

# The XI Islamic Legal Studies Conference

22nd – 24th of May 2025  
In Münster

## Conference Program

Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> of May	
14:00	<b>Welcoming Address</b>  <b>Michael Quante</b> (Vice-Rector for Internationalization, Knowledge Transfer, and Sustainability, Univ. of Münster) <b>Christian Müller</b> (ISILS President) <b>Syrinx von Hees</b> (Managing Director of the Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Univ. of Münster) <b>Serena Tolino</b> (ISILS Secretary) <b>Norbert Oberauer</b> (Local Host)
<b>Roundtable Discussion: Researching and Teaching Sharia in 2025</b>	
14:30 – 16:00	<b>Moderation and Chair:</b> <b>Asifa Quraishi</b> , <i>University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>  <b>Panelists:</b> <b>Seyed Mohammad Ghari Fatemi</b> , <i>AMI, University of Birmingham, University of Mofid</i> <b>Christian Müller</b> , <i>CNRS – IRHT, Paris</i> <b>Nadia Sonneveld</b> , <i>Leiden Law School</i> <b>Nadjma Yassari</b> , <i>University of Hamburg</i>
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>Opening Panel: Belonging to a Madhhab: Formation, Cohesion and Diversity in Islamic Schools of Law (Part 1)</b>	
<b>Chair: Norbert Oberauer, University of Münster</b>	
16:30 – 17:00	<b>Mohamed Ali, Georgetown University</b> <i>The Mashhūr: Between Legal Stability and Indeterminacy in the Mālikī Madhhab</i>
17:00 – 17:30	<b>Alexander Thurston, University of Cincinnati</b> <i>Defending, Exploring, and Relativizing the Mālikī Madhhab: Sa‘īd al-Kamalī’s Lectures on the Muwaṭṭa’</i>
17:30 – 17:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>

Opening Panel: Belonging to a <i>Madhhab</i> : Formation, Cohesion and Diversity in Islamic Schools of Law (Part 2)	
Chair: Lena-Maria Möller, Qatar University	
17:45 – 18:15	<b>Muhammed Şahin, University of Tübingen/ ISAM</b> The Influence of the Concept of <i>Madhhab</i> on Iraqi Ḥanafī Scholars' Opinions and Works
18:15 – 18:45	<b>Zahra Jafari, University of Exeter</b> The Akhbārī Movement: A New <i>Madhhab</i> , An Anti- <i>Madhhab</i> , or An Intellectual Trend?
18:45 – 19:15	<b>Dominik Krell, University of Oxford/ Wolfson College</b> The <i>Madhhab</i> at the Margins: Crossing School Boundaries in the Cadi Courts of The Gambia
19:15 – 20:45	<i>Reception with Buffet</i>

Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> of May	
Panel 1: The Making of Authority in Islamic Jurisprudence: Continuity, Change, and Adaption	
Chair: Serena Tolino, University of Bern	
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Shahanaz Begum, University of Exeter</b> Muḥammad b. al-Ḥasan al-Shaybānī: The Impact of a Founding Father on Legal Theory
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Farid Bouchiba, CNRS – IRHT, Paris</b> The Place of Legal Divergences in the Formation of the Mālikī School: Diversity and Coherence
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Christian Müller, CNRS – IRHT, Paris</b> Rule Authority and Shifting Interpretations: The Jurists' Law as a Legal Discursive System (2nd-13th/8th-19th centuries)
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Abdur-Rahman Muhammad, University of Southern California</b> The Exceptional Mālikī: Ibn Khuwayz <i>Mindād</i> as a Case for Rethinking <i>Ijtihād</i> in 4th/10th Century Iraq
11:00 – 12:00	<i>Poster Presentation/ Coffee Break</i> <b>Posters:</b>  ❖ <b>(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.</b> <i>Irene Schneider (PI), Lena-Maria Möller, Ari Schriber</i>  ❖ <b>TraSIS: Trajectories of Slavery in Islamicate Societies. Three Concepts from Islamic Legal Sources, SNSF Project 2022–2026.</b> <i>Serena Tolino (PI), Omar Anchassi, Laura Emunds, Laura Rowitz</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>TraIL: Tracing Labour in Islamic Legal Traditions, SNSF Starting Grant 2024–2029.</b> <i>Serena Tolino (PI), Leonie Isch, Laila Makboul, Ilyes Mechentel</i></li> <li>❖ <b>Mapping Change in Islamic Law: Rules and Practices (MCILRaP), ERC Advanced Grant 2024–2029.</b> <i>Christian Müller (PI), Farid Bouchiba, Shadha Karoumi, Wassim Ammar</i></li> </ul>
<b>Panel 2: Historical and Regional Dynamics in Islamic Jurisprudence</b>	
<b>Chair: Delfina Serrano, CSIC Madrid</b>	
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Anggi Azzuhri, Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia</b> The Meccan Shāfi‘ite Sub-school and Rise of Arab-centric Narrative: a Historical-Anthropological Analysis of Meccan-Cairene Division from <i>Tuḥfah al-Muḥtāj</i> and <i>Nihāya al-Muḥtāj</i> on <i>Khuṭba</i>
12:30 – 13:00	<b>Janina Safran, Penn State University</b> Al-Burzulī and the Revival of the Mālikī <i>Madhhab</i>
13:00 – 13:30	<b>Asma Afsaruddin, Indiana University</b> Muslim Juridical Views on the Principle of Non-Combatant Immunity
13:30 – 15:00	<i>Lunch (Buffet)</i>
<b>Panel 3: Worldly Affairs, Economic Realities, and Afterworld Concerns: Legal and Moral Dimensions in Islamic Jurisprudence</b>	
<b>Chair: Hakkı Arslan, Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture – Simon Dubnow</b>	
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Laura Emunds, University of Bern</b> Legal Subjecthood Beyond the Freedom/Enslavement Binary: The Case of the <i>Mukātab/a</i>
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Marion Katz, New York University</b> Otherworldly Assets: Juristic Debates on Transactions Involving <i>Thawāb</i>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Serena Tolino, University of Bern</b> Exploring Concepts on Work and Labour in Islamic Legal Sources
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17:00 – 18:30	ISILS Business Meeting
20:00	<i>Conference Dinner for Speakers</i>

<b>Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> of May</b>	
<b>Panel 4: Intellectual, Institutional and Legal Transformations in 19th-Century</b>	
<b>Chair: Asifa Quraishi, University of Wisconsin-Madison</b>	
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Robert Gleave, University of Exeter</b>

	Exclusion and Inclusion in the Zaydi and Twelver Shī'ī <i>Madhhabs</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Hatice Öztürk, Georgetown University</b> Building Regional Scholarly Authority within Late Ottoman Ḥanafī Law: Ibn 'Ābidīn's Strategic Use of 'Urf in <i>Radd al-Muḥtār</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Samy Ayoub, University of Texas at Austin</b> Islamic Law and Mixed Courts in 19th Century Egypt
11:30 – 12:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>Panel 5: From Colonial Rule to Postcolonial Dynamics: Legal Practices and Institutional Realities</b>	
<b>Chair: Christian Müller, CNRS - IRHT, Pais</b>	
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Uvaise Karattiyattil, Manhajurrashad Islamic College/ Hamad bin Khalifa University</b> Is the Qadi Necessary Institution in the Modern Context? A Study of Non-State Shāfi'ī Qadis in Calicut, Kerala, India (1947 – Present)
12:30 – 13:00	<b>Irene Schneider, University of Göttingen / Max-Weber-Kolleg - University of Erfurt</b> Criminal Trials in Mandate Palestine
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch (Buffet)</i>
<b>Panel 6: Contemporary Legal Challenges, Cultural Shifts, and Popular Culture in Muslim-Majority Societies</b>	
<b>Chair: Knut Vikør, University of Bergen</b>	
14:30 – 15:00	<b>Fines Fatimah, Brawijaya University</b> The Right to Choose a Half-Hearted Law: A Discourse on the Enforcement of Islamic Law for LGBT+ Persons in Aceh-Indonesia
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Gianluca Parolin, Aga Khan University</b> <i>Nittalla'</i> ? Redefining Agency in Divorce on Egyptian Screens: Intersections of Gender and Class in Islamic Law and the Humanities
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Julia Sochacka, University of Warsaw</b> Embracing Modernity, Preserving Tradition. Chances and Challenges for International Arbitration in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Conclusions, Farewell</i>

*Venues:*

**On Thursday, 22nd May:**

University of Münster  
Schloss (Aula)  
Schlossplatz 2  
48149 Münster

**On Friday and Saturday, 23rd and 24th May:**

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

*For more information, please contact:*

University of Münster  
Institut für Arabistik und Islamwissenschaft  
Schlaunstraße 2  
48143 Münster  
Tel.: +49 251 83-24571  
Fax: +49 251 83-29932  
arabist@uni-muenster.de