

"Religion in the Persian Period: Emerging Judaisms and Other Trends"

Monday-Wednesday, 11-13 July 2011
Sheffield, UK

It is thought that early forms of Judaism began to emerge in the Persian period amongst population groups with ancestral connections to the territories of Samaria and Yehud. The possible influence of Zoroastrianism on emerging Judaism has been explored periodically, but the issue of whether the Achaemenids continued to practice old Persian religion or emerging Zoroastrianism remains a point of debate. Persian policy with regard to religious tolerance or intolerance throughout the empire also could be profitably explored, as well as developments in religion amongst other subject groups under Persian hegemony.

Papers that explore some aspect of religion within any area of the Persian empire are welcome. Paper slots will be 45 minutes (30 minutes for the paper and 15 minutes for questions) or 30 minutes (20 minutes for presentation and 20 minutes for questions. You can choose which length you prefer. Advanced PhD students are welcome to present; we would ask that you have your supervisor send a letter of endorsement to d.edelman@shef.ac.uk.

Conference fee: £50

Venue: Humanities Research Institute, University of Sheffield

Accommodation: Premier Inn
Angel/Bank Street
Sheffield, UK

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Web: <http://www.premierinn.com/en/hotel/SHECIT/sheffield-city-centre-angel-street>

The hotel is a ten-minute walk from the Sheffield train station, and a 2 minute walk from the Castlegate tram stop. The tram can be taken from the rear of the train station. A block of 40 twin, air-conditioned rooms have been reserved at the hotel at a rate that averages to £45/night over the three nights. This does not include breakfast or WIFI. You can opt to pay for both separately; there are plenty of restaurants and cafes nearby, many with free WIFI.

Attendants are to make arrangements for their rooms by contacting the hotel directly. Please indicate if you would like to share a room on the registration form; we will try to make appropriate pairings, particularly for graduate students, to keep costs affordable.

A conference volume of vetted, revised papers will be published, so papers should be prepared with this in mind.

To download the registration form, please access
http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/bibs/news/headlines/2009-10/persian_period.html

Once completed, please e-mail it to d.edelman@shef.ac.uk; you can also fax it if you prefer, to +44 114 222-0500.