

Latin and Vernacular Translations of Hebrew Texts in the 12th and 13th Century

Beginning in the twelfth century, translations of Jewish texts begin to appear in Christian Europe. These translations were usually of texts concerned with the Bible ("correctoria") or its exegesis. Among the texts translated are Bible commentaries (especially Rashi), liturgical poems (piyyutim), but also halakhic (Talmud) and philosophical texts (Maimonides).

The workshop planned focuses especially on translations of texts by Ashkenazic Jews and their influence on Christian scholars. To mention only two areas: In the 19th century Arsène Darmesteter discovered a medieval French translation of a Hebrew-written piyyut. The question occurs, as to why it was translated and who the possible readers were. A second area is formed by the works of Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaqi ("Rashi", ca. 1040-1105). He became famous within Judaism for his commentary on all books of the Jewish Bible and of the complete Babylonian Talmud (only very few Biblical Books and Talmudic treatises had been finished by his disciples). Some of these commentaries were translated into Latin (at least one manuscript which contains a translation of the commentary on the Song of Songs is still extant) and Rashi was one of the two Jewish authors who were read and quoted in Latin literature of the 12th to 14th century.

The workshop aims at giving an overview over the state of scholarly work on Christian translation activities of Hebrew texts and of the transformation of Jewish knowledge into the Christian scholarly work of the high middle ages.

Organisation & Registration

Dr. Görg Hasselhoff
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Tuesday, 20 September 2011

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| 14.15 h | Welcome, Introduction |
| 14.30 h | On French Translations of Hebrew Piyyutim
Susan Einbinder (Cincinnati, OH) |
| 15.30 h | Coffee Break |
| 15.40 h | Joseph Seniri's Exegesis as Evidence for the Existence of a Provençal Vulgate
Judith Kogel (Paris) |
| 16.40 h | Coffee Break |
| 16.50 h | Le'azim in 13th Century Castile
Esperanza Alfonso (Madrid) |
| 17.50 h | Coffee Break |
| 18.00 h | Latin Translations of Jewish Liturgy
Elisabeth Hollender (Bochum) |

Wednesday, 21 September 2011

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| 09.30 h | Rashi in the School of St. Victor
Ralf Stammberger (Sankt Georgen) |
| 10.30 h | Coffee Break |
| 10.45 h | The Paris Talmud Trials of 1240 and the Accompanying Translation Activities (Talmud, Rashi, Maimonides)
Görg Hasselhoff (Bochum) |
| 11.45 h | Lunch |
| 13.30 h | The Use of Rashi in the Trilingual Dictionary from Medieval England, MS Longleat House 21
Judith Olszowy-Schlanger (Paris) |
| 14.30 h | Coffee Break |
| 14.45 h | Rashi's Song of Songs Commentary in the Work of Nicholas of Lyra, Poncio Carbonell, and the Anonymous Expositio Historica Canticum Canticorum
Deeana Klepper (Boston, MA) |

Attendance is possible without registration. Those interested in attending are encouraged to inform Görg Hasselhoff or Elisabeth Hollender by email.

DIRECTIONS

By plane or train:

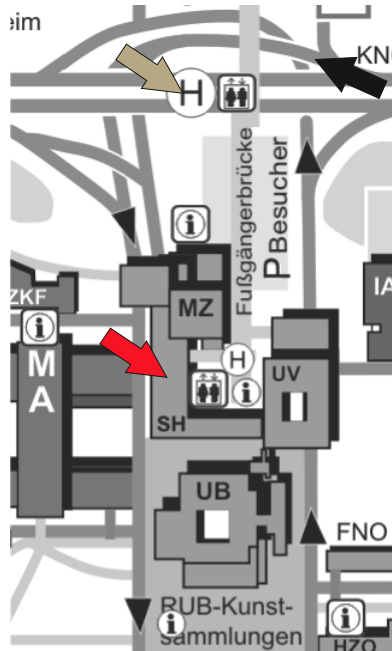
From Dusseldorf Airport via, or directly from, Bochum Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) take the U35 towards Bochum Querenburg (Hustadt) and get off at stop »Ruhr-Universität« (➡) (Ticket needed: Preisstufe A).

At the exit to the station turn right and walk about 100 m. Enter the Studierendenhaus (SH) building on your right (under sign for »Kulturcafé«). Go up one flight of stairs and follow signs to KHK »Dynamics in the History of Religions«.

By car:

Motorway A 43, interchange »Bochum-Witten«, exit at »Bochum-Querenburg/Universität« (exit no. 19). Universitätsstraße direction Universität/Zentrum, exit at »Uni - Mitte« (➡), about 2 km. Free parking is sign posted.

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SH 1/187
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