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## Bibliographic Project on Antisemitism\*

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**Abstract:** The Bibliographic Project on Antisemitism, based at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, comprises databases listing material about antisemitism (including the Holocaust) published throughout the world, with a view to forming a comprehensive database containing everything ever published on the subject. The organization of the material is described, both for the printed and online versions of the bibliographies. Information is given on how to acquire the printed books produced to date and on how to access the material online.

### Scope of the Project

The Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism (SICSA) was established by an international group of scholars in 1982 as an interdisciplinary research center dedicated to an independent, nonpolitical approach to the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge necessary for understanding the phenomenon of antisemitism. The Center engages in research on antisemitism through the ages, focusing on relations between Jews and non-Jews, particularly in situations of tension and crisis.

The Felix Posen Bibliographic Project of the Center, established in 1984, produces printed bibliographies as well as an online database accessible through the Israel University Libraries Network.

The Project consists of two databases—an ongoing annotated bibliography (from 1984 to the present), edited by Susan S. Cohen, and a retrospective bibliography, listing

material published prior to 1984 (containing, at present, works from 1968 to 1983), edited by Sylviane Stampfer. These databases, together, now contain over 24,000 items. The long-term goal is to compile a comprehensive listing of all works written about antisemitism throughout history.

For the purpose of this project, antisemitism is defined as antagonism toward Jews and Judaism as expressed in writings (e.g., the New Testament, polemical literature, works of fiction), in the visual arts (e.g., art, caricatures, films), and in actions (e.g., massacres and pogroms, discriminatory legislation, the Holocaust). The word "antisemitism" is not hyphenated as a point of policy, because the hyphen assumes the existence of a "Semitic" race, a concept which has no substance.<sup>1</sup>

The bibliographies include works published throughout the world about antisemitism—books, doctoral dissertations, masters' theses, and articles from periodicals and collections. They do not include newspaper articles, reviews, works of fiction, or audiovisual materials. They also do not cover antisemitic publications.

The works listed come from a diverse range of disciplines—history, psychology, sociology, anthropology, literature, and art.

The listings are compiled mainly from the holdings of the Jewish National and University Library (JNUL) in Jerusalem, and are supplemented by other bibliographic sources (e.g., *Historical Abstracts*, *Dissertation Abstracts International*). The bibliography on antisemitism was conceived as a combination of *Kiryat Sefer* (JNUL's bibliographical quarterly) and *Rambi* (*Index of Articles on Jewish Studies*)—i.e., books and articles listed together—but filling lacunae found in both these listings. The bibliography on antisemitism provides

<sup>1</sup>See Shmuel Almog, "What's in a Hyphen?" SICSA Report (*Summer 1989*).

abstracts in English, allowing access to a wider audience around the world. The abstracts focus on the subject of antisemitism and give detailed information on antisemitic events throughout the centuries—relating what happened, where, when, why, etc. In abstracting theoretical works, we present the authors' views on the reasons for antisemitism. We also abstract parts of books and articles (e.g., a chapter or a section on antisemitism), which would not be mentioned in *Kiryat Sefer* or *Rambi*. *Rambi* does not contain abstracts, which is understandable given the massive number of articles listed each year (ca. 8,000); in abstracting articles we feel that we are providing even more of a service to users/readers than in abstracting books, the latter being more readily known and available.

The material is divided into chapter headings, which serve as an authority file online and as a table of contents for the printed volumes (see Figure 1). There are three major divisions:

### Bibliographies and Reference Works

#### Antisemitism throughout the Ages

#### Antisemitism in Literature and in the Arts

An example of an entry from each division is given in Figure 2.

The section "Antisemitism throughout the Ages" comprises the main body of material and is arranged chronologically, from the ancient period to the present. The modern period (1789–present) is further subdivided chronologically and geographically.

The bibliography includes all works dealing with the Holocaust period (1933–1945)—i.e., on antisemitic ideology, policy, and attitudes, as well as on the Jewish experience (memoirs, memorial books, etc.)—as part of the history of antisemitism. This is the only comprehensive

\*Updated version of a poster session presented at the 30th Annual Convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries, Chicago, June 1995. At that convention, Susan S. Cohen received the AJL Bibliography Award for vol. 3 of *Antisemitism: An Annotated Bibliography*, published in 1994.

**Figure 1. Contents**

**Bibliographies and Reference Works**

**Antisemitism throughout the Ages**

General

The Ancient Period

The Medieval Period

The Early Modern Period (1493–1788)

The Modern Period (1789–present)

General

1789–1918

Australia and New Zealand

Europe

Far East

Islamic World

Latin America

North America

South Africa

1919–1945

Australia and New Zealand

Europe

Far East

Islamic World

Latin America

North America

South Africa

1945–1990

General

Responses to the Holocaust

Nazi War Criminals and War Crimes

Trials

Antisemitism in Literature and in the Arts

Neo-Nazism and Holocaust Denial

Anti-Zionism and Anti-Israel

Christian-Jewish Relations

Australia and New Zealand

Europe

Far East

Islamic World

Israel

Latin America

North America

South Africa

1991–

General

Responses to the Holocaust

Nazi War Criminals and War Crimes

Trials

Neo-Nazism and Holocaust Denial

Anti-Zionism and Anti-Israel

Christian-Jewish Relations

Australia and New Zealand

Europe

Far East

Islamic World

Israel

Latin America

North America

South Africa

and current bibliography on the Holocaust. For a list of bibliographies published before 1984, see "Appendix II: Bibliographies on Antisemitism and the Holocaust Published Prior to 1984" in *Antisemitism: An Annotated Bibliography, Vol. 1* (1987), pp. 326–339. Bibliographies published afterwards are listed in the Bibliographies and Reference Works section of our bibliography.

The ongoing bibliography retains a staff of academics (originating from Finland, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Switzerland, the USA, and the USSR), who abstract the material received. Each item is accompanied by an English abstract of approximately 100–150 words. The retrospective bibliography is not annotated.

Within the databases, items may be searched by author, title, subject, journals and collections, chapter headings, and words. The detailed subject index is based on a thesaurus created especially for this project by Susan S. Cohen. It was not based on any extant file, but was composed from terminology used in the works included in the bibliography, LC [Library of Congress subject] headings, the Yad Vashem card catalogue, and other

**Figure 2. Examples of entries in the format of the published volume**

*Bibliographies and Reference Works*

0005 Bloomberg, Marty: *The Jewish Holocaust: An Annotated Guide to Books in English*. San Bernardino, CA: Borgo Press, 1991. 248 pp. A 2nd, rev. ed., co-authored by Buckley Barry Barrett, appeared in 1995 (312 pp.).

Ca. 850 items, listing books originally written in English and translations. The material is divided into nine main sections: Reference Materials; European Anti-Semitism; Background Materials; The Holocaust Years; Jewish Resistance; Concentration Camps and Death Camps; Special Studies; War Crimes Trials; The Meaning of the Holocaust; Art and Literature. *SSC*

*Antisemitism throughout the Ages: Medieval Period*

0443 Asis Veas Arteseros, Francisco de: *Los judios de Lorca en la Baja Edad Media*. Murcia: Real Academia Alfonso X el Sabio, 1992. 205 pp.

A study of the history and organization of the Jewish community in Lorca, in the kingdom of Murcia, during the 13th–15th centuries. Discusses Vicente Ferrer's missionary activity in Lorca in 1411, the consequences of the laws of Ayllon (1412) instituting strict segregation of the Jewish population, and anti-Jewish repercussions of the conflict between the local factions of Fajardos and Manueles (1452). Describes Christian-Jewish relations in Lorca, giving examples of anti-Jewish harassment due to discriminatory legislation. *AA*

*Antisemitism in Literature and in the Arts*

4269 Zitter, Emmy Stark: "Anti-Semitism in Chaucer's 'Prioress's Tale.'" *Chaucer Review* 25, 4 (1991) 277–284.

Rejects the theories of literary critics that "The Prioress's Tale" is critical of, rather than sympathetic to, antisemitism, or that Chaucer is merely portraying the antisemitism of his day rather than expressing his own antisemitism. Urges honest admission of the story's antisemitism and careful study of the libels and misinformation that make up the piece, especially those that are still believed today. *MG*

resources. The thesaurus is expanded whenever new subjects arise. Sample sections of the thesaurus are in Figure 3. The complete thesaurus can be seen on the SICSA website.

An additional database, *The "Jewish Question" in German-Speaking Countries, 1848-1914*, edited by Rena R. Auerbach,

has been incorporated into the Bibliographic Project. It was published in book form in 1994. This bibliography continues Volkmar Eichstaedt's *Bibliographie zur Geschichte der Judenfrage, Bd. 1: 1750-1848* (published in Nazi Germany in 1938, reprinted in England in 1969), supplementing and extending it. The bibliography lists works documenting Jewish life

during the period of emancipation and thereafter, as well as the relations of the host countries—Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Switzerland—with the Jews living in their midst. It contains both literature of and about the period. The bibliography is now being expanded to cover the period from 1915 to 1933. This is an independent endeavor, and was not composed with the

Figure 3. Sample of sections of the Thesaurus

|  |  |
|--|--|
| .....  | Ghettos: divide by place   |
| Canon law  | During the Holocaust period, use Holocaust: ghettos  |
| Caricatures: divide by country   | Gnosticism   |
| see also Nazism: caricatures   |  |
| Catechism  | Haavara USE Nazism: Transfer Agreement   |
| Catholicism: divide by period  | Halakhah   |
| see also Inquisition, Popes, Vatican   | Hasidism   |
| Cemetery desecration: divide by place  | Hellenism  |
| Censorship   | Historiography   |
| Children   | see also Holocaust: historiography   |
| see also Holocaust: children   | Holocaust  |
| Christianity: divide by period   | see also Genocide, Hitler, Nazism, War criminals and war crimes trials, Zionist-Nazi collaboration accusation, and specific countries: 1919-1945 |
| see also Catholicism, Crusades, Disputations, Eastern Churches, Fundamentalism, Liturgy, New Testament, Passion plays, Protestantism, Theology | Holocaust: Allies  |
| Chuetas USE Conversos  | Holocaust: archives USE Holocaust: libraries and archives  |
| Church USE Christianity  | Holocaust: Armenian genocide and   |
| Cinema USE Films   | Holocaust: art   |
| Circumcision   | Holocaust: atlases and maps  |
| Clothing (Special, for Jews): divide by type   | Holocaust: bibliographies  |
| Colleges USE Universities (and Colleges)   | Holocaust: children  |
| Communism: divide by country   | Holocaust: Christianity USE Christianity: 1919-1945  |
| Conferences: divide by city (year)   | and/or specific Churches or denominations  |
| see also Councils and Synods   | Holocaust: commemoration and memorials   |
| Conspiracy theory  | Holocaust: concentration and extermination camps   |
| Conversion   | Holocaust: culture and the arts: general   |
| Conversion, Forced   | Holocaust: death marches   |
| Conversos: divide by country   | Holocaust: denial  |
| Cossacks   | Holocaust: diaries and letters   |
| Councils and Synods: divide by city (year)   | Holocaust: diaries and letters (about)   |
| Crime  | Holocaust: dictionaries  |
| Crusades   | Holocaust: economic and financial aspects  |
| Crypto-Jews USE Conversos  | Holocaust: encyclopedias   |
|  | Holocaust: filmographies   |
| Deicide accusation   | Holocaust: films: divide by country of production  |
| Dhimma, dhimmi   | Holocaust: Final Solution (Nazi policy)  |
| Dictionaries   | Use only for discussions on the policy of extermination of the Jews, not its implementation  |
| Dietary laws, Jewish   | Holocaust: forced labor  |
| see also Ritual slaughter  | Holocaust: gazetteers  |
| Displaced Persons (DPs)  | Holocaust: Gestapo USE Nazism: Gestapo   |
| Disputations: divide by city (year)  | Holocaust: ghettos: divide by town   |
| see also Polemics (USE Disputations for medieval oral disputes, Polemics for written works)  | Holocaust: Gypsies   |
| Dual loyalty   | Holocaust: halakhic aspects USE Holocaust: religious (Jewish) and halakhic aspects   |
| .....  | Holocaust: historiography  |
| Games: Antisemitic   | Holocaust: history (1933-1945): general (In a specific country, see the country)   |
| Games: Other   | Holocaust: humor   |
| Gazetteers   | Holocaust: Jewish councils (Judenraete, et al.)  |
| see also Holocaust: gazetteers   | Holocaust: Karaites  |
| Genocide   | Holocaust: "Kristallnacht" USE Nazism: "Kristallnacht"   |
| see also Holocaust   | Holocaust: language  |
| Geopolitics  |  |
| Ghetto benches   |  |

same criteria as the other databases. It includes works on the "Jewish question" (not necessarily about antisemitism), and antisemitic works. It has been made available to users of our project as a complement to our listings.

#### Online Access

The databases are part of the Israel University Libraries Network, and can be reached via Telnet and Internet.

Via Telnet: *har2.huji.ac.il*

The username is SICSA. No password is required. Instructions for searching are on the screen.

Via the Internet: *http://www2.huji.ac.il/www\_jcd/top.html*

Nine volumes of the ongoing bibliography have been published to date. Further volumes are in preparation. Publication in CD-ROM format will become viable when enough material has been accumulated in the databases.

#### Address of the Center:

The Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism—SICSA  
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URL: *http://www2.huji.ac.il/www\_jcd/top.html*

#### Bibliography

*The works produced by the Center are listed below in chronological order.*

- Cohen, Susan Sarah, ed., *Antisemitism: An Annotated Bibliography*, Vols. 1–3 (1984–1988). New York: Garland, 1987–1994.
- *Antisemitism: An Annotated Bibliography*, Vols. 4–6 (1988–1990). Munich: K.G. Saur Verlag, 1997.
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*Annual Report 1997*. Jerusalem: Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism, 1997. ISSN 0793-8837. (The *Annual Report* has replaced the Center's newsletter, *The SICSA Report*.)

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*Susan Sarah Cohen is Editor-in-Chief of the Bibliographic Project on Antisemitism (SICSA). She is also on the editorial staff of the Index of Articles on Jewish Studies (Rambi).*

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