
Shi'i Studies: New Directions and Perspectives

Leiden University

Monday 24 February 2025 All times are Central European Time (CET)

Opening

9.15am-9.45am

Welcome: Ahab Bdaiwi and Sajjad Rizvi

Panel 1 Classical Shi'i Islam

9.45am-12:00pm

- **Sean Anthony (Ohio State)**
The Testament of 'Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib (d. 40/661) and the Fate of the His Estates under the Umayyads
- **Vinay Khetia (SRI-Toronto)**
Twelver Shi'i Liturgical Corpus as a Source of Devotional Theology

11:15am-11:30am Coffee Break

Panel 2 Qur'anic Exegesis

11:30am- 1pm

- **Scott Lucas (Arizona)**
The Role of Zaydī Imams in Zaydī Qur'ān Commentaries
- **Tehseen Thaver (Princeton)**
Qur'an Exegesis and the Formation of Premodern Muslim Publics

1pm-2pm Lunch

Panel 3 Philosophy and Esotericism I

2.00pm-3:30pm

- **Shafique N. Virani (Toronto)**
Ādam and Iblīs: Walāyah in The Foundation of Esoteric Restoration (Bunyād-i Ta'wīl/Asās al-Ta'wīl)
- **Mathieu Terrier (Paris)**
The Imams, discoverers of the "mundus imaginalis" ('ālam al-mithāl)? On the late philosophical use of a corpus of ancient Imami hadiths

3:30pm-3:45pm Coffee Break

Panel 4 Philosophy and Esotericism II

3:45-6:00pm

- **Elizabeth (Lisa) Alexandrin (Manitoba)**
Soul in Love according to Abū Ya'qūb al-Sijistānī (fl. 972 CE)
- **Fares Gillon (Aix-Marseille)**
Shi'ism as Representation of the Imam: the Case of Early Ismailism
- **Idris Hani (Rabat)**
الزمنية الشيعية وتخرجات الزمن التاريخي والانطولوجي

7.00pm Conference Dinner

Day 2 Tuesday 25 February 2025

9.00am-9.10am

Introduction to the Shia Research Institute: Vinay Khetia

Panel 1 Legal Traditions and Theory

9:10am-10:40am

- **Rula Abisaab (McGill)**
Theological and Juristic Features of the Akhbārī Movement in Safavid Iran
- **Robert Gleave (Exeter)**
Shi'i Legal Literature in the longue durée

10:40-11am Break

Panel 2 Diachronic Approaches to Shi'i Thought

11am-12:30pm

- **Saida Mirsadri (Bonn)**
From Substantial Motion to Process Metaphysics: A Ṣadrian Contribution
- **Constance Arminjon (Paris)**
Questioning Dogma in Contemporary Twelver Shi'i Theology: Hermeneutics and Historical Critique

12:30pm – 1:30pm Lunch

Panel 3 and Plenary

1:30pm- 3:15pm

- **S. Zahra Moballegh (Harvard) on Zoom**
Worlds on the Margins of Margins: A Critique of Disconnection in Contemporary Shi'a Studies
 - **Group plenary and closing thoughts**
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