

Religion as a Changing Category of Muslim Practice

Interdisciplinary Workshop, Friday 24th May 2019

Convenors: Alex Henley (alex.henley@theology.ox.ac.uk) and Nabeelah Jaffer (nabeelah.jaffer@pmb.ox.ac.uk).

Registration (free of charge) by 2nd May: crsi.theology.ox.ac.uk/workshop2019

Venue: Harold Lee Room, Pembroke College, Oxford.

- 8.30-9.00 Registration, tea/coffee and pastries
- 9.00-9.50 **Opening remarks** from Armando Salvatore (Religious Studies, McGill University)
Unraveling the conundrum of religion in the study of Islam: Between Theology, Religious Studies and Social Theory.
- 10.00-11.15 **Panel 1: Classical discourses in modern perspective**
Bashir Saade (Religion and Politics, University of Stirling)
A few thoughts on the relation between dīn and milla: Implications on the modern 'religious' and 'secular' imagination.
Tayseer Abu Odeh (Comparative Literature, Arab Open University)
The secular-religious dichotomy in Islam: Avicenna and al-Razi's counterpoint and the paradox of Theology (kalām).
- 11.30-12.45 **Panel 2: Discourses of religion in modern history**
Ayse Polat (Sociology, Istanbul Medeniyet University)
Mapping out late Ottoman terms for religion and irreligion.
Brannon Ingram (Religious Studies, Northwestern University)
Islamism's dīn: Boundaries of 'religion' in Mawdudi and his successors.
- 12.45-14.00 Lunch in Pembroke dining hall
- 14.00-15.15 **Panel 3: Demarcating religion in modern states**
Alex Henley (Theology and Religion, University of Oxford)
Religion as a category of institutional practice in Middle Eastern states.
Besnik Sinani (Grad School of Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität Berlin)
Entertainment projects as markers of religious reform: The shift in scope and sphere of religion in Saudi Arabia.
- 15.30-17.15 **Panel 4: Ethnographies of religion in Muslim practice**
Emanuelle Degli Esposti (Centre of Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge)
Charity as ritual: Religion, identity, and the unsettling of secular humanitarianism in Shi'a Islam.
Liza Franke (Anthropology, Georg-August University Göttingen)
Searching for individual (non-)religious identities in Alexandria.
Giorgia Baldi (Law, University of Sussex)
Re-thinking Islam and Islamism: Hamas women between religion, secularism and neo-liberalism.
- 18.45 Gather in the SCR Parlour for formal dinner in Pembroke at 7pm (by invitation only)