Departing from a broad understanding of ethics, this conference brings together the perspectives of various disciplines within the Islamic tradition, ranging from systematic theology, law and philosophy to adab literature. In the first section, the conference will debate recent contributions on the inner development of these traditions as well as the entanglement between them, for example focussing on the new insights on interdependencies between Kalām and Uṣūl al-fiqh. Of particular interest is how Muslim scholars tried to connect the universality of moral claims with the particularity of Islamic revelation and how these attempts can be interpreted.

In the second section, reflecting on implications for academic Islamic theology today, the conference will ask how these premodern traditions can be fruitfully engaged with when focussing on the exemplary area of sexual ethics. Questions on shifting gender relations, self-determination and sexual identities are intensely debated and challenge traditional views about marriage, sexual intercourse and gender. While a crucial question remains how to generally approach moral questions within a theological framework, also the conception of contemporary Islamic ethics needs to be discussed.

The List of Speakers
Bahattin Akyol, M.A., Humboldt University of Berlin
Fatma Akan Ayyıldız, M.A., Humboldt University of Berlin
Dr. Omar Anchassi, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies
Prof. Dr. Zahra Ayubi, Dartmouth College
Dr. Raid Al-Daghistani, University of Münster
Mona Feise-Nasr, M.A., Humboldt University of Berlin
Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ghaly, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
Dr. Mehrdad Alipour Kalaei, Goethe University Frankfurt
Prof. Dr. Marion Holmes Katz, New York University
Dr. Mansooreh Khalilzand, University of Münster
Dr. Abdul Rahman Mustafa, Paderborn University
Prof. Dr. Idris Nassery, Paderborn University
Prof. Dr. Kevin Reinhart, Dartmouth College
Selma Schwarz, M.A., Goethe University Frankfurt
Dr. Ayman Shihadeh, SOAS University of London
Prof. Dr. Mira Sievers, Humboldt University of Berlin

Organized by
Prof. Dr. Mira Sievers, Humboldt University of Berlin
Prof. Dr. Rana Alsoufi, Goethe University Frankfurt
Prof. Dr. Serdar Kurnaz, Humboldt University of Berlin

Location
Auditorium
Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum
Humboldt University of Berlin
Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1-3
10117 Berlin

Registration
Registration is required until 22.07.2022
for online or in-person participation
please contact maryam.laribi@hu-berlin.de
Thursday,
28.07.2022

10:00 Opening
(Chair: Serdar Kurnaz)
Mira Sievers:
Opening words
Bekim Agai:
Welcome address (AIWG)

10:30 Keynote
(Chair: Rana Alsoufi)
Kevin Reinhart:
What Counts as Islamic Ethics?

11:30 Refreshments
12:00 Ethics and Rationality
(Chair: Bekim Agai)
Ayman Shihadeh:
Ethical Rationalisms in Premodern Islamic Thought
Mira Sievers:
A case for moral universalism?
Negotiating the perspective of Islamic Ethics

13:30 Lunch break

Friday,
29.07.2022

09:00 Ethics of Marriage I
(Chair: Serdar Kurnaz)
Marion Holmes Katz:
Falsafa, Fiqh, and the Function of Marriage in the Work of al-Mawardi (d. 450/1058) and al-Sarakhsi (d. 483/1090)

10:30 Refreshments

11:00 Ethics and Anthropology
(Chair: Mohammed Gharaibeh)
Raid Al-Daghistani:
Sufism as a Way of Iḥsān: Ethical Aspects of Islamic Mysticism
Selma Schwarz:
Between intersexuality and khunthā: approaching sexual ethics in Islamic theology

16:00 Ethics of Marriage II
(Chair: Rana Alsoufi)
Fatma Ayyıldız:
Ethical reflections on polygamy from an Islamic perspective
Mona Feise-Nasr:
Situating Intimate Ethics in Mixed-Faith Relationships–Muslim Women's Accounts on Agency and Challenges

16:30 Refreshments

17:00 Gender, Ethics and Islam
(Chair: Rana Alsoufi)
Zahra Ayubi:
Ways of Knowing and Refinement: Studying the Category of Gender in Islamic Ethics
Idris Nassery:
It's a Man's World: Gender, Sex and Ethics from a Ghazalian Perspective

18:00 Concluding session
(Chair: Rana Alsoufi, Mira Sievers, Serdar Kurnaz)
Mansooreh Khalilizand
Conference observer

18:30 End of conference