Objectives
The international conference „Aspects of Qur'anic Scholarship – Philology meets Theology“ to be held on 23-25 September 2016, explores areas of Qur'anic Studies. It brings in dialogue different research perspectives on the Qur'an, concerned with philologically based contextual reading of the qur'anic text, tracing its transmission history and its location in the intellectual atmosphere of late antique Arabia with Islamic, Christian and Jewish hermeneutics from the past and present. The conference thereby aims at addressing challenges and chances between different methodological approaches and enhances an interdisciplinary discussion, raising questions about the differences and commonalities of Islamic theological interpretations in contradistinction from and cooperation with the European tradition of philological scholarship on the Qur'an. Furthermore, we aim to create a basis for future joint theological and philological research in the field of Qur'anic Studies.

Venue
Freie Universität Berlin
Topoi Building Dahlem
Hittorfstraße 18, 14195 Berlin

Date
23-25 September 2016

Contact
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Speakers
Hosn Abboud (The American University of Beirut), Ali Aghaie (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften), Sebastian Bitsch (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften), Daniel Boyarin (University of California at Berkeley and Max-Weber-Kolleg, Universität Erfurt), Massimo Campanini (Università degli Studi di Trento), Islam Dayeh (Freie Universität Berlin), François Déroche (Collège de France, Paris), Dina El Omari (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), Zishan Ahmad Ghaffar (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), Dirk Hartwig (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), Gerald Hawting (University of London), Cornelia Horn (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg), Morteza Karimi-Nia (Islamic Azad University, Tehran), Mouhanad Khordide (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), Hannelies Koloska (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften), Karl Josef Kuschel (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen), Mohammed Maraqten (Qatar University), Michael Marx (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften), Angelika Neuwirth (Freie Universität Berlin), Samer Rashwan (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen), Christian Julien Robin (Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Membre de l’Institut, Paris), Walid Saleh (University of Toronto), Parviz Salimi (Encyclopaedia Islamica Foundation, Tehran), Nora Katharina Schmid (Freie Universität Berlin), Nora Schmidt (Freie Universität Berlin), Devin Stewart (Emory University, Atlanta), Sathiro Siamuddin (Sunan Kailijama State Islamic University of Yogyakarta), George Tamer (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg), Manolis Ulbricht (Freie Universität Berlin), Joseph Witztum (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Holger Zellentin (The University of Nottingham)

Aspects of Qur’anic Scholarship - Philology meets Theology
Berlin, 23-25 September 2016

Transmission of the Qur’anic Text
Late antique Arabia

Reflections of Jewish and Christian discourses in the Qur’an

Epistemic notions of late Antiquity

Reading the Qur’an philologically

Reading the Qur’an theologically

Convened by
The Centre for Islamic Theology (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), the Cluster of Excellence „Religion & Politics“ (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster), the Corpus Coranicum Project (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften) and the sub-project „From Logos to Kalâm“ of the CRC 980 Episteme in Motion (Freie Universität Berlin).
FRIDAY  SEP 23rd
16.00 - 16.30  Arrival & Coffee
16.30 - 17.00  Angelika Neuwith
Mohanad Khordiche
Official Welcome & Introductory Remarks
17.00 - 17.30  Session I - Chair: Toulu Khademalsharief
Michael Marx: The Evaluation of Manuscripts from the Fusṭaqī Qur’ānic Library (Old Cairo). The Case of the Manuscript London Or. 2165
17.30 - 18.00  François Déroche: Rediscovering the Written Transmission of the Qur’ān
18.00 - 18.30  Morteza Karimi-Nia: New Evidence for the Early History of the Qur’ān. Possibly Meccan/Medinan Codex in Mashhad from the Initial Decades of Islam
18.30  Dinner

SATURDAY  SEP 24th
9.00 - 9.30  Session II - Chair: Emmanouela Grypeou
Gerald Hawting: The Islamisation of the Meccan Sanctuary
9.30 - 10.00  George Tamer: From an Agent of Destruction to a Sign of God’s Mercy: Hellenistic Concepts of Time in the Qur’ān
10.00 - 10.30  Christian Julien Robin: Gods and Goddesses of Arabia: Archaeology and Tradition
10.30 - 11.00  Mohammed Maraqtan: The pre-Islamic Epigraphic Evidence Relating to the Language of the Qur’ān
11.00 - 11.30  Coffee Break
11.30 - 12.00  Session III - Chair: Catharina Rachik
Mohanad Khordiche: The Qur’ān in the Context of Mercy
12.00 - 12.30  Manolis Ulbricht: Translation as Theological Transfer: Patterns of Orthodox Theology and Byzantine Patristics in the Corpus Graecus Dating Back to the 1st/2nd Century hijrat
13.00 - 14.00  Lunch
14.00 - 14.30  Dirk Hartwig: Cain and Abel in the Qur’ān: Teaching Textual Conversations
14.30 - 15.00  Cornelia Horn: “Reflections” of Christian and Jewish Discourses on Mary and the Young Jesus in the Qur’ān
15.00 - 15.30  Massimo Campanini: The Concept of Logos in Christianity (Jesus) and Islam (The Qur’ān): Two Divergent Epistemic and Metaphysical Paths
15.30 - 16.00  Holger Zellentin: From the Holiness Code to the Qur’ān: a Brief History of Gentile Purity Regulations in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
16.00 - 16.30  Coffee Break
16.30 - 17.00  Session V - Chair: Lennart Lehmann
Nora Schmidt: The Heart Is a Scenery of Religious Debate. Representations of the Self and the Other in Two Medinan Surahs
17.00 - 17.30  Zishan Ahmad Ghaffar: Early Islam and Early Christianity – The Epistemic Notions of Historical Epochs in the Study of Religions
17.30 - 18.00  Islam Dayer: The Unscriptured, Gentle Prophet, or: Why Muhammad was not a Scribe?
18.00 - 18.30  Sebastian Bultsch: Qur’ānic Allusions to Zoroastrian Eschatology? Some Evidence from the Avesta and Middle Persian Apocalyptic Literature
18.30  Dinner

SUNDAY  SEP 25th
9.00 - 9.30  Session VI - Chair: Lukas Mühlethaler
Nora Katharina Schmid: Prophetic Knowledge and Persuasive Speech in Sarat al-Sha’ra’
9.30 - 10.00  Walid Saleh: The Preacher of the Qur’ān: the Role of Muhammad as Depicted in the Qur’ān
10.00 - 10.30  Hannelies Koloska: “The Art of Reading Slowly”: Philological Observations on Late Meccan Surahs
10.30 - 11.00  Coffee Break
11.00 - 11.30  Session VII - Chair: Lukas Mühlethaler
Devin Stewart: Attention to Rhyme and Poetic License in al-Ṭabarī’s Jami’ al-Bayān
11.30 - 12.00  Joseph Witzum: The Composition of Qur’ān 27
12.00 - 12.30  Daniel Boyarin: Ummah: were there Religions in Late Antiquity?
12.30 - 13.30  Lunch
13.30 - 14.00  Session VIII - Chair: Kamil Öktem
Hosn Abboud: Discourse on Mary in the Qur’ān: from Archetype into Prototype
15.30 - 16.00  Coffee Break
16.30 - 17.00  Session IX - Chair Kamil Öktem
Dina El Omari: The Couple in the Qur’ān as a Sign of Divine Creation
17.30 - 18.00  Karl Josef Kuschel: The Qur’ān as a “Polyphonic Religious Dialogue”: the newer Qur’ān Studies and Its Implications for the Interreligious Dialogue on the Basis of Bible and Qur’ān
18.00 - 18.30  Parviz Salimi: The Language of the Qur’ān from the Viewpoint of New-Missiology
18.30 - 19.00  Session X - Chair Thomas Krüpper
Angelika Neuwith and Mohanad Khordiche
Final Speeches with Subsequent Discussion
19.30  Reception and Dinner at “Ebkultur”