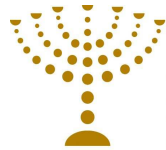


Prague Centre for Jewish Studies,
Charles University in Prague



PRAGUE CENTRE
FOR JEWISH STUDIES

Kurt and Ursula Centre for Jewish Studies,
Palacky University in Olomouc

Centrum judaistických studií
Kurta a Ursuly Schubertových



Martin-Buber-Institut für Judaistik,
Universität zu Köln



With the generous support of the Thyssen Foundation

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
für Wissenschaftsförderung

International Conference

**David Gans (1541–1613) after Four centuries:
The Legacy of an Early Modern Jewish Polymath**

May 27–29, 2013

FACULTY OF ARTS, PALACHOVO NAMESTI 2

Monday, May 27

MAIN AUDITORIUM, NO. 103

I. David Gans as a Prague Jewish Historian/chair: Lenka Uličná, Palacky University in Olomouc

9:00 Official opening of the Conference

9:30 Rachel Greenblatt (Harvard University): “In their Order and in their Time”: Prague, Past and Place in David Gans’s *Tsemah David*

10:00 Joseph M. Davis (Gratz College): David Gans and the Habsburg Dynasty

(coffee break)

10:45 Abraham David (Hebrew University, Israel): Between *Tsemah David* and the Hebrew Anonymous Chronicle from Prague on the Jewish Life in Prague in the 16th Century

11:15 Carsten Wilke (Central European University in Budapest): Sephardi and Ashkenazi Conceptions of World History: From *Shalsholet ha-Kabbalah* (1587) to *Tsemah David* (1592)

11:45 Martin J. Wein (New York University and Tel Aviv University): Prague’s Ghetto at the time of David Gans: A Bridge or an Island?

(12:15–2:00 lunch break)

THE HISTORICAL CABINET, NO. 201

II. Printing *Tsemah David*/chair: Daniel Boušek, Charles University in Prague

2:00 Elchanan Reiner (Tel Aviv University): *Sefer Nehmad we-Na'im*: History of a Book

2:30 Olga Sixtova (Jewish Museum in Prague): The Early Imprints of David Gans’s Works: The Prague Context

(coffee break)

3:15 Pavel Sladek (Charles University in Prague): *Tsemah David: The Message of the Paratexts*

3:45 David Sclar (City University of New York): *History of a History: Knowledge and Religious Sentiment Through Printing Tsemah David*

- **4:30–6:00 Late Renaissance Prague (a walking tour)**
- **7:00 An open buffet at the Prague Jewish Community Restaurant (Kosher)**

Tuesday, May 28

MAIN AUDITORIUM, NO. 103

III. Gans as a Scientist /chair: Martin Borýsek, University of Cambridge

9:00 Y. Tzvi Langermann (Bar-Ilan University): *The Naturalization of Science in the Thought of the Maharal of Prague*

9:30 Abraham Melamed (University of Haifa): *The Migration of Knowledge within the Writings of the Maharal*

(coffee break)

10:15 Jeremy Brown (George Washington University): *“Pick your Battles Carefully”*: David Gans on Scientific Discoveries

10:45 Sacha Stern (London University College): *David Gans’ Contribution to the Modern Study of the Jewish Calendar*

THE HISTORICAL CABINET, NO. 201

11:30–12:00 Presentation of the “Judaica” series of the Academia Publishing House

(12:00–2:00 lunch break)

- **2:00–5:00 Visit to the Jewish Museum in Prague incl. the Old Jewish Cemetery and David Gans’ s grave**

6:00 MAIN AUDITORIUM, NO. 103

IV. Key-note lecture/chair: Milan Žonca, Queen Mary, University of London

Joanna Weinberg (University of Oxford): *David Gans between Jews and Christians*

Wednesday, May 29

9:00 MAIN AUDITORIUM, NO. 103

V. The Sources and Reception of David Gans' Works/chair: Carsten Schliwski, Universität zu Köln

9:00 Stephen Burnett (University of Nebraska – Lincoln): Christian Hebraism in Czech lands during the Sixteenth Century

9:30 Daniel J. Lasker (Ben Gurion University of the Negev): The Karaite Reception of David Gans's Work

(coffee break)

10:15 Gad Freudenthal (Université de Genève): Jessnitz Anno 1743: Contextualizing the Printing of *Nehmad we-Na'im*

10:45 Maoz Kahana (Hebrew University): Transforming Knowledge: the Role of the *Tsemah David* in 18th–19th Century Rabbinic Literature

(coffee break)

11:30 THE HISTORICAL CABINET, NO. 201

VI. Concluding roundtable/chair: Tamás Visi (Palacky University in Olomouc)

11:30–12:30 David Gans after four centuries: the results of the Prague conference

VII. Closing remarks:

12:30 Jiřina Šedinová (Charles University in Prague): Translating *Tsemah David* to Czech and English

END OF THE CONFERENCE.

RELATED EVENTS

An exhibition on the Jewish Monuments of Erfurt (Germany) incl. the famous “Erfurt treasure” will be featured during the conference in the lobby of the building of the Faculty of Arts on 20, Celetna St.

Thursday, May 23 (Židovské muzeum, Oddělení pro vzdělávání a kulturu)

6pm **Stephen Burnett** (University of Nebraska – Lincoln): Christian Hebraism: an improbable early modern success story

Thursday, June 6 (Židovské muzeum, Oddělení pro vzdělávání a kulturu)

6pm **Jiřina Šedinová** (Charles University in Prague): Readings from the Czech translation of *Tsemah David* (in Czech)

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONFERENCE WILL HAVE THE HISTORICAL CABINET (ROOM NO. 201) AVAILABLE FOR MUTUAL DISCUSSIONS OR AS A RELAXING AREA AT THEIR DISPOSAL UNLESS IT IS USED FOR THE CONFERENCE SESSIONS.