

- **Judith Hahn**, *God on Trial. How a Forensic View on the Theodicy Problem Contributes to a Theology of Law*

Discussion

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:30

## 9 | Closing Session: Looking back and looking forward

Chairs: **Ron Margolin and Georg Essen**

Panel Discussion

Future Research Cooperation

19:30 Closing Dinner

## Friday, 14.3.2014

12:00-17:00

**Religions and Cults in the Old City of Jerusalem.  
Excursion with Jonathan Lipnick.**

RSVP (and parking arrangements),  
to **Sara Vered** at  
SaraV@tauex.tau.ac.il | 03-6409275

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*The German Research Foundation (DFG)  
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Dean of Humanities  
Chaim Rosenberg School of Jewish Studies*

Cover Photo: *Ezekiel's vision, Dura Europos (Ezekiel 37:1-14)*

### List of Participants:

**Faculty of Protestant Theology and Faculty of Catholic Theology  
Ruhr University Bochum (RUB)**

Prof. Dr. Beate Ego, Exegese und Theologie des Alten Testaments – Ev. Theologie)

Prof. Dr. Georg Essen, Dogmatik und Dogmengeschichte – Kath. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Ute Gause, Reformationsgeschichte und Neuere Kirchengeschichte – Ev. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Katharina Greschat, Patristik – Ev. Theologie

Jun. Prof. Dr. Judith Hahn, Kirchenrecht – Kath. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Traugott Jähnichen, Christliche Gesellschaftslehre – Ev. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Isolde Karle, Homiletik, Liturgie und Poimenik – Ev. Theologie

Hon. Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Margot Käßmann, Oekumenische Theologie und Sozialethik – Ev. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Dr. Günter Thomas, Ethik und Fundamentaltheologie – Ev. Theologie

Dr. Michael Waltemathe, Religionspädagogik – Ev. Theologie

Dr. Christian Weidemann, Philosophisch-Theologische Grenzfragen – Kath. Theologie

Dr. Gunda Werner-Burggraf, Dogmatik und Dogmengeschichte – Kath. Theologie

Prof. Dr. Peter Wick, Exegese und Theologie des Neuen Testaments – Ev. Theologie

### The Department of Hebrew Culture Studies, TAU

Prof. Yairah Amit, Hebrew Bible (Emerita)

Prof. Athalyah Brenner, Hebrew Bible

Prof. Yair Hoffman, Hebrew Bible (Emeritus)

Dr. Gili Kugler, Hebrew Bible

Dr. Noam Mizrahi, Hebrew Bible

Prof. Frank Polak, Hebrew Bible (Emeritus)

Dr. Dalit Rom-Shiloni, Hebrew Bible

Dr. Talia Sutscover, Hebrew Bible

Dr. Adam Afterman, Jewish Philosophy

Dr. Yoram Jacobson, Jewish Philosophy (Emeritus)

Dr. Michael Mach, Jewish Philosophy

Prof. Menachem Laurberbaum, Jewish Philosophy

Prof. Ron Margolin, Jewish Philosophy

Prof. Ishai Rosen-Zvi, Jewish Philosophy

Dr. Barbara Meyer, Religion Studies

Dr. Nehama Verbin, Religion Studies, Philosophy



TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities  
Chaim Rosenberg School of Jewish Studies  
The Department of Hebrew Culture Studies



Ruhr University Bochum  
Faculty of Protestant Theology  
Faculty of Catholic Theology

# Theodicy and Protest: Jewish and Christian Perspectives on Terminology, Function, Literary Form, and Mutual Relationships

Tel Aviv University, March 10–14, 2014  
Gilman Building, Drachlis Hall, Room 496



### Organizers:

Beate Ego, Protestant Theology, RUB  
Georg Essen, Catholic Theology, RUB  
Ron Margolin, Jewish Philosophy, TAU  
Dalit Rom-Shiloni, Hebrew Bible, TAU

## Monday, 10.3.2014

09:00-12:00

### Opening Session

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Chair: **Ron Margolin**

Greetings:

**Tamar Sovran**, Chair of the Department of Hebrew Culture Studies, TAU

**Günter Thomas**, Dean of the Protestant Theology Faculty, RUB

Previous and current co-organizers:

**Yair Hoffman, Beate Ego, Dalit Rom-Shiloni**

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

### 1 | Hebrew Bible I

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■ **Yair Hoffman**, *Theodicy and Protest in Micah 7*

■ **Dalit Rom-Shiloni**, *Theodical Discourse: Theodicy & Protest in Sixth Century BCE Hebrew Bible Theology*

Discussion

12:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00

### 2 | Hebrew Bible II

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Chair: **Athalyah Brenner**

■ **Yairah Amit**, *The Frame Story of Job - A Literary Form of Protest*

■ **Frank Polak**, *Hidden Theodicy, Implied Protest and Secret Promise in the Opening of the Book of Exodus*

■ **Talia Sutscover**, *Explicit and Symbolic Struggling with the Divine Decree in Jonah*

Discussion

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:30

### 3 | Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Literature

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Chair: **Katharina Greschat**

■ **Gili Kugler**, *The Dual Role of Historiography in Psalms 106: Justifying the Present Distress and Demonstrating the Individual's Potential Contribution*

■ **Beate Ego**, *Angels and Theodicy in Second Temple Judaism*

■ **Noam Mizrahi**, *Divine Justice in the Songs of Sabbath Sacrifice*

Discussion

19:30 Opening Dinner

## Tuesday, 11.3.2014

09:00-12:00

### 4 | Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity

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Chair: **Gunda Werner**

■ **Michael Mach**, *Overcoming Theodicy in Post-Destruction Apocalypses*

■ **Peter Wick**, *The Death Has to Become a Servant of Life: Suffering and Death in the Gospel of Mark and in the Mystery Cults*

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

■ **Ishai Rosen-Zvi**, *Miracles and Providence Between Babylonia and Roman Palestine: Comparing Bavli and Yerushalmi Berachot 9:1*

■ **Katharina Greschat**, *Notions of Currency Valuation in Apelleian Thought and Theology. A Case Study of Objection in the Second Century*

Discussion

12:00-14:00 Lunch

15:00-19:00

**Tel Aviv the White City - following the city's history and its connection to Jaffa. Excursion guided by Ilan Schori.**

## Wednesday, 12.3.2014

09:00-12:00

### 5 | Jewish and Christian Thought through the Ages I

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Chair: **Peter Wick**

■ **Christian Weidemann**, *Three Problems of Evil. Why Theodicy and Protest Answer to Different Questions*

■ **Yoram Jacobson**, *The Concept of Evil in R. Moses Hayyim Luzzatto's Writings*

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

■ **Ute Gause**, *"By gracious powers wonderfully sheltered?" To Bear and to Master Misery, Illustrated by Luther and Bonhoeffer*

Discussion

12:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00

### 6 | Jewish and Christian Thought through the Ages II

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Chair: **Menachem Laurberbaum**

■ **Traugott Jähnichen**, *Action Instead of Reflection. Orthopraxis as Model of Coping with the Problem of Theodicy in Modern Theology*

■ **Ron Margolin**, *Meaning and Meaninglessness of Theodicy after the Holocaust: A Jewish Point of View*

■ **Günter Thomas**, *The Immutability of God in Face of the Suffering in Creation*

Discussion

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

## Thursday, 13.3.2014

09:00-12:00

### 7 | Jewish and Christian Thought through the Ages III

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Chair: **Adam Afterman**

■ **Nehama Verbin**, *Protest and Silence in the Face of Evil*

■ **Georg Essen**, *The Rock of Atheism. Christian Theology challenged by Georg Büchner's Criticism of Theodicy*

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

■ **Gunda Werner**, *Remembering and Forgiving: Towards an Indicative Realization of Hope within Theological Theodicy. A Systematic-Theological Approach*

■ **Barbara Meyer**, *Theodicy in Christian Post-Shoah Thought*

Discussion

12:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00

### 8 | Teaching, Preaching, Pastoral Care and Law (or "Practical Aspects")

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Chair: **Traugott Jähnichen**

■ **Michael Waltemathe**, *Protest, Theodicy and Religious Education - Thoughts on Teaching Contrariness*

■ **Isolde Karle**, *Asking Why? Challenges for Pastoral Care*

■ **Margot Käßmann**, *"You will die! Let's talk about it...". Pastoral Reflections on a Media Campaign*