

**Response to: Deanna Shemek, 6/21/06 (?)**  
**Karina Attar**

1. In the last few days, our group has discussed at some length the question of identity and self-identity. Can we gather, from her poetry, how Sara Copio Sullam identified herself? As a Venetian? As an Italian? As a Jewess? As a combination of all three?
2. More generally on the question of identity - How can we define 'Jew' and 'Moor' within Venetian or Italian culture? Can one be defined or can one define oneself as at once Jewish or Moorish and Venetian/Italian?

Prof. Shemek replied to the first question that Copio Sullam's poems, and the title page of her *Manifesto*, indicate that she thought of herself as a Jewish woman first, and to the second question that while it was too broad and complex a question to answer briefly, it certainly was an issue worth exploring further.