

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ISRAEL AND JUDAISM STUDIES

THEME

**TURNING POINTS: CHANGE AND
CONTINUITY IN JUDAISM AND ISRAEL**

DATE

8-10 NOVEMBER 2019

VENUE

**IZMIR DEMOKRASI UNIVERSITY
CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Üçkuyular Main Campus- Gürsel Aksel Bulvarı, No:14
35140 Karabağlar/İZMİR**

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Mert Çer, International Relations, İzmir Democracy University

mertcer0@gmail.com

3rd International Conference on Israel and Judaism Studies

“Turning Points: Change and Continuity in Judaism and Israel”

Within the course of history, many spots that seem apart might occur as the continuation of a fact or an incident in the past when looked more closely. Not everything undergoes a change within time. Continuity refers to the situations and facts which do not change or relatively remain unchanged over time.

As for change, it refers to which is flagrantly different from the previous situation or status. The change usually occurs in the long run within the course of history and it is often difficult to specify an exact moment of change. For this reason, choosing two different moments in history and comparing them have always been easier. Nevertheless, when there is an instant and evident change generally following an incident in a certain moment in history, this incident might be specified as a “turning point”. The turning points are important evidences in designating unnoticeable changes in history as well as identifying the continuities.

It is *ipso facto* essential to reveal both change and continuity processes in order to interpret historical, political or sociological facts or situation. How did a fact or a case in hand appear in the past? Has there been an explicit difference between current and past manifestations? If there is a change, what are the direct and indirect reasons? If there is continuity, what are the causes? The questions like these help us understand thoroughly the case in hand and the answers help to determine the turning points in the history.

Based upon this background, when both Judaism and Israel are sought to be understood within historical processes, the researcher would find many “turning points”. From this point of view, we decided to designate the theme of the 3rd International Conference on Israel and Judaism Studies as “Turning Points: Change and Continuity in Judaism and Israel”. Our purpose is to identify the transformations and the continuities that Judaism both as an ethnic identity and a religion have experienced throughout the history within various geographies and times. Related to this another stated purpose is to reveal the contributions of this historical adventure to the establishment of Israel and her status. By doing so, this year’s conference aims at making sense of various issues related to Israel and Judaism studies: Zionism, anti-Semitism, various interpretations of Judaism, Israeli-Palestinian conflict etc.

What is meant by the continuity of Judaism?

How was the fundamental characteristics of modern Israel shaped?

What are the pillars of value systems and societal structure? How were the changes and continuity perceived within the course of history?

What is the place of the tension between tradition and modernity within the approach of change and continuity?

Were the identity cleavages in Israel the result of this tension?

How did ultra-Orthodoxy in Judaism emerge?

What’s the relation between globalization and Judaism?

What’s the significance of anti-Semitism and Holocaust as turning points? To what changes do they refer?

The questions like those are expected to be answered and evaluated by the participants of this year’s conference.

Abstract Submission

The language of the conference is Turkish and English. The abstracts or full papers should not be published or presented at previous conferences or be sent to be evaluated for another conference.

All submissions would be peer-reviewed. The choice of the papers that would be presented at the conference is up to reviews of the referees and to the final decision of the organization committee.

Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words and include up to 5 keywords. Abstracts should include the theoretical background, method, findings and contribution to the field. Those who would like to register with full papers should send articles between 4000- 8000 words. Full papers should include bibliography and references.

Submissions should be sent by e-mail to israiliyatcom@gmail.com no later than **15 September 2019**. Those who would like their full papers to be published in the proceeding books should sent their papers to israiliyatcom@gmail.com no later than **30 November 2019**.

There is no registration or participation fee for the conference. Panels are planned to be 90 minutes, and the participants are given 15 minutes for presentation.

Thesis Rewards

Master's and PhD thesis about Israel and Judaism studies on history, politics and international relations and theology would be evaluated and selected by the rewards committee.

The submissions are only accepted for theses written in Turkish universities. The thesis written on 2018-2019 academic years will be awarded. English, French and Turkish languages are accepted.

All applications should be sent to israiliyatcom@gmail.com no later than **30 September 2019** with a copy of the thesis and resume of the applicant. The successful candidates will be announced during the conference.

Thesis Rewards Committees

Politics and International Relations

Umut UZER, Assoc. Prof. Dr., İstanbul Technical University, Türkiye
uuzer@itu.edu.tr

Ayşe ÖMÜR ATMACA, Assist. Prof. Dr., Hacettepe University, Ankara
oaatmaca@hacettepe.edu.tr

Theology

Hatice DOĞAN, Assist. Prof. Dr., Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University, Türkiye
haticedogan@nevsehir.edu.tr

Muhammed Ali BAĞIR, Assist. Prof. Dr., Sakarya University, Türkiye,
malibagir@sakarya.edu.tr

History

Halil ERDEMİR, Assoc. Prof. Dr., Manisa Celal Bayar University, Türkiye
uygula@yahoo.com

Hasan Hüseyin GÜNEŞ, Assist. Prof. Dr., Bartın University, Türkiye
hgunes@bartin.edu.tr

Hope to meet you in Izmir in November!