



The biographies of Jews under Muslim rule have often been characterized by great - voluntary or involuntary - mobility. This dispersal facilitated the exchange of ideas, languages, and cultural practices, contributing to the rich tapestry of Jewish history and the development of distinct Jewish communities in various locations.

But what has not yet received sufficient attention in research are the unforeseen effects that border-crossings - cultural, geographical, political - have on the traveler's making sense of the respectively local order of things on a variety of levels: hermeneutics, institutions, values, symbols, ideas etc. As a result of this creative tension or conflict between what they bring in and what they encounter on site their understanding of whole books can undergo fundamental transformations - occasionally abrupt and even downright illogical.

This awareness and focus on local dynamics between both transgression and some kind of local order enables historiography to free itself from eurocentric, monolithic concepts such as "culture", "tradition", "enlightenment", "secularization", "pre-modernity" or "modernity" which become dispensable in favor of more fluid models of cultural encounter.



All (color) photos by Ottfried Fraise

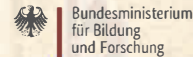
#### LOCATION

**Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für die Erforschung der Europäischen Aufklärung (IZEA)  
Franckesche Stiftungen  
Franckeplatz 1  
House 54  
06110 Halle, Germany**

#### ORGANIZED BY

**Department of Jewish Studies  
University Halle-Wittenberg  
Großer Berlin 14  
06108 Halle, Germany**

#### FUNDED BY



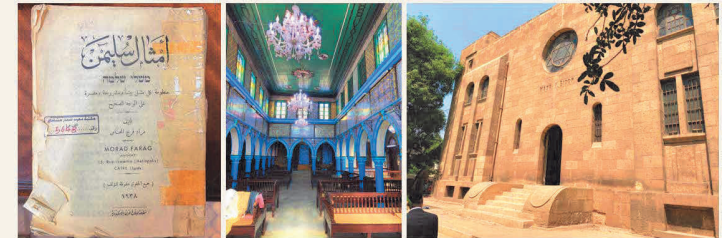
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Online participation possible after registration

**16 – 18  
September  
2024**



# Local Knowledge Production and Translocal Connectedness

*Sephardic/ Mizrahi  
Entanglements of  
Movement and Space*

Conference organized by the Department of Jewish Studies at the Interdisciplinary Centre of European Enlightenment Studies (IZEA)

## 16.09. Monday

13:00 Welcome IZEA  
Frank Grunert

13:15 Welcome  
Ottfried Fraise

13:30 – 15:30 First Session  
**Mediterranean Interlocutors on the Move: The Medieval and Early Modern Period**  
Chair: Ronny Vollandt

Teresa Bernheimer (LMU München)  
**Retracing the Reception of Greek Ideas on the Rainbow: Transformations in Medieval Hebrew and Arabic Sources**

Anna Busa (LMU München)  
**Between Damascus and Cairo: Tracing the Educated Reader in Middle Eastern Cities**

Dotan Arad (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan)  
**Harbingers of Change: The Impact of European Immigrants on the Jews of Egypt in the 15th Century**

Coffee Break

15:50 – 17:50 Second Session  
**Baghdadi Knowledge Production and Transregional Networks**  
Chair: Susanne Härtel

Sasha R. Goldsein Sabbah (Groningen University)  
**The Life and Times of Flora Sassoon (1859–1936): Women in Local Knowledge Production and Translocal Connectedness**

Menashe Anzi (Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva)  
**Translocal Flows of Anti-Theosophical Ideas in the British Indian Ocean World**

Noah Gerber (Tel-Aviv University)  
**Bavel, Sefarad and Zion: The Cultural Dislocations of a 20th Century Baghdadi Jewish Antiquarian**

Coffee Break

18:15 Keynote Lecture:  
**Reconsidering Translocality**  
Chair: Omar Kamil

Yair Wallach (SOAS, University of London)  
**Ashkenazim in the Arab Eastern Mediterranean: Mobility, Integration, Translocal Self-Fashioning**

19:30 Buffet

## 17.09. Tuesday

9:00 – 11:00 Third Session  
**Interweaving Maghrebi and Ashkenazi Ethical Spaces**  
Chair: Noah Gerber

Patrick Koch (University of Hamburg)  
**Lurianic Hagiography in Safed: Between Ashkenaz and North Africa**

Ottfried Fraise (University Halle–Wittenberg)  
**Orality in R. Moshe Israel Hazan's She'erit ha-Nahala: Relating European and MENA Literary Dialogues in Times of Printing Press**

Michal Ohana (University Halle–Wittenberg)  
**R. Shlomo Adahan's Bine'ot Deshe as Transcultural Musar-literature: Interweaving of Maghrebi, Sephardic, and Ashkenazi Customs**

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:50 Fourth Session  
**Sephardi / Mizrahi Memories and Transnational Movements**  
Chair: Yemima Hadad

Allyson Gonzalez (Potsdam University)  
**Between Naturalization and Disenfranchisement: Sephardi Female Orphans, Divorcees, and Widows Petitioning Citizenship to Interwar Spain**

Aviad Moreno (Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva)  
**In (Re)Search of Origins: The Translocal Production of Sephardi Heritage in Early 20th Century Northern Morocco**

12:50 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:30 Fifth Session  
**Migration and Imagination**  
Chair: Aviad Moreno

Susanne Härtel (Humboldt-University, Berlin)  
**A Local Perspective on Immigration: Rabbi Elijah Mizrahi and the Advent of Sephardi Jews in Ottoman Constantinople around 1500**

Piera Rossetto (University of Venice)  
**Between Local Agency and Mediterranean Interconnectivity: The Testimony of a Jewish Almanac from Libya (1937)**

Lily Eilan (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)  
**"We discovered a water well by the house": Stories of Departure and Resettlement as a Case Study for the History of the Mizrahim in the 1950s**

16:45 Tour on the Francke Foundations campus  
19:00 Dinner Dorint Hotel

## 18.09. Wednesday

9:00 – 11:00 Sixth Session  
**North African Public Spheres and Colonial Politics**  
Chair: Menashe Anzi

Avner Ofrath (Freie Universität Berlin)  
**Towards a History of Judeo-Arabic Political Writing in the Maghreb, c. 1860–1920**

Jonathan Hirsch (Postdam University)  
**From Genizot to Bookshelves: R. Ben Shimon's North African Book Printing and Cambridge's Limited Support**

Tamir Karkason (University Halle–Wittenberg)  
**Between Tunis and Warsaw: Tunisian Jewish Historiography and the Transnational Hebrew Republic in the Late Nineteenth Century**

Coffee Break

11:20 – 12:40 Seventh Session  
**Jewish-Muslim Relations in Post-Ottoman and Turkish Spaces**  
Chair: Tamir Karkason

Johannes Becke (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)  
**Israel as a Post-Ottoman Society: The Translocal Case against the 'Villa in the Jungle' Syndrome**

Uri Rosenberg (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)  
**A Translocal Elite Collaborating to Destroy Islam? Milli Görüş's Discourses on Jews and Israel in the Context of Changing Geopolitical Realities**

12:40 – 13:20 Round Table  
**Some Conclusions**