

RITUAL OBJECTS IN THE MEDIEVAL MIDDLE EAST BGU WORKSHOP

MAY 24-27
2021



MONDAY MAY 24

15:00-16:15

Panel 1

STONES AS DEVOTIONAL OBJECTS

CHAIR: **Avi Rubín**, Chair of the Dept. of Middle East Studies, BGU

Avi Rubín & Daniella Talmon-Heller, BGU, Greetings and opening remarks

Brannon Wheeler, United States Naval Academy: Kiss the Black Stone but Don't Touch your Penis: Toward a Typology of Ritualized Touch in Islamic Law and Muslim Practice

Yamit Rachman-Shrire, The Golda Meir Fellowship Trust: The Stone of the Unction in Jerusalem: An Image Becomes a Ritual Object

16:30-18:30

Panel 2

SCRIPTURES ON/AS DEVOTIONAL OBJECTS

CHAIR: **Effie Shoham**, Chair of CSOC, BGU

Hannelies Koloska, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: Encountering Ritual Objects and the Interpretation of the Qur'an

Stefan Heidemann, Hamburg University: Surat al-Ikhlās, al-Fatiha or Ayat al-Kursi - which One Has Precedence on Early Islamic Amulets, Coins, and Tombstones?

Dotan Arad, Bar-Ilan University: Real Scrolls, Imagined Scrolls: Sacred Manuscripts and the Veneration of Scribes among Jews under the Ayyubids and Mamluks

Daniella Talmon-Heller, BGU: The Production of Material Copies of The Word of God: Jewish and Muslim Prescriptions

TUESDAY MAY 25

15:00-16:00

Panel 3

BLESSED GARBS

GREETINGS: **David Wettstein**, Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, BGU

CHAIR: **Housni Shehade**, Levinski Seminar

Daphna Ephrat, The Open University of Israel: The Garment of the Shaykh: Embedment and Transference of Baraka in the World of Syrian Sufi Saints

Sara Kuehn, Institut d'ethnologie méditerranéenne, européenne et comparative (IDEMEC)-CNRS / Zentrum für Islamische Theologie (ZITh), Universität Tübingen: Binding Threads and Expanding Threads: The Interlaced Serpents on the Lining of the So-called Mantle of Roger II (528/1133-4)

16:30-18:30

Panel 4

ICONS AND RELICS

CHAIR: **Uri Shachar**, BGU

Anne Lester, Johns Hopkins University: Framing the Cross: Liturgy, Prayer and Object in Personal and Public Ritual after 1187

Stephennie Mulder, The University of Texas, Austin: Embodying the Light of God: Polyvalent Iconographies at Three Medieval Syrian Shrines

Nicholas Paul, Fordham University, NY: Ritual Objects and the Construction of Aristocracy in the Latin East

William Purkis, University of Birmingham: Holy Land Souvenirs among Latin Christian Pilgrims to Jerusalem

WEDNESDAY MAY 26

15:00-16:30

Panel 5

MOSQUE ARTIFACTS AND SYMBOLS

CHAIR: **Tawfiq Da`adli**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Lorenz Korn, University of Bamberg: A Tile Panel from Damascus and Its Iconography

Ali Asgar Alibhai, The University of Texas, Dallas: Sacred Sound to Sacred Light: Understanding the Evolution of Maghribi Bell-Lamps

Ayala Lester, Israel Antiquities Authority: Ritual Objects in the Ancient Mosque of Tiberias

17:00-18:30

Panel 6

VIRTUAL TOUR

Yisca Harani, independent scholar & **Fra Stephane**, Saint Saviour's Monastery: Treasures of the Franciscan Order in Jerusalem



THURSDAY MAY 27

15:00-16:30

Panel 7

MAGICAL ARTIFACTS

CHAIR: **Nimrod Hurvitz**, BGU

Gideon Bohak, Tel Aviv University: A "Voodoo Doll" from Fustat and Related Magical Recipes

Avigail Manekin-Bamberger, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: Translating Demons: On the Demonic in Late Antique Jewish Magical Artifacts

Itamar Taxel, Israel Antiquities Authority, and **Uzi Avner**, Dead Sea-Arava Science Center: A Unique Assemblage of Late Islamic Magical Artifacts from Netafim Camp 2, a Site on the Darb al-Hajj, Southern Israel

17:00-18:30

Panel 8

VIRTUAL TOUR 2

Ido Noy, "Beyond the Elite: Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe" research group, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: In and Out, Between and Beyond: Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe, at The Max and Iris Stern Gallery on the Mount Scopus Campus

19:00-20:00

CONCLUDING SESSION

CHAIR: **Jonathan Brack**, BGU

Yehoshua Frenkel, University of Haifa: Objects as Sources for the Study of Religious Life in the Eastern Mediterranean (the Middle Islamic Period)

Open Discussion



FOR DETAILS AND ABSTRACTS:

https://in.bgu.ac.il/en/csoc/Pages/Ritual_Objects_in_the_Medieval_Middle_East.aspx

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE ORGANIZERS:

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SIGN UP HERE FOR THE ZOOM LINK

<https://forms.gle/TwdfDeH3mY5hR4Kx6>

*The schedule is IST (Israel Standard Time).

*We will take a short break in the middle of 2-hours sessions.