

Introduction

While in a narrow classical understanding of secularization, the thesis that secularization is a special Western path can be affirmed, a broader perspective raises the question of whether, on the basis of other conceptions of the relationship to the divine, the sacred, the heteronomous, a corresponding non-religious or "other-than-religious" or secular realm could be or was actually thought of in other traditions. This questioning does not aim a rejection of the Western-Enlightenment differentiation, but rather the possibility of opening and internally differentiating the concept of secularity by examining non-Christian semantic and structural constellations of the relationship between the "religious" and the "secular". It is therefore necessary to question the opposition of both spheres in a way that can reveal alternative correlations between religion/dat/din and the profane/world or also the interconnections and dialectical dynamics of the structural constellations in question.

In the context of our conference the discussion aims specifically at the Jewish and Muslim traditions and their respective, but corresponding understanding of religion as Dat or Din (in its sense as law) and their relationship to the World, the Worldly, the Profane, the Political or whatever term should be conceived off as the included or opposed other of the divine order or framework. How are the Absolute and the Relative, the Divine and the Worldly related in the traditions of Torah and Koran? What kind of oppositions or dialectics have been developed in Jewish and Islamic traditions, what possibilities did not yet enter our dominant ideological frameworks? Are there ideas and dynamics that might even enrich the Western traditions and, in the end, help us to develop our multicultural societies by including a variety of semantic, religious, cultural ideas?

Information

Date and Time

November 28th, 2023: 11:00 – 19:30 Uhr
November 29th, 2023: 09:00 – 17:00 Uhr

Location

Großer Senat in Neue Aula:
Geschwister-Scholl-Platz
72074 Tübingen

Language

Speeches and panel discussions are held in English

Registration

For registration, please send an email to:
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Universität Tübingen

Jüdisch-Islamische Forschungsstelle (JIF)
Theologie - Hermeneutik - Rechtslehre - Bildung
Center for Jewish and Islamic Theologies,
Hermeneutics, Law and Education



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Torah – Worldliness – Quran: Beyond the Common Concepts of 'Secular' and 'Religious'

International Conference
Tübingen, 28.-29.11.2023

Jüdisch-Islamische Forschungsstelle (JIF)
Theologie - Hermeneutik - Rechtslehre - Bildung
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Tuesday November 28th, 2023

10:00 *Welcome, coffe*

11:00 **Introduction**
Fahimah Ulfat / Asher J. Mattern

11:15 **Beyond the secular coupling of the Jewish and Islamic traditions**
Lena Salaymeh

12:00 **Kodesh and Chol: A World between Sanctification and Profanation**
Asher J. Mattern

12:45 *Lunch*

14:00 **Navigating the Divine and Legal Norms in the Secular: Insights from Islamic Law**
Rana Alsoufi

14:45 **Shimon bar Yochai: Clean Hands?**
Sophie Bigot-Goldblum

15:30 *Break*

16:00 **Midrash and the Making of the Christianity and Judaism**
Daniel Boyarin

17:00 **Interreligious City Tour**
Reinhold Boschki

19:30 *Dinner*

Wednesday November 29th, 2023

8:30 *Welcome, coffe*

9:00 **Beyond the sacred-profane divide: the oath in rabbinic literature**
Noémie Benchimol

9:45 **The Three Dialectical Dimensions of the Concept of Religion (dīn) in Islamic Theology: Law, Belief and Spirituality as a Spectrum Between the Public Sphere and Individual Truths**
Florian Lützen

10:30 *Break*

11:00 **Between the Sacred and Profane in the Thought of Abraham Isaak Kook, Chief Rabbi of British Mandatory Palestine**
Paul Fenton

11:45 **Judaism and the Moral Requirements of Atheism and Secularism**
Hanoch Ben-Pazi

12:30 *Lunch*

13:45 **In the World and Beyond: The Place of Hope in Islamic Thought**
Ufuk Topkara

Wednesday November 29th, 2023

14:30 **Worldview, Wordliness, and World-to-Come in Herman Cohen**
Asher Biemann

15:15 *Break*

15:30 **The Will of God, the Will of the People, and the Challenge of Islamic Law in the Modern State**
Khaled Abou El Fadl

16:30 **Final Discussion**

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17:00