

The Hebrew Book in the Western Mediterranean: 13th to 16th Centuries
International Conference

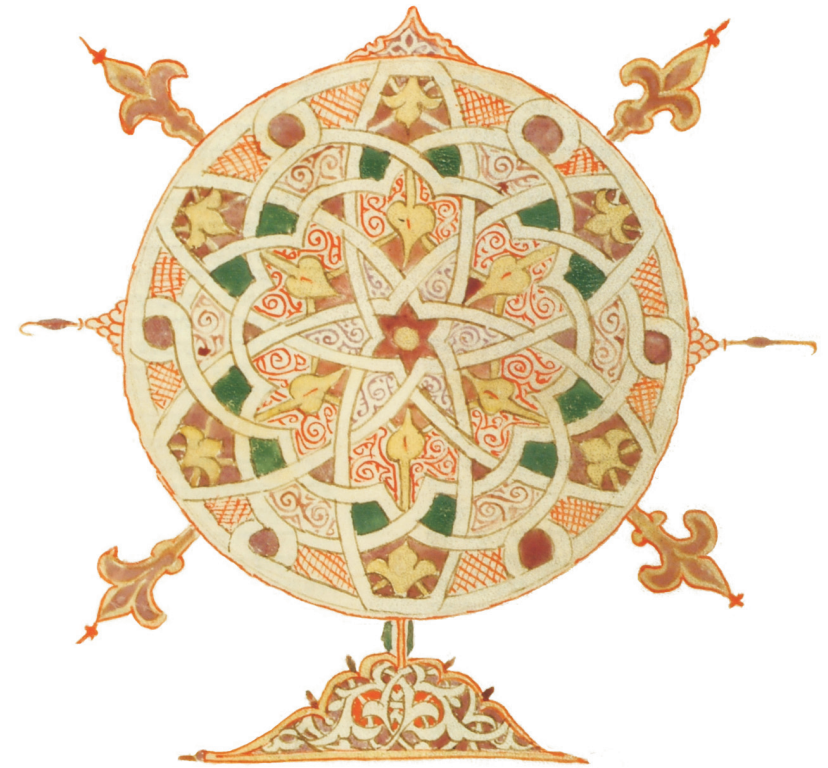
Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, CSIC - Biblioteca Nacional de España
March 5-6, 2012

Organizer: Javier del Barco

Hebrew book production (including material making, book transmission and text circulation) was at the core of Jewish cultural history during the Middle Ages and Early Modernity. This conference will investigate issues in the patronage, production, circulation and consumption of Hebrew books in the Western Mediterranean during the Late Middle Ages and Early Modern Times (13th to 16th Centuries).

How did reading practices affect on the material making of codices and, later on, of printed books? To what extent did the demands of patronage foster or constrain areas of intellectual and artistic engagement? What role did voluntary or forced mobility play in book transmission and library building? In what ways did the printed book have an effect on manuscript production and text transmission in late 15th and early 16th centuries?

The interest of this conference is twofold: the material production of books in interacting contexts and the role of owners and readers in both book transmission and text circulation. In exploring these questions, the participants will address the adoption of book-making techniques across cultural boundaries, the effect of mobility in book production and work selection in Italy and Northern Africa, the impact of printing in book acquisition, and the interest in buying, reading, or collecting Hebrew books in 15th century Iberia and beyond.



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**The Hebrew Book
in the Western Mediterranean
13th to 16th Centuries**

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Biblioteca Nacional de España
CCHS - CSIC

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P R O G R A M

Monday, March 5

Sessions in Sala Menéndez Pidal, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, CSIC.

9:00-9:30 Registration and Coffee.

9:30-9:45 Opening remarks.

9:45-11:00 Session 1: Hebrew Manuscript Production.

(Chair: Jonathan Decker, Brandeis University).

- Colette Sirat (EPHE and IRHT, CNRS), "Studia of Philosophy as Scribal Centers in 15th-Century Iberia."
- Malachi Beit-Arié (Hebrew Palaeography Project, Hebrew University of Jerusalem), "Commissioned and Owner-Produced Manuscripts in the Sephardic Zone and in Italy in the 13th to 15th Centuries."

11:00-11:30 Coffee.

11:30-13:30 Session 2: Identifying, Dating and Locating Hebrew Manuscripts.

(Chair: Esperanza Alfonso, CCHS, CSIC).

- Stefania Silvestri (CCHS, CSIC and University of Venice Ca' Foscari), "15th-Century Hebrew Bibles from Seville."
- Judith Schlanger (EPHE and La Sorbonne University), "Sephardic and Provençal Grammatical Manuscripts from the Bibliothèque nationale de France."
- Judith Kogel (IRHT, CNRS), "Le'azim as a Means to Locate the Place Where Hebrew Manuscripts Were Copied."

13:30-15:00 Lunch (Cafeteria, CCHS)

15:00-16:45 Session 3: Hebrew Book Trading and Circulation.

(Chair: Aitor García Moreno, CCHS, CSIC).

- Nurit Pasternak (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), "Buyers and Sellers: The Dynamics of Hebrew Manuscript Collections in 15th-Century Italy."
- Joseph Hacker (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), "Iberian Jews: Collectors of Books in the Iberian Peninsula and in the Ottoman Empire (14th-17th Centuries)."
- Laurent Héricher (Bibliothèque nationale de France), "From West to East: The Circulation of Hebrew Manuscripts within the Mediterranean Basin and with France from the 14th to the 16th Century; Study of Ownership Annotations in Hebrew Manuscripts from the Bibliothèque nationale de France."

16:45-17:15 Coffee.

17:15-18:30 Session 4: Scribes and Scripts.

(Chair: Maite Ortega-Monasterio, CCHS, CSIC).

- Emile Schrijver (Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, University of Amsterdam), "Sephardic Identities and Sephardic Scripts since the Invention of Printing."
- Edna Engel (Hebrew Palaeography Project, Hebrew University of Jerusalem), "Immigrant Scribes' Handwriting in Northern Italy from the Late 13th to the Mid-16th Century: Sephardic and Ashkenazi Attitudes towards Italian Script."

Tuesday, March 6

Sessions in Salón de Actos, Biblioteca Nacional de España.

9:00-11:00 Session 5: Visualizing the Hebrew Book.

(Chair: Therese Martin, CCHS, CSIC).

- Eva Frojmovic (University of Leeds), "Between North and South: Some Thoughts on Jewish Visualities in the Kingdom of Mallorca ca. 1300."
- Evelyn M. Cohen (Independent Scholar), "The Artist of the Barcelona Haggadah."
- Katrin Kogman-Appel (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), "Cresques Abraham Reconsidered: Book Production and Map Making in Late Medieval Mallorca."

11:00-11:30 Coffee.

11:30-13:30 Session 6: Crossing Linguistic and Religious Boundaries.

(Chair: Ryan Szpiech, University of Michigan)

- Sonia Fellous (IRHT, CNRS), "15th-Century Castilian Translations of Hebrew Literature."
- David Stern (University of Pennsylvania), "The Sephardic Illustrated Haggadah and the Hebrew Bible in Iberia: Two Different Responses to Christian Culture in the Hispanic Kingdoms."
- Philippe Bobichon (IRHT, CNRS), "From Hebrew Book to Latin Book. Raymundus Martini's Pugio fidei (Late 13th Century): Manuscripts, Editions and Dissemination."

13:30-15:00 Lunch.

15:00-17:00 Session 7: The Impact of Printing in Hebrew Book Production.

(Chair: Mercedes García-Arenal, CCHS, CSIC).

- Eleazar Gutwirth (Tel Aviv University), "From Manuscript to Print: Towards a Historical Perspective."
- Adri K. Offenber (Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, University of Amsterdam), "What Do We Know about Hebrew Printing at Guadalajara, Híjar and Zamora?"
- Shimon Iakerson (Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, The Russian Academy of Sciences), "Unknown Sephardic Incunabula."

17:00-17:15 Concluding Remarks.

17:15-19:30 Guided Visit to the Exhibition "Biblias de Sefarad: Las vidas cruzadas del texto y sus lectores" (Two groups). Biblioteca Nacional de España, Sala Hipóstila.

20:30-22:30 Dinner.

INTELEG Project

<http://www.lineas.cchs.csic.es/inteleg/en>

For more information visit

<http://www.congresos.cchs.csic.es/hebrewbook>