

LIORA R. SARFATI, Ph.D.

Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies
 Gilman 259, Tel Aviv University, 6997801, Israel

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EDUCATION

Indiana University, Bloomington

Ph.D. in Folklore and Ethnomusicology 2010

Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Cultures 2010

Dissertation: *Objects of Worship: Material Culture in the Production of Shamanic Rituals in South Korea*, Advisers: Roger Janelli and Richard Bauman (co-chairs), Henry Glassie, Michael Robinson, Jason Baird Jackson, Thomas Keirstead

Tel Aviv University

Masters, Sociology and Anthropology (with distinction) 2001

Thesis: *Zadiqim Veneration in Israel by the End of the Millenium: Religion, Mysticism, Modernity*
 Advisers: Haim Hazan, Yoram Bilu

Tel Aviv University

Undergraduate Studies in The Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students 1999

RESEARCH INTERESTS**Fields**

Sociocultural Anthropology: religion, society, culture, and media in Korea, Japan, and Israel
 Folklore: cultural performance, vernacular religion, Internet folklore, museums, folklore in the media, protest folklore, Japanese colonial anthropology and ethnology

Methodology

Qualitative methods: ethnography, content analysis, comparison
 Digital Humanities: topic modeling, frequencies, image analysis

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University 2014-present

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University 2009-2014

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ben-Gurion University 2010-2014

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies, The Hebrew University 2010-2012

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Israeli Science Foundation Grant 2017-20

Young Scholars' Forum Member, Israeli Academy of Sciences 2016-7

SSRC First Book Korean Studies Workshop for Junior Faculty 2016

Korea Foundation Field Research Fellowship 2014

The Louis Frieberg Post-Doc Fellowship, The Hebrew University 2010-2011

Fellowship for Summer Institute, Kyujanggak Center, Seoul National University 2007

Field Research Fellowship, Korea Foundation 2007

The Richard Dorson Grant for Dissertation, Indiana University, Bloomington 2006

Graduate Studies Fellowship, SOFOKS, Indianapolis 2004, 2006

The Adi Lautman Scholarship for Outstanding Students, Tel Aviv University 1994-1999

Various conference travel grants 1998-2019

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Contemporary Korean Shamanism: From Ritual to Digital, *Indiana University Press*, forthcoming 2020

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals

- Healing through Gender Inversion in Korean Possession Trance Rituals. *The Drama Review*, forthcoming, spring 2020.
- Circles of Poetic Grief, Anger, and Hope: Landscapes of Mass Cooperation in Seoul after the Sewöl Disaster, co-authored with Bora Chung. *Journal of Folklore Research*, 57 (1): 1-32, Winter 2020.
- Affective Protest Symbols: Public Dissent in the Mass Commemoration of the Sewöl Ferry's Victims in Seoul, co-authored with Bora Chung. *Asian Studies Review*, 42 (4): 565-585, Autumn 2018.
- Morality and Legitimacy in the Sewöl Protest in South Korea. *Urbanities*, 8 (Suppl. 1): 70-73, Spring 2018.
- Vernacular Dialectics: Spiritual Practices of *Tsaddik* Veneration by Secular Israelis Vernacular. *Journal of American Folklore* 131 (520): 181-208, Spring 2018.
- Shifting Agencies through New Media: New Social Statuses for Female Korean Shamans. *Journal of Korean Studies*, 21 (1): 179-212, Spring 2016.

Refereed Articles in Books

- "Morality and Legitimacy in the Sewöl Protest in South Korea," pp. 281-304 in *Ethnographies and Legitimacy: Methodological and Theoretical Insights*, edited by Pardo Italo, and Giuliana B. Prato. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- "Urban Development and Vernacular Religious Landscapes in Seoul," pp. 499-518 in *The Palgrave Handbook of Urban Anthropology*, edited by Pardo Italo, and Giuliana B. Prato. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
- "New Technologies in Korean Shamanism: Cultural Innovation and Preservation of Tradition," pp. 233-245 in *Performance Studies in Motion*, edited by Citron Atay, David Zerbib, and Sharon Aronson-Lehavi. London: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 2014.

Reviews

- Book Review. God Pictures in Korean Contexts: The Ownership and Meaning of Shaman Paintings. By Laurel Kendall, Jongsung Yang, and Yul Soo Yoon. *Museum Anthropology Review*, 11 (1): 40-1, 2017.
- Book Review. An Affair with Korea: Memories of South Korea in the 1960. By Vincent Brandt. *Journal of Korean Studies*, 20 (2): 467-470, Fall 2016
- Book Review. The Ethnopoetics of Space and Transformation: Young People's Engagement, Activism and Aesthetics. By Stuart C. Aitken. *Journal of Folklore Research*, Jan 2015
- Book Review. Kingdom of Beauty: Mingei and the Politics of Folk Art in Imperial Japan. By Kim Brandt. *Museum Anthropology Review*, 4 (2), 2010
- Book Review. Healing Rhythms: The World of South Korea's East Coast Hereditary Shamans. By Simon Mills. *Journal of Folklore Research*, Feb 2008
- Book Review. Handbook of Material Culture. Edited by Chris Tilley, Webb Keane, Susanne Kuchler, Mike Rowlands, Patricia Spyer. *Journal of Folklore Research*, Nov. 2007
- Museum review. "Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum." *Journal of American Folklore*, 120 (475): 97-99, 2007
- Book review. Singing Story, Healing Drum: Shamans and Storytellers of Turkic Siberia. By Kira Van Dausen. *Journal of Folklore Research*, Feb 2006

Other Publications

- “The South Korean Response to the COVID 19 epidemic.” *Corona and East Asian Countries*. Department of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University, March 2020. (in Hebrew)
- Obedience or Negligence: Who is to blame in the Ferry Disaster in Korea. *Haaretz*, May 2 2014. Available at <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/asia/.premium-1.2310979> (in Hebrew)
- Korean Kut Ritual: Manshin, People, Gods, and Spirits along the Altar, *Iasia Portal*. available at <http://www.iasia.co.il/2012/05/24> (in Hebrew)
- Feeding the Dead in Order to Protect the Living: Vernacular Religion in Korea, *Iasia Portal*. available at <http://www.iasia.co.il/2012/03/16> (in Hebrew)
- Death of a Living God, *Israel Asia Center's Website*. available at <http://www.israelasiacenter.org/#/death-of-a-living-god/4559070805> January, 2011
- Meet the Gods: Material Representations of Gods and Spirits in Korean Shamanism, *Journal of Korean Association for the Study of Spirits, Ghosts, and Gods*, 1.1: 121-143, 2007
- Performance, Spirituality, Audiences, and Shamans, *Korea Foundation Newsletter*, 2007, 16.6: pp 8-9.
- Imported Rituals: Zaddiq Veneration in Israel (June 10. 2004). *UC Transnational and Transcolonial Studies Multicampus Research Group*, Graduate Student Conference. available online at <http://repositories.cdlib.org/cmcs/mrg/gsc/Sarfati> 4

CONFERENCES

- “Screen Mediated Politics: The Online Delegitimization of Pak Kün-Hye Following the Sewöl Ferry Disaster,” Korean Screen Culture Conference, University of Tübingen, June 2020 (corona-postponed to online format in August 2020).
- “Healing through Gender Inversion in Performance of Korean Possession Trance Rituals,” and organizer of the panel Healing and Performance in Korea, the Bi-annual Conference of Asian Studies in Israel, Tel Aviv University, May 2020 (corona-postponed).
- “The Material Manipulation of Ritual Sites in Korean Shamanism,” and organizer of the panel Material Culture and Korean Religions, Annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 2019.
- “Affective Protest in Contemporary Seoul.” Affective Modernities in Korea Workshop, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, May 2019.
- “Affective Symbols: Interplays between Online and Offline Sewöl Protest Visuals.” Association of Korean Studies in Europe, Rome, April 2019.
- “Animal Sacrifice and Ritual Space in Korean Shamanism,” and organizer of the panel Animal Agency in Korean Art and Rituals. The 2019 meeting of the Association of Asian Studies, Denver, March, 2019.
- “Channeling Grief and Dissent through Religious Rituals in the Sewöl Protests.” Annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, November 2018.
- “Healing through Performance in Korean Shamanism.” Performance as a Producer of Knowledge Workshop, Haifa University, June 2018.
- “Getting to Know a Korean Shaman through Television Representations.” Korea’s Screen Culture Conference, University of Helsinki, May 2018.
- “Animals as Supernatural Messengers and Sacrificial Animals in Korean Shamanism.” Animals and Religion in Asia Conference, Tel Aviv University, May 2018.
- “Mental Illness and Spiritual Healing.” Science and Gender Workshop in the Bi-annual Conference of Asian Studies in Israel, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, May 2018.

- “Mourning through Protest in Seoul: Debates over Governance, Morality and Legitimacy after the Sewöl Ferry Disaster.” Workshop on Erosions of Legitimacy and Urban Futures: Ethnographic Research Matters, Sicily, September 2017.
- “Panel 6, Diasporic Artists.” Chair and discussant at *Korean Diaspora and the Arts Conference*, The Hebrew University, May 2017.
- “Animal Sacrifice and the Manipulation of Ritual Sites in Korean Shamanism.” Asian Spaces Conference, Tel Aviv University, May 2017.
- “Intense Spirits: Personal and Institutional Struggles over Museum Displays of Korean Shamanism (*musok*).” Association of Korean Studies in Europe Bi-annual Conference, Prague, April 2017.
- “Folk-religion Semiotics in the Sewöl Protests.” The 9th Kyujanggak International Symposium on Korean Studies, Seoul National University, August 2016, also panel’s organizer and chair.
- “The Middle Classes in Seoul: Spatial Dimensions.” Panel Chair and discussant, Middle Classes in East Asia Conference, Truman Institute, Jerusalem, June 2016.
- “Documenting Grief through Protest: KwanghwamunTV Project of the Sewöl Victims Birthday Video Clips,” Korea’s Screen Culture Conference, King’s College, London, June 2016.
- “Animal Sacrifice in Korean Shamanism.” The bi-annual conference of Asian Studies in Israel, Tel Hai College, May 2016.
- “Grief, Protest, and Material Creativity in the Commemoration of Sewöl’s Victims.” Visual Culture in Korea Conference, Truman Institute, Jerusalem, May 2016.
- “Agendas, Power, and Ideology in Museum Displays of Korean Shamanism.” Association of American Anthropology, Denver, November 2015.
- “Landscapes of Mass Cooperation: Refashioning the Urban Landscape of Seoul after the Sewöl Disaster,” The World Congress for Korean Politics and Society, Kyeongju, August 2015.
- “Motivated Documentation: Ethnographic Photographs of Japanese Colonizers in Korea.” Third Generation: Representations of WWII in Photography and Video Art, Tel Aviv University, June 2015.
- “Images of Korean Culture as Shaped by Japanese Colonial Folklorists and Anthropologists.” Transnational Cultural Interactions between Korea and Japan, From the Pre-modern to the Colonial Period, The Hebrew University, May 2015.
- “Dualism and Animism- Can the two be combined in Shamanic Veneration of Natural Objects?” Annual Conference of Contemporary Spiritualism, Tel Aviv, May 2015.
- “Male and Female in Korean Shamanic Spirit Mediation (*Musok*).” Annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 2014.
- “New Technologies and the Creation of Innovative Ritual Representations in Korean Shamanism.” Performance Studies International Conference, Shanghai, July 2014.
- “The New Village Movement in Korea as a Modernist Concept that Contradicts Vernacular Beliefs.” The 12th annual Conference of Asian Studies in Israel, Haifa University, May, 2014.
- “Locational and Cyber Pilgrimage in Israel: Between Sensual, Imagined, and Mediated Experiences.” The IUAES 2014 Inter-congress: The Future with/of Anthropologies, Tokyo, May 2014.
- “Shamans Online: Shifting Agencies through the Internet in Korea’s Vernacular Religion.” The Biennial World Communication Association Conference, Seoul, August, 2013.
- “Vernacular Dialectics between Locational, Imagined and Online Veneration of Tsaddik Graves.” The Annual Meeting of the Israeli Anthropological Association, Van-Leer Institute, Jerusalem, May, 2013.
- “The Benefits and Dangers of Using Popular Media to Teach Academic Classes on Culture and History of Korea.” The 'Miracle' Narrative of the Korean Cultural Industries: Perspectives from the Middle East, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, May, 2013.
- “Neo-mudang: Internet Practices of Korean Shamans.” Religions in Korea Workshop, Bar Ilan University, February, 2013.

- "Representing Korean Shamanism in Ethnographic and Feature Films." The 4th North American Workshop on Korean Literature, Binghamton University, New York, October, 2012.
- "Religions Online in Korea." The 11th annual Conference of Asian Studies in Israel ,Tel Aviv University, May, 2012 (also the panel's chair).
- "War and Dislocation of Religion: Journeys of Shamanic Practices from North Korea." American Folklore Society Annual Meeting: Peace, War, Folklore, Indiana University, Bloomington, October, 2011.
- "Spirits of Nationalism in Korean Shamanism" and "Fieldwork with Korean Shamans." The 10th Conference of Asian Studies in Israel, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May, 2011 .
- "Home Shrine and the Home as a Shrine in Korean Shamanism." The 39th annual Conference of the Israeli Anthropological Association, Haifa University, May, 2011.
- "Choice and Agency in Korean Shamans' Telling of their Life History." History as Social Process Master Class, Centre for Korean Studies, Leiden University, October, 2010.
- " Technology Incorporation and the Question of Authenticity in Contemporary Korean Shamanistic Rituals." Richard Schechner and Performance Theory Conference, Haifa University, May, 2010.
- "Archaic Techniques of Ecstasy in Technologies of the 21st Century: Shamanism in Korea." The Israeli Society for History & Philosophy of Science Yearly Conference, Jerusalem, March, 2009.
- "Shamanism in Korea and its Relationship with other Religious Trends." Monotheism in Asia: Inter-Religious Trends, Bar Ilan University, March, 2009 .
- "Shopping for Spirits and Gods: The Role of Religious-Goods Stores in Contemporary Korean Shamanism." Central States Anthropological Society Conference, Indianapolis, May, 2008.
- "Meet the Gods: Material Representations of Gods and Spirits in Korean Shamanism." 1st Meeting of the Association for Korean Spirits, Ghosts, and God Studies, Seoul, October, 2007 .
- "Internet as a Medium for Promoting Musok (Korean Shamanism) in Contemporary South Korea." The 2007 World Congress of Korean Studies, Pusan, September, 2007.
- "Sacred Graves in Israel: Real and Imaginary Space Transferred to Cyberspace." Pushing Boundaries: Extreme Folklore Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, March, 2006.
- "Spirit Possession or Sexual Oppression: Aoi no ue's Illness in Medieval and Contemporary Artistic Representations." Genji Goes Pop: Graduate Students Conference on Traditional and Modern Japanese Literature, Indiana University, Bloomington, April, 2006.
- "Private and National Shamanic Kut Rituals in South Korea." The Fourth Annual Korean Studies Graduate Symposium, University of California, Berkeley, October, 2005.
- "Internet Mediated Saint Veneration: Myths of the Jewish Zaddiq Yonatan Ben Uziel." Religion Studies Graduate Student Symposium, Indiana University, Bloomington, May, 2005.
- "A Hundred Years of Changes in the English Scholarship of Korean Shamanism." The 2004 meeting of the Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, March, 2004.
- " Imported Rituals: Zaddiq Veneration in Israel." UC Transnational and Transcolonial Studies Multicampus Research Group Graduate Student Conference, UCLA, April, 2003.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- "Landscapes of Mass Cooperation in Seoul: From the Sewöl Disaster to the Corona Crisis." University of Copenhagen, by Zoom, May 2020.
- "The Corona Response in South Korea- Socio-cultural Aspects." Lecture Series, The Korean Embassy in Israel, May 2020.
- "Heritage and Cultural Preservation in Korea." Lecture Series, The Korean Embassy in Israel, December 2019.
- "The Buddhist Monk who Opened an Instagram Account: Media in Japanese Tradition." The Tel Aviv Sinematech Lecture Series about Japan, December 2019.

- “Love and Death in Japan: The Film *Dolls* by Takeshi Kitano.” Spiritual Cinema Lecture Series, Sinematech Tel Aviv, November 2019.
- “South Korea’s Approach to the North-South Reconciliation.” North Korea: Reducing Tensions or Denuclearization? The Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv University, November 2019.
- “South Korea’s Stance.” Global Perspective after the Trump-Kim New Summit Talks, The Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv University, March 2019.
- “South Korea: Tradition and Modernity.” Kfar Shmaryahu Library, March 2019.
- “Korea and Japan: Love/Hate Story.” The Tel Aviv Sinematech Lecture Series about Japan, May 2018.
- “Mourning through Protest in Seoul: Debates over Governance, Morality and Legitimacy after the Sewöl Ferry Disaster.” University of Copenhagen, December 2017.
- “Death, Rituals, and Hope in Seoul.” Lecture Series, Bar Ilan University, January 2017.
- “Tradition and Innovation in South Korean Media.” Lecture Series, The Korean Embassy in Israel, December 2016.
- “Korean Shamanism: Dancing with Ancestors, Speaking with Mountain Spirits.” Wilfrid Museum of East Asian Arts, Kibbutz Hazorea, May 2016.
- “Representations of Korean Shamanism in the Media.” Royal Asiatic Society, Seoul, July 2014.
- “Korea Shamanism: Comparing the Findings of Japanese Colonial Anthropologists and Contemporary Ethnography.” Departmental Seminar, East Asian Studies, Haifa University, May 2014.
- “Innovation and Preservation in the Rituals of Korean Shamans.” Book Launch of *Performance Studies in Motion* (Methuen 2014), Haifa University, May 2014.
- “Korea: Investigation of a Fast Modernization Process.” 14 weekly radio programs about Korea's culture and history for *Academy in Aleph* produced by the National Broadcasting Authorities, 2013- 2014.
- “Colonial Anthropologists at the Service of the Japanese Empire.” Guest speaker, Departmental Seminar, East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University, November 2013.
- “The Gap between the Internet Revolutions of North and South Korea.” Netvision Center for Internet Research, Tel Aviv University, June, 2012.
- “Cinematic Representations of Korean Folk Beliefs on Death and Mourning.” Korea Day at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, May, 2012.
- “Material Representations of Korea's Shamanic Culture.” Guest speaker, Departmental Seminar, East Asian Studies, The Hebrew University, February, 2011.
- “Shamans Online: Roles of the Internet in the Service of Vernacular Religions in Korea.” Guest speaker, Departmental Seminar, East Asian Studies, Haifa University, December, 2009 .
- “In the Marketplace with Gods and Spirits: Material aspects in the Commodification of Korean Shamanism.” Guest speaker, Departmental Seminar, East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University, February, 2009.
- “Behind Every Successful Korean Shaman There are Several Men: Gender Roles in Contemporary Musok.” The 70th Yonsei Korea Foundation Forum, Seoul, May, 2007.
- “People in Search for Hope.” Interdisciplinary Discourse, Tel Aviv University, February, 1999.

FIELD RESEARCH

Fieldwork on the protest movements in Seoul	2014-2020
Fieldwork on locational, online, and media representation of religious practices in Korea	2009-2020
Dissertation fieldwork on vernacular religion, Seoul, South Korea	2005, 2007
Fieldwork on online spiritual practices in Israel	2004-2013
Fieldwork on ethnic minorities, Bloomington, Indiana	2003-4
Interviewer, Japanese Arts in Israel Research Project	2001
Master thesis fieldwork on folk religion in Israel	1997-2000
Final Project Matriculation Program fieldwork on Bedouin tribeswomen, Israel	1988

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Departments of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University, 2014-20

Courses taught:

Introduction to Japan

Media and Tradition in Japan and Korea

Korea's Culture and History

Protest Movements in Korea

Popular Culture in Korea (pro-seminar)

Religion and Ritual in Korea (pro-seminar)

Pilgrimage in Japan and Korea (seminar)

Gender and Popular Culture in Japan and Korea (seminar)

Korea's Ancient Traditions in Contemporary Culture (graduate seminar)

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ben Gurion University 2010-2014

Courses taught:

Modern Korea: Ethnographic Observation of Fast Modernization

Society and Culture in Israel

Religion and Ritual: Anthropological Perspectives (seminar)

Departments of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University, The Hebrew University 2008-2014

Courses taught:

Media and Tradition in Japan and Korea

Korean Religion and Ritual

Korea's Internet Culture

Pre-modern Korea's Culture and History

Contemporary Korea's Culture and History

Japan - Korea Relationship

The Japanese Empire 1870-1945

Departments of Communication and Culture, Folklore and Ethnomusicology, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Indiana University, Bloomington 2005-6

Courses taught:

Public Speaking

Jewish Folklore

Culture and Language of Korea

East Asian Religions

Departments of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Jewish Studies, The Upward Bound Project, Indiana University, Bloomington 2002-2004

Associate instructor:

Introduction to Folklore

Beginning Hebrew

Intermediate Hebrew

Department of Behavioral Studies, Hamichlala Le Minhaleh College, Rishon LeZion 2000-2002

Associate instructor:

Qualitative Research Methods

Social Thought

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of East Asian Studies, Tel Aviv University 1997-2002

Associate instructor:

Introduction to Anthropology
 Academic Reading
 Introduction to Japan
 Contemporary Religion in Japan
 Folk Religion in Japan
 Japanese Religion in the Arts

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Steering Committee Member of the Korean Religions Unit of the American Academy of Religion 2017-c2023
 Academic committee member of the Israeli Association of Japanese Studies 2015-c2021
 Article reviewer for Anthropological Quarterly, Open Cultural Studies, Journal of Folklore Research, New Media and Society, Urbanities, Ethnomusicology Forum, Ethnos, Acta Koreana, Geographical Research, and Annali dell'Università di Napoli L'Orientale 2006-2020
 Dissertation evaluator, National University of Singapore, The Hebrew University 2014, 2019
 Folklore indexer, MLA Bibliography Project, Indiana University Library 2002-2003

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor in The Program for Gifted Students, Eilat 2010-12
 Social sciences teacher at Begin High School, Eilat 2008-14
 Instructor in The Unit for Science Oriented Youth, Tel Aviv University 1997-2002
 Underprivileged high-school students' projects' teacher, Tel-Aviv Municipality 1998

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Intercultural advising for companies in business with East Asian Countries 2007-2015
 Yoga instructor 2000-2001
 Tour Guide in Hebrew, English and Spanish in Israel and Egypt 1994-1999
 Educational Coordinator, Environmental Unit, Eilat municipality 1993-1994
 Nature guide, National Authority of Wildlife Reserves [as military service] 1989-1991

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
 Association of Asian Studies (AAS)
 Israeli Association for the Study of Religions (IASR)
 Israeli Association of Japanese Studies (IAJS)
 American Folklore Society (AFS)
 Performance Studies International (PSI)
 International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES)
 International Urban Symposium (IUS)

LANGUAGES

Hebrew, Spanish- mother tongues
 English- excellent proficiency
 Japanese, Korean- very good proficiency
 Arabic- good proficiency