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*Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies Bulletin* welcomes articles, project descriptions, conference reports, book reviews and notes on all topics connected with the written cultures of the Mediterranean Near and Middle East and related traditions or offering a comparative perspective. Contributions should be sent to Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies, Hiob Ludolf Centre for Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies, Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg, Alsterterrasse 1, 20354 Hamburg, Germany; [eugenia.sokolinski@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:eugenia.sokolinski@uni-hamburg.de). For submission guidelines and former issues visit <https://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/en/comst/publications/bulletin.html>.

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For a full programme visit <<https://sites.google.com/view/conference-syriacstudiesintheuk/programme>>.

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## Misattributions and Forgeries in Middle Eastern Manuscript Traditions

**Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, 16–17 May 2024**

Middle Eastern Manuscript Traditions (MEMaT) is a multidisciplinary project which aims at studying various aspects of manuscript production, utilization, and transmission history. A collaboration between Sabine Schmidtke (Institute of Advanced Studies) and George A. Kiraz (Institute of Advanced Studies and Beth Mardutho), it is dedicated to organizing thematic workshops. Its 2024 workshop, co-organized by the project PIs and Grigory Kessel (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna), was dedicated to Misattributions and Forgeries in Middle Eastern Manuscript Tradition. The purpose of this workshop was to study misattribution of content in and forgeries of Middle Eastern manuscript cultures as intellectual history. This across-discipline workshop aimed to cover manuscripts in various languages, including, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Syriac and Ethiopic.

The first panels focused on Arabic and Islamic manuscripts and featured such papers as Ali Aghaei (Humboldt University, Berlin), 'Forgeries in Qur'ān Colophons: The Case of the Khayqānī Qur'ān and the Challenge of Dating Early Quranic Manuscripts'; Sigalit Chacham (Independent Scholar), 'Allah will Destroy the Life of Whoever Stole my Books'; Jan Thiele (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid), 'Misattributions in Ash'arī Literature', and Mehmet Necmeddin Beşikci (University of Cambridge, UK), 'Uncovering Ismā'īl Gelenbevī's Hidden Sources: An Examination of Autograph and Misattributed Manuscripts'. Nir Shafir (University of California San Diego) spoke on 'False Authorship in the Polarized Society of the Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Empire'. Arabic language tradition was also the main theme of the papers by Sonja Brentjes (Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science, Berlin; Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton) paper 'Numerous Attributions of Arabic Versions of Euclid's *Elements* to Three Actors: al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf b. Matar (d. after 827), Ishaq b. Hunayn (d. 911), and Thabit b. Qurra (d. 901) – Are They All False?' and by Valentina Sagaria Rossi (University of Rome Tor Vergata), 'Al-Safadī's Hand and Not al-Safadī's Hand in a Manuscript of *al-Wāfi bi-l-Wafayāt*'. Emily Cottrell (Laboratoire

Mondes Sémitiques, Paris; Maison Denise Masson, Marrakech) presented on ‘A C-14 Dating of the *Adāb al-Falāsifa* of Hunayn b. Ishāq (808–873 CE)’. Mónika Schönléber (Avicenna Institute of Middle Eastern Studies, Hungary) spoke of ‘Misattributing *futūh* Works in Arabic Historiography’, and Mahmoud Zaki (Qatar National Library) presented on ‘Tracing Forgeries: Cases of Fake Notes in Arabic Manuscripts’. Persian ‘forgeries’ were the topic of the talk by Ali B. Langroudi (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen), “‘I Made This Prologue and Wrote the Four Gospels in Persian.’ Two Authorship Claims for One Text’. A more recent definition of a forgery was used by Eléonore Cellard (Independent Scholar) in her paper on ‘Modern Forgeries of Kufic Qur’ans’.

Hebrew manuscripts were in the focus of the papers by Eveline Handby (Macquarie University, Sydney), ‘The Anatomy of a Bad Fake: A Closer Look at ‘Ancient’ Hebrew Books from Turkey’ and Binyamin Katzoff (Talmud Department, Bar Ilan University), ‘Could This Be a Mistake? The Strange Case of the Misleading Numeration of Chapters in the *Tosefta*’.

Christian orient represented by Ethiopic, with the paper by Ted Erho (Universität Hamburg; Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München) on ‘Patristic Misattributions in Early Homiletical Literature Extant in Ethiopic’, and Syriac, with papers by Ephrem A. Ishac (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna) on ‘Syriac Liturgical Texts with Multi Touch Attributions’ and by Catalin-Stefan Popa (Romanian Academy, Bucharest; The Institute for Advanced Studies in Levant Culture and Civilization) on ‘An Unknown Harklean Version in a Syriac Gospel Fragmentary Manuscript (End of 7th c.). Attribution and Liturgical Function’.

For a full programme visit <<https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/imafo/events/event-details/misattributions-and-forgeries-in-middle-eastern-manuscript-traditions>>.

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## Cataloguing Greek Manuscripts in the Digital Age

**Berlin State Library, 17–18 June 2024**

In a collaborative project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK, the University of London, Warburg Institute, the University of Torino and the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin are cataloguing and digitizing the collection of Greek manuscripts (107 manuscripts within the Manuscripta Phillipsiana) acquired by Cardinal Guillaume Pellicier (1490–1568) during his time as French ambassador in Venice between 1539 and 1542.