

Cartographies of the Qur'ān: Cultural contexts and the linguistic landscape

This workshop seeks to explore the intricate linguistic landscapes of the Qur'ān, with a particular emphasis on evidence stemming from the often-overlooked Red Sea region. By engaging with experts across diverse disciplines – Qur'ān, Semitic Languages, Ancient South Arabian and Ethiopian studies – and utilizing a range of methodologies, including epigraphic, literary, codicological, philological, and lexicographical approaches, we aim to foster a more nuanced and balanced discourse on this seminal text.

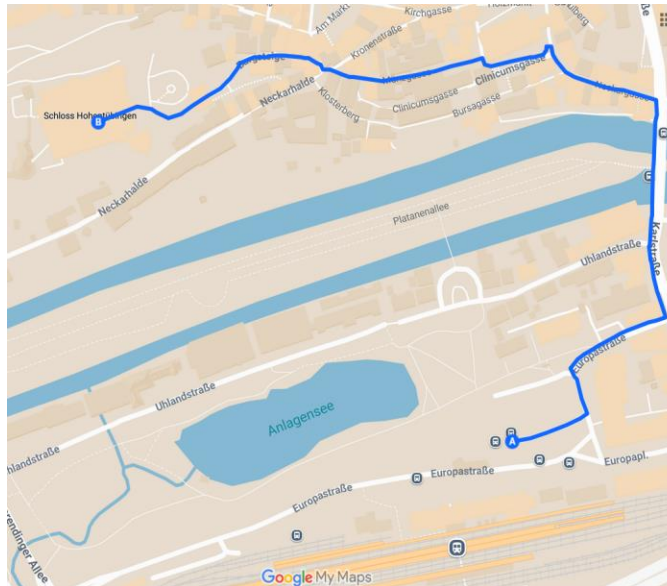


European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



Universitätsbund
Tübingen e. V.

The workshop is funded by the European Research Council, as part of the QaSLA project (ERC, QaSLA, 866043), and the Universitätsbund Tübingen e. V.



Fürstenzimmer, Schloss Hohentübingen,
Burgsteige 11
72070 Tübingen

Organizer:
Stefanie Rudolf
stefanie.rudolf@uni-tuebingen.de

Director:
Holger Zellentin
holger.zellentin@uni-tuebingen.de

www.qasla.eu

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Cartographies of the Qur'ān: Cultural contexts and the linguistic landscape

Evangelisch-Theologie Fakultäten/Seminar für
Religionswissenschaft und Judaistik/Institutum Judaicum



Workshop Timetable

JULY 28, 2025

10:00 Walking Tour Tübingen

11:00 Welcome Coffee

11:15 Holger Zellentin/ Stefanie Rudolf
Welcome Address and Opening of the Workshop

1st Session

(Chair: Holger Zellentin)

11:30 Christian Robin (CNRS, Paris)
The language of the Christians of Najrān

12:15 Hamza Zafer (University of Princeton)
Axumite Arabia, African Diaspora, and the Quranic Community

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

2nd Session

(Chair: Raashid Goyal)

14:00 Stefanie Rudolf (University of Tübingen)
"Lord of the East and the West" – Some new suggestions on Ethiopian borrowings in the Qur'ān

14:45 Georg Hatke (University of Vienna)
Red Sea Currents: Ethiopian and South Arabian Vocabulary and Themes in the Qur'ān

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Lasse Løvlund Toft (University of Oslo)
From Mare Nostrum to Aksūm and Ḥimyar: On Roman Egypt's Sphere of Influence and the Underappreciated Potential of Egyptian Greek and Coptic Traditions for the Qur'ān's Literay Contextualisation

16:45 Letizia Cerqueglini (Tel Aviv University)
Path of Souls: Space in Language, Cognition, and Culture of Life and Afterlife between Ancient Egypt, Arabia, and the Levant

18:00 Dinner

JULY 29, 2025

3rd Session

(Chair: Nadja Abuhussein)

10:15 Mohammad Ababneh (University of Halle)
Zu den Bedeutungen von kbr und seinen Derivaten in der Sprache des Korans und in den frühnordarabischen Inschriften

11:00 Razieh-Sadat Mousavi (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)/ Stefanie Rudolf
The rising of the stars (nāši'at al-layl)

11:45 Coffee break

12:15 Suleyman Dost (University of Toronto)
Ge'ez in the Qur'ān: A Diachronic Reading

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

4th Session

(Chair: Ana Davitashvili)

14:00 David Kiltz (Free University of Berlin)
Words and concepts: spatio-temporal dimension of loan-words

14:45 Hamza Zafer/ Stefanie Rudolf
Methodological Discussion

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Round Table
Loanwords in the Qur'ān – methodology, challenges, and consequences

16:30 Holger Zellentin
Final discussion, decision about publication and farewell address

17:00 Stocherkahn/ Punting

18:00 Dinner

End of conference