

Trans
-L-
Encounters

The conference Trans-L-Encounters aims to take a closer look at the transregional and translocal – abbreviated here as ‘trans-l’ – developments in Asia and the MENA region, specifically focusing on the interrelated phenomena of religious education and Islamic popular culture. Interaction in both sectors is growing due to technological progress, which facilitates mobility and communication. Partly reflecting the appeal of the epistemological project of an Islamization of knowledge, attendance of institutions of religious education (including higher education) in Asia has greatly increased in recent years. Traditional and reformist concepts of Islamic education co-exist, intermingle and from time to time clash on the local level. Local pious traditions are challenged by transregional modern religious movements. These various trends have also triggered civil society activism. The relationship between (religious) education and (popular) culture is an immediate one, translating religious knowledge into an Islamicized lifestyle, including the production and usage of faith-based clothing, attire, music, online activism and consumer practices. While some of these phenomena have been examined in single case studies and intra-regional comparative works, our approach extends the view and takes the transnational flow of religiously-inspired identity formations into closer consideration.

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Center for Research and Documentation of War Crime Trials
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Institute for Comparative Cultural Research, Social Anthropology
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Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religions

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International Conference

Trans -L- Encounters

**Religious Education and Islamic Popular Culture
in Asia and the Middle East**

26-28 May 2016

research network
configurations
History, Presentism and Transformational
Processes in the Middle East - North Africa

Thursday, 05/26/2016

at the „Alte Universität“ Marburg, Lahntor 3

5 pm - 5:30 pm Registration
5:30 pm - 6 pm Welcome

6 pm - 7 pm Keynote

Gregory Starrett (UNC Charlotte, USA):

*We Have Never Been Muslim: Object Lessons from
a Transregional Field*

Friday, 05/27/2016

at the CNMS (Center For Near and Middle Eastern Studies), Deutschhausstraße 12

9 am - 11 am Panel 1: Circulations I

Judith Schlehe and **Mirjam Lücking**

(University of Freiburg, Germany):

*Academic and Religious Pilgrimages from Indonesia
to the Middle East*

Kristina Dohrn (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany):

*Gülen-inspired Education in Tanzania: Actors, Pedagogies,
Responses*

Isa Blumi (Stockholm University, Sweden):

*Itinerant Spiritualities: Albanians' Role in Mediating the post-Cold
War Transformations in the Islamic World*

11 am - 1pm Panel 2: Circulations II

Arun Rasiah (University of California, Berkley):

*Religious Education and Islamic Popular Culture in Asia and the
Middle East*

Joud Alkorani (University of Toronto, Canada):

*Commodified Encounters: On the Production of the
Transnational Fatwa*

Sunarwoto (Tilburg University, Netherlands):

*Contesting the 'true Salafi' through Blogging: Indonesia's Salafi
Online*

1 pm - 2 pm Lunch: Buffet at the CNMS

2 pm - 4 pm Panel 3: Pop Culture

Bader Al-Saif (Georgetown University, USA):

American Muslim Hip Hop:

Reverse Exportation of Islam to the Middle East

Albrecht Fuess (University of Marburg, Germany):

*The Depiction and Function of Hijab in Comics
in a Transregional Perspective*

4 pm - 6 pm Panel 4: Performance and Identity

Manja Stephan-Emmrich (Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany):

*Displaying a Progressive 'Dubai Islam': The Popularization of Reformist
Muslim Lifestyles in Urban Tajikistan*

Mundi Rahayu (State Islamic University of Malang, Indonesia):

*Veiling Practice in Indonesia after the Reformation Era: Between
Religious Practice and Transregional Consumer Practices*

Chiara Formichi (Cornell University, New York, USA):

Performing Shī'ism in Indonesia

7 pm Dinner: Restaurant „Lahnterrasse“, Lingelgasse 5

Saturday, 05/28/2016

at the CNMS (Center For Near and Middle Eastern Studies), Deutschhausstraße 12

9 am - 11 am Panel 5: Comparing Curricula

Achim Rohde (University of Marburg, Germany):

Radically Different? Schooling under IS

Tuba Isik (University of Paderborn, Germany):

*Islamic Studies School Curricula in Germany between State Schools
and Private Saudi Funded Schools*

Nor Ismah (State University for Islamic Studies Sunan Kalijaga

Yogyakarta, Indonesia): *The Education of Female Ulama: Comparative
Studies on the Institutions and Curricula between Indonesia and
Morocco*

11 am - 1 pm Panel 6: Appropriations of Islamic Knowledge

Amanda tho Seeth (University of Marburg, Germany):

*„Pure like Plain White Rice“. A Saudi Higher Education Microcosm
in Jakarta: The ‚Institute of Islamic Science and Arabic‘ (LIPIA)*

Muhammad Wildan (State Islamic University Yogyakarta, Indonesia):

*Popular Piety in Indonesia: 'Aestheticization' and Reproduction
of Islam*

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom):

*Elusive Centers: Transnational Shī'ism between Pakistan and the
Middle East*

1 pm - 2 pm Lunch: Buffet at the CNMS

2 pm - 4 pm Panel 7: Negotiating Islamic Institutions

Nafay Choudhury (Max Planck Institute for Comparative

and International Private Law, Hamburg, Germany):

*Madrasas in Afghanistan: At the Crossroads
of "Traditionalism" and "Modernity"*

Hafiz Salae (University of Leeds, United Kingdom):

*Managing Local Challenges through Pragmatic Approaches:
How the Assalam Salafi-Islamist Movement Accommodates*

Thailand's Traditionalist Muslim Society and Centralised State

Isa Babur (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany):

*Studying Theology without Theology: The State's Attempts to Change
the Curriculum of the Faculties of Theology in Turkey*

4 pm - 5 pm Conference Wrap Up

N.N. Rapporteur: *Conference Review*

5pm

Guided city tour including a visit at the University's
„Museum of Religions“