



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY  
International in the United Kingdom  
Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations



22 October – 24 October  
2020

# Arabic Pasts: Histories and Historiographies

Programme Schedule

**Venue:**

The Aga Khan Centre  
10 Handyside Street, N1C 4DN, King's Cross,  
London

## Day One

### Thursday, 22 October 2020

1:30 PM	Welcome remarks by Hugh Kennedy, James McDougall, & Sarah Savant
1:45 PM	<p><b>Session 1</b></p> <p><b>Deciphering the “Invisible East”: Texts from pre-Mongol Afghanistan and Central Asia</b>  <b>Chair, Leif Stenberg, AKU-ISMC</b></p> <p>Introduction to the ‘Invisible East’ programme  <i>Arezou Azad, Oxford University</i></p> <p>A New Arabic Historical Fragment of Sāmānid History from Afghanistan  <i>Hugh Kennedy, Tommy Benfey and Sarah Bowen Savant</i></p> <p>Bilingualism, Piety and Islam: Considering the Meaning of Arabic Passages in a 13th-century Persian Khurāsānī Text  <i>Majid Montazermahdi and Arezou Azad</i></p>
3:30 PM	<b>Tea and Coffee break</b>
3:45 PM	<p><b>Session 2</b></p> <p><b>Crossing Languages</b>  <b>Chair, Julia Bray, University of Oxford</b></p> <p>Are You Experienced? Ibn Funduq al-Bayhaqī Reads Arabic History  <i>Andrew McLaren, Columbia University</i></p> <p>Common Knowledge in Arabic and Latin Historiography from Ninth-Century Spain  <i>Ann Christys, Independent scholar</i></p> <p>Representations of Religious Leadership, Minus Representativity: Stories of Provincial Governance in Christian Sources from Early Abbasid Egypt  <i>Cecilia Palombo, Leiden University</i></p>
5:30 PM	End of Day One

## Day Two

### Friday, 23 October 2020

9:30 AM	<p><b>Session 1</b></p> <p><b>Across Time</b> <i>Chair, Konrad Hirschler, Freie Universität Berlin</i></p> <p>Writing the History of a Text: Tracing Reception Histories and Readership through the Manuscripts of <i>Sirr al-Asrar</i> Neelam Hussain, University of Birmingham</p> <p>The Mobilisation and the Use of the 1st/7th - 2nd/8th centuries in the Mamluk Sources as an Ideal Past: a Propaganda and Critical Tool of the Writing of History in the Mamluk period Mehdi Berriah, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam</p> <p>Re-Imagining Pearling in the Gulf: The End of Happiness and the Production of a National Imaginary <i>Alexandre Caeiro, Hamad Bin Khalifa University</i></p>
11:15 AM	Tea and coffee break
11:30 AM	<p><b>Session 2</b></p> <p><b>Working Methods</b> <i>Chair, Fozia Bora, University of Leeds</i></p> <p>The Life and Works of Qaṭarī Ibn al-Fujā`ah, Poet and Leader of the Azraqites: An Application of Source-Critical Methodologies in Khārijite Historiography <i>Talha Ahsan, SOAS, University of London</i></p> <p>Conceptualizations of Islamic Pasts: Khālid al-Qasrī Khālid <i>Rebecca Ruf, Leiden University</i></p> <p>A Tunisian Historian in the Orientalist Den: Djaït and the Decolonization of Early Islam from Paris (1960s-80s) <i>Idriss Jebari, Trinity College Dublin</i></p>
1:15 PM	Lunch Break

2:00 PM	<p><b>Session 3</b></p> <p><b>Reading Texts</b>  <b>Chair, Harry Munt, University of York</b></p> <p>The Tragedy of al-Andalus and the Excesses of Adab  <i>Gretchen Head, Yale University</i></p> <p>Reassessing the Kalbids of Sicily: Ismaili Source Readings  <i>Shainool Jiwa, Institute of Ismaili Studies</i></p> <p>“Substitution of States”: Quṭb al-Dīn Askeṯārī’s Historiography of <i>ḥikma</i> (philosophy) in <i>Maḥbūb al-qulūb</i>  <i>M. Fariduddin Attar, McGill University</i></p>
3:45 PM	Tea and Coffee break
4:00 PM	<p><b>Session 4</b></p> <p><b>Caliphs and Sultans</b>  <b>Chair, Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila, University of Edinburgh</b></p> <p>Abbasid Caliphs and the Desire for Historical Knowledge (4th/10th Century)  <i>Rémy Gareil, Lumière Lyon University</i></p> <p>Mu‘ayyad al-Din Muhammad Ibn al-‘Alqami (d. 1258): Hero/Culprit of the Mongol Invasion of the Abbasid Caliphate (1258)  <i>Nassima Neggaz, New College of Florida</i></p> <p>Evolving Discourses of Sultanic Assassination in Late Medieval Arabic Historiography  <i>Daniel Mahoney, University of Ghent</i></p>
5:45 PM	End of Day Two

## Day Three

### Saturday, 24 October 2020

9:00 AM	<p><b>Session 1</b></p> <p><b>Particular Memories</b> <i>Chair, Marie Legendre, University of Edinburgh</i></p> <p>Shaping a Sectarian Memory through History Writing: An Appraisal on 8th Century <i>Ibādī Siyar</i> <i>Enki BAPTISTE, Université Lumière Lyon</i></p> <p>Family discourse and the past: the case of the Zubayrid family in al-Zubayr Bakkār's <i>Ġamharat Ansāb Qurayš wa Aḥbāruhā</i> <i>Hassan Bouali, University of Paris Nanterre</i></p> <p>Historiography in a time of crisis A ḥ mad al Š ar ḡī' s reconstruction of sacred narratives in 9th /15 th century Yemen <i>Zacharie Mochtari de Pierrepont, Ghent University</i></p>
11:00 AM	Tea and coffee break
11:15 AM	<p><b>Session 2</b></p> <p><b>Views from Social History</b> <i>Chair, Andrew Marsham, University of Cambridge</i></p> <p>What Can Revolts Tell Us about Rural Society in the Early Islamic Period? <i>Christian C. Sahner, University of Oxford</i></p> <p>Reconstruction of the Networks of the Arab and Iranian Maritime Merchants in South East Asia between the 6th and 11th Centuries AD Based on Literary and Archaeological Sources <i>Yoones Deghani Farsani, University of Berlin</i></p> <p>'<i>Aqām al-ḥajj Fulān</i>': The Leaders of the 'Abbasid Pilgrimage in the Early Islamic Annalistic Tradition <i>Leone Pecorini Goodall, University of Edinburgh</i></p>
1:15 PM	End of Conference

**Thank you for attending the conference!**

**Enquiries to:**

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