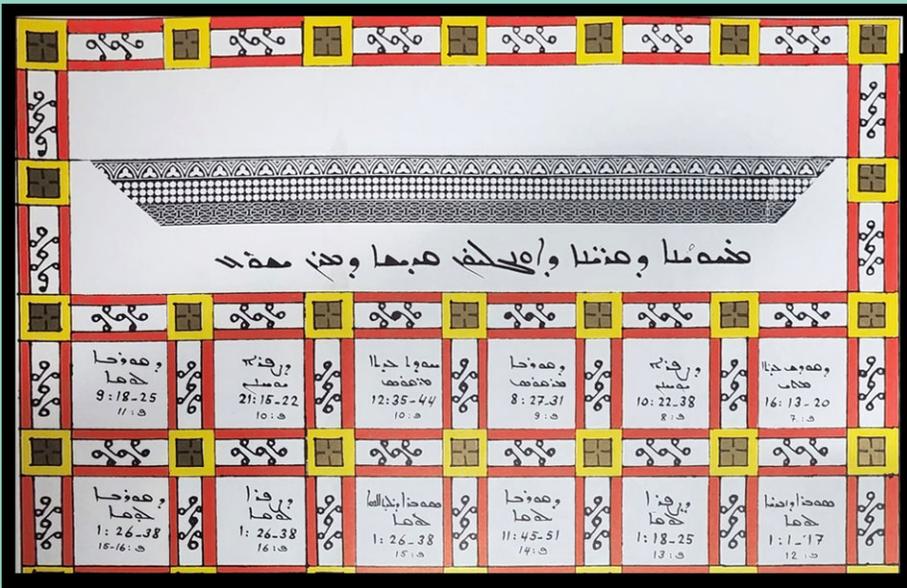


Formation of the Syriac Lectionary System

March 25, 12:30-2:00 pm
 Rubenstein Commons 1
 Institute for Advanced Study



This lecture traces the historical development of the Syriac lectionary system from its late antique origins to its early modern stabilization in print. It examines how biblical texts were reorganized, excerpted, and liturgically sequenced for use in worship. Particular attention is given to the transition from continuous Gospel codices to pericope-based liturgical books, the emergence of standardized incipit and explicit formulae, and the role of marginal paratext in guiding public reading. The lecture will also outline the structure of the Syriac liturgical year—its festal and seasonal cycles—and explain how the lectionary functions within that calendar. The talk will briefly cover a recent proposal by the Syriac Orthodox Liturgical Committee, primarily led by Mor Severus Roger Akhrass, that brings the manuscripts of Late Antiquity to contemporary worship.



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