

## **Honor, Anger and Workers' Emotions in Informal Courts in Mandate Palestine**

Eyal Katvan and Boaz Shnoor

This article analyzes the way communal courts in British Palestine, especially the Histadrut Comrades Court (HCC), tried to educate people to control their feelings, particularly anger, despite being hurt and insulted, in order to maintain a violence-free society. It shows that many cases of honor in the HCC – both between the workers and the administration and between the workers themselves – dealt with the complex regulation of anger: how to show compassion for the defendant's (worker's) feelings and emotions, protect the plaintiffs from workers who take the law into their own hands, and at the same time educate the public about the normative response to insults and provocations. Thus, the HCC functioned as part of the "Melting Pot" in terms of keeping expressions of anger from becoming violent, in order to maintain public order for the benefit of constructing the nation, and as part of socializing the workers about the permitted expressions of feelings (especially in the workplace) and educating them to self-control.