

# Theorizing Jewish-Arab Transculturation

Workshop at the Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies, February 7–9, 2023

Supported by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research

Organized by Johannes Becke (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies) in cooperation with Assaf David (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute), Nimrod Lin (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies), and Menna Abukhadra (Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies)

## Tuesday 7 February

1:00pm – 2:00pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
2:00pm – 2:15pm	<b>WELCOME</b> (Werner Arnold, Dean of the Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)
2:15pm – 2:30pm	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> (Assaf David, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, and Johannes Becke, Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)
2:30pm – 4:30pm	<b>AMBIVALENT ENMITY</b> Chair: Elisabeth Becker-Topkara, Heidelberg University  Performing Zionism by Performing Arabness: A Theory of Hista'arvut <b>Nimrod Lin</b> (Heidelberg University)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

4:30pm – 6:00pm

**HYBRIDIZATION IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE**  
Chair: Bareez Majid, Heidelberg University

Modern Jerusalem's Religious Shrines, Festivals and Customs: Toward Theorizing Jewish-Arab/Muslim Transculturation and Its Break.  
**Menachem Klein** (Bar Ilan University)

Transculturation and Hybridization as Characteristics of Identity and Belonging Among South-Lebanese Second-Generation Children Residing in Israel  
**Lilach Grunfeld-Yona** (University of Haifa)



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The Beginning of the Raise of the Shekhina is in Tiberias: Zahir al-Umar, the Urbanization of the Galilee, and Eighteenth-Century Jewish Perceptions of the Land  
**Avi-Ram Tzoreff** (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

Three Models of Cultural and Intellectual Relationship between Jews and Muslims in 20th-Century North Africa  
**David Guedj** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

6:30pm – 7:00pm **BREAK**

10:30am-11:00 am **COFFEE BREAK**

7:00pm – 8:00pm **KEYNOTE (Alte Aula, Grabengasse 1)**  
 How Israel Became a Middle Eastern State  
**Oren Barak** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

11:00am – 12:30pm **TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES**  
 Chair: Susanne Härtel, Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies

8:00pm – 10:00pm **DINNER BUFFET (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies)**

The Alliance Israélite Universelle and the Jewish Communities of Egypt 1914-1956  
**Taqadum al-Khatib** (Heidelberg University)

## Wednesday 8 February

9:00am – 10:30am **TRANSLATION AND EXCHANGE**  
 Chair: Teresa Bernheimer, University of Munich

Cultural Revivalism in Israel and China: Living Lives against the Present  
**Johannes Becke & Joachim Kurtz** (Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies & Heidelberg University)

Relationality and Translation: Jewish Knowledge Production in the MENA Countries  
**Ottfried Fraisse** (Halle University)

The Turkish Diaspora in Israel: Long-Distance Nationalism and Intra-MENA Divergences  
**Tamir Karkason** (Halle University) and **Aviad Moreno** (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)

How Do You Say “Kibbutz Megiddo” in Arabic?  
 The Problematics of Translating Zionist Children’s Literature into Arabic  
**Loaay Wattad** (Tel Aviv University)

12:30pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH (optional: Guided Tour through Heidelberg’s old town, 45 minutes)**



2:30pm – 4:30pm

**JEWISH-ARAB RELATIONS BEFORE NATIONALISM**

Chair: Henning Sievert, Heidelberg University

Black, White, and Blue? Colour Terms in Medieval Judaism and Islam

**Teresa Bernheimer** (University of Munich)

Perspectives from a Tenth-Century Jewish Academy in the Muslim World

**Ronny Vollandt** (University of Munich)

Transculturation and Neoculturation among Jewish Physicians in Fatimid Cairo

**Nathan Gibson** (University of Munich)

Meshovah Nizahat: Jewish-Christian Polemics in Kaf Naki by R. Kalifa Ben-Malka (1650–1750) of Agadir

**Michal Ohana** (Halle University)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

**COFFEE BREAK**

5:00pm – 6:30pm

**CONTESTED SPACES IN ISRAEL**

Chair: Tamir Karkason (Halle University)

Transculturation Through the Construction of a Cultural Nexus of Place-Based Interdependency  
**Ameer Fakhoury** (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

A Folkloric Civil Sphere?  
Arabs/Palestinians/Muslims in Israeli Symbolic Space

**Hizky Shoham** (Bar-Ilan University)

Blurring and Expanding: Cultural Processes and the Advancement of Peace

**Limor Yehuda** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

6:30pm – 8:30pm

**DINNER AND DISCUSSION**

**Thursday 9 February**

9:00am – 10:30am

**JEWISH-ARAB RELATIONS IN CULTURE AND ARTS**

Chair: Anna Kollatz, Heidelberg University

*Zouj*: Dialogical Interactions in Judeo-Arab Maghribi Popular Culture

**Sami Everett** (University of Southampton)

Khawaga Cohen: The Representations of Egyptian Jews in Egyptian Cinema

**Eyal Bizawe** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)



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Cinema as a Transcultural Event: Exploring  
'Memories of Pleasure'  
**Sigal Yona** (Ghent University)

10:30am – 11:00am **COFFEE BREAK**

11:00am – 12:30pm **ROUND TABLE: THEORIZING TRANSCULTURATION  
BEYOND THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

Chairs: Johannes Becke, Heidelberg Center for  
Jewish Studies, and Assaf David, Van Leer  
Jerusalem Institute

**Joachim Kurtz** (Heidelberg University)

**Monica Juneja** (Heidelberg University)

**Menna Abukhadra** (Heidelberg University)

**Nimrod Lin** (Heidelberg University)

12:30pm – 1:00pm **BREAK**

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



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