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The 4th Berg International Conference **In-Between: Trade and Legal Pluralism in the Era of the *Geniza***

Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law
May 29-31st, 2013

Organizers: Mark R. Cohen (Princeton & Sackler Fellow at Tel Aviv University), Ron Harris (Tel Aviv University) & Assaf Likhovski (Tel Aviv University)

Sponsors: The David Berg Institute for Law and History, Tel Aviv University + The Kahn Institute for History of the Mediterranean Basin: Cultural Ties among Jews, Muslims and Christians, Tel Aviv University + The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

Program

Wednesday, May 29, 2013 // Tel Aviv

The Buchmann Faculty of Law, Trubowicz Building, Sonia Kossoy Conference Room (Room 307)

09:15-09:30

Greetings, Raanan Rein, Vice President, Tel Aviv University

09:30-11:30

The Sources of Merchant Law

Chair: Benjamin Arbel, Tel Aviv University

Mordechai A. Friedman, Tel Aviv University

On Formal and Informal Partnerships among Jewish India Traders

Miriam Frenkel, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Breaking the Rules: Moments of Crisis in Commercial Relations as Illustrated in Geniza Letters

Commentator: Amihai Radzyner, Bar Ilan University

11:30-12:00 Break

12:00 - 14:00

Legal Pluralism: Jews in Non-Jewish Courts

Chair: Roy Kreitner, Tel Aviv University

Hassan S. Khalilieh, University of Haifa

Due Process, Choice of Law, and Enforcement of Judicial Decisions on Dhimmis and Foreigners in the Abode of Islam

Gideon Libson, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Recourse of Jews to non-Jewish Courts and the Imposition of Bans in the Early Middle Ages, as reflected in the Responsa Literature and Geniza Documents

Commentator: Talia Fisher, Tel Aviv University

14:00-15:00 Lunch

15:00-18:15

Formal Law and Informal Norms

Chair: Tamar Kricheli-Katz, Tel Aviv University

Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman, Vanderbilt University

Straying Just Far Enough: The Jewish Courts of Medieval Egypt

Mark R. Cohen, Princeton University

Some Aspects of Law and Commercial Practice in Maimonides' Code (Mishneh Torah)

Elimelech Westreich, Tel Aviv University

Commercial Instruments in the Geniza Period

Commentator: David Schorr, Tel Aviv University

19:00 Dinner

Thursday, May 30, 2013 // Tel Aviv

The Buchmann Faculty of Law, Trubowicz Building, Sonia Kossoy Conference Room (Room 307)

09:30-11:30

Business Practices in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean

Chair: Zvi Eckstein, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya

Abraham L. Udovitch, Princeton University

Fayyum, Fustat and Elsewhere: How They Did Business in the 11th Century Islamic Mediterranean

Roxani Eleni Margariti, Emory University

The Go-Between: Cross-Cultural Trade and the Position of the "Representative of the Merchants" (wakil al-tujjar) in Indian Ocean Ports Revisited

Commentator: Youval Rotman, Tel Aviv University

11:30-12:00 Break

12:00-14:30

Merchants, Agents and Institutions

Chair: Issaschar Rosen-Zvi, Tel Aviv University

Avner Greif, Stanford

Private Order and Legal Order: Analytical Frameworks and Historical Reflections

Sebouh David Aslanian, UCLA

An Asian Trade Revolution? The English East India Company and the Agnatic Family Firms of Julfan Merchants

Cihan Artunç, Yale

The Protégé System and Beratlı Merchants in the Ottoman Empire: The Price of Legal Institutions

Commentator: Ron Harris, Tel Aviv University

14:30-15:30 Lunch

15:30-18:45

Comparative Perspectives on Merchant Law

Chair: Amalia Kessler, Stanford

Albrecht Cordes, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main

Beyond the Lex Mercatoria Myth

Jessica Goldberg, University of Pennsylvania

Agents, Agency and the Law in the Medieval Mediterranean

Francesca Trivellato, Yale University

French Maritime Law before Colbert: Customs, Jus Gentium and the State

Commentator: Joshua Getzler, Oxford University

Friday, May 31, 2013 // Jerusalem Tour

National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

08:30 Bus will depart from Conference Hotel to Jerusalem

10:00 - 12:00

Haggai Ben-Shammai, Academic Director, National Library, Aviad Stollman, Curator of the Judaica Collection & Raquel Ukeles, Curator of the Islam and Middle East Collection, Lecture and a Display of Rare Documents relating to Trade and to the Geniza

12:00 - 12:30

Sebouh David Aslanian, UCLA

The Julfan Merchants Digital Archive

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Informal tour of the Old City of Jerusalem and return by bus to Tel Aviv