

Preserving National Identity Under Imperial Rule: The Assyrian and Babylonian Empires, and their Challenge to Indigenous Identity

Bar-Ilan University, Building 410, room 312



Wednesday | 5th November

9:00-11:00 **Visit to Babylonian Jewry Museum in Or Yehuda: How is Indigeneity Preserved in Exile?**

12:00-13:00 **Lunch break**

13:00 **Opening Presentation: Indigenous Identity: Modern Political Construct or Ancient Paradigm?**
by Dr Sheree Trotter, Indigenous Coalition for Israel and Director of the Indigenous Embassy Jerusalem

14:00-15:40 **Israelites and Judahites in Babylonia – Preserving Identity and Indigeneity**

Chair: Wayne Horowitz

Identifying Exiles from the Kingdom of Israel in the Cuneiform Record

Jan Safford, Hebrew University and Bar-Ilan University

Indigeneity as a Theological Factor: A Case Study of Ezekiel and the Al-Yahudu Tablets

Ariel Kopilovitz, Bar-Ilan University

Psalm 137: A Contextual Hermeneutical Reading

Robert Kuloba, Kyambogo University, Uganda

16:00-17:00 **“A Rose by Any Other Name?” Judahite Names and Identity Preservation**

Chair: Shawn Zelig Aster

Sojourner of YHWH: the Earliest Hebrew Name from Babylonia, and its Possible Implications for the Exiles' Theology and Identity

Yigal Bloch, Bible Lands Museum

Identity in Exile: Judean Names

Tova Ganzel, Bar-Ilan

Thursday | 6th November

9:30-11:30 **Judahite Responses to Assyria as Seen in the Sennacherib Story**

Chair: Yigal Levin

The Rabshakeh's Rewriting of Judahite Indigeneity: Identity, Land, and Jerusalem's Sovereignty in the Hezekiah–Sennacherib Narrative

Paul Evans, McMaster Divinity College, Canada

The Narrative of Sennacherib's Campaign Against Jerusalem: Responses to Events in Esarhaddon's Reign

Danel Kahn, University of Haifa

Implicit Reactions to Sennacherib's Campaign and Propaganda in Deuteronomistic Laws

Nili Wazana, Hebrew University

12:00-13:00 **Lunch break**

13:00-15:00 **Complex Responses to Assyrian Rule**

Chair: Jan Safford

Indigenous Enlil, Assur and Marduk

Wayne Horowitz, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

When Indigenous Elites Cooperate with Empire: Jerusalem and Other Judahite Elites under Assyrian Rule

Shawn Zelig Aster, Bar-Ilan University

Eucatastrophe and Divine Wisdom in Isaiah 1-39

Matthew Lynch, Regent College and University of British Columbia, Canada

Respondent: Yisca Zimran, Bar-Ilan University

15:30-16:30 **Roundtable Discussion: What Can the Ancient Near East Teach the Modern Middle East about Indigeneity and Identity-Preservation?**

Chair: Nili Samet, Bar-Ilan University

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