Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam

Averil Cameron and Lawrence I. Conrad (eds.)

THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

VOLUME 1: PROBLEMS IN THE LITERARY SOURCE MATERIAL

This volume focuses on the problems researchers face when using (Byzantine) Greek, Syriac and Arabic sources together for the reconstruction of Near Eastern history from 400 c. 800.

Contributions to the volume set the stage for a critical re-reading and revisionist interpretations of selected sources in the various cultural and literary traditions. The volume thus brings together neighbouring disciplines in ways that shed new light on this vitally important time in history.

1. Michael Whitby, Greek Historical Writing after Procopius: Variety and Vitality
2. Averil Cameron, New Themes and Styles in Greek Literature: Seventh-Eighth Centuries
6. Nadia Maria El Cheickh, Byzantine Leaders in Arabic-Muslim Texts
7. Stefan Leder, The Literary Use of the Khabar: A Basic Form of Historical Writing

..."...the need for such a project as this has been felt by students... concerned with the birth of the new faith and the evolution of Islamic society." (C. Edmund Bosworth)"

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An interdisciplinary study of the transition from Byzantine to Islamic administration and a welcome survey of recent archaeology of an understudied period. (Gadys Frantz-Murphy)

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THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

VOLUME 2: LAND USE AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

This volume revisits archaeological evidence from Syria, Palestine, the Arabian Peninsula, Egypt and Iraq describing a variety of land-use patterns and the development of a particular type of settlement across the Near East.

2. Henry Innes Macalard, Settlements and Settlement Patterns in Northern and Central Transandria, c. 550 – c. 750
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10. Michael G. Morony, Land Use and Settlement Patterns in Late Sasanian and Early Islamic Iraq
11. Aalst Northedge, Archaeology and New Urban Settlement in Early Islamic Syria and Iraq

"This volume presents a much needed addition to the history of the transit from Byzantine to Islamic administration and a welcome survey of recent archaeology of an understudied period." (Gadys Frantz-Murphy)

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THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

VOLUME 3: STATES, RESOURCES AND ARMIES

A comparative analysis of Byzantine, Sasanian and Muslim armies and their impact on state resources. Contributions discuss the organization and financing of the army in the late Roman state, the transformations and continuities of the late Sasanian state, and authority and armies in the early Muslim state. Thus, the volume brings together perspectives from neighbouring fields, presents military issues in an intercultural manner and assembles important pieces of knowledge in a comprehensive manner.

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Series: SLAEI - Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam

# 1.4

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John Haldon and Lawrence I. Conrad (eds.)

THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC NEAR EAST

VOLUME 4: ELITES OLD AND NEW

A collection of critical analyses of the structure, historical development, and composition of the elite strata of late Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic societies in the eastern Mediterranean basin. Culture change, economic foundations, political roles and function, social composition, and background and origins of old and new elites are the focus of the contributions by scholars who deal with the fate of the late Roman elites and its successors.

1. Hugh Kennedy, Elite Incomes in the Early Islamic State
2. William Lancaster and Fidelita Lancaster, Concepts of Leadership in Bedouin Society
3. Leise Brubaker, Elites and Patronage in Early Byzantium: the Evidence from Hagois Demetrios at Thessalonike
4. Averil Cameron, Democratization Revisited: Culture and Late Antique and Early Byzantine Elites
5. Nadia Maria El Cheickh, Byzantine Leaders in Arabic-Muslim Texts
6. Elisabeth Jeffrey, Notes Towards a Discussion of the Depiction of the Umayyads in Byzantine Literature
7. Claudia Rapp, Bishops in Late Antiquity: a New Social and Urban Elite?
8. Mikhail B. Piotrovsky, Late Ante and Early Medieval Yemen: Settlement Traditions and Innovations
10. Ralph-Johannes Lieu, Zum Einfluss der arabischen Expansion auf die byzantinische Militärorganisation
11. Zeev Rubin, Nobility, Monarchy and Legitimation under the Later Sasanians
12. Michael G. Morony, Social Elites in Iraq and Iran. After the Conquest...

"...the articles collected in this volume... are without exception of a very high calibre and make a very useful contribution to our understanding of the elites of this fascinating epoch." (Edward Hoyland)
Robert Schick

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES OF PALESTINE FROM BYZANTINE TO ISLAMIC RULE
AN HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY

An assessment of the nature and social continuity of Christian communities in Palestine from 602-813. By synthesizing literary and archaeological evidence, it provides a detailed discussion of disparate historical and archaeological data.

In the first part, the Sasanian, Byzantine and early Muslim invasions of southern Syria and the changing of government policies towards Christians are discussed. Topical studies about church use, conversion and iconoclasm, are also included. The second part offers a useful alphabetical list of more than 500 sites that document Christian and Muslim presence and settlement in the area.

"...the book does a great service to those interested in the area and its Christian population..." (John Haldon)

Martin Hinds; ed. by Jere Bacharach, Lawrence I. Conrad, and Patricia Crone

STUDIES IN EARLY ISLAMIC HISTORY
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY G. R. HAWTING

Collection of all of Martin Hinds’ (1941–1988) full-length articles which appeared in journals as well as one of his articles for the Encyclopaedia of Islam, 2nd Edition. Most of the articles have to do with the early period of Islamic history, while two others deal with the early Abbasid caliphate.

The volume is especially important in light of the fact that all of the articles were revised by the editors based on Hinds’ own corrected copies:
1. Khilāfī Political Alignments and Their Background in the Mid-Seventh Century A.D
2. The Murder of the Caliph ʿUthmān
3. The Sīfīh Arbitration Agreement
4. The Banners and Battle Cries of the Arabs at Sīfīh (A.D. 657)
5. Sayf ibn ʿUmar’s Sources on Arabia
6. A Letter from the Governor of Egypt Concerning Egyptian-Nubian Relations in 141/758
7. Maghāzī and Sīra in Early Islamic Scholarship
8. The First Arab Conquests in Fars
9. Mitra

“Hinds’ articles are essential reading for any specialist in early Islamic history.” (Michael Bates)

Elizabeth Savage

A GATEWAY TO HELL, A GATEWAY TO PARADISE
THE NORTH AFRICAN RESPONSE TO THE ARAB CONQUEST

This book is a study of the early history of the Ibadiya in North Africa, a "moderate" movement among the Kharijis which from its base in Basra gradually spread among the Berbers of the Maghrib in the 750s. The Berbers found in this new religious allegiance an attractive ideology with which to rebel against the central caliphate. An Ibadi imamate, headed by the Rustamid dynasty, was founded in Tahart in 160 or 162/777 or 778 and lasted until 296/909, when it fell to the Fatimids.

The book is divided into seven chapters, an introduction and a conclusion. After a brief introduction to the Ibadiya and a survey of the Ibadite sources, the successive chapters examine the nature and ideological underpinnings of the Ibadite imamate and its consolidation in North Africa, the economic bases of the Ibadite policy, some evidence of Christian support for (even if fragmentary) elements of the Ibadite imamate, the tribal alliances of the Ibadis, and finally, the course of Ibadism after the fall of the Rustamids in 296/909.

Suliman Bashheer

ARABS AND OTHERS IN EARLY ISLAM

This work investigates available early Arabic hadith and exegetical literature in order to determine the great complexity of how Arabs, Muslims and Arab-Muslims viewed themselves and members of other communities.

In particular, it focuses on the relation between definitions of “Arabness” and “otherness” with Islamic ascriptions of believers and nonbelievers and endeavors to trace the changing of these views over time. Moreover, this is an in-depth analysis of a series of hadiths and sins that dissuades when, where, why, and by whom traditions were circulated during the 8th and 9th centuries.

I. Bedouins and Non-Arabs
II. The Impact of the Arab Policy in Retrospect
III. The Great Fusion
IV. Ambivalent Attitudes
V. Apocalyptic Insecurities
VI. Summary Discussion and Concluding Notes
For the Continuatio of the Samaritan Chronicle of Abū l-Fath al-Sāmirī al-Dinḍī: Text and Annotated Translation

Josef Horovitz, edited by Lawrence I. Conrad

The Earliest Biographies of the Prophet and Their Authors

Fred M. Donner

Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing

James E. Lindsay (ed.)

Ibn 'Asākir and Early Islamic History

Milka Levy-Rubin (ed.)

The Continuatio of the Samaritan Chronicle of Abū l-Fath al-Sāmirī al-Dinḍī: Text and Annotated Translation

A complete facsimile edition of the previously unedited Samaritan sequel to the Kitāb al-Tāhir by Abū l-Fath al-Sāmirī al-Dinḍī (d. ca. 1335).

The edition of this chronicle photographically reproduces Paris BN Ms. Samaritain 10 (pp. 203–264), which, written in Middle Arabic, seems easily readable but poses a plethora of editorial problems.

The author entitled the work a Continuatio, and translated it into English with full editorial and explanatory annotation. The work describes the local history of the Samaritan people in Palestine up to the 10th century and contains valuable information about major political events presented according to caliphs up to al-Rāḍī (d. 934).

"I oprette que la Continuatio est une source historique importante" (Claude Gilliot)

Milka Levy-Rubin, Curator Emerita
The National Library of Israel

The Earliest Biographies of the Prophet and Their Authors

Josef Horovitz (1874-1931) wrote this classic monograph a century ago in two parts in German. The editor added footnotes, corrections and the preface, and it is now a book in its own right.

The translation was prepared by Marmaduke Pickthall (d. 1936). Lawrence I. Conrad, who re-edited the book also presents a slightly corrected textual version, expanding and updating the notes and bibliography and adding a new introduction dealing with Horovitz's and other orientalist's work on early Islam in the early 20th century.

Horovitz deals with thirteen early scholars who transmitted traditions or compiled sīra or maghāzī works, such as Urwa b. al-Zubair (d. 713), Ibn Hādī (d. 767) and al-Walīqī (d. 823).

1. Maghāzī Authorities among the Tibā‘īn
2. The Early Medinans
3. The Students of al-Zuhri
4. Maghāzī under the Early ‘Abbāsid

Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing

How and why did Muslims first come to write their own history? The author argues in this work that the Islamic historical tradition arose not out of idle curiosity, or through imitation of antique models, but as a response to a variety of challenges facing the Islamic community during its first several centuries.

In the first part, the author presents an overview of four approaches that have characterized scholarship on the literary sources, including the source-critical and the skeptical approaches, and then it discusses historiographical problems raised by the Qur’ān and hadith.

In the second part, the work analyzes major themes in historical narratives and presents formal and structural characteristics of early Islamic historiography. The monograph concludes with the proposition of a four-stage chronology regarding the evolution of historical writing in Arabic.

"... this book ... deserves to become the first that teachers introduce to students." (Richard Bullet)

Ibn ‘Asākir’s massive Ta’rikh madīnat Dimashq (TMD) is a veritable gold mine of information for our understanding of the first five and one-half centuries of Islamic history. This book offers important insights on the mechanics of Arabic historiography, in particular on biographical sources from the Middle period. Moreover, two contributions show that Ibn ‘Asākir pursued a political and sectarian agenda within his TMD.

1. James E. Lindsay, Ibn ‘Asākir. His Ta’rikh madīnat Dimashq and its Usefulness for Understanding Early Islamic History
2. Sultan A. Moursi, Jesus According to Ibn ‘Asākir
5. Steven C. Judd, Ibn ‘Asākir’s Sources for the Late Umayyad Period

Appendices: Publication History of TMD; Studies Addressing TMD; Major Lacunae in TMD; Pre-Islamic Sacred Biographies in TMD; Muhammad the Rāshidun, and the Umayyad Caliphs in TMD.

"... le livre... offre tout d’abord une présentation détaillée de cet ouvrage." Antoine Borrut

The Continuatio of the Samaritan Chronicle of Abū l-Fath al-Sāmirī al-Dinḍī: Text and Annotated Translation

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Robert G. Hoyland (ed.)

**THE LATE ANTIQUE WORLD OF EARLY ISLAM**

**MUSLIMS AMONG CHRISTIANS AND JEWS IN THE EAST MEDITERRANEAN**

This book offers a number of innovative studies on the three main communities of the East Mediterranean lands—Muslims, Jews, and Christians—in the aftermath of the seventh-century Arab conquests. It focuses principally on how the Christian majority were affected by and adapted to their loss of political power in such arenas as language use, identity construction, church building, pilgrimage, and the role of women. Attention is also paid to how the Muslim community defined itself, administered justice, and regulated relations with non-Muslims.

This work will be important for anyone interested in the ways in which the cultures and traditions of the late antique Mediterranean world were transformed in the course of the seventh to tenth centuries by the establishment of the new Muslim political elite and the gradual emergence of an Islamic Empire.

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Jens Scheiner and Damien Janos (eds.)

**THE PLACE TO GO**

**CONTEXTS OF LEARNING IN BAGHDAD, 750-1000 C.E.**

This work focuses on the intellectual and educational history of Baghdad in the early 'Abbasid and Bāyḍ verdicts periods (8th-10th centuries). It covers a wide range of disciplines taught in the metropolis before the institutionalization of the madrasa system.

Among these fields of knowledge are Arabic poetry and literature, the transmission of prophetic reports, Arabic historiography and astronomical-astrological teaching. Christian learning in the city is highlighted by two contributions, while two more papers focus on Jewish practices of knowledge production.

The volume seeks to promote a better understanding of Baghdad's multi-cultural circles of learning, the transmission of knowledge, and common patterns of patronage during this period.


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Averil Cameron, Lawrence I. Conrad, John Haldon, Geoffrey King (eds.)

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**SET OF 4 VOLUMES**

Volume 1: Problems in the Literary Source Material focuses on the problems researchers face when using (Byzantine) Greek, Syriac and Arabic sources together for the reconstruction of Near Eastern history from 400-ca. 800.

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Volume 3: States, Resources and Armies focuses on a comparative analysis of Byzantine, Sasanian and Muslim armies and their impact on state resources.

Volume 4: Elite Odd and New presents a collection of critical analyses of the structure, historical development, and composition of the elite strata of late Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic societies in the eastern Mediterranean basin.

"Taken together, these studies offer clear guidance to novices and invaluable points of reference for all students of the Byzantine and Islamic worlds in this period."  (Jonathan Shepard)
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