

Oxford Seminar in Advanced Jewish Studies

CONFERENCE

**ISRAEL IN EGYPT:  
The land of Egypt as concept  
and reality for Jews in Antiquity  
and the early medieval period**



**20-21 June 2016**

**at**

**the Clarendon Institute,  
Walton Street,  
Oxford, OX1 2HG**

Convenors:

**Alison Salvesen and Sarah Pearce**  
with **Miriam Frenkel**

**Monday 20 June**

SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD TO LATE ANTIQUITY

9.15am Opening remarks:  
**Alison Salvesen** and **Sarah Pearce**

9.30-10.15am **Hugh Williamson**  
*Egypt in the Book of Isaiah*

10.15-11am **Reinhard Kratz**  
*Arameans and Judaeans: Ethnography and Identity at Elephantine*

11-11.30am Coffee Break

11.30-12.15pm **Noah Hacham**  
*Between Jews and Non-Jews: the Case of 3 Maccabees*

12.15-1pm **Livia Capponi**  
*The metaphor of the plague. The expulsion of Jews in 19 CE and the image of Jews and Egyptians under Tiberius*

1-2pm Sandwich Lunch

2-2.45pm **Willy Clarysse**  
*Identifying Jews: the evidence of the papyri*

2.45-3.30pm **Margaret Williams**  
*The Jews of Apollinopolis Magna/Edfu – a neglected Diaspora community in early Roman imperial Egypt*

3.30-4pm Tea break

4-4.45pm **Gregory Sterling** - Keynote  
*The history of the Alexandrian Jewish community*

4.45-5.30pm **William Horbury** - Keynote  
*Egypt in the Jewish Risings under Trajan*

5.30-6pm Concluding remarks: **Dorothy Thompson**

7pm Dinner for speakers at Rewley House

**Tuesday 21 June**

THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

9.15am Introduction: **Miriam Frenkel**

9.30-10.15am **Esther-Miriam Wagner**  
*Language and Identity in the Cairo Genizah*

10.15-11am **Yehoshua Granat**  
*An Andalusian in Alexandria: A new look at Yehuda Halevi's 'Egyptian' poems*

11-11.30am- Coffee Break

11.30-12.15pm **Marzena Zawadowska**  
*The concept of Egypt in medieval Karaite Bible exegesis*

12.15-1pm **Paul Fenton**  
*An Andalusian poet descends to Egypt: Judah al-Harizi's account of his visit to its communities in 1222*

1-2pm Sandwich Lunch

2-2.45pm **Joanna Weinberg**  
*Living in Egypt--A Maimonidean Predicament*

2.45-3.30pm **Judith Olszowy-Schlanger** – Keynote  
*Hebrew scribes and script in medieval Egypt*

3.30-4.15pm Tea Break

JEWS IN EGYPT IN THE LATER PERIOD

4.15-5pm **Dotan Arad**  
*'In the wilderness of their enemies': Jewish Attitudes towards Muslim Space in light of a 15<sup>th</sup>-Century Genizah Letter from Egypt*

5-5.30pm **Ben Williams**  
*From Exile in Egypt to Exile in Safed – Galut in Moses Alsheikh's Commentary on the Song of Songs*

5.30-6pm **Adriana X Jacobs**  
*Esther Raab in Cairo*

6-6.30pm Epilogue: **Mark Cohen**

7pm Dinner for speakers at Rewley House