



SYMPOSIUM

Amphithéâtre Marguerite de Navarre

2-3 june 2022

Current research on Koranic manuscripts

CHAIRE HISTOIRE
DU KORAN TEXTE ET
TRANSMISSION

Organisé par
François DÉROCHE

The Koran, God's ipsissima verba for Muslims, is today a text that continues to be memorized, written (in some parts of the world) and recited. In early Islam, the Koranic text was transmitted orally. Although the very origins of the written record, probably during Muhammad's lifetime, escape us, manuscript transmission can look back on a long history that began in the second half of the seventh century. The study of the initial phase of this history began in the nineteenth century, but research on it has been increasing in recent years, examining the essential role that manuscripts played at an early date in the transmission of the koranic text and its variant readings, but also in its canonization. These studies have highlighted the fluidity of the text and its circulation and have broadened the documentary field to include other media such as graffiti and inscriptions whose testimony can be confronted with the vulgate. From an early date, the Koranic manuscript went beyond its initial functions of preservation and transmission and found itself invested with other roles, the study of which has only just begun. The birth of calligraphy under the Umayyads and the introduction of illumination in the copies of the Koran at the same time answered to new needs, those of the rulers, for example, who used the impression produced by princely manuscripts for their own purposes, and those of the faithful who found in refined copies the visual expression of their religious convictions. The Symposium will be an opportunity to compare the current state of research on the different aspects of the Koranic manuscript through the centuries.

COLLÈGE
DE FRANCE
— 1530 —

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PROGRAM

Thursday 2 june 2022

9.30 *Opening of the symposium*

Panel chair : Souad Ayada

9.45 *Marginal notes in Qur'anic fragments in the collection of Qayrawān in Tunisia [in French]*
Asma Helali, Université de Lille

10.15 *Variant readings and other new findings about the 6 Kufic manuscripts from Copenhagen*
Edin Mahmutovic, Goethe University

10.45 *Coffee Break*

Panel chair : Nuria de Castilla

11.15 *On Qur'anic Calligraphy in Iraq under the Early Abbasids [in French]*
Alain George, Khalili Research Center, Oxford

11.45 *The Blue Qur'an: the end of a mystery?*
François Déroche, Collège de France

12.15 *Lunch*

Panel chair : Pierre Lory

14.00 *Against Scriptio Continua : Early Iranian Approaches to Transcribing the Qur'an in the Second and Third Centuries [in French]*
Morteza Karimi Nia, Encyclopaedia Islamica Foundation, Tehran

14.30 *Qur'an Manuscripts in Nishapur at the turn of the 11th century CE [in French]*
Alya Karame, American University of Beyrouth

15.00 *Qur'anic manuscripts in Sultanate India (13th-16th c.) : a study of forms, motifs and scripts [in French]*
Éloïse Brac de la Perrière, Sorbonne Université

15.30 *Coffee Break*

Panel chair : Éloïse Brac de la Perrière

16.00 *Qur'anic Tradition in Middle Ages and Early Modern Spain*
Nuria de Castilla, EPHE-PSL

16.30 *Revisiting the Principles of Qur'anic Textual Criticism*
Hythem Sidky, University of Chicago

17.00 *Fin de session*

Friday 3 june 2022

Panel chair : Mohammad Ali Amir-Moezzi

9.30 *The manuscript attributed to Caliph 'Uthman in the mosque of 'Amr ibn al-'Āṣ [in French]*
Éléonore Cellard, chercheuse indépendante

10.00 *The lost codex of Ibn Mas'ūd, an unfinished Qur'anic version. Remarks on the flexibility of the original Qur'an [in French]*
Hassan Chahdi, Collège de France

10.30 *Coffee Break*

Panel chair : Alain George

11.00 *Developing a Classification of the Different Vocalisation Styles of Early Quranic Manuscripts*
Marijn van Putten, Leiden University

11.30 *Reader Experience in the early Qur'anic Manuscript Page: Re-mediating their Texts in the Most Recent Digital Form as part of InterSaME Project [in French]*
Alba Fedeli, Université de Hambourg

12.00 *End*