CONCLUDING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Language Contact, Continuity and Change

in the Emergence of Modern Hebrew

July 4th-6th, 2016, Jerusalem

Call for Papers

We invite new descriptive and theoretical work concerned with language contact and language change, which can provide a basis and framework for the systematic study of the formative stages and the linguistic properties of Modern Hebrew, the spoken language which emerged in the process known as the “revival of Hebrew”. We wish to gain insight from research on varying stages of Modern Hebrew and more general research on other instances of language continuity and change in the context of language contact. The following are possible relevant topics for the conference:

1. Description and characterization of the revival of Hebrew, preferably with emphasis on the less studied aspects (morphology and syntax), and how the early language of the non-native speakers differed from that of the first native speakers.

2. Different forms of language contact and planned language change – e.g. revival, standardization, language maintenance – in the history of Hebrew and other languages: Arabic diglossia, revival of Syriac in the Galilee, Yiddish in Haredi communities, Welsh and Manx in Britain, revival of tribal languages in America, Australia, Scandinavia, revival of local Italian dialects, etc.

3. Theoretical models of language variation and change, and the role of language contact.

4. Theoretical work on the nature of heritage languages and creoles. Though Modern Hebrew differs from both, it is based on language skills that do not reflect ordinary linguistic knowledge.

5. The role of children: to what extent does the theory of language acquisition, and in particular bilingual language acquisition, inform the process of language revival? Are the same mechanisms operational in both situations?

Anonymous abstracts for 30-minute talks should be submitted online via EasyChair https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=emh2016 by January 31st, 2016. They should not exceed two pages (including references) in a 12-point font. The conference will be held mainly in English, but will include special sessions in Hebrew. Abstracts for the Hebrew sessions should be sent in Hebrew. Send any questions to emh@mail.huji.ac.il. Selected papers will be published as a refereed book.
Confirmed invited speakers:

**Enoch Aboh**, Universiteit van Amsterdam  
**Moshe Bar-Asher**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and The Academy of the Hebrew Language  
**Laurence Horn**, Yale University  
**Brian Joseph**, Ohio State University  
**Tania Kouteva**, SOAS, University of London  
**Anthony Kroch**, University of Pennsylvania  
**Claire Lefebvre**, Université du Québec à Montréal  
**Carmel O'Shannessy**, University of Michigan  
**Asya Pereltsvaig**, Stanford University  
**Ian Roberts**, University of Cambridge  
**Bernard Spolsky**, Bar-Ilan University  
**Fred Weerman**, Universiteit van Amsterdam  
**Charles Yang**, University of Pennsylvania