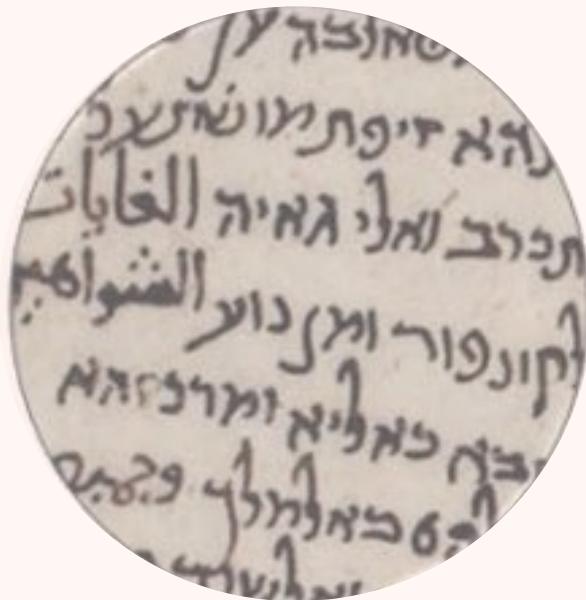




# 22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Society for the Study of Judeo-Arabic in the Middle Ages

Translations and Translation Movements in Judeo-Arabic  
Medieval Culture



**Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Be'er Sheva  
Marcus Campus, Oren Hall**

**July 27-31, 2025**

המרכז לחקר היהודי ספרדי וארצות האסלאם לדורותיהם  
Center for the Study of the Jews  
of Spain and Islamic Lands: Past and Present  
المركز لدراسة اليهود إسبانيا وبلدان الإسلام عبر الأجيال



הקומה לחקר מושתת יהדות מצרים ע"ש יוסף ורלין ברדה  
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח  
אוניברסיטת חיפה



## **Sunday, July 27, 2025 – 18:00 (Ben-Zvi Institute, Jerusalem)**

**Opening Session – Chair: Miriam Frenkel**

**Greetings: Miriam Frenkel, Sarah Stroumsa, Yaniv Mezuman**

**Opening Lecture: Steven Harvey: *Art and Practice in Judeo-Arabic to Hebrew Translations of Philosophical Texts***

## **Monday, July 28, 2025**

**Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Be'er-Sheva)**

**09:30–11:15 | Judeo-Arabic Translations | Chair: Tamar Zewi**

**Greetings: Boaz Huss; Shalom Sadik**

- Elnatan Chen: *A Genizah Fragment of a Commentary on Chronicles: Its Misattribution to Ibn Janāḥ and the Identification of Its True Author*
- Rachel Hasson: *To Translate Popular Literature*

**11:45–13:30 | Saadia Gaon | Chair: Miriam Goldstein**

- Nadia Vidro: *Judeo-Arabic in the Afghan Genizah: A Fragment of Saadya Gaon's Commentary on Isaiah and its Linguistic Implications*
- Tamar Zewi & Amir Ashur: *Genizah Fragment Possibly Copied by Moshe b. Levi ha-Levi and Its Version of Saadya's Introduction of the Tafsīr*
- Nahem Ilan: *"The LORD's Teaching is Perfect... it Makes the Fook Wise": Studies in Saadya Perception*

**13:30–15:00 – Lunch Break**

**14:45–17:15 | Karaite Thought and Life | Chair: Moshe Firouz**

- Meirav Akirev: *The Introduction of Yefet ben 'Eli to the Book of Isaiah*
- Tal Avi & Efraim Lev: *A Minority Within a Minority: Karaite Medical Practitioners in the Medieval Muslim World*
- Marzena Zawanowska: *Naming the Divide: The Coining of "Rabbanite" and "Karaite" in Medieval Jewish Sources*
- Dotan Arad: *"The Holy Community of Damascus, In Whom Lies All Desire and Passion" – The Karaites of Damascus in the Early Modern Period*
- **17:30–19:15 | Al-Qirqisani | Session in Honor of Haggai Ben-Shammai | Chair: Aharon Maman**
  - Miriam Goldstein: *Reading the Bible in Baghdad: Early Karaite Interest in Translation and Narrative*
  - Aviram Ravitzky: *Mu'tazilite Notions in the Debate Over the Antiquity of the Laws: A Chapter in 10th Century Karaite Thought*
  - Yoram Erder: *The Contextual Meaning' (qarina) in the Biblical Interpretation of the Karaite Yefet ben Eli in Light of his Discussion of the Identity of the Hebrew Slave (Ex. 21:2; Deut. 15:12)*

**19:15 – Executive Committee Meeting**

## Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Be'er-Sheva)

### 09:30–11:15 | The World of the Genizah – Chair | Daniela Talmon-Heller

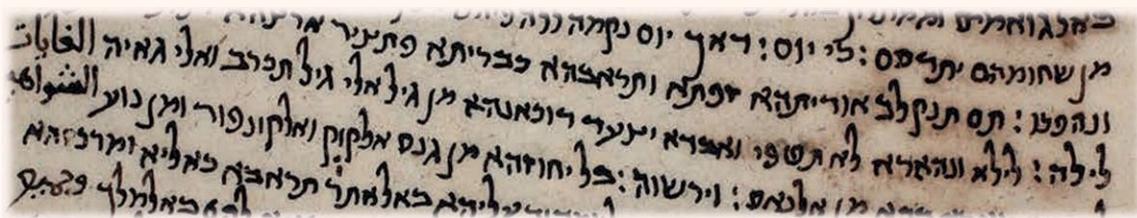
- Phil Lieberman: *Doodles in the Marginalia of the Cairo Geniza* (Zoom Lecture)
- Ora Molad Vaza: *The voice of the Women Labourers According to the Cairo Genizah Documents*
- Miriam Frenkel: *Historiographical Texts in the Cairo Geniza: Between Translation and Adaptation*

### 11:45–13:30 | Halakha in Judeo-Arabic | Chair: Nahem Ilan

- Zvi Stampfer: *The Use of the Arabic Language in the Responsa of the Geonim*
- Marc Herman: *Solomon Ibn Ayyub's Version of Maimonides's Sefer ha-Miṣvot*
- Neri Y. Ariel: *Toward a Critical Edition of Kitāb al-Shahāda (The Book of Testimony) by Samuel ben Hofni Gaon*

### 13:30–15:00 – Lunch Break

### Afternoon: Tour in Be'er Sheva



## Wednesday, July 30, 2025

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Be'er-Sheva)

### 09:15–11:30 | Philosophical Texts – Chair | Sarah Stroumsa

- Ehud Krinis: *On the Term *Istihlāk* and Its Meaning in the Book of the Kuzari*
- Shalom Sadik: *From "I'tiqad" to Faith*
- Noya Duanis: *The Word of God and Divine Letters as Cosmological Foundations: A Comparative Analysis of Neoplatonic Thought in Ismaili and Jewish Writings (10th–12th Centuries)*
- Lucas Oro Hershtein: *Kabbalah, Philosophy, and Power in 14th–15th Centuries Iberian Peninsula: Preliminary Insights*

### 11:45–13:00 | Thought in Judeo-Arabic | Chair: Daniel J. Lasker

- Yair Shiffman: *On Shem Tov Ibn Falaquera's "Reshit Hokhma"*
- Paul Fenton: *Cultural Encounters Between Jewish and Muslim Philosophers in 14th-Century Granada – Lisan al-Din Ibn al-Khatib and Abraham Ibn Zarza*

## 13:00–14:30– Lunch Break

## 14:30–16:45 | Hermeneutics and Language | Chair: Meira Polliack

- Arye Zoref: *Shmarya b. Elhanan Translation and Commentary on the Song of Songs*
- Ali Watad: *Understanding the Term "The Conjugation = Transitivity" in the Linguistic Works of Jonah ibn Janāḥ*
- Nissim Sabato: *"From What Is Said in the Word and the Desire for Its Alternative" – Word Substitution in the Bible: Is It Possible?*
- Mordechai Akiva Friedman: *A Supplement to Judeo-Arabic Lexicography*

## 17:15–19:00 | On Libraries and Books | Chair: Marzena Zawanowska

- Jim Robinson: *Gross Library of Philosophy*
- Jonathan Decter: *Qur'anic Rhyme in Synagogue Oration: Evidence from Sefer Mat'eh 'oz*

## Festive Dinner

**Thursday, July 31, 2025**

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Be'er-Sheva)

## 09:30–11:45 | Society and Material Culture in the World of Judeo-Arabic Jews |

Chair: Yosef Yuval Tobi

- Elinoar Bareket: *The Mediterranean: Divider and Unifier – As Reflected in the Genizah Documents*
- Moshe Yagur: *Zuqāq, darb, ḥāra: Terms and their Meanings in the Urban Life of Medieval Middle Eastern Jews*
- Rivka Zivi: *"Eating Meat and Drinking Wine on Shabbat Is a Delight" – The Role of Wine in the Leisure Culture of Egyptian Jews (10th–13th Centuries)*
- Yiftach Eitan: *Violence Among Jews in Fatimid and Ayyubid Egypt and Ways of Coping According to the Cairo Genizah Documents*

## 12:15–13:30 | Egypt and Yemen | Chair: Nadia Vidro

- Oded Zinger: *Social Ties Between Jews and Qatchis in Medieval Egypt*
- Yosef Yuval Tobi: *Judeo-Arabic as a Cultural Marker in the Literary Work of Yemenite Jews in the Middle Ages*

## 13:30–15:00 – Lunch Break

## 15:00–17:00 – Conclusion

- Conference Summary
- General Assembly and Discussion
- Administrative Matters
- Closing

