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The Third Annual
Aga Khan Conference/Workshop

SHARIA, GOVERNMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT



ABOUT

This workshop brings together scholars whose works explore the relationships between Islamic law, governance, and socioeconomic development in early modern and modern settings. In this general vein, the event will focus on two interrelated topics.

Law and Governance: This theme includes a set of issues that combine jurisprudence, legal practice, and politics.
The presentations explore the ways in which legal structures and political factors influenced one another in different contexts. Central to this general orientation are the jurisprudential interpretations of political authority and how Islamic governments have interpreted the law to justify political objectives. Also relevant to the theme are the limits of change in Islamic law to address novel concerns, the appropriation of Western-style constitutional principles, and the accommodation of human and animal rights principles. The presentations and discussions in the workshop will explore how such attempts have fared in the past, what contemporary formulations involve, and the possibilities for the future.

Law and Development: This theme concerns the relationship between Islamic law, its various context-based articulations, and socioeconomic development. In particular, the workshop will address the relationship between jurisprudential interpretations and specific economic institutions and/or practices. Relevant to this topic is how the question of economic development in Muslim-majority settings might be treated from a legally informed perspective. In the context of this discussion, the workshop will also explore the scope of and limits to legal improvisation in response to socioeconomic pressures and the ways in which new legal concepts, interpretations, and institutions have been constructed to support economic development.

The workshop is composed of five thematic panels and one open-theme panel over two days.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

joukowsky forum, watson institute
111 thayer street, providence, ri

8:30 a.m.

COFFEE AND REGISTRATION

8:45 - 9:00 a.m.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Beshara Doumani, Director, Middle East Studies, Brown University

9:00 -10:30 a.m.

JURISPRUDENCE, INTERPRETATION, AND GOVERNANCE

Panel Chair: Nathan Brown

Brinkley Messick: *The Shari'a Archive*

Mohammed Fadel: *Agency, Representation and the Sunni Conception of Governance*

Martha Mundy: *Against 'Islamic Law': Imagining Normativity Outside Modern Sovereignty*

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

LEGAL INTERPRETATION AND PRACTICE IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Panel Chair: Palmira Brummett

Guy Burak: *The Ottoman Introduction of Kanun to the Arabic-Speaking Middle East*

Boğaç Ergene: *Law and Legal Practice in a Period of Flux in Ottoman History (17th and 18th Centuries)*

William Smiley: *Legitimation, Legal Advice, and Statecraft: The Şeyhülislam and the Ottoman Law of Rebellion, 1769-1830*

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH AT KIM KOO LIBRARY

For hosts and participants

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

APPROACHES TO WAQF

Panel Chair: Boğaç Ergene

Beshara Doumani: *The Waqf as a Family Charter*

Timur Kuran: *Institutional Roots of Authoritarian Rule in the Middle East: Political Legacies of the Islamic Waqf*

Kristin Diwan: *Islamic Development and Islamist Politics: The Revival of Awqaf in Kuwait*

3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 (cont'd)

joukowsky forum, watson institute
111 thayer street, providence, ri

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

ECONOMIC RIGHTS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND INNOVATION

Panel Chair: Martha Mundy

Maya Shatzmiller: *Women's Property Rights in Islamic Law and Society – Significance and Impact*

Mahmoud El-Gamal: *Neoliberalism, Islam(ism), and Social Justice in the Arab Spring*

Ruth Miller: *Bacterial, Computational, and Cloned Life? The Ottoman-Islamic Law and Politics of Nonhuman Vitality*

6:30 p.m.

DINNER

For hosts, participants, and invited guests

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

joukowsky forum, watson institute
111 thayer street, providence, ri

8:30 a.m.

COFFEE

8:15 - 9:45 a.m.

LAW-MAKING AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES

Panel Chair: Maya Shatzmiller

Faiz Ahmed: *Sharia as Rule of Law in Afghanistan? The Case of Shah Amanullah's Nizamnama Codes, 1919-1926*

Nathan Brown: *The Fate of Islamic Inflation after the Arab Uprisings of 2011*

Kristen Stilt: *Constitutionalizing Animals in Egypt*

9:45 -10:15 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

10:15 - 11:45 a.m.

OPEN-THEME DISCUSSION

Discussion Leader: Beshara Doumani

11:45 a.m.

LUNCH IN SOUTH COMMON ROOM

For hosts and participants

END OF PROGRAM