



Universität Hamburg

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ספקנות

Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies
JEWISH SCEPTICISM

MAIMONIDES LECTURE ON SCEPTICISM

TUESDAY
7 NOVEMBER 2023
18:00

The Maskilic Library Revisited: The Gaze from Poland

Marcin Wodziński (University of Wrocław)

With new and growing research on the Jewish Enlightenment in Eastern Europe, we have learned, among other things, about the wide library of publications by the maskilim and the literary interrelations between authors, texts, and ideas. Yet the intellectual and social connections expressed by these books run much deeper and can be assessed through several other parameters. In this lecture, I will suggest a new look at the maskilic library in Poland as offered by several new approaches and/or resources. I will investigate maskilic book collections as well as maskilic books in collections belonging to non-Jewish representatives of the Polish Enlightenment. Furthermore, I will ask what we can learn from the growing database of subscriptions to Jewish books, including a significant segment of the maskilic publications and subscriptions by the maskilim. Within these wider questions, I will particularly explore the connection between the structure of the maskilic library and the ideas and social practices that were developed by the maskilim, including their engagement with the idea of scepticism.

VENUE

MAIMONIDES CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

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