

**annual  
conference**



**ISLAM AND THE  
HUMANITIES**  
MIDDLE EAST STUDIES | BROWN

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**WATSON INSTITUTE**  
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**MIDDLE  
EAST  
STUDIES**

# **ASSESSING THE ISLAMIC PAST: Historical and Philosophical Interventions**

**April 20-21, 2018**

**BROWN UNIVERSITY**  
Providence, RI

**JOUKOWSKY FORUM**  
Watson Institute for  
International and  
Public Affairs

**co-sponsors:**

Brown University:  
Islam and the Humanities Research Initiative  
Cogut Institute for the Humanities  
Department of History  
Department of Religious Studies  
Journal *History and Theory*

**History & Theory**

# friday, april 20

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

## PANEL 1

**Meltem Toksoz** Brown University  
chair

**Helge Jordheim** University of Oslo  
respondent

**Judith Pfeiffer** University of Bonn  
*"Rashid al-Din's Craft: Narrating Parallel Pasts in the Fourteenth Century"*

**Nancy Florida** University of Michigan  
*"Living in a Time of Madness: The Last Days of Java's Last Prophetic Poet"*

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

## PANEL 2

**Lina Fruzzetti** Brown University  
chair

**Aishwary Kumar** Stanford University  
respondent

**Sean Hanretta** Northwestern University  
*"A Moving Minority in Twentieth-Century Ghana: Goods, Discourses, and the Trap of 'Islamization'"*

**Margrit Pernau** Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin  
*"Emotions and Temporalities: Sayid Ahmad Khan's Concept of Modernity"*

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

## PANEL 3

**Nancy Khalek** Brown University  
chair

**Anne Murphy** University of British Columbia  
respondent

**Kaya Şahin** Indiana University  
*"To Observe, to Record, to Memorialize (ca. 1582): Depicting the Circumcision of an Ottoman Prince"*

**Dana Sajdi** Boston College  
*"In Defense of Damascus: The Genre of Prose Cityscapes (12th and 16th Centuries)"*

3:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

## PANEL 4

**Shahzad Bashir** Brown University  
chair

**Constantin Fasolt** University of Chicago  
respondent

**Nils Riecken** Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin  
*"On Tragic Temporality: Abdallah Laroui's Reading of Tradition"*

**Rian Thum** Loyola University, New Orleans  
*"What is Islamic History?"*

7:30 p.m.

## DINNER

with participants and  
colleagues and students from Brown  
*(Brown Faculty Club)*

# saturday, april 21

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## SUMMARY DISCUSSION

with participants and editors of  
*History and Theory*

12:00 p.m.

## LUNCH

for participants