



The Samaritan Update

"Mount Gerizim,
All the Days of Our Lives"



September / October 2012

Vol. XII - No 1

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Future Events

The First Day of the Seventh Month - October 15, 2012
 The Day of Atonement - October 24, 2012
 Succot - October 29, 2012
 Shmini Atzeret - November 5, 2012.
 The Eighth Month 3651 - November 14, 2012
 The Ninth Month 3651 - December 13, 2012
 The Tenth Month 3651 - January 12, 2013
 The Eleventh Month 3651 - February 10, 2013
 The Twelfth Month 3651 - March 12, 2013
 The Fifth Month 3651 - April 10, 2013
 Paschal Sacrifice - April 23, 2013
 Pesach - April 24, 2013
 The Unleavened Bread Festival - April 30, 2013
 Shavuot - June 16, 2013

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## Kedem Public Auction House Ltd Auction no. 27- Books, Manuscripts, Rabbinical Letters

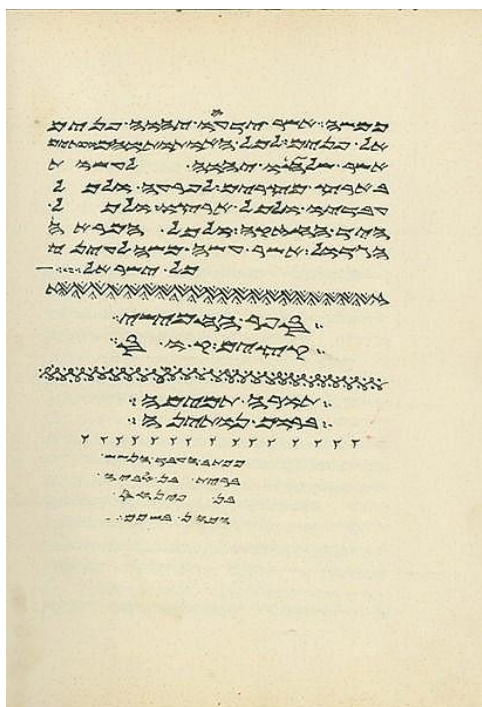
**November 6, 2012, 5:00 PM EET | Jerusalem, Israel**  
 Lot 9 | Manuscript, Shomron "Pentateuch"  
 Handwritten on heavy paper. [Nablus, beginning of 20th century?]. Colophon of the scribe "Brit ben Tabia ben Pinchas HaCohen of Nablus". Bound as a book in antique leather binding, [388] leaves. 33 cm. Good condition. Wear and tear and ink blur to several leaves. Damages to binding.

<http://www.artfact.com/auction-lot/manuscript,-shomron-torah-scroll-9-c-b7df6c6e49> (Picture: see link)

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Someone Else's Simcha / Ori Marchiv's Hatimat Torah - A Samaritan rite of passage busts a move By Ron Ben-Tovim | Oct.15, 2012

Ori Marchiv's Hatimat Torah Ceremony A young Samaritan boy marks the community's version of a Bar Mitzvah, with all the standard staples: Torah, dancing, food, and, of course, video games. <http://www.haaretz.com/link>



Someone Else's Simcha / Eran Altif's brit milah - Making the cut, Samaritan styleBy **Ron Ben-Tovim** | Aug.21, 2012

Nestled in the city of Holon, one small street holds the secrets to an ancient community, and one's family's new obsession – a baby boy. <http://www.haaretz.com/link>

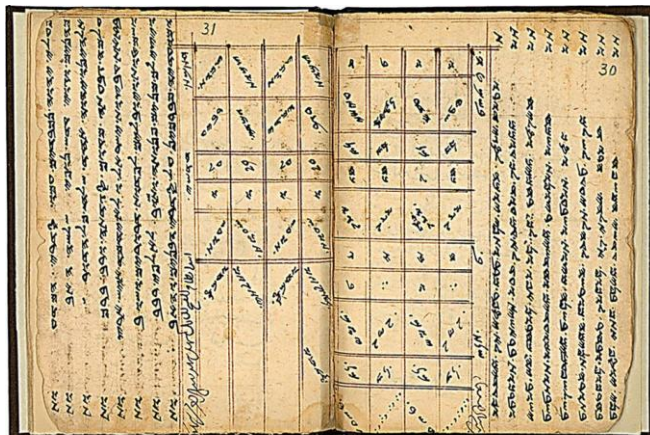
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**THE CALCULATION OF THE ISRAELITE SAMARITAN CALENDAR**

It is an Israelite-Samaritan calculation that is traditionally based on the measurements from the top of Mount Gerizim as it is checked by the High Priest Pinchas b. Elazar b. Aaron the second High Priest in the Sacred Land of Israel.

The starting point of this Calendar is the first year of the Entrance of the People of Israel to the Promised Land lead by Joshua Bin-Nun, 3651 years ago. The Entrance just happened in the beginning of the 6th month [Parallel to Elul or September]. But the Hebrew years starts in the first Month of the year - Month of Aviv.

Since the calculation of the leap years in both Jewish and Samaritan Calendars is the same but the beginning year of both calendars is different (The Jewish one starts in the first year of Creation 5773 ago), the leap years in both calendars are not parallel forever, and the result is that in a cycle of 19 years. The Israelite Samaritans will celebrate their Seven Festivals of the Torah – one month after the Jewish parallel festivals.



MS 1999 Samaritan book script. Nablus, or Damascus, ca. 1339-1340

Therefore the rest of the festivals of this Hebrew Year will be like 30 days after the Jewish Festivals:

- The First Day of the Seventh Month - Monday, October 15, 2012
- The Day of Fasting - Wednesday, October 24, 2012
- The First Day of Succot - Monday, October 29, 2012
- Shmini Atzeret - Monday, November 5, 2012

(Picture: An old Israelite-Samaritan Calendar written by hand for the year 1339-1340 CE)

The tradition of the birth of the moon still was kept till 30 years ago. But since then the entire calculation was installed on a computer system by the late Priest Abraham b. Pinchas from Holon. According to this system, the High Priest confirms and prints a calendar for six months twice a year, 60 days before Pessach and 60 days before Succot and gave it to every male in the community over 20 years old for the sacred half of a shekel valued these years exactly 5 New Israeli Shekels. The chance to make a mistake due to this computer system in calculation the birth of the moon is one second in a million years.

**Benyamim Tsedaka**

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Youtube:**The Good Samaritan**

The Samaritan priest Ishaq Ibn Imran, in a 1920s film about the Good Samaritan.

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/UZqIOW-iRW0>

High Priest Yitzhaq b. 'Amram passed away on 23.12.1932. Matzliach b. Phinhas (1933-1943) served as High Priest after Yitzhaq. The film is part of a collection from

<http://www.travelfilmarchive.com/>

<http://www.travelfilmarchive.com/goodsamaritan>

**Livnat: End 'Cultural Freeze' in Judea, Samaria**

'Tel Aviv is set, it's time to worry about Judea and Samaria,' Culture Minister says as Samaria celebrates new Bible-era historic site. [Israel National News.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com)



GerizimSamaritan.com is a web site of their Restaurant (photo below) and Grocery Store/Market (photo left) located on Mount Gerizim, owned and operated by Samaritans. The web site has many photos of a variety. The Restaurant has been open since 2001.



Should you be visiting Mount Gerizim be sure to schedule your time to dine at the Restaurant. If you are on a tour group, speak to your guide before had to have time to dine! It is always best to call and reserve a table and inform them how many will be attending. Don't miss this chance for some really great Samaritan dishes!



Now that Mount Gerizim summit is open to the public, many people are experiencing a unique dining experience!

The Grocery Store/Market has is a small typical grocery with rare homemade Samaritan olive oil and spices.

You can visit their website at:

<http://www.gerizimsamaritan.com/index.php/en/>

Call ahead of time from Israel at 09-2000000

or email them at the following page

<http://www.gerizimsamaritan.com/index.php/en/contact-us-en>
(photo left: guests dining at the restaurant)

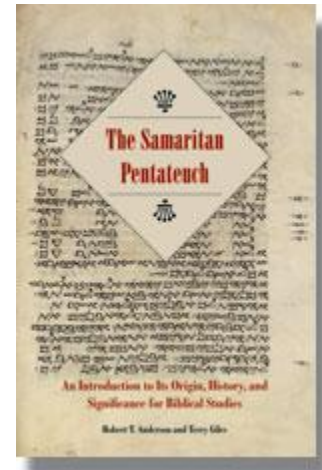
New Publications

The Samaritan Pentateuch: An Introduction to Its Origin, History, and Significance for Biblical Studies

by **Robert T. Anderson & Terry Giles**

Paperback: 236 pages: English. Publisher: Society of Biblical Literature (October 18, 2012). ISBN-10: 1589836995 ISBN-13: 978-1589836990 Product Dimensions: 9 x 6 x 0.5 inches

[Samaritan Pentateuch Introduction Significance Biblical](#)



Studia Philonica Annual XXIV, 2012

by **David T. Runia and Gregory E. Sterling**

The Studia Philonica Annual is a scholarly journal devoted to furthering the study of Hellenistic Judaism, in particular the writings and thought of the Hellenistic-Jewish writer Philo of Alexandria (ca. 15 B.C.E. to ca. 50 C.E.). Each year the Annual publishes the most current Philonic scholarship along with an extensive bibliography that is maintained by David Runia. Paper \$42.95 • 306 pages • ISBN 9781589836976 • Studio Philonica Annual 24

Philo of Alexandria's Exposition of the Tenth Commandment

by **Hans Svebakken**

In his comprehensive exposition of the Tenth Commandment (Spec. 4.79–131), Philo considers the prohibition “You shall not desire”: what sort of desire it prohibits (and why) and how the Mosaic dietary laws collectively enforce that prohibition. This volume offers the first complete study of Philo’s exposition, beginning with an overview of its content, context, and place in previous research. In-depth studies of Philo’s concept of desire and his concept of self-control provide background and demonstrate Philo’s fundamental agreement with contemporary Middle-Platonic moral psychology, especially in his theory of emotion (*pathos*). A new translation of the exposition, with commentary, offers a definitive explanation of Philo’s view of the Tenth Commandment, including precisely the sort of excessive desire it targets and how the dietary laws work as practical exercises for training the soul in self-control.

Paper \$29.95 • 250 pages • ISBN 9781589836181 • Studia Philonica Monographs 6

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### **FREE AND OPEN INVITATION TO THE SAMARITAN ISRAELITE SUCCAH**

30-31.10-1.11.2012

**Miriam and Benyamim Tsedaka**

Coordination of visits: Tel: 972-3-5567229; 972-525-333104

To my many readers from within the People of Israel, who are called Jews and from other faiths and none religious:

We the Israelite Samaritans celebrated the Festivals of the Seventh Month of the Year based on the Israelite Samaritan Calendar. All these 4 festivals will be from The evening of 15Th of

October till the night of 5Th of November 2012:

The first Day of Succot : October 29- The Eighth day of Succot: November 5

You are very welcomed to visit our Succa in 15A Ben 'Amram St. in Holon , Israel, between October 30 till November 4 noon [Except Saturday - November 3, 2012 and enjoy the delicatessens of the Festival of Succot, FOR FREE

Times of visits: Everyday, any time between 8Am to 8PM, Sunday, November 4: 8AM - 1PM

Note: this invitation is limited to private visits of private singles and couples. (Photo above: A Samaritan sukkah)

## From the Editor

### The Samaritan Sukkah

The Samaritan third pilgrimage feast, Sukkot (the Feast of Tabernacles), is celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the seventh month. The Samaritans begin to build their sukkah inside their homes on the eve after their feast from their fast of the day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). Fruits (prescribed in Lev. 23:40,) are hung from a metal grid support from the ceilings. Above the fruits are placed



palm branches. Each sukkah is designed differently and takes about eight hours to complete. The Sukkot was originally built outside but because of repressions over hundreds of years the Samaritans turned to building their sukkahs inside making it a custom. Yet, today you may find the Sukkah built outside in Neve Pinchas, Holon. Samaritans and guests will tour the homes as a pilgrimage. (Marhiv's family sukkah built outside but within the gates.)

During the seven days of Sukkot, prayers and Torah readings are

chanted in the synagogue in the morning and evening. On the eight day, being Shemini Aseret (according to Num. 29:35) is celebrated with special hymns and Torah readings with no work allowed. At the end of the day, the priests will carry their Torah scrolls around the inside of the synagogue. Later that eve they begin to dismantle the sukkahs, enjoying the fruit thereof and burning the palm branches.

Also I think that it is important that scholars, use the following when describing the location of the Samaritans in Holon: **Neve Pinchas, a District of Holon**

'In 1954, the president of Israel, **Yitzhak Ben-Zvi**, helped to establish a Samaritan quarter on the outskirts of Holon. The quarter was named **Neve Pinchas** after **Pinhas Ben-Abraham**, the high priest of the Samaritan community.' <http://en.wikipedia.org>

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We are now into our 12th year of publication for the Samaritan Update. Once again I would like to thank all that have contributed and also the readers, Thank You!!!! I would also like to say thank you to Osher Sassoni, who persuaded me into producing theSamaritanUpdate.com. So if

you have enjoyed or learned anything from the Updates, the Thanks goes to Osher! Please take the time to say thank you to him! oshersa@gmail.com

The Samaritan Update is open to any articles that are relative to Samaritan Studies. Submit your work to the Editor. [The Editor](#)

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## Ebay:

### **SAMARITAN [SHOMRONIM] Jewish prayer prior Passover. [Judaica book] 1962 TEFILLOT SHTEI SHABATOT LIFNEI PESSACH**

Prayers for the two weeks prior to Passover. Authored be Abraham Zadaka, a Jewish Samaritan. [ebay.com Link](#)

## Book Reviews:

***Journal of Hebrew Scriptures - Volume 12 (2012)*** – Review by **Reinhard Pummer** on Kartveit, Magnar, ***The Origin of the Samaritans*** (VTSup, 128; Leiden: Brill, 2009). Pp. xiv + 405. Hardcover. US\$185.00. ISBN 978-90-04-1-78199-9.

<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/jhs/article/view/18400/14384>

***Theologische Literaturzeitung* 137 (2012) 1044-1046**, Reinhard Pummer review of József Zsengeller, ed. ***Samaria, Samaritans, Samaritans: Studies on Bible, History and Linguistics***. Studia Judaica, 66; Studia Samaritana, 6. Berlin; Boston: de Gruyter, 2011.

***Journal of Jewish Studies* 63.1 (2012)**, pp. 175-76 Review by **Dr Alinda Damsma** on Jan Dušek's book, ***Aramaic and Hebrew Inscriptions from Mt. Gerizim and Samaria between Antiochus III and Antiochus IV Epiphanes*** (Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, 2012),

## Biblios:

***Ethnicity, Identity, and Institution: The Relevance of Ethnic Identity for the Development of Diaspora Synagogues***, by **Whitney Ross**, McMaster University, 2012

Book of Exodus in Hebrew in Samaritan character, 1865

<http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nnc1.cu58983651>

**Mischpâtîm : ein samaritanisch-arabischer Kommentar zu Ex. 21-22, 15 / von Ibrâhîm Ibn Jakûb**; nach einer Berliner Handschrift hrsg. und mit einer Einleitung und.. 1902.

<http://babel.hathitrust.org>

**Kendirci, R.**, 2012. *Iron Age Aeolic Style Capitals in the Israel and Palestine Area*. Master's thesis in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University. [fulltext »](#)

<http://uu.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2:533589>

**Zsengeller, Jozsef**, The Day of Atonement of the Samaritans in ***The Day of Atonement: Its' Interpretations in Early Jewish and Christian Traditions (Themes in Biblical Narrative)*** by **Thomas Hieke and Tobias Nicklas** (Dec 31, 2011) Pg. 139-161.

**Samaritan Elegies, A Collection of Lamentations, Admonitions, and Poems of Praising God**, Translated, edited and annotated by **Moshe Florentin**, The Bialik Institute. Catalogue No.: 1111707 [http://www.bialik-publishing.co.il/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=1563](http://www.bialik-publishing.co.il/product_info.php?products_id=1563)  
<http://searchworks.stanford.edu/view/9680558>

**Samaritan, Hebrew and Aramaic Studies**, Presented To **Professor Abraham Tal**, **Moshe Bar-Asher** and **Moshe Florentin** Editores, The Bialik Institute. Catalogue No.: 1110212  
[http://www.bialik-publishing.co.il/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=1176](http://www.bialik-publishing.co.il/product_info.php?products_id=1176)

## Links:

ים הרחמים Harahamim Yam - יום כיפור 2012, בית הכנסת בהר גריזים  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3WXIWORSkQ&feature=share&noredirect=1>

Samaritan Shabbath Pray השומרונים בקהילת שומרונית שבת תפילת  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0W30Ba4p-s&feature=b-vrec>

**Samaritan Archives Project Receives International Press Attention**  
<http://www2.matrix.msu.edu/2012/06/samaritan-archives-project-receives-international-press-attention/>

**Unravelling the mystery of the Samaritans**  
<http://gulfnews.com/about-gulf-news/al-nisr-portfolio/weekend-review/unravelling-the-mystery-of-the-samaritans-1.1072360>

التيه الإسراء يلي في سدينا.. أول كتاب يكشف رؤية الطائفة السامرية للتية  
 08-10-2012 14:57 الإثنا عشر أ: كتاب

**"Israel in the Sinai Wilderness" ..The first book reveals vision Samaritan**  
<http://www.elwatannews.com/news/details/58885>

شاهد بالصور عيد الفصح.. السامريون أعرق طائفة في العالم: عزل النساء  
 في ترة النفاس والحيض لمدة طويلة.. ختان الطفل في اليوم الثامن وإلا  
 يقتل  
<http://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/2012/10/31/329976.html>

## Жертвоприношение на горе Гризим - варварство или духовность?

(Translation: Sacrifice on Mount Gerizim- barbarism or spirituality?)

**Sukkot, Samaritans and wine** by **Donald Carr**, Special to The CJN, Tuesday, October 16, 2012 <http://www.cjnews.com/index.php?q=node/95455>

**Samaritanlar Sukot bayramını kutluyor**  
<http://www.haberturk.com/dunya/haber/566194-samaritanlar-sukot-bayramini-kutluyor>

מגילת ספר התורה העתיק ביותר בעולם -מכתב אבישע  
<http://www.tapuz.co.il/blog/net/ViewEntry.aspx?EntryId=2416559&r=1&ref=share&skip=1>

**Dates and Holidays Samaritan community for October November 2012**

מועדי וחגי העדה השומרונית לחודשים אוקטובר נובמבר 2102

<http://www.tapuz.co.il/blog/net/ViewEntry.aspx?EntryId=2398223>

**The Samaritans Of Mount Gerizim**

<http://thevelvetrocket.com/2012/03/07/the-samaritans-of-mount-gerizim/>

**Guard's of Mount Grizim by Alex Maist**

<http://www.jewishmag.com/78mag/samaritans/samaritans.htm>

**Using cutting-edge technology, researchers unearth the history of Israel's**

**Samaritan community** By Ofer Aderet | May 25, 2012 <http://rid.olfo.org/doc/haaretzstory.pdf>

**HUC-JIR Libraries Home** <http://library.huc.edu/cgi-bin>

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Call for Papers**SBL 2012 ANNUAL MEETING CHICAGO. ILL**

Meeting Begins: 11/16/2012

Meeting Ends: 11/20/2012

Call for Papers Closed: 3/8/2012

Requirements for Participation**2013 INTERNATIONAL MEETING**

St. Andrews, Scotland: Meeting Begins: 7/7/2013 Meeting Ends: 7/11/2013

Call For Papers Opens: 10/15/2012 Call For Papers Closes: 2/1/2013

Requirements for Participation BIBLICAL CHARACTERS IN THE THREE TRADITIONS

[Mishaël Maswari Caspi](#) [John Tracy Greene](#)

Description: This seminar approaches biblical literature through its most famous and pivotal characters, for it is around them that the subsequent biblical story is organized and arranged. Moreover, these characters have come to enjoy a life and fame that extends well beyond the basic Old Testament, Miqra, and New Testament, and even into the Qur'an and Islamic oral and written texts. As was demonstrated at the recent Tartu seminar, **Samaritan texts** and traditions (unfamiliar to many) have a contribution to make to the seminar as well. Our work seeks, among other goals, to facilitate a meaningful and informed dialogue between Jews, Christians, Muslims and **Samaritans** by providing both an open forum at annual conferences, and by providing through our publications a written reference library to consult. A further goal is to encourage and provide a forum in which new scholarly talent in biblical and related studies may be presented.

http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Congresses_ProgramUnits.aspx?MeetingId=22

Call for Manuscripts: Biblia Arabica : Texts and Studies

The progressive spread of Arabic as the dominant spoken and written language in the lands conquered by Islam led the Jewish, Christian and **Samaritan** communities under its rule to translate their sacred scriptures into Arabic. This resulted in a large number of partial and integral translations revealing a great variety in stylistic approaches, vocabulary, script, and dogmatic concerns. This series addresses the lacuna in research by publishing critical editions of Arabic books produced in the Middle Ages and beyond, studies examining the different schools and persons that took part in this scriptural translation enterprise, as well as

the social and cultural implications of their endeavor. In addition, the reception of and reactions to these Bible translations by Muslim authors fall within the scope of the series.

The first book in this series, *The Bible in Arabic: An Annotated Bibliography*, by Adam McCollum, is expected in the beginning of 2013.

For further information about this new book series or enquiries regarding book proposals, please contact any of the six members of the editorial board: Camilla Adang, Juan Pedro Monferrer Sala, Meira Polliack, Sabine Schmidtke, Alexander Treiger, Ronny Vollandt.

<http://www.tumblr.com/tagged/call-for-papers?before=1347366375>

[Middle East, Islamic, and African Studies - Brill Publishing](#)

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***The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah:***

**First English Translation Compared with the Masoretic Version**

**Benyamim Tsedaka** (Editor and Translator), **Sharon Sullivan** (Co-Editor),

**James H. Charlesworth** (Introduction), **Emanuel Tov** (Foreword)

Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. (Hardcover)

Publication Date: **11/30/2012**

[http://www.eerdmans.com/shop/product.asp?p\\_key=9780802865199](http://www.eerdmans.com/shop/product.asp?p_key=9780802865199)

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TheSamaritanUpdate.com, is a Bi-Monthly Internet Newsletter

Editor: Larry Rynearson. Contact: [The Editor](#)

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