

Dr. Samuel Thrope
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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley (2005-2012)

PhD in Jewish Studies specializing in Rabbinics and Sasanian religion.

Dissertation Title: "Contradictions and Vile Utterances: Polemic as Literature in the Zoroastrian Critique of Judaism."

Examination fields: Babylonian Talmud, Judeo-Persian linguistics, and Platonic philosophy.

Columbia University

New York (1998-2003)

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, *cum laude*.

The Jewish Theological Seminary

New York, NY (1998-2003)

Bachelor of Arts in Ancient Jewish History, *cum laude*.

SPECIAL TRAINING

Summer School in Iranian Linguistics

Hamburg, Germany (August, 2012)

Intensive two week course on modern Iranian dialects.

Modern Spoken Palestinian Arabic

Jerusalem (September 2011-June 2012)

Elementary spoken Arabic course at the Jerusalem Intercultural Center.

Intensive Elementary Malayalam

Jerusalem (July-August 2011)

Two week course in spoken Malayalam with University of Chicago instructor Nisha Kommattam at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Summer School in New West Iranian and Early Judaeo-Persian Dialectology

Hamburg, Germany (2010)

Intensive two week course focusing on topics in Iranian linguistics and language documentation.

Workshop in Jewish Religion and Culture

Stanford (2010)

Two week Stanford-Berkeley-Graduate Theological Union seminar taught by Professor Robert Brody of the Hebrew University.

Arabic and Persian Immersion Program

Madison, Wisconsin (2009)

Participated in Advanced level Persian program sponsored by the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Workshop in Midrash

Stanford (2009)

Two week Stanford-Berkeley-Graduate Theological Union seminar taught by Professor Joshua Levinson of the Hebrew University.

Workshop in Talmudic Philology

Stanford (2008)

Two week Stanford-Berkeley-Graduate Theological Union seminar taught by Prof. Aharon Shemesh of Bar Ilan University.

Council of American Overseas Research Centers Critical Language Scholarship: Persian

Dushanbe, Tajikistan (2007)

Participated in U.S. State Department sponsored language immersion program administered by the American Institute for Iranian Studies.

The School of Criticism and Theory

Ithaca, New York (2006)

Participated in seminar on post-colonial theory at summer institute at Cornell University.

The American Institute of Indian Studies

Jaipur, India (2003-2004)

Awarded one of ten year-long Advanced Language Fellowships in Hindi; focused on modern Hindi poetry and poetics.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Martin Buber Society of Fellows (October 2013-Current)

Post-doctoral fellowship at the Hebrew University.

Golda Meir Postdoctoral Fellowship (October 2012-June 2013)

Post-doctoral fellowship to work on Early Judeo-Persian manuscripts at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Iran Heritage Foundation (2011-2012)

Fellowship awarded for a project to translate, with Dr. Domenico Agostini, the

Middle Persian Zoroastrian text the *Bundahišn*.

International Doctoral Scholarship for Studies Specializing in Jewish Fields

(August 2011-May 2012)

Awarded scholarship by the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture.

**Council on Library and Information Resources Mellon Fellowship for
Dissertation Research in Original Sources (2010-2011)**

One of fifteen recipients of prestigious fellowship for original manuscript research at the National Library in Jerusalem and Zoroastrian libraries and archives in India.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (2009)

Funding for participation in the Advanced Persian summer school at the Arabic and Persian Immersion Program at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Dorot Israel Fellowship (2004-2005)

Awarded one of fifteen year-long fellowships in Jerusalem sponsored by the Dorot Foundation. Fellowship components included Hebrew language instruction, traditional text study and internship experiences.

EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Introduction to Zoroastrianism

(February-July 2014)

Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, the Hebrew University.

Persian Language Cataloger

(February 2013-October 2014)

The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem.

Instructor, Beginning and Advanced Modern Persian (Language Lab)

(2011-2012)

Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, the Hebrew University.

The Middle Persian Dictionary Project (2007-2011)

Edited Middle Persian texts for ongoing project directed by Dr. Shaul Shaked.

Friedberg Geniza Project (2010)

Edited and translated Early Judeo-Persian manuscripts for international Genizah project based at Cambridge University under the supervision of Dr. Tamar Eilam Gindin.

The Library of the University of California, Berkeley (2007-2008)

Assistant to the Curator for the Judaica Collection. Aided all aspects of collections management, purchasing and programming.

PRESENTATIONS

February 2014: "לא אדם, ענן במכנסים: על דואליזם פיזי ורוחני בדת הזורואסטית" (Not a Man, a Cloud in Trousers: On Physical and Spiritual Dualism in Zoroastrianism), **Department of Classics**, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

January 2014: "Israel in Iranian Eyes: Jalal Al-e Ahmad's Israel as an Islamic Utopia," **King's College**, London.

November 2013: "ישראל בעיניים איראניות: ג'לאל אל-י אהמד וישראל כאוטופיה אסלאמית" (Israel in Iranian Eyes: Jalal Al-e Ahmad and Israel as an Islamic Utopia), **The National Library of Israel**.

April 2013: "מה זה ביקורת זורואסטית? הפולמוס הזורואסטרי נגד היהדות" (What is Zoroastrian Critique? The Zoroastrian Polemic Against Judaism), **Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies**, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

December 2011: "Bad Seed: Rewriting the Garden of Eden in a Zoroastrian Critique of Judaism;" **The 43rd Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies**, Washington, DC.

Septemebr 2011: "Citation and the Critique of Judaism in the *Škand Gumānīg Wizār* and *Dēnkard* III;" **The 7th European Conference of Iranian Studies**, Cracow, Poland.

February 2011: "Angels and Demons: The Zoroastrian Critique of Judaism in Light of Ancient Jewish Mysticism;" **K. R. Cama Oriental Institute**, Mumbai, India.

October 2010: "On the (Ir)rationality of Divine Justice: the Massacre of the Angels in the *Škand Gumānīg Wizār*'s Critique of Judaism;" **Irano-Judaica VII**, the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

July 2010: "The Critique of Abraham in the *Škand Gumānīg Wizār*" **ARAM Society Conference - Zoroastrianism in the Levant**; Oriental Studies, Oxford University, Oxford, England.

September 2009: "Vienna Pahlavi Papyrus 323: Reading and Interpretation;" **Summer Workshop in Pahlavi Papyrology**; the Austrian National Library, Vienna, Austria.

October, 2006: "The Alarming Lunch: Culture and Coloniality in Sasanian Iran;" **Channels of Communication in Late Antiquity**; Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

May 2003: "A Second Eve: Two Readings of Delilah's Sexuality;" **The God and Sexuality Conference**, Bard College, New York.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Israeli Republic, Restless Books: 2014.

Bundahišn: the Zoroastrian Myth of Creation, translated from the Middle Persian with Domenico Agostini, *in progress*.

Articles

"The Morning After," **The Marginalia Review of Books** (2014), online: <http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/the-morning-after-by-samuel-thrope/>

"Arab, 'Jew,' and Identity in Israel," **The Marginalia Review of Books** (2014), online: <http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/arab-jew-and-identity-in-israel-by-samuel-thrope>.

"Zoroastrian Exegetical Parables in the *Škand Gūmānig Wizār*," **Iran and the Caucasus** 17 (2013): 253-274.

"Before the Revolution," **Tablet** (2013), online: <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/133759/israelis-tehran-iran>.

"Doing Justice to Josephus, Ancient Jewish Archetype," **Haaretz** (2013), online: <http://www.haaretz.com/culture/books/doing-justice-to-josephus-ancient-jewish-archetype.premium-1.507454>.

"Reading Persian in Jerusalem," **Christian Science Monitor** (2013), online: <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2013/0224/As-Iran-and-Israel-trade-threats-first-Iranian-novels-appear-in-Hebrew>.

"How Israel's Arab Citizens Vote," **The Daily Beast** (2012), online: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2012/12/27/how-israel-s-arab-citizens-vote.html>

"A One-Woman Show that Projects Politics," **The Times of Israel** (2012), online: <http://www.timesofisrael.com/a-one-woman-show-that-projects-politics/>.

"The Afghan Geniza," **Sightings** (September 27, 2012) online: http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/sightings/archive_2012/0927.shtml.

"Beauty in a Bulldozer," **Jerusalem Report** (August 13, 2012), pp. 18-21.

Review of *Rabbinic Culture and Its Critics*, edited by Daniel Frank and Matt Goldish, **Association for Jewish Studies Review** 35 (2011), pp. 166-170.

"Three Poems by Muhib," **Zeek**, Summer 2010, pp. 28-32.

"Fake Fire," **Killing the Buddha** (2009) online:<http://killingthebuddha.com/mag/dispatch/the-fake-fire/>.

"On Some Beliefs of the Jews: from the *Dabestan-e Mazaheb* (School of Religious Doctrines)," **Mimaamakim** 8 (2009), pp. 37-38.

Review of *Emil L. Fackenheim: A Jewish Philosopher's Response to the Holocaust*, by David Patterson, **Association of Jewish Libraries Newsletter**, 28 (September/October 2008), pp. 19-20.

"'The Alarming Lunch:' Judaism, Zoroastrianism and Colonialism in Sasanian Iran," **Journal of Associated Graduates in Near Eastern Studies** 12 (2007), pp. 23-44.

LANGUAGES

Advanced: Hebrew, Modern Persian, and Middle Persian; *Intermediate*: Hindi, French, Arabic, and Ancient Greek; *Beginning*: Malayalam and Russian.