



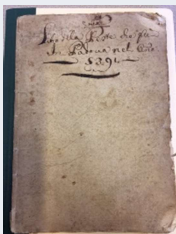
# News from the Norman E. Alexander Jewish Studies Library at Columbia University Libraries

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## Recent acquisitions:

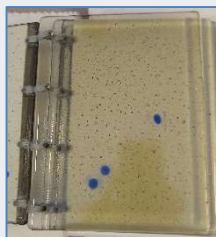
- "*Libro della peste, Italian version of a manuscript detailing how to deal with the Plague in the Jewish community of Padua*"



- *Ketubah Tehran, August 27, 1873*



- *Glass book representing Jewish synagogues on the eve of Kristallnacht*



## News

Over the summer, a series of interns worked in the library to process collections and make them more accessible to our users. Among the collections processed are:

- Hundreds of hand-drawn maps from the [Language and Culture Archive of Ashkenazic Jewry](#), which have now been rehoused and inventoried by topic and indexing terms
- The [Zosa Szajkowski](#) collection, consisting of a trove of materials relating to the Jewish Section of the French Communist Party and the *Kultur-lige*, including a series of hand-drawn posters supporting various cultural and philanthropic activities.
- The [Agudath Israel Collection](#) arrived as part of a donation of a broad array of materials and is now available for use; a number of manuscripts that came with the same donation were described over the summer and are now in the process of being cataloged into CLIO.
- The processing of the [Max M. Laserson](#) papers led to the discovery of some letters from Vladimir Jabotinsky, which have been digitized and are now available via the [Jabotinsky Institute in Israel](#), with reference to Columbia's holdings.
- The papers of Columbia professor [Judah Joffe](#), a scholar of Slavic languages and Yiddish, are now processed and available for researchers.

We enjoyed Professor Jeffrey Shandler's stimulating talk at this year's [Norman E. Alexander Lecture](#), entitled "Jewish Museum Practices: A Modern Cultural Innovation."

Judaica materials were showcased throughout the year: during a special session for alumni during Alumni weekend, a course on the History of the Jewish book, members of Temple Or Olam, and a course on Jewish Music in New York. Additional presentations are planned this semester for a conference on Jews and Haunting, a course on Jewish Translation, and students from the Stella K. Abrahams High School.

Thanks to a significant grant to the Libraries from the [Mellon Foundation](#), a major effort is underway [to digitize and preserve](#) thousands of vulnerable audio and moving-image collection materials for both present and future researchers. Included in this project will be the nearly 6,000 hours of interviews for the Language and Culture Archive of Ashkenazic Jewry. We are excited to finally be able to preserve this important record of spoken Yiddish for the future.



# COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

## Norman E. Alexander Library for Jewish Studies