Call for papers:
Romano-Arabica XIX

Curses and profanity in the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa

All people curse. This is a valid assumption for any period and any location on Earth. Curses have been varying in meaning from maledictions and oaths to offensive language and insults. Curses have evolved together with languages throughout history, but they have essentially kept their status as simple wishes or solicitations towards a deity to do harm to someone, while giving benefits to the solicitor.

With the passing of time, such curses generated profanity, foul or blasphemous language. Socio-linguistic studies on this topic are rather scarce and this new issue of Romano-Arabica invites scholars who wish to discuss about curses and profanity in the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa.

Abstract submission

If you wish to submit an abstract, keep in mind that it must be no longer than 200 words, it must contain at least five keywords, as well as some short bibliographical information. Please also send with the Abstract a brief presentation about yourself.

Abstracts must be sent to the e-mail address of the Center for Arab Studies, University of Bucharest: csa.unibuc@gmail.com.

The accepted papers will be published in the Romano-Arabica Journal, XIX/2019.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding the volume, kindly send them by e-mail to the editors-in-chief, Prof. Dr. habil. George Grigore (University of Bucharest, e-mail: gmgrigore@yahoo.com) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Laura Sitaru (University of Bucharest, e-mail: laura.sitaru@lls.unibuc.ro).

Important dates

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Topics

This current issue of our Journal is open to all topics relevant to the study of curses, blasphemies and profanity in any of the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa, especially in ‘Āmmiyya Arabic and Fuṣḥā Arabic. Here are some suggested topics:
- Ethnolinguistic studies of curses and profanity;
- Sociolinguistic studies of curses and profanity;
- Gros mots: euphemisms and metaphors;
- Etymological studies of curse phrases and expressions;
- Diachronic and synchronic semantic studies of curse and profanity.

Languages accepted for the papers: Arabic, English, French, German, Spanish.

For more information about Romano-Arabica, visit the following websites:
http://araba.lls.unibuc.ro/?page_id=2791
https://unibuc.academia.edu/RomanoArabicaJournal