

An overview of Jewish history in Germany



Rabbi Leo Baeck was the namesake and first president of the institute, which was founded in 1955. *Photo: Ullstein*

The Leo Baeck Institute participates in the festival year with a large online exhibition

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The year 2021 is marked by an anniversary. In 321 the Roman Emperor Constantine allowed Cologne Jews to exercise public offices. His edict is the earliest document that mentions Jews in German-speaking countries. Numerous events are planned for this occasion.

The Leo Baeck Institute is participating in the great festival year with the project "Shared History: 1700 Years of Jewish Life in German-speaking Countries".

This week's object is an oil lamp with a menorah from Trier, dated to the 4th century.

"In the course of 2021, an object and corresponding essays will be published on the website www.sharedhistoryproject.org every week," the institute announced.

This week's object is an oil lamp with a menorah from the Rhineland-Palatinate town of Trier, dated to the fourth century. According to the project website, it was found in 1901 during excavations in the medieval Jewish quarter of Trier.

Two richly illustrated essays by scientists classify the object historically and provide information on Trier's Jewish history.

Week after week, a 1700 year comprehensive overview of Jewish history in German-speaking countries is to be created.

The exhibition is intended to make a contribution against ignorance, increasing distortion of history and growing anti-Semitism.

According to the Leo Baeck Institute, it will actively serve to convey Jewish life in German-speaking countries and, with the help of facts and clarification, make an important contribution against ignorance, increasing historical distortion and growing anti-Semitism.

The Leo Baeck Institute, located in New York and Berlin, among others, is one of the most important collection sites for primary sources and research material on Jewish life in Central Europe in the centuries before the Shoah.

It was founded in 1955 by German-Jewish emigrants and named after Rabbi Leo Baeck, the last leading representative of the Jewish communities under National Socialism. Yes