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Bar-Ilan University  
אוניברסיטת בר-אילן  
Department of General History



RELIGIONS & PUBLIC LIFE  
THE KENAN INSTITUTE FOR ETHICS  
at DUKE UNIVERSITY

Duke Center for  
Jewish Studies

# NORMATIVE RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS & THEIR AUTHORITY

INIRE-Conference  
Leipzig 2018, July 23-24

## Venue of the Conference

Martin-Luther-Ring 3  
04109 Leipzig  
Tram station: Neues Rathaus  
Conference Hall: HS1  
Coffee Break: SR 2  
Lunch/Dinner: SR 1



Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: these religions rely on normative religious traditions, sometimes called 'Holy Scriptures'. Today, late-modern or post-modern societies often ask if these normative texts are still meaningful and relevant.

Questions we will deal with in the conference are: What roles do "Torah", "Bible", and "Quran" play in the three monotheistic religions in the past and present? How are the old texts interpreted today? And how are they used in religious and political discussions? Are 'holy texts' relevant for 'secular people'? And what role do 'holy texts' play in the dialogue of religions and discourse in our societies?

## 7-23 MONDAY

- 15.30 pm Opening: "The Abrahamic Religions and Their Bibles"
- Leipzig University Greetings
1. Alexander Deeg (Leipzig University): Sola scriptura!? Luther's Epistemological Revolution and the Question of Authority in Judaism and Christianity
- Short break
2. Alberto Melloni (University of Bologna): The Historical Study of the Councils and the Issue of Normativity: Paradigm of Pluralism III-XXI Century
- Short break
3. Mustafa Abu Sway (Al-Quds-University): The Recited Qur'an becoming a Written Mushaf

07.00 pm Dinner

## 7-24 TUESDAY

- 09.15 am Panel 1: Church Authority and Normative Tradition: Medieval Making, Modern Unmaking
- Mike Bazemore (Shaw University): The Medieval Making of "Normative Tradition" and Church Authority
- Gert Pickel and Yvonne Jaeckel (Leipzig University): Declining support? Religious traditions, norms, and practice in the eyes of the citizens
- 10.45 am Break
- 11.15 am Panel 2: Canonization and Exegesis in a Secular Age
- Zohar Maor (Bar-Ilan University): Holy Scriptures in a Secular Age: Canonization in Weimar Germany
- Mulayka Laura Enriello (ISA, Milano): Memory Passing On and Interpretation of Sacred Texts: an Educational Need
- Carina Brankovic (Oldenburg University): "Ich finde die Bibel komisch, weil: things go always wrong darin, ein wahres Bild unserer Existenz": George Tabori and the post-Holocaust Bible in theater
- 01.15 pm Lunch break
- 02.45 pm Panel 3: Canonical Tradition and Linguistic Change: Antisemitism and Zionism
- Carolyn Sanzenbacher (Southampton): The Unbroken Canonical Tradition: The Theology of Jewish Deicide in the Douay Rheims Bible
- Hilda Nissimi (Bar-Ilan University): Canon Preserved – Language Changed? Rabbi Shlomo Mashiah and Zionist/Messianic Piyyut
- 04.15 pm Coffee break
- 04.45 pm Closing session: Decentering the Canon? Judaism and Islam
- Dirk Hartwig (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities): Narrative Dialogues. The Quran and its Re-lectures of Biblical Traditions
- Malachi Hacohen (Duke University): Normative Tradition Without Canon: Rabbinic Authority, Talmudic Exegesis, and Post-Modernity
- Alexander Deeg responding: Canonization Today
- Discussion
- 07.00 pm Dinner
- Dinner discussion: The future of INIRE