



Call for Papers

Rabbi Shalom Shar'abi and the Kabbalistic Academies

Thursday, December 11, 2025, 21 Kislev

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

Rabbi Shalom Shar'abi (RaSha"Sh), one of the greatest kabbalists of the modern period, was born in Yemen in 1720. Upon coming to the land of Israel, he assumed leadership of the kabbalistic academy Beit El, which was founded in the Old City of Jerusalem in 1737. He developed a sweeping and complex kabbalistic system, through his commentaries to the Lurianic canon and the prayer style associated with him, exemplified in his prayerbook tradition, the *Siddur ha-RaSha"Sh* circulated primarily in manuscripts.

The majority of Sefardic and Middle Eastern kabbalists operate in Shar'abi's system and have adopted the system of prayer intentions that he developed, which demand extra-time and draw on the meditations provided in Shar'abi's prayerbook tradition. The conference will examine the sources from which Shar'abi drew, and his continued influence in the kabbalistic academies and traditions of Jerusalem, to the present.

We invite scholars to submit proposals to the conference that will examine Shar'abi's activity and methodology, disciples that continued his spiritual path, and the history of kabbalah in the land of Israel.

Please submit a 300 word abstract and a short bio using [this link](#) by Monday, September 15 2025.

Steering Committee: Avi Elqayam, Yigal Ben Shalom, Adiel Ben Shalom, Pinchas Giller, Boaz Huss, Jonathan Meir, Yaniv Mezuman.

