Call for Papers

Maslaha, Siyasa and Good Governance: Shari’a Society

A workshop to be held on
19th - 20th April 2018
Centre for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Bergen
Funded by the Understanding Sharia Project
www.usppip.eu

We invite paper proposals on the topic of “Maslaha, Siyasa and Good Governance: Shari’a and Society” for this one-day workshop, held under the auspices of the USPPIP project (Understanding Sharia: Past Perfect, Imperfect Present). The workshop will focus on the use of concepts such as maslaha and siyasa in Islamic discussion of reform and orthopraxy.

Paper proposals are invited, addressing questions linked to the workshop theme, including:

- To what degree do Islamic NGOs appeal to maslaha in their activities?
- To what degree do Muslim thinkers today use the terms of siyasa and maslaha in their discussions of state activities and laws in Muslim, mixed and non-Muslim states?
- Does the state have a monopoly on the use of violence in Islamic law, and is there space for vigilantism in Islamic law?

Papers are invited from a variety of approaches and subjects within the framework described above, from graduate students to established researchers.

Abstracts should be submitted to www.usppip.eu/bergen/ before Monday 30th October 2017. Those giving papers selected for the workshop will have travel expenses and accommodation/subsistence provided by the USPPIP project.

The Understanding Shari’a project

This 2-year project examines the way in which past practices act used in the contemporary development of Islamic legal thought and practice. The project is funded under the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA.info) “Uses of the Past” joint research programme. The USPPIP project is a collaboration between the universities of Exeter, Gottingen, Bergen and Leiden. You will find more information on the USPPIP website: www.usppip.eu.

If you have questions concerning USPPIP and its activities or to be added to the USPPIP mailing list, please contact Mrs Pam Navran, USPPIP project administrator on usppip@exeter.ac.uk.