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The History of the Hebrew and Jewish Book. A Taster - 25 items, April 2012

The first in a series of catalogues and lists on the history of the Hebrew and Jewish book. In addition to books on aspects of bibliography and typography, these lists will feature book prospectuses, bookseller catalogues, publisher lists and other book related ephemera. These items include the price of books at different times, provide details of production runs, methods of marketing books and give a broader context to the history and circumstances surrounding the production of Hebrew and Jewish books. For example item No 4, the prospectus for a new edition of Maimonides' Guide for the Perplexed was published in London, but produced in Hebrew and German indicating that German was the lingua franca of Jewish academia at that time.



Booksellers Catalogues and Publishers Lists Prospectuses, Publishers Lists and Other Ephemera

1. **The Jewish National and University Library Jerusalem.** Jerusalem, printed by Cooperative Printing "Hapoel Hazair" Tel Aviv 1924. [4833]

Orig wrapps., 15cm, 18 + 6 pp. A little soiling and creasing, small piece out of bottom right hand corner. A short report of the Jewish National and University Library for its supporters. Text in English, German, French and Hebrew. An historic item produced shortly before the official opening of the Hebrew University in 1925. It gives a very brief history of the library, it was started in 1892 and by 1924 had 75,000 volumes which made it the largest library in Palestine at the time. [Worldcat lists only one copy at the University of Basel]

£125

2. **A Catalogue of Scarce and Interesting Old and Modern Books. Hebraica, Judaica, Rabbinica and Orientalia. Catalogue 2, Summer, 1955.** Offered for Sale by M. Sanders. London 1955. [10947]

Original wrapps., 21.5cm, English, some soiling and wear still a pretty good copy. Moshe Sanders (1905-1986) was one of the main antiquarian booksellers dealing in rare Judaica and Hebraica in London during the 1950s, 60s and 70s. £45

3. **Victor Goldschmidt Verlag Verlagsverzeichnis [Publishers List] Zurich [11096]**

14.5 cm, Unpaginated but 12 pages, a priced publisher's list for Swiss publisher of Hebrew books specializing in Roedelheimer editions of Jewish liturgical texts. (circa 1971) £15

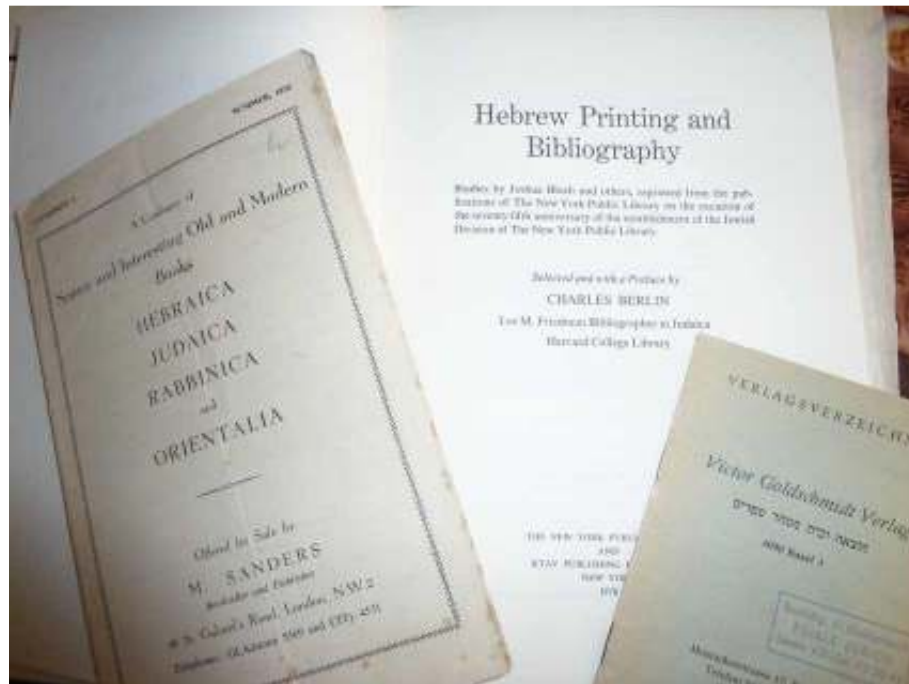
4. **Scheyer [Prospectus] More Nebuchim (Doctor Perplexorum) Von Maimonides in R. Yehuda Bar Salomo Alcharisi.** London, Maurice and Co 1850 [11121]

Single sheet in Hebrew and German 29 x 22 cm announcing a new edition of the Maimonides Guide for the Perplexed. Small tear to right edge, some fraying around edges, not affecting text. A rare mid-19th century prospectus for an edition of Maimonides Moreh Nevuchim (The Guide for the Perplexed) £195



5. **[Prospectus] Wagenaar, L Prospectus for "Gebedenboek met Nederlandsche vertaling en verklaring".** Van Creeveld & Co c 1901 [11092]

In Dutch and Hebrew. 8 pages. An introductory page and sample pages for pages 151-156. The Siddur was first issued in 1901. There sample pages show the Hebrew text with a Dutch translation and below the line there is an extensive commentary in Dutch. £110



6. **[Prospectus] The Secret of the Jew** [11094]
4 pp 21.5 cm prospectus for the 11th edition says 'not for sale distributed free just for the price of the postage.' Circa 1939 issued by the Committee of Rabbi David Miller Foundation Rabbi David Miller died January 7th, 1939. Rabbi Miller was very active in trying to promote the observance of Jewish Family Law and the use of the Mikveh by Jewish Women. **£25**
7. **Sassoon, David Solomon. - [Prospectus] A History of the Jews in Baghdad.** Oxford [11093]
prospectus 4 pages, 15 x 11.5 cm - The book was published in 1949. The last page is an order form for copies to be obtained from Rosenthal in Oxford. Rabbi David Sassoon was the legendary book collector who formed one of the greatest collections of Hebrew books in the 20th Century. His collection was sold in a series of high profile Sotheby's sales in the 1970s. **£20**
8. **Ben Uri Gallery. - [Invitation] Exhibition of the Jewish Press in Great Britain, 1823-1963.** London, Ben Uri Gallery 1963 [11097]
4 pp printed on 2. 21cm. Lists the programme of lectures and speakers including Dr Cecil Roth on "History of the Jewish Press in Great Britain" and Mr David Kessler on "The Role of the Jewish Journalist in Great Britain" **£30**
9. **Cserepfalvi Goldmark Music School Library** Budapest [11095]
21cm, 2 pages, 21 cm - A promotional letter from the publishers with a list of titles (9) Circa 1948. The library was edited by Bence Szabolcsi and Zsignond Laslo **£30**
10. **Hebrew and Jewish Bookseller Labels (6).** A group of six bookseller labels. Including Steimetzky, Ringart's Haifa and Toranit, Sao Paulo Brazil and three others. **£40**

Bibliography and Typography

11. **Benayahu, Meir. - Copyright, Authorization and Imprimatur For Hebrew Books Printed in Venice.** Jerusalem, Machon Ben Zvi/Mossad Harav Kook 1971 [11087]

- Original cloth, dj. 8vo, 396 pp facsimiles. Text in Hebrew.* £48
12. **Benayahu, Meir. - Hebrew Printing at Cremona Its History and Bibliography.** Jerusalem, Machon Ben Zvi/Mossad Harav Kook 1971 [11090]
Original cloth, dj. 8vo, 258 pp facsimiles. Text in Hebrew. £35
13. **Berlin, Charles (selected by). - Hebrew Printing and Bibliography.** New York, New York Public Library and Ktav 1976 [7158]
Cloth, no dj. vg., 518pp. An important collection of essays relating to Hebrew printing and bibliography. Includes Hebrew printing in Spain and Portugal, Hebrew printing in Italy, Hebrew Books and Booklore, an important essay on censorship by Isaiah Sonne "The Expurgation of Hebrew Books" and a Gazetteer of Hebrew Printing by Aron Freimann. £65
14. **Cowley, A. E. - A Concise Catalogue of the Hebrew Printed Books in the Bodleian Library.** Oxford, Clarendon Press 1971. [10411]
1971 reprint of the 1929 edition. Original cloth, 25cm, 816 pp. The book is in very good condition. £65
15. **Eppler, Dr Elizabeth. - Jewish Humour Through the Ages: A Bibliography prepared on the occasion of Jewish Book Week, 1967 by Dr Elizabeth E. Eppler and including a Study by Dr. Meir Gertner on "Tales of Tears and Smiles"** London, World Jewish Congress, British section 1967 [10042]. *Orig. wrappers., 8vo., 15 pp vg* £25
16. **Friedberg, Ch. B. - History of Hebrew Typography in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Turkey.** From its beginning and formation about the year 1470. Biographies of the first printers, their assistants and successors. With a bibliography of all existing Hebrew Incunabula and fifty facsimiles. Derived from manuscripts and printed sources. A Contribution to the History of the Jews Tel Aviv, M A Bar-Juda 1956 [4668]
Black cloth, 29cm, 169 pp + 49 plates In Hebrew. Some marking to covers but overall VG. A key reference work about Hebrew books. Goes through places of printing and printers. £85
17. **[Gifford, Miss Daphne. H.] - The Jews in England: Exhibition of Records.** London, Public Record Office, 1957. [11091]
Original grey wrappers with a red cloth backstrip, 32 pp Printed on one side of the page only. £65
18. **Hirschhorn, Harry J. - Mah nishtana - A Selection of One Hundred & Eleven Passover Hagadot** - Kol Ami Museum, Illinois Illinois 1964 [11091]
Original wrappers, 28cm, ix + 115 pp illustrated. An interesting typed illustrated catalogue of an exhibition, Haggadot are described and interesting features are identified. One page is loose and a little soiling on front wrapper but overall good condition. £48
19. **Fuks, L and R G Fuks-Mansfeld. - Hebrew Typography in the Northern Netherlands 1585-1815. : Historical Evaluation and Descriptive Bibliography.** Leiden, E J Brill, 1984-1987. [11122]
2 vols., original cloth. viii + 232, viii + 234-505 pp. facs. An important work on Hebrew books in the Netherlands, some illustrations. Text in English with some Hebrew quotations. Covers the towns of Leiden, Franeker and Amsterdam. Some marking to the cloth on volume 1, overall good condition. £125
20. **Victor Goldschmidt Verlag Verlagsverzeichnis [Publishers List]** Zurich [11096]
Unpaginated but 12 pages, a priced publisher's list circa 1971. From Swiss publisher of Hebrew books specializing in Roedelheimer editions of Jewish liturgical texts. £15

21. **Mayer, L. - A Bibliography of Jewish Art** Jerusalem, Magnes Press 1967. [9842]
Orig cloth, dj., 8vo., 374 pp vg., some minor soiling to dj. £25
22. **Offenberg, A.K. - A Choice of Corals: Facets of Fifteenth Century Hebrew Printing.** Nieuwkoop, De Graaf 1992 [11088]
Original green cloth, no dj. (I think it was issued without) 245 pp. Contains 8 chapters discussing various aspects of Hebrew incunables. A little marking to cloth. £45
23. **Yaari, Abraham. - Hebrew Printing at Constantinople, Its History and Bibliography** Jerusalem, The Magnes Press 1967 [10416]
Original cloth, no dj. 24.5 cm, 303 pp. Text entirely in Hebrew. A classic study by one of the most important bibliographers of Hebrew books in the 20th century. Supplement to Kirjath Sepher, vol. XLII £48
24. **Yaari, Abraham. - Mechkerai Sepher [Studies in Hebrew Booklore].** Jerusalem, Talmudical Research Intitute – Mossad Harav Kook, 1958. [11123]
Original cloth, no dj. 506 pp Text entirely in Hebrew. A collection of Yaari's essays published in a variety of publications over a thirty year period. They cover a range of interesting topics: The Burning of the Talmud in Italy; Books that were published after they were saved from the fire; A Bookseller in Safed in 16th Century; and other essays on individual printers etc. (about thirty essays in total) £45
25. **Zedner, Joseph. - Catalogue of the Hebrew Books in the Library of the British Museum.** London, The Trustees of the British Museum 1964 [10412]
1964 reprint of the 1867 edition. Original cloth, 25.5.cm, 891 pp. The book shows some signs of wear , bump to spine but still a robust copy only fragments of the dust jacket are present. £45