

**An Italian goldsmith on pilgrimage.
Marco Rustici from Florence to Jerusalem (1448-1553).**

**General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land.
Jerusalem, February 11th, 2016, at 16.30**

The Holy Land and the city of Jerusalem have been the final destination of journeys and pilgrimages for centuries which often happened to be precious occasions to discover and meet different cultures. Today the situation hasn't changed. Moreover, the experience is so overwhelming that it is frequently put into writing. This new and successful literary genre has different variations and sometimes even describes journeys which are not a personal experience.

The *Dimostrazione dell'andata o viaggio al Santo Sepolcro e al monte Sinai*, better known as *Codice Rustici* belongs to this tradition. The work is a beautiful medieval manuscript finely decorated and illuminated, where a Florentine goldsmith of the 15th century narrates his journey to Jerusalem. The manuscript is preserved in the library of the Archiepiscopal Seminar of Florence, and is now available to the public thanks to a fine facsimile edition. There also is a volume which was recently published by Olschki editor, in partnership with Archiepiscopal Seminar of Florence and Ente Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze, with the critical edition and other essays.

In the occasion of this publication the General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land, together with the Centro di Ricerca Europeo Libro Editoria e Biblioteca of the Catholic University of Milan and ATS Pro Terra Sancta, is pleased to present the edition with a conference entitled **An Italian goldsmith of the 15th century on Pilgrimage. Marco Rustici from Florence to Jerusalem (1448-1553)**.

After the welcoming speech by Br. Lionel Goh O.F.M., Director of the General Library of the Custody of the Holy Land, prof. Eugenio Alliata O.F.M. (Studium Biblicum Franciscanum) will hold a speech: **Difficoltà e problemi del viaggio in Terra Santa nel sec. XV**. Following, prof. Edoardo Barbieri (Catholic University of Milan) will give a lecture: **Il viaggio di Marco di Batolomeo Rustici verso Gerusalemme**.

The conference will be held at 16.30 in Jerusalem on the 11th of February 2016, in San Francesco room of The Custody of the Holy Land, Saint Saviour's Monastery (New Gate).

The event will be an opportunity for the General Library of the Custody of Holy Land to show some ancient books belonging to the rich section *Itinera ad Loca Sancta*, which is entirely described and available on line at page www.bibliothecatterraesantae.org.