

LEARNING

Master's Theses on Topics in Judaica Librarianship in the Graduate School of Library and Archive Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1974-1991: An Annotated Bibliography

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Subjects of the Theses

The master's theses written since the inception of the Hebrew University's Graduate School of Library and Archive Studies' master's program in 1972 represent a broad spectrum of research projects in virtually every area of library and information science. What sets apart the student research at Hebrew University's library school from that conducted at other schools, however, is the emphasis on Judaica librarianship and on case studies carried out within Israeli institutions. Of the total number of theses completed by March 1, 1991 – 74 – only 11, or slightly less than 15%, deal with theoretical topics unrelated to either Israel or Judaica. The remaining 63 research projects, or 85%, either examine a topic directly related to Judaic Studies, or base their findings on research carried out on samples culled from or case studies carried out on Israeli institutions or population segments. Within this category, 29 are on Judaic topics, and these are the theses annotated in this bibliography. A bibliography of all theses completed between 1974 and 1987 was published in Hebrew in *Yad Lakoré* in 1989 (Lazinger).

For the purpose of the full annotated bibliography, the theses were divided into eight categories:

- A. Information Needs and Reader Surveys
- B. Bibliographic Control and Bibliometrics
- C. Sociology of the Book and Reading Research
- D. Automated Systems
- E. Hebrew Paleography and Codicology
- F. History of the Book and of Printing
- G. History of Libraries and Librarianship
- H. Archive Studies

The division into categories is not precise; the theses could have been divided into narrower or broader categories. Furthermore, there are works that could have been included in more than one category.

In any case, these categories were chosen on the premise that they were broad enough to include all the theses, and narrow enough to indicate the directions of research done by the students of the Library School. Table 1 shows the breakdown of all 74 theses completed at the Library School by number and percentage per category, with subcategorization for Judaic topics. Since the present bibliography includes only the 29 theses that deal with Judaic topics, categories A and D are not represented at all.

Language and Availability

A note on Romanization: authors' names transliterated from Hebrew are recorded in the spelling given by the author, rather than in accordance with a specific system of transliteration. Within each category, the theses are arranged alphabetically by author's name.

The linguistic breakdown of all the theses is approximately 85% Hebrew and 15% English, i.e., 63 theses are in Hebrew and 11 in English. All of the Hebrew theses have a title page in English, and vice versa; thus the bibliography provides added titles taken from the original works. Many of the later theses written in Hebrew are accompanied by an abstract in English; the

Table 1
Subjects of Master's Theses Completed
at the Hebrew University's Graduate School
of Library and Archive Studies, 1974-1991

Subject Category	Number of Theses		% of Theses	
	All	Judaic	All	Judaic
A. Information Needs and Reader Surveys	18	0	24%	0
B. Bibliographic Control and Bibliometrics	17	4	23%	5%
C. Sociology of the Book and Reading Research	10	4	14%	5%
D. Automated Systems	3	0	4%	0
E. Hebrew Paleography and Codicology	11	11	15%	15%
F. History of the Book and of Printing	7	5	10%	7%
G. History of Libraries and Librarianship	4	2	5%	3%
H. Archive Studies	4	3	5%	4%
TOTAL	74	29	100%	39%

annotations which follow are mainly edited versions of the abstracts. In the body of the following bibliography, the language of each thesis is indicated, as are those which have an English abstract.

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Annotated Bibliography of the Theses

Bibliographic Control and Bibliometrics

1. **Goldman-Amirav, Anna.** *The Identification and Analysis of Swedish Jewish Literature: A Bibliometric Study.* 1986. 70 p. In English.

An attempt to chart the subjective experience of being a Jew in Sweden by analyzing the fictional works of Swedish-Jewish writers. The method applied is content-analysis, with roots in bibliometrics (quantitative analysis) rather than literary analysis.

2. **Naveh, Nira.** *Evaluation of Indexes Covering the "Archaeology of Palestine."* 1979. 197 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

An evaluation of three indexes that include material covering archaeology in Israel: *Archaeologische Bibliographie*, *Elenchus Bibliographicus*, and *Index to Religious Periodical Literature*. The emphasis of the study is on the methodology of index evaluation and the empirical analysis of indexes.

3. **Schochet, Anit.** *Periodicals in Israel: Growth and Changes Over Time; A Bibliometric Analysis, 1950-1984.* 1986. 96 p. In Hebrew, with 3-page English summary.

The author examines the growth in the number of periodicals published in Israel and the changes that occurred in this type of publication in the years 1950-1984. Other aspects of Israeli periodicals examined here include their frequency, languages used during various periods, changes in the distribution of

publisher types, subject areas on which these publications have focused, and, finally, their social, political, or religious orientation.

4. **Teichthal, Leah.** *Yiddish Literature After the Holocaust, 1945-1985: A Bibliometric Study.* 1987. 79 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

A quantitative analysis of Yiddish literature published throughout the world in the past 41 years. Its aim is to achieve a realistic picture of the state of Yiddish literature from the post-World War II period to the present (1945-1985).

Sociology of the Book and Reading Research

5. **Gonen, Ruth.** *The Social Role of Literary Criticism In Israel.* 1979. 158 p. In Hebrew.

The purpose of this study is to examine the role of literary criticism in daily newspapers in Israel and the extent to which it fills this role. The theoretical assumption of the author is that, beyond publicity and public relations, books become best-sellers for two main reasons – one stylistic and the other psycho-sociological.

6. **Meshorer, Rachel.** *The 'Alon [Newsletter] of the Kibbutz.* 1982. 86 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

The subject of this study is the role of the 'alón (internal newsletter) in the kibbutz. The assumption of the author is that the kibbutz 'alón has two functions, one informative and the second expressive. The central hypothesis of the study is that these functions change with the growth and development of the kibbutz.

7. **Rubin, Shlomit.** *Conservative and Progressive Trends in Women's Press in Israel.* 1987. 112 p. In Hebrew, with 3-page English summary.

The character of women's press in Israel is examined, together with changes and developments that have occurred in this area during the period 1953-1983. The research is conducted from the viewpoint that the conservative or progressive content of periodicals for women reflects the way in which the publications perceive the position, role, and status of the woman in society and in the family.

8. **Savitsky, Dvorah.** *The Israeli and Jewish Identity of Protagonists in Best-Selling Hebrew Novels Published Between 1968-1979.* 1982. 40 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

The purpose of this study was to examine, through content analysis, the Jewish and Israeli identity of the main protagonists of Hebrew best-sellers published between 1968 and 1979. Other characteristics concerning the protagonists, such as age, sex, and national origin have been examined as well.

Hebrew Paleography and Codicology

9. **Asaf, Marian.** *The Megillat Esther Scroll in The Heikhal Shlomo Museum, And Other Decorated Megilloth.* 1977. 74 p. In English.

The first part of this thesis deals with the role of the *megilah* (scroll) in Jewish tradition. The second part describes typical themes of illustrations found in *Megilot Ester* (Scrolls of Esther). Part three gives a detailed formal description of Megilah no. 443-174/1 in the Heikhal Shlomo Museum.

10. **Engel, Edna.** *Avraham Prizul: A Palaeographic and Codicological Study.* 1981. 93 p. In Hebrew.

This research project focuses on a single scribe - Avraham Ben Mordechai Prizul. Its purpose is to establish criteria that will help to determine the date and place of medieval Hebrew manuscripts that carry no details as to when and where they were written.

11. **Goldschmidt, Aron.** *The Processing of Parchment in Medieval Times, Based on the Testimonies Found in Rabbinical Literature.* 1984. 78 p. In Hebrew.

The aim of this study is to document the various techniques for processing parchment used in the Middle Ages in one part of France-Ashkenaz. Information concerning these techniques was retrieved primarily from Jewish sources. When essential, testimonies of non-Jews were used as well.

12. **Marcus, Schlomo.** *A Comparison Between Two Hebrew Manuscripts: "Sefer Hanisyonot," attributed to Rabbi Avraham Eben Ezra, and "Sefer*

Hasegulot," attributed to Abed El Rachman Eben Issai Eben Hitom. 1978. 24 p. In Hebrew.

The focus of this thesis is on two medical compositions found in medieval Hebrew manuscripts. The emphasis is on the methodology of editing the text rather than on the subject content.

13. Michaely, Ora. *Water Marks in Medieval Hebrew Manuscripts: Implications Concerning Manufacturing Processes of the Book and Paper at the Time.* 1982. 64, xxiv p. In Hebrew.

This project examines medieval paper and book manufacturing processes, based on evidence that is available to us today, i.e., the paper of manuscripts. Information on this subject is gathered by examining the way paper is arranged in the signatures (folded sheets) composing a book.

14. Nisan, Rachel. *The Colophon: Versions and Variants in Medieval Hebrew Manuscripts.* 1976. 45, [20] p. In Hebrew.

A geographical study of the colophon in medieval Hebrew manuscripts. The colophons are divided into the areas in which they were written, and the customs of the scribes at various locations are discussed. Since many colophons do not specify the date and place in which they were written, other criteria, such as lettering, signatures (folded sheets), ink, paper, and parchment, were studied.

15. Okun (Mayer), Yael. *Abraham Joseph Salomon Graziano's Manuscripts Library (c1620-1685).* 1991. 284 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

Abraham Joseph Salomon Graziano lived in Italy in the 17th century and was the owner of a large library of books and manuscripts. This work presents all available information on the 174 Graziano manuscripts that have been located. The manuscripts are classified by the system developed by Z. Baruchson, which enables the examination of Graziano's fields of interest, their comparison to the Mantua Jews' fields of interest, and the discovery of the differences between them. The relationship between Graziano's manuscripts and the same titles available in print is examined in order to find out whether

printed books could have been substituted for the manuscripts.

16. Plesser, Rivka. *The Scribe as Editor in Hebrew Manuscripts.* 1980. 59 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

The purpose of this work is to examine the scribe's intervention in texts copied by him, as manifested in colophons and prefaces of the copied manuscripts. This study is based on an examination of all the colophons of copied manuscripts in the Institute of Hebrew Paleography (ca. 3,000) as well as the cataloged manuscripts in the Jewish National and University Library (ca. 5,000).

17. Riegler, Michael. *Historical Mapping of Hebrew Manuscripts' Copying Location In Western Europe During the Middle Ages.* 1976. 76 p. In Hebrew.

Dated manuscripts bearing an indication of where they were written are the focus of this study. The author arranges the manuscripts according to the place specified in the colophon. The thesis includes a map indicating all the locations mentioned by scribes in the colophons of Hebrew manuscripts.

18. Sabato, Lilian. *The Emphasized Words and Titles in Medieval Hebrew Manuscripts as Additional Paleographic Indicators for Identifying The Origin and Date of Hebrew Manuscripts.* 1983. 116 p. In Hebrew.

This thesis deals with the various methods of emphasizing of words and titles in dated medieval manuscripts, e.g., the use of different styles of lettering and adding signs above letters. The study is based on the description of manuscripts in the worksheets of the Institute of Hebrew Paleography at the JNUL. The manuscripts covered by these worksheets date to 1540.

19. Vaitman, Miriam. *Jerusalem Manuscript no. 8°4199: A Textual, Paleographic, and Codicological Study.* 1989. 159 p. In Hebrew.

Jerusalem manuscript no. 8°4199, housed at the Jewish National and University Library, contains 15 different bibliographical units from 14th - 15th century Ashkenaz, all bound together. This study examines each unit from a paleographic and codicological point of view, and analyzes its unique features.

History of the Book and of Printing

20. Cohen, Marcelle. *The Story of the Printed Book in Djerba (1912-1922).* 1989. 244 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

This study describes stories found in books printed in Djerba during its first decade of printing, 1912-1922. Ten of these books include stories written in Judeo-Arabic. The sources are Talmudic, Midrashic, and Hasidic literature, as well as the books of Rabbi Josef Hayyim of Baghdad, which were printed in Jerusalem. The purpose of these stories, according to the translators, is to teach readers the right way of serving God.

21. Goldberg, Heidi. *The Work of Dr. Moshe Spitzer: Leader in Modern Hebrew Printing and Publishing.* 1982. 78 p. In English.

This thesis constitutes an attempt to gain an understanding of the contributions of Dr. Spitzer (b. 1900) to the history of Hebrew printing. The author explores the intellectual background and historical knowledge that led Spitzer to develop his aesthetic and typographical ideology regarding the design of the modern Hebrew book and the form of its letters.

22. Lupu-Jacob, Rodica. *Printing Presses in Jerusalem in the Eighties.* 1990. 103, 16 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

A historical-descriptive study of printing houses operating in Jerusalem in the late 1980s. The author has attempted to collect, document, present, and analyze historical and current data concerning the printing houses surveyed. Furthermore, she has tried to identify the factors that have influenced the quality of printing in Jerusalem in the past decade.

23. Segal (Romer), Agnes. *Yiddish Literature and Readers in the 16th Century: Yiddish Works Appearing in the Censorship List of Mantua, 1595.* 1977. 53 p. In Hebrew.

The aim of this thesis is to illustrate the applicability of bibliographic documentation to the study of the sociology of the book and literature. The study is based

primarily on statistical analysis of works of Yiddish literature mentioned in the Mantua censorship list.

24. **Szilvassy, Alexandra.** *Bernard Picart and the Illustrations of Jewish Customs for Cérémonies et Coûtumes Religieuses de Tous les Peuples du Monde*. 1990. 202 p. In English.

The aim of this study is to show that a true appreciation of Bernard Picart's illustrations of Jewish ceremonies in the *Cérémonies et Coûtumes Religieuses de Tous les Peuples du Monde* (1723), is dependent on an understanding of the place of the *Cérémonies'* illustrations in the history of book illustration and in the history of the illustration of Jewish customs. Picart, an astute observer of his fellow men, succeeded because his illustrations were based on sketches of the life of the dynamic Amsterdam Jewish community.

History of Libraries and Librarianship

25. **Keren, Thea.** *The Contribution of Sophie Udin To Zionism and Library Science*. 1982. 232 p. In English.

An exploration of the contributions made by Sophie Udin (1896-1960) to the fields of Zionism and library science. The author seeks to determine to what extent Udin exerted her influence on both the Zionist and library spheres in the United States and in Israel.

26. **Mansur, Tania.** *The JNUL From 1948 to 1967*. 1976. 105, [37] p. In Hebrew.

This study deals with the development of three functions of the Jewish National and University Library (JNUL): as Israel's national library, as the main library of the Jewish people, and as the main library of the Hebrew University. The author attempts to determine how the political, social, and educational circumstances in Israel and in the Diaspora affected the policy, philosophy, and activity of the JNUL.

Archive Studies

27. **Levin, Menachem.** *The Photographers of Jerusalem and the Picture of Jerusalem as It Was Seen by the Camera, 1839-1939*. 1982. 133, [22] p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

The aims of this thesis are: to study the work of photographers who lived in Jerusalem or who visited it; to describe and analyze the archival system used by these photographers to organize the masses of negatives that accumulated during the many years of their work; to give an example of the reconstruction of a flawed subject heading list that was developed by a photographer and is still being used by the public archive that holds his negatives; and, finally, to show the difference between Christian and Jewish photographers in their attitudes to Jerusalem as a photographic subject.

28. **Mayorek, Yoram.** *Nahum Sokolow's Paris Diary, January-February 1918*. 1988. 104 p. In Hebrew, with English abstract.

At the end of January 1918, Nahum Sokolow, a well-known Hebrew journalist and writer, and from 1911 a member of the Zionist Executive, left London for Paris as an emissary of its Political Committee. Sokolow devoted most of his time in Paris to negotiations with the government of France over the publication of an announcement of support for the Balfour Declaration. He finally attained his objective on February 2, 1918. During his stay in Paris he kept a diary, which is published here for the first time in exact Hebrew translation and in an almost complete version, accompanied by an historical introduction, annotations, a biographical index, appendixes, and a bibliography.

29. **Stern, Amira.** *The Archives Concealed in a Jug; Remnants of the Archives of Avraham Stern-Yair; Arrangement, Listing, and Publication of Selected Documents*. 1984. 197 p. In Hebrew, with 4-page English summary.

This work deals with the remnants of the archives of Avraham Stern-Yair, which were concealed in the summer of 1941 in a milk jug in the yard of a house at 95 Dizengoff Street, Tel Aviv. The jug contained about 300 documents of the I.Z.L. (Irgun Zeva'i Le'umi) [a Jewish underground armed organization] and of the I.Z.L. *Be-Yisra'el*. The study aimed at an arrangement and listing of the documents and the publication of a selection of them.

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