



Bar-Ilan University
Faculty of Jewish Studies



The Ministry Of Religious Services



International Conference

The Jewish Communities of Latin America

Monday - Wednesday, 16-18 Ellul 5772
3-5 September 2012
University of São Paulo, Brazil.

Conference Academic Committee:

Prof. Yaron Harel, Bar-Ilan University (Co-Chairman)

Prof. Marta Topel, University of São Paulo, Brazil (Co-Chairman)

Prof. Shimon Sharvit, Vice-President, Ashkelon Academic College

Prof. Eliana Langer, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Conference Director:

Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Organization and Production:

Ms. Ora Kobelkowsky, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Information and Registration:

The Dahan Center for Culture, Society and Education

in the Sephardic Heritage

Bar-Ilan University

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Conference Program

*The conference lectures will be accompanied
by simultaneous translation.*

Monday, 16 Elul 5772, 3 September, 2012
University of São Paulo, Brazil,
Literature Building, Faculty of Philosophy,
Languages and Literature, and Human Sciences (FFLCH)
Auditorium 102

09:30-10:00

Arrival and Registration

10:00-12:00

Opening Session

Chairman: Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center,
Bar-Ilan University

Greetings:

Prof. João Grandino Rodas, Rector, University of São Paulo,
Brazil

Prof. Yaffa Zilbershats, Deputy President, Bar-Ilan University

Prof. Shimon Sharvit, Vice President, Ashkelon Academic
College

Prof. Sandra Nitrini, Director of the Faculty of Philosophy,
Languages and Literature, and Human Sciences,
University of São Paulo, Brazil

Opening Lectures:

Prof. Marta Topel, University of São Paulo, Brazil
*Jerusalem, the Diaspora and the Jewish Home: the Displacement of the
Jewish Axis Mundi in Contemporary Judaism – the Case of São Paulo*

Prof. Yaron Harel, Bar-Ilan University
*Between Centre and Periphery: The Contacts between the
New Syrian-Lebanese Communities in Latin America and
their Parent Communities*

12:00-12:30

Coffee Break

12:30-14:00

SESSION 2: LITERATURE

Chairwoman: Dr. Eliana Rosa Langer, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Prof. Yigal Schwartz, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Latin America and its Jews in Israeli Literature

Prof. Moacir Amâncio, University of São Paulo, Brazil
The Jewish Presence in Amazon Literature: Sultana Levy's Novel, Shack, as a Pioneering Work on Sephardic Issues in Brazil

Dr. Adriana Kanczepolsky, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Cuba. Listening to it, Saying it, Writing about it: José Kozer's poems

Dr. Leopoldo Oliveira, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
From Brazil to Jerusalem and Back: The Role of Jerusalem in Two Fictional Texts by Moacyr Scliar

14:00-15:00

Lunch

15:00-16:30

SESSION 3: RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Chairwoman: Prof. Marta Topel, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Dr. Wagner Lins, University of São Paulo, Brazil
An Anthropological Approach about the B'nei Anussim in the State of Paraíba

Mr. Carlos Gutierrez, University of São Paulo, Brazil
The Circulation of Jewish Agents and Jewish Symbolic Goods within the Universal Church of the Kingdom of God

Dr. Shlomi Doron, Ashkelon Academic College
The Penitents (Baalei Teshuva) Community: Between São Paulo and Jerusalem

Dr. Meir Chazan, Tel Aviv University
Zionist Ideology and Realization in Bror Chail: The First Brazilian Kibbutz in the 1950s

Prof. Aaron Demsky, Bar Ilan University
Dom Pedro II, Emperor of Brazil, and his Jewish Connections

Dr. Renata Rozental Sancovsky: A tribute to Prof. Anita Novinsky

19:00

Gala Opening

**“A Hebraica” Association of São Paulo, Plenary session room
Rua Hungria, 1000, Jardim Paulistano, São Paulo**

Chairman: Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center,
Bar-Ilan University

Greetings:

Prof. Yaffa Zilbershats, Deputy President, Bar-Ilan
University

MK Yaakov Margi, Minister for Religious Services, State
of Israel

H.E. Mr. Rafael Eldad, Ambassador of Israel in Brazil

Prof. Emeritus Celso Lafer, University of São Paulo and
President of FAPESP

Prof. Shimon Sharvit, Vice President, Ashkelon Academic
College

Dr. Claudio Lottenberg, President of the Jewish
Confederation of Brazil

Representative of Keren Kayemet Leyisrael

The Gala Opening is sponsored by the following institutions:



Tuesday, 17 Elul 5772, 4 September, 2012

10:00-12:00

SESSION 4: EDUCATION

Chairman: Prof. Shimon Sharvit, Vice President,
Ashkelon Academic College

Greetings:

Mr. Avigdor Ohana, Director General, Ministry of
Religious Services



Prof. Mariela Coudannes Aguirre, National University of
the Litoral, Argentina

What is said about the Jews in the Schools of Argentina?
An overview at the Materials for Teaching History

Dr. Daniela Guertzenstein, University of São Paulo, Brazil
*Computer and Internet Use in Schools by the Ultra-Orthodox and
Orthodox Jewish Community of São Paulo, Brazil*

Dr. Margalit Yosifon, Ashkelon Academic College
*Pedagogical Innovation and Teacher Professionalization:
Improvement of the Jewish Educational System in South America*

Mr. Michel Gherman, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil
Zionist Jewish Education in Rio: From Assimilation to Integration

12:00-12:30

Coffee Break

12:30-14:00

Parallel Sessions

SESSION 5: RACISM AND ANTI-SEMITISM

Chairwoman: Prof. Mariela Coudannes Aguirre,
National University of the Litoral, Argentina

Prof. Monica Grin, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil
Racism and Ethnicity in Brazilian Society

Dr. Renata Rozental Sancovsky, Federal University
of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
*Myths, Ideological Roots and the Birth of Ecclesiastical
Antisemitism in the Early Middle Ages*

Dr. Leonel Caraciki, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

"We Are Zionists": The Jewish Community and the Brazilian UN Vote Condemning Zionism (1975)

Dr. Reuven Faingold, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Judaism & Anti-Semitism During the Falklands (Malvinas) War: 1982

Mr. Bruno Leal Pastor de Carvalho, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Banners, Posters and Protests: The Campaign by the Jews of the "Comitê Unido" in Rio de Janeiro against Herberts Cukurs

Parallel Session

SESSION 6: JEWISH IDENTITY – Room 266

Chairman: Dr. Menachem Topel, Ashkelon Academic College

Dr. Reuven Hirak, Ashkelon Academic College
The Struggle to Preserve Jewish Identity in the Amazonas Countryside

Dr. Smadar Noy-Canyon & Dr. Gabriel Cavaglione, Ashkelon Academic College
Trafficking of Jewish Women for Sex to South America between 1870s and late 1930s: Gender and Socio-Political Implications

Ms. Rifka Cook, Northwestern University, U.S.A
"Against wind and tide" – Being Jewish in Latin America

Dr. Susana Brauner, UNTREF Argentina
Argentinian Jews and Armenians in Buenos Aires: Identities and Practices in an Era of Recognition of Cultural Diversity

Prof. Meir Bar-Ilan, Bar Ilan University
The Phoenician Inscription from Brazil: A Case of Dispute

14:00-15:00

Lunch

15:00-16:30

Parallel Sessions

SESSION 7: NEW ASPECTS IN JEWISH RESEARCH I - Auditorium 102

Chairwoman: Prof. Judit Bokser Liwerant, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)

Dr. Yossi Goldstein, Hebrew University of Jerusalem -
Liwerant Center

*Globalization, Education and Jewish Communal Life:
Transnational Jewish Educators in Latin America*

Dr. Margalit Bejarano, Hebrew University of Jerusalem -
Liwerant Center

*Changing Identities in a Transnational Diaspora: Latin American
Jews in Miami*

Dr. Silvia Schenkolewski-Kroll, Bar-Ilan University
Informal Jewish Education: The Sociedad Hebraica Argentina

Parallel Session

SESSION 8: MARRANOS AND HERETICS - Room 266

Chairwoman: Prof. Monica Grin, Federal University
of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Dr. Lina Gorenstein, University of São Paulo, Brazil
The Jewish-Marrano Mercantile Network

Dr. Rachel Mizrahi, University of São Paulo, Brazil
*Settlement by Jewish Communities from the Middle East in
São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro*

Ms. Daniela Levy, University of São Paulo, Brazil
*The Worldwide Scope of Diamond Dealing among the
Conversos Community of Minas Gerais*

Dr. Gabriel Steinberg, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Palestine or Argentina? Taking up Jewish life in Latin America

Dr. Zohar Segev, University of Haifa
*Rescue, Immigration and Philanthropy: Jewish Communities in
Latin America, in the Archives of the World Jewish Congress
from 1936 to 1948*

SESSION 9: NEW ASPECTS IN JEWISH RESEARCH II

Chairwoman: Dr. Margalit Bejarano, Hebrew
University of Jerusalem – Liwerant Center

Dr. Luis Krausz: A tribute to Prof. Nachman Falbel

16:30-18:00

Dr. Leonardo Senkman, Hebrew University of
Jerusalem – Liwerant Center
*Family and Cultural Life in Trans-National Spaces:
New Diasporas of Latin American Jews in a Global Era?*

Prof. Bernardo Sorj, Edelstein Center for Social
Research, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Transculturalism: Theory, Ideology, Politics

Prof. Judit Bokser Liwerant, National Autonomous
University of Mexico (UNAM)
*Relocation, Redefinition and Interconnectedness of Jewish Life
in Times (and Spaces) of Transnationalism: New Realities,
New Analytical Perspectives*

Dr. Jean Francois Veran, Federal University of Rio
de Janeiro
*The Construction of Identity: Experiences in the Context of
Globalization and Multiculturalism*

Wednesday, 18 Elul 5772, 5 September, 2012

10:00-12:00

SESSION 10: LITERATURE AND HOLOCAUST

Chairman: Dr. Leonardo Senkman, Hebrew University
of Jerusalem – Liwerant Center

Prof. Berta Waldman: A tribute to Prof. Rifka Berezin

Prof. Berta Waldman, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Literature and the Shoah, Sixty Years Later

Dr. Saul Kirschbaum, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Samuel Rawet and the Representation of Shoah

Prof. Eva Alterman Blay, University of São Paulo, Brazil
After the Holocaust: Impunity or Mystification of the Past

Prof. Maria Luiza Tucci Carneiro, University of São
Paulo, Brazil
*Jewish Artist Refugees from Nazism: The Tragedy of Creation of
the Universe*

12:00-12:30

Coffee Break

12:30-14:30

SESSION II : LANGUAGE

Chairwoman: Dr. Smadar Noy-Canyon, Ashkelon Academic College

Dr. Eliana Rosa Langer, University of São Paulo, Brazil
From Sacred Language to National Language - Issues in Hebrew Language

Dr. Eli Goldstein, Ashkelon Academic College
The Effect of the Global Economic Crisis on the Affordability of the Jewish Lifestyle in Latin America

Dr. Monique Rodrigues Balbuena, University of Oregon, U.S.A
Ladino among Latinos today: A New Stage in Language Revival

Dr. Guy Bracha, Bar-Ilan University & Ben Zvi Institute
Sidon in Rio: the Formation of a Community in Brazil and its Connections with the Mother-Community

Dr. Yitzhak Mualem, Ashkelon Academic College
The Activities and Contribution of the World Jewish Congress, as a Trans-National NGO, for those Missing or Arrested in Argentina under the Military Junta in 1976-1983.

14:30-15:30

Lunch

15:30-17:30

SESSION I2: MEMORY AND DOCUMENTATION


Chairman: Prof. Yaron Harel, Bar-Ilan University

Prof. Nancy Rozenchan: A tribute to Prof. Jacó Guinsburg

Prof. Nancy Rozenchan, University of São Paulo, Brazil
From batiste linen to the empire at Palatnik Villa – Records of the economic life in the first Jewish community at Natal, one hundred years later

Dr. Jennifer Cazenave, School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), France
Documenting the Shoah in Buenos Aires: 'Dos Poylishe Yidntum' and the Testimony of Malke Ovshyani

Dr. Menachem Topel, Ashkelon Academic College
The History of the Components of «Ijud Habonim» as a Model for a Zionist Youth Movement in Latin America



Dr. Luis S. Krausz, University of São Paulo, Brazil
Between the World that Was and the Country of the Future

Ms. Lucia Chermont, Catholic University of São Paulo,
Brazil
Jews in Higienópolis and the Surrounding Areas (1960-1970)

Closing Remarks:

Prof. Marta Topel and Prof. Yaron Harel

