

# Maktabat al-Khānjī Workshop I

## Institute for Advanced Study, 4-5 September 2025

### *Program*

Convenors: Guy Burak (New York University), Garrett Davidson (College of Charleston), Rana Mikati (College of Charleston), Sabine Schmidtke (Institute for Advanced Study).

Discussants: SherAli K. Tareen (Franklin and Marshall College); Matthew Keegan (Barnard College); Yaaqob Dweck (Princeton University); Muhammad Qasim Zaman (Princeton University); Deborah Schlein (Princeton University); Evyn Kropf (University of Michigan) [\[zoom\]](#); Stephanie Luescher (Princeton University)

Coordination: Uta Nitschke (nitschke@ias.edu).

Venue: Unless stated otherwise, all sessions will take place at the Institute for Advanced Study, 1 Einstein Drive, Princeton NJ 08540, Rubinstein 1. Breakfast and coffee will be served in Rubinstein, next to our room, lunches will be served at the dining hall.

### Day 1 (Thursday, 4 September 2025)

8:30 Breakfast

9:00 Welcome notes

#### Session One (Chair: Matthew Keegan)

9:15 Garrett Davidson and Rana Mikati (College of Charleston). **The Master of the Booksellers: the Life of Muḥammad Amīn al-Khānjī (d.1939).**

9:30 ‘Abd al-‘Aṭī Muḥyī al-Sharqāwī (Cairo, Mu’assasat “‘Ilm”) [\[zoom\]](#). **Al-Khānjī Manuscripts in the Aḥmad Khayrī Collection.**

9:45 Ahmed El Shamsy (The University of Chicago) [\[zoom\]](#). **Al-Khānjī’s Correspondence with the Maktaba Salafiyya in Medina.**

10:00 Discussion

10:30 Coffee break

## Session Two (Chair: Rana Mikati)

11:00 Konrad Hirschler (Hamburg University) and Said Aljoumani (CSMC, Hamburg) **[zoom]. Al-Khānjī's Role in Translocating Manuscript Libraries: Aḥmad al-Zarqā of Aleppo and the Municipal Library of Alexandria.**

11:15 Lina Jabali (Tel Aviv University and École Pratique des Hautes Études—PSL). **Al-Khānjī in the NLI Collections.**

11:30 Guy Burak (NYU). **Al-Khānjī's Supplement on *Kashf al-zunūn* and His Publisher Catalog.**

11:45 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

## Session Three (Chair: SherAli K. Tareen)

14:00 Güler Doğan Averbek (Marmara University). **The al-Khānjī Family's Book Trade Activities in Istanbul.**

14:15 Garrett Davidson and Rana Mikati (College of Charleston). **Al-Khānjī's Career as a Publisher and Editor of Medieval Arabic Texts.**

14:30 William Kopycki (Library of Congress Office, Nairobi). **Al-Khānjī's Publications in the Library of Congress: Means of Acquisition.**

14:45 Discussion

15:15 Coffee break

## Session Four (Chair: Deborah Schlein)

15:45 Sabine Schmidtke (Institute for Advanced Study). **Al-Khānjī and His Journey to Iraq in 1930-31 (I): Najaf.**

15:45 Valentina Sagaria Rossi (Tor Vergata, Rome). **Al-Khānjī and His Journey to Iraq in 1930-31 (II).**

16:00 Walid A. Saleh (University of Toronto). **Trade in Printed Qur'ans: Another History of the Modern Qur'an is Possible.**

16:15 Discussion

18:00 Conference dinner (location to be determined)

## Day 2 (Friday, 5 September 2025)

### Session Five (Chair: Guy Burak)

9:00 Moya Carey (Chester Beatty Library). **Who was Aslan Sarkissian's Cairo supplier for Chester Beatty.**

9:15 Mostafa Hussein (University of Michigan). **The Excellence of Arabs (*Faḍl al-ʿArab*): Rethinking *ṣuḥba* through Manuscript Trade and Anticolonial Thought.**

9:30 Ahmad Khan (The American University in Cairo) [\[zoom\]](#). **Al-Khānjī's Business Diaries: People, Publishers, and Prices.**

9:45 Discussion

10:15 Coffee break

### Session Six (Chair: Sabine Schmidtke)

10:45 Mohammed Ayub Khan (Independent Scholar) [\[zoom\]](#). **Al-Khānjī in the Indian Archives.**

11:00 Garrett Davidson and Rana Mikati (College of Charleston). **Presentation of the database.**

11:15 Final Discussion

12:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Visit to Firestone, Special Collections Large Classroom. Garrett Davidson (College of Charleston), **Presentation of some ten manuscripts sold by al-Khānjī.**

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