

Call for Papers

Institutum Romanum Finlandiae and the *Centro Romano di studi sull'Ebraismo* are jointly organising a conference on the theme:

Preaching on the Jews, for the Jews and by the Jews

The conference will take place on 11 – 12 February 2011. The conference venue will be The Finnish Roman Institute Villa Lante (Passeggiata del Gianicolo 10, 00165 Roma, Italia). For further information about Villa Lante and the Finnish Institute in Rome, see

<http://www.irfrome.org/>

We are inviting those who would like to be present at this event and give a paper to send us the title of their paper and a short abstract (no more than 300 words) to the address below. The proposals should be sent to the organisers **no later than 31 May 2010**. The organizers will evaluate paper proposals before the end of July and send invitations to the speakers.

The aim of the conference is to study preaching as a means of communication by which attitudes and stereotypes concerning the Jews were disseminated to the population at large or by which the Jews were meant to be converted. Here the emphasis should be on the sermon and preaching as a means to convey information and attitudes. Especially welcome would be papers dealing with the possible reactions of the audiences and in general the reception to preaching on and for the Jews.

In addition to sermons on the Jews or for the conversion of the Jews, we would also love to see papers on preaching by the Jews themselves. How did they try to repel the attacks of the Christian missionary preachers or the hostile attitudes disseminated by the preaching to the general population? To what extent were Jewish sermons meant to force their own religious and cultural identity under the pressures constituted by the Christian majority? The time period relevant for this symposium is between antiquity and the early modern period (i.e. from the first to the late sixteenth century).

We understand the words preaching and sermon in a widest possible meaning. Therefore, papers dealing not only with preaching and sermons but also with preaching materials, chronicles reporting preaching activities, more informal religious education outside the boundaries of the pulpit etc. etc. are welcome.

Papers can be given in any major European language (English, French, German, Spanish, Italian). However, the abstracts and paper proposals should be provided in English.

Proposals should include the title of the paper, max. 300 word long abstract, and the academic position and contact information of the speaker. They can be sent to the following address:

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Passeggiata del Gianico 10
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Italia

or (preferably) via e-mail to:

hanska@irfome.org

or

jussi.hanska@uta.fi

Sincerely,

Dr. Jussi Hanska
Vicedirector of the
Institutum Romanum Finlandiae

Prof. Francesco Scorza Barcellona
Director
Centro Romano di studi sull'Ebraismo