



The 13th Lavy Colloquium in Jewish Studies

The theory  
and  
practice  
of the

# HEREM

## Monday, April 9th

- 11:30 am Lunch Reception**
- 12:30 am Opening remarks**
- 1:00 pm Pinchas Roth**  
(Bar Ilan University)  
Rabbinic Bans in Medieval France and Provence
- 2:00 pm Rami Reiner**  
(Ben Gurion University)  
Excommunication - Between the Concrete and the Abstract
- 3:00 pm Coffee break**
- 3:30 pm Elchanan Reiner**  
(Tel Aviv University)  
"One Ostracized by the Nasi is Ostracized by All of Israel": The Use of Excommunication by the Families of the Babylonian Exilarchs in Eastern Diaspora during the Middle Ages
- 4:30 pm David Katz**  
(Johns Hopkins University)  
All are equally subject to Herem, but some are more subject than others: One aspect of the Vienna Get Controversy of 1611

## Tuesday, April 10th

- 10:00 am Ada Rapaport-Albert**  
(UCL London)  
"A boy might conceivably become an apikores but transgression in a girl could only mean something sexual": Rabbinic sanction from a gendered perspective
- 11:00 am Moshe Checkik**  
(The Hebrew University, Jerusalem)  
Early 17th Century Attitudes toward Herem in Poland: The Case of R. Yoel Sirkish
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 2:00 pm Yosef Kaplan**  
(The Hebrew University, Jerusalem)  
"Herem Nação style": Excommunications in the Early Modern Western Sephardi Communities
- 3:00 pm Yitzhak Y. Melamed**  
(Johns Hopkins University)  
Why Wasn't Spinoza Excommunicated?

## Wednesday, April 11th

- 10:00 am Noam Lefler**  
(The Hebrew University, Jerusalem)  
Abraham Michael Cardozo as a Prototype of Professional Excommunicated Persona
- 11:00 am Michael Silber**  
(The Hebrew University, Jerusalem)  
Comeuppance of an Orthodox Zealot: Akiva Yosef Schlesinger and the Paradoxes of the Herem
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 1:30 pm Michael Miller**  
(CEU Budapest)  
The Great Ban: Explaining the Herem in Interwar Central Europe
- 2:30 pm Allan Nadler**  
(Drew University)  
Between Spinoza and Kaplan: Two Excommunications, Two Heresies, or One?

All sessions will take place at the Smokler Center for Jewish Life at Johns Hopkins University, 3109 N. Charles St., Baltimore.  
The conference is free and open to the public