

From Ethiopia to Yerusalem: We Came Bearing Gifts

An international academic conference jointly organized by The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University

Made possible by generous support from the Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation

Sunday 25 and Monday 26 July 2021

Opening Session

Sunday 25 July, 19.00-21.05 IST, 12.00-14.05 EST

- 19.00-19.25 **Words of Welcome.**
Prof. Mona Khoury-Kassabri, Vice-President for Strategy and Diversity, Dean of the School of Social Work and Social Welfare, Francis and George (z"l) Katz Family Chair (HUJI). Hebrew/English subtitles
- Prof. Eyal Zisser, Vice-Rector of Tel Aviv University and Yona and Dina Ettinger Chair in Contemporary History of the Middle East (TAU). Hebrew/English subtitles
- Shawna Goodman, Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation. English/Hebrew subtitles
- Yaffa Tegegne, *My Father's Historic Journey from Ethiopia to Yerusalem*. English/Hebrew subtitles
- 19.25-19.55 **Keynote Lecture.**
Dr. Shelly Engdau, Social Work, Haifa University
- Three Aspects of Resilience in the Ethiopian Community: The Journey, Personal Success, and Ways of Dealing with Racism*. Hebrew/English subtitles
- 19.55-20.25 **Entering the Academy.**
A conversation moderated by Adv. Shlomit Bukaya, Executive Director of the Association of Ethiopian Jews, with students Merav Asres (HUJI), Tejitu Asfau Daniel (TAU), Aharon Pakado (TAU), and Yiftachel Reta (HUJI). Hebrew/English subtitles
- 20.25-21.00 **Ethiopian-Israelis in Arts and Culture.**
Conversations with Dr. Shula Mola, civil and human rights activist & educator
- (1) **Hassadna Jerusalem Music Conservatory.** Lena Nemirovsky and Ronit Berman, co-directors of an elite music conservatory with a special program for children of Ethiopian descent. Hebrew/English subtitles
- (2) **Dege Feder.** Dancer, choreographer, manager of Beta Company, and winner of a Culture Ministry award for Dance Artists. Hebrew/English subtitles
- (3) **Hullegeb Theater Ensemble.** An Ethiopian-Israeli theater company based at Jerusalem's Confederation House. Hebrew/English subtitles
- 21.00-21.05 **Closing words.**
Dr. Diana Lipton, Biblical Studies (TAU). English/Hebrew subtitles

Day 2

Monday 26 July, 15.30 to 20.10 IST, 09.30-16.10 EST

- 15.30-15.35 **Welcome and Introduction.**
Prof. Dalit Rom-Shiloni, Biblical Studies (TAU). Hebrew/simultaneous English translation

Session 1: Religious Traditions

- 15.40-15.45 **Moderator:** Prof. Meira Polliack, Biblical Studies (TAU). Hebrew/simultaneous English translation

A. The Orit: A Unique Sacred Text

- 15.40-16.40 *Rosh Hodesh Lisan, Fasika, and the Exodus from Egypt: A Research Workshop*, Prof. Dalit Rom-Shiloni (Biblical Studies, TAU), Dr. Anbessa Teferra (Hebrew Language and Semitic Linguistics, TAU), Dr. Ran HaCohen (Literature, TAU). Hebrew/English subtitles

- 16.40-16.55 Q and A. Simultaneous translation

- 16.55-17.00 Break

B. A Unique Halakha

- 17.00-17.20 Rabbi Dr. Sharon Zeude Shalom, Head of the International Center for the Study of Ethiopian Jewry, Ono Academic College
- Integrating Beta Israel Halakha into Israel's Rabbinic Mainstream*. Hebrew/English subtitles

- 17.20-17.25 Q and A. Simultaneous translation

C. Jewish Religious Centers in Ethiopia

- 17.25-17.45 Dr. Bar Kribus, Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany

The Past and Future of Beta Israel Religious Centers in Ethiopia: Can We Preserve What We Left Behind?
English/Hebrew subtitles

D. Digital Manuscripts

- 17.45-18.05 Dr. Gelila Tilahun, Historical and Cultural Studies, University of Toronto, Canada

Digitizing our Past. English/Hebrew subtitles

- 18.05-18.15 Q and A. Simultaneous translation

- 18.15-18.20 Break

Session 2: Culture and Society

- 18.20-18.25 **Welcome to Session 2.**
Moderator: Prof. Mona Khoury-Kassabri, Vice-President for Strategy and Diversity, Dean of the School of Social Work and Social Welfare, Francis and George (z"l) Katz Family Chair (HUJI). Hebrew/simultaneous English translation

- 18.25-18.45 Dr. Naomi Shmuel, Folklore (HUJI)

Passing Culture and Tradition within the Family. English/Hebrew subtitles

- 18.45-19.05 Dr. Noah Gerber, History of Israel (TAU)

Ethiopian Exclusivity in the National Narrative: Progress and Pitfalls. English/Hebrew subtitles

- 19.05-19.15 Q and A. Simultaneous translation

- 19.15-19.35 Dr. Nigist Mengasha, CEO of Fidel Association

Ethiopian Heritage, Culture & History in the Israeli School Curriculum. Hebrew/English subtitles

- 19.35-19.55 Dr. Tsega Melaku, journalist, author, community activist

The Israeli Media Coverage of Beta Israel. Hebrew/English subtitles

- 19.55-20.05 Q and A. Simultaneous translation

- 20.05-20.10 Closing words. Simultaneous translation