



In conversation with the Prophet Muhammad?

The hadith between existential relevance and discrepancy
in history, theology, and pedagogy

7 – 8 October 2026

Organisation

AIWG Research Group: „*In conversation with the Prophet Muhammad?*“

Prof. Dr. Ruggero Vimercati Sanseverino
Dr. Hossam Ouf
Dr. Besnik Sinani

Venue

Zentrum für Islamische Theologie (ZITH)
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und Raumfahrt



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ZENTRUM FÜR
ISLAMISCHE THEOLOGIE
ZITH

Wednesday, 7. October 2026

9:30 – 10:00 **Arrival and Coffee**

10:00 – 10:30 **Welcome and introduction to the Project**
Ruggero Vimercati Sanseverino (Tübingen)

10:30 – 12:00 **Panel I: Hadith as a Resource in Islamic Education**

Yasar Sarikaya (Gießen): Why Hadith? The Relevance of Prophetic Traditions in Religious Education

Patrick Brooks (Gießen): 'The Prophet (pbuh) said: ...' - On the Role and Use of Hadiths in Textbooks of Islamic Religious Education

Ulvi Karagedik (Karlsruhe): Religious Education Approaches to Engaging with Challenging Hadiths: The Case of Female Leadership, Religious Violence, and Image Prohibitions

12:00 – 13:30 **Lunch break**

13:30 – 15:00 **Panel II: Narrative Prophetology**

Mohammad Gharaibeh (Berlin): Relation through veneration – Relicts, stories, and characteristics of the Prophet and their meaning for the spiritual live

Besnik Sinani (Tübingen): Post-Colonial Sīra Writing and the Search for Prophetic Authenticity: Modern Muslim Prophetology after Empire

Kenan Musić (Sarajevo): Developing Critical Thinking Skills through the Sīrah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him): The Example of the Curriculum in Bosnia and Herzegovina

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30 – 17:00 **Panel III: Disclosing the Context of Hadith**

Federico Salvaggio & Dr. Sania Aftar (Trieste): The Prophet and His Interlocutors: A Computational Inquiry into the Relational Language of Ḥadīth

Muhammad Ragab (Braunschweig): Agentic AI and Human Reason in Hadith Scholarship: Toward a Human-Guided Computational Hermeneutics of Hadith

Mustafa Cetinkaya (Berlin): The application of Asbāb wurūd al-ḥadīth within the various sub-disciplines of Hadith scholarship

18:00 **Dinner**

Thursday, 8. October 2026

9:30 – 10:00 Arrival and Coffee

10:00 – 11:30 Panel IV: The Textual Nature of Hadith

Ruggero Vimercati Sanseverino (Tübingen): The Hadith as transmitted testimony. Epistemological and hermeneutical considerations

Haidar Hobballah (Birmingham): Hadith between Report and Discourse: A Pragmatic-Hermeneutical Perspective on the Imami Tradition

Hany Rashwan (Al-Ain, UAE): Hadith between Orality and Theology: The Prophet's Voice

11:30 – 13:00 Lunch break

13:00 – 14:30 Panel V: The Collection of Hadith beyond Authenticity

Iman Al Rujaibi (Oman): Experiencing the Prophet Through Hadith: The Spiritual and Sulūk (Spiritual Path) Dimension in Ibādī Literature

Belal Al-Abbas (Cambridge): The Ahl al-ḥadīth, Hadith Collections, and the Formation of a Sunni Identity

Stephen R. Burge (London): Why Did Scholars Continue to Compile Ḥadīth Collections?

14:30 – 15:00 Coffee break

15:00 – 16:30 Panel VI: Debating the Hadith

Mehmet Hayri Kırbaşoğlu (Ankara): Controversial and Contradictory Prophetic Reports: Genuine-Real Problem or Hypothetical-Artificial one.

Peyman Ünügür Tekin (Ankara): Reconstructing Meaning in the Hadith Commentary Tradition: A Study of Hadith Narrations on Ikhtilāf (Gender Mixing)

Hossam Ouf (Tübingen): Who Is the Hadith Addressing? The Model Reader and the Hermeneutics of Problematic Hadith

16:30 – 17:30 Closing Panel

18:00 Dinner