

**Curriculum Vitae and List of Publications**

Date of Birth: November 19<sup>th</sup> 1970

Place of Birth: Jerusalem, Israel

Family Status: Married, four children

Army Service: 1989-1993 – Armoured Division

Permanent Address: 13 Shim'oni St. Entrance B,  
Jerusalem, Israel 92623

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**Academic Training and degrees:**

2006 – PhD: **Harvard University**; Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Thesis: “*The Emergence of Critical Scholarship on Rabbinic Literature in the Nineteenth Century: Social and Ideological Contexts*”  
(Advisor: Prof. Jay M. Harris)

1999 - MA: **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**; Dept. of Jewish History  
Thesis: Hirsch Mendel Pineles and the Controversy surrounding his “*Darkah shel Torah*” (Advisor: Prof. Immanuel Etkes); awarded *Summa cum laude*

1998 - German Studies, **Goethe-Institut**, Jerusalem, Israel

1996 - BA: **The Open University**, Tel-Aviv, Israel  
Major: Jewish History; awarded *Summa cum laude*

1996 - Teacher’s Certificate, **Moreshet Ya'akov**, Rehovot, Israel

1995 – 1997: Rabbinic Studies, **Yeshivat Mir**, Jerusalem, Israel

1988-1995: Rabbinic Studies, **Yeshivat Sha'alvim** (Hesder), Sha'alvim, Israel

### Academic and Teaching Positions

2004 – present: **Ben-Gurion University** (Dept. of Jewish History)

2017 – present: The Ginsburg-Ingerman Overseas Student Program; **Ben-Gurion University**

2007 – present: **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem** (Rothberg International School; The Program in Jewish Studies).

2008 – 2014: **Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus** (Jewish History)

2015- present: **Schocken Institute** (JTS Rabbinical Training Program in Jerusalem)

2008: **Ariel University** (Summer Program)

2007, 2010-2011: **Achva Academic College** (Summer Program)

2003 – present: **Midreshet Lindenbaum** (Jerusalem)

2002: Visiting Lecturer, **Vilnius University** (Summer Program of Yiddish Language and Culture)

### Fellowships and Awards

Fall 2014: Fellow at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, **University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia**

2005 – 2007: Kreitman Post-Doctoral Fellowship, **Ben-Gurion University**

2001 – 2006: Isadore Twersky Fellowship in Jewish Studies, **Harvard University**

1999 – 2001: L. Flax Fellowship in Jewish Studies, **Harvard University**

1996 - 1998: Solomon Gelles and Fanny Balaban Gelles Fellowship, **Hebrew University**

1995 – 1996: Merit Scholarship, **The Open University**

### Publications

#### a. Books

1. *"The Mishnah's Plain Sense": A Study of Modern Talmudic Scholarship*, 398 pp., Kibbutz Ha-Meuhad Publishing House, Tel-Aviv, 2011

2. *The Debate Over the Oral Law in the Nineteenth Century*, Merkaz Shazar Publishing House, Jerusalem 2019

b. Articles

1. "Abraham Geiger's Independent Commentary to the Mishnah", *Hebrew Union College Annual* 77 (2006), pp. 51-70 (Hebrew section)
2. "'Peshat' and 'Derash' in the Mishna – On the Metamorphosis of a Tradition from the School of R. Elijah of Vilna", *Sidra* 22 (2007), pp. 5-20
3. "Samuel Moses Rubinstein: The Rabbinic Scholar from Shavel", *Moreshet Israel* 5 (2008), pp. 139-158
4. "Acronyms in Rabbinic Texts: A Forgotten Episode in Modern Scholarship", *Alei Sefer* vol. 21 (2010), pp. 5-19.
5. "Hyperbolic Language in the Mishnah", *Jewish Studies Internet Journal*, vol. 8 (2009) pp. 153-166.
6. "Jacob Reifmann and the Textual Criticism of the Bible", *Shnaton – An Annual for Biblical and Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 20 (2010), pp. 189-207.
7. "Jewish Biblical Scholarship: Between Tradition and Innovation" (with E. Breuer), in: *Hebrew Bible/Old Testament: The History of its Interpretation*, ed. Magne Saebo (vol. III/1, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2012), pp. 262-303.
8. "Orthodoxy and Talmudic Criticism? On Misleading Attributions in the Talmud", *Zutot* 13 (2016) 70-80.
9. "The Book of Rules for Students at the Wolfenbüttel Academy (from the Zunz archive): Concerning a Pedagogic Revolution", *Dor le-Dor* 49 (2015), pp. 28-44.
10. "Reclaiming the Apocrypha as Jewish Texts", in: *Jewish Texts? Modern Jewish Scholarship on the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament and Qur'an*, eds. Chanan Gafni, Hanan Harif, Stefan Schorch, Dorothea Salzer (forthcoming in 2018)
11. "Shifting Conceptions of Oral Tradition in the Nineteenth Century", *Transversal* 2016; 14(2), pp. 78–86.
12. "Samuel David Luzzatto and Abraham Geiger on the Textual Criticism of the Bible: Continuity or Conflict?", in: *Deutsch-jüdische Bibelwissenschaft Historische, exegetische und theologische Perspektiven*, eds. Daniel Vorpahl, Shani Tzoref, Sophia Kähler, *Europäisch-jüdische Studien Beiträge* 40, De Gruyter Oldenbourg (forthcoming in 2019).
13. "Viewing the Face of God on Holidays: The Concluding Mishnah of Tractate Hagiga", *Netuim* 21(2017).

14. "The Modern Quest for the Afikoman", *Leshonenu* 82, 4 (2020), pp. 357-370.
15. "The Reign of Solomon: A Failure and Its Causes", *Megadim* 31 (2000), pp. 87-94
16. "'Ishmaelites', 'Midianites' and 'Medanites'", *Megadim* 46 (2007), pp. 63-70

#### C. Edited Volumes

1. *Jewish Texts? Modern Jewish Scholarship on the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament and Qur'an*, Editors: Chanan Gafni, Hanan Harif, Stefan Schorch, Dorothea Salzer (De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2019)
2. "Megale Tmirim: Two Hundred Years to Haskalah in Galicia", collected papers from the Fifth International Conference for Research on Haskalah; The Hebrew University, December 2013 (in collaboration with Nathan Shifris and Shmuel Feiner; forthcoming, 2021)

#### D. Courses Given (all with accompanying readers; selected list)

1. Between Continuity and Change: The Attitude toward Tradition among 19th century Jewish Parties; Ben Gurion University
2. Who is a Jew? Questions of Identity and Identification in Modern Times; Ben Gurion University
3. Autobiographical Literature in Haskalah: Belles-lettres, Philosophy or History?; Ben Gurion University
4. Judaism on the Operating Table: Between Research and Satire in Galicia and its Environs; The Hebrew University
5. Jewish Education in the Age of Haskalah: Between Reality and Vision; Ben Gurion University
6. The Talmud in Historical Perspective; Ben Gurion University
7. *Wissenschaft des Judentums* - The Modern Study of Judaism; Ben Gurion University
8. Rabbinic Literature in *Wissenschaft des Judentums*; Ben Gurion University
9. *Hokhmat Yisrael* – The Origin of Modern Jewish Studies- Rothberg International School, Hebrew University
10. From Tradition to Criticism: The Development of Biblical Criticism- Rothberg International School, Hebrew University

11. Introduction to Rabbinic Literature- Rothberg International School, Hebrew University

12. The Battle over the Bible: The Bible in the Eyes of Jews, Christians, and Muslims- Rothberg International School, Hebrew University

E. Selected Lectures:

1. "The Debate on the Oral Law: Theory and History", 13th EAJS Summer Colloquium, Oxford University, July 2013.

2. "Reclaiming the Apocrypha as Jewish Texts", Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Penn University, December 2014.

3. "Samuel David Luzzatto and Abraham Geiger on the Textual Criticism of the Bible: Continuity or Conflict?", Potsdam University, September 2016.

4. "The Jewish Discovery of the Apocrypha: A case of Cultural Assimilation or Jewish Patriotism?", The 11th International Carlebach Conference, Wissenschaft des Judentums: 200 Years, Bar-Ilan University, March 2017.