

Although the question of what it means to be human is one of the oldest in history, it remains ever-present. It does not only result from individual curiosity and quest for an interpretation of one's own human existence, but also from the social self-understanding of who we are and who we want to be.

While the question of destiny and the nature of human beings is ancient and concerns all kinds of philosophical and religious worldviews, the field of anthropology is a relatively new discipline. Theology and anthropology were considered for a long time as opposites, structurally barely overlapping. Since the so-called anthropological turn in the 20th century, these disciplines have increasingly made reference to each other, with a greater emphasis on the human being. This development is due to a criticism of those strongly theocentric approaches that are neglecting humans, their living conditions and needs.

Thus, different dimensions of human existence have been debated in Islamic intellectual history by various theological, philosophical and mystical currents. The status of human beings and their relation to God has been discussed, inter alia, from the perspective of creation, rationality, worshipping, freedom of will, community and society, ethics or the example of the prophet. This debate finds its continuation in contemporary discourses.

Within this frame, the panels of the Conference will provide, on the one hand, systematic reflections on the relationship between God and man as well as on theology and anthropology. On the other hand, they will deepen selected exemplary aspects of human self-reflection and show current challenges and opportunities within the field of Islamic anthropology.

Image: Arab Manuscript Depicting Angel Weighing a Soul

Registration:

Please register until 04.09.2018 by email at: szig@unifr.ch
No fees

Location:

Université de Fribourg
Boulevard de Pérolles 90
CH-1700 Fribourg

Access:

From Fribourg train station: Bus no 1 (direction Marly-Gérine), no 3 (direction Pérolles) or no 7 (direction Cliniques). Exit at Pérolles Charmettes

On foot: 15 min. from the train station

Hotels:

Hotel NH Fribourg (near the train station)
Grand Places, 14 1700 Fribourg, +41 435 08 16 08
<http://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-fribourg>

For more information on accommodation options:
<http://www.fribourgtourisme.ch/>

Scientific direction:

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Between God and Mankind

Chances and Challenges of
Islamic Anthropologies

12.–13.09.2018

Swiss Center for Islam and Society, University of
Fribourg



12.09.18-Room A140

17.00–19.00h

Welcome Speeches

State Secretary Mauro Dell'Ambrogio, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation, Bern

Andrew Holland, Director of the Mercator Foundation Switzerland, Zurich

Public lecture (in French):

Les femmes dans le Coran: une lecture féministe des sources

(Women in the Qur'an : a Feminist Reading of the Sources)

Dr. Asma Lamrabet, Rabat

Discussion

Pascale Michel, Director of espacefemmes, Fribourg

Dr. Michela Villani, Department of Social Sciences, University of Fribourg

Mohamed Ali Batbout, President of the UAMF (Union des associations musulmanes de Fribourg)

Chair: Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schmid, University of Fribourg

13.09.18-Room A120

8.45–10.15h

Keynote: Key Topics of Anthropological Thought in Islamic Theology and Philosophy Through the Ages

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Rotraud Wielandt, University of Bamberg

Comments

Esma Isis-Arnautovic M.A., University of Fribourg

Dr. Joshua Ralston, University of Edinburgh

Chair: Prof. Dr. Amir Dziri, University of Fribourg

10.15–10.45h – Coffee break

10.45–12.15h

Panel 1: Man as Rational Being and the Question of Human Autonomy

Dr. Markus Kneer, University of Philosophical and Theological Studies Münster

What does „Freedom of the Human Being“ Mean from a Muslim-Personalist Point of View? Reflections with Muhammad Iqbal and Mohamed Aziz Lahbabi

Prof. Dr. Jameleddine Ben Abdeljelil, University of Education Ludwigsburg

The Concept of Human Agency in the Philosophy of Ibn Rushd

Chair: Alexander Boehmler M.A., University of Fribourg

12.15–13.15h – Lunch (Buffet)

13.09.18-Room A120

13.15–14.45h

Panel 2: Man as Created and Worshipping Being

Prof. Dr. Şaban Ali Düzgün, University of Ankara

Between Dependence and Independence: Worshipping as the Basis of Holistic Personality

Mira Sievers M.A., University of Frankfurt

„When I have Shaped him and Breathed from My Spirit into Him“ (Q 38:72)—Creatureliness as a Key Concept of Qur'anic Theology

Chair: Baptiste Brodard M.A., University of Fribourg

14.45–15.15h – Coffee break

15.15–16.40h

Panel 3: Man as Ethical Being and the Example of the Prophet

Prof. Dr. Sajjad Rizvi, University of Exeter

Spiritual Exercises and Theosis: Human Becoming in Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism

Prof. Dr. Amir Dziri, University of Fribourg

In the Footsteps of the Prophet: Muslim Theology and the Perception of Muhammad as Ideal Guidance and Perfect Being

Chair: Arlinda Amity M.A., University of Fribourg

16.40–17.00h – Coffee Break

17.00–18.00h

Panel 4: Man as Social Being

Prof. Dr. Mona Siddiqui, University of Edinburgh

Man, Morality and Meaning: the Challenge of Modernity

Closing Discussion

Dr. Joshua Ralston, University of Edinburgh

Prof. Dr. Şaban Ali Düzgün, University of Ankara

Chair: Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schmid, University of Fribourg