



# THE CAIRO GENIZA AND THE LOST ARABIC ARCHIVES

The Alexander Grass Chair Endowed Lecture by Marina Rustow

Tuesday, January 24 in the Smathers Library Judaica Suite



## THE CAIRO GENIZA AND THE LOST ARABIC ARCHIVES

A TALK BY

**Marina Rustow**

*Khedouri A. Zilkha Profazo/ of Jewish Civilization In the Near East and Professor of Near Eastern Studies and History at Princeton University*

Among the many unexpected finds the Cairo Geniza has yielded are hundreds, possibly thousands of medieval documents of state in Arabic script. Among these are decrees, rescripts, petitions, tax receipts and fiscal accounts from period of the Fatimid caliphs in Egypt and Syria (969-1171). Most of these Fatimid state documents were reused for Hebrew-script texts, hence their survival in the discarded manuscript chamber of a medieval Egyptian synagogue. In this talk, Professor Rustow will discuss how these documents illustrate techniques for writing and preserving records by one of the most powerful and dynamic medieval Muslim dynasties and their implications for the large and important community of Jews over whom they ruled.

Tuesday, January **24, 2017** at **5:30pm**  
Smathers Library Judaica Suite  
University of Florida campus

This event is free and open to the public.  
For more information: (352) 392-9247



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*Off-campus parking is available at the Stadium Club, behind 1802 W. University Ave. or in the parking lot across from Library West at IS42 W. University Ave. This parking lot now has a drop-bot pay system for when attendant is off-duty.*