

AIM OF THE WORKSHOP

The Old World dry belt from the Atlantic to the Hindukush experienced in the early Islamic empire a prosperity and mobility of resources and people which was unprecedented in that vast realm. As in the Roman Mediterranean World, the economy played a vital role in the integration of the empire.

This workshop aims at developing an empirically based theoretical framework to gain a better understanding of the economic structures within the early Islamic empire, as well as their potential as an integrative force connecting the different regions governed by the early caliphate.

The workshop proposes a more comprehensive view of economy, encompassing road and sea networks and their maintenance, monetary and fiscal politics, agricultural improvements in irrigation and crops, industrial structures, and the influences of climate conditions. Beyond examining these economic dimensions of the early Islamic empire, the workshop shall also consider questions of theory and methodology for future research.

More: <https://www.islamic-empire.uni-hamburg.de/en/news-and-events/conferences/economy-workshop.html>

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Workshop Program: The Measure of Integration – Economic Structures and Resources of the Early Islamic Empire



Feb. 16-17, 2018

Universität Hamburg

Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1,

AS-Saal



Fri., Feb. 16, 2018 **AS-Saal, Edmund-Siemers-Allee (ESA)**

9.00 am Registration

9.15 am **Stefan Heidemann (Universität Hamburg)**
Welcome/ Introduction

TRADE BY LAND AND SEA

9.30 am **Marek Jankowiak (University of Birmingham)**
Slave trade and slavery in the Islamic world in the 9th and
10th centuries

11.00 am Coffee Break

11.30 am **Timothy Power (Zayed University Abu Dhabi)**
Long-Distance Trade in the Early Islamic Empire (c. 651-945)

1.00 pm Lunch Break

THE MONETARY ECONOMY

2.00 pm **Stefan Heidemann (Universität Hamburg)**
Money as Measure of Integration

3.30 pm Coffee Break

4.00 pm **Maya Shatzmiller (Western University Canada)**
Why did the Early Islamic Middle East have the highest
standards of living? Prices, Wages and Population Levels

5.30 pm Concluding Remarks

Sat., Feb. 17, 2018 **AS-Saal, Edmund-Siemers-Allee (ESA)**

STATE, ECONOMIC RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENT

9.30 am **Hugh Kennedy (SOAS London)**
Early Islamic Government and the Infrastructure of Trade

11.00 am Coffee Break

11.30 am **Michael Decker (University of South Florida)**
Empire of Plants: Farming and Trade in the First Islamic
Centuries

1.00 pm Lunch Break

2.00 pm **John Haldon (Princeton University)**
States, fiscal systems and the role of the environment

3.30 pm Coffee Break

ROUNDTABLE: THEORIZING THE ECONOMY OF THE EARLY ISLAMIC EMPIRE

4.00 pm Discussion

5.30 pm End of the Conference