Islam and Digitality

AIWG Research Group “Islam and Digitality“

International Conference
“Islam&Digitality. Media, Materiality, Hermeneutics”
Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main, Germany
10–11 July 2026

Call for Papers

Digitalisation and digital spaces are driving forces of fundamental shifts in the ways in which Muslims across the globe approach and engage with Islamic theological knowledge. They avail the seemingly limitless stream of resources available in the form of, e.g., databases, websites, mobile apps, and AI chatbots, some of which present knowledge from different traditions in a decontextualised manner, on an equal footing, and without differentiation. Furthermore, the mediatisation of religious content fosters new forms of interaction between Islamic theological knowledge and other cultures of knowledge, as well as areas of popular culture, which in turn are changing perceptions of Islamicity and leading to a new dimension of hybridisation of religious knowledge.

Against this background, the conference focuses on three main lines of inquiry. First, we will address images and imaginations of Islamic history and explore how their mediation in the digital age relates to contemporary religious identity, memory discourses, and forms of theological differentiation. Second, we will examine how the digitisation of sacred texts and exegetical literature is changing the ways in which Muslim scholars and practitioners alike perceive and engage with them, thereby impacting hermeneutic methods within Islamic theology. Third, we will investigate how Muslims employ the affordances of digital media, technologies, and platforms to articulate specific interpretations of how Islam should be lived, interpreted and proclaimed.

We are inviting papers, which address the above mentioned fields across different types of media such as databases, social media platforms, mobile phone and virtual reality applications, and AI generated content. For selected applicants, we will reimburse travel expenses up to a agreed upon maximum amount and provide accommodation as well as all meals for the duration of the conference.

Please send your paper proposals (including title, abstract and your current affiliation) by December 19, 2025 to Nadeem Khan (islamdigitality(at)aiwg.de).

For more information, visit islamdigitality.com

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