

# Power, Religion and Wisdom: Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy in al-Andalus and Beyond

(last updated: 25 January 2022)

**Tuesday 29 March 2022**

9.30 Welcoming words (Sabine Schmidtke, Godefroid de Callatay)

## **Session 1**

10.00 Miquel Forcada (Universitat de Barcelona): “The Scientist in the Umayyad Caliphate: Intellectual Profiles and Intellectual Debates”

10.30 Paul Walker (University of Chicago): “Intense Focused Rivalry, Imposed Sectarian Secrecy, and Doctrinal Recourse to Reason: Obstacles in the Way of a Tenth-Century Transmission of Ismaili Thought to Al-Andalus”

11.00 Matthew Melvin-Koushki (University of South Carolina): “From Ibn Masarra to Ibn Turka: The Construction of an Imperial Occult Orthodoxy between Iberia and Iran”

11.30 Questions and discussion

12.00 Lunch

## **Session 2**

14.00 Jean-Charles Coulon (CNRS-IRHT, Paris): “The *Kitāb Šarāsīm al-Hindiyya* and the Arabic Occult Sciences of the Tenth Century”

14:30 Elaine Van Dalen (Columbia University, New York): “Sectarian Conflict and the Dating of the *Nabatean Agriculture*: Who were the Sethians?”

15:00 Coffee break

16:00 Kevin Van Bladel (Yale University, New Haven): “Hypotheses about the Arabic Hermetica”

16:30 Questions and discussions

## Wednesday 30 March 2022

### Session 3

10.00 Janne Mattila (UCLouvain): “The Redaction History of the *Epistles* of the Brethren of Purity”

10.30 Carmela Baffioni (Università degli Studi di Napoli ‘L’Orientale’ / Institute of Ismaili Studies, London): “Ontological options and cosmological descriptions in the *Risāla al-Jāmi‘a*”

11.00 Daniel De Smet (CNRS, Paris): “Ps.-Empedocles and the *Risāla al-Jāmi‘a* on the Origin of Evil”

11.30 Questions and discussion

12.00 Lunch

### Session 4

14.00 Gabriele Ferrario (Università di Bologna): “Bāṭinism among the Jews of Medieval Cairo – The Evidence from the Cairo Genizah”

14.30 Omer Michaelis (Tel Aviv University): “The Emergence of *Bāṭin* Discourse in Tenth-Twelfth Century Medieval Judaism”

15:00 Coffee break

16:00 Ehud Krinis (Ben Gurion University of Negev): “The *Walāya* Doctrine’s Principal of Continuity and its Possible Channels of Transmission to a Jewish-Andalusian Text”

16:30 Questions and discussion

**Thursday 31 March 2022**

**Session 5**

10.00 Nader El-Bizri (American University of Beirut): “The Mathematical Determinants of the Symbolic Order of Architecture: Looking at Madīnat al-Zahrā’ from the Perspective of Ikhwān al-Şafā’?”

10.30 Sinem Eryılmaz (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) / Godefroid de Callataÿ (UCLouvain): “Following the steps of the Ikhwān al-Şafā’ in Ottoman Anatolia: the case of Lamii Çelebi”

11.00: Godefroid de Callataÿ (UCLouvain) / Sébastien Moureau (FNRS-UCLouvain): “An Arabic Version of Qusṭā b. Lūqā’s *De Physicis Ligaturis*?”

11.30 Questions and discussions

12.00 Lunch

**Session 6**

14.00 José Bellver (UCLouvain): “The Place of the Pseudo-Ibn Masarra in the Intellectual History of al-Andalus”

14:30 Maribel Fierro (CSIC-CCHS, Madrid): “Again on Maslama b. Qāsim and his relations with the Cordoban Umayyads”

15:00 Coffee break

16:00 Fârès Gillon (Institute of Ismaili Studies, London): “Neoplatonism and the Fāṭimids: Some remarks on the *Ta’wīl al-Zakāt*, attributed to Ja‘far b. Manşūr al-Yaman”

16:30 Questions and discussions

## Friday 1 April 2022

### Session 7

9:30 Pierre Lory: “Jābirian Alchemy, Ibn ‘Arabī and the Reading of the Book of Nature”

10:00 Regula Forster (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen): “An Esoteric Science? The Twelfth-Century alchemist Ibn Arfa‘ Ra‘ s as a Case-Study”

10:30 Questions and discussion

11:00 coffee break

11:30 Michael Ebstein (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): “Prolegomenon to the History of Letter Speculations in Andalusī Mystical Thought: From the Early 10<sup>th</sup> to the Late 13<sup>th</sup> Century”

12:00 Noah Gardiner (University of South Carolina): “Al-Būnī’s Lettrism as a Late Product of Tenth-Century Andalusian Thought”

12:30 Questions and discussion

13:00 Lunch

### Session 8

14:30 Liana Saif (University of Amsterdam): “Between *dīn* and *‘ilm*: Negotiating the Esoteric in the *Jābirian Kitāb al-Nukhab*”

15:00 Travis Zadeh (Yale University, New Haven): “Tracing the Sorcerer’s Circle: Demons, *Mandals*, and the Art of Translation”

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Charles Burnett (Warburg Institute, London): “Thābit ibn Qurra *On Talismans* and its Presence in Talismanry in Tenth-Century al-Andalus”

16:30 Questions and discussion

17:00 Concluding remarks