

Participants

LEILA ALMAZOVA, International Relations Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University

Leila Almazova, PhD, is Associate Professor at the Department of Oriental and Islamic Studies, Institute of International Relations, Kazan Federal University. She has 55 scholarly publications, including one monograph (*The Problem of a Man in Tatar Theology (end 19 – beginning of 20 centuries)* 2003), translations from old-Tatar language (Z.Kamali “*The Philosophy of Islam*”, Kazan, 2010), she is also the co-author of several textbooks for students (*The History of Tatar Muslim Philosophy*, 2017, *Islamic Ethics in Tatar Intellectual Tradition*, 2018). Her scholarly interests include: religious discourse among Tatars in historical perspective, Islamic education in Tatarstan.

MICHEAL ARNOLD, American University of Beirut

Michael Arnold is currently a Research Fellow with the TRT World Research Centre in Istanbul and a PhD student in the Arab and Middle East History program at the American University of Beirut. His research interests include the history and development of Islamic thought, with a particular focus on the late Ottoman Period in the Arab World, and the history of the modern Middle East. He holds a BA in Military and Diplomatic History from the University of Calgary and earned an MA in Islamic Studies with a dissertation entitled “*Overlapping Sacred Spaces: Islam, Pluralism and the Hegemony of ‘Human Rights’*”. In addition to his research, he has had the opportunity to study the traditional Islamic Sciences in Toronto and Istanbul.

VAHID BEHMARDI, Lebanese American University

Vahid F. Behmardi is Associate Professor of classical Arabic and Persian Literature as well as Comparative Literature at the Lebanese American University. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the American University in Beirut, and his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. He previously taught Arabic and Persian literature at Charles University in Prague and the American University in Beirut. His research focuses on Abbasid literature and Sufism.

ISSAM EIDO, Vanderbilt University

Issam Eido is senior lecturer at Vanderbilt University. Before Vanderbilt, he was a former visiting professor of Islamic Studies and Arabic at the University of Chicago Divinity School (2013-2015). Eido's research focuses on the Qur'an in late antiquity, Hadīth Studies, Sufism, and Arabic language. Prior to the Syrian uprising, Eido served as a lecturer in the faculty of Islamic Studies in the Department of Qur'an and Hadīth Studies at the University of Damascus. His doctoral work is “*Early Hadīth Scholars and their Criteria of Hadīth Criticism.*” Currently, his research focuses on the question of Authenticity and the shaping of authoritative Islamic texts among Muslim scholars in the Islamic formative period.”

JAMAL ELIAS, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Jamal J. Elias is the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of the Humanities, Professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies and Professor of Religious Studies and South Asia Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he also directs the Penn Forum in Global Islamic Studies. A recipient of many grants and awards, he is the author of numerous publications on a broad range of topics relevant to the medieval and modern Islamic world, and his writings have been translated into at least nine languages. His most recent books are *Alef is for Allah: Childhood, Emotion and Visual Culture in Islamic Societies* (Berkeley, 2018) and *Aisha's Cushion: Religious Art, Perception and Practice in Islam* (Cambridge, MA, 2012).

JEREMY FARELL, Emory University

Jeremy Farrell is a doctoral candidate at Emory University in the Department of Islamic Civilizations Studies. His dissertation uses computational methods to analyze the emergence, institutionalization, and adaptation of Iraqi Sufism in the third/ninth and fourth/tenth centuries. As part of these efforts, he is currently preparing for publication an open-source database of early *isnād*-based Sufi works from the third/ninth through fifth/eleventh centuries. He has additionally published on a variety of facets of Abbasid-era religiosity, including *ḥadīth* transmission and transgressive collectives, as well as Arabic literature.

PAUL HECK, Georgetown University

Paul L. Heck, Professor in the Department of Theology at Georgetown University, received his PhD at University of Chicago in Islamic Studies and did a post-doctorate in the Society of Fellows at Princeton University. His research interests include the study of Christianity and Islam through a single theological lens; and the history of theological reasoning in Islam. His book publications include *Skepticism in Classical Islam: Moments of Confusion* (Routledge 2014), and he is founding director of The Study of Religions Across Civilizations (SORAC), a project at Georgetown that brings together graduate students based in the US, Europe, and Arab contexts for programs geared towards a cross-cultural study of religion.

MARCIA HERMANSEN, University of Chicago

Dr. Marcia Hermansen is Director of the Islamic World Studies program and Professor in the Theology Department at Loyola University Chicago where she teaches courses in Islamic Studies and the academic study of religion. She received her Ph. D. in Arabic and Islamic Studies from the University of Chicago and her numerous authored and co-edited books include *Religion and Violence: Theological Reflections* (2017), *Islam, Religions, and Pluralism in Europe* (2016), *Muslima Theology: The Voices of Muslim Women Theologians* (2013), *Shah Wali Allah's Treatises on Islamic Law* (2011) and *The Conclusive Argument from God* (Shah Wali Allah's *Hujjat Allah al-Baligha*). She writes on Islamic thought, Sufism, Islam and Muslims in South Asia, Muslims in America, and Women and Gender in Islam.

MATTHEW INGALLS, American University in Dubai

Matthew Ingalls is Associate Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at the American University in Dubai. His research examines developments in Sufism and Islamic law from the later Islamic Middle Period with a particular focus on pre-modern Muslim commentary texts and their role in intellectual change. From 2010 to 2016, Matthew was Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, while he received his doctorate in 2011 from Yale University's Department of Religious Studies. In 2014, Matthew was a fellow at the Annemarie Schimmel Kolleg for Mamluk Studies in Bonn, Germany. He is currently co-authoring a book on the history of Islam in Egypt, which has been contracted for Princeton University Press.

ATIF KHALIL, University of Lethbridge

Atif Khalil is Associate Professor University of Lethbridge. He teaches mainly in the field classical Islamic thought. His primary area of research lies in Sufism, with secondary interests in Islamic philosophy and theology, comparative mysticism, interfaith relations, Jewish-Muslim relations, medieval philosophy, non-duality, and more recently, mysticism and the Near Death Experience. At present he is writing two short monographs, one on the founder of the Tijaniyya Order, entitled Ahmad al-Tijani: Jewel of Perfection (Islamic Texts Society, under contract), and the other on dhikr, tentatively entitled The Wine of Divine Remembrance: Meditation in Classical Sufism.

RICHARD MCGREGOR, Vanderbilt University

Richard McGregor (Ph.D. McGill, 2001) is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Islamic Studies at Vanderbilt University. His primary field of research is medieval Egypt and Syria, with a focus on intellectual history, visual culture, and Sufism. He is the author of *Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt* (SUNY, 2004), a study of the evolution of religious authority among mystics of medieval Cairo. He is co-editor of two collected volumes on Egyptian Sufism, in addition to a tenth-century Iraqi philosophical fable, *The Case of Animals versus Man before the King of the Jinn* (OUP, 2014). His current book project, *Islam and the Devotional Object* (CUP) is a study of religious practice centered on objects, aesthetics, and material culture.

KAZUYO MURATA, King's College London

Kazuyo Murata is Lecturer in Islamic Studies at King's College London. She is the author of *Beauty in Sufism: The Teachings of Rūzbihān Baqlī* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2017), which investigates the significance of beauty in the theology, cosmology, anthropology, and prophetology of Rūzbihān Baqlī (d. 1209), a major Sufi thinker from Shiraz, Persia. She is also the co-editor of *In Search of the Lost Heart: Explorations in Islamic Thought* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2012).

OLUDAMINI OGUNNAIKE, College of William and Mary

Oludamini Ogunnaike is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at the College of William and Mary. He teaches courses on Islam, Islamic Philosophy, Spirituality, and Art, as well as African

and African Diasporic Religions. He holds a PhD in African Studies and the Study of Religion from Harvard University, and spent a year as a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University's Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies. Professor Ogunnaike's research examines the philosophical dimensions of postcolonial, colonial, and pre-colonial Islamic and indigenous religious traditions of West and North Africa, especially Sufism and 'Iffa. He is currently working on a book entitled, *Sufism and 'Iffa: Ways of Knowing in Two West African Intellectual Traditions* and maintains a digital archive of West African Sufi poetry.

ALEXANDR PAPAS, French National Center for Scientific research

Alexandre Papas is a Senior Research Fellow (Directeur de recherche) at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in Paris. He is a historian of Islamic mysticism since the 15th century to present. His main publications include: *Soufisme et politique entre Chine, Tibet et Turkestan* (Paris: J. Maisonneuve, 2005); *Mystiques et vagabonds en islam. Portraits de trois soufis qalandar* (Paris: Cerf, 2010); *Thus Spake the Dervish. Sufism, Language, and the Religious Margins in Central Asia, 1400-1900* (Leiden: Brill, 2019).

RICCARDO PAREDI, American University of Beirut

Riccardo Paredi is a PhD candidate in the Department of Arabic and Near Eastern languages. He completed his B.A. at Università Statale di Milano (Linguistic and Cultural Mediation) with a thesis on Ibn 'Arabī's *Tarjumān al-Ashwāq* and Dante's *Vita Nova* (2013). He obtained his M.A. at Université Saint-Joseph (Faculty of Religious Sciences, Institute of Muslim-Christian Studies) with a thesis on the mystical symbolism of Mountains in Muslim and Christian traditions (2016). His interests focus on Sufism, Quranic Studies and Islamic Philosophy.

MOHAMMAD RUSTOM, Carleton University

Mohammed Rustom is Associate Professor of Islamic Studies at Carleton University and Library of Arabic Literature Senior Fellow at NYU Abu Dhabi. He is the author of the award-winning book *The Triumph of Mercy: Philosophy and Scripture in Mulla Sadra* (2012), co-editor of *The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary* (2015), and translator of Abu Hamid al-Ghazali, *The Condemnation of Pride and Self-Admiration* (2018). At present, Professor Rustom is completing a book on 'Ayn al-Qudat entitled *Inrushes of the Spirit: The Mystical Theology of 'Ayn al-Qudat*.

AHMED EL-SHAMSY, University of Chicago

Ahmed El Shamsy studies the intellectual history of Islam, focusing on the evolution of the classical Islamic disciplines and scholarly culture within their broader historical context. His research addresses themes such as orality and literacy, the history of the book, and the theory and practice of Islamic law. His first book, *The Canonization of Islamic Law: A Social and Intellectual History*, traces the transformation of Islamic law from a primarily oral tradition to a systematic written discipline in the eighth and ninth centuries. His upcoming book is a study of the reinvention

of the Islamic scholarly tradition and its textual canon via the printing press in the early twentieth century.

SOPHIA VASALOU, Birmingham University

Sophia Vasalou is a senior lecturer and Birmingham Fellow in Philosophical Theology at the University of Birmingham. Her published work includes *Moral Agents and their Deserts: the Character of Mu'tazilite Ethics* (Princeton, 2008), *Schopenhauer and the Aesthetic Standpoint: Philosophy as a Practice of the Sublime* (Cambridge, 2013) and *Ibn Taymiyya's Theological Ethics* (Oxford, 2016). She's currently at work on a project on al-Ghazālī's ethics.

RIZWAN ZAMIR, Davidson College, N.C

Syed Rizwan Zamir is Associate Professor of religious studies at Davidson College in North Carolina, US. Currently he is writing a textbook on Islamic ethics, but has also been “brewing” the following projects: A thorough revision of his PhD dissertation on a seminal and prolific religious figure from Shiite South Asia (Sayyed ‘Ali Naqi al-Naqvi, d. 1988); a volume on the convergences and divergences among Sunni and Shiite traditions; and two edited volumes, i.e., 1) reflections on the battle of Karbala and life and martyrdom of Imam Husayn; and 2) Sufism’s role in mediating Sunni and Shiite Divide. He was co-chair of the Islam Section of the Southeast Region of the American Academy of Religion (SECSOR), served on the board of the Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar (SERMEISS) and is currently Vice President-Elect of SECSOR, on the Board of the Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics (SSME), and on the international advisory board of journals *Islamic Studies* and *Bayan al-Hikma*.

عبد الوهّاب بلغراس، مركز البحث في الأنثروبولوجيا الاجتماعية والثقافية

أستاذ بحث قسم (أ) في المركز الوطني للبحث في الأنثروبولوجيا الاجتماعية والثقافية CRASC – وهران، ومدير قسم البحث: المخيال والمسارات الاجتماعية، ورئيس مشروع بحث: الطرق الصوفية في الجزائر وعلاقتها بالسياسي من خلال الطريقة العلوية. شارك في العديد من المنتديات وله عدد كبير من المقالات والكتب في مجالات الفلسفة والتصوّف الإسلامي وحوار الأديان.

لينا الجمّال، الجامعة الأميركية في بيروت

لينا صلاح الدين الجمّال، طالبة دكتوراه في الدراسات العربية ودراسات الشرق الأدنى في الجامعة الأميركية في بيروت. من اهتماماتي الأكاديمية ربط النتائج الفكري بالحضارة المادية الملموسة، ودراسة الأدب العباسي بهذا المنظور الجديد سعياً لفهم تأثيره بالواقع/المكان وتأثيره فيه. أهتم كذلك بدراسة الأحلام في سياقات مختلفة تاريخية وأدبية ودينية، وأعيد قراءتها كونها مادة أدبية ونتائج حضارية يستحق المعالجة البحثية، لا ضرباً من الخرافة والأساطير. ولي اهتمام خاص بمخطوطات كتب التعبير، وأعمل على التتقيب فيها بحثاً عما يمكنني من فهم البيئة التي أنتجتها، أو ما يربطها بسائر المجالات المعرفية. وفي محاولة مني لإعادة الاعتبار لهذا النوع المهم من التأليف، أسعى حالياً إلى تحقيق أحد أقدم المخطوطات في تعبير الرؤيا، وهو كتاب *البشارة والندارة* للخركوشي (1016/407) الذي نشر مراراً باسم ابن سيرين (729/110).

سعاد الحكيم، الجامعة اللبنانية

دكتورة في الفلسفة الإسلامية، جامعة القديس يوسف، عام 1977. أستاذة مشرفة في قسم الدكتوراه في الجامعة اللبنانية (حالياً). أستاذة في الفكر الإسلامي والعلوم الصوفية في الجامعة اليسوعية وفي المعهد العالي للدراسات الإسلامية – المقاصد (حالياً). مديرة مؤسسة دندرة للدراسات (م.د.د.) (حالياً). شغلت منصب عميدة المعهد العالي للدكتوراه في الآداب والعلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية والتربوية والفنون في الجامعة اللبنانية (مدة 3 سنوات: 2007 – 2010). شاركت بالعديد من المؤتمرات وورشات العمل في أنحاء العالم، ونشرت العديد من الأبحاث والمقالات في دوريات أكاديمية ومجلات علمية وصحف محلية. وأشرفت على العشرات من رسائل الماجستير وأطروحات الدكتوراه.

محمد حلمي

أكاديمي وباحث مصري، تخرّج في جامعة الأزهر 1997، ثم واصل دراساته العليا في كلية الآداب جامعة عين شمس، وحصل على الدكتوراه بتقدير "مرتبة الشرف الأولى" 2007. شارك في العديد من المؤتمرات الدولية، وعمل مؤخرًا في المعهد الألماني للأبحاث الشرقية (بيروت – القاهرة). من مؤلفاته: التصوّف في سياق النهضة من محمد عبده إلى سعيد النورسي (بيروت: مركز دراسات الوحدة العربية، 2018)، والدين والسلطة والمجتمع: مقاربات نقدية (القاهرة: نيويورك للطباعة والنشر، 2018)، والتجديد الفلسفي في زمن النهضة: الفاعلون والسياق (القاهرة: نيويورك للطباعة والنشر، 2017)، وولاء وأولياء: السلطة والمتصوفة في إسلام العصر الوسيط (بيروت: الشبكة العربية للأبحاث والنشر، 2009)، والإعانة على دفع الإغانة لفخر الدين الفارسي: دراسة وتحقيق، (القاهرة: معهد المخطوطات العربية، 2019).

معتز الخطيب، جامعة حمد بن خليفة

أستاذ منهجية الأخلاق في كلية الدراسات الإسلامية بجامعة حمد بن خليفة، والمشرّف على وحدة أبحاث "الإسلام والمنهجية والأخلاق" في "مركز دراسات التشريع الإسلامي والأخلاق". كان باحثًا زائرًا في مركز الدراسات الشرقية (2006) ثم في مركز الدراسات العابرة للأقاليم في برلين (2012-2013). عمل أستاذًا زائرًا في جامعة قطر (2010-2011) وفي الجامعة الإسلامية في بيروت (2010). ألقى عددًا من المحاضرات في جامعة كاليفورنيا (Boalt Hall School of Law)، وجامعة برنستون (معهد الدراسات العابرة للأقاليم في الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا)، وجامعة (Ludwig-Maximilians)، ميونخ (معهد الشرق الأدنى والشرق الأوسط)، وجامعة أوسنابروك، ألمانيا (كلية اللاهوت)، وجامعة فلوريدا في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية. ألف، وحقّق، وحرّر عددًا من الكتب المنشورة، كما نشر العديد من الدراسات المحكمة في مجالات: الأخلاق الإسلامية، ونقد الحديث، والفقه الإسلامي المعاصر، والفكر الإسلامي الحديث والمعاصر.

خالد عبده، مؤسسة مؤمنون بلا حدود

باحث في الإسلاميات والتصوّف، ومدير مركز "طواسين"، صدر له العديد من الكتب، نذكر منها: شمس تبريزي: إبريق من الخمرة الإلهية، ومعنى أن تكون صوفيًا، والرومي بين الشرق والغرب، وسفراء التصوّف في العالم الإسلامي، والمستشرقون والتصوّف، ونصوص في التحريف والدفاع عن الإنجيل. كما صدر له بالاشتراك مع سببستيان غونتر كتاب بعنوان "أميّة النبي"، إضافة إلى إعداده وتحقيقه عدّة كتب في أدب الجدل والدفاع بين الإسلام والمسيحية. كما حقّق من التراث الكلامي والصوفي رسالة الإيمان للإمام الأشعري، ومهمّات الواصلين من الصوفية البالغين للدليمة، ورسائل داود القارصي. في مجال التصوّف، نشر العديد من المقالات والبحوث بالدوريات العربية كمجلة الأبحاث بالجامعة الأميركية في بيروت ومجلة المشكاة بتونس ومجلة المشرق بالجامعة اليسوعية. حرّر وأشرف على إصدارات التصوّف في مركز المسبار بالإمارات، وصدر منها: المولوية- البكتاشية- النقشبندية- التصوّف الأكبري.

شفيفة وعيل، معهد الأبحاث الألماني

شفيفة وعيل باحثة جزائرية حاصلة على دكتوراه في اللغة العربية وآدابها من الجامعة الأميركية في بيروت. تنصب اهتماماتها في البحث التراثي الأدبي والديني وخاصة الدراسات القرآنية والصوفية والفكرية، كما تهتمّ بالبحث في الشعر العربي المعاصر. في أطروحتها المعنونة "اللغة، التجربة، النصّ: قراءة أنطو- دلالية للنقري"، ساءلت أدوات قراءة التراث بشكل عام والتجربة الصوفية بشكل خاص من خلال بناء جهاز قرآني مناسب للنقري (ق 10/4). وقامت مقاربها على الأبعاد الأنطولوجية المحتملة

التي تبثها الدلالات في السياق الثقافي للتجربة. آخر منشوراتها مقال بعنوان "الشعر دَرَوْشَة: قراءة في ديوان وادي النمل للشارع جمال الصليعي في ضوء تقاطع رؤيتي السلوك الصوفي والترحال الدولوزي" في مجلة المشرق (2014)، وآخر عنوانه "إشكاليات الرؤية النحتية عند ابن فارس" في مجلة اللسانيات العربية (2015). وهي تحضّر حاليًا أطروحة دكتوراه ثانية في الدراسات القرآنية.