



AIWG Research Group

Islam and
Digitality

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Islam & Digitality. Media, Materiality, Hermeneutics.

10 – 11 July 2026

Goethe-University
Frankfurt am Main,
Germany

Campus Westend
Cas 1.801
(Renate von Metzler-Saal)

islamdigitality.com

Zoom
Meeting



Conference Programme

Friday, 10. July 2026

09:30 - 09:35

Welcome by AIWG

09:35 - 10:00

Welcome and Introduction to the Project

Armina Omerika, Christoph Günther,
Mohammad Gharaibeh

10:00 - 11:30

Panel I: Media 1: Knowledge Production and Memory Practices

Chair:
Nadeem
Elias Khan

Jasmin Eder (Erfurt): Between Reach and Responsibility: Audiovisuality and Integrity Within the Social Media Presence of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat

Lale Diklitaş (Frankfurt): From the Prophet to Postcolonialism: Imagining #blackmuslimhistory on Instagram

Fayaz Alibhai (London): Remembering, Forgetting, and Hallucinating: Sites, Stories, and Studies of the Ismailis

11:30 - 13:00

Lunch Break

13:00 - 14:30

Keynote I: Between the 'Digital' and the 'Analogue': Intergenerational Transformations Within Diverse Muslim Communities

Chair:
Christoph
Günther

Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor (Coventry)

14:30 - 15:00

Coffee Break

Organisation:

Research Group "Islam and Digitality"
Prof. Dr. Armina Omerika
Institute for the Studies of Culture
and Religion of Islam
Goethe University Frankfurt

Contact Persons:

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Design & Art Direction:
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15:00 - 16:30

Chair:
Jasmin Eder

Panel II: Materiality: Space, Shrines and Rituals

Samuel Ramapuram (Frankfurt): Holographic Pilgrimage: Reconfiguring Islamic Sacred Spatiality, Virtual Reality Shrines, and Embodied Distance

Fouad Gehad Marei (Erfurt): ImamVR: Islamic Digital Devotion and Encounters with the Sacred in Virtual Reality

Akif Tahiev (Frankfurt): The Cinematic Face of the Sacred in Contemporary Shi'i Visual Culture on Instagram

16:30 - 17:00

Coffee Break

17:00 - 18:30

Chair:
Fouad Gehad Marei

Keynote II: Reframing Conversations about Islamic AI around Technological, Religious, and Spiritual Affordances

Heidi Campbell (Texas A&M University)

19:30

Dinner

Saturday, 11. July 2026

09:00 - 10:30

Chair:
Lale Diklitaş

Panel III: Media 2: Identity, Othering & Community Building

Online:
Baktygul Shabdan (Frankfurt): Islam and Digital Media in Post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Female Muslim Influencers and Religious Engagement

Mohammad Usman (Heidelberg): Theological Enmity in Digital Spaces

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 - 13:00

Chair:
Mohammad Gharaibeh

Panel IV: Hermeneutics: Reconfiguration of Interpretative Practices

Ali Aghaei (Berlin): Digital Hadith and the Reconfiguration of Shi'i Doctrinal Hermeneutics: Reassessing the Development of the Tradition of the Twelve Imams

Mashal Saif (Clemson): Tradition and Technology: Islamic Legal Pronouncements in the Digital Age

Nor Isma (Singapore): Islamic Feminist Hermeneutics and Digital Mediation: Women Ulama and Fatwa Making in Indonesia

Online:
Fatemeh Hajiakbari (Bojnord): Digital Lexicography and Qur'anic Hermeneutics: The Case of Qāmūs-e Nūr

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 - 15:30

Chair:
Ali Aghaei

Panel V: Transformations of Tradition 1: Authority and Piety

Erkan Binici (Münster): Negotiating Islam in a Mediatized World: Muslim Youth and the Contested Role of Muslim Influencers

Online:
Murtala Ibrahim (Berlin): Algorithmic Religiosity: Social Media Algorithms and the Emergence of Salafi Digital Authority, Community, and Piety in Northern Nigeria

Online: **Hina Muneeruddin (New Hampshire):** Twitter (Trans)Formations: Re-Envisioning Queer and Trans Muslim Becoming in Digital Spaces

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:30

Chair:
Akif Tahiev

Panel VI: Transformations of Tradition 2: Practice and Piety

Muhammad Saifullah (Yogyakarta): Quran Isyarat App: How Technology Shapes the Ways Deaf Muslims Recite the Quran and Experience Faith in Indonesia

Farah Hasan (Jerusalem): 'Halal' Dating: The Semantic Migration of "Halal" to Intimacy

Hafza Iqbal (Coventry): Sufis and Saint-hood. Surrendering to Social Media?

17:30 - 18:30

Roundup