



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



Organisation:

Research Group "Islam and Digitality"
Prof. Dr. Armina Omerika
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and Religion of Islam
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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

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