

Call for Papers

Three Coasts, One Language: Trends in Arabic Linguistic Studies in the Islamic West (al-Andalus, Sicily, North Africa)

Panel Organizers:

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The panel is supported by SeSaMO: Italian Society for Middle Eastern Studies

Medieval prosopographical sources often described them as eccentric characters; today's scholars focused on them for their original ideas vis-à-vis the standard theory: *magribī* learned men in the field of Arabic linguistic studies have recurrently drawn attention for their differentness. Representatives of a tradition that had its roots and its main references in the Islamic East, they were nonetheless the fruit of regional subtraditions deeply influenced by local cultural and political history.

The present workshop represents the continuation of a scientific debate started with a workshop at the *28th Congress of the Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants* (Palermo, 12-16 September 2016) and followed by a conference in Catania (4-5 April 2017) and by a workshop at the *Fourteenth International Conference on the History of The Language Sciences* (Paris, 28 August-1 September 2017). A fourth conference will be held in Venice (15-16 November 2017).

The aim of this workshop is to investigate how linguistic studies in al-Andalus, Islamic Sicily and North Africa connected with each other and were confronted with the hegemony of the Eastern-developed standard theory. The workshop welcomes papers shedding light on all aspects of Arabic linguistic thinking in these three regions and particularly encourages submissions dealing with the following topics:

- 1) The genesis of *magribī* treatises on the Arabic language and their sources;
- 2) The use and evolution of technical terminology through intra- and intertextual approaches;
- 3) The analysis of explicative and argumentative phenomena on both theoretical and empirical levels;
- 4) The interaction of principles and methods from different disciplines in the study of linguistic phenomena;
- 5) The conception of language and the place of linguistic studies within the framework of learning curricula and the organization and classification of knowledge;
- 6) The use of grammatical theories and methods as explicative tools within other disciplines.

Investigations along these axes will help to shed further light on the evolution of linguistic studies in the Western regions of the Islamic world, to gain a deeper understanding of their cultural environment and of the exchanges in the field of linguistic studies, and to better appreciate the extent of differentness and the degree of innovativeness of their authors and treatises.

Submissions and Deadlines

Proposals must include a title, an abstract and five keywords. Abstracts should be between 300 and 400 words. Accepted languages are English and French (WOCMES working languages).

Proposals must be sent in both Word and PDF formats to Francesco Binaghi (francesco.binaghi@univ-paris3.fr) and Cristina La Rosa (cristinalarosa@unict.it).

The deadline for proposal submission is September 30, 2017.

Authors will be notified of acceptance on or before October 20, 2017.

Further information about WOCMES-5 is available at <http://www.tresculturas.org/wocmes18/>

Indicative Bibliography

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