



Research Group Arabic and Islamic Studies

**20<sup>TH</sup> CHESFAME**

***Colloquium on the  
History of Egypt and Syria  
in the Fatimid, Ayyubid, and Mamluk Eras  
(10<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> centuries)***

*11-13 May 2011*



*Dept. of Languages and Cultures of the Near East and North Africa*

*Faculty of Arts and Philosophy*

*Sint-Pietersplein 5-6*

*9000 Gent*

*Belgium*

## **Wednesday 11 May**

### **9.00-9.30: Registration**

(Sint Pietersplein 5)

### **9.30-9.45: Welcome**

P. VAN CAUWENBERGE

Rector (UGent)

### **9.45-10.45**

J. YESHAYA (BOCHUM)

J. DEN HEIJER (LOUVAIN)

“Salomon ben Joseph ha-Kohen on Fatimid victory.

A Hebrew ode to al-Mustanşir Bi-llāh and Badr al-Gamālī reconsidered”

### **11.15-12.30**

A. SCHIPPERS (AMSTERDAM)

"The Middle Arabic in the poetry of the Fatimid poet Moshe Dar'i,  
final conclusion"

A.Y. SIDARUS (LISBOA)

"Familles de notables coptes de l'époque ayyoubide et  
de l'âge d'or de la littérature copto-arabe"

J-CH. DUCÊNE (BRUXELLES)

"Quel est ce *Kitāb al-jughrāfiyā* cité par Ibn Faḍl Allāh al-'Umarī"

***Lunch***

**14.15-15.30**

M. FRENKEL (JERUSALEM)

“Objects as Text: a critical reading in Fatimid material culture”

Y. LEV (BAR ILAN)

“Waqf in Fatimid Egypt”

W.C. SCHULTZ (CHICAGO)

“A metrological oddity(?) from the reign of al-Ḥākim bi-Amr Allāh”

**16.00-17.45**

M.PIANA (AUGSBURG)

“How ancient theaters became medieval castles -  
examples from the Middle East”

B. MAJOR (BUDAPEST)

“Form and Function: Recent Archaeological Research and Historical Sources  
in the Identification of the Spaces in the Hospitaller Castle of al-Marqab  
(Syria)”

SH. LAOR-SIRAK

“Domes, Ground Plans and Measurement Units as  
Reflecting Islamic Encounters with western construction methods”

H. HANISCH (WIESBADEN)

“Über die Paulikianer”

## **Thursday 12 May**

**9.00-10.45**

M. GORDON (MIAMI)

“Disparate Audiences: Aḥmad ibn Ṭūlūn as an itinerant prince”

T. EL-AZHARI (QATAR)

“Zangī I, and his early Turkmen career (before 1127)”

A. STEWART (ST ANDREWS)

“Conversion, Crusade and the *King of Tars*”

K. FRANZ (HALLE-WITTENBERG)

“Tribes, Castles, and Beyond: Mapping Spatial Relations in Ayyubid Syria”

**11.15-12.30**

K. HIRSCHLER (LONDON)

"The Ashrafiyya library in Damascus and its book collection"

Y. FRENKEL (HAIFA)

"Intellectual Biographies of Mamluk Period ‘*Ulamā*’:

Readings in *thabāt* and *mashyakha*"

M. AGUIAR (LA LAGUNA)

"Teaching Mathematics and Astronomy in the Mamluk Period:

a case of textual diffusion from Cairo"

***Lunch***

**14.15-15.30**

L. HOLTZMAN (BAR ILAN)

“Does God Really Laugh? –

Ibn Taymiyya's Nuanced Approach to Anthropomorphic Hadith Material”

J. DRORY (BAR ILAN)

“The singularity of al-Sakhāwī”

S. SOBHI (AIX-EN-PROVENCE)

“La pensée juridique en Egypte et en Syrie au XV<sup>ème</sup> siècle.

Une approche à travers l’usage et le recensement de la littérature légale dans  
les sources historiques”

**16.00-17.15**

L. RICHTER-BERNBURG (TÜBINGEN)

“The contested notion of the communicability of disease in the Mamluk period”

P. LEWICKA (WARSAW)

“Robbers Cave. On the Roots of Inter-Communal Antagonism in Dār al-Islām”

G. SCHALLENBERGHI (LEUVEN/GENT)

“Images of Sufi Piety in the Hagiography of  
Muḥammad ‘Abd al-Ra‘ūf al-Munāwī (d. 1621)”

## **Friday 13 May**

**9.15-10.45**

M. KOORNWINDER (BUSSUM)

“The plagues of Egypt.

Catastrophes in al-Maqrīzī's *Sulūk li-maʿrifat duwal al-mulūk*”

B. MARTEL-THOUMIAN (GRENOBLE)

“Sources historiques et Pèlerinages (1468-1517)”

F. BAUDEN (PISA/LIÈGE)

“Pilgrimage Certificates from the Mamluk Period: New data”

**11.15-12.30**

P.-V. CLAVERIE (ROUEN)

“Notes sur l'onomastique franque durant les croisades et  
quelques énigmes prosopographiques”

N. CHRISTIE (VANCOUVER)

“Imaginary Journeys to the Lands of the Franks:  
Some Instances from the *Arabian Nights*”

N. COUREAS (NICOSIA)

“Envoys between the Mamluk lands and Lusignan Cyprus:  
Evidence from the Cypriot Chronicle of Leontios Makhairas”

***Lunch***

**14.00-15.15**

D. IGARASHI (TOKYO)

“Religious Endowments of the Mamluk Amir Qijmās al-Ishāqī”

K. D’HULSTER (GENT)

“Breaking kings, making kings.

The scramble for the sultanate under al-Mu'ayyad Ahmad (865/1461)”

M. DEKKICHE (LIÈGE)

“The buffer state under the Mamluks in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

Study of the Mamluks-Qaramanids diplomatic relationship

according to the BnF ms. ar. 4440”

**15.45-17.00**

D. NICOLLE (NOTTINGHAM)

“Take shavings of rawhide”: finding Mamluk examples of al-Ṭarsūsī’s style of  
hardened leather helmet in the Citadel of Damascus”

H. BIESTERFELDT (BOCHUM)

“The Perfect Man - a humanist concept?”

U. VERMEULEN (GENT)

“Le Sultan-Caliphe al-Musta‘īn bi-llāh”

J. VAN STEENBERGEN/U. VERMEULEN (GENT)

*CONCLUSIONS*

**All sessions will take place at Ghent University's Department of Languages and Cultures of the Near East and North Africa (Sint-Pietersplein 5-6, 9000 Gent, Belgium).**

With Special Thanks to:

Special Research Fund, UGent

Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, UGent

Department of Languages and Cultures of the Near East and  
North Africa, UGent

Flemish Association for Arabic Studies

H. Pirenne Research Institute for Medieval Studies

Peeters Publishers, Leuven

Further Information

Prof. Dr. Jo Van Steenbergen

TCNO

Sint-Pietersplein 6

B-9000 Ghent, Belgium

Tel. (0032) (0)9 264 3555 (office)

E-MAIL : Jo.VanSteenbergen@UGent.be

<http://www.neareast.ugent.be/english/>