

**zefis**  
ZENTRUM FÜR  
ISLAMISCHE  
STUDIEN

GOETHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
FRANKFURT AM MAIN

FREUNDE  
DER UNIVERSITÄT

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LOEWE  
Exzellente Forschung für  
Hessens Zukunft

RelPos

Frankfurt am Main  
Campus Westend  
Casino 1.802

Goethe University Frankfurt am Main  
Centre for Islamic Studies

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# HISTORICITY & ISLAMICITY

Perceptions of Early Islamic History  
in Contemporary Muslim Thought

12 - 14 December 2019



The conference attempts to shed light on the contemporary Muslim perceptions and perspectives on the early history of Islam. It will address the mechanisms of construction of 'early Islamic history' and its use in the processes of identity building among Muslims as well as the critical and revisionist approaches to history developed by Muslim scholars. Special attention will be given to the current interactions and interdisciplinary exchange between Islamic theological approaches and modern historical scholarship and on the consequences of these involvements for both the Muslim reimagining of Islamic history and for religious interpretations.

#### ORGANIZERS

**Armina Omerika**  
**Soumaya Louhichi-Güzel**

No registration required.  
[www.islamischestudien.uni-frankfurt.de](http://www.islamischestudien.uni-frankfurt.de)

## Thursday, 12.12.2019

18.00 - 18.30      **RECEPTION**

18.30 - 19.00      **OPENING REMARKS**

**Armina Omerika**

(Goethe University Frankfurt)

**Soumaya Louhichi-Güzel**

(Goethe University Frankfurt)

19.00 - 20.00      **KEYNOTE**

**Angelika Neuwirth**

(Free University of Berlin)

**Reading History in Reverse:**

**The Concept of the umma wasat (Q 2:142) and  
the Muslim Shrines on the Temple Mount**

*Chair: Udo Simon*

20.00                **BUFFET**

## Friday, 13.12.2019

**Session 1**

*Chair: Nina Fischer*

09.00 - 09.45

**Stefan Reichmuth**

(Ruhr University Bochum)

**The Prophet in a Muslim Age of Revolutions,  
ca. 1775-1850**

09.45 - 10.30

**Hüsein Yılmaz**

(George Mason University)

**The Archetyping of Early Islamic History as a Paradigm for Modernization among Late Ottoman Intellectuals**

10.30 - 11.00

COFFEE BREAK

**Session 2**

*Chair: Ulrika Kilian*

11.00 - 11.45

**Peter Webb**

(Leiden University)

**Al-Jāhiliyya for Modern Times**

11.45 - 12.30

**Dietrich Jung**

(University of Southern Denmark)

**Islamic Modernism: The Search for Modern Authenticity in an Imaginary Past**

12.30 - 14.00

LUNCH BREAK

**Session 3**

*Chair: Rida Inam*

14.00 - 14.45

**Asma Afsaruddin**

(Indiana University, Bloomington)

**Muslim Feminist Hermeneutics and the Rereading of Early Islamic History**

14.45 - 15.30

**Ayşe Başol**

(Goethe University Frankfurt)

**What Remains Unspoken: Representations of the Life of Zaynab Bint Muḥammad in Past and Present**

15.30 - 16.00

COFFEE BREAK

**Session 4**

*Chair: Misbahur Rehman*

16.00 - 16.45

**Carool Kersten**

(King's College London)

**Historicized Acculturation and A-historical Enculturation: Perceptions of Islamization in Southeast Asia**

16.45 - 17.30

**Jamal Malik**

(Erfurt University)

**The Making of History Islamic: Memory and Narrative in Early Muslim South Asian Expansion**

18.00

DINNER

## Saturday, 14.12.2019

**Session 1**

*Chair: Rana Alsoufi*

9.00 - 9.45

**Rainer Brunner**

(CNRS, Paris)

**Rectifying Hadith - Correcting History? Aḥmad al-Qabānjī's Self-Criticism of Shiite Islam**

9.45 - 10.30

**Ata Anzali**  
(Middlebury College)

**Between Ethnic Nationalism and Perennialism: The Encounter between Iran and Islam in the Writings of Kazemzadeh Iranshahr**

10.30 - 11.00

**COFFEE BREAK**

**Session 2**

*Chair: Soumaya Louhichi-Güzel*

11.00 - 11.45

**Bacem Dziri**  
(Goethe University Frankfurt)

**The Modern Career of an Ancient Heretic: Antisemitic Stereotyping of 'Abdallāh b. Saba' in the 20th Century**

11.45 - 12.30

**Idriss Jebari**  
(Bowdoin College)

**Hichem Djait's Original Islam Between the Orientalist and the Historian's Gaze (1960s-90s)**

12.30 - 14.00

**LUNCH BREAK**

**Session 3**

*Chair: Daniel Birnstiel*

14.00 - 14.45

**Ebrahim Moosa**  
(University of Notre Dame)

**Time and Method in Muslim Historical Thinking**

14.45 - 15.30

**Nimet Seker**  
(Goethe University Frankfurt)

**Revelation as Communication in History. Historical References in Methodological and Hermeneutical Discussions in the Exegesis of the Qur'an**

15.30 - 16.00

**COFFEE BREAK**

**Session 4**

*Chair: Armina Omerika*

16.00 - 17.30

**FINAL DISCUSSION**

**Bekim Agai  
Mira Sievers  
Mahmoud Bassiouni  
Mark Bodenstein  
Itzchak Weismann**

