

"Allographic Traditions"

among Arabic-speaking
Christians, Jews and
Samaritans: Workshop on
the Writing Systems of
Garshuni, Judeo-Arabic
and Samaritan-Arabic

June 9-10, 2016

White-Levy Room
Institute for Advanced Study

Convenors

George Kiraz

Princeton University

Sabine Schmidtke

Institute for Advanced Study

Participants

Monica Colominas Aparicio

Universiteit van Amsterdam

Nuria Martínez de

Castilla Muño

Universidad Complutense Madrid

E. Efe (Khavvat)

Rutgers University

Jonas Karlsson

Uppsala Universitet

Grigory Kessel

Phillips-Universität Marburg

Eve Krakowski

Princeton University

Johannes Pahlitzsch

Johannes Gutenberg

Universität Mainz

Anton Pritula

The Hermitage Museum

Meira Polliack

Tel Aviv University

Sebastian Richter

Freie Universität Berlin

Stefan Schorch

Martin-Luther-Universität

Halle-Wittenberg

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Esther-Miriam Wagner

University of Oxford

Tamar Zewi

University of Haifa

"Allographic Traditions" among Arabic-speaking Christians, Jews and Samaritans: Workshop on the Writing Systems of Garshuni, Judeo-Arabic and Samaritan-Arabic

The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton NJ, will be holding a two-day workshop, **June 9-10, 2016**, to bring together scholars specializing in Eastern Christianity, Judeo-Arabic and Samaritan studies to discuss the writing systems behind Garshuni (Syro-Arabic), Judeo-Arabic and Samaritan-Arabic. It is well established that the Christian, Jewish and Samaritan communities of the Middle East have long employed, though nonexclusively, their own scripts—Syriac, Hebrew and Samaritan, respectively—when writing Arabic. Writing in these scripts occur in both documentary (letters, contracts, etc.) and literary productions, including Islamic literary texts. The objective of this workshop is to gather experts to discuss the cultural-religious and sociolinguistic background behind and the formal properties of these three writing systems and to establish, by way of comparison, similarities and differences among the representatives of the respective communities in doing so.

There will be ca. five speakers per day. Each speakers will be allotted 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of discussion. In addition, there will be three roundtable discussion each focusing on one of the three writing systems and how it may relate to the others. Talks are expected to concentrate on the script and their relevant religious-cultural and sociolinguistic aspects.

The IAS will cover travel expenses (economy) as well as accommodation (June 8-11, 2016) and board during the workshop for participants who are unable to cover them through their own research budget through the *Patricia Crone Fund*.

Convenors:

George Kiraz (Princeton University)

Sabine Schmidtke (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton)

*“Allographic Traditions” among Arabic-speaking
Christians, Jews and Samaritans:
Workshop on the Writing Systems of Garshuni, Judeo-Arabic and
Samaritan-Arabic*

**Convenors: GEORGE KIRAZ, Princeton University
SABINE SCHMIDTKE, Institute for Advanced Study**

Workshop Schedule

Thursday, June 9, 2016
White/Levy Room, HS/SSS Library

8:30 Light breakfast

Session 1 (Ottoman & Judeo-Arabic) – Sabine Schmidtke

8:45 Opening Statement

9:00 **E. EFE (KHAYYAT)**, *Turks with a ‘wāw’*

9:30 **MEIRA POLLIACK**, *The Phenomenon of "code switching" in the Written Discourse of
Judaeo-Arabic Texts*

10:00 Roundtable Discussion

10:30 Coffee Break

Session 2 (Samaritan) – Chair: Eve Krakowski

11:00 **STEFAN SCORCH**, *Allographic writing in the Samaritan manuscript culture between
Arabic and Hebrew*

11:30 **TAMAR ZEVI**, *Arabic and Syriac in the Samaritan Version of Saadya Gaon’s Translation
of the Pentateuch*

12:00 Roundtable Discussion

12:30 Lunch – Tables reserved at the back of the dining hall next to the wall hanging

Session 3 (Syro-Turkic Garshuni) – Chair: Hassan Ansari

2:00 **ANTON PRITULA**, *Poems in Turkic and Persian Garshuni from the Mongol time*

2:30 **JONAS KARLSSON**, *Remarks on Some Turkic Garshuni Texts Preserved in an 18th Century
Chaldean Prayer Book*

3:00 Roundtable Discussion

3:30 Coffee Break

Session 4 (Judeo-Arabic) – Chair: Tamar Zewi

4:00 **ESTHER-MIRIAM WAGNER**, *Jewish identity and Hebrew script: the case of Judaeo-Arabic*

4:30 **EVE KRAKOWSKI**, *Judeo-Arabic as a legal language: The view from the Cairo Geniza*

5:00 Roundtable Discussion

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Friday, June 10, 2016
White/Levy Room, HS/SSS Library

8:30 Light breakfast

Session 5 (Syriac Garshuni) – Chair: Andrea Piras

9:00 **GRIGORY KESSEL**, *Syriac Garshuni: Patterns of distribution in different branches of Syriac Christianity*
9:30 **GEORGE A. KIRAZ**, *From Garshuni to ‘garshunography’: Garshuni Systems in the Early Modern and Modern World*
10:00 Roundtable Discussion
10:30 Coffee Break

Session 6 (Syro-Arabic Garshuni) – Chair: Grigory Kessel

11:00 **JOHANNES PAHLITZSCH**, *The use of Garshūnī by the Melkites from a cultural-historical perspective*
11:30 **HIDEMI TAKAHASHI**, *Why and When to Write in Garshuni: Observations Based on Some Mainstream and Peripheral Cases*
12:00 Roundtable Discussion
12:30 Lunch – Tables reserved at the back of the dining hall next to the wall hanging

Session 7 (Spain) – Chair: George Kiraz

2:00 **NURIA MARTÍNEZ DE CASTILLA MUÑOZ**, *Linguistic and cultural uses behind Aljamiado texts*
2:30 **MÒNICA COLOMINAS APARICIO**, *Spanish Islam in Arabic Script: Language, Identity, and Community Boundaries in the Literature of Religious Polemics of the Muslims of Late Medieval Christian Iberia*
3:00 Roundtable Discussion
3:30 Coffee Break

Session 8 (Arabic & Coptic) – Chair: Johannes Pahlitzsch

4:00 **RONNY VOLLANDT**, *The “Violet Fragment”: Revisiting a strange case of Arabic in Greek letters*
4:30 **SEBASTIAN RICHTER**, *Allographic Experiments at the Cradle and at the Grave of Coptic Written Culture*
5:00 Roundtable Discussion and Closing Remarks

This Patricia Crone Memorial Workshop is supported by the Director’s Excellence Fund, established by the Hendricks Charitable Foundation