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## Bibliographic Project on Antisemitism


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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	Neo-Nazism and Holocaust Denial
Antisemitism throughout the Ages	Anti-Zionism and Anti-Israel
General	Christian-Jewish Relations
The Ancient Period	Australia and New Zealand
The Medieval Period	Europe
The Early Modern Period (1493–1788)	Far East
The Modern Period (1789–present)	Islamic World
General	Israel
1789–1918	Latin America
Australia and New Zealand	North America
Europe	South Africa
Far East	1991–
Islamic World	General
Latin America	Responses to the Holocaust
North America	Nazi War Criminals and War Crimes
South Africa	Trials
1919–1945	Neo-Nazism and Holocaust Denial
Australia and New Zealand	Anti-Zionism and Anti-Israel
Europe	Christian-Jewish Relations
Far East	Australia and New Zealand
Islamic World	Europe
Latin America	Far East
North America	Islamic World
South Africa	Israel
1945–1990	Latin America
General	North America
Responses to the Holocaust	South Africa
Nazi War Criminals and War Crimes	
Trials	
	Antisemitism in Literature and in the Arts

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:

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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.
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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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