

# Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

presents

## Everyday Jewish Life in the Russian Empire

### ChaeRan Freeze

Sunday, May 3, 2009

1:30–4:30 PM

Gann Academy, 333 Forest Street, Waltham

ChaeRan Freeze's talk will examine everyday Jewish life in tsarist Russia as a site of interaction with modernity, where Jews confronted the unfamiliar and negotiated their environment in strategic and creative ways. She will present several fascinating archival documents from the former Soviet Union and rabbinical *responsa* that reveal the daily struggles of ordinary Jews as they confronted changes in the areas of family life, religion, sexuality, and health. The discussion will also reveal how to find new sources for genealogy that go beyond vital records and census materials, and highlight the rich diversity of the Jewish experience in the Russian Empire.

ChaeRan Freeze is an Associate Professor in the Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Department and Women's and Gender Studies program at Brandeis University. She has focused her research on the history and culture of the Jews in Russia, Jewish family history, and women's and gender studies. She is the author of *Jewish Marriage and Divorce in Imperial Russia*, which received the Salo Baron Award for the Best First Book in Jewish Studies. She also edited *Polin: Jewish Women in Eastern Europe* with Paula Hyman and Antony Polonsky. She is currently finishing her book, *Everyday Jewish Life in Imperial Russia, 1825-1914: Select Documents* (coauthored with Jay Harris) and working on her second monograph, *Sex and the Shtetl: Gender, Family, and Jewish Sexuality in Tsarist Russia*.

**Gann Academy** is located at 333 Forest Street, Waltham. For maps and detailed directions, visit our web page at [gann.jgsgb.org](http://gann.jgsgb.org).

Admission is free for members, \$5 for non-members.  
Refreshments will be served.

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Upcoming programs:

June 14 Michael Marx, "Beyond Search: Advanced Google Tools for Genealogists"

The JGSGB is dedicated to helping people research their Jewish family history. It offers monthly educational programs, maintains an extensive collection of research materials, and publishes a journal, *Mass-Pocha*.

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