

Presenter: Nesya Shemer, Bar Ilan University

Title: **“Muslim-Jewish relationship in early Islamic period”**

Panel: Islam and Anti-Semitism

This lecture will demonstrate Muhammad's view on the Jews through the contact he had with the Jewish tribes of Medina. There were also other Jewish settlements in the Arabian Peninsula. The Jews engaged in agriculture and commerce and were close in their way of life to their Muslim neighbors. Early Islamic sources describe how Muhammad's attitude toward Jews developed from a tolerant and sympathetic attitude, as "the people of the book" and earlier receivers of Abrahamic revelations to hatred and war, because of the Jews' refusal to accept Islam.

At the second part of this lecture we will analyze the Modern usage of classical Islamic sources dealing with the Jews in the writings of Sheikh Yusuf al-Qaradawi, who is considered the most influential Muslim scholar-preacher today.