

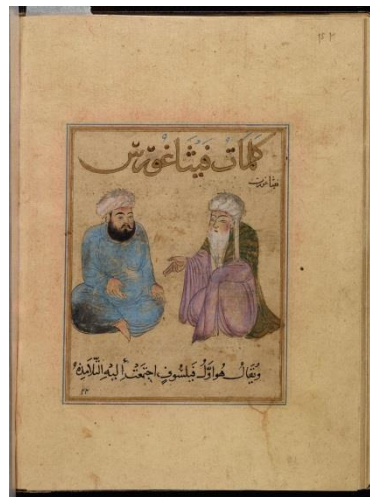
Abstract

The “Scholar-Caliph”: Reimagining the Caliph as a Man of Learning in 14th and 15th Century Egypt

Abstract: Two centuries after the death of Muhammad, the Caliphate, Islam’s signature leadership institution, had already lost much of its political and religious authority. Seen as a puppet to be used by military strongmen hoping to legitimize their reigns, the caliph became little more than a “symbol of the shari’ah”. After the Mongol conquest of Abbasid Baghdad in 1258, the Mamluk sultans (1250-1517) re-established and re-imagined the caliphal office anew in Cairo. Building on the traditional importance of the caliphate, the Mamluk regime took steps to increase the caliph’s profile as an educated man of learning. In addition to examining changing conceptions of the caliphate in the fourteenth and fifteenth century, this paper will describe the caliphs’ ties to educated circles in Cairo as well as some of the ways in which the position of the caliph re-emerged as that of a scholar in Mamluk Egypt.

Der DFG-Sonderforschungsbereich „Bildung und Religion“
Teilprojekt D 03: „Ethische Unterweisung als Bildungsdiskurs
im Islam“, und das
Göttinger Orientsymposium,
Seminar für Arabistik/Islamwissenschaft,
laden herzlich ein zum

Gastvortrag
Dr. Mustafa Banister
University of Toronto, Kanada



**The Scholar-Caliph:
Re-imagining the Caliph as a Man of Learning in
14th and 15th Century Egypt**

Zeit: 08. Februar 2016, 14.15 - 15.45 Uhr
Edris Bibliothek
Nikolausberger Weg 23
D-37073 Göttingen