Hamsa

Journal of Judaic and Islamic Studies

1 | 2014

Islamic and Jewish Studies

Editorial

Maria Filomena Lopes de Barros e José Alberto Rodrigues da Silva Tavim

Edição electrónica

URL: <https://journals.openedition.org/hamsa/862>

DOI: 10.4000/hamsa.862

ISSN: 2183-2633

Editora

CIDEHUS - Centro Interdisciplinar de História Culturas e Sociedades da Universidade de Évora

Refêrencia eletrónica

Maria Filomena Lopes de Barros e José Alberto Rodrigues da Silva Tavim, «Editorial», *Hamsa* [Online], 1 | 2014, posto online no dia 31 dezembro 2014, consultado o 13 maio 2021. URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/hamsa/862> ; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/hamsa.862>

Hamsa est mise à disposition selon les termes de la Licence Creative Commons Attribution - Pas d'Utilisation Commerciale - Pas de Modification 4.0 International.

HAMSA

JOURNAL OF JUDAIC AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

Editorial

The *Hamsa - Journal of Judaic and Islamic Studies* was shaped within the scope of the research project PTDC/HIS-HEC/104546/2008, “Muslims and Jews in Portugal and the Diaspora. Identities and Memories (16th – 17th centuries)”, co-financed by the Foundation for Science and Technology, and by FEDER, through “Eixo I” of the “Programa Operacional Fatores de Competitividade” (POFC) of QREN (COMPETE). Its main aim is to create a virtual multidisciplinary space in which all perspectives of the History, Language and Literature of Iberian Jews and Muslims, namely Portuguese, can converge. It is however open to themes on Judaism and Islam that go beyond this social, geographic and epistemological scope.

This Journal strives to fill the much-felt gap in the international and scientific milieu along the two lines set out below. It intends to be a space for the latest publications about the two socio-religious groups, contextualized in the social spaces in which they live in the Peninsula and then in their Diasporas; but simultaneously it is one that compares their historic trajectories and analyzes the “moments” when they intersected as well as the auto and hetero memory, produced by them or designed about them. Within this scope, the aim is also to publish studies on Language and Literature which are essential scientific components to understand the specificity of the two socio-religious groups under analysis: studies on the languages that were their means of communication and which evolved outside of the peninsular space such as the so-called *Ladino*, and also the erudite and popular Literature that still reaches us today as the fundamental proof of its cultural potential. Lastly, the aim is to publish papers on the broader perspective of Judaism and Islam.

This publication also intends to become a space of reference in the area of Judaic and Islamic studies due to the high scientific standards it demands. Thus, for the first time in Portugal in the specific scope of Judaic and Islamic Studies, this journal has all the mechanisms required to meet the demands inherent to the scientific field, namely a governing board, an editorial council and a body of national and international consultants (scientific council). All the studies will be evaluated by national and international experts using the anonymous peer system. The journal presents an editorial note for the publication of the original papers, including norms for the transcription and transliteration of the Hebrew and Arabic alphabet. Articles will be published in Portuguese, English, Spanish and Ladino (in case of the latter, the author should clearly specify the spelling and transcription used) and all papers should be preceded by an abstract in the Portuguese and English. In addition to the studies which will make up the bulk of each volume, there will be a space for brief information about the authors, critical reviews, and announcements for example about talks, congresses and other events in this area of study. The journal will be published annually and will alternate between a specific theme one year and an issue on a variety of topics the next.

In the specific area of Judaic Studies, H-REJI intends to follow in the footsteps of the former *Revista de Estudos Hebraicos* (directed by Moses Bensabat Amzalak, and of which there was only one issue in 1928) in terms of the scientific standards required by the studies therein. The evolution of the Social Sciences and scientific dynamics in general means however that another format and other ambitions of greater plasticity are required, such as this project of studying two social groups and two minorities that populated the same spaces and which also both followed Diaspora paths that are still visible today. In this context, H-REJI strives to be a privileged space of high scientific standards for the dissemination of studies in the area: studies presenting and interpreting new research results; the comparison of trajectories with other social groups, including those of Diaspora, of historiographical, philosophical, anthropological and sociological reflection. The fundamental aim is to be a vehicle for the sharing of knowledge and reflections by established authors and young researchers and to stimulate interest in this area among the national and international academic milieu, above all in the Portuguese context.

The *Hamsa-Revista de Estudos Judaicos e Islâmicos* (Hamsa-Journal of Judaic and Islamic Studies) has a place in the international context due to the lack of a publication with these characteristics in Portuguese scientific circles and beyond. The journal will therefore provide an important support for the output of the many authors who wish to publish their studies in this area, with the scientific guarantees described herein that they will be disseminated with the necessary scientific quality.

The first issue of this journal focuses on the Past and calls for a critical reflection of the studies that are shaping these subjects in several countries (Portugal, Spain and Brazil) or within a specific theme, as in the case of the Medieval Muslim minority in the Iberian Peninsula. In fact, an epistemological principal underlies this perspective: the ontological character of the Past, that should be work as a 'space of experience', in order to reveal its other possibilities and, from there, to shape new 'horizons of expectation' for the Future¹.

Maria Filomena Lopes de Barros
José Alberto Rodrigues da Silva Tavim

¹ Paul Ricoeur, *Temps et récit, III, Le Temps raconté*, Paris, Éditions du Seuil, 1985, pp. 301-304.