



Call for Papers

Annual Conference

Transitions: Aspects in the Study of Ethiopian Jews in Israel and Other Places

November 18–19, 2025

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

Jerusalem

The Ben-Zvi Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities in the East invites scholars to submit proposals for its upcoming annual conference, which will be dedicated this year to Ethiopian Jewish communities in Israel and abroad.

The conference aims to showcase new research on this unique community, aiming to offer a comprehensive view of its history and culture; the transformations it has undergone in recent generations; continuities and divergences from the past; and the directions of future scholarship. Special emphasis will be given to historiographical and critical approaches to the study of Ethiopian Jewry.

We welcome proposals for individual presentations or full thematic sessions (3–4 speakers). Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Ethiopian identity and Black culture: Between the local and the global
- Waves of immigration: Sociological and other perspectives
- Ethiopian Jewish studies: Alternative narratives
- Continuity and change in the religious and cultural life of Ethiopian Jews in Israel
- Oral, written, and material cultures: The *Orit*, sacred texts, prayers, proverbs, folktales, crafts, languages and dialects
- Belonging, alienation, and longing: Between Israel and Ethiopia





- Continuity and fragmentation: Intercultural transitions of texts, objects, and material motifs
- Family and community rituals and ceremonies
- Daily life in Ethiopia and in Israel
- Ethiopian Jews and Christians: Historical and theological encounters

Submission Guidelines

Proposals may be submitted in either Hebrew or English, accompanied by a CV file, via [this link](#) no later than August 4, 2025

Organizing Committee

Prof. Miriam Frenkel, Director of the Ben-Zvi Institute

Dr. Neta Shram, Deputy Director

Dr. Yamit Rachman-Schrire, Project Coordinator

Steering Committee Members

Dr. Fekade Abebe, Prof. Steven Kaplan, Prof. Dalit Rom-Shiloni, Prof. Hagar Salamon, Ms. Efrat Yerday

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to a meaningful and enriching conference.

