146
3. "איש ההרס: הסאטירה הפרו-ישראלית והאנטי-'ציונית' של דורון רוזנבלום על פי 'תוגת הישראליות'"

Gideon Nevo. 2005, “The Pro-Israeli and Anti-‘Zionist’ Satire of Doron Rosenblum's *Israeli Blues*” [Hebrew], *Dappim Lemechkar Besifrut*,14-15, 469-494

1. "הסאטירה הבורגנית של אפרים קישון"

Gideon Nevo. 2005, “Ephraim Kishon’s Bourgeois Satire” [Hebrew], A. Bareli, T. Frilling & D. Gutwein (eds.), *Society and Economy in Israel: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives,* *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel* (thematic series), vol. 2, pp. 711-746

1. Gideon Nevo. 2006, “The Realism of S. Yizhar’s *Days of Ziklag*”, *Hebrew Studies*, XLVI, 25-47
2. Gideon Katz & Gideon Nevo. 2007, “Two Perspectives on Abraham Regelson’s ‘Hakukot Otiyotayich’ (‘Engraved are Your Letters’)”, *Hebrew Studies*, XLVIII, 317-338
3. "'לאור אפלת הימים': המודוס השנינתי-סאטירי בשירתו העיתונאית של נתן אלתרמן"\*

Gideon Nevo. 2011, “’In the Light of Darkness’: The Satirical Mode in Nathan’s Alterman Journalistic Poetry” [Hebrew], *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel*, 21, pp. 38-79

1. "המודוס הנבואי בשירתו העיתונאית של נתן אלתרמן"

Gideon Nevo. 2014, “The Prophetic Mode in Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry” [Hebrew], *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel*, 24, pp. 59-72

1. \*Gideon Nevo. 2016, “Winner Takes It All? The Race for Symbolic Capital in Ephraim Kishon’s Social Satire”*, Hebrew Studies*, 57, pp. 323-335
2. \*Gideon Nevo. 2016, “From Melting Pot to Multiculturalism: Eshkol Nevo’s Ashkenazi Comedy”, *Jewish Culture and History*, 17, 3, pp. 264-281
3. "יום קטנות: המודוס הדיוני ומותה של שירת העיתון האלתרמנית" \*

Gideon Nevo. 2016, “Day of Small Things: The Discursive Mode and the Death of Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry” [Hebrew], *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel*, 26, pp. 301-347

1. \*Gideon Nevo. 2017, “’The Sound of Canons Has Subsided’: On Three Israeli Army Novels”, *Bgu Review* (Online)
2. "קישון, הערבים והשמאל הפוליטי" \*

Gideon Nevo. 2018, “Kishon, the Arabs and the Political Left” [Hebrew] *Iyunim Bitkumat Israel* 28, pp. 316-336

1. "'המדינה הנפלאה ביותר בעולם המחורבן הזה': ישראל במערך הסאטירה הלאומנית \* של אפרים קישון"

Gideon Nevo. (accepted for publication), “’The Most Wonderful State in This Fucked-Up World’: Israel in Ephraim Kishon's Nationalistic Satire”, *Jerusalem Studies in Hebrew Literature*

1. Gideon Nevo. (accepted for publication), “’Then the Conscience of Humanity Awoke’: Kishon and the Nations of the World”, *European Journal of Jewish Studies*
2. Gideon Nevo. (submitted for publication), “Was Alterman an Orientalist?”, *Prooftexts*

(e) Unrefereed professional articles and publications

1. Gideon Nevo. 2007, Dan Miron, Entry for *Encyclopedia Judaica*
2. \*Gideon Nevo. 2014, Dan Almagor, Ram Evron, Ya’ira Ginosar, Abraham Hagorni-Green, Yechiel Hoffer, Ephraim Kishon, Israel Lerman, Nadav Levitan, Alan Mintz, Hannan Peled, Moshe Rashkes, Ro’i Rashkes, David Roskies, Aryeh Ludwig Strauss, Shlomo Skulsky, Gadi Taub, Shim’on Tzabar, Ida Tzorit, Yonatan Yovel, Entries for *Heksherim Lexicon of Israeli Authors* (edited by Yigal Schwartz and Zissi Stavi)

• **Lectures and Presentations at Meetings and Invited Seminars not Followed by Published Proceedings**

 (a) Invited plenary lectures at conferences/meetings

1. 2006, “Abraham Regelson’s ‘Engraved are Your Letters’ and the Art of the Semiotic-Grammatical Metalepsis”, Hebrew Writers in America, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York
2. 2007, “*Four Homes and a Longing*: Eshcol Nevo’s Multi-Cultural Comedy”, The Future of Zionism: Looking at Israel in the 21st Century, George Washington University

1. 2008, “S. Yizhar: An Overview”, Conceptualizing Israeli Literature: Transcription, Translation, Transmission (A Conference in Memory of S. Yizhar), Johns Hopkins University

(b) Presentation of papers at conferences/meetings (partial list)

1. 2000, “A Reading of Uri Nissan Gnessin’s ‘Baganim’ (‘In the Country’)”, A Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew (NAPH) Chicago
2. 2001, “’The Sound of Canons Has Subsided’: Directions and Trends in Hebrew Army Literature”, NAPH Conference, New York
3. 2002, “The Portrait of Dan Miron as a Literary Critic”, Historiographies of Jewish Literature, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
4. 2002, “Doron Rosenblum’s Pro-Israeli and Anti-‘Zionist’ Satire”, The Inter-University Conference for Hebrew Literature, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
5. 2003, “*A Man Seating behind a Seated Woman*: Hanoch Levin’s Novella of Humiliation”, A Conference of the Association of Jewish Studie (AJS), Boston
6. 2004, “The Satiric T.V. Show *The Kameri Five* [*Hachamishia Hakamerit*] as a Postmodern Phenomenon”, NAPH conference, Austin, Texas
7. 2005, “The Prophetic Mode in Natan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry”, A Conference of the Center of Advanced Judaic Studies (CAJS), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
8. 2005, “Phallic Struggles in the Realm of Secondary Capital: An Anatomy of a Comic Procedure in the Satiric Art of Ephraim Kishon”, AJS Conference, Washington, D.C.
9. 2005, “*Megalle Temirin* (*Revealer of Secrets*): Joseph Perl’s Anti-Hasidic Satire”, NAPH Conference, Stanford, California
10. 2006, “Eternal Jews and Dead Dogs: The diasporic Other in Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry”, AJS conference, San Diego, California
11. 2009, “Adorno’s Pendulum: Amir Banbag’i and Mendele Mocher Sforim in the Maze of Negative Dialectic”, Mifgash Mendele, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
12. 2009, “On the Use and Abuse of History in Alterman’s Journalistic Verse”, NAPH conference, London
13. 2010, “’In the Light of Darkness’: Nathan Alterman vis-à-vis (pre)-Israeli Reality 1934-1962”, Department of Hebrew Literature Annual Conference, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
14. 2011, “The Satirical Mode in Nathan Alterman's Journalistic Poetry”, NAPH Conference, Maryland
15. 2013, “’Midrash Yonati’: Meir Ariel Reading the Talmud and Israeli Reality”, NAPH Conference, JTS, New York
16. 2017, “Was Alterman an Orientalist?” NAPH Conference, NYU, New York
17. 2017, “’Of This’ (‘Al Zot’) and the Art of Mixed Modes in Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic poetry”, 17Th Congress of Jewish Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
18. 2018, “’You Disqualify Me on Account of an Onion?!’ The Battle on the Soul of Israeliness in Israeli Satire”, NAPH Conference, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam

 (c) Seminar presentations at universities and institutions

1. 1999, “The Realism of S. Yizhar’s *Days of Ziklag*”, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
2. 2002, “The Comic Means in Sholem Aleichem’s ‘Back from the Draft’”, The Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
3. 2002, “Hyper-Realism, Postmodernism and Meta-Poetics in *A Room* by Yuval Shimoni”, The Department of Poetics and Comparative Literature, Tel-Aviv University
4. 2003, “*Le Premiere Homme* by Albert Camus”, The Israeli Center for Qualitative Methodologies, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
5. 2003, “From ‘Moments’ to’The Seventh Column’: Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry”, Ben-Zvi Institute, Jerusalem
6. 2004, “Text and Ideology in *Days of Ziklag* by S. Yizhar”, The Department of Middle-Eastern Studies, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
7. 2004, “Ephraim Kishon’s Social Satire”, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
8. 2007, “Satire and Wit in Nathan Alterman’s *The Seventh Column*”, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
9. 2009, “The Economic Aspect in Joseph Perl's *Megalle Temirin* (*Revealer of Secrets*)”, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
10. 2017, “Nathan Alterman’s Holocaust Poems”, Holocaust Literature Workshop, Mandel Institute for Jewish Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

 • **Research Grants**

1. 2004-2007, Granting institution or foundation: The Israel Science Foundation

 Title of Research: “’Tel-Avivian Sketches’, ‘Point of View’, ‘Moments’ and

‘The Seventh Column’ – Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic poetry” (56,000$)

1. 2006-2008, Granting institution or foundation: The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture

 Title of Research: “’Tel-Avivian Sketches’, ‘Point of View’, ‘Moments’ and

 ‘The Seventh Column’ – Nathan Alterman’s Journalistic Poetry” (15,000$)

1. 2009, Granting institution or foundation: The Israel Science Foundation

Title of Research: “’The Seat of the Scornful’: The Rhetoric of Hebrew Satire” (27,000 NIS) (grant for publication of the research)

• **Present Academic Activities**

(a) Research in progress

1. **Ephraim Kishon: A Monograph**

Ephraim Kishon is one of the major (and most prolific) Hebrew satirists of the second half of the twentieth century, and one of the most popular Hebrew writers abroad. The aim of this study, significant chapters of which have already been published or submitted to publication, is to give a complete critical account of Kishon’s large oeuvre in its two main facets: the neo-liberal social-economic satires and the (vehemently) nationalistic ones. In both these facets it seems that Kishon’s satire presaged ideological trends that have since overswept Israeli society and currently hold sway in both public opinion and the political arena.

1. **The Destroyed Temple: The Pre-Israeli Landscape in the Work of S. Yizhar**

S. Yizhar is widely and rightly regarded as the greatest literary depicter of the pre-Israeli landscape. Never it seems has a national landscape been depicted with such verve, richness, detail and subtlety. The pre-Israeli landscape is portrayed in Yizhar as an infinitely precious Edenic space able to somehow, magically, precariously, sustain within itself all the tense contradictions that could have potentially ripped it apart, mainly those between man and nature and between Jews and Arabs. Tragically, ironically, the establishment of the state of Israel brought an abrupt end to this delicately held space and spelled its destruction, both physically and morally. The research traces Yizharian prose – the finest and most elaborate linguistic tool ever devised in Hebrew for depicting space – all the way from the ecstatic, majestic peans to the pre-Israeli landscape to the bitter elegies of its demise.

1. ***Ir Hayona* (*City of the Dove*) and *Hagigat Kayits* (*Summer Festival*): Nathan Alterman’s Later Poetry**

*Hagigat Kayits*, Alterman’s last book of poetry – a variegated and colorful book, steeped with self-irony, which solders together, uneasily, contemplative poetry, phantasmagorical elements and Threepenny Opera motifs – received scant critical attention (mainly by Ruth Kartun-Blum); *Ir Hayona*, which includes Alterman great epic poem by the same name, received even less and was never systematically read and analyzed. The research aims at elucidating these two dense volumes which include some of the best and most moving poetry ever written in Hebrew.

1. **Uri Zvi Greenberg’s *Streets of the River***.

*Streets of the River* – Uri Zvi Greenberg’s voluminous collection of poems on the destruction of European Jewry – was celebrated both as a poetic triumph and as the grand return of its ostracized author to the heart of the Israeli public. In this process the nationalistic, fascist and racist elements of the text were ignored or minimized. The thing is that these elements are not minor or trivial under any stretch of the imagination, but are rather a constitutive element of the poetry going down to its very core. The research analyzes how the fascist and racist ideology shapes the texture of the poems, and inevitably comes to grapple with the question: Can fascist, deeply anti-humanistic poetry be good poetry?

1. **His Place in Hebrew Literature: The Poetry of Meir Wieseltier**

While following roughly in the wake of Nathan Zach’s poetics, Meir Wieseltier introduced a new tone of brutality, edginess, mercilessness and bitterness into Israeli poetry, conquering for it new poetical and thematical grounds. The research attempts to shed light on one of the most important, if not *the* most important, poet in Hebrew poetry in the post-Zach generation.

(b) Synopsis of Research

Looking back at my research activity it seems to me that it was deeply animated by two guiding principles:

1. Reading modern Hebrew literary texts (since the Enlightenment onwards) in their historical, social, ideological and cultural context. The interface between literature and the various contexts within which it operates has always fascinated me. This is a very lively, tense and charged fault line holding immense pressures but also the bold, miraculous chance of sounding an oppositional voice, critical, bitter, dark, rebellious, defying, preciously individualistic, and, above all, human. It is when charting the rugged face of this fraught fault line that I keep close to my heart what is possibly the most valuable insight of cultural studies, that is, that cultural texts, simultaneously, both reflect and construct their reality, shaping it even as they are constantly being shaped by it.
2. Reading these texts with an acute eye and ear to their rhetorical aspects ranging from the grand, sweeping gestures of erecting a plot and a narratological framework to the minutest literary figures embodied in the level of the sentence, the word, the syllable – the simile, the metaphor, the synecdoche, the rhyme, the anaphora, the anapest. In these I believe lie the heart and soul of literature. It is here that one can invoke the concept of ‘close reading’, a concept that when yoked and when used as a basis for the wider ideological, social and historical readings can yield fruitful and enlightening results.

Using these two principles as the alpha and omega of my critical forays into the rich corpus of modern Hebrew literature, I initially dealt with certain segments of ‘classic’ Modern Jewish literature, examining conceptions of nature and space in Mendele Mocher Sforim and in Gnessin.

Subsequently my main focus of interest turned to S. Yizhar’s *Days of Ziklag* – the foremost novel to come out of the creative kiln of the 1948 generation. The ensuing research – published by Hakibbutz Hame’uchad in 2005 under the title: *Seven Days in the Negev: On ‘Days of Ziklag’ by S. Yizhar* – studies the huge work – the longest novel in Hebrew and one of the longest in Western tradition – according to four major parameters: (1) its rather stormy reception into the ‘literary republic’; (2) its unique, multi-faceted use of the ‘stream of consciousness’ narrative mode; (3) its relation to ‘external’ historic reality; and (4) its depiction of time, space and movement in space, the latter parameter embodying much of the tremendous and unparalleled aesthetic achievement of the work. All in all, the research provides, for the first time, a systematic and critical reading of the novel – one of the foundational texts of Israeli culture.

Thereafter my interests centered on the genre of satire. In this vein I have conducted a study of Hebrew satire from the early enlightenment till today under the title: *The Seat of the Scornful: The Rhetoric of Hebrew Satire* (published in 2011 as part of the Massa Kritit series by The Heksherim Institute and Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir). The study is based on the recognition that satire is a well-developed and highly significant (if somewhat academically neglected) component in Modern Jewish cultural system in all its major geographical centers (Europe, Eretz-Israel and the United States) and under all its major ideological trends (Haskala, the various species of Zionism).

 The research comprises critical readings of some of the pinnacles of Hebrew satire in the last two centuries: Joseph Perl’s Swiftian anti-Hasidic satire; Sholem Aleichem’s rich and nuanced caricature of shtetl culture and mentality; Ephraim Kishon’s tenacious and unwavering attack on Labor-Zionism’s ethos, mores and practices; Hanoch Levin’s dire vision of human existence in general (what he succinctly calls “the crime called Mankind”), and Doron Rosenblum’s irony-steeped portrayal of an achronistic religio-nationalist Zionism trumping modern, secular and enlightened Israeliness. The Israel Science Foundation endowed me with a generous grant for the publication of this work.

Concurrently I have conducted a research – sponsored by both the Israel Science Foundation and The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture – focusing on Nathan Alterman's journalistic poetry. This body of work consists of more than 900 poems published during some thirty years (1934-1962) under the titles: ‘Tel-Avivian Sketches’ (in *Davar*), ‘Points of View’ (*Ha’aretz*), ‘Moments’ (*Ha’aretz*) and ‘The Seventh Column’ (*Davar*). The corpus *as a whole* has received little critical attention (although its main section, ‘The Seventh Column’, has been widely discussed and studied).

Alterman’s is the central body of journalistic verse in Modern Hebrew poetry and has been received with unprecedented praise and popularity. In some of its phases, especially during the 40’s – maybe the most tragic and most dramatic years in the annals of Jewish history – it was perceived as the authentic embodiment, the avatar of the spirit of (pre-) Israeli society. Alterman was regarded as the incarnate voice of that society, and as the oracular poet best able to express its collective feelings and intuitions. That he did with brilliance and clarity, combiningwit and pathos, seriousness and jest, empathy and humor.

The fruits of the research were twofold: 1. A fully annotated and chronological edition of the first volume of *Regai’m* (*Moments*) done with the help of my student Oren Kalman and including more than a hundred pages of comments (published in 2011 by Hakibbutz Hame’uchad). 2. The book *In the Light of Reality: Alterman's Journalistic Poetry* (Hakibbutz Hame’uchad, 2018), supplying for the first time a methodical and integrative study of the whole corpus.

One key question, in various formulations, reverberates through the essays discussing and interpreting Alterman’s political verse. Namely, was he a court versifier or a sovereign and independent intellectual? Was he an establishment spokesman or the social conscience of his time? Was he an enlisted poet or simply an involved one? Was he a party organ or the voice of the nation? Trying to rise above the limiting scope of this question, with its reductionist binary oppositions, the book has adopted a different, non-moralizing perspective. In the light of such a perspective, the changing faces of Alterman's topical verse can be seen to be the changing faces of classical Zionism itself, in its struggles and rivalries**,** its achievements and its failures, its pathos and its pain. Alterman’s poetry for the day was a mirror of, and for, the times, the most cogent and veracious that we have, a unique and absorbing record of a culture’s response to the crisis of its survival and to the drama of its resurrection.

It is my intention to take my two guiding principles and apply them to other texts awaiting new, thorough and fresh reading, a partial list of those is to be found under the heading ‘Research in progress’ in this document.