

# Professor Meir Litvak

## Director of the Alliance Center for Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv University

Meir Litvak is a Middle East expert and a Professor in the Department of Middle Eastern and African History at Tel Aviv University. He is also the Director of the Alliance Center for Iranian Studies, an interdisciplinary research center focusing on the promotion of knowledge and understanding of Iran.

He has written several books and authored numerous articles. Most recently, he oversaw and contributed to the Center's 600-page collection *Jews of Iran in Israel: Immigration, Challenges of Absorption and Integration*, the first study of its kind in Israel and the world. An English translation is now being prepared.

Professor Litvak's field of expertise is modern Iranian and Shi'i history. He is the author of *Shi'i Scholars of Nineteenth Century Iraq: The "Ulama" of Najaf and Karbala* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), co-author of *Iran: From a Persian Empire to an Islamic Republic* (Tel Aviv: Open University of Israel Press, 2014, in Hebrew), and co-author with Esther Webman, *From Empathy to Denial: Arab Responses to the Holocaust* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2009, Hebrew edition 2015). In addition, he has edited and co-edited eight books, including *Constructing Nationalism in Iran: From the Qajars to the Islamic Republic*, published by Routledge in May 2017.



He has also published articles on modern Shi'i and Iranian history as well as on modern Islamic movements. His most recent book, *Know Thy Enemy: Attitudes towards Others in Modern Shi'i Iranian Thought and Practice*, was published by Brill in 2021. He is currently working on a book on the social and political history of Isfahan from 1906 to 1953.

He is an alumnus of Tel Aviv University and received his PhD from Harvard University in 1991.



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