

About

The Gotha Research Library of the University of Erfurt, in cooperation with the University of Nizwa, is convening a workshop for graduate students and junior researchers, which is intended to serve as an introduction to the study of Asian and Middle Eastern manuscripts and manuscript traditions, with a special focus on Arabic manuscripts.

Participants are introduced to one of the largest German collections of Arabic manuscripts and given the opportunity to work with the holdings of the Gotha Research Library, carrying out small projects of historical research. Dedicated study sessions in which selected manuscripts and artefacts preserved in Gotha are introduced and discussed are complemented by cultural activities.

Venue

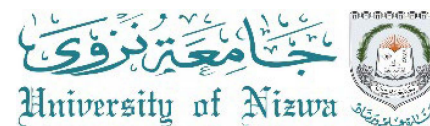
Friedenstein Castle
Hall of Mirrors (Spiegelsaal)
Schlossplatz 1
99867 Gotha
Germany

Contact

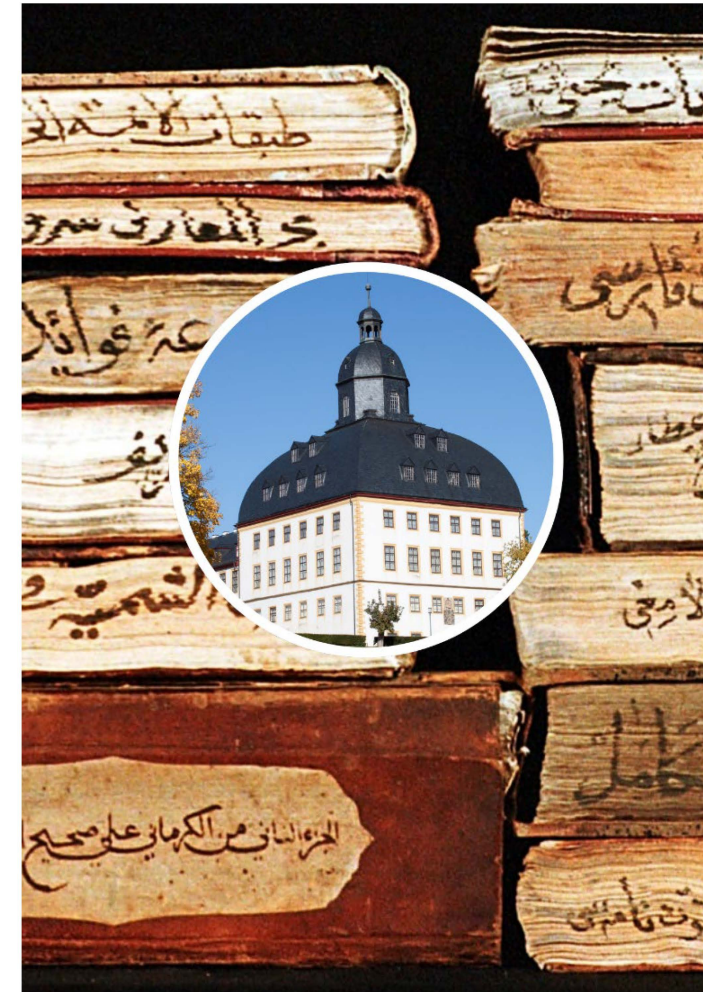
feras.krimsti@uni-erfurt.de

Organization

Feras Krimsti and Khaireddin Abdulhadi



III.: 'Ajā'ib al-makhlūqāt wa-gharā'ib al-mawjūdāt
Gotha Research Library, Ms. orient. A 1507, Bl. 23r



Introduction to the Study of Asian and Middle Eastern Manuscripts

Summer School at the
Gotha Research Library
3-5 August 2026



9:00–9:30

Welcome and opening remarks

Feras Krimsti (Gotha Research Library/ University of Erfurt)

Khaireddin Abdulhadi (University of Nizwa)

9:30–10:30

Bibliotheca Arabica: Towards a New History of Arabic Literature

Boris Liebrezn (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig)

10:30–11:00

Break

11:00–12:30

Introduction to philological material analysis, part 1

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

12:30–14:00

Lunch break

14:00–15:30

Introduction to philological material analysis, part 2

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

15:30–16:00

Break

16:00–17:30

Evening lecture

“Ulrich Jasper Seetzen (1767–1811) and His Role in the Formation of Gotha’s Oriental Manuscript Collection”

Feras Krimsti (Gotha Research Library/ University of Erfurt)

Day 2 (4 August)

9:00–10:30

Introduction to marginal notes, part 1

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

10:30–11:00

Break

11:00–12:30

Introduction to marginal notes, part 2

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

12:30–14:00

Lunch break

14:00–15:30

Seals in Arabic manuscripts: their history and use

Boris Liebrezn (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig)

15:30–16:00

Break

16:00–16:30

The Weportal “Qalamos” for Asian and African manuscript traditions: research and use

Feras Krimsti (Gotha Research Library/ University of Erfurt)

16:30–18:00

Evening lecture

"The Sacred Pole (*bayraq*) of Local Saints in Southern Yemen"

Mohammed Atbuosh (University of Erfurt)

Day 3 (5 August)

9:00–10:30

Guided tour in Friedenstien Castle and Museum

10:30–11:00

Break

11:00–12:30

Audition certificates in manuscripts: theory

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

12:30–14:00

Lunch break

14:00–15:30

Audition certificates in manuscripts: hands-on session

Said Aljoumani (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures/ University of Hamburg)

15:30–16:00

Break

16:00–16:30

Guided tour through the Gotha Research Library

16:30–18:00

Evening lecture

“Mamluk Manuscripts about Hippiatrics and Horsemanship: Contents and Contexts”

Mohamed Ibrahim (Ayn Shams University, Cairo)