

EXAMINING THE ROLES OF IDENTITY IN THE ABRAHAMIC RELIGIONS

27th-29th June at Talbot Hall, Lady Margaret Hall

Joint Conference Between the Faculty of Theology and Religion, the University of Oxford, and the Center for the Study of Conversion and Inter-Religious Encounters, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev



For further details, please contact Elizabeth Crabtree (elizabeth.crabtree@bfriars.ox.ac.uk) or Rebekah Van Sant-Clark (rebekah.vansant-clark@oriel.ox.ac.uk).

FACULTY OF
**THEOLOGY
AND
RELIGION**


UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD


אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
جامعة بن غوريون في النقب
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev


Center for the Study of Conversion
and Inter-Religious Encounters

Monday 27th June

9:15-9:30 Opening Remarks

Anna Sapir Abulafia and Daniella Talmon-Heller

9:30-11:00 PANEL ONE

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN FASHIONING RELIGIOUS IDENTITIES

Chair: Daniella Talmon-Heller

(9:30-10:00) Michal Shalit-Kollender – Cloistered Nun and Her local Cult: Saint Maria Maddalena de' Pazzi (1566–1607)

(10:00-10:30) Elizabeth Crabtree – Esther and Vashti in Medieval Christian Exegesis: Questions of Identity in the Allegorical and Literal Senses

(10:30-11:00) Helen Flatley – Kinship, Community and Identity in Medieval Iberia: The Case of the Mozarabs of Toledo

11:00-11:30 Tea & Coffee Break

11:30-1:00 PANEL TWO

IDENTITIES FROM THE MARGINS

Chair: Cana Werman

(11:30-12:00) Tafat Hacoheh-Bick – “And Whatever Corner You Turn It's Either Garbage and Dirt or a Beard and Sidelocks”: On the "Dirty Jew" and Garbage in Agnon's Work

(12:00-12:30) Rebekah Van Sant-Clark – Subversion and Femininity Between the Book of Esther and the Joseph Narrative

(12:30-1:00) Omer Shadmi – Migrating Centres: Bavli Ktubbot's Reorientation of Jewish Geography and Revision of Jewish History

1:00-2:30 Lunch

2:30-4:00 PANEL THREE

RETHINKING THE FRONTIERS OF CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

Chair: Martin Whittingham

(2:30-3:00) Liam McDonnell – Thomas Aquinas and the Question of the Global Extent of the Gospel

(3:00-3:30) Yuval Givon – Universal Centers and Peripheries in the Jesuit Mindset: Two Case Studies of Seventeenth-Century Maps

(3:30-4:00) Noel Cheong – Reading the New Testament as a Singaporean Chinese Christian

4:00-4:15 Tea and Coffee Break

4:15-4:45 Closing Remarks/Respondents for Day One

Martin Whittingham and Cana Werman

6:30-7:30 Dinner

TUESDAY 28TH JUNE

9:30-11:00 PANEL FOUR

HIERARCHIES OF SACREDNESS AND ORTHODOXY

Chair: Rachel Cresswell

(9:30-10:00) Or Amir – Constructing and Deconstructing Sanctity in Medieval Islam: A Peripheral Sufi Saint and His Contested Miracles

(10:00-10:30) Antje Chan – Center and Periphery: Middle English Creeds After Wyclif and The Multivalence of Their Manuscript Contexts

(10:30-11:00) Ariel Seri-Levi – Hierarchy, Holiness, and Danger in the Hebrew Bible

11:00-11:30 Tea & Coffee break

11:30-1:00 PANEL FIVE

CONSTRUCTING AND DECONSTRUCTING NATIONAL IDENTITIES

Chair: Daniel M. Herskowitz

(11:30-12:00) Maya Shabbat – Who is a (National) Jew? The Debate around the Wissenschaft des Judentums in the Early 20th Century

(12:00-12:30) Alicia Vergara Murillo – Before the Law Stands a Gatekeeper- The Case of the Abayudaya and their Struggle for Recognition

(12:30-1:00) David Borabeck – Orientalizing Rashbi, Nationalizing Rashbi: Religious-Zionist Ambivalence Towards Meron and Safed

1:00-2:30 Lunch

2:30-4:00 PANEL SIX

CONSTRUCTING AND DECONSTRUCTING ETHNICITY AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

Chair: Peter Lehnardt

(2:30-3:00) Anna Espinola Lynn – An (Im)pure Inheritance: the Tree of Jesse and the Converso Discourse in Fifteenth-Century Toledo.

(3:00-3:30) Ali Al Youha – What is the Khalīj, and, Why does Reconceptualising Matters?

(3:30-4:00) Pilar B Rivett – Devotion and Rejection: Jewish Identity and the Coming of Age in the Middle Ages

4:00-4:15 Tea and Coffee Break

4:15-4:45 Closing Remarks/Respondents for Day Two

Daniella Talmon-Heller and Anna Sapir Abulafia

6:45-7:00 Drinks in the SCR

7:30 Dinner (Jerwood Room)

WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

MSS demonstration in the Weston Library by Dr Matthew Holford, Tolkien Curator of Medieval Manuscripts, Bodleian Libraries and Dr Alasdair Watson, Bahari Curator at the Bodleian Libraries with responsibility for Middle Eastern and Islamic manuscripts

- **11:00-12:00** (group 1)

- **12:00-13:00** (group 2)

12:30-2:15 Lunch

3:00-4:45 Tour of Christ Church Cathedral and College by Rachel Cresswell

4:45 Cream tea at Vaults and Garden Café, St Mary's University Church

6:30-7:30 Dinner at Lady Margaret Hall