

## The collections by language

Some works contain texts in more than one language. This overview lists the number of works that contain texts in that specific language. Title lists by language can be requested by contacting [info@idc.nl](mailto:info@idc.nl)

### Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, and Marathi Jewish Printing in India

Language	Number of titles	Number of fiche
Hebrew	442	746
Marathi	311	578
English	162	318
Judeo-Arabic	127	325
Aramaic	62	123
Malayalam	6	9

### Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic Printing in Baghdad

Language	Number of titles	Number of fiche
Hebrew	266	512
Judeo-Arabic	158	222
Aramaic	125	288

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION

##### Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, and Marathi Jewish Printing in India

- Scope: 656 titles on microfiche
- Number of fiche: 1376
- Price: See [www.idc.nl](http://www.idc.nl)
- Languages: Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, Marathi, Aramaic, English, Malayalam and Urdu
- Including Marc21 records

##### Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic Printing in Baghdad

- Scope: 346 titles on microfiche
- Number of fiche: 617
- Price: See [www.idc.nl](http://www.idc.nl)
- Languages: Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, Aramaic
- Including Marc21 records



See [www.idc.nl](http://www.idc.nl) for complete title list.  
Visit [www.idc.nl](http://www.idc.nl) for detailed introductory texts by Brad Sabin Hill.

## The Valmadonna Library in London

The Valmadonna Trust Library, housed in London, is the world's foremost private collection of early and rare Hebraica, especially printed books from Italy, Ottoman Greece and Palestine, Turkey, Amsterdam, India and Baghdad. In 1999 the Trust acquired the remaining rarities from the celebrated collection of oriental Hebrew books and manuscripts assembled by the Indian-born bibliophile D. S. Sassoon (1880-1942). The books in the Sassoon collection, together with those in the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem, served as the basis for A. Yaari's panoramic typographic history, *Hebrew Printing in the East* (Jerusalem, 1940).

#### ALSO FROM IDC

##### Israel's Messenger Shanghai, 1904-1941

The English language Zionist periodical *Israel's Messenger* was the largest and oldest Shanghai Jewish community newspaper. Started in 1904 by N.E.B. Ezra, it was published uninterruptedly for 37 years in the interest of providing the Sephardic community in Shanghai with local, national and international news and background information.

See [www.idc.nl](http://www.idc.nl) for more details.

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PRIMARY SOURCE COLLECTIONS



Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, and Marathi Jewish Printing in India

Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic Printing in Baghdad

Rare Printed Books from the Valmadonna Trust Library, London



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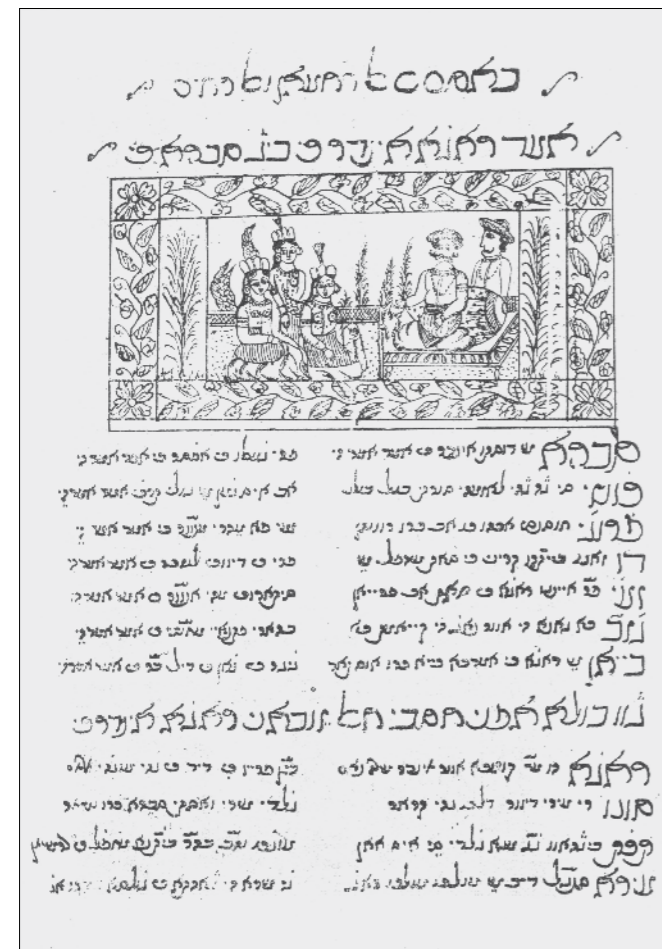
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**IDC**  
PUBLISHERS

# Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, and Marathi Jewish Printing in India

Rare Printed Books from the Valmadonna Trust Library, London

Advisor: Brad Sabin Hill, The George Washington University, Washington, DC



- OVER 760 ITEMS INCLUDING**
- Early imprints from Calcutta, Bombay, Poona and Cochin
  - Rare oriental liturgies and chapbooks
  - Baghdadi and Yemenite poetry and scholarship
  - Judeo-Arabic and Aramaic literature
  - Illustrated Haggadahs and Judeo-Urdu drama
  - Marathi and Malayalam texts and translations
  - Unique Indian lithographs
  - 120 Ephemera clustered by subject and provenance

## The India Collection

The Valmadonna collection of Hebrew and Jewish books from India is a unique and unparalleled resource for the study of oriental printing and lithography, Hebrew poetry and liturgical history, Eastern Judeo-Arabic literature, and the art, folklore, traditions and vernacular writings of the Jews of South Asia. Through this publication, the entire corpus of Indian Jewish literature is made accessible to researchers for the first time.

### Hebrew in India

The Hebrew culture of India has survived in a corpus of books and manuscripts from the three distinct historical Jewish communities of the subcontinent: the 'black' and 'white' Jews of Cochin along the Malabar coast, who used Malayalam (a language related to Tamil) as their vernacular; the Bene Israel of the Konkan region, around Bombay, who used Marathi as their vernacular; and the Baghdadi or Arabian Jews, the most recent Jewish arrivals to India, for whom some variety of Judeo-Arabic was originally the dominant vernacular. Altogether, the Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, and Marathi Jewish books from India comprise a little-known dimension of the huge linguistic and literary

diversity of printing and lithography in Asia and the Orient. Today the manuscripts and printed books of Indian Jewry are scattered in various repositories around the world, and no public institution holds a comprehensive collection.

The Indian imprints in the Valmadonna Library are unequalled both in their number and in their quality. Among them are numerous unrecorded titles and unique surviving copies of Hebrew-character texts, as well as other Jewish texts in Marathi and Malayalam, printed in the principal centres of Jewish settlement and publishing in South Asia. Their subject matter ranges from rare oriental liturgies, poetry, biblical, medieval and kabbalistic texts in Hebrew or Aramaic, to the Passover Haggadah, ritual law, dictionaries, story-books and other original compositions, many in Judeo-Arabic or accompanied by Judeo-Arabic translation. Indian Jewish illustration and graphic art are also represented here in flawless lithographs. The collection includes the most complete surviving text of one of the great curiosities of Indian Jewish literature, an illustrated edition of the classic Hindustani drama *Inder Sabha*, printed in Calcutta in 1880, in Urdu transcribed in oriental Hebrew script.

# Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic Printing in Baghdad

Rare Printed Books from the Valmadonna Trust Library, London

Advisor: Brad Sabin Hill, The George Washington University, Washington, DC



- NEARLY 350 TITLES INCLUDING**
- The earliest lithographs
  - Unrecorded Judeo-Arabic books
  - Rare Hebrew liturgies
  - Unique treasures from the Sassoon Collection

## The Baghdad Collection

The Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic books from Baghdad are a vital resource for the study of oriental printing, Hebrew liturgical history, Judeo-Arabic literature, and the history and culture of the most ancient Jewish diaspora community of Babylonia.

## Hebrew in Baghdad

The Hebrew press in Baghdad was one of the last Hebrew presses established in the Orient. In the 1860s a journal and a few books were produced by lithography, among them *Masa'ot shel Rabi Binyamin* [the medieval travelogue of Benjamin of Tudela], one of the lengthiest lithographic books ever printed in Hebrew. Before 1870, movable Hebrew type was introduced by a printer trained in Bombay, and Baghdad became the most prolific center of Hebrew printing in the Orient after Jerusalem and Istanbul. Over the course of 75 years, the Hebrew printers of Baghdad issued over 400 books and pamphlets.