

OXFORD SCHOOL OF RARE JEWISH LANGUAGES LECTURE

Week 5

Professor Saloumeh Gholami
(Goethe University Frankfurt)

‘Judeo-Iranian Languages and Their Importance in Reconstructing the Extinct Vernacular Languages of the Region’

Saloumeh Gholami is Professor of Minority Languages in the Middle East at the Institute for Empirical Linguistics at the Goethe University Frankfurt in Germany specialising in language documentation and research on minority languages and manuscript studies. She co-led the LOEWE research-Cluster "Minority Studies: Language and Identity", funded by the federal state of Hessen in Germany. She has been conducting various projects on documentation and description of Judeo-Iranian languages.

Abstract: This presentation provides an overview of the Judeo-Iranian languages and their current situation in Iran, with a particular focus on Judeo-Hamadani. The presentation explores the idea that Jews in cities in central and western Iran preserved their former vernacular language, while the majority of the population replaced it with Persian during the New Iranian period. The presentation examines several distinctive features of Judeo-Hamadani and reviews recent research to clarify its language origins. The presentation draws on new materials recorded during fieldwork conducted in Hamadan from October 2018 to August 2019 and in Yazd in 2017. This updated research sheds light on the historical and linguistic developments of Judeo-Hamadani and contributes to a better understanding of the preservation of vernacular languages of Jews in Iran.

Wednesday, 24 May 2023

6.00 pm (UK time)

Online via Zoom (see below) and in person at the Catherine
Lewis Lecture Room, Clarendon Institute Building, Walton Street,
Oxford OX1 2HG

Please register here to attend via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pf-iqqzItHdL9jU-c7Q_y7xRwFIUn95HI

ALL LECTURES ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC



Oxford School of
Rare Jewish Languages

OXFORD
CENTRE FOR
HEBREW
AND JEWISH
STUDIES
&
OXFORD
SCHOOL OF
RARE
JEWISH
LANGUAGES

OSRJI

Clarendon Institute
Walton Street
Oxford, OX1 2HG
01865 610422
enquiries@ochjs.ac.uk
www.ochjs.ac.uk