



# RABBI, PROFESSOR, LORD:

## A Conference in Honour of Jonathan Sacks

### International Conference Bar Ilan University

**Tuesday , 17 January**

**17.30**

The Marcus and Ann Rosenberg Music Building (1005), Concert Hall

**Chair: Dr. Miriam Feldmann Kaye**  
Bar-Ilan University

**President Yitzhak Herzog** (video)  
**Prof. Arie Zaban**, President of Bar-Ilan University  
**Mr. Eliot Sacks**  
**Prof. Hanoch Ben-Pazi**, Bar-Ilan University

#### Jonathan Sacks: Rabbi, Professor, Lord

**Prof. Dov Schwartz**, Bar-Ilan University  
**Rabbi Sacks and Religious Zionism (Hebrew)**

**Prof. Hava Tirosh-Samuelson**, Arizona State University

**Rabbi Sacks:  
A Post-Secular Public Theologian**

**Prof. Jonathan Rynhold**, Bar-Ilan University  
**Jonathan Sacks:  
The Rabbi as Public Intellectual**

### Dinner

(invitation only)

**19.30**

**'Biss Biss', Building 1004**

Sponsored by British Friends of Bar-Ilan University

**Wednesday 18 January**

Beit HaRav Jakobovits Building (1002), Lecture Theatre 01

#### Part 1: Jewish Philosophy

**09.00-10.30**

**Rabbi Sacks as a Jewish Philosopher**

**Chair: Prof. Yehuda Halper**

**Prof. Hanoch Ben-Pazi**, Bar-Ilan University  
**Rethinking Judaism:  
The Ethical Challenge of Jonathan Sacks**

**Dr. Miri Freud-Kandel**, University of Oxford

**Jonathan Sacks, the British Chief  
Rabbinat and the Challenges of  
Religious leadership**

**Prof. Lawrence Kaplan**, McGill University  
**Rabbi Sacks on R. Soloveitchik's Religious  
Philosophy**

**Dr. Tzachi Cohen**, Ono Academic College  
**Difficult Texts - Value Confrontation and  
Creative Hermeneutics in the Teachings  
of Rabbi Sacks and Patterned Listening  
in H. N. Bialik's Thought (Hebrew)**

**10.45-12.00**

**Philosophical Dialogue with Rabbi  
Sacks**

**Chair: Prof. Tamar Ross**

**Prof. Daniel Rynhold**, Yeshiva University  
**Theories of the Self: Philosophy &  
Pragmatism in the Thought of  
Jonathan Sacks**

**Dr. Miriam Feldmann Kaye**, Bar-Ilan University

**The "Great Eclipse": Enlightenment  
Philosophy in Rabbi Sacks early Jewish  
Thought**

**Dr. Tamra Wright**, Yeshiva University  
**"There is a Moral Obligation to be Clear":  
Continental and Analytical Philosophy in  
the Thought of Rabbi Sacks**

**13.00-14.30**

**To Heal a Fractured World' The Ethics of  
Responsibility: Contemporary Challenges**

**Chair: Prof. Miriam Faust**

**Prof. Laurie Zoloth**, University of Chicago

**Rabbi Sacks and the Ethics of  
Sustainability**

**Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari**, Bar-Ilan University

**Rabbi Sacks' Torah: A Feminist Perspective**

**Rabbi Prof. Samuel Lebens**, University of  
Haifa  
**"Religion is Not a Private Language": Rabbi  
Sacks on the Public Nature of Religion**

**Rabbi Dr. Eugene Korn**, Center for  
Jewish-Christian Understanding

**Telos, Tragedy and Triumph: Jonathan  
Sacks on the Jewish Covenantal Mission**

**14.45-16.00**

**The Covenant: Modern Jewish Thought**

**Chair: Dr. Leore Sachs Shmueli**

**Prof. Alan Brill**, Seton Hall University

**The Dignity of Globalization**

**Dr. Tanya White**, Matan Institute

**The Place of Covenantal Theology in the  
Work of Rabbi Sacks**

**Prof. Joshua Berman**, Bar-Ilan University  
**Forgiveness Studies in the Writing of  
Rabbi Jonathan Sacks: A Case Study in  
His Use of Social Thought**

#### Part 2: Inter-Faith Dialogue and Religious Conflict

**16.15-17.30**

**Countering Religious Extremism From  
'The Dignity of Difference' to 'Not in God's  
Name'**

**Chair: Dr. Ben Mollov**, Bar-Ilan  
University

**Prof. Barbara Meir**, Tel Aviv University

**Introducing Dignity to Difference: The  
Notion of Otherness in Interreligious  
Philosophy**

**Prof. Ephraim Meir**, Bar-Ilan University

**Sibling Rivalries in the Monotheistic Family  
& Rabbi Sack's Interreligious Theology**

**Dr. Alon Goshen-Gottstein**, Elijah Interfaith Institute

**Was Rabbi Sacks Interested in Other  
Religions?**

**Thursday 19 January**

Beit HaRav Jakobovits Building (1002),  
Lecture Theatre 01

#### Part 3: The Bible

**09.00-10.30**

**Rabbi Sacks and Biblical Parshanut**

**Chair: Prof. Arie Reich**, Bar-Ilan University

**Ms. Jessica Sacks**, Koren Publishers, Jerusalem

**Dignity of Diction: The Translation Work  
of Rabbi Sacks**

**Rabbi Dr. Reuven Leigh**, Chabad, Cambridge  
University

**Jonathan Sacks as a Biblical Exegete**

**Dr. Tova Ganzel**, Bar-Ilan University

**The Role of Exile in Rabbi Sacks' Sermons**

**Rabbi Dr. Michael Harris**, London School of  
Jewish Studies

**Violent Biblical Texts in the Thought of  
Rabbi Sacks**

#### Part 4: Education and Leadership

**10.45-12.00**

**'Tradition in an Untraditional Age':  
Orthodoxy and the Confrontation  
with Modernity**

**Chair: Dr. Amira Schiff**

**Rabbi Dr. Raphael Zarum**, London School of  
Jewish Studies

**Jonathan Sacks: Renaissance Rabbi and  
the Birth of Modern Orthodoxy**

**Rabbi Barry Kleinberg**, University of Haifa  
**Does Rabbi Sacks' Religious Pluralism  
Result in the Collapse of Orthodoxy?**

**Prof. Avinoam Rosenak**, Hebrew University  
of Jerusalem

**Rabbi Sacks and the Limits of the Humanist -  
Orthodox Translation**

**12.15-13.30**

**Rabbi Sacks and Religious Leadership**

**Chair: Dr. Tzachi Hershkovitz**

**Prof. Zehavit Gross**, Bar-Ilan University

**The Educational Legacy of Rabbi J. Sacks**

**Rabbanit Yafit Clymer**, Matan Institute &  
Bar-Ilan University

**The Idea of Prayer in Rabbi Sacks' Thought**

**Prof. Leslie Wagner**, Former Vice-President of  
the United Synagogue (UK)

**Rabbi Sacks: The Making of a Great  
Religious Leader**

**14.30**

The Marcus and Ann Rosenberg Music  
Building (1005), Concert Hall

#### Part 5: Judaism and the Realm of Politics

**14.30-16.00**

**'The Politics of Hope': Judaism and  
Political Thought**

**Chair: Dr. Elisheva Rosman-Stollman**,  
Bar-Ilan University

**Prof. Nahshon Perez**, Bar-Ilan University

**Religious Communitarianism & Liberal  
Theory: Necessary, Compatible,  
Contradictory?**

**Dr. Benjamin Schvarcz**, Bar-Ilan University

**Israel, a Missing Dimension in Jonathan  
Sacks' Political Theory**

**Prof. Moshe Hellinger**, Bar-Ilan University

**Rabbi Sacks as a Jewish Liberal  
Communitarian Thinker**

#### Keynote Speaker

**16.15-17.00**

**Chair: Prof. Jonathan Rynhold**

**Prof. Robert Putnam**, Harvard University

**How Two Voyages of Discovery in 1831  
Are Astonishingly Relevant Today: An  
Unexpected Encounter with Jonathan Sacks**

#### Roundtable - שולחן עגול

**17.15-18.30**

**Future Tense: Rabbi Sacks & Visions for  
Israel & the Jewish People in a Global Culture**

**בלשון עתיד: הרב זקס וחזון לישראל וליהדות  
בתרבות הגלובלית**

**Chair: Prof. Hanoch Ben-Pazi**

**Prof. Adam Ferziger**, Bar-Ilan University (Hebrew)

**Prof. Michal Govrin**, The Hartman Institute  
(Hebrew)

**Rabbi David Wolpe**, Sinai Temple, Los Angeles  
(English)

#### Concluding Lecture

**18.30**

**Chair: Prof. Amnon Albeck**, Rector

**Dr. Micha Goodman**, Shalom Hartman  
Institute, Jerusalem (Hebrew)

**The Later Thought of Sacks as an  
Indictment Against Postmodernism**

