

2005 - Maimonides Year



First International Maimonides Conference on Medicine and Ethics

*Commemorating 800 Years Since the Passing of Maimonides
and his Burial in Tiberias*

Sheraton Moriah Hotel, Tiberias, Israel, March 20 – 24, 2005

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

Rabbi Moshe Ben Maimon, Maimonides (Rambam, according to the Hebrew acronym), is one of the spiritual giants in Jewish history. His vast knowledge, profound thinking and extensive writings in Jewish law, in philosophy, in medicine and in health, have had an indelible impact on all three monotheistic faiths. This impact is still relevant after eight centuries.

On January 1st, 2005 it will be 800 years since the passing of Maimonides. Tradition has it that he is buried in Tiberias.

To honor the memory of that great thinker, the government of Israel has declared the year 2005 to be the **Maimonides Year**. The first International Maimonides Conference on Medicine and Ethics will be held in Tiberias in March 2005.

TOPICS

The following topics to be discussed according to the Maimonides perception:

1. Life Style, Health and Illness
2. Medical Aspects
3. Ethics
4. Halacha (Jewish Law) and Medicine

THE CONFERENCE IS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:



Israel Ministry of Health



Poriya Government
Hospital



Western Galilee Hospital
– Nahariya



The Jewish Agency for Israel
The Global Jewish Partnership
with Israel at its Heart



Keren Hayesod - United Israel Appeal



Jewish Healthcare
International



Bar Ilan University, Israel



Western Galilee
Academic College



France



עיריית טבריה
אגף התיירות

Municipality of Tiberias

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. J. Farbstein, Tiberias, Israel (Co-Chair)
Prof. S. M. Shasha, Nahariya, Israel (Co-Chair)
Mr. A. Ben Abou, Ministry of Tourism, Israel
Ms. R. Ben Lulu, JAFI- Jewish Agency, Israel
Mr. D. Bernstein, JAFI - Jewish Agency, Israel
Dr. Y. Blachar, Israel Medical Association, Israel
Mr. Y. Blonder, JAFI – Jewish Agency, Israel
Dr. H. Cohen, MEDIF - Medecins et Dentistes Israeliens Francophones
Dr. M. Cohen, Jewish Healthcare International, Atlanta GA, USA
Mr. Y. Keidar, Tiberias, Israel
Dr S. Kottek, The Hebrew University, Israel
Dr. S. Kutner, Jewish Healthcare International, Atlanta GA, USA
Dr. B. Lev, Jerusalem, Israel
Mr. Y. Levy, New York, USA
Mr. Z. Oved, Mayor of Tiberias, Israel
Ms. S. Perach, JAFI – Jewish Agency, Israel
Ms. L. Portal, Tiberias, Israel
Dr. D. C. Rouah, Rambam-France
Ms. E. Sherbelis, Israel Medical Association, Israel
Mr. A. Zandberg, Tiberias/Go Galilee!, Israel
Mr. A. Sommer, Ministry of Tourism, Israel

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Prof. S. M. Shasha, M. D., Nahariya, Israel (Co-Chair)
Dr. J. Farbstein, Tiberias, Israel (Co-Chair)
Prof. A. Ohry, M.D., Tel Aviv, Israel (Scientific Committee Chair)
Prof. E. Dolev, M.D., Tel Aviv, Israel
Prof. J. Kahn, Minneapolis MIN, USA
Prof. S. Shwartz, Beer Sheba, Israel

MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Ya'acov Dovev, Israel
Shmuel Zurel, Israel

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

(subject to changes)

Sunday, March 20, 2005

16:00 - Arrival and Registration
20:30 Shalom Cocktail Get-together

Monday, March 21, 2005

09:00 – 11:00 Opening Ceremony:
Greetings
Keynote Presentation:
MAIMONIDES: PROFILE OF A GIANT
Samuel S. Kottek, Israel

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:30 **MAIMONIDES APPROACH ON LIFE STYLE AND HEALTH I**
HEALTH AND LIFE STYLE ACCORDING TO MAIMONIDES
Moses Tendler, USA
MAIMONIDES: RABBI, PHYSICIAN AND PHILOSOPHER
Benjamin Gesundheit, Eli Hadad & Samuel S. Kottek, Israel
RAMBAM AND HEALTH ASPECTS OF THE TORAH COMMANDMENTS
Avraham Abrahami, UK

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00 **MAIMONIDES APPROACH ON LIFE STYLE AND HEALTH II**
RAMBAM FATHERED HOLISTIC MEDICINE
Jesse Yishai Lachter, David Freeman, Edgar Nof, Israel & USA
MAIMONIDES AND OTHER JEWISH PHYSICIANS OF HIS TIME
Avi Ohry, Israel
MEDICAL AND PHARMACOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY
IN CAIRO DURING MAIMONIDES TIMES
E. Lev, Israel

20:00 Dinner including entertainment



Tuesday, March 22, 2005

- 09:00 – 10:30 **MEDICAL ASPECTS OF MAIMONIDES WORK AND IDEAS I**
THE MEDICAL LEGACY OF MOSES MAIMONIDES
Fred Rosner, USA

MAIMONIDES: A PHYSICIAN AND NEPHROLOGIST
Shaul G. Massry, USA
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 13:00 **MEDICAL ASPECTS OF MAIMONIDES WORK AND IDEAS II**
RAMBAM AND GENETIC ENGINEERING
Avraham Abrahami, UK

MAIMONIDES ON ANGER AND HAUGHTINESS: PSYCHOLOGICAL AND
MEDICAL ASPECTS
Samuel S. Kottek, Israel

PSYCHOACTIVE DRUGS IN MAIMONIDES' REGIMEN SANITATIS AND DE
CAUSIS ACCIDENTIUM
Helena Paavilainen, Israel

RAMBAM AND COGNITIVE – SYNESTHIC PSYCHOLOGY
Avraham Abrahami, UK
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 – 18:00 Conference Tour to Hamat, the site of the ancient
synagogue with its magnificent mosaic floor.
Continue up the mountain to a stunning observation
point of the Galilee, Golan mountains, Mt. Hermon
and Sea of Galilee. Proceed to Kibbutz Ginossar
and view its ancient fishing boat, an amazing
discovery from the 1st century CE.
- 20:00 Gala Dinner



Wednesday, March 23, 2005

- 09:00 – 10:30 **ETHICS, HALACHA AND MEDICINE ACCORDING TO MAIMONIDES I**
MEDICO – ETHICAL ASPECTS IN MAIMONIDES WRITING
Yigal Shafran, Israel
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 13:00 **ETHICS, HALACHA AND MEDICINE ACCORDING TO MAIMONIDES II**
DID HIS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AFFECT MAIMONIDES' ETHICAL
VALUES?
M. A. Weingarten, Israel

THE MEDICAL APHORISMS OF MAIMONIDES AND OF THE HIPPOCRATIC
SCHOOL
Steven H. Miles, USA

MAIMONIDES AND CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ETHICS
Jeffrey Kahn, USA
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

Wednesday, March 23, 2005 (continues)

- 14:00 – 16:00 **ETHICS, HALACHA AND MEDICINE ACCORDING TO MAIMONIDES III**
ETHICS OR PSYCHIATRY? – MEDICINE OF THE SOUL ACCORDING TO MAIMONIDES
Thierry Y. Alcolumbre, Israel

ETHICS IN PSYCHIATRY: MAIMONIDES AND THE APA
Robert J. Alpern, USA

MAIMONIDES AS THE "IDEAL" PHYSICIAN – A ROLE MODEL FOR MODERN MEDICAL PRACTICE
Kenneth Collins, Scotland
- 15:30 – 16:00 Closing Remarks by: Fred Rosner, Shaul M. Shasha
- 16:00 Ceremony at the Maimonides Tomb
- Evening Dine-around at Tiberias various Restaurants

Thursday, March 24, 2005

Post Conference Tours

ACCOMPANYING PERSONS' PROGRAM

Sunday, March 20, 2005

- 20:30 Shalom Cocktail Get-together

Monday, March 21, 2005

- 09:30 Departure for a half-a-day od spa pleasures at the Young Tiberias Hot Springs to enjoy a dip in the rich mineral relaxation pools.
- 20:00 Dinner including entertainment

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

- 14:00 Conference Tour to Hamat, the site of the ancient synagogue with its magnificent mosaic floor. Continue up the mountain to a stunning observation point of the Galilee, Golan mountains, Mt. Hermon and Sea of Galilee. Proceed to Kibbutz Ginossar and view its ancient fishing, an amazing discovery from the 1st century CE.
- 20:00 Gala Dinner

Wednesday, March 23, 2005

- 09:30 Departure on a jeep tour to the Mt. Arbel offering panoramic view of the Sea of Galilee, Tiberias area and Golan Heights.
- Evening Dine-around at Tiberias various Restaurants.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Tiberias

Located on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee, Lake Kinneret in Hebrew, Tiberias and its environs have become favorite health and holiday resorts, as well as Jewish and Christian pilgrimage destinations.

Built by Herod Antipas some 2000 years ago and named after the Roman emperor Tiberius, it is now the largest town in the eastern Galilee.

The newer part of the town, with modern hotels and palm-lined streets, flanks the old quarter, where black basalt ruins are silent reminders of the Crusader and Ottoman periods.

Tiberias plays an important role in Jewish history. It was the seat of the Sanhedrin (Supreme Court) after its relocation from Sepphoris. In the Mishnaic and Talmudic periods Tiberias was a major spiritual center. In later years it became one of the four Jewish Holy Cities in the Land of Israel. It is the final resting place of many prominent Jewish personalities, such as Rabi Akiba and Rabi Meir Ba'al Hanes.

In 1204, upon completion of his huge writings, Maimonides passed away in Egypt and his coffin miraculously arrived in Tiberias, after a legendary voyage across the Negev desert. That is where Rambam came to his final rest. His tomb became a focal point frequented by many who come to pay homage, to pray for health and for success.

Venue

Sheraton Moriah is a five star hotel located in the heart of the ancient city of Tiberias, on the shores of the biblical Sea of Galilee. From the hotel's great location, guests have an easy access to cruises, water sports, restaurants and entertainment and many historic sites of this region. The hotel offers a high level of comfort and service with its spacious public facilities including outdoor swimming pool, health club with sauna, Jacuzzi and massage, as well as beauty salon.

The Organizing Committee has reserved rooms at the Conference venue, which will be offered to the participants at special reduced rates when booked via the Conference Secretariat, Ortra Ltd.

Language

The official language of the Conference will be Hebrew, French and English including simultaneous translation.

Travel



The Official airline of the Conference is EL AL Israel Airlines. EL AL has established special airfares with preferential conditions for conference participants and their spouses.

Climate & Clothing

March is spring in Israel. Temperatures in Tiberias are expected to be between 10 – 22 °C. Light rain is possible. Dress will be informal throughout the Conference.

Visa

Individuals from countries without diplomatic relations with Israel should write to the Secretariat, no later than two months prior to the Conference, giving their full name, date and place of birth, passport number and date of issue, flight number and time of arrival.

Currency

The unit of currency is the New Israel Shekel (NIS), commonly known as the Shekel. The Shekel consists of 100 Agorot. US\$ 1 = approximately NIS 4.33 (as of December 2004)

REGISTRATION

	Early Registration until January 30, 2005	Late Registration From January 31, 2005
Participant Full Registration	US\$ 300	US\$ 350
Accompanying Person	US\$ 150	US\$ 180

Participant Full Registration Fees include:

- Participation in the Conference program
- Book of Abstracts
- Conference Kit
- 3 Lunches and Refreshments
- Conference Shalom Cocktail Get-together on Sunday, March 20, 2005
- Dinner including entertainment on Monday, March 21, 2005
- Half Day Conference tour on Tuesday, March 22, 2005
- Gala Dinner on Tuesday, March 22, 2005

Accompanying Person Registration Fees include:

- Two half-day tours as per Accompanying Persons' program
- Conference Shalom Cocktail Get-together on Sunday, March 20, 2005
- Dinner including entertainment on Monday, March 21, 2005
- Half Day tour on Tuesday, March 22, 2005
- Gala Dinner on Tuesday, March 22, 2005

Preliminary Registration

Please complete the **Registration Form** and send it together with your payment to the Conference Secretariat. Payments can be made by bank draft or bank transfer to account #142-472330, Bank Hapoalim (swift code poalilit), Branch no. 780, Itzhak Sade' Street, Tel Aviv or by Credit Card (Visa/MasterCard/Diners/American Express only).

Registration Payment Terms

Registration fees will be charged upon receipt of registration forms. Payments will be refunded according to the cancellation policy.

Registration Cancellation Policy

Refund of registration fees will be made if written notification of cancellation is received at the Conference Secretariat as follows:

- Before February 20, 2005 - Full refund less \$100 handling fee.
- February 21 – March 6, 2005 - 50% refund
- From March 7, 2005 - No refund

TRAVEL, TOURS AND ACCOMMODATION

The Organizing Committee has appointed **Ortra Ltd.**, a registered travel agent, as the official organizer and travel agent for the Conference.

Rooms have been reserved at the Sheraton Moriah Hotel (5 star), which will be offered to the Conference participants at special reduced rates only if booked through Ortra. Double and single occupancy rooms are available.

ADDITIONAL TOURIST SERVICES

Ortra Ltd. is offering post-Conference tours. Participants are invited to make additional tourist services reservations as desired, such as hotel extensions, regular tours, private car tours, car rentals, touring in limousines with driver/guide, etc..

A. TRAVEL

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Ortra Ltd. will arrange upon request, transfers on a sharing-basis from the Ben Gurion airport to the Sheraton Moriah Hotel, Tiberias on Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20 at cost of US\$50 per person (up to 90 minutes waiting time). Alternatively a private transfer for up to 8 persons per car can be arranged at cost of US\$ 125 per car. Participants who book this service should notify the Secretariat of their arrival details no later than one week prior to arrival and they will be met at the airport by Ortra's representatives at "Seshir" counter, located on the first floor of the new Ben Gurion Arrival Hall (after customs).

B. DAILY ACCOMMODATION RATES AT THE SHERATON MORIAH HOTEL, TIBERIAS

	Until January 30, 2005	From January 31, 2005
Per Person in a Double Room ¹	US\$ 58	US\$ 62
Per Person in a Single Room ²	US\$ 102	US\$ 107

Rates include one night accommodation, full Israeli breakfast buffet, service charge and Taxes.

* Important Notes:

1. Participants requesting to share a double room should send their Tourist Services Forms together. The Secretariat will not accept reservations for sharing double rooms unless the forms are received together and both forms clearly state the name of the person that they are sharing a room with.
2. The number of single rooms is limited.



C. OPTIONAL POST-CONFERENCE TOURS

C.1. POST-CONFERENCE TOUR TO SAFED, AMUKA AND MOUNT MERON

Thursday, March 23, 2005

Departure from your hotel to the hill-top town of Safed (Tzefat), nestled in the mountains of upper Galilee. It is one of the four cities holy to Judaism and a center of Kabala sages during ancient times. Visiting its picturesque, cobblestoned alleys, art galleries, historical sites and mystical synagogues. After Lunch, en-route to the steep descent to Amuka and a visit the tomb of Rabbi Jonathan Ben Ouziel, "the Matchmaker", enjoy the panoramic view of Hula Valley, Golan Heights and Mount Hermon. Continue to Mount Meron, the Israel's best-known nature reserve, for a hike over the circular trail surrounding the mountain peak, winding through thick, rich woodland. Return to the hotel.

- Rate: US\$ 32 per person
- Rate includes:
 - ✓ Full day touring in an air-conditioned bus. Guiding by a licensed English-speaking guide
 - ✓ Entrance fees as per program.
- Rate does not include:
 - ✓ Lunch
 - ✓ Tips and other personal expenses

C.2. POST-CONFERENCE TOUR TO GOLAN HEIGHTS, KATZRIN AND HAMMAT GADER

Thursday, March 23, 2005

Departure from your hotel to the basalt plateau of the Golan Heights, covered with blanket of flowers during springtime. Visit Gamla Reserve, view from various vantage points the remains of a fortified Jewish city, Israel's highest waterfall and the large eagles' nesting area. Continue to Katzrin for a visit of the Talmudic dwelling and Museum. Continue on to the successful Golan Heights Winery, founded in 1983, producing award-winning wines by combining state-of-the-art technology with traditional vinification techniques. Stop at Mitzpe (observation point) Ophir for a view of the entire Sea of Galilee. Then descend the serpentine drive to Hamat Gader, modern mineral water spa built within the ruins of an ancient Roman bath, and visit the crocodile farm. Return to hotel.

- Rate: US\$ 64 per person
- Rate includes:
 - ✓ Full day touring in an air-conditioned. Guiding by a licensed English-speaking guide
 - ✓ Entrance fees as per program.
- Rate does not include:
 - ✓ Lunch
 - ✓ Tips and other personal expenses



C.3. POST-CONFERENCE TOUR TO BEIT-SHEAN AND THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

Thursday, March 23, 2005

After breakfast, departure from your hotel for a drive along the Jordan valley to Beit She'an, an excavated, affluent center of culture since the 5th millennium BCE.

The biblical book of Samuel describing the ultimate battle of King Saul and Prince Jonathan, relates how the Philistine displayed the two royal bodies from the Beit Shean city walls. The city boasts one of the more beautiful Roman theatres. Continue to Jerusalem for a visit to the old city including the Jewish Quarter, Western Wall – the last remnant of the Second Temple and its excavations, and the Cardo. The tour ends in Jerusalem.

- Rate: US\$ 43 per person
- Rate includes:
 - ✓ Full day touring in an air-conditioned bus. Guiding by a licensed English speaking guide
 - ✓ Entrance fees as per program.
- Rate does not include:
 - ✓ Accommodation in Jerusalem
 - ✓ Lunch
 - ✓ Tips and other personal expenses

The tours C1-C3 will operate with a minimum of 15 participants.

REQUEST FOR TOURIST SERVICES

Kindly make your requests for tourist services by the enclosed **Tourist Services Form** and return it with payment to Ortra Ltd. Payment to Ortra Ltd. can be made by bank draft, bank transfer to account no. #142-472330 at Bank Hapoalim (swift code poalilit), Branch no. 780, Itzhak Sade Street, Tel-Aviv, Israel or by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Diners and American Express only).

TOURIST SERVICES PAYMENT TERMS

The total balance of your tourist services reservation will be charged upon receipt of your "Tourist Services Form". Payments will be refunded according to the cancellation policy

TOURIST SERVICES CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund of payments made towards Tourist Services reservations, will be refunded if written notification reaches the Conference Secretariat as follows:

- Before February 20, 2005 - Full refund less \$100 handling fee.
- February 21 – March 6, 2005 - Refund of payments less \$100 handling fee and one night accommodation
- From March 7, 2005 - Refund of payments less \$100 handling fee, one night accommodation and airport transfers

Please Note! You can purchase Cancellation Insurance for US\$ 50 (non refundable), which allows you to receive a full refund of all Tourist Services payments (including accommodation, tours and transfers) with a notification of up to 48 hours prior to the conference commencement. For those who purchase this insurance, tourist services cancellation fees will not apply.

OFFICIAL ORGANIZER AND TRAVEL AGENT

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