

IQSA Annual Meeting

5-7 September 2022

FSCIRE – La Pira Library and Research Centre

via U. Maddalena 112 – 90137 Palermo



Programme at a Glance



Monday 5 September 2022

Palazzo Steri,
University of Palermo,
Piazza Marina 60

8.30-9.15

Introductory Remarks

9.15-9.30

Coffee Break

9.30-10.30

Keynote Lecture

10.30-10.45

Coffee Break

10.45-12.15

Panel 1. The Medinan Surahs:
An Integrative Approach

12.15-14.00

Graduate Student Lunch

Palazzo Alliata
di Villafranca,
Piazza Bologna 20

14.00-15.50

Panel 2A. (Room #1). Genealogies
of Qur'an Translations

Panel 2B. (Room #2). Chronology,
Non-Linearity, Intratextuality,
Performance and Performative Act

15.50-16.10

Coffee Break

16.10-18.00

Panel 2A. (Room #1). Qur'an
Translations

Panel 3A. (Room #1). Trends in Sufi
Tafsir

Panel 3B. (Room #2). Exegesis,
Implausibility and Challenges

18.00-18.15

Coffee Break

18.15-19.30

Roundtable. Qur'anic Coherence

19.30-19.40

Coffee Break

19.40-20.40

Event. A Read-Through of "Surah
Yusuf, A Translation in 5 Acts"

20.40

Reception

Tuesday 6 September 2022

Palazzo Alliata
di Villafranca,
Piazza Bologna 20

8.30-10.00

Panel 4A. (Room #1). Vision
and Visuality in the Qur'an
and Beyond (first part)

Panel 4B. (Room #2). Framing
the Antagonist: Modern Readings
of the Qur'anic Concept of Fir'awn

10.00-10.20

Coffee Break

10.20-11.50

Panel 5A. (Room #1). Vision
and Visuality in the Qur'an
and Beyond (second part)

Panel 5B. (Room #2). Narratives,
Predecessors, Contacts (first part)

11.50-13.30

Short Visit of Palermo
with Ice Cream

13.30-15.00

Panel 6A. (Room #1). Material Culture

Panel 6B. (Room #2). Narratives,
Predecessors, Contacts (second part)

Project Presentation. Education
between the Qur'an and the Bible

15.00-15.20

Coffee Break

15.20-16.20

Keynote Lecture

16.20-16.40

Coffee Break

16.40-17.40

IQSA General Business Meeting

17.40-18.00

Coffee Break

18.00-19.15

Roundtable. Gender-Based
Research in Qur'anic Studies:
An Exploration of Theoretical
and Methodological Directions
in Contemporary Scholarship

Wednesday 7 September 2022

8.30

Transfer from Palermo city centre to
La Pira Library and Research Centre

La Pira Library and
Research Centre,
via U. Maddalena 112

9.30-11.00

**Panel 7. *Kitāb*, Narratives
and Technique**

11.00-11.20

Coffee Break

11.20-12.20

Presidential Address

12.20-13.00

Guided Tour of the Library
and Final Remarks

13.00

Meetings of the Committees

Lunch Break

14.00-18.00

Visit to Monreale

Programme



Monday 5 September 2022

Palazzo Steri, University of Palermo, Piazza Marina 60, Palermo

08.30-09.15

Introductory Remarks

Alberto Melloni – Secretary of FSCIRE

Massimo Midiri – Rector of the University of Palermo

Alba Fedeli and **Devin Stewart** – Co-directors of IQSA Annual Meeting in Palermo

Hythem Sidky and **Holger Zellentin** – IQSA executive director and IQSA Board of directors' Chair

09.15-09.30 | Coffee Break

09.30-10.30

Keynote Lecture

Roberto Tottoli – University of Naples L'Orientale

Qur'anic Studies Today: Composing Past Approaches and Building New Perspectives

10.30-10.45 | Coffee Break

10.45-12.15

Panel 1. The Medinan Surahs: An Integrative Approach

organized by **Nicolai Sinai** (University of Oxford)

10.55-11.15

Marianna Klar – University of Oxford

Qur'an 2:40ff. in Comparative Perspective

11.15-11.35

Nora K. Schmid – University of Oxford

"A Scripture to Enlighten Them": Light Imagery, Exhortation, and Ethical Guidance in the Medinan Surahs of the Qur'an

11.35-11.55

Nicolai Sinai – University of Oxford
The Medinan Theology of the ummah

11.55-12.15

Holger Zellentin – University of Tübingen
Purity in the Medinan Qur'an

12.15-14.00 | **Lunch Break**

Graduate Student Lunch. Graduate Students and emerging scholars are encouraged to attend the Graduate Student Lunch to engage with experts in the field in a relaxed setting (location details will follow)

Palazzo Alliata di Villafranca, Piazza Bologni 20, Palermo

14.00-15.50 | **Room #1**

Panel 2A. Genealogies of Qur'an Translations

organized by **Johanna Pink** (University of Freiburg)

14.10-14.30

Mykhaylo Yakubovych –University of Freiburg
*The Hilālī-Khān Translation of the Qur'an into English (1977):
Reconstructing Textual History*

14.30-14.50

Johanna Pink – University of Freiburg
*Da'wa, Modernism, and the Ahmadiyya Question: The Waxing
and Waning Influence of Muhammad Ali's Qur'an Translation*

14.50-15.10

Kamran Ahmad Khan – University of Freiburg
*The What Influences Revisions of Ahmadi Qur'an Translations and How
Are They Legitimized? An Analysis of the Current German Translation*

15.10-15.30

Elmira Akhmetova – University of Freiburg
*The Impact of Muslim Modernist and Revivalist Movements on Tatar
Translations and Commentaries of the Qur'an in Imperial Russia*

15.30-15.50

Elvira Kulieva – University of Freiburg

In the Shadow of Ignaty Krachkovsky: The Influence and Approaches of Contemporary Russian Qur'an Translations

14.00-15.50 | Room #2

Panel 2B. Chronology, Non-Linearity, Intratextuality, Performance and Performative Act

14.10-14.30

Gabriel Said Reynolds – University of Notre Dame, IN

"But my Word Has Proved True": An Intra-textual Reference in Qur'an 32:13

14.30-14.50

Feras Hamza – University of Wollongong in Dubai

and the Institute of Ismaili Studies, London

Time and Qur'anic Eschatology

14.50-15.10

Daniel Bannoura – University of Notre Dame, IN

Towards an Exhaustive Analysis of the Formation and Reception of the Qur'an's Formulas

15.10-15.30

Adam Flowers – University of Chicago, IL

The Qur'an, Ittifāt, and Public Performance

15.30-15.50

Andrew J. O'Connor – St. Norbert College in De Pere, WI

Penitent Prophets: Admonition and Consolation of the Qur'anic Messenger in Q Ṣād 38

15.50-16.10 | Coffee Break

16.10-16.55 | Room #1

Panel 2A. Qur'an Translations

16.15-16.35

Sohaib Saeed and **Marijn van Putten** – Centre for Advanced Study of the Qur'an and its Interpretation, Glasgow, and University of Leiden

Sources and Strategies in Translating the Canonical Readings of the Qur'an (with Case Study of Sūrat al-An'ām)

16.35-16.55

Justine Howe – Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH/
Institute of Ismaili Studies, London

Qur'an Translations & the Global Religious Politics of Maryam Jameelah

16.55-18.00 | Room #1

Panel 3A. Trends in Sufi Tafsīr

organized by **Adnane Mokrani** (FSCIRE, Palermo)

17.00-17.20

Jason Welle – Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome
The Light that Shines from the Cave: Ṣūfī Tafsīr on Aṣḥāb al-Kahf

17.20-17.40

Rasha Rouabah – University of Algiers 1
ʿAbd al-Qādir al-Ġazāʾirī as a Sufi Interpreter of the Qur'an

17.40-18.00

Adnane Mokrani – FSCIRE, Palermo
Rūmī and the Sufi Interpretation of the Qur'an

16.10-18.00 | Room #2

Panel 3B. Exegesis, Implausibility and Challenges

16.15-16.35

Thomas Eich – University of Hamburg
*About Supposed References to Prenatal Human Life in the Qur'an:
The Opening Lines of Surat al-Insan (Q 76) as an Example*

16.35-16.55

Roshan Iqbal – Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA
*Intellectual Legacy of the Exegesis of Qur'an 4.24 and its Sexual Ethics
Implications*

16.55-17.15

Sarra Tlili – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
The Named and the Unnamed: Name and Status in the Qur'an

17.15-17.35

Yasir Qadhi – The Islamic Seminary of America, Richardson, TX
From Al-Shāfiʿī (d. 820 CE) to Al-Maqdisī (d. 1267 CE): Chronicling a Neglected Opinion on the “Seven Aḥruf”

17.35-17.55

Minoo Mirshahvalad – FSCIRE, Palermo
The Shia Ijtihad over Male Guardianship

18.00-18.15 | [Coffee Break](#)

18.15-19.30 | [Roundtable](#)

Qur’anic Coherence

organized by **Karen Bauer** (Institute of Ismaili Studies, London)
and **Feras Hamza** (University of Wollongong in Dubai)
chaired by **Karen Bauer** (Institute of Ismaili Studies, London)

Panelists

1. **Feras Hamza** – University of Wollongong in Dubai
2. **Asma Helali** – University of Lille
3. **Marianna Klar** – University of Oxford
4. **Joseph Lowry** – University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
5. **Nevin Reda** – University of Toronto, ON
6. **Gabriel Said Reynolds** – University of Notre Dame, IN
7. **Nicolai Sinai** – University of Oxford
8. **Shawkat Toorawa** – Yale University, New Haven, CT

19.30-19.40 | [Coffee Break](#)

19.40-20.40 | [Event](#)

Shawkat M. Toorawa – Yale University, New Haven, CT
A Read-Through of “Surah Yusuf, A Translation in 5 Acts”

20.40 | [Reception](#)

Tuesday 6 September 2022

Palazzo Alliata di Villafranca, Piazza Bologni 20, Palermo

08.30-10.00 | Room #1

Panel 4A. Vision and Visuality in the Qur'an and Beyond (first part)

organized by **Hannelies Koloska** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

08.35-08.55

Hannelies Koloska – Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Images, Imagination and Sensory Persuasion in the Qur'an

08.55-09.15

Eric DeVilliers – University of Notre Dame, IN

Seconding Sinai?: The Re-presentation of Mosaic Theophany in the Qur'an

09.15-09.35

Louise Gallorini – American University of Beirut

Angelic Visions in the Qur'an

09.35-09.55

Valeria Gonzalez – SOAS University of London

Phenomenology of Qur'anic Visuality and Corporeality: A Concrete Sense of Being in the World

08.30-10.00 | Room #2

Panel 4B. Framing the Antagonist: Modern Readings of the Qur'anic Concept of Fir'awn

organized by **Margherita Picchi** (Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies/University of Cape Town) and **Francesca Badini** (FSCIRE, Palermo)

08.35-08.55

Riccardo Amerigo Vigliermo – University of Modena and Reggio Emilia/FSCIRE, Bologna

Fir'awn in the Qur'an: Persistent Disbelieving and Opposition Creating an Example of Extreme Enmity toward Faith, a Linguistic Perspective

08.55-09.15

Francesca Badini – FSCIRE, Palermo

Fir'awn in the Tafsīr al-mawḍūʿī: The Narration of Muḥammad al-Ghazālī (1917-1996)

09.15-09.35

Margherita Picchi – Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies/
University of Cape Town

*"Make your Houses Places of Worship (I'jalu buyutakum qibla)":
COVID-19 Policies and jum'u'a Politics at Cape Town's Claremont Main
Road Mosque*

09.35-09.55

Marco Di Donato – University of Palermo

Tracing Qur'anic "Pharaoh" in Contemporary Fundamentalist Discourse

10.00-10.20 | [Coffee Break](#)

10.20-11.50 | [Room #1](#)

Panel 5A. Vision and Visuality in the Qur'an and Beyond (second part)

organized by **Hannelies Koloska** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

10.25-10.45

Thomas Hoffmann – University of Copenhagen

The Weltinnenraum of the Qur'an: Towards a Visceral Phenomenology

10.45-11.05

Ahmed H. al-Rahim – University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Concupiscent Curiosity of the Gaze in Medieval Islam: Qur'an 24:30–31

11.05-11.25

Karen Bauer – Institute of Ismaili Studies, London

Qur'anic Piety as a Practice

11.25-11.45

Inbal Kol – Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*Rethinking Female Representations in Qusayr Amra and their Qur'anic
References*

Panel 5B. Narratives, Predecessors, Contacts (first part)

10.25-10.45

Abdulla Galadari – Khalifa University

Unlocking the Name of YHWH: A Qur'anic Interpretation

10.45-11.05

Raymond K. Farrin – American University of Kuwait

Ṣuḥuf Mūsā (Q 53:36; 87:19): The Book of Jubilees?

11.05-11.25

Sarah Zweig – Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Moses and Other Mountains

11.25-11.45

Jáchym Šenkyřík – Charles University, Prague

Q. 5:48 and 49:13 and their Late Antique Context

11.50-13.30 | **TBC: Short Visit of Palermo with Ice Cream** (upon registration)

13.30-15.00 | Room #1

Panel 6A. The Qur'an and its Material Culture

13.35-13.55

Nevin Reda – Emmanuel College of Victoria University

in the University of Toronto, ON

Decolonizing Abraham: A Preliminary Survey of the Material Record in Mecca

13.55-14.15

Nick Posegay and **Magdalen M. Connolly** – University of Cambridge and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Qur'an Fragments in Cairo Genizah Collections

14.15-14.35

Munshid Falih Wadi – University of Diyala, Iraq

Compatibility and Contradiction in the Rules of Qur'anic Writing in the Light of Old Qur'anic Manuscripts

14.35-14.55

Hythem Sidky – IQSA

Radiocarbon Dating and Qur'anic Manuscript Chronology

13.30-15.00 | Room #2

Panel 6B. Narratives, Predecessors, Contacts (second part)

13.35-13.55

Anne-Sylvie Boisliveau – University of Strasbourg

Mobilizing Multiple Figures to Build the Authority of the Qur'an: Remarks from the Fada'il al-Qur'an Traditions in the Early Abbasid Times

13.55-14.15

Emran El-Badawi – University of Houston, TX

The Pagan and Biblical Topography of Qur'anic Pilgrimage

14.15-14.35

Mohammad Ali Tabataba'i – Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies, Tehran

The Qur'an's Equivocation Strategy to Survive a Cosmological Paradigm Shift: The Case of Heaven's Pillars

14.35-14.55

Johanne Louise Christiansen and **Rachel Claire Dryden** – University of Southern Denmark

Project Presentation: Education between the Qur'an and the Bible – A Project. Presentation and Discussion

15.00-15.20 | Coffee Break

15.20-16.20

Keynote Lecture

Johanna Pink – University of Freiburg

The Light of Civilization, the Shadow of Empires: Mediterranean Muslims and the Qur'an under British and French Colonial Rule

16.20-16.40 | Coffee Break

16.40-17.40

IQSA General Business Meeting

17.40-18.00 | Coffee Break

18.00-19.15 | Roundtable

Gender-based Research in Qur'anic Studies: An Exploration of Theoretical and Methodological Directions in Contemporary Scholarship

organized by **Celene Ibrahim** (Groton School, MA)

chaired by **Nevin Reda** (Emmanuel College of Victoria University
in the University of Toronto, ON)

Panelists

1. **Amira Abou-Taleb** – University of Helsinki
2. **Omaima Abou Bakr** – Cairo University
3. **Mulki Al-Sharmani** – University of Helsinki
4. **Yasmin Amin** – University of Exeter
5. **Halla Attallah** – Georgetown University, Washington D.C.
6. **Rahel Fischbach** – University of Innsbruck
7. **Abla Hasan** – Nebraska University, Lincoln, NE
8. **Celene Ibrahim** – Groton School, MA
9. **Roshan Iqbal** – Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA
10. **Hadia Mubarak** – Queens University of Charlotte, NC

Wednesday 7 September 2022

08.30 | Transfer from Palermo city centre to La Pira Library and Research Centre

(details of the precise location and time will follow)

La Pira Library and Research Centre, via U. Maddalena 112, Palermo

09.30-11.00

Panel 7. *Kitāb*, Narratives and Techniques

09.35-09.55

Ivan Dyulgerov – Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

On the Semantical Structure of the Qur’anic Term Kitāb

09.55-10.15

David Hollenberg – University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

The Qur’an in Early Nusayri Discourse: A Case Study

10.15-10.35

Joseph E. Lowry – University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Qur’anic Codes: Basic Building Blocks of Qur’anic Legislation

10.35-10.55

Antonio Cuciniello – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan

An Analysis of the Prophetic Speeches through Qur’anic Narratives

11.00-11.20 | Coffee Break

11.20-12.20

Presidential Address

Fred Donner – University of Chicago, IL

A Historian Looks at the Qur’an

12.20-13.00 | Guided Tour of the Library and Final Remarks

13.00-14.00 | Lunch Break

13.00-14.00 | Meetings of the Nominating, Programming and Publications and Research committees (for members only)

14.00-18.00 | Visit to Monreale (upon registration)