



מכון ון ליר בירושלים

THE VAN LEER JERUSALEM INSTITUTE

معهد فان لير في القدس



Israeli-Palestinian  
Science Organization (IPSO)

# Environmental History and the History of Water in Israel and Palestine

International Conference

Sunday–Monday, September 18–19, 2011

The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, 43 Jabotinsky St., Jerusalem, Tel. 02-560-5222 [www.vanleer.org.il](http://www.vanleer.org.il)

## Sunday

September 18, 2011

10:30 – 10:45 – Greetings

**Prof. Gabriel Motzkin**, Director, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute

**Prof. Menahem Yaari**, Deputy Chair, The Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization (IPSO)

**Dr. Anat Lapidot-Firilla**, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute

Greetings from UNESCO and the Consulate General of Italy in Jerusalem

10:45 – 12:45

### Session 1 – Politics of Water

**Samer Alatout** (University of Wisconsin), From Abundance to Scarcity (1936-1959): A 'Fluid' History of Jewish Subjectivity in Historic Palestine and Israel (to be confirmed)

**David Schattner** (Tel Aviv University), Who Designed the Israeli "National Water Carrier"?

**Dan Bitan** (IPSO), American Involvement in Planning the Israeli National Water Carrier in the 1940s: From Progress to Hegemony?

**Abdul-Rahman Haj Ibrahim** (Palestine), The Ionides Report and its Political Impact, 1939-1942

13:15 – 14:15

### Session 2 – Water to Jerusalem

**Vincent Lemire** (Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée), A Water History of Jerusalem, 1840-1948: Reflections on a Global Hydro-Political Approach

**Assaf Selzer** (University of Haifa), Water to Jerusalem, Before 1948 and After: What Has Changed?

14:15 – 15:15 – Lunch Break

15:15 – 16:15

### Session 3 – Water and Landscape

**Eran Feitelson** (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Water Facets of Landscape Change in Israel/Palestine in the Early 20th Century

**Marwan Abu-Khalaf** (Palestine), The Local Landscape Effects of a Regional Water System in Artas, 1850-1948

16:15 – 16:45 – Coffee Break

16:45 – 18:15

### Session 4 – Water Law

**Amer Marei** (Palestine), Water Legislation in Mandate Palestine

**David Schorr** (Tel Aviv University), Who Made Water Law in Mandate Palestine?

**Maya Duany** (University of Haifa), Law and Water: Between History and Narrative

18:15 – 19:00

### Discussion and Concluding Remarks



# Monday

## September 19, 2011

10:00 – 11:30

### Session 5 – Collapse of Civilizations

**Ronnie Ellenblum** (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Collapse: What Can We Learn from the Events of the Eleventh Century AD & Climate Change?

Discussants: **Benjamin Z. Kedar** (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) **Ruthy Gertwagen** (University of Haifa)

11:30 – 12:00 – Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:30

### Session 6 – Cultural and Anthropological Perceptions as Shaping Agents of the Environment: Historical Perspective

**Tal Alon Mozes** (Technion, Israel Institute of Technology), Public Parks and the Emergence of Israel's Environmentalism

**Shlomit Tamari** (Sapir Academic College), The Concept of Nature in Education: From Rousseau to Merleau-Ponty

**Daniel Naveh** (University of Haifa), Changes in Hunter-Gatherers' Approach to the Environment: In Light of Past and Present Cases

13:30 – 14:30 – Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00

### Session 7 – Justice, Environment and Regional History

**Miri Shefer** (Tel Aviv University), A Muslim Environmental Discourse and Its History

**Thabet Abu-Rass** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), Environmental Injustice in Israel: The Case of the Unrecognized Bedouin Villages in the Negev

**Maya Negev** (Tel Aviv University) and **Nadav Davidovitch** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), The Politics of Water and Health in Palestine/Israel: A Critical Historical Perspective

16:00 – 17:00

### Discussion and Concluding Remarks

**Admission is free**  
**Parking is not available at the Institute**

