Zentrum Moderner Orient



ZMO-EUME-Colloquium

Twice a month, Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm

Venue: Conference Hall Zentrum Moderner Orient Kirchweg 33 14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

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Urban Studies Seminar 2013 - 2014

Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi

Annual Theme: The City and its Margins

Monday, April 28th, 2014, 5 pm - 7 pm

Violence on the Margins: Locating punishment in late-medieval fiqh

Lecture by Robert Gleave

Medieval legal literature (primarily fiqh) conceives of a "city" and its boundaries in a number of intersecting ways. These include the situating of a Friday prayer mosque, the distance after which the shortened prayer becomes necessitated beyond the boundaries of the city (hadd al-tarakhkhus) and the location of some acts of punishment (primarily hudūd). In this paper I will examine some of these debates and discussions, to understand the imagined geography of the city in the fiqh literature, and how it intersects with the jurists' vision of urban life.

Robert Gleave is Professor for Arabic Studies at the University of Exeter, UK. His main area of research interest is the history of Shī'ī fiqh, particularly legal theory and jurisprudence (uṣūl al-fiqh). He is author of *Inevitable Doubt: Two Theories of Shī'ī Jurisprudence* (Brill, 2000), *Scripturalist Islam: The History and Doctrines of the Shī'ī Akhbārī School* (Brill 2007) and *Islam and Literalism: Literal meaning and interpretation in Islamic Legal Theory* (EUP, 2012). He is currently Director of the Islamic Reformulations project, examining changing patterns of Islamic thought in the classical and modern period (www.islamicreformulations.net).

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