



W.F. Albright Institute of
Archaeological Research



Haifa Center for Mediterranean History
מרכז חיפה לחקר ההיסטוריה של הים התיכון
مركز حيفا لدراسات تاريخ البحر الأبيض المتوسط



The Institute of Archaeology,
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Eleventh Century CE: Archaeology and History

An international conference

Tuesday to Thursday, July 7-9 2026

At the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research
26 Salah ed-Din St. Jerusalem

Organizers:

Shulamit Miller (Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Albright Institute of
Archaeological Research)

Anna Gutgarts (University of Haifa)

The conference will be held in person, while some lectures will be delivered over
Zoom, see program.

Attendance is free. Please register by 30 June 2026.

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/GtfEyA8vMjxiDi6t7>

Limited parking available.

Conference program:

Day 1 (July 7, 2026):

10:00-10:15 - Gathering

10:15-10:30 - Greetings and opening remarks (Anna Gutgarts, Shulamit Miller, and James Fraser)

10:30-12:00 - Session I - Galilee

Chair: Shulamit Miller

- Rabei Khamisy, University of Haifa, *Mount Tabor and the Galilee in Light of Eleventh Century Historical and Archaeological Sources* (Zoom)
- Katia Cytryn, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *Tiberias Before and After Nāsir-i Khusraw: The Turbulent Eleventh Century* (Zoom)
- Anna de Vincenz, Albright Institute of Archaeological Research and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *Reexamining Abbasid Material Culture in the Fatimid Period at Tiberias*

12:00-13:00 - Lunch break

13:00-14:30 - Session II - Diverse Landscapes

Chair: Gideon Avni

- Milka Levy Rubin, National Library of Israel (Emerita) and Schechter Institute, *Ruling a Christian Majority: Muslims and Christians in Eleventh Century Palestine*
- Rodney Aist, St. George's College, Jerusalem, *Christian Commemorations in Eleventh Century Jerusalem*
- Moshe Yagur, Bar Ilan University, *A New Version of an Eleventh Century Judeo-Arabic 'Pilgrim's Guide' and its Significance*

14:30-15:00 - Coffee break

15:00-16:30 - Session III - Settlement Patterns and Land Use

Chair: James Fraser

- Itamar Taxel, Israel Antiquities Authority, *Grabbing the Seashore, Turning the Back to the Inland? The Ambiguous Picture of Fatimid-Period Settlement and Land-Use Patterns in the Palestinian Coastal Plain*
- Gideon Avni, University of Haifa and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *The Missing Century? Some Archaeological Case-Studies for Eleventh Century Transformations in the Levant*
- Asa Eger, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, *The Northern Levant in the Eleventh Century: Castles, Countrysides, Cities, and Ceramics* (Zoom)

16:30-17:00 - Coffee break

17:00-18:00 - Keynote (Marina Rustow, Princeton University) *Eleventh Century Trade and Mobility: New Clusters of Geniza Documents* (Zoom)

18:00-19:30 - Dinner at the Albright Institute (participants only).

Day 2 (July 8, 2026):

9:30-11:00 - Session IV - On the Eve of the Crusades: Continuity and Change

Chair: Anna Gutgarts

- Shimon Gibson, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, *The Churches and Fortifications of Mount Zion in the Eleventh Century*
- Barak Monnickendam-Givon, Israel Antiquities Authority, *Eleventensity: Continuity, Destruction, Reconditioning, and Abandonment in Eleventh Century Jerusalem*
- Rafael Lewis, Bar Ilan University, *The Battle of Ashkelon (August 1099) and Ashkelon's Fatimid Fortifications*

11:00-11:30 - Coffee break

11:30-13:00 - Session V - Diet and Culinary Preferences

Chair: Yana Tchekhanovets

- Mustafa Hossin, Israel Antiquities Authority, *Between What is Present and What is Missing: An Archaeological Study of Animal Bone Remains from the Eleventh Century CE Market of Tiberias*
- Adi Namia Cohen, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, *Eating During Ramadan: A Shopping List of a Jewish Merchant from Ramadan 433 (May 1042)*
- Limor Yungman, Tel Aviv University, *The Gastro-Dietetic Revolution of the Eleventh Century?*

13:00-14:00 - Lunch break

14:00-15:30 - Session VI - Mediterranean Contexts Beyond the Southern Levant

Chair: Moshe Yagur

- Shay Eshel, National Library of Israel, *The City's Victory and the Empire's Collapse: Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire in the Eleventh Century*
- Arie Lev Kapitaikin, Tel Aviv University, *'A World to Itself': A Glass-Dome in an Eleventh Century Cairene Mansion*
- Shon Hopkin, Brigham Young University, *Neo-Platonic Influence and the Jewish Longing for Return to the Holy Land* (Zoom)

15:30-16:00 - Coffee break

16:00-17:30 - Session VII - Jerusalem's Monumental Skyline

Chair: Milka Levy-Rubin

- Jennifer Pruitt, University of Wisconsin-Madison, *Sanctifying al-Quds: Fatimid Architecture in the Wake of al-Hakim* (Zoom)
- Beatrice St. Laurent, Bridgewater State University, *A Re-evaluation of R. W. Hamilton's The Structural History of the Aqsa Mosque: A Record of Archaeological Gleanings from the Repairs of 1938-1942* (Zoom)
- Yana Tchekhanovets, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, *Building and Rebuilding Holy Sites: The Christian Renaissance in mid Eleventh Century Jerusalem*

17:30-17:45 - Coffee break

17:45-18:30 - Roundtable and concluding remarks

Day 3 (July 9, 2026):

Half-day field trip in Jerusalem, itinerary TBD. Open to conference participants only.

