

Canadian Association
for the Study of
Islam and Muslims



L'Association canadienne
pour l'étude de l'islam et des
musulmans et musulmanes

CASIM Inaugural Conference

CIBC Hall, McMaster University Student Centre, 3rd floor

May 26-27, 2022

Day 1 (Thursday, May 26)

8:30-9 registration, coffee + pastries

9-9:15 opening comments

- Youcef Soufi, CASIM Chair
- Basit Kareem Iqbal, CASIM Events Officer

9:15-11 Session 1 x 2 panels

Panel A: Textual Genres and Polemic

Chair: Youcef Soufi (Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto)

- Arafat Razzaque (Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto), "Hadith and the Embodiment of Piety at the Dawn of Islamic Ethics"
- Massoud Vahedi (online) (Political Science, York University), "The Early Coffee Wars: Scholarly Debates Concerning the Permissibility of Coffee in the Islamic World"
- Noah H. Taj (Religion & Public Life, Carleton University), "Ibn Kamāl's Fatwa on Ibn 'Arabī: A Study and Translation"
- Nadir Ansari (Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto), "The Delegitimizing Role of the Beginnings"

Panel B: Ethnography of Authority

Chair: Catherine Larouche (Anthropology, Université Laval)

- Sara Hamed (Study of Religion, University of Toronto), "Alif, 'Arif, Kalif: Canadian Islamic Organizations, Dawah, and the Paradox of Organizational Intimacy"
- Arwa Hussain (Religions and Cultures, Concordia University), "Religious Teaching Aids for Children: A Case Study of Female Bohra Entrepreneurs"
- Jean-Michel Landry (Sociology/Anthropology, Carleton University), "Ijtihadic Questions"
- Fachrizal Halim St Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan), "Heretics or Equally Islamic: How the Isma'ilis, 'Alawis, and Druze define 'Islamic' Rituals and Practices"

11-11:15 coffee break

11:15-1 Session 2 x 2 panels

Panel A: Politicized Identities

Chair: Youcef Soufi (Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto)

- Mehdi Rezaia (online) (Music, University of Alberta), "Tarab and/or Toqyān: Music, Politics and [Western] Media in the Context of Contemporary Iranian Society"
- Ehsan Kashfi (online) (Political Science, University of Alberta), "The Discursive and Commemorative Construction of Shia Identity in Post-revolutionary Iran"
- Philippe Sannier (online) (Histoire, Université de Montréal) (online), « Chute et disgrâce des Barmakides (803) : éléments de compréhension et pistes de réflexion »

Panel B: Islamophobic Contexts

Chair: Basit Kareem Iqbal (Anthropology, McMaster University)

- Arij Elmi (Social Work, McMaster University), "Cuties, Blackness, and the Problem of Islamophobia: Re-hierarchizing relations of being towards a theory of Black Muslimness"
- Zeinab Diab (online) (Institut d'études religieuses, Université de Montréal), "Bill 21 in a Conceptual Ecosystem of Otherness: Between Omnipresence and Absence(s)"
- Mahdi Tourage (Religion, Social Justice and Peace Studies, King's College, Western University), "Wounds as Volatile Sites of Meaning Production: Notes on the Wounded and Injured Canadian Soldiers Portrayed in the Museum London Exhibition"
- Krista Riley (Equity, Accessibility, and Academic Programs, Vanier College) and Leila Bdeir (Humanities and Women and Gender Studies, Vanier College), "Participatory Action Research with Muslim Youth in Quebec"

1-2 lunch (catered in CIBC Hall)

2-3:30 Roundtable on "Beginnings"

Chair: Jairan Gahan, CASIM Communications Officer

Panelists:

- Elizabeth Alexandrin (online) (Religion, University of Manitoba)
- Colin Mitchell (History, Dalhousie University)
- Armando Salvatore (Religious Studies, McGill University)
- Jennifer Selby (Religious Studies, Memorial University)
- Liyakat Takim (online) (Religious Studies, McMaster University)

3:30-3:45 coffee break

3:45-5 CASIM General Assembly

Chair: Youcef Soufi, CASIM Chair

dinner (The Buttery, Alumni Memorial Hall)

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Day 2 (Friday, May 27)

8:45-9:15 coffee + pastries

9:15-11 Session 3 x 2 panels

Panel A: Producing Islam(s) in Canada Part I: State of the Field and Future Trends

Chair: Melanie Adrian (Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University)

Panelists:

- Natasha Bakht (online) (Law, University of Ottawa)
- Rehan Sayeed (Anthropology, McGill University)
- Anver Emon (Law; Director, Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto)
- Sahver Kuzucuoglu (online) (Anthropology, Wilfred Laurier University)
- Jennifer Selby (Department of Religious Studies, Memorial University)

Respondents:

- Armando Salvatore (Religious Studies, McGill University)
- Youcef Soufi (Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto)

Panel B: Diasporic and Transnational Relations

Chair: Jairan Gahan (History, University of Alberta)

- Youssef Benzouine (online) (Political Science, Université de Montréal), « Les masculinités des hommes musulmans issus de la diaspora au Québec »
- Zohreh BayatRizi (Sociology, University of Alberta), Rezvaneh Erfani (Sociology, University of Alberta), and Samira Torabi (Anthropology, University of Alberta), "Grieving in a Liminal Space: Examining the Impact of Emotional and Spatial In-between-ness on the Grieving Iranian Diaspora in the Aftermath of the Downing of Flight PS752"
- Sharifa Patel (Canadian Studies, Mount Allison University), "Reimagining Kinship"
- Hamid Akbary (Sociology, University of Calgary) and Dr. Abdie Kazemipur (Sociology, University of Calgary), "Muslim Men and the Liberal Gender Norms: The Inadequacy of Jurisprudential Debates and the Relevance of Social Experiences"

11-11:15 coffee break

11:15-1 Session 4 x 2 panels

Panel A: Producing Islams in Canada Part II: Positionality and Research Methods

Chair: Amélie Barras (Social Science, York University)

Panelists:

- Roshan Arah Jahangeer (Political Science, York University)
- Rachel Brown (online) (Anthropology, University of Victoria)
- Mehmet Ali Basak (online) (Classics/Religious Studies, University of Ottawa)
- Sara Hamed (Religious Studies, University of Toronto)

Respondents:

- Basit Kareem Iqbal (Anthropology, McMaster University)
- Catherine Larouche (Anthropology, Université Laval)

Panel B: Committed but not Pious? Emerging Gendered Ways of Being a “Good Muslim”

Chair: Jairan Gahan (History, University of Alberta)

- Joseph Hill (online) (Anthropology, University of Alberta), “The Pious Sufi Gangster Rapper”
- Samira Torabi (online) (Anthropology, University of Alberta), “It’s Illegal But It’s Halal”
- Hande Gür (online) (Anthropology, University of Alberta), “‘Pious’ but Not ‘Religious’”
- Nazia Binte Mahmud (online) (Anthropology, University of Alberta), “Faithful Stories: Delineating Mazar Culture in Bangladesh”

1-2:15 lunch (catered in CIBC Hall)

2:15-4 Session 5 x 2 panels

Panel A: Book Talk on Leaving Iberia: Islamic Law and Christian Conquest in North West Africa

Chair: Jairan Gahan (History, University of Alberta)

- Jocelyn Hendrickson (History, University of Alberta) with Anver Emon (Law; Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto)

Panel B: Theory/Analysis/Institutions

Chair: Catherine Larouche (Anthropology, Université Laval)

- M. Shobhana Xavier (Religion, Queen’s University), “Between Islamic Mysticism and Popular Spirituality: Mapping the Beginnings of Sufism in Canada”
- Armando Salvatore (Religious Studies, McGill University) and Kieko Obuse (Kobe City University of Foreign Studies; Religious Studies, McGill University), “Ambivalent Beginnings in Canadian Islamic Studies: Wilfred Cantwell Smith and Toshihiko Izutsu at McGill”
- Emily Hanlon (online) (Classics and Religious Studies, University of Ottawa), “Sufism, Sufi-Adjacent, or Something Else? Gurdjieff’s Legacy in Canada”
- Mohannad Abusarah (Study of Religion, University of Toronto), “New Beginnings in New Formations: A Theoretical Framework to Beginnings”

4-4:30 closing discussion

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