

The Treatise-Literature (*rasāʿil*) as Documentation of Socially Relevant Discussions in Pre-Modern Muslim Societies (14th – 19th Centuries)

In the last twenty years, research on the history of Islamic Law has shifted from the Early Period to the Middle Periods, approaching all kinds of different genres and topics. But many of them are still entirely unexplored. Besides *fatāwā*-collections and commentaries (*sharḥ* and *ḥāshiyā*), the treatise-literature (*rasāʿil*) seems to be a predominant medium of discussing socially relevant questions. Treatises are short texts on current topics, which are only covered in a very rudimentary sense. Only a few studies have explored treatises (*rasāʿil*) that address topics such as tobacco and coffee consumption in the Ottoman Empire, the waqf system and the punishment of heretics etc. This will be the first international conference with a special focus on the risala-literature in Islamic law, theology and Sufism between the 13th and the 19th centuries.

Since this literature covers topics that discuss contemporary social practices, it provides valuable information about how scholars and intellectuals responded to those practices, hence, reflects the intersection between theory and practice. Therefore, the following questions should stand in the middle of the studies: What topics of practical law or theology were discussed more intensely at a given time and location? What were the social and theological contexts of these discussions? Who was involved in these discussions? What was the motivation of the author? What were their arguments? What do these texts say about contextuality, flexibility and pragmatism of Islamic law? What conclusions can be drawn from this data for the treatise-literature (*rasāʿil*)?

Organization

Institute of Islamic Theology, Osnabrück University

Cooperation

Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Münster
Collaborative Research Centre 1385 „Law and literature“, University of Münster

Conference Management

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Registration

Please register before June 23, 2020 at:
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Conference Venue

Online-Conference via Zoom-Meeting

Legal Details

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Conference

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25th June 2020
3rd – 4th July 2020

IN COOPERATION WITH:

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Thursday, 25th June 2020

- 15:00 – 15:15** **Welcome**
Bülent Uçar, The Director of the Institute of Islamic Theology, Osnabrück University
Norbert Oberauer, University of Münster
- 15:15 – 15:45** **Introduction**
Hakki Arslan, University of Münster
Mohammad Gharaibeh, Humboldt-Universität Berlin
- 15:45 – 16:30** **Rasāʿil as a source for ottoman social history**
Evgenia Kermeli, Hacettepe University Ankara
- 16:30 – 17:00** Break
- 17:00 – 18:30** **Emergence of Different Genres in Islamic Law**
Necmettin Kızılkaya, Istanbul University
“Shurunbulāliyya”: Legal Treatises (rasāʿil) in Late Ḥanafī Jurisprudence
Samy Ayoub, University of Texas
- 18:30 – 19:00** Break
- 19:00 – 20:30** **Rejecting the religion of Abraham (millet-i Ibrāhīm): vernacular legalism and religion in the seventeenth-century Ottoman Empire**
Nir Shafir, University of California San Diego
The Intellectual Social Context of Debates and Works on the issue of the Prophet’s Parents (abawayn al-Rasūl) in the Ottoman Times
Kadir Gömbeyaz, Kocaeli University

Friday, 3rd July 2020

- 10:00 – 12:00** **Traditionalizing Sufism: The Hanbalī Critique of Sufi-Samāʿ – Wāsiṭis risāla on samāʿ**
Arjan Post, Catholic University of Leuven
The Raqs and Dawran (sufi dance) debates of the 16th century Ottoman Empire (In the Context of Ibrāhīm al-Ḥalabī’s book entitled al-Rahs va’l-Vaqṣ li-Mustehill al-Raqṣ)
Ahmed Hamdi Furat, Istanbul University
Self defence against accusation – Ḥalabīs risāla on the prohibition to stand up in mawlid
Şükrü Özen, Istanbul University
- 12:00 – 13:30** Break
- 13:30 – 15:30** **Legal Debates on Nabidh (millet beer) in the 18th century Caucasus: A Case Study of Abubakr-ʿAymakī al-Dagestānī’s treatise “Aḥkām an-nabidh”**
Magomed Gizbulaev, Independent Researcher
A Contribution to The Discussions on The Drugs in The Ottoman Society: The Treatise of Mahmād al-Fanārī (d. 1599)
Tuncay Başoğlu, ISAM-Istanbul
Two Treatises of Abū Saʿīd al-Ḥādīmī (d. 1762) on Smoking
Murat Karacan, Osnabrück University
- 15:30 – 16:00** Break
- 16:00 – 17:30** **A Treatise on Egyptian Churches: Ibn Nuḡaym al-Misrī (1520-1563) and building of churches in Early Ottoman Egypt**
Amr Ryad, Catholic University of Leuven
Muallime Kamer and the Risālah of Ḥāce-i Namaz
Rahile Yılmaz, Marmara University
A muftis guide to female bloods and purities: Ibn ʿĀbidīn’s commentary on Birgivis treatise Duḥr al-mutaʿahhilīn
Kathrin Klausning, Osnabrück University

Saturday, 4th July 2020

- 10:00 – 12:00** **A symbolic battle over legal theory and the schools of law? Jamāl al-Dīn al-Qāsimī’s risāla on wiping over socks**
Pieter Coppens, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Facing Mecca from Java: Two treatises on the establishment of the qibla and their scholarly and social context
Phillip Bruckmayr, University of Vienna
A Risāla from the 19th Century on the Role of Sufi Saints
Cüneyd Yıldırım, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg
- 12:00 – 12:30** Break
- 12:30 – 14:30** **“Evil cannot be related to You”: Kemālpāshazāde’s treatise on theodicy**
Arnold Yasin Mol, Leiden University
The Treatise on iḡtihād and single attested traditions (risālatu l-iḡtihādi wa-l-ʿakhbārī) of Muḥammad Bāqir al-Bihbihānī
Jens Bakker, Osnabrück University
Realising the One: Treatises on the Unity of Existence in the Ottoman-Safavid-Mughal Period
Sajjad Rizvi, University of Exeter
- 14:30 – 15:00** Break
- 15:00 – 16:00** **Review of the conference**
Norbert Oberauer, University of Münster
Final Discussion
Hakki Arslan, University of Münster
Mohammad Gharaibeh, Humboldt-Universität Berlin