

Questions, week 7 (Cohen)

1. Why were Medieval Christians so anti-Semitic?
2. Why were Medieval Moslems less anti-Semitic?
3. Who were “dhimmi”? How were they treated?
4. Who paid a poll tax? Did payers of a poll tax get something in return?
5. Were Jews subject to Medieval usury laws?
6. Why did Jews fare better in Medieval towns?
7. In light of Botticini and Eckstein’s paper, does the answer to question 6 affect your view of Cohen’s book?
8. How much socializing of other people with Medieval Jews actually went on?
9. How important were Medieval anti-Semitic polemics?
10. Why is there so little discussion of Medieval Jewish migration (like that of Maimonides) in Cohen’s book?