



Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies
IAIS Building
Stocker Road
Exeter UK EX4 4ND
Telephone +44 (0) 1392 264025
Fax +44 (0) 1392 724035
Email b.alabbas@exeter.ac.uk
Web www.exeter.ac.uk/iais

Workshop on Theorising about Ḥadīth Criticism: Sunnī-Imāmī Interactions

Thursday 3rd February – Friday 4th February 2022

Hotel du Vin Exeter
Magdalen St, Exeter EX2 4HY

Sponsored by the British Academy and the LAWALISI Project



Theorising about Ḥadīth Criticism: Sunnī-Imāmī Interactions

This workshop explores *ḥadīth* criticism from the time of Shaykh al-Ṭāʾifa al-Ṭūsī (d. 460/1067) to the time of al-Muḥaqqiq al-Ḥillī (d. 676/1277) focussing on the overlaps and divergences between the Sunnī and Imāmī *ḥadīth*-related disciplines. Did Sunnī and Imāmī critics share similar concerns? Did they entertain similar expectations of narrators, and do their *rijāl*-works reflect comparable interests? How did *ḥadīth* criticism contribute to legal theory in both traditions? To what extent was Imāmī *ḥadīth* criticism original, speaking perhaps to radically different priorities, and to what extent do the two traditions share (or borrow) methods of *ḥadīth* collation and analysis? Reading Sunnī and Imāmī authors alongside one another will enrich our knowledge of both and demonstrate whether and to what extent they were participants in the same conversation.

Convened by Belal Abu-Alabbas and Omar Anchassi

Wednesday, 2nd February

Those of you checking in at the Hotel Du Vin on Wednesday 2nd February, we will gather in the hotel lounge at 18:30 for dinner with our Exeter LAWALISI colleagues.

Thursday, 3rd February 2022

09:15-10:00 Arrival and Coffee

10:00-10:15 Robert Gleave (University of Exeter)
Welcome and Introduction

10:15-11:15 Mohammad Gharaibeh (Humboldt-Universität Berlin)
'Concepts of Authority in Sunnī Hadith Scholarship and their Reflections in Hadith Literary Production'

11:15-12:00 Ali Rida Rizek (Georg-August- Universität Göttingen)
'Contradictory Hadith Reports and Legal Practice (*'amal*) in Imāmī Legal Discourse'

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break.

13:30-14:15 Pavel Pavlovitch (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)
'The Interplay between *Isnād* and *Matn* as a Key Principle in Muslim b. al-Ḥajjāj's Hadith Criticism'

14:15-15:00 Belal Abu-Alabbas (University of Exeter)
'Harmonising Inconsistent Reports: al-Shāfi'ī and al-Shaykh al-Ṭūsī'

15:00-15:30 Coffee Break

15:30-16:30 George Warner (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
'By Our Enemies' Means: Uses of Non-Shī'ī Ḥadīth Sources in al-Khazzāz and al-Jawharī'.

16:30 Free time

18:00 Dinner at No. 5, 5 Cathedral Cl, Exeter EX1 1EZ.

Friday, 4th February 2022

09:30-10:15 Hossam Ouf (Universität Tübingen)

‘The Authenticity and Legal Validity of *Khabar al-wāḥid* in the 10th-11th-Centuries in Sunnī and Shīṭī Legal Theory’.

10:15-11:00 Mostafa Movahedifar (University of Birmingham)

‘Hadith Criticism in 11th-Century Baghdad: Imāmī-Sunnī Interactions’.

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:00 Discussion & Concluding Remarks

12:00-13:30 Lunch and End of Workshop

Participants: Robert Gleave (Director of LAWALISI, University of Exeter), Mohammad Gharaibeh (Professor of Islamic Intellectual History, Humboldt-Universität Berlin), Christopher Melchert (Professor of Arabic and Islam, University of Oxford), Pavel Pavlovitch (Professor of Medieval Arabo-Islamic Civilization, Sofia University, Bulgaria), Belal Abu-Alabbas (British Academy Newton International Fellow, University of Exeter), Omar Anchassi (LAWALISI Postdoctoral research fellow, University of Exeter), Mostafa Movahedifar (PhD Candidate, University of Birmingham), Hossam Ouf (PhD Candidate, Universität Tübingen), Raha Rafii (LAWALISI Postdoctoral research fellow, University of Exeter), Kumail Rajani (LAWALISI Postdoctoral research fellow, University of Exeter), Pooya Razavian (LAWALISI Postdoctoral research fellow, University of Exeter), Ali Rida Rizek (Postdoctoral research fellow, Georg-August- Universität of Göttingen), George Warner (Postdoctoral research fellow, Ruhr-Universität Bochum), Sarah Wood (IAIS, University of Exeter).