

Judaism and Islam in the Twentieth Century between Germany, Palestine/Israel, and the United States:

A Conference Marking 125 Years since the Birth and 40 Years since the Death of S. D. Goitein

Call for Papers

Yad Ben-Zvi, Jerusalem, March 24th-25th 2025

Shelomo Dov Goitein (1900–1985) is celebrated as the foremost scholar of the Cairo Geniza and a pioneering researcher of Yemenite Jewry and its culture. However, his work and influence extend across diverse fields, including the German Zionist youth movement, Jewish education in Germany and Mandate Palestine/Israel, the teaching of Bible and history at the Reali School in Haifa, oversight of Jewish schools under the Mandate government, literary, journalistic, and theatrical writing, educational philosophy, biblical exegesis, and even diplomatic endeavors. During his tenure at the Hebrew University (1928–1957), Goitein was instrumental in laying the groundwork for Israeli Middle Eastern studies, and in the United States, he contributed to the founding of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), where he was honored as an 'Honorary Fellow.'

To mark the 125th anniversary of Goitein's birth and 40 years since his passing, the Ben-Zvi Institute is organizing an academic conference that will explore his life and scholarship within the context of his era. The conference will be held on March 24th-25th 2025 at Yad Yitzhak Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem. We invite scholars from all fields who are interested in participating to submit proposals for presentations that broadly address S. D. Goitein, his scholarship, and his multifaceted contributions.

Please send proposals to: mbz@ybz.org.il. Submissions should include a title, an abstract of no more than 350 words, and the presenter's name and institutional affiliation, if applicable, as well as a CV. Additionally, please specify whether the proposed presentation will be delivered in Hebrew or English. Deadline for proposals: January 15th 2025.

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Miriam Frenkel, Ben-Zvi Institute, Dr. Asaf Tamari, Ben-Zvi Institute, Dr. Hanan Harif, Tel Hai College, Dr. Amit Levy, University of Haifa



