



In cooperation with DAI Research Cluster 4.1

*Continuity and Change: Religious Identities in the Levant from Alexander to Muhammed*  
-International Conference at the Danish Institute in Damascus, 25-27th of March 2010

**Organisers:**

**Rubina Raja, Aarhus University, Denmark**

**Achim Lichtenberger, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany**

**The Conference is funded by the Novo Nordisk Foundation and the Carlsberg Foundation**

**Thursday 25th of March**

14.00-15.00 Introduction to the conference by the organisers

Rubina Raja, Aarhus University, Denmark

Achim Lichtenberger, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany

Welcome address from the cooperating partners

Stefan Lehmann, DAI Research Cluster 4.1 (Antike Heiligtümer: Kontinuität und Brüche),  
Germany

Engelbert Winter, Exzellenzcluster "Religion und Politik", Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität  
Münster, Germany

**Chair: Ted Kaizer**

15.00-15.45 Margherita Facella, University of Pisa, Italy

*Daimones in Commagene: Continuity or Change?*

15.45-16.30 Frank Daubner, Stuttgart University, Germany

*Gymnasia in the Hellenistic and Roman Near East: between Integration and Segregation.*

16.30-17.00 Coffee break

17.00-17.45 Graeme Clarke, Australian National University, Australia

*The Jebel Khalid Temple-Continuity and Change*

17.45-18.30 Michael Blömer, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany

*Images of Priests from Northern Syria in Roman Times*

18.30-19.00 Discussion

19.00 Reception and dinner

## **Friday 26th of March**

08.00-08.30 Coffee and Tea

### **Chair: Frank Daubner**

08.30-09.15 Julien Aliquot, IFPO, Damascus, Syria

*Hauts-lieux et sanctuaires villageois de la Syrie côtière*

09.15-10.00 Inge Nielsen, Universität Hamburg, Germany

*The Assembly Halls of Religious Groups in the Ancient Near East. A Comparative Study*

10.00-10.15 Coffee break

10.15-11.00 Peter Alpass, Durham University, England

*From Nabataea to the Province of Arabia: Changing Religious Identities and the Cult of Dushara*

11.00-11.45 Cristina M. Acqua, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany

*Imperial Representation in the Coinage of Provincia Arabia*

11.45-12.00 Coffee break

12.00-12.45 Klaus S. Freyberger, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI), Rome

*Religious Continuity and Change in Southern Syria from the Hellenistic Age to the Imperial Period*

12.45-14.30 Lunch

### **Chair: Maurice Sartre**

14.30-15.15 Annie Sartre, IFPO, Damascus

*Dieux nouveaux dans le Hauran à l'époque romaine*

15.15-16.00 Jacqueline Dentzer-Feydy, CNRS Nanterre, France

*New Archaeological Research at the Sanctuary of Sî' in Southern Syria: the Graeco-Roman*

*Divinities invite themselves to Baalshamîn*

16.00-16.45 Thomas M. Weber, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany

*Religious Identities reflected by Marble Sculptures from the Syro-Phoenician Coast*

16.45-17.00 Coffee break

17.00-17.45 Michal Gawlikowski, University of Warsaw, Poland

*Bel of Palmyra*

17.00-18.30 Ted Kaizer, Durham University, England

*Continuity and change: religious identities in Dura-Europos*

18.30-19.15 Discussion

19.30 Dinner

### Saturday 27th of March

08.30-09.15 Coffee and Tea

#### **Chair: Volker Menze**

09.15-10.00 Lucinda A. Dirven, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

*Cult Images in Cities of the Syrian-Mesopotamian Desert during the first three Centuries AD*

10.00-10.15 Coffee break

10.15-11.00 Beat Brenk, University of Rome 1, La Sapienza, Italy

*From Temple to Church in Jerash*

11.00-11.45 Jakob Engberg, Aarhus University, Denmark

*Conversion, Apologetic Argumentation and Polemic (amongst friends) in 2<sup>nd</sup>- century Syria.*

*Theophilus' ad Autolyicum*

11.45-12.00 Coffee break

12.00-12.45 Dorothee Sack, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany

*St. Sergios in Resafa – Worshiped by Christians and Muslims Alike*

12.45-14.30 Lunch

#### **Chair: Lucinda Dirven**

14.30-15.15 Volker Menze, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

*The Transformation of a Sainly Paradigm: Simeon the Elder and the Legacy of Stylitism*

15.15-16.00 Nasser Rabbat, MIT, USA

*Politicizing the Religious: Or How the Umayyads Co-opted Classical Iconography*

16.00-16.15 Coffee break

16.15-17.00 Christian Högel, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

*Naming the Syrian Goddess and the Arab God. The Ethnic Identity of Deities before Julian the*

*Apostate*

17.00-18.30 Closing discussion

19.30 Dinner

### Sunday 28th of March

Excursion to Hauran for conference participants