



The Samaritan Update

“Mount Gerizim,
All the Days of Our Lives”



September / October 2018

Vol. XVIII - No 1

[Your link to the Samaritan Update Index](#)

2018, the Samaritan Community number 810.

In This Issue

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Future Events

It has been 3657 years since the entrance into the Holy Land which happened on the Sixth Month of the Hebrew Year.
(Samaritan's typical calendar)

2018

The Eighth Month 3657 - November 7, 2018

The Ninth Month 3657 - December 6, 2018

The Tenth Month 3657 - January 5, 2019

The Eleventh Month 3657 - February 4, 2019

The Twelfth Month 3657 - March 6, 2019

The First Month 3657 - April 4, 2019

Passover Sacrifice - April 18, 2019

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**Happy Sukkot Image from Jac Samri (Facebook) Oct. 21, 2018**

**Samaritans greet the dawn atop their holiest mountain to mark Sukkot holiday**

**[efe-epaNabulus, West Bank](#)23 Oct 2018 [view the article here](#)**

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Congratulations!

CELINE, NEW BABY GIRL WAS BORN
(Oct. 15, 2018) IN KIRIAT LUZA, MOUNT
GERIZIM TO **VIKA AND RAFI B. YEHUDA
ALTIF**

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### 4 new articles from Haseeb Shehadeh

## الكاهن الأكبر يمنع ثأراً

### The High Priest Prevents Revenge

ب. حسيب شحادة  
جامعة هلسنكي

في ما يلي ترجمة عربية لهذه القصة، التي رواها الكاهن الأكبر يوسف ابن أبي الحسن (حسده) ابن الكاهن الأكبر يعقوب الحفتاوي (١٩١٩-١٩٩٨، كاهن أكبر ١٩٨٧-١٩٩٨، أحبته طائفته، ساعي سلام، إمام في الصلاة) بالعربية على مسامع الأمين (بنياميم) صدقة، الذي بدوره نقلها إلى العبرية، نقحها، اعتنى بأسلوبها ونشرها في الدورية السامرية أ. ب. - أخبار السامرة، عدد ١٢٣٨-١٢٣٩، ١٥ أيار ٢٠١٧، ص. ٦٠-٦٣. هذه الدورية التي تصدر مرتين شهرياً في مدينة حولون جنوبي تل أبيب، فريدة من نوعها - إنها تستعمل أربع لغات بأربعة خطوط أو أربع أبجديات: العبرية أو الآرامية السامرية بالخط العبري القديم، المعروف اليوم بالحروف السامرية؛ العبرية الحديثة بالخط المربع/الأشوري، أي الخط العبري الحالي؛ العربية بالرسم العربي؛ الإنجليزية (أحياناً لغات أخرى مثل الفرنسية والألمانية والإسبانية) بالخط اللاتيني.

بدأت هذه الدورية السامرية في الصدور منذ أواخر العام ١٩٦٩، وما زالت تصدر بانتظام، تُوزع مجاناً على كل بيت سامري في نابلس وحولون، قرابة الثمانمائة سامري، وهناك مشتركون فيها من الباحثين والمهتمين في الدراسات السامرية، في شتى أرجاء العالم. هذه الدورية ما زالت حية تُرزق، لا بل وتتطور بفضل إخلاص ومثابرة المحررين، الشقيقين، الأمين وحسني (بنياميم ويفت)، نجلي المرحوم راضي (رتسون) صدقة (٢٢ شباط ١٩٢٢-٢٠ كانون الثاني ١٩٩٠).

”إعطاء ملجأ لقاتل

Link to article: [http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/the\\_high\\_priest\\_prevents\\_revenge.pdf](http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/the_high_priest_prevents_revenge.pdf)

## المَطَرُ وَمُحْيِي الطائفة

He Who Brings down Rain and Revives the Community

ب. حسيب شحادة

جامعة هلسنكي

في ما يلي ترجمة عربية لهذه القصة، التي رواها الكاهن يعقوب بن شفيق (عزّي) بن الكاهن الأكبر يعقوب الحفقاوي (١٨٩٩-١٩٨٧)، كاهن أكبر ١٩٨٤-١٩٨٧، رجل حكيم بشكل استثنائي، عمل صحفياً في ثلاثينات وأربعينات القرن العشرين في الصحف العبرية - هآرتس/الأرض/البلاد، دقار.أمر/شيء، دوتر هيوم/بريد اليوم، بوكرو/صباح - وفي الصحيفة الإنجليزية Palestine Post: مؤلف بالعربية، ذو شخصية محبوبة ومحدث لبِق) بالعربية على مسامع الأمين (بنياميم) صدقة، الذي بدوره نقلها إلى العبرية، نقّحها، اعتنى بأسلويا ونشرها في الدورية السامرية أ. ب. - أخبار السامرة، عدد ١٢٣٨-١٢٣٩، ١٥ أيار ٢٠١٧، ص. ٥٧-٦٠. هذه الدورية التي تصدر مرّتين شهرياً في مدينة حولون جنوبي تل أبيب، فريدة من نوعها - إنّها تستعمل أربع لغات بأربعة خطوط أو أربع أبجديات: العبرية أو الآرامية السامرية بالخط العبري القديم، المعروف اليوم بالحروف السامرية؛ العبرية الحديثة بالخط المربع/الأشوري، أي الخط العبري الحالي؛ العربية بالرسم العربي؛ الإنجليزية (أحياناً لغات أخرى مثل الفرنسية والألمانية والإسبانية) بالخط اللاتيني.

بدأت هذه الدورية السامرية في الصدور منذ أواخر العام ١٩٦٩، وما زالت تصدر بانتظام، تُوزّع مجاناً على كلّ بيت سامري في نابلس وحولون، قرابة الثمانمائة سامري، وهناك مشتركون فيها من الباحثين والمهتمين في الدراسات السامرية، في شتّى أرجاء العالم. هذه الدورية ما زالت حيّة تُرزق، لا بل وتتطوّر بفضل إخلاص ومثابرة المحرّرين، الشقيّين، الأمين وحسن (بنياميم ويفت)، نجلي المرحوم راضي (رتسون) صدقة (٢٢ شباط ١٩٢٢-٢٠ كانون الثاني ١٩٩٠).

”أهذا مطر؟“

Link to article: [http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/he\\_who\\_brings\\_down\\_rain.pdf](http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/he_who_brings_down_rain.pdf)

## هكذا يفعل بمن يمسّ بشرف الكاهن الأكبر

So Will be Done to He Who Harms the High Priest's Honour

ب. حسيب شحادة

جامعة هلسنكي

في ما يلي ترجمة عربية لهذه القصة، التي رواها الكاهن الأكبر عبد المعين بن صدقة بن الكاهن الأكبر إسحق الحفقاوي [١٩٢٧-٢٠١٠، كاهن أكبر بين السنتين ٢٠٠٤-٢٠١٠، عنه أنظر في الشايكة: حسيب شحادة، عبد المعين صدقة الكاهن الأكبر في ذمة الله] بالعربية على مسامع الأمين (بنياميم) صدقة، الذي نقلها إلى العبرية، نقّحها، اعتنى بأسلويا ونشرها في الدورية السامرية أ. ب. - أخبار السامرة، عدد ١٢٣٨-١٢٣٩، ١٥ أيار ٢٠١٧، ص. ٥٤-٥١. هذه الدورية التي تصدر مرّتين شهرياً في مدينة حولون جنوبي تل أبيب، فريدة من نوعها - إنّها تستعمل أربع لغات بأربعة خطوط أو أربع أبجديات: العبرية أو الآرامية السامرية بالخط العبري القديم، المعروف اليوم بالحروف السامرية؛ العبرية الحديثة بالخط المربع/الأشوري، أي الخط العبري الحالي؛ العربية بالرسم العربي؛ الإنجليزية (أحياناً لغات أخرى مثل الفرنسية والألمانية والإسبانية) بالخط اللاتيني.

بدأت هذه الدورية السامرية في الصدور منذ أواخر العام ١٩٦٩، وما زالت تصدر بانتظام، تُوزّع مجاناً على كلّ بيت سامري في نابلس وحولون، قرابة الثمانمائة سامري، وهناك مشتركون فيها من الباحثين والمهتمين في الدراسات السامرية، في شتّى أرجاء العالم. هذه الدورية ما زالت حيّة تُرزق، لا بل وتتطوّر بفضل إخلاص ومثابرة المحرّرين، الشقيّين، الأمين وحسن (بنياميم ويفت)، نجلي المرحوم راضي (رتسون) صدقة (٢٢ شباط ١٩٢٢-٢٠ كانون الثاني ١٩٩٠).

”معرض الشباب السامري في نابلس في العام ١٩٨٦“

Link to article: [http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/so\\_will\\_be\\_done\\_to\\_he.pdf](http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/so_will_be_done_to_he.pdf)



## عقاب تاجر الخمر

### Punishment of the Wine Merchant

ب. حسيب شحادة  
جامعة هلسنكي

في ما يلي ترجمة عربية لهذه القصة، التي رواها راضي بن الأمين صالح صدقة الصباحي [رتسون بن بنيامين تسدكه هصفري، ١٩٩٠-١٩٢٢، أبرز مثقف سامري في القرن العشرين، محيي الثقافة والأدب السامريين في العصر الحديث، خبير بقراءة التوراة، متمكن من العبرية الحديثة، العربية، العبرية القديمة والآرامية السامرية. جامع تقاليد قديمة، مرثم، شماس، قاص بارع، كاتب أصدر حوالي ثلاثين كتاباً وهي مصدر لكتاب ونسأخ معاصرين، شاعر نظم قرابة الثمانمائة قصيدة، تعلم منه باحثون كثر عن التراث السامري؛ سمّاه المرحوم زئيف بن حاييم، أعظم باحثي الدراسات السامرية في عصرنا "أستاذي ومرشدي"] بالعبرية على مسامع ابنه الأمين (بنياميم)، الذي نقّحها، اعتنى بأسلوبها ونشرها في الدورية السامرية أ. ب. - أخبار السامرة، عدد ١٢٣٨-١٢٣٩، ١٥ أيار ٢٠١٧، ص. ٥٧-٥٤. هذه الدورية التي تصدر مرتين شهرياً في مدينة حولون جنوبي تل أبيب، فريدة من نوعها - إنها تستعمل أربع لغات بأربعة خطوط أو أربع أبجديات: العبرية أو الآرامية السامرية بالخط العبري القديم، المعروف اليوم بالحروف السامرية؛ العبرية الحديثة بالخط المربع/الأشوري، أي الخط العبري الحالي؛ العربية بالرسم العربي؛ الإنجليزية (أحياناً لغات أخرى مثل الفرنسية والألمانية والإسبانية) بالخط اللاتيني.

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### "العلاقات تتحسن"

Link to article: [http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/punishment\\_of\\_the\\_wine\\_merchant.pdf](http://shomron0.tripod.com/articles/punishment_of_the_wine_merchant.pdf)

### **Benyamim Tsedaka Tour Schedule**

The annual world tour of lectures, meetings and researches in the USA, Brazil And United Kingdom - Oct. 30 - December 28, 2018.

His Schedule:

The United States:

Seattle, Washington State, October 31 - December 4;

Burlington, North Carolina, December 5-10;

New York City, November 11-17;

Cincinnati, Ohio - November 18-24;

Washington DC - November 25 - December 2.

Brazil:

Teresina, December 3-8;

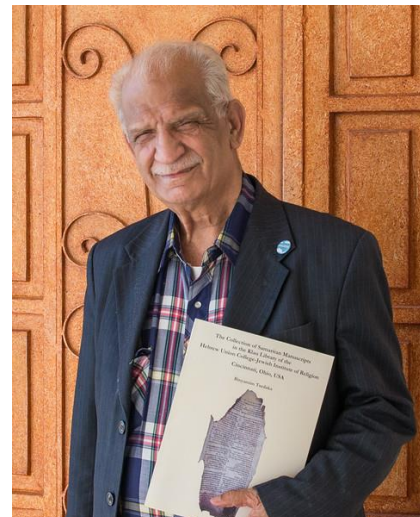
Rio - December 9-15;

Sao Paulo- December 16-23;

United Kingdom:

London - December 24-27

(Photo: [Dale Lazar](#))



**Benyamim Tsedaka**

Samaritan scholar and elder Benyamim Tsedaka, corresponds with many people around the world not only at lectures at scholarly events he supports people that have decided through their personal decisions to follow the Samaritan way of life as best they can. The people are from many countries; Argentina, Brazil, England, France, India, Israel, Indonesia, Italy, New Zealand, Russia, Scandinavia, United States.

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Special Issue "Exploring Samaritanism"

Special Issue Information. A special issue of *Religions* (ISSN 2077-1444).

Dear Colleagues,

This Special Issue of *Religions* is devoted to the topic of "Exploring Samaritanism". Thanks to the New Testament, especially the parable of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel of Luke 10:29-37, the phrase the "Good Samaritan" is a familiar designation of compassionate and helpful people and organizations worldwide. Few, however, connect it with more than the idea of aiding people in dire needs. Questions such as "Who were the biblical Samaritans?" and "When and where did they live?" are virtually never asked. Let alone the questions: "Are there still Samaritans and if so, where are they to be found, what are their beliefs and practices?" Even in academia, for a long time the study of Samaritanism was a rather neglected field. This has changed, however, in the last several decades. The change is due in part to the finds of so-called pre-Samaritan manuscripts among the Dead Sea scrolls and to new archaeological discoveries of Samaritan synagogues, inscriptions, and, above all, the remains of a Samaritan sanctuary and city on Mount Gerizim in the vicinity of the modern city of Nablus in Palestine. Other factors of this fresh interest in the community and traditions of the Samaritans are new editions and translations of ancient Samaritan writings; novel analyses of biblical texts; cultural-anthropological research among the present-day Samaritans; and last, but not least, initiatives of the Samaritans themselves to make more people aware of their existence and special traditions.

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The manuscript submission deadline is December 1, 2019. The paper should be submitted via Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institutes's online submission site. You may go to <https://www.mdpi.com/user/register/> to register and to complete the submission process. As to the length of the manuscript, 5000 to 10000 words are the usual.

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Pummer

Guest Editor

View the web page for more information:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/religions/special_issues/Exploring_Samaritanism

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**Center for Israel Studies Begins an International Film Project****The Israelite Samaritans Project Has Begun**

This international research project of the [Yeshiva University Center for Israel Studies](#) (CIS) will culminate in a major Hebrew language documentary, a travelling exhibition developed with [Yeshiva University Museum](#), conferences, commentaries, courses and student field work with the Samaritans.

Continue reading the full article: <https://blogs.yu.edu/news/center-for-israel-studies-begins-an-international-film-project/>

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Conference

"Samaria and Diaspora in the Persian and Hellenistic Period: Influence, Significance and Contributions to the Pentateuch and the Prophets."

December 6th to 8th, 2018, at the **Institut Protestant de Théologie, Montpellier/France**.

https://www.academia.edu/37610882/SAMARIA_AND_DIASPORA_IN_THE_PERSIAN_AND_HELLENISTIC_PERIOD_I_NFLUENCE_SIGNIFICANCE?campaign=upload_email

Conference Organizers: Bartosz Adamczewski (Warsaw), Benedikt Hensel (Zurich), Dany Nocquet (Montpellier)

"Research on the post-exilic period (the so called formative period of Judaism and the Old Testament) is primarily occupied with the innovative achievements and literary workings of the Judean Gola community. However, a further important monotheistic Yahwism existed in post-exilic times in the Levantine Region, namely in Samaria. A notable Samaritan Diaspora existed in this very period, too, as did other Yahwistic groups, e.g., in Idumea, Elephantine, Transjordan, Mesopotamia and Leontopolis. Nevertheless, little attention was for a long time devoted to its formative influence on the history of theology and the literary history of the Bible in the time after exile. Especially Samaritan Yahwism was essentially being marginalized as a Judean deviation. However, in recent years, research started to realize the importance and the individuality of the Samaritan Yahwism, seeing it as a variant of what might be called "post exilic Yahwism(s)". It is for this reason that due consideration should be given not only to Juda, but also to Samaria and the diaspora as well as potentially influential, tradition(s) and text(s) forming groups for the "Biblical Israel".

This international conference highlights the place of the Samaritans and the other (extra-Judean) diaspora communities on the historical and literary level in the Persian and Hellenistic period, and tries to show how the new trend of biblical research on Samaria and diaspora are possibly connected with the actual theories about the formation of the Pentateuch, Hexateuch, Enneateuch and the prophetic literatures."

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### **Links:**

#### **Sukkot in the West Bank**

Every year, Samaritans go up Mount Gerizim to pray during the holiday of Sukkot -follow their journey October 27, 2018

EL HEBREO ARCAICO RESUENA EN EL SAGRADO MONTE GERIZIM EN EL SUCOT SAMARITANO  
By **Maria Sevillano** (10/23/2018)

[http://laconexionusa.com/noticias/201810231211243\\_lc121124323.asp](http://laconexionusa.com/noticias/201810231211243_lc121124323.asp)

El hebreo arcaico resuena en el sagrado Monte Gerizim en el sucot samaritano

<https://www.diariovasco.com/agencias/201810/23/hebreo-arcaico-resuena-sagrado-1278012.html>

Gặp 'người Samari nhân lành' của Kinh Thánh

Judith Fein, BBC Travel

<https://www.bbc.com/vietnamese/vert-tra-45580664>

Finding the last of the lost good Samaritans

August 30, 2018 by **Senior Editor**

<http://6to16.com/travel-people/finding-the-last-of-the-lost-good-samaritans/>

AN EVALUATION OF THE IDENTITY OF SĀMIRĪ IN THE QUR'ĀN

**Tolga Savaş Altinel**

A Journal on Islamic and Religious Studies, Volume 9, Number 1, 2018

<http://www.ilahiyatstudies.org/index.php/journal/article/view/383>

[Inside the Synagogue](#) by GaliaG

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From the Editor

Recently I received an email from **Thomas Milner's** son William. He informed me that Thomas had passed away. Sad news indeed!

Thomas, if you remember had a fragment that had been pasted down from his family, which we featured in the [May/June 2016 issue](#) of the Samaritan Update.

The Samaritan fragment was sent to **Prof. Dr. Stefan Schorch**, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Theologische Fakultät.

Dr. Schorch, as agent, has donated the Samaritan fragment to the British Library under the donor name of Thomas Milner &

family. Thank you Dr. Schorch for your devotion to preserving this Samaritan manuscript fragment!

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*Thomas Elliott Milner*

*N: 16-04-1951*

*F: 06-08-2018*

### **SAD ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dear all,

My name is William and I am Tom's youngest son (23 years old). I am writing on behalf of my father, who unfortunately passed away on the 6th of August of the present year around 6:30 PM peacefully in his room overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. It was a rather beautiful afternoon, as the sun was just finding its way through the clouds, glazing the room with a stunning orange colour. The two of us had the privilege of spending his last moments together, and I stood with him until the last breath. It was a very dignified and serene



moment, which he truly deserved after 16 years struggling against his illness.

The funeral was held on the morning of the 8th of August at Cortegaça's church where family and friends were present, as well as the people who so dearly took care of him at the Home during the past few years. It was a beautiful ceremony and both me and my uncle Gam (his eldest brother) agreed that he would be pleased with it. He was buried at Cortegaça's cemetery. I will leave the address of the cemetery at the end of the post as well as a picture of the church. I am sorry to write this post so late, but I guess that only now I found the peace of mind to do so. Life since then has been rather frantic for me and my brother James, as we go through all of his belongings (mainly books, paintings and old documents).

On behalf of the family, I would sincerely like to thank everyone who has supported him over the years with his blog, which he was so dear and proud of. He frequently and enthusiastically updated me about its status and development, so it was indeed part of his therapy and a reason to stick around. The blog will remain open.

If there is anything else that you might want to know, you are welcome to get in touch with me at [william.b.mr@gmail.com](mailto:william.b.mr@gmail.com)

I wish you all the best. Kind regards,

William Milner

<https://notes-from-the-waitingroom.com/author/thomasmilner/page/1/>

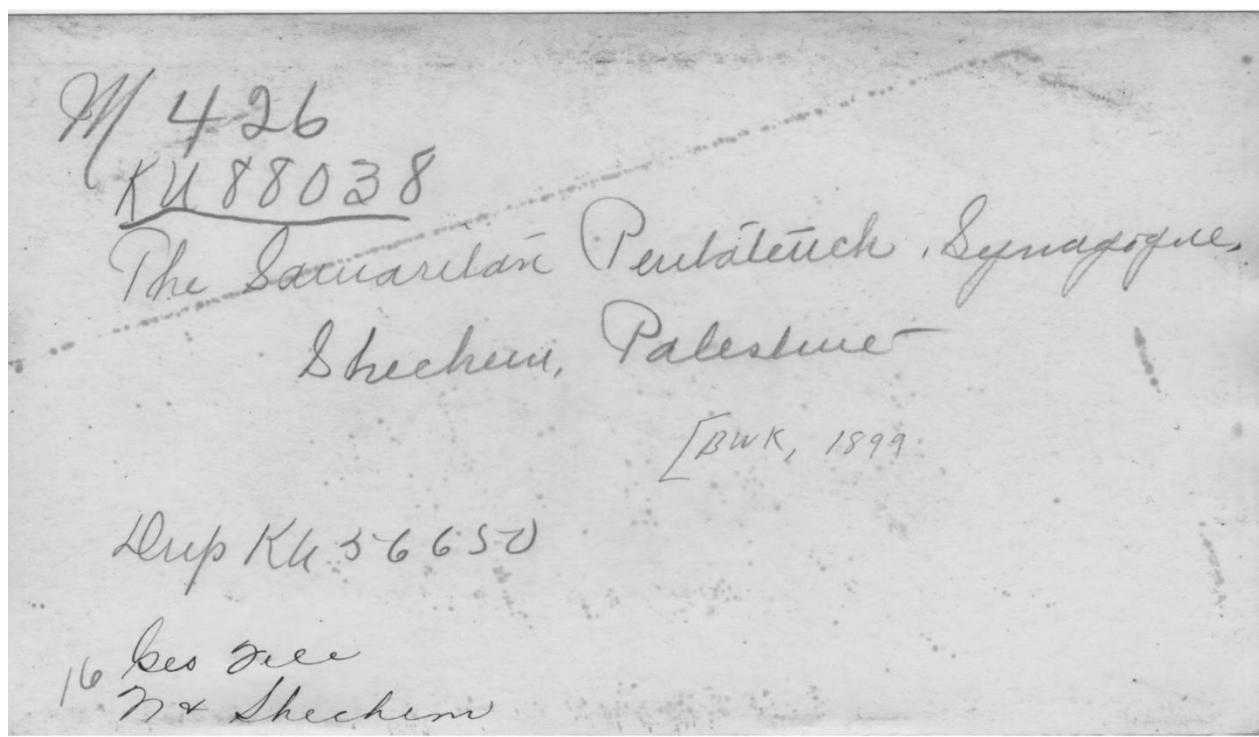
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Samaritan Scroll photo in the Online Archive of California

<https://oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/kt3j49r2t9/?order=1&brand=oac4>

contributed by Gifford M. Mast





Samaritan Camp on Mt. Gerizin, seen from walls of the old Samaritan Trmple

Contributor Gifford M. Mast

American Stereoscopic Company: Keystone photo print 7.18 in. x 4.18 in.

<https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt338nd4nc/>



Samaritans at the Passover. Mt. Gerizin. Palestine. Asia

Underwood & Underwood

Keystone photo print 7.18 in. x 4.18 in.

<https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt6c6030gw/>

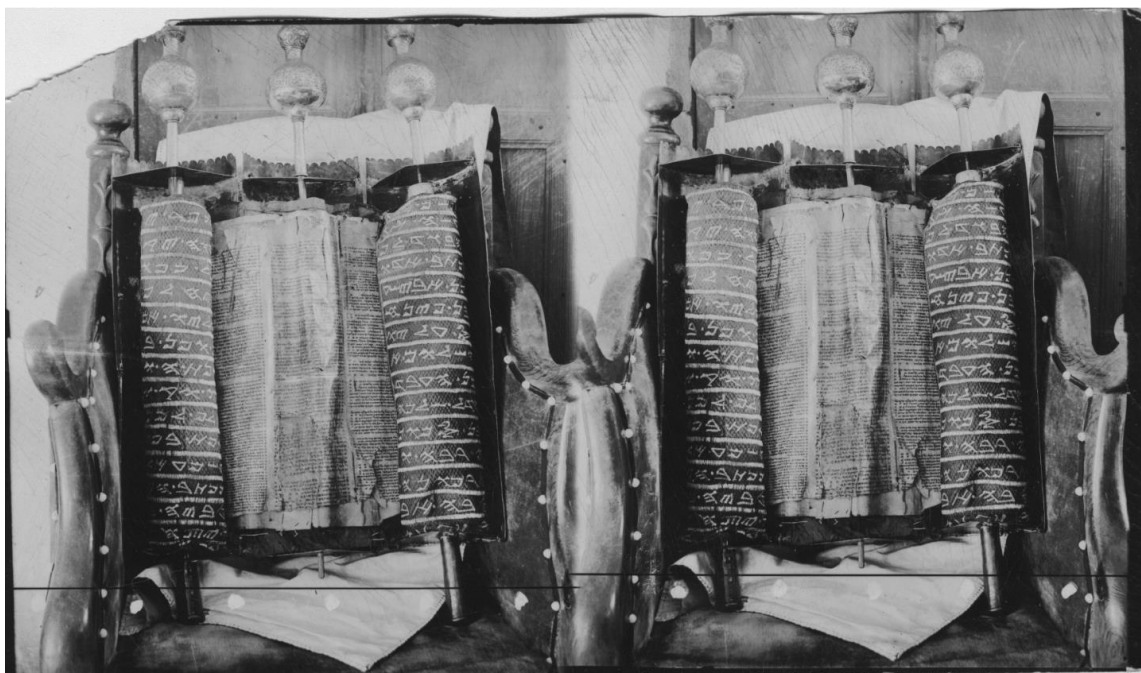


The Passover as celebrated today by the Samaritans, Mt. Geizin, Palestine

Underwood & Underwood

Keystone photo print 7.18 in. x 4.18 in.

<https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt2p3026ch/>



More here: <https://calisphere.org/collections/11747/?q=&rq=samaritan&rows=48>

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American Jewish University  
Bel and Jack M. Ostrow Library,  
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Los Angeles, California 90077

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Fax: (310) 476-5423

Email: library@aju.edu; sivanst3@gmail.com

<http://library.aju.edu/>

Guide to the Louis Shub Documentation Center at the American Jewish University

Collection Number: CLJ2, folder: 2211, Samaritans (most likely photo)

2405 Temple - **Samaritan** 2406 Ten Commandments

[Glass Slides in the Jacobson \(Ken and Jenny\) Collection](#)

Box 50

2008.R.3-1433 The Passover as Celebrated by the previous hit Samaritans next hit on Mount Gerizim, Pal.

Scope and Content Note: Numbered on recto: 61; 10955.

Box 50

2008.R.3-1434 Shechem, an Early Center of Hebrew History, Looking S. W. from Mt. Ebal

Scope and Content Note: Numbered on recto: 62; \*3238.

Box 50

2008.R.3-1435 previous hit Samaritan High Priest and old Pentateuch Roll at Shechem, Palestine

Scope and Content Note: Numbered on recto: 63; \*10956.

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For Sale on Ebay

[1914 Samaritan Hebrew German Genesis Bible Pentateuch old Version](#)

Der hebräische Pentateuch der Samaritaner; 1914 by Gall, August von,
Hebrew - German text

4 facsimile photo

Samaritan text of Genesis with old bible

scientific notes with prolegomena – foreword, unique study, rare text- ancient text, hard cover,
good shape, some cover wear, browning of age

70+112 pages size:9-11 inches

Samaritans (Known in the Talmud as Kuthim) "Shamerim Yisraelim" are both a religious and an ethnic group. Ethnically, they are descended from a group of inhabitants that have connections to ancient Samaria from the beginning of the Babylonian Exile up to the beginning of the Christian era. Religiously, they are the adherents to Samaritanism, a religion based on the Torah. Samaritans claim that their worship (as opposed to mainstream Judaism) is the true religion of the ancient Israelites, predating the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.

In 2005 there were about 700 Samaritans, living mostly in Kiryat Luza on the holy Mount Gerizim near the city of Nablus in the West Bank, and in the city of Holon in Israel.

The Samaritans speak either Modern Hebrew or Palestinian Arabic as their mother language. For liturgical purposes, Samaritan Hebrew and Samaritan Aramaic are used.

Also:

[1914 Samaritan Hebrew German Exodus Bible Pentateuch](#)

[1915 Samaritan Hebrew German Leviticus Bible Pentateuch](#)

[1916 Samaritan Hebrew German Number Bible Pentateuch](#)

[1918 Samaritan Hebrew German Deuterium Bible Pentateuch](#)

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### **From The Editor**

#### **Inscribed Imitation Vellum**

'As we left the synagogue, boys implored us to purchase little tin and paper models of the Pentateuch, or **scraps of inscribed imitation vellum which they assured us were of great antiquity and value.** A franc or less would purchase these "antiques," and they made interesting mementoes, though nothing more.'

[\*A Pilgrimage to Jerusalem: The Story of the Cruise to the World's Fourth Sunday-School\*](#)

[\*Convention, held in the City of Jerusalem, and of a Ride through Palestine,\*](#) Charles Gallaudet Trumbull. Philadelphia: *The Sunday School Times Company* 1905 P. 236

I believe that these imitation vellums that were sold in 1904 to the tourists at the World's Fourth Sunday-School Convention, held in the City of Jerusalem, are the same fragments in the **Chamberlain-Warren Collection**, meaning CW 2468 (described as very stiff white cardboard rolled up together). At the end of the reference of CW 2468, **Robert Anderson** wrote in *Studies in the Samaritan Manuscripts and Artifacts, The Chamberlain-Warren Collection*, 1978, 'There is no indication how the sheets were to be used.'

I believe that the above mentioned tourist item and 2468 refers to the same item. I believe that there are no other ones known to exist and most likely the only survivors, being the 2 in CW 2468. This to me, makes total sense, but some will most likely need more proof.

The quote from Trumbull in the article above is the only source I have seen of this reference of imitation vellum which is actually stiff white cardboard you mentioned.

When I was reading Robert Anderson's book, I seen no reference of the very ancient parchment that had been given to Warren. (See William Barton, 'The Samaritan Pentateuch: The Story of a Survival Among the Sects,' Oberlin Ohio, The Bibliotheca Sacra Company, 1903 p. 21.) I was wondering if anyone knows of its whereabouts. If you do, I would appreciate being informed, but I suspect it is now lost.



**FRAGMENT OF VERY ANCIENT PARCHMENT CONTAINING GENESIS  
XXVI. 2-22.**

**(Possibly the very oldest in existence. Size of original parchment  
5 ½x4 ½.)**

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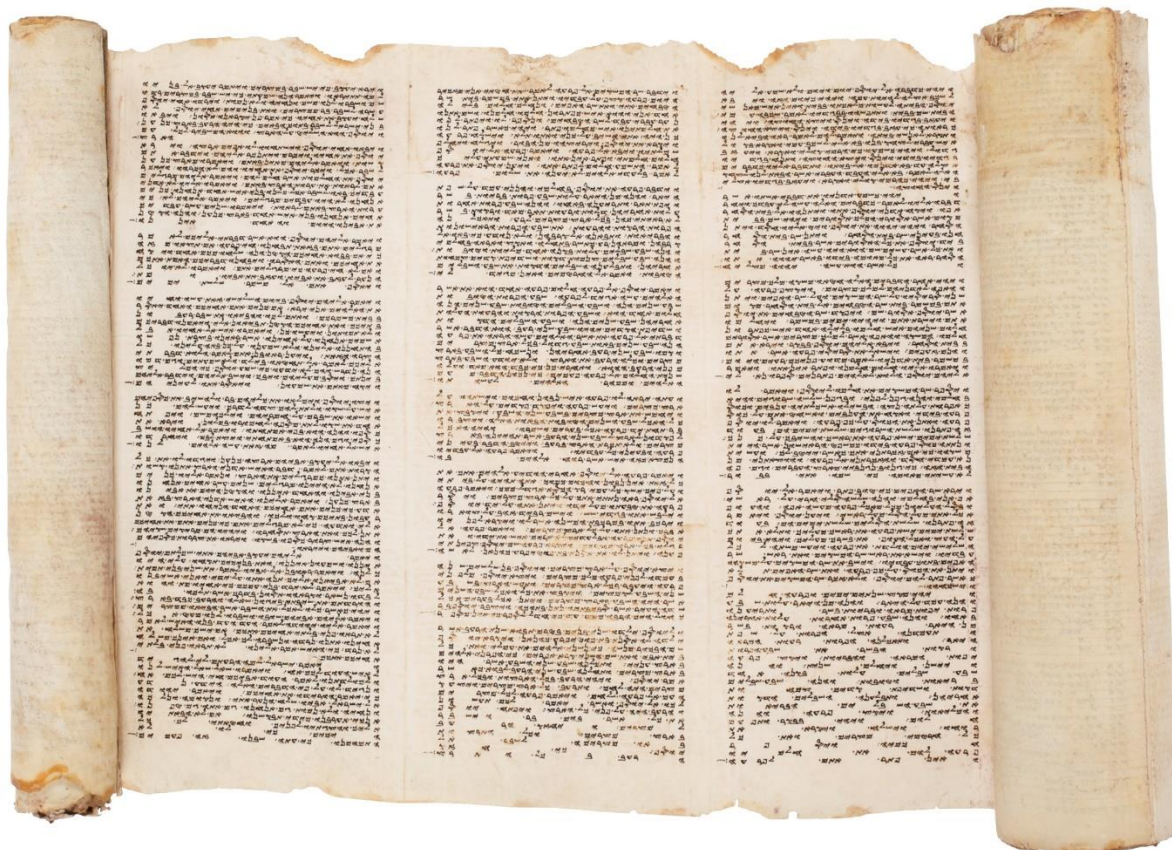
[Vol. XV](#)

[Vol. XVI](#)

[Vol. XVII](#)

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## Concerning the Samaritan Torah Scroll (Aktaba Kadisha), Land of Israel [ca. 1166, Scribe: Shalmah ben Abraham bar Yosef of Sarepta]



There was a short article on the [Museum of the Bible website](#) about the scroll (shown above). I traced it down, it was sold at [auction \(Sotheby's NY\) from the Valmadonna Trust Library](#) (2015). That site said the provenance of Valmadonna and Sassoon (# 735) but failed to mention that it was the Spiro Katava Kadisha 01A114-13305 belonging to the Spiro Family, who purchased it from Sassoon (but not sure if it was at auction), then sold to Valmadonna. When the Spiro family owned it, photocopies of it was sent to Alan Crown. But what I really found interesting is in Edward Robertson' Catalogue of the Samaritan manuscripts in the John Rylands Library, Manchester 1962, vol. 2, # 88 [1868]. In the catalogue #88, titled 'Photographs of an Old Scroll' The names and date of 1166 are the same. So I figure that the photos of #88 are of the same scroll mentioned above.

### New photos posted on Ebay

21. Samaritan Case Of The Torah Scroll.— Made of copper and inlaid with silver. The case consists of three sections connected with one another by hinges so as to form a cylinder. The top and bottom are closed by three segments of copper forming a circle. Each of the three top segments has a hole which probably served for a projection to hold some ornaments, while from the bottom project two handles for holding the case. The top is decorated with a turreted border. Each section is divided horizontally into two panels, separated by a band outlined in



silver. Geometrical designs in silver, formed of arabesques, decorate the center and corners of each panel. Inscriptions in silver, in Samaritan characters but in the Hebrew language, run along the sides of each section and around the bands of the case, and read as follows: "The Lord our God, the Lord is one. He alone" (Deuteronomy vi, 4); "The Lord is His name, the Lord is my banner" (Exodus xvii, 15); "The Lord God merciful and gracious" (Exodus xxxiv, 6) ; "God will provide; the Lord will provide" (Genesis xxii. 8 and 14); "The Lord is my God, the Lord is mighty; And it came to pass when the ark set forward, that Moses said. Rise up, Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee" (Numbers x, 35); "The Lord bless thee and keep thee "(Numbers vi, 24). "In the name of God. This case for the holy writing was made in Damascus by the humble servant Joseph, son of Abaspoh of the tribe of Patar. Under the direction of Rabban Abi Azzai, son of Rabban Joseph in Damascus." "In the year 976 of the Kingdom of the Ishmaelites (Mohammedans=about 1565 A. D.). May the Lord forgive him his sins, Amen." Measurements, 2 feet high, 7 inches in diameter. (Cat. No. 4557, U.S.N.M.) Lent by Hadji Ephraim Benguiat [circa 1856 Alexandria, Egypt - 1932 USA]. [Link](#)



~~~~~

[Proceedings of the United States National Museum, vol. 34](#) Washington, Government Printing Office, 1908.

214. HEBREW MANUSCRIPT OF THE PENTATEUCH.—Written in Samaritan characters. Probably dated from the fifteenth century A. D. The Samaritan writing is a modification of the ancient Hebrew and Phenician alphabet as preserved on the Moabite stone and the Siloam inscription and Jewish coins and seals, while the Jews subsequent to the Exile gradually adopted the so-called square or Assyrian script, which is of Aramaic origin, and is still in use among them. Height, 4 1/2 inches; width 3 1/2 inches. Palestine. (Cat. No. 216164, U.S.N.M.)
Lent by Mr. S. S. Howland. [p. 744]

21. SAMARITAN CASE OF THE TORAH SCROLL.—Made of copper and inlaid with silver. The case consists of three sections connected with one another by hinges so as to form a cylinder. The top and bottom are closed by three segments of copper forming a circle. Each of the three top segments has a hole which probably served for a projection to hold some ornaments, while from the bottom project two handles for holding the case. The top is decorated with a turreted border. Each section is divided horizontally into two panels, separated by a band outlined in silver. Geometrical designs in silver, formed of arabesques, decorate the center and corners of each panel. Inscriptions in silver, in Samaritan characters but in the Hebrew language, run along the sides of each section and around the bands of the case, and read as follows: "The Lord our God, the Lord is one. He alone" (Deuteronomy vi, 4); "The Lord is His name, the Lord is my banner" (Exodus xvii, 15); "The Lord God merciful and gracious" (Exodus xxxiv, 6); "God will provide; the Lord will provide" (Genesis xxii. 8 and 14); "The Lord is my God, the Lord is mighty; And it came to pass when the ark set forward, that Moses said. Rise up, Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee" (Numbers x, 35); "The Lord bless thee and keep thee" (Numbers vi, 24). "In the name of God. This case for the holy writing was made in Damascus by the humble servant Joseph, son of Abaspoh of the tribe of Patar. Under the direction of Rabban Abi Azzai, son of Rabban Joseph in Damascus." "In the year 976 of the Kingdom of the Ishmaelites (Mohammedans=about 1565 A. D.). May the Lord forgive him his sins, Amen." Measurements, 2 feet high, 7 inches in diameter. (Cat. No. 4557, U.S.N.M.) Lent by Hadji Ephraim Benguiat. [p.708]



The Jewish Museum in New York City is where the Benguiat Samaritan Torah scroll case now resides.

<https://thejewishmuseum.org/collection/22404-torah-case-samaritan-torah-case-tik>

Object Name: Torah Case
Artist/Maker: Matar Ishmael ha-Ramhi
Bio: active mid-16th-early 17th century
Title: Samaritan Torah Case (Tik)
Place Made: Damascus (Syria)
Date: 1568
Medium: Copper: inlaid with silver
Dimensions: 25 1/4 × 8 in. (64.1 × 20.3 cm)
Credit Line: The H. Ephraim and Mordecai Benguiat Family Collection
Accession Number: S 21

[So what is the providence of the case? Where did it come from?]

~~~~~

[‘Threshold to the Sacred: The Ark Door of Cairo's Ben Ezra Synagogue, Saturday, March 2, 2013–Sunday, May 26, 2013’](#) by **Amy S. Landau**

[case 3.1, both sides]

**Samaritan Torah Case (Tik)**

Matar Ishmaeil ha-Ramhi

Ottoman (Damascus, Syria), ca. 1568

This Torah case was crafted after Syria transitioned from Mamluk to Ottoman hands. Although the closely connected Jewish communities of Egypt and Syria were weakened during this time, art production and scholarship continued. On this Syrian Torah case arabesque designs fill the fields of the medallions with two radiating elements and the triangular corner pieces. These ornamented areas are set upon a blank field. The composition and design of this 16th-century Torah case are strikingly similar to the ark door's carving. The same system of decoration was used on Mamluk and Ottoman book covers from approximately the 14th century onward. This stylistic evidence suggests that the central area of the ark door may have been carved around 1500.

Copper inlaid with silver

The Jewish Museum, New York, The H. Ephraim and Mordecai Benguiat Family Collection (S 21)

Also see page 18 of [‘An Educator’s Resource’](#) from the **Jewish Museum**.

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Tri College Libraries

Pentateuch manuscript, 1300 - 1400

Item — item: 22 Identifier: RH 22

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections: J. Rendel Harris collection

Hebraeo-Samaritanus, 14th century Pentateuch manuscript, 1300 - 1400

Contains the Pentateuch.

Scope: Text is missing up to Gen. 4:14. Second leaf begins with Gen. 6:17. Text ends incompletely at Deut. 30:18.

Dates: 1300 - 1400

Language: Common Hebraeo-Samaritan text.

Condition: Somewhat yellow with age. The corners of the leaves are destroyed in places, and the loose leaves at the beginning and end are somewhat cracked and broken. Ink somewhat brown.

First leaf is broken.

Extent: 1 manuscripts (Codex of 219 leaves in clamshell box.)

http://archives.tricolib.brynmawr.edu/repositories/5/archival_objects/24123

[A History of Haverford College for the First Sixty Years of Its Existence By Haverford College. Alumni Association.](#) Philadelphia: Porter & Coats, 1892 p 629

A Collection of 48 Manuscripts, chiefly Oriental. These manuscripts were purchased by Professor J. Rendel Harris in Egypt and Syria in 1889, and were given to the College by Walter

Wood and Professor Harris. A complete catalogue by Professor Robert W. Rogers will be found in Haverford College Studies, No. 4. A few are mentioned here:

(7) Hebraeo-Samaritan manuscript on fine vellum of XI century, (?) 219 leaves, each 12x15i inches. Contains Pentateuch. (Hav. 22.)

James Rendel Harris (1852-1941) on 1888-1889, while on leave from Haverford, he travelled to Palestine and Egypt, purchasing 47 rolls and codices written in Hebrew, Latin, Arabic, Syriac, Armenian and Ethiopic.

'A Student's History of the Hebrews by Laura A. Knott, with maps and Illustrations,' New York, Cincinnati: The Abingdon Press, 1922, p 325, Image taken at the Passover of 1913 by Ismar John Peritz. Dr. Peritz, of Syracuse University had visited Nablus with a company of students in 1913. They camped adjoined the ground where the Samaritans held the Passover Sacrifice. While there he met Warren J. Moulton and A.E. Thompson. Peritz, Ismar J. "How Samaria Keeps the Passover Today" The Christian Advocate Vol. 89, No. 14, April 2, 1914. New York pp. 465- 466.

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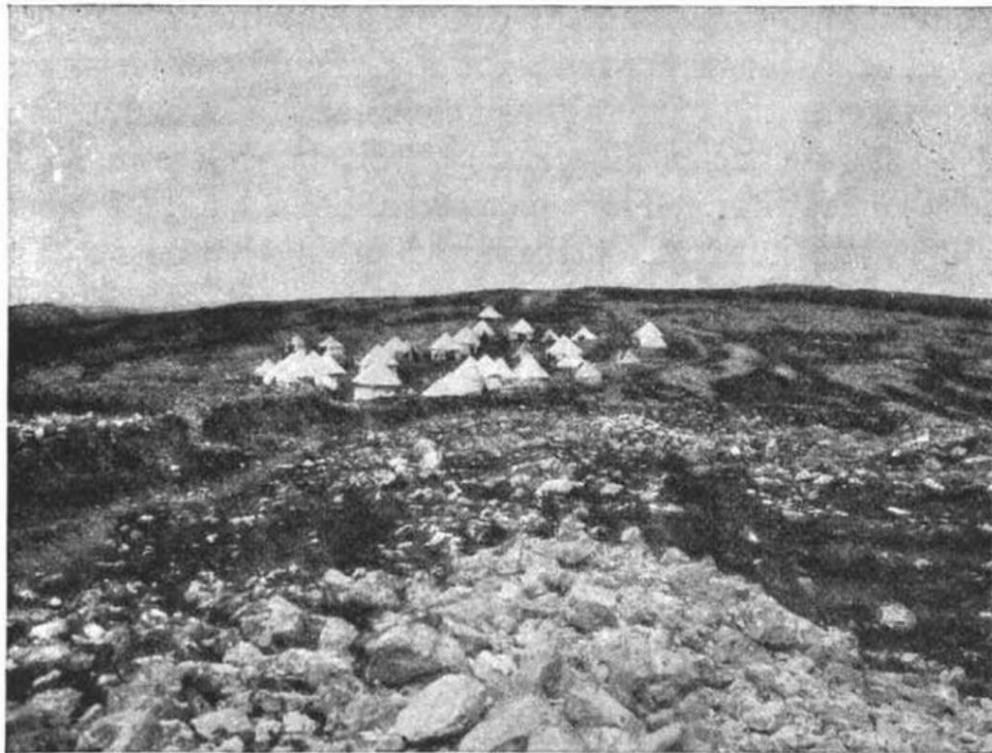


Photo by Ismar J. Peritz

#### MOUNT GERIZIM AND THE SAMARITAN ENCAMPMENT

(Other photos in this article are not shown here.)



Jacob, Son of Aaron, High Priest of the Samaritans

His letter commissioning Mr. Warren to act as special representative of the Samaritans at the Zurich Convention is given on another page.





Mr. Warren's Commission from the Samaritans

Signed by Jacob, Son of Aaron, High Priest of the Samaritans, and other chief men of the congregation. The letter came to Mr. Warren on a large double sheet which includes the English translation given on the page facing page 606.

### News:

#### Samaritans view part of ancient Torah scroll stolen from them in 1995

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

<https://www.jta.org/2018/09/28/top-headlines/samaritans-view-part-ancient-torah-scroll-stolen-1995>

#### Samaritans view part of ancient Torah scroll stolen from them in 1995

The Times of Israel

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/samaritans-view-part-of-ancient-torah-scroll-stolen-from-them-in-1995/>

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New Publications:***Routledge Handbook of Minorities in the Middle East***Edited by **Paul S. Rowe**

London: Routledge July 1, 2018

Chapter 17, by **Monika Schreiber**, p. 225-239

Abstract: The Samaritans, an ethno-religious group with roots in antiquity, represent the smallest religious minority in the modern Middle East, with overall population numbers ranging below 800 at the time of this writing. At present, they dwell exclusively in two demarcated residential centers: on their sanctuary Mount Gerizim right above the Palestinian town of Nablus, which has been their traditional hometown until the outbreak of the First Intifada in 1987, and in Holon, a former “development town” on the southern edge of the Tel Aviv area in Israel, where a separate Samaritan neighborhood was founded in the early 1950s. Regarding language and a wide array of social values, food preferences, and other everyday habits, the Nablus Samaritans are clearly an Arab society. The Holon Samaritans, on the other hand, speak Modern Israeli Hebrew and have absorbed much of the daily culture of Israel. Generally though, the linguistic-cultural distinction between the two halves of the community is not easy to draw. The Holonites have preserved a great deal of their Arab cultural legacy, while most Samaritans of Nablus, owing to the community’s close political ties with Israel, are well familiar with modern Israeli culture (Figure 17.1).

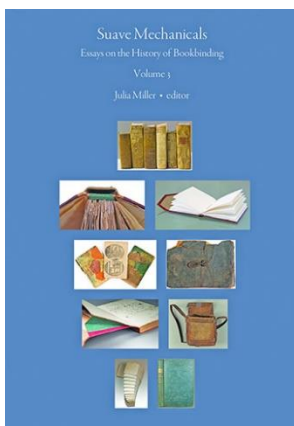
***The Samaritans in Historical, Cultural and Linguistic Perspectives***

Ed. by Dusek, Jan

Series: Studia Samaritana 11 Studia Judaica 110

23.0 x 15.5 cm**xiv, 341 pages****20 Fig.****Language:** English**Aims and Scope**

The volume contributes to the knowledge of the Samaritan history, culture and linguistics. Specialists of various fields of research bring a new look on the topics related to the Samaritans and the Hebrew and Arabic written sources, to the Samaritan history in the Roman-Byzantine period as well as to the contemporary issues of the Samaritan community.

**Notable Past Publication**

Suave Mechanicals Essays on the History of Bookbinding, Vol. 3 Edited by Julia Miller, 2016, The Legacy Press ISBN: 97819040965024, 517 pages • 584 images • full color DVD

- **Ruth Bardenstein**, Historical Bindings of the Chamberlain-Warren Samaritan Collection

Lots of photos on the CD from Ruth Bardenstein.

<http://www.thelegacypress.com/suave-mechanicals-vol-3.html>

Maybe of interest to someone:

Van der Horst, P. W. (1985) "KORTE NOTITIES OVER VROEG-JOODSE EPIEK. Nederlands Theologisch Tijdschrift 39(2):102–109.

We have very scanty remains of the corpus of Hellenistic Jewish epic poetry. Not one line from the poems of Sosates, "the Jewish Homer," has been preserved. From Philo Epicus' On Jerusalem three fragments (23 lines) in obscure Greek are extant, dealing with Genesis 22, the Joseph story, and the water-supply system of Jerusalem. From Theodotus Epicus' On Shechem (or On the Jews) six fragments (47 lines) are extant. He is not a Samaritan author, as has often been assumed. His rendering of Genesis 34 probably served to justify John Hyrcanus' destruction of Shechem and the Samaritan temple on Mount Gerizim. (Dutch)

Vanderkam, James C. (1978) "THE TEXTUAL AFFINITIES OF THE BIBLICAL CITATIONS IN THE GENESIS APOCRYPHON. J of Biblical Literature 97(1):45–55.

A systematic examination of 39 readings from the Genesis Apocryphon, comparing each with the MT, the LXX and the Samaritan Pentateuch, in an endeavor to demonstrate that the Genesis Apocryphon is an additional witness to the Palestinian biblical family in Genesis. Concludes that the textual affinities of the biblical citations in the Genesis Apocryphon show that its author cited from an older Palestinian type of biblical text.

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**Lecture on line**

[The Samaritans: True Keepers of the Ancient Israelite Law or Heretical Jewish Sect?](#)

UNCA Ramsey Library Video Production

Published on Apr 14, 2018

Dr. Stefan Schorch, Professor of Bible, Martin-Luther-University, Halle-Wittenberg, Germany provides an overview of Samaritan history, their current life as a minority in Israel and Palestine, and their religion, including a presentation devoted to the Samaritan Passover offering, the last in the Biblical tradition that continues to be observed.

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Notice

The **Palestine Exploration Fund Office** has moved!

We are still unpacking, and our new facility will take a little while to become available for researchers and visitors, so please bear with us. However, we would love to hear from you in the meantime!

Our contact details in Greenwich are:

Palestine Exploration Fund, 5-6 Dreadnought Walk, Greenwich, London SE10 9FP. Tel: +44 (0) 207 935 5379, Fax: + 44 (0) 207 485 7438, email: execsec@pef.org.uk, admin@pef.org.uk www.pef.org.uk

I am sure that the PEF would accept a lecture if you happen to connect them!

~~~~~

**Biblio**

**Almeida, Vítor**

[As descobertas arqueológicas de Delos e a circulação dos “javismos” no Mediterrâneo antigo. A Reconfiguração da Palestina pós 63 aEC: A Samaria sob o Império Romano](#)

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[Die selfverstaan van die Samaritane soos dit uitdrukking vind in die feesliturgie](#) 1998

**Burton, Elise K**

[Living Monuments: Imagining Ancient Gene Pools in the Middle East](#) 2018

**Cosentino, Augusto**

[Review: Jews and Samaritans: The Origins and History of their Early Relations. By Gary N. Knoppers. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013. ISBN 978-0-19-532954-4. xi and 326 pages](#)  
Reviews of the Enoch Seminar 2015.03.02

**Gaster, Moses**

‘The Biblical Lessons: A Chapter on Biblical Archaeology’ in [The Jewish Review](#), vol III, no. 14, July, 1912, p 194-218

**Hackenbroch, John Peter**

[The Trip to Palestine and Syria](#), New York, Printed by the Richardson Press, 1913.

**Hill, Brad Sabin**

[The Marmorstein Collection](#), Manchester: The John Rylands Library 2017

**Hill, Samuel S.**

[Travels in Egypt and Syria](#), London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1866

**Jamgotchian, Haroutun [A. C. ЖАМКОЧЯН]**

[Earliest Fragments of Samaritan Arabic Chronicles in the Russian National Library](#), Mockba 2003

**Jaros, Karl and Brigitte Deckert**

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**Kampeier, A.**

‘The Samaritan Messiah,’ [The Christian Register](#), Thursday, April 24, 1913, p. 391-2

**Pinkerton, James Isaac.**

A comparison of the Samaritan Pentateuch with the Hebrew text of the Pentateuch behind the Apocrypha. Thesis (Th. M.)--Dallas Theological Seminary, 1964. Includes bibliographical references (leaves 48-49).

PINKERTON, JAMES ISAAC. “A Comparison of the Samaritan Pentateuch with the Hebrew Text of the Pentateuch behind the Apocrypha,” (Diss.; Dallas Theological Seminary, 1964)

**Rowe, Paul S.,**

Routledge handbook of minorities in the Middle East, Taylor & Francis;

[Verkkoaineisto/Nätresursen/Online resource](#) Routledge [2019]



**Salihoglu, Mahmut**

[Samiriler \(Samaritans\)](#) (in Turkish)

**Thompson, John A.**

"SAMARITAN EVIDENCE FOR "ALL OF THEM IN THE LAND OF SHINAR". Journal of Biblical Literature 90(1): (1971) 99–102.

A critical note adding supporting evidence to W.F. Albright's suggested reading for "all of them in Shinar" instead of "Calnehin Shinar" in Genesis 10:10. Evidence is given from some manuscripts of the Samaritan Aramaic Targum which add weight to the reading "all of them."

**Urien-Lefranc, Fanny**

[Le mont Garizim, nouvelle "Genève de la paix" : une capitale sans territoire ?](#), Ethnologie française, XLVI, n°4 2016 (pp. 669-680)

**Warren, E.K., S. C. Webb, E.S. Goodrich**

'In Behalf of the Samaritans' in [World-Wide Sunday-School Work, The Official Report of the World's Seventh Sunday-School Convention, Held in Zurich, Switzerland, July 8-15, 1913](#). Edited by Charles Gallaudet Trumbull, The World's Sunday-School Association, London & New York, p. 602- 607

أَسْدَالُ صَدِّيقِ

[The Afterlife in Samaritan Religion: Kitab al -Ma'ad by Abu al Hasan al Suri](#)

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

TheSamaritanUpdate.com, is a Bi-Monthly Internet Newsletter

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

[TheSamaritanUpdate.com](#)

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