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The USPPIP Project Conference

Uses of the Past in Islamic Law

27th - 29th September 2018

Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies

University of Exeter

The conference is free to attend but registration is necessary. Please register by sending an email to usppip@exeter.ac.uk detailing which days/sessions you will be attending. Registration is open until 1300 UK time on Friday 21st September. Those attending from outside Exeter can accompany the participants at the evening meals (for which there will be a charge); whilst we cannot arrange accommodation for attendees, we can advise on convenient local hotels. As places are limited, allocation will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Wednesday 26th September, and Thursday 27th September: Participants arrive

Thursday 27th September

1200 Lunch

1400 Panel 1

Understanding Shari'a: Past Perfect, Imperfect Present (Chair: Robert Gleave)

Robert Gleave (Exeter) and Omar Anchassi (Edinburgh): "The Uses of the Past in Islamic Law: Violence, Sex and Sexuality"

Irene Schneider and Nijmi Edres (Goettingen): "Gender and Sharī'ah in Muslim Legal Theory and Practice: the case of Israel and Palestine"

Leon Buskens and Mahmood Kooria (Leiden): "The Idea of Customary Practice in Islamic Legal Studies"

Knut Vikor and Eirik Hovden (Bergen): "The State, Imamate and good governance: the past and contemporary Islamic Legal thought and practice"

1530 Tea/Coffee

1600 Panel 2

Uses of the Past and the Methodology of Islamic Legal Studies (Chair: Robert Gleave)

Christian Lange (Utrecht): "Textmining *furū' al-fiqh*: Notes from the Utrecht laboratory"

Morgan Clarke (Oxford): "Past and present in the anthropological study of Islamic law: examples from Lebanon"

Paolo Sartori (Vienna): "Taking Stock of Vernacularization from Kazan to Yarkand: Entexting Before Codification"

Murteza Bedir (Istanbul): "How the Turkish Higher Committee of Religious Affairs uses the past fatwas for the present questions methodological questions"

1800 Close



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Friday 28th September

0900 Panel 3

Gender, Islamic Law and Uses of the Past (1) (Chair: Nijmi Edres)

Mirjam Kuenkler (Uppsala): "Pioneers in the Courtroom: Female judges in Indonesia's Islamic Courts"

Monika Lindbekk (Oslo): "Women Judges in Egypt between Legalism and Equity"

Nadia Sonneveld (Nijmegen): "Working with God's Law: Men and Women Judges in Morocco's Family Courts"

Irene Schneider (Goettingen): "Family Law Reform, the Qāḍī al-Quḍāt, and the Women Judges of the West Bank"

1030 Tea/Coffee

1100 Panel 4

Gender, Islamic Law and Uses of the Past (2) (Chair: Irene Schneider)

Maaïke Voorhoeve (Amsterdam): "Sources in Tunisian family law adjudication: the case of two female judges in Tunis, 2008-2009"

Susanne Dahlgren (Tampere): "Love, Equality and the Qur'an: Shari'a Debates behind the PDRY Family Law of 1974"

Marianne Bøe (Bergen): "*Mahr* Iranian Style in Norway"

1230 Lunch

1330 Panel 5

***Maṣlaha*, *Maqāṣid* and Uses of the Past (Chair: Omar Anchassi)**

Gianluca Parolin (AKU London): "*Maqāṣid* in Unchartered Territory: *Fiqh al-Muwāṭāna* (Citizenship)"

Ari Schriber (Harvard): "Can *fiqh* persist as legal minimalism? The epistemology of Mālikī nationalism in contemporary Morocco"

Samy Ayoub (Austin, Texas): "'Bābā Fayn?': Custody Law and the Reconstitution of Islamic Legal Authority in the Egyptian State"

David Warren (Edinburgh): "The Ulama's Diverse Appeals to the *Maṣlaha* During the 2011 Revolution & 2013 Coup in Egypt"

1530 Tea/Coffee

1600 Panel 6

Sex, Sexual Violence and Uses of the Past (Chair: Robert Gleave)

Omar Anchassi (Edinburgh): "Dangerous Liaisons: Slave Concubinage, Marriage and Confessional Boundaries in Early Islamic Law"

Hina Azam (Austin, Texas): "Jurists and Their Pasts: Lessons from Early Islamic Sex Crimes Law"

Karen Bauer (IIS, London): "Love and Violence in Marital Relations: Legal Perspectives from Qur'an and Tafsīr"

Sarah Eltantawi (Evergreen): "'The Sunnaic Paradigm' in Northern Nigeria– The Use of Histories to Demand Shar'iah Starting in 1999"

1800 Close



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Saturday 29th September

0900 Panel 7

The Invention and Uses of Customary Law (Chair: Leon Buskens)

Ayman Shabana (Georgetown, Doha): "Deliberating Custom: Modern Juristic Discussions on the Status of *al-Urf*"

Daria Trentini (Drake, Des Moines) "Majini have their own habits, but they understand each other very well": Islam and matriliney encounters in spirit possession in Nampula city (northern Mozambique)

Samer Ghamroun (Saint Joseph, Beirut), "Secular past, Islamic present? Historical narratives on the state as a tool to preserve sharia courts in Lebanon"

1030 Tea/Coffee

1100 Panel 8

Uses of the Past and Imamate Traditions (Chair Knut Vikor)

Abdulrahman Al Salimi (Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Muscat): "The Ibādī Imamate tradition. Past realities and contemporary understandings"

Brinkley Messick (Columbia, New York): "Legitimate Fallibility: On the Zaydi *Imāma*"

Alexander Weissenburger (Vienna): "Religious Authority in a Tribal Society: The Concept of the Zaydi Imamate"

1230 Lunch

1330 Panel 9

Customizing the Sharia: Matrilineal Muslims and their Uses of Islamic Legal Past (Chair: Mahmood Kooria)

Dennis McGilvray (Boulder, Colorado), "Avoiding Islamic Inheritance: Matrilocal Marriage and Women's Dowry Houses in Sri Lanka and South India"

Aleena Sebastian (Hyderabad): "Strategies and Negotiations: Muslim Women's Engagement with the Transformation of Matrilineal Tharavad in Malabar"

Yasrul Huda (State Islamic University, Padang): "Sharī'a engagements of the matrilineal society of Minangkabau, Indonesia"

Signe Arnfred (Roskilde): "Implications of Matriliney: Gender and Islam in Northern Mozambique"

1530 Tea/Coffee

1600 Panel 10

Jihad and Uses of the Past (Chair Rob Gleave)

Jan-Peter Hartung (Goettingen): "Which Past? Negotiating Arab and Pashtun Heritage in Afghan Militant Circles"

Seyyed Ghari Fatimi (Shahid Beheshti, Tehran): "Infallible, Just Imam or possibly everyone: Who has the authority to authorise initiative Jihad?"

Cole Bunzel (Yale, New Haven): The Justifications for Jihad in the Islamic State

1730 Closing Remarks: Members of the USPPIP Team

Sunday 30th September, Participants depart.

