

## **Sicily, al-Andalus and the Maghreb: Writing in Times of Turmoil**

A conference organised by Nicola Carpentieri  
and the Dept. of Medieval and Ancient studies

**Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Sala de Graus, Facultad de  
Psicología y Letras, May 4-5, 2017**

### **PROGRAM**

**Thursday, 4 May, 2017**

**9.00 Welcome and introductory remarks:** Nicola Carpentieri (UAB)

**Keynote Talk: *History is a Lie: Reading Muslim Sicily as Contested Space***

William Granara (Harvard University)

Time: 9.15-9.45

**Session 1: Contested Spaces/Negotiating Authority**

Time: 9.45-11.30

Chair: William Granara (Harvard University)

Paper 1-a: **Prophetic Resistance to Islam in Ninth-Century Córdoba: Paulus Alvarus and the Indiculus Luminosus**

Drew Sorber (University of Virginia)

Paper 1-b: **Carthage Must be Destroyed - Carthage Must be Remembered: Competing Visions of The Classical Past in the Central Mediterranean**

Allen Fromherz (Georgia State University)

Paper 1-d: **"alā fuwīr Tuṭīla": religious minorities in the fueros of Tudela and the shaping of community boundaries, c.1119-1220 AD**

Rodrigo Garcia-Velasco (Cambridge University)

Paper 1-d: **Comparing Mindsets: Analyzing late-15th century Christian and Muslim Sources regarding Portuguese Presence in the Maghreb**

Gonçalo Matos-Ramos (University of Lisbon)

**Coffee Break: 11.30-11.45**

**Session 2: Writing Turmoil in the Arabic and Jewish Tradition**

Time: 11.45-13.30

Chair: Alexander Fidora (UAB)

Paper 2-a: **The Turn to Ethical Writing in Times of Turmoil**

Sarah J. Pearce (NYU)

Paper 2-b: **"..and God dispersed their unity": historiographical patterns about the end of the Muslim rule in Sicily and al-Andalus**

Roberta Denaro (Università di Napoli "L'Orientale")

Paper 2-c: **"For your sake we are slain all day long" (Psa. 44:22): Maimonides and Joseph Ibn 'Aqin's Responses to the Almohad Anti-Jewish Persecutions**

Liran Yadgar (Yale University)

Paper 2-d: **The Prosecution of the Dhimmis in the Era of the Almohad Caliph 'Abd al-Mu'min**

Jonas Elbousty (Yale University)

**Lunch: 13.30-15.00**

**Session 3: Intellectual Networks/Syncretic Scholars**

Time: 15.00-17.15

Chair: Alex Metcalfe (Lancaster University)

Paper 3-a: **Intellectual networks and legitimacy in a time of turmoil: the case of the taifa of Denia**

Travis Bruce (McGill University)

Paper 3-b: **An intellectual struggle over the Strait: Ibn al-Khatib and his contemporaries**

Laila M. Jreis Navarro (University of Granada)

- Paper 3-c: **The Rational Stabilization of Political Instability in Ibn Khaldun's New "Deep Sense of History"**  
Annalisa Verza (Universita' di Bologna)
- Paper 3-d: **Arguing for scholarly tradition and defending scholarly authority: al-Qāḍī 'Iyāḍ's al-Gunya**  
Nora S. Eggen (University of Oslo)
- Paper 3-e: **From Al-Andalus and al-Magreb to the Orient: the crime of insulting Muhammad: Maliki influences on Ibn Taymiyya**  
Rocio Daga (Ludwig-Maximilian Universität-Munich)

### **Friday, 5 May, 2017**

Keynote Talk: **Data-collection in Islamic and Norman Sicily: writing, archiving and deleting**  
Alex Metcalfe (Lancaster University)

Time: 9.00-9.30

#### **Session 4: Sicily and the Mediterranean: Political and Military Networks**

Time: 9.30-11.00

Chair: Alex Metcalfe (Lancaster University)

Paper 4-a: **Ṭurṭūša, Ṭarābaniš and Tūnis. The source approach to the the Andalusian fleet of Fargalūš and its foray in Byzantine Sicily**  
Xavier Ballestín (Universitat de Barcelona)

Paper 4-b: **Warlord or Peacemaker? The reign of Frederick II between the poles of historical sources and archaeological evidence on Monte Iato**  
Nicole Molk (University of Innsbruck)

Paper 4-c: **The Mediterranean against Sicily: the schism between Honorius II and Anacletus II and the recognition of Roger II as a king**  
Inês Lourinho (University of Lisbon)

**Coffee Break: 11.00-11.15**

**Session 5 Mediterranean Encounters: Between Dialogue and Polemic**

Time: 11.15-13.30

Chair: Francesca Maria Corrao (LUISS University, Rome)

Paper 5-a: **‘Abd al-Raḥmān III in the Life of John of Gorze**  
Natalie Levin (Indiana University)

Paper 5-b: **Christian-Norman churches of Sicily and monuments of ancient Egypt in Ibn Jubayr's travelogue: fascination and disquiet in contemplating admirable contemporary Christian buildings, Islamic integration of a prestigious pagan past and its mirabilia**  
Giovanna Calasso (Sapienza University of Rome)

Paper 5-c : **Duels, Dialogue, and Power in al-Andalus: The Courtly Ritual Ijāzah**  
Samuel England (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Paper 5-d: **The role and significance of holding, recording and dispersing the munazarāt – disputations in the early Fatimid Ifriqiya**  
Aslisho Qurboniev (Cambridge University)

Paper 5-e: **Ibn Khaldun's Eulogy of Ibn al-Khatib: Friendship in Tragic Times**  
Lillian Farhat (Independent Scholar)

**Lunch: 13.30-15.00**

**Keynote Talk: Arab metaphors and the Sicilian poetic school**

Francesca Maria Corrao (LUISS University - Rome)

Time: 15.00-15.30

**Session 6: Translation, Adaptation, Adoption**

Time: 15.30-17.15

Chair: Nicola Carpentieri (UAB)

Paper 6-a: **Translation and Politics in Sicily between Staufen and Angevin Rules: Jews, Monarchs and Texts from the Islamic World**

Lucia Finotto (Independent scholar)

Paper 6-b: **The transmission of Arabic knowledge to England through al-Andalus in the 12th century: the cases of Adelard of Bath, Robert of Chester and Daniel of Morley**

Alexis Rivera Luque (El Colegio de México)

Paper 6-c: **From *Bayt* to *Stanza*: New Approaches to the Scuola Siciliana**

Ally Ladha (University of Connecticut)

Paper 6-d: **Fictions and Forgeries, Emperors and Others: How Does a Moorish Prince Become a Roman Caesar?**

Keith Budner (UC Berkeley)

**Wrap-up: 17.15-17.45**

**20.00 Dinner (Optional-RVSP)**