

March 2 - 3, 2017

An International Symposium
Hall of Graduate Studies, Room 211

Convened by

TRAVIS ZADEH

Department of Religious Studies



Sponsored by

The Council on Middle East Studies
The Department of Near Eastern Studies &
Civilizations

The Department of Religious Studies
The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library
The Edward J. & Dorothy Clarke
Kempf Memorial Fund

MAGIC & THE OCCULT IN ISLAM & BEYOND

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Panel 1 | 10:15 – 11:45 am | Where to Locate the Occult

CHRISTIAN LANGE, *Utrecht University*

No Magic in Hell: Gauging the Place of *Siḥr* in Islamic
Ethical, Legal, & Eschatological Literature

NICHOLAS HARRIS, *University of Pennsylvania*

The Fate of an Occult/Science

Discussant: FRANK GRIFFEL, *Yale University*

Chair: SHAWKAT TOORAWA, *Yale University*

Panel 2 | 1:30 – 3:00 pm | Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī –

Influences & Reception

MICHAEL NOBLE, *Warburg Institute*

Sabian Astral Ritual and Avicennian Cognition Theory

Yael Rice, *Amherst College*

Cosmic Correspondences: The Nature of the Talismanic
Image at the Mughal Court

Discussant: YAHYA MICHOT, *Hartford Seminary*

Chair: EMILY SELOVE, *University of Exeter*

Panel 3 | 3:45 – 5:15 pm | Rituals, Spells, & Incantations

ELIZABETH PRICE, *Yale University*

'Rationalising Ritual': Responses to Antinomian Anxiety
in the Era of Abbasid Fragmentation

EMILY SELOVE, *University of Exeter*

Al-Sakkākī's Magical Encyclopaedia in Context

Discussant: SHAWKAT TOORAWA, *Yale University*

Chair: CHRISTIAN LANGE, *Utrecht University*

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Panel 4 | 9:00 – 10:15 am | How to Handle the Occult

Roundtable Discussion on Manuscripts in the Beinecke

Rare Books and Manuscript Library

Held in the *Beinecke* | Room 13

Panel 5 | 10:30 am – 12:00 pm | Reason, Philosophy, &

Internal Demarcations

LIANA SAIF, *University of Oxford & Université catholique de Louvain*

The Place of Magic in the Religious Reformation of the
Ikhwān al-Ṣafā'

GODEFROID DE CALLATAÏ, *Université catholique de Louvain*

'For Those with Eyes to See': On the Hidden Meaning of the
Animal Fable in the *Rasā'il Ikhwān al-Ṣafā'*

Discussant: SALIMEH MAGHSOUDLOU, *Yale University*

Chair: MATTHEW MELVIN-KOUSHKI, *University of South Carolina*

Panel 6 | 1:15 – 2:45 pm | Courtly Contexts of Contestation and Production

NOAH GARDINER, *University of South Carolina*

Ibn Khaldūn versus the Occultists at Barqūq's Court

MATTHEW MELVIN-KOUSHKI, *University of South Carolina*

The *Coincidentia Oppositorum* Imperialized: Ibn Turka's
Munāẓara-yi Bazm u Razm (1426) as a Lettrist Mirror for
Timurid Princes

Discussant: ANNA AKASOY, The Graduate Center, CUNY &
Hunter College

Chair: TRAVIS ZADEH, *Yale University*

Panel 7 | 3:15 – 4:45 pm | Ottoman Productions

ÖZGEN FELEK, *Yale University*

Occult Texts in Murād III's Court at the Dawn of the Second
Islamic Millennium

TUNA ARTUN, *Rutgers University*

Crete Today, Sicily Tomorrow: An Ottoman Treatise on
Divination from the Seventeenth Century

Discussant: RYAN BRIZENDINE, *Yale University*

Chair: Godefroid de CallataÏ, *Université catholique de Louvain*

Panel 8 | 4:45 – 5:30 pm | Ruptures and Continuities

ALIREZA DOOSTDAR, *University of Chicago*

Islam, Spiritual Empiricism, and the Gender of Reason in Iran

Discussant: ABBAS AMANAT, *Yale University*

Chair: SAMUEL ROSS, *Yale University*

Concluding Discussion: 5:30 – 6:00 pm