“Always Hungarian”

The Jews of Hungary through the Vicissitudes of the Modern Era

Monday-Tuesday, 22-23 Iyar 5776, 30-31 May 2016

Mintz Auditorium (Building No. 404) Bar-Ilan University
Academic Committee:
Prof. Shlomo Spitzer – Chairman, Bar-Ilan University
Prof. Hanna Yablonka, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Prof. Adam Ferziger, Bar-Ilan University
Dr. Raphael Vago, Tel-Aviv University
Dr. Anna Szalai, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University
Mr. Ron Lustig, Director, Memorial Museum of Hungarian Speaking Jewry

Conference Director:
Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Organization and Production:
Ms. Ora Kobelkowsky, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Information and Registration:
The Dahan Center for Culture, Society and Education in the Sephardic Heritage
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E-mail: dahan.center@mail.biu.ac.il
Dahan Center Bar-Ilan University
“Always Hungarian”
The Jews of Hungary through the Vicissitudes of the Modern Era

The conference lectures will be accompanied by simultaneous translation

Monday, 22 Iyar 5776, 30 May 2016
Mintz Auditorium (Building No. 404) Bar-Ilan University

09:30-10:00   Arrival and Registration
10:00-11:30  OPENING SESSION

Chairman: Dr. Shimon Ohayon, Director, Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University

Greetings:
Rabbi Prof. Daniel Hershkowitz, president of Bar-Ilan University
M.K Gila Gamliel, Minister for Social Equality
Mr. Natan Sharansky, Chairman of the Executive, The Jewish Agency for Israel
Mr. Avraham Duvdevani, Chairman of the World Zionist Organization
H.E. Dr. Andor Nagy, Ambassador of Hungary
Mr. András Heisler, Chairman of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Hungary

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to colleagues who have contributed to promoting the heritage of the Jewish communities and expanding education on the subject of the Shoah

Opening Lectures:
Prof. Adam S. Ferziger, Bar-Ilan University
“Always Hungarian” – Jacob Katz’s Scholarly Re-engagement with Hungarian Jewry

Mr. András Heisler, Chairman of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Hungary
The Hungarian Jewry Today

11:30-12:00   Coffee Break
Parallel Sessions

SESSION 2: Religious Life and the Religious Divide
The Session is sponsored by the S.R. Hirsch Chair for Research of the Torah with Derekh Erez Movement

Chairman: Prof. Shlomo Spitzer, Bar-Ilan University

Dr. Michael Silber, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem
*The Early Years of Hatam Sofer’s Pressburg Rabbinate*

Dr. Jehuda Hartman, Bar-Ilan University
*The Sudden Turnabout in Hungarian Orthodoxy after Emancipation*

Dr. Judit Kárpáti, The Jewish Theological Seminary, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest
*Attitudes to Tradition in the Modern Age: The Changing of Mikve Traditions in Hungary during the 19th–20th Centuries*

Prof. Szonja Ráhel Komoróczy, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Center for Jewish Studies
*The Status Quo Myth: The Fate of the Rumbach Synagogue in Budapest*

SESSION 3: The Jews in Areas Annexed to the Successor States

Chairman: Prof. Guy Miron, Open University of Israel

Dr. Linda Margittai, University of Szeged, Hungary
*Jews, South Slavs, Germans, Hungarians: Ethnic Relations, Anti-Semitism, and Social Solidarity in Hungarian-Occupied Vojvodina*

Dr. Levi Cooper, Inter-University Academic Partnership in Russian and Eastern European Studies
*Carpathian Crossroads: Polish and Hungarian Influences on the Munkács Rabbinate*

Dr. Attila Gidó, Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities
*Hungarians Again? The Northern Transylvanian Jews after the Second Vienna Award*

Dr. Attila Pejin, Senta Municipal Museum
*In a Double Diaspora with Triple Identity: Jews of Bácska after Trianon (1920–1941)*
14:00-15:00   Lunch
15:00-16:30   Parallel Sessions

SESSION 4: The Shoah and its Consequences

Chairman: Dr. Raphael Vago, Tel-Aviv University
Dr. Ayala Nedivi, Michalah Jerusalem College
*The Palestine Office in Budapest Headed by Moshe Krausz, “a rescue institution for thousands of immigrants in 1944,” - How Did it Work?*
Prof. Yechiam Weitz, Haifa University and Bar-Ilan University
*The Holocaust the Hungary’s Jews – History and Historiography*
Dr. Natalie Náthon, European Commission, Brussels
*The Post-War Political and Legal System in Hungary and the Civil Procedures Initiated by Holocaust Survivors (1945 to 1948)*
Ms. Esther Farbstein, Michlalah Jerusalem College
*A "Gateway for Saving the Remnant of the Jewish People": The Orthodox Rescue Committee in Budapest*

SESSION 5: Hungarian Speakers in Israel

Chairman: Ron Lustig, Director, The Memorial Museum of Hungarian Speaking Jewry
Prof. Ilana Rosen, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
*The Poetry of 1.5 and Second-Generation Israelis of Hungarian Origin*
Dr. Anna Szalai, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
*Once Upon a Time there was Hungarian Theatre in Israel*
Dr. Adina Stern, Independent Researcher
*Arpad Gut, Engineer – Construction Projects in Mandatory Palestine*
Dr. Ráchel Surányi, ELTE University, Budapest
*The Generation of “igen-migen” – Children of Hungarians who Made Aliyah to Israel after the Holocaust*
Dr. Zoltan Haberman, The Jewish Theological Seminary, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest
*The Ethos of the Hungarian-Israeli Newspaper Új Kelet*
16:30-17:00  Coffee Break

17:00-18:30  SESSION 6: Jewish Education in Hungary

Chairman: Mr. Shay Felber, Jewish Agency for Israel
Prof. Yitzhak Kashti, Massuah - Institute for Holocaust Studies
Jewish Educational Institutions in Hungary
Dr. Viktória Bányai, Hungarian Academy of Sciences,
Institute for Minority Studies, Center for Jewish Studies
Jewish Children and Jewish Schools in Hungary after the Holocaust (1945-48)
Dr. Eszter Susán, New York University, Education and Jewish Studies Program
Fostering Jewish Identity through Counter-Memory: A Case Study of a Site-Specific Informal Educational Project about Budapest’s historical Jewish Quarter
Dr. Balázs Tamási, Jewish Theological Seminary,
University of Jewish Studies, Budapest
The History of the Library collections of the Budapest Rabbinical Seminary from the foundation to the present time
Dr. Miklós Konrád, Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Neolog Religious Instruction in the Dualist Era

18:30-19:30  SESSION 7: Roundtable: Hungary Today: Immigration, Dramatic Changes and Hungarian Jews

Mr. András Heisler, Prof. Dina Porat,
Prof. Gerald Steinberg, Mr. Shay Felber

19:30-20:30  Artistic Program

"Spiritual Virtuoso"
International Violinist
Eyal Shiloah
Pianist and Composer
Dr. Yuri Brenner
**Tuesday, 23 Iyar 5776, 31 May 2016**  
Mintz Auditorium (Building No. 404) Bar-Ilan University

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<td>09:30-10:00</td>
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<td>10:00-11:30</td>
<td>SESSION 8: Zionism and Identity</td>
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<td>Chairman: Dr. David Brixton, Vice Chairman of the World Zionist Organization</td>
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<td>Greetings:</td>
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<td>Mr. Tom Fogel, coordinator, Ben-Zvi Institute</td>
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<td>Tzila Miron-Ilan, Head of Moreshet Dept., Ministry of Education</td>
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<td>Dr. Miriam Neiger, Hebrew University of Jerusalem</td>
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<td>“Herzl’s Moments of Rage”: Avigdor Hameiri’s Zionism and Hungarian Jewry in the Early Twentieth Century</td>
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<td>Mr. Yoav Sorek, Ben Gurion University of the Negev</td>
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<td>Orthodoxy and Zionism: The Discussion in “Tel Talpiot”, 1898 and 1904</td>
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<td>Prof. Victor Karady, Central European University, Budapest</td>
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<td>Processes of Magyarisation in the Generations of Jewish Intelligentsia since Emancipation - Over Regime Changes and the Shoah (1867-1948)</td>
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<td>Dr. Zsofia Kata Vincze, ELTE University, Budapest</td>
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<td>Integration and Dissimilation of Jewish Hungarians, Hungarian Jews, or Jews from Hungary</td>
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<td>11:30-12:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>12:00-14:00</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
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<td>SESSION 9 : Art and Culture</td>
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<td>Chairman: Prof. Bracha Yaniv, Bar-Ilan University</td>
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<td>Prof. Judit Frigyesi, Bar-Ilan University</td>
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<td>“We wanted only to pray…” - Jewish Prayer under Communism in Budapest</td>
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<td>Ms. Olga Ungar, Bar-Ilan University</td>
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<td>Hungarian Jewish Sculptor Michael Kara in Yugoslavia and his Commissions for Local Jewish Institutions and Individuals</td>
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<td>Dr. Katalin Franciska Rac, University of Florida</td>
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<td>Paprika, Goose Fat, and the Jewish Role in the Modern Hungarian Cuisine</td>
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<td>Ms. Júlia Cserba, Art critic, journalist, curator</td>
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<td>Pàn Imre (Budapest, 1904 – Pàrizs, 1972)</td>
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Note: All events are subject to change.
SESSION 10: Rabbis and Rabbinic Literature
The Session is sponsored by The Yekutiel and Hannah Klein Chair in the History of the Modern Rabbinate in Europe, Bar-Ilan University

Chairman: Dr. Yitzhak Hershkowitz, Bar-Ilan University

Rabbi Elli Fischer, Tel Aviv University
Name, Language, and Dress: The Halakhic Afterlife of a Modern Hungarian Midrash

Prof. Benjamin Brown, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Yitav Lev of Sziget – the Father of Hungarian Hasidic Zealotry

Dr. Barak Shlomo Cohen, Bar-Ilan University
Wilhelm Bacher: The Man and His Talmudic Research Methodology

Prof. Yosef Salmon, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Zvi Elimelech of Dinow – His Attitude to Jewish Enlightenment

14:00-15:00   Lunch
15:00-16:30  Parallel Sessions

SESSION 11: Figures from the Jewish World

Chairman: Prof. Zehavit Gross, Bar-Ilan University

Dr. Zvi Hartman, Tel-Aviv University
Leo Szilárd – the Nuclear Scientist and Pacifist – A Political Barometer of Critical Times

Dr. Jacov Sobovitz, "Carmel" College
The Successes and the Decline in Sport Achievements by Hungary’s Jewish Athletes during the Interwar Period (1918-1940)

Dr. Tamas Turan, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Center for Jewish Studies
Leopold Löw and Modern Judaism in the Hungarian Denominational Matrix

Rabbi Dr. Yechiel Lash, Orot Israel College of Education
Using Casting Lots to Select a Rabbi in Hungary Communities
SESSION 12: After the Holocaust and the Communism

Chairman: Dr. Shilhav Kest, Bar-Ilan University

Dr. Menachem Keren-Kratz, Tel Aviv University
Withstanding the Ultimate Test: Hasidic Rabbis in Hungary during the Holocaust

Prof. László Karsai, University of Szeged, Hungary
Facing the Holocaust and Ourselves. Memory Policy, Jews and Historians in Hungary - 1990-2015

Prof. Mária Kovács, ELTE University, Budapest
The Hóman Debate

Dr. Balázs Gábor, Bar-Ilan University
The Hungarian Orthodoxy after the Change of the Communist regime

16:30-17:00   Coffee Break

17:00-18:30   SESSION 13: Diaspora and Identity

Chairman: Prof. Hanna Yablonka, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Dr. Kata Bohus, Georg-August, Universität Göttingen
Our Friends from the West: Contacts between International Jewish Organizations and the Hungarian Jewish Community in the 1960s

Prof. Ivonne Szasz & Prof. Frida Staropolsky-Shwartz,
La Universidad Hebraica de México
Hungarian Jews in Mexico

Dr. Andrea Ritter, Jewish Theological Seminary, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest
Emigration and Hungarian Jewish Identity after the Holocaust – The Basis for a Psychological Comparative Study

Prof. Habil. János Oláh, Jewish Theological Seminary, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest
Integration and Forced Exclusion - a Jewish Hungarian Fate - Changes in Religious Identity
The Memorial Museum of Hungarian Speaking Jewry

Synagogues in Hungary