

# Hebrew Language and Culture Studies in Southeast Asia: Current Condition and Future Prospects

לימודי השפה העברית ותרבותה בדרום מזרח אסיה, הווה ועתיד

(The conference will be held in English)

**Dates:** Saturday, 17 April 2021 & Sunday, 18 April 2021

**Time:** 7.30pm – 10.00pm SGT / 11.30am – 2.00pm GMT

**Platform:** Zoom

You are cordially invited to the first Southeast Asia Hebrew Language Colloquium sponsored by the School of Hebrew at Middlebury College, the Cambridge Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, the Jakarta Hebrew Learning Program (STT Rem) and the Israeli Embassy in Singapore, together with the Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS).

This two-day online conference will explore the potential for growth of Hebrew language and culture at the university level in Southeast Asia and the possibilities for cooperation and collaboration in the learning and teaching of the Hebrew language, in order to:

- Raise the profile of the Hebrew language and culture in academic studies in Southeast Asia; and
- Generate scholarly cooperation among different institutions in Southeast Asia.

Notable experts and professionals will share their points of view from various perspectives concerning Hebrew language and culture. The speakers will be scholars of Hebrew literature and culture, Hebrew language professors and academics.

Cultural figures, artists and other prominent figures from a variety of institutions are expected to attend and participate in this event.

Participants and speakers will examine and discuss subjects concerning the relevance and potential of Hebrew language and culture as part of studies in institutions and universities in Southeast Asia.

## Programme

<b>Saturday 17 April 2021 (Day 1)</b>		
<b>No</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
1	1930hrs – 1945hrs	<b>Opening Speech</b>  <b>Mr Bilahari Kausikan</b> <b>Chairman</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
2	1945hrs – 2000hrs	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>  <b>His Excellency Mr Sagi Karni</b> <i>Ambassador to Israel of Singapore</i>
3	2000hrs – 2015hrs  2015hrs – 2030hrs	<b>Session 1: Language and Culture: the “What” and the “How”</b>  <b>Dr Vardit Ringvald</b> <b>Director</b> <i>School of Hebrew, Middlebury College, Vermont USA</i>  Q & A session moderated by <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
4	2030hrs – 2045hrs  2045hrs – 2100hrs	<b>Session 2: The Culture of Language</b>  <b>Professor Yaron Peleg</b> <b>Kennedy-Leigh Reader</b> <i>University of Cambridge, Asian and Middle East Studies, United Kingdom</i>  Q & A session moderated by <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>

5	<p>2100hrs – 2115hrs</p> <p>2115hrs – 2130hrs</p>	<p><b>Session 3: Indonesian Muslim and Hebrew</b></p> <p><b>Mr Sapri Sale</b> <b>Hebrew Teacher</b> <i>Jakarta, Indonesia</i></p> <p>Q &amp; A session moderated by <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i></p>
6	<p>2130hrs – 2200hrs</p>	<p><b>Discussion and Closing</b></p>
7	<p>2200hrs</p>	<p>Session Ends</p>

**Sunday 18 April 2021 (Day 2)**

1	1930hrs – 1945hrs	<b>Welcome of Recap of Day One</b>  <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
2	1945hrs – 2000hrs  2000hrs – 2015hrs	<b>Session 4: The Pronunciation of Hebrew from Antiquity to the Present Day</b>  <b>Professor Geoffrey Khan</b> <b>Regius Professor of Hebrew</b> <i>University of Cambridge, United Kingdom</i>  Q & A session moderated by <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
3	2015hrs – 2030hrs  2030hrs – 2045hrs	<b>Session 5: A Preliminary Notes on Hebrew in Indonesia: From a Sacred Language to Metalingual of Identity</b>  <b>Mr Leonard Chrysostomos Epafra</b> <b>Instructor and Researcher</b> <i>Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana and the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), Yogyakarta, Indonesia</i>  Q & A session moderated by <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b> <b>Research Fellow</b> <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>

4	<p>2045hrs – 2100hrs</p> <p>2100hrs – 2115hrs</p>	<p><b>Session 6: Teaching Israel through Film</b></p> <p><b>Professor Eran Kaplan</b>  <b>Goldman Professor in Israel Studies</b>  <i>San Francisco State University, United States</i></p> <p>Q &amp; A session moderated by  <b>Dr Ameem Lutfi</b>  <b>Research Fellow</b>  <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i></p>
5	<p>2115hrs – 2145hrs</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>
	<p>2145hrs – 2200hrs</p>	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Dr Clemens Chay</b>  <b>Research Fellow</b>  <i>Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i></p>
6	<p>2200hrs</p>	<p>Session Ends</p>