

## **Multi-lingual Qur'ānic Material from the Three First Centuries after Hijra/Seventh to Ninth Century CE**

The aim of this seminar is to create an inter-disciplinary discussion on the role of other languages in the early Islamic world. New interests in the multi-lingual situation of various medieval entities call for an investigation into the various languages in use under the first caliphs, through the Umayyad period and into the beginnings of the 'Abbāsīd reign. North African coins bearing a fragmentary rendering of the Shahāda in Latin, the early Greek translation of the Qur'ān, as well as the purported translation into Persian by Salmān al-Fārisī, the companion of the Prophet, are only some samples of the multilingual Qur'ānic material that may be addressed in this seminar. Epigraphic, legal, and administrative, but also historiographical, biographical and liturgical texts containing Qur'ānic snippets, phrases or even whole verses, have in many instances been disregarded, as exceptional aberrations from the norm, and scholarship has therefore contributed to the common notion that Arabic was the only accepted language for the Qur'an from the outset. By bringing these 'exceptions' together a more consistent pattern, reflecting actual practices, becomes attainable. Papers will deal with any languages other than, or in addition to, Arabic, and from all geographical areas and social strata.

The seminar will take place at the Centre for Medieval Literature, the University of Southern Denmark, Odense, on September 30 – October 1, 2014.

Programme:

### **September 30, 2014**

14:00        *Welcome Tea & Coffee*

14:30        LARS BOJE MORTENSEN (Odense): *Welcome*

14:45        CHRISTIAN HØGEL (Odense) and MATTHIAS M. TISCHLER (Barcelona): *Introduction*

### **Persia and Syria**

15:00        MICHELE CAMPOPIANO (York/Amsterdam): *Wicked Laws: Purity and Danger in Pahlavi Literature in the Early Islamic Period (7<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> Centuries)*

15:30        CHRISTIAN HØGEL (Odense): *Greek-Arabic Protocols from the Umayyad Period: The Greek Text*

16:00        ANNE REGOURD (Paris): *Greek-Arabic Protocols from the Umayyad Period: The Papyri*

16:30        *Discussion*

19:00        *Dinner*

### **October 1, 2014**

## Byzantium

- 9:00 HASSAN HESHAM (Athens): *The Byzantine Qur'ān as a Polemic Weapon: New Ethnogenesis Genre in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Centuries*
- 9:30 MANOLIS ULBRICHT (Berlin): *The Greek Translation of the Qur'ān (8/9<sup>th</sup> century CE) and its Use by Nicetas of Byzantium for his 'Refutation of the Qur'ān' (9<sup>th</sup> century CE) – a Heresiological Approach*
- 10:00 *Discussion*
- 10:30 *Tea & Coffee Break*

## al-Andalus

- 11:00 ANN CHRISTYS (Leeds): *The Qur'ān as History for Muslims and Christians in al-Andalus*
- 11:30 MATTHIAS M. TISCHLER (Barcelona): *Preaching Christ from a Transreligious Standpoint: The Unknown Qur'ānic Background of Luculentius' Homiliary and Other Christian Apologetic Texts from the Western Mediterranean*
- 12:00 *Final Discussion*
- 13:00 *Lunch and Farewell*

After the seminar, we intend to have the contributions published in our new *Journal of Transcultural Medieval Studies* (JTMS; de Gruyter): <http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/jtms>

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