



Curriculum Vitae and List of Publications Dr. Dotan Arad

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Data

Date of Birth: 18/7/1978

E-mail Address: dotan.arad@biu.ac.il

Google Scholar - <https://scholar.google.co.il/citations?user=6mJGmCMAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

Academia - <https://biu.academia.edu/DotanArad>

ResearchGate - https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Dotan_Arad/contributions?ev=prf_act

Education - Undergraduate, Graduate Studies and Post-Doctoral Studies

Degree	Name of Institution and Department	Period of Study (month/year – month/year)	Area of Specialty
B.A.	HUJI (the Hebrew University, Jerusalem)	10/2000-6/2003	Jewish History
M.A.	HUJI	10/2003-6/2006	Jewish History
Ph.D.	HUJI	10/2006-12/2012	Jewish History

Ph.D. Dissertation:

Title: The Musta'rib Jews in Syria, Palestine and Egypt, 1330-1700

Advisor: Prof. Joseph R. Hacker

Academic Ranks and Tenure in Institutes of Higher Education

Period (month/year - month/year)	Name of Institution and Department	Rank (Specify if full or percent part time)
4/2013-10/2013	Jewish History, BIU	Teaching Fellow (part-time, 40%, without tenure)
10/2013-10/2018	Jewish History, BIU	Lecturer (full-time, without tenure)
10/2018-present	Jewish History, BIU	Senior Lecturer (full-time, with tenure)



Major Research Findings (briefly)

- Writing a comprehensive introduction to Rabbi Joseph Ibn Sayyah's responsa, a 16th century Musta'rib rabbi, introducing the first study ever dedicated to a Musta'rib Halakhic work. Several earlier historical studies sought to rely on this work as an historical source. However, my research proved that a substantial share of the questions found in the corpus were fabricated, and are not an actual depiction of an historical reality.
- Placing "the late Genizah" on the research agenda. A majority of Genizah researchers focus on its classical period (the 10th-13th centuries). Throughout my research I urge not to neglect the late Genizah documents, which I research intensively. As a result, the discourse in this field of research is slowly changing. In a comprehensive article (Arad, a Rare Light), I surveyed the trends in the study of the Late Genizah and the significant momentum its research has gained recently.
- New studies on Jews from the Mamluk period. These studies include research devoted to specific communities (Jerusalem; Cairo; Alexandria), research on general issues, like the ways in which Jews dealt with anti-Jewish legislation, or the way Jews related to Muslims and the Muslim domain. I have published many new documents from this period in Judeo-Arabic and Arabic as part of my research.
- A series of papers on Musta'rib Jews that comprehensively revealed their family life and communal institutions. Very little research up until now has been devoted to the Musta'ribs themselves, aside from their relationship with other ethnic groups. My research filled a gap in the study of Jews in the late Mamluk state and Ottoman Empire, and drew the academic attention to an unknown group. Among others, my research uncovered a communal notebook from the late 16th century that belonged to the Musta'rib community in Cairo. I gathered its papers, which were dispersed throughout different collections of the Cairo Genizah, and conducted a thorough analysis of its content.
- Revealing and publishing texts in new languages found in the Cairo Genizah. A Halakhic Sephardic text (in Hebrew letters) written prior to the expulsion of Jews from Spain, and a Turkish-Arabic dictionary written in Hebrew letters.
- Analyzing a Hebrew lamentation on the destruction of a synagogue. This specific lamentation is commonly attributed to the destruction of a synagogue in Jerusalem following an earthquake, but my research proved that it was written about a synagogue in Damascus destroyed by the



authorities. Furthermore, I uncovered the relationship between this lamentation and a Judeo-Arabic lamentation cited by Jews in Damascus and demonstrated the contribution of these lamentations to the general discussion on patterns of collective memory among Jewish communities in Muslim countries.

- Publishing a collection of documents in Arabic and Judeo-Arabic from a Collection held at the Oxford Library. This publication substantially enriches the existing body of Jewish letters from the Mamluk era, paving the way for a range of future research by scholars. These studies can delve into areas such as the economic history of the Mediterranean, the Judeo-Arabic dialect of the late Middle Ages, and the intricacies of Jewish communal life during that period.

- In recent years, I have published several studies that seek to view the Karaite diaspora in the Early Modern period as one society. Previous studies have mostly dealt separately with the Karaites of the Ottoman Empire and the Karaites of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. In my research, I examined the connections between the Karaites in these two political entities, traced the routes through which information passed from one community to the other, and attempted to reconstruct the imagined Karaite world map that the Karaites held in their consciousness.

16. Future Goals (briefly)

- I hope to write a monograph on the Musta'rabic Jewish community in Egypt during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, based on numerous Genizah documents that I have found and deciphered. This research will provide us with a portrait of a community in a central Ottoman city (Cairo) alongside several other communities in Egypt and will allow us to understand in a more complex way the Jewish mosaic in the empire, which included various Jewish denominations living side by side.

- As part of my research on the Jews of Damascus during the Ottoman period, I have studied documents from the late Ottoman period pertaining to the Jewish community in Damascus, preserved in the Ben-Zvi Institute collection, and I plan to publish a selection of them. I have already begun preparing this book: I have already deciphered dozens of documents and added notes, explanations, and historical background to each document. Thanks to the research grant I received, the book will be published with excellent graphic quality, accompanied by color photographs of the documents.

- I plan to continue my research on the Judeo-Arabic letters of the Karaites in the communities of Jerusalem, Damascus, and Cairo, which have been preserved in the Firkovitch Collection at the Russian National Library, and to try to understand through them in a deeper way the nature of the relations between Rabbanites and Karaites during this period, as well as the communal and cultural history of the Karaites in the Ottoman Empire.

- I am planning two future research projects. The first will deal with deeds of the Jewish courts in Egypt during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and will make accessible to the general



public copies of these documents, their translation into English, and a detailed index that will help to easily access the historical information contained therein.

The second study will focus on Arabic documents preserved in the archives of the Jewish community in Cairo. These documents, which contain much information about the sale and purchase of property in Cairo, matters concerning the Jewish cemetery, internal taxation within the community and more, will help to outline the demographic patterns of the Jewish community in the city during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and to reconstruct the activities of the community's leadership bodies.

List of Publications

Up to the last promotion {Refereed Publications}

Books as author:

1. Glick Shmuel, Arad Dotan and Stampfer Zvi et al. *Seride Teshuvot, A Descriptive Catalogue of Responsa Fragments from the Jacques Mosseri Collection, Cambridge University Library*. Leiden: Brill, 2012, 409 pages. [Link](#)

2. Glick Shmuel, Arad Dotan and Schwartz Yaacov. *Seride Teshuvot of the Ottoman Empire Sages, from the Cairo Genizah Collection of the Cambridge University Library*. Vol. I-III. Jerusalem: The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 2013-2014 [Hebrew]. [Link](#)

Vol. I 505 pages

Vol. II 458 pages

Vol. III, 324 pages

[These volumes were written as part of a joint research project of the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit at the Cambridge University Library and the Schocken Institute for Jewish Research. My contribution to the book:

1. During the research, I was in charge of deciphering the various manuscripts (in item no. 1, together with Dr. Stampfer) that were published in the series. Most of the manuscripts published in the series were deciphered by me, and all were edited by me.
2. I added historical commentary to the manuscripts I deciphered. The historical introductions to the responsa, which clarify the historical, economic, and social background of the responsum, are largely based on my work.
3. As part of the research, I traveled several times to Cambridge University and stayed there as a guest of the Genizah Research Unit. During my stay, I worked on cataloging and identifying new fragments of questions and answers from the Genizah collections at Cambridge, and many fragments published in this series were identified by me for



the first time. The construction of the corpus of documents for the book series was made possible to a considerable extent thanks to my work at the Cambridge University Library.

4. In addition, a significant part of the introduction to the books was written by me.]

Articles and Chapters in Books:

1. Arad Dotan. "The Jews in the Local Economy". *Jewish Communities in the East in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries: Turkey*, edited by Yaron Ben-Naeh, Jerusalem: Ben-Zvi Institute, 2009, pp. 41-56 [HEB]. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan. "Demography". *Jewish Communities in the East in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries: Turkey*, edited by Yaron Ben-Naeh, Jerusalem: Ben-Zvi Institute, 2009, pp. 27-40 [HEB]. [Link](#)
3. Arad Dotan. "Documents in Arabic and Judeo-Arabic Relative to the History of the Jewish Community in Jerusalem". edited by Yvonne Friedman and Joseph Drory, *The History of Jerusalem: The Mamluk Period (1260-1517)*, Jerusalem: Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi, 2013, pp. 451-471 [HEB]. [Link](#)
4. Arad Dotan. "Cairo's Maghribians and Musta'ribs: From Close Cooperation to Conflict and Estrangement". *Asupa le-Yosef: Studies in Jewish History Presented to Joseph Hacker*, edited by Yaron Ben-Naeh, Jeremy Cohen, Moshe Idel, and Yosef Kaplan, Jerusalem: Zalman Shazar Center, 2014, pp. 443-486 [HEB]. [Link](#)
5. Arad Dotan. "A Clearly Distinguished Community: The Musta'ribs in Damascus in the Sixteenth Century". *The Jews of Syria: History, Identity and Legacy*, edited by Yaron Harel, Ramat-Gan: Dahan Center, Bar-Ilan University, 2015, pp. 95-130 [HEB]. [Link](#)
6. Arad Dotan. "Being a Jew under the Mamluks: Some Coping Strategies", *Muslim-Jewish Relations in Middle Islamic Period: Jews in the Ayyubid and Mamluk Sultanates*, edited by Stephan Conermann, Bonn: Bonn University Press, 2017, pp. 21-39. [Link](#)
7. Arad Dotan. "When the Home becomes a Shrine: Public Prayers in Privet Houses among the Ottoman Jews". *Domestic Devotions in the Early Modern World*, edited by Marco Faini and Alessia Meneghin, Leiden: Brill, 2019, pp. 55-68. [Link](#)



8. Arad Dotan. "In the Wilderness of Their Enemies: Jewish Attitudes toward the Muslim Space in Light of a 15th Century Genizah Letter". *Israel in Egypt: The Land of Egypt as Concept and Reality for Jews in Antiquity and the Middle Ages*, edited by Alison Salvesen, Sarah Pearce and Miriam Frenkel, Leiden: Brill 2020, pp. 640-647. [Link](#)
9. Arad Dotan. "Appointment Deed of a Cantor in the Karaite Community, Cairo 1575". *A Handbook and Reader of Ottoman Arabic*, edited by Esther Miriam Wagner, University of Cambridge: Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures, 2021, pp. 155-160. [Link](#)
10. Arad Dotan. "The Karaite community of Jerusalem in the Ottoman Period", *The History of Jerusalem: The Ottoman Period (1517-1830)*, edited by Yaron Ben-Naeh and Dotan Arad, Jerusalem: Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi [HEB, forthcoming, 2025, 13 pages].

Articles in Periodicals (refereed articles):

1. Arad Dotan. "R. Yoseph Ibn Sayah: A Profile of Sixteenth-Century Musta'rib Sage". *Shalem*, vol. 7, 2008, pp. 134-248 [HEB]. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan. "Judeo-Arabic and Hebrew among Jews of Syria, Palestine and Egypt". *Pe'amim*, vol. 121, 2009, pp. 101-129 [HEB]. [Link](#)
3. Arad Dotan. "The Community as an Economic Body: The Property of the Cairo Musta'rib Community in Light of Genizah Documents". *Ginzei Qedem*, vol. 7 2011, pp. 25-69 [HEB]. [Link](#)
4. Arad Dotan and Glick Shmuel. "Pre-Exilic Halakhic Text in Judeo-Spanish from the Cairo Geniza by R. Jacob Canpanton". *Sefarad*, vol. 73, no. 2, 2013, pp. 409-421 [Link](#)

Hebrew Version: "חלוקת רווחים ללא חשש ריבית: תשובה יחידאית בספרדית ד' ארד וד' גליק, "החלוקת רווחים ללא חשש ריבית: תשובה יחידאית בספרדית ד' ארד וד' גליק, יהודית מן הגניזה הקהירית", *Quntres: An Online Journal for the History, Culture and Art of the Jewish Book*, 4 (2013), Hebrew Section, pp. 37-49]. [Link](#)
5. Arad Dotan. "A Pleasant Voice and an Expert on Every Matter: on Karaite and Rabbanite Cantors in 16th Century Egypt". *Ginzei Qedem*, vol. 12, 2016, pp. 9-31 [HEB]. [Link](#)
6. Arad Dotan. "Destruction and Memory: The Destruction of the Synagogue in Damascus and its Shaping in the Collective Memory", *Zion*, 81 (2016), pp. 67-94 [HEB]. [Link](#)



7. Arad Dotan. "Welfare and Charity in a Sixteenth-Century Jewish Community in Egypt: A Study of Genizah Documents". *Al-Masāq: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean*, vol. 29, 2017, pp. 258-272. [Link](#)
8. Arad Dotan. "Let's learn Turkish Words: A Turkish-Arabic Glossary from the Cairo Genizah". *Turcica*, vol. 48, 2017, pp. 451-473. [Link](#)
9. Arad Dotan. "Virginité, Conspiracies and Hidden Faces: A Martial Quarrel in Damascus that led to a Rabbinic Dispute". *Sefunot n.s.*, vol. 25, 2017, pp. 57-124 [HEB]. [Link](#)
10. Arad Dotan. "Jerusalem in Karaite Mind in the Early Modern Period: Connections, Linkages and Symbolic Value". *Moreshet Israel*, vol. 16, 2018, pp. *33-51. [Link](#)

Reviews of Books in periodicals:

1. Arad Dotan. Review of *Judaism, Sufism, and the Pietists of Medieval Egypt*, by Elisha Russ-Fishbane, *The Medieval Review* (online), December 2016. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan. Review of *Notables and other Jews in the Ottoman Middle East 1759-1830*, by Yaron Tsur, *Zion*, vol. 83, no. 3, 2018, pp. 398-402. [Link](#)

Non-Refereed Publications

1. Arad Dotan. "Islamic Biblical Criticism and its Reflection in Rav Sa'adia's Translation of the Pentateuch". *Hayo Haya*, vol. 5, 2006, pp. 7-32 [HEB]. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan. "Syria's Links with the Jews of Cairo in the 15th and 16th Centuries". *Fragment of the Month*, Cambridge University Library, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit's website, August 2009. [Link](#)
3. Arad Dotan and Wagner Esther-Miriam. "The Preacher Who Speaks like a Parrot: Two Versions of a Letter by R. Joshua ha-Nagid". *Fragment of the Month*, Cambridge University Library, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit's website, January 2013. [Link](#)
4. Arad Dotan and Wagner Esther-Miriam. "Moses ben Judah: A 15th Century Bibliophile and Gourmand". *Fragment of the Month*, Cambridge University Library, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit's website, June 2016. [Link](#)

Since the last promotion {Refereed Publications}

Books as author Accepted for Publication:

1. Arad Dotan and Wagner Esther-Miriam, *Wisdom and Greatness in One Place: The Alexandrian Trader Moses Ben Judah and his Circle*. University of Cambridge: Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures, 2025 [Forthcoming, 525 pages]. [Link](#)
[The historical introduction (approximately 90 pages) was written solely by me. The documents (Parts A and B in the book) were deciphered and annotated by both of us. The literary texts (Part C in the book) were deciphered and annotated solely by me. The linguistic analysis of the Arabic texts (Part D in the book) was written by Dr. Wagner.]

Books as Editor Accepted for Publication:

2. Ben-Naeh Yaron and Arad Dotan (eds.), *The History of Jerusalem: The Ottoman Period (1517-1830)*, Jerusalem: Yad Izhak Ben-Zvi [HEB, forthcoming, 2025, 360 pages].
[Prof. Ben-Naeh and I contributed equally to the book's editing, including correspondence with authors, content and language enhancement of the chapters, placement of suitable illustrations, and similar tasks]

Articles and Chapters in Books:

1. Arad Dotan and Wagner Esther-Miriam. "Bodl. MS. Heb. C.72/18: A Letter by Isaac Bayt 'Attan to Moses b. Judah (1480s)". *A Handbook and Reader of Ottoman Arabic*, edited by Esther-Miriam Wagner, University of Cambridge: Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures, 2021, pp. 143-148. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan. "An Introduction to the Responsa of Rabbi Yoseph Ibn Şiyyah", *The Responsa of Rabbi Yoseph Ibn Şiyyah*, edited by Yaakov M. Hillel, Jerusalem: Ahavat Shalom, 2022, pp. 19-44 [HEB]. [Link](#)
3. Arad Dotan. "The Oppressive Shepherd and the Savior Poet: A Tribute for the History of the Karaites of Alexandria in the Mamluk Period", *Jubilee Volume in Honor of Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson*, edited by Nahem Ilan, Haggai Ben-Shammai and Miriam Frenkel, Jerusalem: Ben Zvi Institute and Magnes Press, 2023, pp. 47-68 [HEB]. [Link](#)

Articles and Chapters in Books Accepted for Publication:



4. Arad Dotan. "Glimpse at Communal Life: Remains from the 15th Century Notebook of the Cairene Karaite Community". *Jubilee Volume in Honor of Prof. Haggai Ben-Shammai*, edited by Miriam Frenkel and Phil Lieberman, [HEB, forthcoming, 21 pages].
5. Arad Dotan. "Samuel, Elijah and Ezra: The Cult of Biblical Saints among the Jews in the Mamluk and Early Ottoman Periods", *The Sacred in Mamluk Society*, edited by Tetsuya Ohtoshi, Waseda University: Tokyo [forthcoming, 21 pages].

Articles in Periodicals (refereed articles):

1. Arad, Dotan. "Jews in 15th Century Alexandria in the Light of New Documents". *Pe'amim*, vol. 156, 2018, pp. 67-84 [HEB]. [Link](#)
2. Arad, Dotan. "A Minority within a Minority: Karaites of the Ottoman Empire in the Shadow of Rabbanite Jews". *Historia*, vol. 46-47, 2021, pp. 63-102 [HEB]. [Link](#)
3. Arad, Dotan. "From Cairo to Trakai: The Karaite World in the Early Modern Period". *Pe'amim*, vol. 170-171, 2023, pp. 9-37 [HEB]. [Link](#)
4. Arad, Dotan. "Endowments as a Tool for the Shaping of Community Identity in the Jewish Society of the Eastern Mediterranean", *Endowments Studies*, vol. 7, 2023, pp. 22-43. [Link](#)
5. Arad, Dotan. "'Ervat Davar: Divorce among the Karaites in Ottoman Egypt", *Michael: On the History of the Jews in the Diaspora*, vol. 18, 2025, pp. 31-58. [Link](#)

Articles in Periodicals Accepted for Publication:

6. Arad, Dotan. "The Letters of the Nagid – A Collection of Hebrew Letters from the 14th Century", *Zion* [Heb., accepted, 30 pages].
7. Arad, Dotan. "A Rare Light and Many Colors: The Late Genizah and its Research", *Ginzei Qedem*, vol. 21 (2025 – Forthcoming). [Heb. 22 pages]
8. Arad, Dotan. "Judeo-Arabic and Hebrew as Competing Languages in the Mamluk Period", *Mamluk Studies Review*, vol. 28 (2025) [Invited article, forthcoming, 23 pages].
9. Arad, Dotan. "From the Synagogue to the Sharī'a Court and back: What Led to the Conflict within the Jewish community in Cairo in 1466?", *Medieval Encounters* [in review, 29 pages]



Non-Refereed Publications

1. Arad Dotan. "The Jews in the Mamluk Period: Selected Bibliography, 1970-2021", In: E. Ashtor, *History of the Jews in Egypt and Syria under the Rule of the Mamlūks* [HEB], I-III, New Edition, Jerusalem: Carmel, 2021, pp. 36-53. [Link](#)
2. Arad Dotan and Amir Ashur, "Moses b. Abraham the Nagid – New Evidence: T-S AS 147.93". *Fragment of the Month*, Cambridge University Library, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit's website, June 2022. [Link](#)
3. Arad Dotan, "The Musta'ribs in Safed". *Etmol*, 284 (2023), pp. 1-4 [HEB]. [Link](#)