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.

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-Géline), 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.fribourg-tourisme.ch/

Scientific direction:
Prof. Dr. Amir Dziri, Swiss Center for Islam and Society, University of Fribourg
Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schmid, Swiss Center for Islam and Society, University of Fribourg

Secretariat:
szig@unifr.ch
026 300 90 44
www.unifr.ch/szig

With the support of:
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

8.45–10.15h
Keynote: Key Topics of Anthropological Thought in Islamic Theology and Philosophy Through the Ages
Prof. 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 Ludwigenburg

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 Amiti 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