



***Call for Applications  
For M.A and Doctoral Fellowships  
Kingdoms of Debt: An Ethnographic Study of Debt Collection and Debt Relief  
Proceedings in Israel***

**Kingdoms of Debt**, an Ethnographic research project funded by the Israeli Science Foundation (ISF) and directed by Dr. Shiri Regev-Messalem at the Bar Ilan Faculty of Law, invites candidates from a variety of disciplines to submit their applications to become a part of the project. We are looking for:

- **Doctoral fellows (approx. ₪90,000 per year, for up to 5 years)**
- **M.A fellows (approx. ₪45,000 per year, for up to 2 years)**

The proposed research entails an ethnographic investigation of Enforcement and Collection Authority (ECA) proceedings, involving individual debtors in Israel. By using an ethnographic approach the research aims to examine the legal culture shaping debt collection and debt relief proceedings in Israel. By investigating the interaction between the perceptions, narratives and practices of different actors participating in the legal proceeding, the proposed research will expose the discourse that dominates the system as well as alternative and resisting discourses. The study will provide a first-of-its-kind rich and multi-layered picture of the Israeli debt collection and debt relief system.

We call for M.A and Doctoral researchers, who are interested in exploring the many facets of debt collection, debt relief and poverty, to join us in this endeavour.

Applicants should have knowledge and experience in relevant fields of research (e.g., law, sociology, anthropology), experience in qualitative methodology, and the ability and desire to work as part of a scholarly community and a research team. Fellows will be required to take partial to full residence in Israel for the duration of the fellowship.

Key selection criteria for the positions are analytical skills, methodological abilities, and the capacity for team-work as well as independent research. Successful applicants will be expected to take part (40% - 80% of their time) in the ongoing research project led by the Dr. Regev-Messalem

**Application and Fellowship Information for post-doctoral and doctoral students:**

- Fellowship starting date: **Novemeber 2023**. There is some flexibility for a slightly earlier or later starting date.
- Fellowship period is flexible and ranges from one year to a maximum of five years (ending October 2028).
- Fellowship rates are determined according to Bar Ilan (BIU) regulations.
- Application Deadline: We will begin review of a first round of applications on **01 Oct. 2023**.
- All applications should be submitted to projects' PI Dr. Shiri Regev-Messalem at [Shiri.regev@biu.ac.il](mailto:Shiri.regev@biu.ac.il) and include the following documents:
  - ❖ Cover letter describing your interest in the project and stating the nature and duration of position you seek with us.
  - ❖ Detailed CV (including list of publications)
  - ❖ An example of academic writing (article, research paper, or dissertation chapter)
  - ❖ Two letters of recommendation that speak to the applicant's qualifications for research positions (in English or Hebrew). These may be sent directly to [shiri.regev@biu.ac.il](mailto:shiri.regev@biu.ac.il), with the applicant's name in the subject line.
- The working language at the project is both Hebrew and English.