

Method and History in the Study of the Jews of Sasanian Babylonia

Colloque organisé par Geoffrey Herman and Meir Ben Shahr

12-13 octobre 2026

**CAMPUS CONDORCET - 14 COURS DES HUMANITES - 93322
AUBERVILLIERS**

Salle 5.001, Bâtiment de Recherche Nord, Etage, 5



Lundi, 12 octobre

10h30-10h40 Mot d'accueil : TBA

10h40-11h15 Introduction: Geoffrey Herman

1^{ère} session

Shaping the Past in the Bavli

Coordination: Daniel Barbu (CNRS)

11h15-12h00 Monika Amsler: From Genre to Usage: Bibliography as Historiography

12h00-12h45 Meir Ben Shahar: The Babylonian Historian: Historiography and Ideology in the Bavli

12h45-14h15 Déjeuner

2^{ème} session

Comparative Law and Legal Cases

Coordination: Meir Ben Shahar

14h15-15h00 Ayelet Hoffmann Libson: Comparison or Context? Rabbinic and Sassanian Laws of the Rebellious Wife

15h00-15h45 Aharon Shweka: *Ma'ase listor?* – Legal Cases in the Babylonian Talmud and their halachic Interpretation

15h45-16h00 Pause café

3^{ème} session

Science and Style in the Bavli

Coordination: Gavin McDowell

16h00-16h45 Sacha Stern: Knowledge of Astronomy in the Babylonian Talmud

16h4-17h30 Reuven Kiperwasser: Clothes Make the Man: Rabbis, Silk Garments and Social Tensions

Mardi 13 octobre

4^{ème} session

Sources and Methodology

Coordination:

9h00-9h45 Geoffrey Herman: Between Sources and History: Challenges in the Current Historical Methodology

9h45-10h30 Moulie Vidas: “The Talmud Between the Sasanians and the Abbasids”?

10h30-11h15 Adiel Schremer: “It was Not Stated Explicitly, but Rather Inferred from the Context”: On the Reliability of Talmudic Statements and its Implication for the Study of Babylonian Judaism during the Sasanian Period

11h15-12h45 Déjeuner

5^{ème} session

Magic and Society in Sasanian Babylonia

Coordination: Alessia Bellusci (EPHE)

12h45-13h30 Siam Bhayro; The Jewish Aramaic Magic Bowls: How the Magic worked

13h30-14h15 Jason Mokhtarian: Identifying Religious Affiliations in the Aramaic Incantation Bowls: The Names of Beneficiaries and the Limits of Scribal Customization

14h15-14h30 Pause café

6^{ième} session

Method, History and the Jews of Babylonia

14h30-15h30 Conclusion: Meir Ben Shahar

General Discussion: Meir Ben Shahar and Geoffrey Herman