

## Diaspora and Indigeneity

## Intersections of Modern Jewish, Kurdish, and Amazigh History

Conference at the Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies, March 27–29 2023, in cooperation with the Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies

Supported by the VolkswagenStiftung

Organized by Johannes Becke (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies), Bareez Majid (Heidelberg University), Alessia Colonnelli (Heidelberg University)

### Monday 27 March

11:00am – 1:00pm

**OPTIONAL: GUIDED TOUR OF HEIDELBERG**  
(organized by Tom Würdemann; meeting point at the Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)

1:00pm – 2:00pm

**LUNCH**

2:00pm – 2:15pm

**WELCOME: Prof. Dr. Viktor Golinets, Vice Dean of the Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies**

2:15pm – 2:30pm

**INTRODUCTION: Johannes Becke, Bareez Majid, and Alessia Colonnelli**

2:30pm – 4:30pm

**NATIONS, NATIONALISM, AND DIASPORA**  
Chair: Samir Ben-Layashi

Rethinking Diaspora through Transnational Indigeneity

**Ipek Demir** (University of Leeds)

Constructions d'une nation amazighe: narrations et territorialités de Tamazgha

**Malika Assam** (University of Aix-Marseille)

**Karima Dirèche Slimani** (CNRS)

The Construction of a Nation from Afar: Amazigh Activism in Catalonia

**Ángela Suarez Collado** (University of Salamanca)

Jewish Kurdophilia and Kurdish Philosemitism

**Johannes Becke** (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies) **Dastan Jasim** (GIGA Hamburg)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

5:00pm – 6:45pm

**CULTURAL HERITAGE, IDENTITY, AND THE ARTS**

Chair: Alessia Colonnelli

The Politics of Cultural Heritage: Should

Collections of Amazigh Art and Material Culture be Repatriated?

**Lisa Bernasek** (University of Winchester)

Yade Mirat, Diaspora and Exile: Postmemorial

Traces of a Homeland that One Can Never Visit

**Bareez Majid** (University of Heidelberg)

	The Politics of Memory in Morocco between Active and Passive Remembering <b>Najwa Belkziz</b> (New York University Abu Dhabi)		Hybrid Governing Mode of Diaspora-Centric Communities from Below: A Comparative Case Study of the Cultural Practices of Kurdish Communities in Jerusalem and Berlin <b>Veysi Dag</b> (SOAS)
	Nation-state and Internal Diaspora: The Agency of Istanbul in the Kurdish Theater Field <b>Bilal Akar</b> (Boğaziçi University)		Sami Berdugo's Judeo-Moroccan Evasion from the Israeli Nation-Based Identity <b>Asaf Roth</b> (University of Pennsylvania)
6:45pm – 7:15pm	<b>BREAK</b>		
7:15pm – 8:00pm	<b>KEYNOTE (foyer of the Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)</b> Amazighitude: Relating Amazigh Indigeneity to Other Indigeneities <b>Brahim El Guabli</b> (Williams College)	11:00am – 11:15 am	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
		11:15am – 1:00pm	<b>THEORIZING INDIGENEITY AND DIASPORA</b> Chair: Veysi Dag
8:00pm – 10:00pm	<b>DINNER BUFFET (Heidelberg University of Jewish Studies)</b>		The Identity Politics of the Berber Academy of Paris Between Attempts to Define an Amazigh Identity and Its Elusiveness <b>Alessia Colonnelli</b> (University of Heidelberg)
<b>Tuesday 28 March</b>			
9:00am – 11:00am	<b>DIASPORA AND IDENTITY FORMATION</b> Chair: Bareez Majid		(Re)thinking Migrations from Morocco: Commonalities Among Jews and Muslim-Amazigh <b>Samir Ben-Layashi and Aviad Moreno</b> (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
	Transnational Life of Northern Moroccan Imazighen in the Ruhr Area – Lifestyles, Generations, Identities <b>Hanan Karam</b> (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)		Kurdish Diaspora, and Homeland Communities in Conversation <b>Aline Jabbari</b> (American University of Iraq, Sulaimani)
	Identité berbère et néologie <b>Kamal Nait Zerrad</b> (INALCO)	1:00pm – 2:00pm	<b>LUNCH</b>

2:00pm – 4:00pm

**IDENTITY, CULTURE AND ACTIVISM**

Chair: Ipek Demir

Jewish-Kurdish Poetry: Is There Anything from Kurdistan?

**Ketzia Alon** (Gama Publishing House)

Engagement féminin (infra)politique dans le processus de reconstruction identitaire en Kabylie

**Margherita Rasulo** (INALCO)

Collective Amazigh Transnational Identities Through Film

**Habiba Boumlik** (LaGuardia Community College)

Centralizing Indigenous Amazigh Voices through Autoethnographic Exploration

**Mounia Mnouer** (Princeton University)

4:00pm – 4:30pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

4:30pm – 6:30pm

**LANGUAGE POLITICS AND NATION-BUILDING**

Chair: Dastan Jasim

Loyauté et revitalisation linguistiques en diaspora: le cas des locuteurs du berbère, du kurde et de l'hébreu

**Sacha Bourgeois-Gironde** (University of Paris 2)

**Salih Akin** (University of Rouen-Normandie)

A Sociology of Diaspora and Mediterranean Crossings: Jews, Amazigh and Alterity in Post-Colonial Europe

**Elisabeth Becker Topkara** (Heidelberg University)

Language Policy and Planning of Amazigh Languages in Morocco: A Descriptive Study of the Linguistic Ideology of IRCAM

**Kefan Bao** (University of Leiden)

Ottoman Collapse or Absolute Sovereignty? The Dersim “Rebellion” as Myth in State-Making and State-Evasion

**Cevat Dargin** (University of Michigan)

6:30pm – 8:00pm

**DINNER AND DISCUSSION**

**Wednesday 29 March**

9:00am – 11:00am

**CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ENTANGLEMENTS**

Chair: Johannes Becke

The Amazigh Movement, Their Jewish Neighbors and the State of Israel: Myth, History and Contemporary Agendas

**Bruce Maddy-Weitzman** (Moshe Dayan Center)

Représentations et perception de la judaïté chez les Amazighs: déconstructions et reconfigurations

**Mohand Tilmatine** (University of Cádiz)



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Judeo-Berber: What We Know and What We Don't  
**Evgeniya Gutova** (University of Navarra)

The Role of Language in Nation-Building: A  
Comparative Analysis between Kurdish and  
Hebrew  
**Ofra Bengio** (Moshe Dayan Center)

11:00am – 11:30am **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30am – 1:00pm **ROUND TABLE: INTERSECTIONS OF JEWISH  
STUDIES, KURDISH STUDIES, AND AMAZIGH  
STUDIES – WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM EACH  
OTHER?**  
Chairs: Johannes Becke (Heidelberg University of  
Jewish Studies), Alessia Colonnelli (Heidelberg  
University), Bareez Majid (Heidelberg University)  
  
**Ofra Bengio** (Moshe Dayan Center)  
**Bruce Maddy-Weitzman** (Moshe Dayan Center)  
**Brahim El Guabli** (Williams College)

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



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