



Ben-Zvi Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities in the East

Algerian Jewry Through the Ages – **Extended deadline**

Call for papers for a research conference

Elul 23, 5784 / September 26, 2024

The Ben-Zvi Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities in the East wishes to hold an academic conference on Algerian Jewry through the ages. The conference will be dedicated to new research on this unique community, and to presenting a broad picture of its rich history and culture, of the deep changes the community has undergone in recent generations, and of its present. The conference will include a special session dedicated to the thought and activity of the late Rabbi Samuel René Sirat (1930-2023), on the second anniversary of his death.

We invite researchers to submit proposals for lectures on various aspects of the life of the Jewish community in Algeria throughout the ages, as well as on Algerian Jews in Israel and around the world. Among the topics to be discussed at the conference:

1. The communities' leadership in changing times.
2. Jews and their environment: Jewish existence in a multi-ethnic Muslim, Berber, and French environment.
3. Cultural activity: poetry and music, thought, literature, art, folklore.
4. Daily life in the community.
5. Center and periphery: the relations between the Jewish community of Algiers and the smaller communities.
6. French Jews and Algerian Jews throughout the ages.
7. Social, political, economic and cultural responses to the French occupation.
8. The end of the Jewish presence in Algeria and the processes of communal identity-formation in the destination countries around the world.
9. The present of Algerian Jewry: processes and reality in the last generation.
10. The thought and activity of the late Rabbi Samuel René Sirat.

The conference will be held in Hebrew, English and French. Researchers from abroad will be able to present their lectures via Zoom according to the schedule to be established. Researchers

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who wish to submit proposals should send the lecture topic and an abstract of no more than one page (in French, English or Hebrew), with an emphasis on the research's innovation. Please also send a curriculum vitae and list of relevant publications (no more than one page).

The conference will be held on Monday, Elul 23, 5784 / September 26, 2024, at Yad Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem. Proposals must be sent no later than **July 10, 2024 (New extended deadline)**, to mbz@ybz.org.il. Responses to the proposals will be given by August 1, 2024.

