

HISTORICAL GERONTOLOGY: AGING AND OLD AGE IN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

Research Workshop of the Israel Science Foundation
in collaboration with Minerva Stiftung

University of Haifa, 18-20 December 2022

Aviva and Sammy Ofer Observatory, 30th Floor, Eshkol Tower

Sunday, 18 December

09:30-10:00 Reception and Welcome

10:00-11:15 Opening Session

Opening Words

Prof. Gur Alroey, Rector of the University of Haifa

Prof. Efraim Lev, Dean of Humanities, University of Haifa

Prof. Israel (Issi) Doron, Dean of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa

Dr. Galia Hasharoni, University of Haifa

The structure of the conference, its purpose, the agenda and its products

11:15-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Session 1: Culture and nature in the social site: constructing the concept of old age

Chair: Dr. Tal Dekel (Kibbutzim College and Tel Aviv University, Israel)

Prof. David G. Troyansky (Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York, USA)
Generations of Cultural History and the Study of Old Age

Prof. Haim Hazan (Tel Aviv University, Israel)

From Ageism to Racism: On the Spirit of the time and the Specter of Old age in the Corona Era

Prof. Susannah R. Ottaway (Carleton College, USA)

Patterns of Age Relations and Ageism in the History of Old Age

Dr. Gabriela Spector-Mersel (Sapir College, Israel)

Israeli old age: Hegemonic sources of meaning

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session 2: Aging and medical perceptions

Chair: Dr. Lavi Shay (Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi & The David Yellin Academic College of Education, Israel)

Prof. Lynn Botelho (University of Pennsylvania, USA)
Geriatrics and Gerontology: Old Age in Early Modern England

Dr. Dimitra Vassiliadou (University of the Aegean, Greece)
Being Old, Being Sad? Constructing Pre-Senile Melancholia in Greece, 1900s-1940s

Prof. Chris Gilleard (University College London, UK)

Making Age Modern: medical electricity radiotherapy and the internal secretions

15:30-15:50 Coffee Break

15:50-17:15 Session 3: Visual images of Jewish and Israeli Older persons: Art, Photo and Postcard

Chair: Dr. Assaf Selzer (University of Haifa)

Miki Joelson (The Israel Museum, Israel)

Old Age in Jewish Picture Postcards of Eastern Europe

Dr. Lavi Shay (Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi & The David Yellin Academic College of Education, Israel)

Old Aged Home: "United Aged Home Moshav Sekenim" and its Photographs

Dr. Tal Dekel (Kibbutzim College and Tel Aviv University, Israel)
Changing attitudes: Representations of old women throughout the history of art in Israel

18:30 Dinner for conference participants

Monday, 19 December

08:30-09:00 Gathering

09:00-10:30 Session 4: Cultural perceptions about ageing

Chair: Prof. Anna Zisberg (University of Haifa)

Dr. Isabel Richter (Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin)

Aging and transitoriness in 19th century Western Europe: a cultural history approach

Dr. Joris Gielen (Duchesne University, USA)

Old Age, Karma, and the Good Death in Hindu End-of-Life Practices and Beliefs

Prof. Rabia Khalaila (Zefat Academic College, Israel)

Modernization, transformations and challenges of aging in the Arab society in Israel

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:15 Session 5: Older persons in times of change and crisis

Chair: Dr. Dikla Segel-Karpas (University of Haifa)

Prof. Hannah Marcus (Harvard University, USA)

Old Age as Cause of Death in Early Modern Italy

Emmanuelle Moscovitz (PhD Candidate, Tel Aviv University, Israel)

Caring for the Elderly: The Efforts of the General Chaplaincy of the Jews of France on Behalf of the Elderly Jews Detained in Southern France, 1940-1944.

Dr. Anat Kutner (JDC Archives, Israel)

Young State, Old Citizens- The JDC's response to the challenges facing the young State of Israel

12:45 Guided tour and lunch: The Cultural Mosaic of Acre

17:00-18:00 Dr. Galia Hasharoni: Closing Session day 2

Return to Haifa and free evening

Tuesday, 20 December

8:30-9:00 Gathering

9:00-10:30 Session 6: Ageing and Gender

Chair: Prof. Tova Band-Winterstein (University of Haifa)

Dr. Ruth Lamdan (Tel Aviv University, Israel)

Old men, old women –old age in Early Modern Ottoman Jewish society

Dr. Andrea Antonio Verardi (University of Helsinki, Finland)

Church, Aging and Old Age between Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages.

Dr. Michal Ben Ya'akov (Bar Ilan University and Efrata College for Education, Israel)

North African Jewish widows in 19th century Eretz-Israel/late Ottoman Palestine

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Session 7: To Another Land: Tales of Immigration at Old Age

Chair: Dr. Judith Bronstein (University of Haifa)

Prof. Gur Alroey (University of Haifa, Israel)

'Cast me not off...': Old age and Jewish immigration in the stories of Shmuel Yosef Agnon, Isaac Dov Berkowitz and Isaac Bashevis Singer

Dr. Galia Hasharoni (University of Haifa, Israel)

Time Turned into Place: Older Persons' Immigration to Mandatory Palestine

Prof. Tova Gamliel (Bar Ilan University, Israel)

Between Migration and Nomadism in Old Age: Tradition, Myth and Identity

12:30-13:00 Coffee Break

13:00-14:00 Closing Session: Setting future research agenda

Chair: Prof. Israel Doron (University of Haifa)

14:00: Lunch

End of Conference

