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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Julian Morgenstern Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 30



Collection Summary

Title	Julian Morgenstern Papers
Dates	1900-1974 (bulk 1940-1950)
Collection Number	MS-30
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Morgenstern, Julian, 1881-1976
Extent	7.6 linear feet (19 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Julian Morgenstern was born in Saint Francisville, Illinois, March 18, 1881, the son of Samuel and Hannah Morgenstern. During his childhood he lived in Vincennes, Indiana, Garden City, Kansas, and Cincinnati, Ohio and received his education in the public schools of these cities. He received a B.A. Degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1901 and was ordained as rabbi at Hebrew Union College (HUC) in 1902.

After ordination he carried on graduate work in Semitic languages at the Universities of Berlin and Heidelberg and in 1904 received a Ph.D. from the latter institution. From 1904 to 1907 he served as rabbi of Congregation Ahaveth Achim in Lafayette, Indiana. In 1907 Morgenstern was called back to HUC as an instructor in Bible and Semitic languages. He was steadily promoted, first to the rank of Associate Professor in 1910, and then to Professor in 1913. In 1921 he was appointed Acting President and in 1922 President of HUC. He was the first native-born American and HUC alumnus to become its president.

During his presidency the number of students and faculty as well as the scope of the College grew markedly. New academic departments were introduced, new buildings were erected and in 1926 the College, previously a department of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, was individually chartered. During the Hitler period a dozen European scholars were given positions at HUC chiefly as a result of Morgenstern's efforts. In 1947 he retired and became President Emeritus, continuing to teach Bible at the College until 1960 when he moved to Macon, Georgia.

Morgenstern was a scholar in the fields of Biblical Science and the history of religion, particularly the history of Judaism in the biblical period. He contributed many studies to scientific journals, both American and foreign. His published books included *The Doctrine of Sin in the Babylonian Religion* (1905); *Amos Studies* (Vol. I) 1941; *The Ark, the Ephod, and the "Tent of Meeting"* (1945), and *As A Mighty Stream* (1949). He served as president of both the American Oriental Society and the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis. He was also a trustee of the American Schools of Oriental Research, secretary of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, a member of the Publications Committee of the Jewish Publication Society, and held offices in other scholarly organizations.

He received honorary degrees from HUC, the University of Cincinnati (D.H.L.), and from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (L.H.D.). He was also an Honorary Fellow of the American Academy for Jewish Research.

In 1906 Morgenstern married Helen Thorner of Macon, Georgia. They had one daughter, Jean. Morgenstern died in 1976 at the age of 95 in a Macon, Georgia nursing home.

Scope and Content

The collection deals with Julian Morgenstern's activities as president of Hebrew Union College and as a biblical scholar. The collection contains correspondence, addresses, sermons, lectures, and manuscripts of scholarly articles. Of special interest is material pertaining to efforts during the 1930s to rescue European Jewish scholars from Nazi Germany by bringing them to the Hebrew Union College.

Arrangement

Organized into four (4) series: A. Correspondence; B. Addresses, Lectures, Prayers, and Sermons; C. Manuscripts; D. Miscellaneous.

Terms of Access

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Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Julian Morgenstern Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

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Index Terms

Subjects Jewish college teachers / Jewish scholars / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Rabbinical seminaries / Rabbis / Reform Judaism / World War, 1939-1945

Personal Names Morgenstern, Julian, 1881-1976

Corporate Names Hebrew Union College -- Presidents

Media Sermons

Series A. Correspondence, 1900-1974

Extent 4.8 linear feet (12.5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement

Arranged in two (2) subseries: 1. General; 2. Personal.

Subseries 1. General, 1900-1974

Extent 4.8 linear feet (12.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of Morgenstern's correspondence as president of Hebrew Union College and as a biblical scholar. Among the subjects of importance are the efforts to rescue European scholars from Nazi Germany by bringing them to the College and attempts to aid displaced persons and refugees during and after World War II.

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Box 11. Folder 18. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Commission on Jewish Education, 1945-1946, 1964, 1966

Box 11. Folder 19. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Commission on Synagogue Activities, 1946-1947, 1952-1954

Box 11. Folder 20. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Committee on Admissions to the Union, 1949, 1952-1953

Box 11. Folder 21. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Liberal Judaism, 1947-1948, 1950

Box 11. Folder 22. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Minutes, reports, 1947-1950

Box 11. Folder 23. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Minutes, reports, 1951-1953

Box 12. Folder 1. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Placement Committee, 1949-1950

Box 12. Folder 2. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Office of the President, 1947-1949, 1951, 1953, 1956, 1963, 1965-1966, 1968

Box 12. Folder 3. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Office of the Vice President, 1968

Box 12. Folder 4. Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Miscellaneous, 1948, 1952

Box 12. Folder 5. Union Theological Seminary, 1947

Box 12. Folder 6. United Jewish Appeal, 1946-1947

Box 12. Folder 7. V, General.

Box 12. Folder 8. Vanderbilt University, 1950

Box 12. Folder 9. Vogelstein, Max, 1941, 1948, 1958, 1964

Box 12. Folder 10. W, General.

Box 12. Folder 11. Waller, Herbert S., 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1964

Box 12. Folder 12. Walter, James R., 1947-1948, 1950

Box 12. Folder 13. Waterman, Leroy, 1948-1949, 1953, 1955-1956

Box 12. Folder 14. Wax, James A., 1946-1949, 1954, 1958, 1966-1968

Box 12. Folder 15. Weil, Frank L., 1947-1948, 1950

Box 12. Folder 16. Weinberg, Dudley, 1946, 1949-1950, 1953-1954, 1956, 1965, 1967

Box 12. Folder 17. Weinman, Melvin, 1947-1948

Box 12. Folder 18. Weis, J. Max, 1949-1950, 1953

Box 12. Folder 19. Weiss, Hiram B., 1947-1948, 1967-1968

Box 12. Folder 20. Weiss, Joseph I., 1946-1948, 1957

Box 12. Folder 21. Weitz, Martin M., 1947, 1950-1951, 1953, 1967-1968, 1971

Box 12. Folder 22. Werner, Eric, 1939-1942, 1946-1951, 1955, 1957, 1961-1962, 1966-1968

Box 12. Folder 23. Wice, David H., 1941, 1947-1955, 1968

Box 12. Folder 24. Wiener, Max, 1939

Box 12. Folder 25. Wilensky, Michael, 1931, 1935-1943

Box 12. Folder 26. Wise, Stephen S., 1914, 1939, 1947

Box 13. Folder 1. Wohl, Smauel, 1949, 1951-1953, 1963, 1965-1966

Box 13. Folder 2. Wolf, Alfred, 1946-1948, 1950, 1968

Box 13. Folder 3. Wolk, Smauel, 1947-1949

Box 13. Folder 4. Wolsey, Louis, 1921, 1941, 1947, 1952

Box 13. Folder 5. World Calendar Association, 1949-1951, 1958, 1961

Box 13. Folder 6. World Union for Progressive Judaism [correspondence], 1949-1954, 1966-1967

Box 13. Folder 7. World Union for Progressive Judaism [minutes], 1949-1951

Box 13. Folder 8. World Union for Progressive Judaism [minutes], 1952-1954

Box 13. Folder 9. Y, Z, General.

Box 13. Folder 10. YIVO - Institute for Jewish Research, 1947-1949

Box 13. Folder 11. Unidentified.

Subseries 2. Personal, 1921-1972

Scope and Content Note Consists of one folder of correspondence with family members and friends.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 13. Folder 12. Personal, 1921-1972

Series B. Addresses, Lectures, Prayers, and Sermons, 1915-1952

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of material authored by Morgenstern. Includes addresses given at opening day exercises at Hebrew Union College, radio scripts, eulogies, and speeches given at numerous conventions.

Arrangement This series is arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 13. Folder 13. A.

Box 13. Folder 14. B.

Box 13. Folder 15. C-E.

Box 14. Folder 1. F-G.

Box 14. Folder 2. H.

Box 14. Folder 3. I.

Box 14. Folder 4. J.

Box 14. Folder 5. L.

Box 14. Folder 6. M.

Box 14. Folder 7. N.

Box 14. Folder 8. O-P.

Box 14. Folder 9. R.

Box 14. Folder 10. S-T.

Box 15. Folder 1. U-W.

Box 15. Folder 2. Untitled.

Series C. Manuscripts, 1902-1958

Extent 1.8 linear feet (4.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of manuscripts of scholarly articles and books authored by Morgenstern. Most of the manuscripts are in the area of Biblical studies and span the years from 1902, when Morgenstern wrote his rabbinical thesis, *The Doctrine of Sin in the Babylonian Religion*, to articles written for the *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* in 1958. Also included in this series are manuscripts of *As a Mighty Stream* (1949); *Amos Studies Vol. I* (1941), and *The Ark, the Ephod, and the "Tent of Meeting"* (1945).

Box and Folder Listing

Box 15. Folder 3. James Lane Allen--A Critical Estimate.

Box 15. Folder 4. Amos and the Theophanic Tradition.

Box 15. Folder 5. Footnote number 129 of Amos Studies.

Box 15. Folder 6. Supplement to Amos Studies I.

Box 15. Folder 7. Anti-Samaritan Documents in the Old Testament.

Box 15. Folder 8. Notes for the Aphod..

Box 15. Folder 9. The Ark, the Ephod, and the "Tent of Meeting".

Box 15. Folder 10-12. As a Mighty Stream.

Box 15. Folder 13. Babylonian and Biblical Mythology.

Box 16. Folder 1. The Beginnings of Judaism [outline].

Box 16. Folder 2. Beschneidung [article for Encyclopaedia Judaica].

Box 16. Folder 3. Birth, Marriage, Death and Kindred Occasions Among the Semites [manuscript and review by Kaufmann Kohler].

Box 16. Folder 4. The Book of the Covenant, part II.

Box 16. Folder 5. The Book of the Covenant, part II [footnotes].

Box 16. Folder 6. The Chanukkah Festival and the Calendar of Ancient Israel.

Box 16. Folder 7. The Chanukkah Festival and the Calendar of Ancient Israel [footnotes].

Box 16. Folder 8. A Chapter in the History of the High-Priesthood.

Box 17. Folder 1. The Beginnings of Judaism.

Box 17. Folder 2. The Desert Origins of the Jewish People.

Box 17. Folder 3. Deutero-Isaiah's Terminology for "Universal God".

Box 17. Folder 4. The Dictionary of Theology [correspondence and various articles].

Box 17. Folder 5. The Devine Triad in Biblical Mythology.

Box 17. Folder 6. The Doctrine of Sin in the Babylonian Religion [rabbinical thesis].

Box 17. Folder 7. The Evolution of the Figure of Satan in the Old Testament.

Box 17. Folder 8. Forewords to untitled books by other authors.

Box 18. Folder 1. The Gates of Righteousness.

Box 18. Folder 2. A History of the Religion of Israel.

Box 18. Folder 3. The Influence of Deutero-Isaiah's Message Upon Subsequent Religious Thought.

Box 18. Folder 4. The Intrepreter's Dictionary of the Bible [correspondence and various articles].

Box 18. Folder 5. The Jewish Concept of Jesus.

Box 18. Folder 6. Kedesh-Naphtali and Ta'anach.

Box 18. Folder 7. Amy Levy--Her Life and Her Works.

Box 18. Folder 8. Marriage in Ancient Israel and Its Historical Implications.

Box 18. Folder 9. Moses With the Shining Face.

Box 18. Folder 10. Nahon.

Box 18. Folder 11. Nashku Bar.

Box 18. Folder 12. The Origin of Massoth and the Massoth Festival.

Box 18. Folder 13. A Reconsideration of the Samaritan Problem.

Box 18. Folder 14. The Reform Movement in Jewish History.

Box 19. Folder 1. The Sin of Uzziah, the Festival of Jerobeam, and the Date of Amos.

Box 19. Folder 2. The Task of the Hebrew Union College.

Box 19. Folder 3. Trial By Ordeal Among the Semites and in Ancient Israel.

Box 19. Folder 4. What Are We Jews?

Box 19. Folder 5. World-Empire and World-Brotherhood.

Box 19. Folder 6. Untitled manuscript.

Box 19. Folder 7. Untitled.

Box 19. Folder 8-9. Notes.

Series D. Miscellaneous, 1910-1971

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Contains book reviews written by Morgenstern and newsclippings of articles by and about Morgenstern.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 19. Folder 10. Book reviews of books by other authors.

Box 19. Folder 11. Newsclippings [articles by and about Morgenstern], 1910, 1917, 1921-1922, 1924, 1930-1931, 1937, 1945, 1971, undated