



Arabic-Script Manuscripts in Africa

Sunday 12 to Thursday 16 September 2021

Remotely via Zoom

ASMA

The conference Arabic-Script Manuscripts in Africa will comprise six panels featuring original, current research on the Arabic-script manuscript cultures of Africa and the care and management of manuscript collections across the continent. The languages of the conference will be Arabic, English, and French; and simultaneous interpretation will be available throughout the event. All panels and workshops will be held on Eastern European Time (EET).

Programme:

Welcome Remarks

Sunday 12th September, 12:30 to 13:00 EET

Mostafa el Feki, Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Ali Gomaa, Member of the Council of Senior Scholars in Al-Azhar Al-Sharif and representative of the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation

Ayman Fu'ad Sayyid, Professor of Islamic History and Islamic Civilization at Al-Azhar University and President of The Islamic Manuscript Association

Medhat Issa, Director of the Manuscripts Center at Bibliotheca Alexandrina and editor-in-chief of the journal "Science of Manuscripts"

Panel 1, First Session: Historical Traditions of Arabic-Script Manuscripts in Africa

Sunday 12th September, 13:00 to 15:00 EET

Moderator: Seyni Moumouni

Helmi Sharawy (Arab and African Research Center)

The Heritage of African Languages in Arabic-Script Manuscripts (al-Ajami)

Bahija al-Chadili (University of Hassan II)

Creation and Spread of Arabic-Script Manuscripts Culture in Sub-Saharan Africa

Darya Ogorodnikova (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures–University of Hamburg)

Islamic Manuscripts and Scholarly Networks in the Senegambia and Mali

Abubakar Sadiq Abdulkadir (University of Alberta)

Mauritania Islamic Intellectual Heritage - An Examination of Private Manuscript Collections in the Village of Nabbaghiyyah

Panel 1, Second Session: Historical Traditions of Arabic-Script Manuscripts in Africa

Sunday 12th September, 16:00 to 18:00 EET

Moderator: Maria Luisa Russo

Anne Katrine Bang (University of Bergen)

The East African Islamic (Arabic) Manuscript Tradition

Carl Davila (The College at Brockport – State University of New York)

Many Musical Manuscripts: Art, Craft and Materiality in Early-Modern Morocco

Mark Muehlhaeusler (Center of Excellence for the Middle East and Arab Cultures , American University in Cairo)

Reading Marks in Kufic Manuscripts and Modern Printed Qur'ans from North Africa

Wadia Agounine (Centre for Studies, Research and Revival of Sahara Heritage–Muhammadiyah Association of Scholars)

Berber Manuscripts and Arabic Script in Southern Morocco: Identification or Creativity

Panel 2: Manuscript Libraries and Written Heritage Centres in Africa

Monday 13th September, 13:00 to 14:40 EET

Moderator: Mohamed Diagayeté

Ahmed Chaouki Binebine (Bibliothèque al-Hassania)

A Historical, Paleographical and Codicological Review of Manuscript Books in Western Africa

Djim Othman Drame (Fundamental Institute of Black Africa–Cheikh Anta Diop University)

Arabic-Script Heritage Centres in Black Africa: Manuscripts Department, University of Dakar, Senegal: Case Study

Jonathan Eugene Brockopp (Pennsylvania State University)

The History and Importance of the Kairouan Manuscript Collection

Panel 3: African Arabic-Script Languages

Monday 13th September, 16:00 to 18:00 EET

Moderator: Anne Katrine Bang

Seyni Moumouni (Institute of Research in the Human Sciences–Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey)

The Handwritten Tradition in Africa

Dmitry Bondarev (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures–University of Hamburg)

A connecting power of grammar: Old Kanembu tafsir and Kanuri/Kanembu poetry

Mohamed Mwamzandi and Samba Camara (University of North Carolina)

Collecting and Digitizing Arabic and Pulaar Manuscripts from Taal Families in Senegal and Southwestern Mali.

Amidu Olalekan Sanni (Fountain University)

From the 'Sacred' to the 'Profane': the Yoruba Ajami Script and the Challenges of a Standard Orthography.

Panel 4: Cataloguing, Editing, Research and Publishing

Tuesday 14th September, 13:00 to 15:00 EET

Moderator: Ahmed Chaouki Binebine

Mohamed Diagayeté (Ahmed Baba Institute of Higher Learning and Islamic Research)

The Challenges of Cataloguing and the Critical Editing of Islamic Manuscripts: The Case of the Ahmed Baba Institute in Timbuktu

Ahmed Saïdy (Ibn Zohr University)

Arabic-Script Berber Manuscripts in Morocco: Cataloguing and Publication

Olga Verlato (New York University)

Printing Arabic Manuscripts in the Sixteenth Century: The Medici Oriental Press, from North Africa to Rome and Back

David Calabro, Paul Naylor and Ali Diakite (Hill Museum and Manuscript Library)

HMML's Model for Standardized Metadata of West African Manuscripts

Panel 5: Preservation, Conservation and Digitization

Tuesday 14th September, 16:00 to 18:00 EET

Moderator: Susana Molins Lliteras

Maria Luisa Russo (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures–University of Hamburg)

Beyond our libraries' door: cultural heritage preservation and social challenges

Mary Minicka (Western Cape Archives and Records Service, Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport–Western Cape Government)

The Conservator as Cultural Biographer: Recovering the Life-Stories of Africa's Manuscripts Through Conservation

Afis Ayinde Oladosu (University of Ibadan)

These Pearls Should Not Perish" –Arabic Manuscript Collections in Ibadan and the Necessity for Preservation of African (Islamic) History

Ahmadu Girei Hamman (University of Maiduguri)

First Emergency Action on Preservation, Conservation and Digitization Work On The Travails of Insurgency On Arabic Manuscript Heritage: A Case Study of Bama, Gubio, Konduga and Magumeri Local Government Areas in Borno State, Nigeria

Workshop 1: The Islamic Manuscript Tradition of East Africa: Textual Traditions and Context

Wednesday 15th September, 10:00 to 12:00 EET

Instructor: Anne Katrine Bang

Workshop 2: Manuscript Libraries and Written Heritage Centres in Africa

Wednesday 15th September, 13:00 to 15:00 EET

Instructor: Susana Molins Lliteras

Workshop 3: Tarikh Zinder: Editing, Translation, and Annotations

Wednesday 15th September, 16:00 to 18:00 EET

Instructor: Seyni Moumouni

Workshop 4: Cataloguing, Editing and Publishing

Thursday 16th September, 10:00 to 12:00 EET

Instructor: Mohamed Diagayeté

Workshop 5: Preservation and Digitization Planning for Library Collections

Thursday 16th September, 13:00 to 15:00 EET

Instructor: Maria Luisa Russo

**Workshop 6: Proactive Planning for the Protection of Archival Heritage in Crisis:
From International Law to Practice**

Thursday 16th September, 16:00 to 18:00 EET

Instructor: Emma Cunliffe