



# The Fourth Israeli Conference for the Study of Contemporary Spirituality (ICSCS)

Monday-Tuesday, 19-20.03.12, 8:00-19:00  
University of Haifa (Hecht Auditorium)

## Monday, 19.03.12, Pre-conference Workshops day

### Three parallel Workshops:

**Sociology of Contemporary Spirituality** – Prof. Eileen Barker (London School of Economics), Prof. Paul Heelas (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

**Kabbalistic Psychology** – Prof. Les Lancaster (Liverpool John Moores University) and Dr. Menachem Kallus (University of Haifa)

**Transpersonal Psychology** – Prof. Harris L. Friedman (Florida University) and Prof. Douglas MacDonald (University of Detroit Mercy)

### Plenary Session (open to the public): Disciplinary Struggles: Introducing Spirituality into the Academia

**Chair:** Prof. Nadav Davidivitch (Ben Gurion University in the Negev)

**Prof. Jonathan Halevy** (Director General, Shaare Zedek Medical Center), **Prof. Ofra Mayseless** (University of Haifa),

**Dr. Yaki Menschenfreund** (The Open University)

Discussion with the Audience

## Tuesday, 20.03.12, Conference Papers Presentation day

### Inner Life Spiritual Humanism: Healing/the Therapeutic and the Cultivation of Humanity

**Plenary Chair:** Prof. Moshe Idel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Opening remarks:** Prof. Ofra Mayseless (University of Haifa)

**Lecture:** Prof. Paul Heelas (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

Discussion with the Audience

**Parallel Symposia:** Complementary Medicine and Spirituality, Contemporary Shamanism, Judaism – Contemporary Currents and Phenomena, Western Esotericism, Spirituality in Art, Spirituality in Educational Institutions, Spiritual-Therapeutic Discourse, Women in Contemporary Theology, Contemporary Paganism, Comparative Research between Kabbalistic and Asian Traditions, Social Justice and Activism – Spiritual Aspects, Transpersonal Psychology, The Jewish Renewal Movement, Contemporary Sufism in a Globalized Context...

### Evening Plenary (open to the public): The Involvement of the State in the Contemporary Spiritualities' Field - Sociological, Psychological and Legal Perspectives

**Chair:** Prof. Eileen Barker (London School of Economics)

The psychological state of individuals in New Religious Movements: Is there a reason for concern - **Prof. Eli Somer** (University of Haifa)

The Legality of Criminalizing Cult Activities - **Prof. Ariel Bendor** (Bar-Ilan University)

Discussion with the Audience

### Conference's Academic Committee

**Chair:** Prof. Ofra Mayseless (University of Haifa), **Dr. Marianna Ruah Midbar** (University of Haifa; Zefat Academic College).

**Committee Members:** Prof. Moshe Idel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), **Dr. Daniella Gurvich** (Bar-Ilan University), **Prof. Nadav Davidovich** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), **Prof. Yossi Yona** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), **Prof. Mario Mikulincer** (Interdisciplinary Center in Herzeliya), **Prof. Ilana Silber** (Bar-Ilan University), **Prof. Yaacov Raz** (Tel Aviv University).

### International Advisory Board

**Prof. Eileen Barker** (London School of Economics), **Prof. Harris L. Friedman** (University of Florida), **Prof. Tobin Hart** (University of West Georgia), **Prof. Wouter Hanegraaff** (University of Amsterdam), **Prof. Paul Heelas** (Erasmus University Rotterdam), **Prof. James R. Lewis** (University of Tromsø), **Prof. Lisa Miller** (Columbia University).

It is recommended to use public transportation • Space is limited!

Early Registration: 050-6980735 or [spirituality@edu.haifa.ac.il](mailto:spirituality@edu.haifa.ac.il)

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