

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

Chair: Alon Dar

- 9:30 LAJOS BERKES
'Peace be upon you': Arabic politeness in Greek and Coptic letters written by Christians in the 7-8th c.
- 9:45 ODED ZINGER
"Return to God and the brotherhood of good and excellent men": bringing the prodigal son back home in Ayyubid Egypt
- 10:00 Panel discussion
- 11:00 Break
- 11:30 PETRA SIJPESTEIJN
Connecting through poverty
- 11:45 KAREN BAUER
Emotion, power, and persuasion in 'Umayyad and 'Abbāsīd documents
- 12:00 Panel discussion
- 13:00 Lunch

ESTABLISHING LOYALTY FROM ABOVE

Chair: Cecilia Palombo

- 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 Abū 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

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WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER

COMMUNICATION AND CONTROL

Chair: Petra Sijpesteijn

9:00 NAÏM VANTHIEGHEM

Early Arabic decrees on papyrus from the Abbasid period

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

The epistolary imamate: circular letters in administration in the Shi'i community

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 EmCo themes

MECHANISMS OF EXCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

Chair: Said Reza Huseini

15:00 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)

15:15 NIMROD HURVITZ

Rulers, Ḥanābila and alleged deviants: a heated triangle

15:30 Break

16:00 Panel discussion

17:00 End

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THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER

EMBEDDING POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONTROL

Chair: Ed Hayes

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 HUGH KENNEDY

The role of the Abbasid family as links between caliphs and people

9:30 MARIE LEGENDRE

Perceptions of administrative violence: a tie that binds the early Islamic empire?

9:45 Panel discussion

11:00 Special collections viewing

12:30 Canal boat trip including lunch

CREATING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEPENDENCY

Chair: Eline Scheerlinck

14:30 CECILIA PALOMBO

Ties of indebtedness: religious leaders and the economy of debt in the early Abbasid period

14:45 SAID REZA HUSEINI

Between the Arabs and the Turks in early Abbasid Bactria (750-772): the family of Mir b. Bek al-Bamiyāni

15:00 Panel discussion

16:00 ROBERT HOYLAND

Varieties of unfreedom in Early Islam: debt bondage and sale of self and family

16:15 JOANITA VROOM

Tied to two empires: the material evidence of the Arab conquest of Sicily

16:30 Panel discussion

17:30 End

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FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

LOCAL ELITES IN CONTACT WITH THE CENTER

Chair: Said Reza Huseini

9:00 KHODADAD REZAKHANI

Inventing the “Isbahbid of Faršawādgar”: the South Caspian elite between the Sasanians and Islam

9:15 GEORG LEUBE

Local elites during two *fitnas*: Al-Ash‘ath b. Qays and Muḥammad b. al-Ash‘ath and the quarter of Kinda in 7th century Kufa

9:30 Panel discussion

10:30 Break

NEGOTIATING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Chair: Alon Dar

11:00 YAACOV LEV

The meaning and significance of the *Wafd* institution

11:15 STEFANIE SCHMIDT

Messengers in Byzantine and early Muslim Egypt – small cogs but systemically relevant. With some remarks on the dossier of Menas, *stratiōtēs*

11:30 Panel discussion

12:30 Concluding remarks

13:00 Lunch