Uncovering Nazi Looted Books in an Academic Library

Diane Mizrachi

**Description:** Using HathiTrust, curators at the Jewish Museum in Prague identified six books in the UCLA collection that had belonged to their community library until they were looted by the Nazis during WWII. They gently requested their return. No discussion of similar experiences among North American academic libraries nor professional guidelines or policies on the repatriation of stolen material was found. Diane will share a brief historical background of Nazi policies towards Jewish books, how these particular books reached the Jewish Museum library, the repatriation process they developed, why and how the Museum is publishing this case as broadly as possible, and their plans for the numerous books or questionable provenance that have since been discovered.

Diane Mizrachi received her MLIS from Bar Ilan University and has worked primarily as a reference/instruction librarian at Beit Berl College, Israel, USC and UCLA in Los Angeles. She completed her PhD at UCLA in information studies and was named Librarian for Jewish and Israel Studies in 2018.