

# **Local and Minority Identities in an Imperial Context**

Jewish Culture in the Ancient World - Research and Study Group

**May 22, 2011**

TAU, Faculty of Humanities (Gilman Bldg), room 133 (ground floor)

*10:00-10:30: Convening and Refreshments*

**10:30-10:45: Introductory Remarks: Sylvie Honigman**

**I—Opposition or competition? Strategies used by Jewish diaspora minorities to assert their group identity**

1) 10:45-12:30: Words, food, and pictures: Varying loci for the expression of group identity

*Chairperson: Michal Siegal Bar Asher*

**Gaia Lembi** (Bar Ilan University): **Jewish historiography vs. Greek historiography in Josephus, *Against Apion*.**

*Respondent: Giordana Moscatti Mascetti*

**Susan Weingarten** (Tel Aviv University): **Creating memory, creating identity: Jewish festival foods in their cultural contexts.**

*Respondent: Ariadne Konstantinou*

*12:30-13:30: Lunch*

**II—Imperial reflections in Near-Eastern priestly traditions in Babylonia, Judaea, and Egypt in Persian and Hellenistic times**

2) 13:30-15:15: Continuity and revival of local traditions of kingship in an imperial setting: The cases of Persian Babylonia and Hellenistic Judaea

*Chairperson: Yoram Cohen*

**Caroline Waerzeggers** (University College, London): **The loss of native kingship in Babylonia.**

*Respondent: Kristjan Šinček*

**Sylvie Honigman** (Tel Aviv University): **Antiochos IV, the wicked king, and Judas, the good king: 2 Maccabees' revisiting of traditional Judaeian kingship ideology**

*Respondent: Asaf Gayer*

*15:15-15:45: Break and refreshments*

3) 15:45-17:30: The impact of the culture of empire of the Macedonian dynasties of Hellenistic times on local priesthoods: The cases of Egypt and Judaea

*Chairperson: Katell Berthelot*

**Gilles Gorre** (Université de Rennes-2, France): **From priests to royal officials: Change of identity in the personnel in charge of the Egyptian temples in Ptolemaic times**

*Respondent: Nadav Sharon*

**Jonathan Ben Dov** (Haifa): **Local priestly traditions and the Hellenistic discourse: The Canopus decree and the Book of Jubilees.**

*Respondent: Gili Kugler*

**17:30-17:45: Concluding Remarks: Professor Tessa Rajak**

*17:30-18:15: Break and refreshments*

4) 18:15-19:45: Special Panel: Professor Tessa Rajak (Reading University and Oxford University)

*Chairperson: **Professor Albert Baumgarten***

**Professor Tessa Rajak**

‘Triumphalism and Competition in the Synagogue of Dura-Europus’