# Hebrew Grammar in Contact with German Grammar during the Jewish Enlightenment: The Pronouns as a Case of Study

Dr. Yehonatan Wormser

Abstract

This paper offers an initial examination of the influence of German grammatical theory on Jewish Hebrew grammatical works during the beginning of the Jewish Enlightenment (late eighteenth century). The examination is based on the terminology and description of one issue – the Hebrew pronouns – as presented in two main works: Moses Medelssohn's (1729-1786) booklet ʾ*Or Lintivah* (Berlin, 1783) and the comprehensive grammar of Judah Leib Ben-Zeʾev (1764-1811) – *Talmud Lashon ʿIvri (*Breslau, 1796). The paper exposes and analyzes the German sources of those two scholars and the manner in which these were used. This analysis paints a picture of a careful and selective adaptation of the German model on the one hand, while on the other perceiving Hebrew grammatical elements through German features – an approach that has left its imprint on Hebrew grammar to this day.