



האיגוד העולמי
למדעי היהדות (ע"ר)

World Union
of Jewish Studies

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Prof. Moshe Idel

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מנהלת
Executive Director

ד"ר שרה ינובסקי
Dr. Sara Yanovsky

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program:
Year:2017

Name of the Program: Matanel Prize for Jewish Thought 2017

Year of activity: 2017

Name of the report's writer: Dr Sara Yanovsky

Function of the report's writer: Executive Director, World Union of Jewish Studies

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Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

The Matanel Prize for Jewish Thought 2017 was awarded during the World Congress of Jewish Studies, on Wednesday, August 9, 2017.

The academic committee of four experts (Prof. Moshe Idel, Prof. Tamar Ross, Prof. Ada Rapoport Albert, Dr. Yossi Chajes) decided to award the prize to two scholars:

- Dr Biti Roi; *Love of Shekhina: Mysticism and Poetics in Tiqqunei ha-Zohar*
- Prof. Hannah Kehat; *Since Torah Became Talmud Torah: Changes in the Concept of Torah Study in the Modern Age.*

Fourty scholars submitted their books for the prize. The judging committee created a shortlist and then met to discuss the submissions in order to choose the awardees based on academic quality, originality, and accessibility to a wide audience.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

The Matanel Prize is becoming more widely known, considering the rising number of candidates and guests at the award ceremony. The academic committee was formed of well known scholars in the diverse fields of Jewish Thought.



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The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

In comparison to the first Matanel Prize for Jewish Thought in the year 2014, the number of submissions rose by over 30%. Also the number of participants of the award ceremony was larger, partially due to the fact that it was organized during the World Congress of Jewish Studies, following the plenary session in the field of Jewish Thought.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

In order to organize the next Matanel Prize for Jewish Thought, the World Union of Jewish Studies will be in contact with the Matanel Foundation in order to discuss the timelines and conditions of the prize. Considering the success of this year's award, the World Union of Jewish Studies hopes to continue within the same or similar framework.

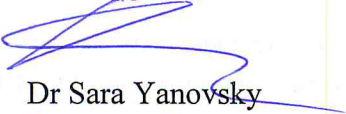
Please find attached to this report:

- A summary table – as PDF document – specifying the progress in the program since the beginning of the encouragement by the Matanel
- The Financial Report
- A list of the participants to the program

In attached, please find attached posters with details on the prize and the awardees, as well as photos of the ceremony.

I would like to thank the Matanel Foundation for choosing the World Union of Jewish Studies as a partner for the Matanel Prize for Jewish thought for the second time. I am looking forward to future cooperation in the field of Jewish Studies.

Best Regards,


Dr Sara Yanovsky
Executive Director

Jerusalem, 1/11/2017