THE TIES THAT BIND
MECHANISMS AND STRUCTURES OF SOCIAL DEPENDENCY IN THE EARLY ISLAMIC EMPIRE

TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER

8:30 Registration
9:00 Opening remarks

RHETORIC OF DEPENDENCY IN DOCUMENTS

9:30 LAJOS BERKES
‘Peace be upon you’: Arabic politeness in Greek and Coptic letters written by Christians

9:45 ODED ZINGER
“Return to God and the brotherhood of good and excellent men”: Geniza letters to runaway men

10:00 Panel discussion
11:00 Break

11:30 PETRA SIJPESTEIJN
Working with the system. Women’s petition letters from early Islamic Egypt

11:45 KAREN BAUER
Emotion and power in Islamic documentary sources

12:00 Panel discussion
13:00 Lunch

ESTABLISHING LOYALTY FROM ABOVE

14:00 NOËMIE LUCAS
A letter to an old friend: ethics and governmentality under the last Marwanids based on the study of a state letter from Hishām b. ‘Abd al-Malik to Khālid b. ‘Abd Allāh al-Qasrī

14:15 MATTHEW GORDON
Swearing Abu al-Jaysh into office: a turn in Tulunid governance of Egypt

14:30 Panel discussion
15:30 Break

16:00 FREDERIC KRUEGER
“Father of all the monks in all the land”: new Coptic documentary evidence for the administration of the Egyptian monastic infrastructure by the new Monophysite church on the eve of the Arab conquest (late 6th century CE)

16:15 HAYRETTIN YÜCESOY
The political turn: the formation of political language in the 8th century Middle East

16:30 Panel discussion
17:30 End
### COMMUNICATION AND CONTROL

**9:00**  
**Nâïm Vantieghem**  
Arabic circular letters from the Umayyad and early Abbassid period: letters of power as evidenced by literary and documentary material

**9:15**  
**Eline Scheerlinck**  
The long arm of Fustat. Governing the Egyptian countryside through letters

**9:30**  
Panel discussion

**10:30**  
Break

**11:00**  
**Ed Hayes**  
Circular letters of the Shi‘i Imams

**11:15**  
**Alon Dar**  
Caliphs, governors, and Arab elites: controlling the provinces in the Umayyad period

**11:30**  
Panel discussion

**12:30**  
Lunch

**14:30**  
Special collections viewing

**15:30**  
EmCo themes

**16:00**  
Break

### NEGOTIATING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES

**16:30**  
**Yaacov Lev**  
The Wafd institution its meaning and significance

**16:45**  
**Stefanie Schmidt**  
Messengers in early Muslim Egypt – small cogs or systemically important?

**17:00**  
Panel discussion

**18:00**  
End
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THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER

EMBEDDING POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONTROL

9:00 PAUL WALKER
Resistance to and acceptance of the Fatimids in North Africa: the transregional Ismaili Da'wa in a local context, forming a restricted religious community within a contested space

9:15 MONIR BIROUK
Islamization of the Berbers in the Maghreb: a faltering but pervasive process

9:30 HUGH KENNEDY
The role of the Abbasid family as links between caliphs and people

9:45 Break

10:15 Panel discussion

11:30 Programme tba including lunch

CREATING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEPENDENCY

15:30 CECILIA PALOMBO
Ties of indebtedness: religious leaders and the economy of debt in the early Abbasid caliphate

15:45 REZA HUSEINI
Between the Turks and the Arabs: the family of Mir ibn Bek and their household problems in the early Abbasid Bactria

16:00 ROBERT HOYLAND
Debt slavery between Roman and Islamic Law: the rulings of 'Umar II

16:15 Panel discussion

17:30 End
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FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

LOCAL ELITES IN CONTACT WITH THE CENTER

9:00  KHODADAD REZAKHANI
Inventing the “Isbahbid of Farşawādgar”: the South Caspian Elite Between the Sasanians and Islam

9:15  GEORG LEUBE
Local elites during two fitnas: Al-Ashʿath b. Qays and Muḥammad b. al-Ashʿath and the quarter of Kinda in 7th Century Kufa

9:30  Panel discussion

10:30  Break

MECHANISMS OF EXCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

11:00  SIMON PIERRE
“Eat their Slaughtered Animals and Marry their Women”… or not: Christian Arabs between Islamic and Syriac Strategies of Distinction (ca. 60/680-100/720)

11:15  NIMROD HURVITZ
Rulers, Hanbalis and Alleged Deviants: A Heated Triangle

11:30  Panel discussion

12:30  Concluding remarks

13:00  Lunch