

The conference endeavours to study the ways in which texts remained relevant throughout the pre-modern and modern periods in the Islamic world, focusing on the phenomenon of *dhayl* (pl. *dhuyūl*) in Arabic, or *zayl/zeyl* in Persian and Turkish. As a prominent feature of Islamic manuscript transmission, the term *dhayl* refers to the act of continuing the narrative of a given text, usually a historical chronicle, up to the time of the amendment. Whereas generally considered

Aim of the conference

Exploring the dynamic process and the status of the text as a living object

by authors and readers as independent works, supplements usually adhered to the approach and style of the main work they were appended to. Nevertheless, the processes of adaptation according to certain cultural contexts, political necessities and professional choices in the pre-modern Islamic world took many different forms. This leads us to further explore the pre-modern understanding of authorship as a collective and dynamic process and the status of the text as a living object.

As becomes clear from copies of works pertaining to various genres and manuscript collections, there is a vast corpus of sometimes renowned, other times little-studied *dhayls* representing different periods and languages of the Islamic world. In this framework, the conference aims to bring together scholars from various fields, working on Arabic, Persian, or Turkish texts. In particular, contributions are expected to focus on questions such as: Why were *dhayls* produced? Which agents were involved in the production, transmission, and reception of these amendments? What meaning does the phenomenon of *dhayl* have for the understanding of the transmission of knowledge during the manuscript age? And, more generally, what can *dhayls* tell us about authorship as a dynamic and collective process, and the status of texts as living objects in pre-modern times?

The variety of languages, methods, and disciplines that will converge on the subject of *dhayls* and textual transmission promises to enhance research on Islamic book and manuscript culture. Furthermore, the conference structure, featuring a keynote lecture and seven panels comprising a total of sixteen speakers, will provide ample opportunities for participants to cultivate concepts and engage in meaningful scholarly exchanges.

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Organisers

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Sponsors



Texts as Living Objects

Reconsidering *Dhayls* as a Means for the Study of Authorship and Knowledge Transmission in the Manuscript Age

Programme



14–16 November 2023
IEA Paris

Tuesday, November 14

17:00–17:30

Welcome & Introduction

Maria Szuppe (CNRS/CeRMI)

Sacha Alsancakli (Paris) & **Philip Bockholt** (Münster)

17:30

Keynote

Christoph U. Werner (Bamberg): Adding Supplements to Tradition: Reflections on Persian Historiography

18:30

Reception

Wednesday, November 15

10:00–11:30

Panel I: History I (discussant: Marc Toutant)

Stefan Kamola (Vienna): A Tale of Two *Zayls*: Ḥāfiẓ-i Abrū's Continuations of Rashīd al-Dīn

Shiva Mihan (St. Louis, MO): Timurid Historiography: Ḥāfiẓ-i Abrū's *Zayl* on the *Zafarnāma* of Shāmī

Maria Szuppe (Paris): Two *Zayls* to a Topographic Guide of Holy Places in Timurid Herat

11:30–12:00

Coffee break

12:00–13:00

Panel II: History II (discussant: Maria Szuppe)

Philip Bockholt (Münster): A Total Flop after a Bestseller: the *Zayl-i Ḥabīb al-Siyar* by Amīr Maḥmūd

Melis Taner (Istanbul): Recontextualizing Soḡolluzāde Ḥasan Paşa's Universal History

13:00–14:00

Lunch

14:00–15:30

Panel III: History III (discussant: Ani Sargsyan)

Josef Ženka (Prague): It is Time to let it Go and Start Again: Was Ibn al-Khaṭīb's *Iḥāṭa* the Final Blow to Andalusi *Šila* Histories?

Sacha Alsancakli (Paris): Relics or Revival? On *Zayls* of Bidlisī's *Sharafnāma* Produced in the Ardalān Emirate

Roy Marom (Tel Aviv): Continued Pasts: Samaritan Toledo Extensions and Self-Reflections on History

15:30–16:00

Coffee break

17:00–19:00

Visit of the BnF

19:30

Dinner

Thursday, November 16

10:30–11:30

Panel IV: Biography & Geography

(discussant: Renaud Soler)

Zeynep Tezer (Florence): Genre-Specificity and Cross-Referencing in Nev'izāde 'Aṭā'i's *Ḥadā'īku'l-Ḥakā'ik fi Tekmīleti'ş-Şekā'ik*

Fikret Turan (Istanbul): *Zeyl* Works of Şeyḫi Meḥmed b. Ḥasan in Ottoman Turkish and his *Cihānnümā-yı Avrūpā* on the Geography and Peoples of Europe and the New World

11:30–12:00

Coffee break

For more information on the speakers, please see the abstracts & bios brochure.

12:00–13:00

Panel V: Lexicography & Adab

(discussant: Aïda El Khiari)

Colinda Lindermann (Berlin): Acknowledging the Addition? The *Dhayl* in Arabic Lexicography

Johannes Stephan (Berlin): Co-Writing Tales: An Appendix to an Eighteenth-Century *Kalīla wa-Dimna* Manuscript

13:00–14:00

Lunch

14:00–15:00

Panel VI: Astronomy & Encyclopaedia

(discussant: Hülya Çelik)

Nadine Löhr (Leipzig): The Scholar's Companion: Remarks on the Compilation and Transmission of Supplements to Works on Exact Sciences

Guglielmo Zucconi (Vienna): Knowledge Compiled, Knowledge Circulated: The Shifting Shapes of the *Majma' al-Gharā'ib*

15:00–15:30

Coffee break

15:30–16:30

Panel VII: Law & Nutrition

(discussant: Justine Landau)

Hakkı Arslan (Münster): *Dhayl*-Literature in Islamic Law – Supplements to al-Marghinānī (d. 1196) *al-Hidāya fi Sharḥ al-Bidāya* as a Case Study

Limor Yungman (Jerusalem): Appetite for Construction: Recipe Supplements as Culinary *Dhayls*

16:30–17:00

Concluding discussion

19:00

Dinner