



Universität  
Münster

# XI Islamic Legal Studies Conference

22–24 May 2025  
University of Münster

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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22–24 MAY 2025 IN MÜNSTER  
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THURSDAY, 22 MAY

14:00 WELCOMING ADDRESS

**Michael Quante** *Vice-Rector for Internationalization, Knowledge Transfer, and Sustainability, Univ. of Münster*  
**Christian Müller** *ISILS President*  
**Syrinx von Hees** *Managing Director of the Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Univ. of Münster*  
**Serena Tolino** *ISILS Secretary*  
**Norbert Oberauer** *Local Host*

14:30 ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

## Researching and Teaching Sharia in 2025

MODERATION AND CHAIR

**Asifa Quraishi** *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

PANELISTS

**Seyed Mohammad Ghari Fatemi**

*AMI, University of Birmingham, University of Mofid*

**Christian Müller** *CNRS – IRHT, Paris*

**Nadia Sonneveld** *Leiden Law School*

**Nadjma Yassari** *University of Hamburg*

16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:30 OPENING PANEL

## Belonging to a *Madhhab*: Formation, Cohesion and Diversity in Islamic Schools of Law (Part 1)

CHAIR **Norbert Oberauer** *University of Münster*

16:30 **Mohamed Ali** *Georgetown University*

*The Mashhūr: Between Legal Stability and Indeterminacy in the Mālikī Madhhab*

17:00 **Alexander Thurston** *University of Cincinnati*  
*Defending, Exploring, and Relativizing the Mālikī Madhhab: Saʿīd al-Kamālī's Lectures on the Muwaṭṭaʿ*

17:30 COFFEE BREAK

17:45 OPENING PANEL

**Belonging to a *Madhhab*:  
Formation, Cohesion and Diversity  
in Islamic Schools of Law (Part 2)**

CHAIR **Lena-Maria Möller** *Qatar University*

17:45 **Muhammed Şahin** *University of Tübingen/ ISAM*  
The Influence of the Concept of *Madhhab* on  
Iraqi Ḥanafī Scholars' Opinions and Works

18:15 **Zahra Jafari** *University of Exeter*  
The Akhbārī Movement: A New *Madhhab*,  
An Anti-*Madhhab*, or An Intellectual Trend?

18:45 **Dominik Krell** *University of Oxford/ Wolfson College*  
The *Madhhab* at the Margins: Crossing School  
Boundaries in the Cadi Courts of The Gambia

19:15 RECEPTION WITH BUFFET

FRIDAY, 23 MAY

09:00 PANEL 1

**The Making of Authority in Islamic  
Jurisprudence: Continuity, Change,  
and Adaption**

CHAIR **Serena Tolino** *University of Bern*

09:00 **Shahanaz Begum** *University of Exeter*  
Muḥammad b. al-Ḥasan al-Shaybānī:  
The Impact of a Founding Father on Legal Theory

09:30 **Farid Bouchiba** *CNRS – IRHT, Paris*  
The Place of Legal Divergences in the Formation of  
the Mālikī School: Diversity and Coherence

10:00 **Christian Müller** *CNRS – IRHT, Paris*  
Rule Authority and Shifting Interpretations:  
The Jurists' Law as a Legal Discursive System  
(2nd–13th/8th–19th Centuries)

10:30 **Abdur-Rahman Muhammad**  
*University of Southern California*  
The Exceptional Mālikī: Ibn Khuwayz Mindād as a  
Case for Rethinking *Ijtihād* in 4th/10th Century Iraq

11:00 POSTER PRESENTATION  
& COFFEE BREAK

## POSTERS

(De)Colonizing Sharia?

Tracing Transformation, Change and Continuity  
in Islamic Law in the Middle East and North Africa  
(MENA) in the 19th and 20th Centuries, ERC  
Advanced Grant 2024–2029.

Irene Schneider (PI), Lena-Maria Möller,  
Ari Schriber

TraSIS: Trajectories of Slavery in Islamicate  
Societies. Three Concepts from Islamic Legal  
Sources, SNSF Project 2022–2026.

Serena Tolino (PI), Omar Anchassi, Laura Emunds,  
Laura Rowitz

Trall: Tracing Labour in Islamicate Legal Traditions,  
SNSF Starting Grant 2024–2029.

Serena Tolino (PI), Leonie Isch, Laila Makboul,  
Ilyes Mechentel

Mapping Change in Islamic Law:  
Rules and Practices (MCILRaP),  
ERC Advanced Grant 2024–2029.

Christian Müller (PI), Farid Bouchiba, Shadha  
Karoumi, Wassim Ammar

12:00 PANEL 2

## Historical and Regional Dynamics in Islamic Jurisprudence

CHAIR [Delfina Serrano](#) *CSIC Madrid*

12:00 [Anggi Azzuhri](#)

*Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia*

The Meccan Shāfi'ite Sub-school and Rise of  
Arab-centric Narrative: a Historical-Anthropological  
Analysis of Meccan-Cairene Division from  
*Tuḥfah al-Muḥtāj* and *Nihāya al-Muḥtāj* on *Khuṭba*

12:30 [Janina Safran](#) *Penn State University*

Al-Burzulī and the Revival of the Mālikī *Madhhab*

13:00 [Asma Afsaruddin](#) *Indiana University*

Muslim Juridical Views on the Principle  
of Non-Combatant Immunity

13:30 LUNCH (BUFFET)

15:00 PANEL 3

**Worldly Affairs, Economic Realities,  
and Afterworld Concerns:  
Legal and Moral Dimensions in  
Islamic Jurisprudence**

CHAIR **Hakkı Arslan** *Leibniz Institute for  
Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow*

15:00 **Laura Emunds** *University of Bern*

Legal Subjecthood Beyond the Freedom/  
Enslavement Binary: The Case of the *Mukātab/a*

15:30 **Marion Katz** *New York University*

Otherworldly Assets: Juristic Debates on  
Transactions Involving *Thawāb*

16:00 **Serena Tolino** *University of Bern*

Exploring Concepts on Work and Labour in  
Islamic Legal Sources

16:30 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 ISILS BUSINESS MEETING

20:00 CONFERENCE DINNER FOR SPEAKERS

SATURDAY, 24 MAY

10:00 PANEL 4

**Intellectual, Institutional and Legal  
Transformations in the 19th Century**

CHAIR **Asifa Quraishi** *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

10:00 **Robert Gleave** *University of Exeter*

Exclusion and Inclusion in the Zaydi  
and Twelver Shī'ī *Madhhabs*

10:30 **Hatice Öztürk** *Georgetown University*

Building Regional Scholarly Authority within  
Late Ottoman Ḥanafī Law: Ibn 'Ābidīn's Strategic  
Use of 'Urf in *Radd al-Muhtār*

11:00 **Samy Ayoub** *University of Texas at Austin*

Islamic Law and Mixed Courts in 19th Century Egypt

11:30 COFFEE BREAK

12:00 PANEL 5

## **From Colonial Rule to Postcolonial Dynamics: Legal Practices and Institutional Realities**

CHAIR **Christian Müller** *CNRS – IRHT, Paris*

12:00 **Uvaise Karattiyattil** *Manhajurrashad Islamic College/Hamad bin Khalifa University*

Is the Qadi a Necessary Institution in the Modern Context? A Study of Non-State Shāfi'ī Qadis in Calicut, Kerala, India (1947–Present)

12:30 **Irene Schneider** *University of Göttingen / Max-Weber-Kolleg – University of Erfurt*

Criminal Trials in Mandate Palestine

13:00 LUNCH (BUFFET)

14:30 PANEL 6

## **Contemporary Legal Challenges, Cultural Shifts, and Popular Culture in Muslim-Majority Societies**

CHAIR **Knut Vikør** *University of Bergen*

14:30 **Fines Fatimah** *Brawijaya University*

The Right to Choose a Half-Hearted Law: A Discourse on the Enforcement of Islamic Law for LGBT+ Persons in Aceh-Indonesia

15:00 **Gianluca Parolin** *Aga Khan University*

*Nittalla'*? Redefining Agency in Divorce on Egyptian Screens: Intersections of Gender and Class in Islamic Law and the Humanities

15:30 **Julia Sochacka** *University of Warsaw*

Embracing Modernity, Preserving Tradition. Chances and Challenges for International Arbitration in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

16:00 CONCLUSIONS/FAREWELL

# VENUES

**On Thursday, 22 May**

*University of Münster  
Schloss (Aula)  
Schlossplatz 2  
48149 Münster*

**On Friday and Saturday, 23 and 24 May**

*University of Münster  
Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät  
Johannisstraße 8-10  
48143 Münster*

**For more information, please contact:**

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