



May 16



Diego d'Aguilar and the Expulsion of the Jews of Prague, 1744

Free

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The intercessory efforts of Diego d'Aguilar in support of the Jews of Prague expelled in 1744

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When and where



Date and time

Tue, 16 May 2023 20:00 – 21:00 IDT



Location

Online

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About this event



1 hour



Mobile eTicket

Lecture by Prof Michael Silber (Professor Emeritus, Hebrew University Jerusalem) .

With the death of the Emperor Karl in 1740, Europe was plunged into war contesting the succession of his daughter, Maria Theresa, to the throne of his Habsburg realms. Fought on several fronts, it was in the battles conducted in the lands of the Bohemian Crown, today's Czech Republic, that Jewish communities suffered the most as rival armies gained, lost and regained territory. Upon the recovery of Prague toward the end of 1744, the Queen directed the expulsion of Jews from the city in short order. Soon after, she decreed their expulsion from the entire Kingdom of Bohemia as well as neighboring Markgraviate of Moravia. Jewish notables throughout Europe lobbied the various courts allied to the Queen, to intercede on behalf of their brethren and revoke the harsh decrees. While much of these efforts have been chronicled by historians, this lecture seeks to throw light on the life and activities of a unique personality Baron Diego d'Aguilar, one of the most important shtadlanim, intercessors, of his time. Despite his Iberian name, and the Central European arena of his undertakings, he spent a third of his life in London where he died and found his eternal resting place in the Spanish & Portuguese Novo Cemetery at Mile End Road.

DR. MICHAEL KALMAN SILBER, Cardinal Franz Koenig Senior Lecturer in Austrian Studies (retired), Department of Jewish History and Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. He earned his PhD in 1985 at Hebrew University under the supervision of Prof. Jacob Katz. He has been visiting professor at Harvard; Central European University, Budapest; École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris; Stanford and Yale. He has served as chair of the Dept of Jewish History and chair of the Executive Board of the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People over a decade.

Tags