The Buchmann Faculty of Law

The 4th Berg International Conference

In-Between: Trade and Legal Pluralism in the Era of the Geniza

Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law
May 29-31st, 2013

Program

Wednesday, May 29, 2013 // Tel Aviv
The Buchmann Faculty of Law, Trubowitz Building, Sonia Rossy Conference Room (Room 307)

09:15-09:30
Greetings, Raanan Rein, Vice President, Tel Aviv University

09:30-11:30
The Sources of Merchant Law
Chair: Benjamin Arbel, Tel Aviv University
Mordechhai A. Friedman, Tel Aviv University
On Formal and Informal Partnerships among Jewish India Traders
Miniam Fenkel, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Breaking the Rules: Moments of Crisis in Commercial Relations as Illustrated in Geniza Letters
Commentator: Amihai Radzyner, Bar Ilan University
11:30-12:00 Break

12:00 – 14:00
Legal Pluralism: Jews in Non-Jewish Courts
Chair: Roy Kreitner, Tel Aviv University
Hassan S. Khalilieh, Tel Aviv University
Due Process, Choice of Law, and Enforcement of Judicial Decisions among the Dhimmi, and Foreigners in the Abode of Islam
Gideon Lifson, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Bureaucracy between Jews and Non-Jewish Courts: The Impression of Banns in the Early Middle Ages, as reflected in the Responsa Literature and Geniza Documents
Commentator: Talia Fisher, Tel Aviv University
14:00-15:00 Lunch
15:00-18:15
Formal Law and Informal Norms
Chair: Tamar Kricheli Katz, Tel Aviv University
Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman, Vanderbilt University
Staying Just Far Enough: The Jewish Courts of Medieval Egypt
Mark R. Cohen, Princeton University
Some Aspects of Law and Commercial Practice in Maimonides’ Code (Mishneh Torah)
Elianech Westreich, Tel Aviv University
Commercial Instruments in the Geniza Period
Commentator: David Scharf, Tel Aviv University
19:00 Dinner

Thursday, May 30, 2013 // Tel Aviv
The Buchmann Faculty of Law, Trubowitz Building, Sonia Rossy Conference Room (Room 307)

09:30-11:30
Business Practices in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean
Chair: Zvi Eckstein, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya
Abraham L. Udovitch, Princeton University
Fayyum, Fustat and Elsewhere: How They Did Business in the 11th Century Islamic Mediterranean
Roxani Eleni Margariti, Emory University

The Go-Between: Cross-Cultural Trade and the Position of the "Representative of the Merchants" (wakīl al-tujjār) in Indian Ocean Ports Revisited
Commentator: Youval Rotman, Tel Aviv University
11:30-12.00 Break

12:00-14:30
Merchants, Agents and Institutions
Chair: Isaacshar Rosen-Zvi, Tel Aviv University
Anne Greif, Stanford
Private Order and Legal Order: Analytical Frameworks and Historical Reflections
Sebouh David Aslanian, UCLA
An Asian Trade Revolution? The English East India Company and the Agnatic Family Firms of Jaffan Merchants

Cihan Artunc, Yale
The Portuguese System and Merchant Empires in the Ottoman Sphere: The Price of Legal Institutions
Commentator: Ron Harris, Tel Aviv University
14:30-15:30 Lunch
15:30-18:45
Comparative Perspectives on Merchant Law
Chair: Amalia Kessler, Stanford
Albrecht Cordes, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main
Beyond the Lex Mercatoria Myth
Jessica Goldberg, University of Pennsylvania
Agents, Agency and the Law in the Medieval Mediterranean
Francesca Struvellato, Yale University
French Maritime Law before Colbert: Customs, Ius Gentium and the State
Commentator: Joshua Getzler, Oxford University

Friday, May 31, 2013 // Jerusalem Tour
National Library of Israel, Jerusalem
08:30 Bus will depart from Conference Hotel to Jerusalem
10:00 - 12:00
Hagai Ben-Shammai, Academic Director, National Library, Aviad Stollman, Curator of the Judaica Collection & Raquel Ukeles, Curator of the Islam and Middle East Collection, Lecture and a Display of Rare Documents relating to Trade and to the Geniza
12:00 - 12:30
Sebouh David Aslanian, UCLA
The Jaffan Merchants Digital Archive
13:00 Lunch
14:30 Informal tour of the Old City of Jerusalem and return by bus to Tel Aviv

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