

## Summary

The aim of this workshop is twofold: first, we are interested in discussing comparison as a methodology integral to developing a transregional approach to philosophy in the Middle East and South Asia. Second, we put a thematic focus on time and temporality. This focus is not coincidental because not only are time and its manifold conceptualisations relevant as an object of comparison but they also play a constitutive role in setting up the coordinates of comparisons. Reflecting upon comparison through notions of time is therefore, on the one hand, a useful way to politicise and mark comparison as a particular practice. On the other hand, discussions of time and temporality might help to envision different practices of comparison that enable an alternative transregional perspective while avoiding Eurocentric frames of comparison.

### Organisers:

**Roman Seidel** (BGS MCS, POINT Fellow DRS, Freie Universität Berlin)  
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### Nils Riecken

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For any queries and to register, please contact the organisers.

For more information, see: [www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de](http://www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de)

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Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies (BGS MCS),  
Freie Universität Berlin,  
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Berlin

## Workshop

# Time(s) in Comparison: Transregional Approaches to Contemporary Philosophical Thought in the Middle East and South Asia

Fri 3 – Sat 4 June 2016

BGS MCS, Seminar Room  
Altensteinstr. 48, 14195 Berlin

### Organisers:

Roman Seidel  
Nils Riecken



berlin graduate school  
muslim cultures and societies

DFG



## Day 1 Friday, 3 June 2016

9.30 - 10 Bettina Gräf (Managing Director BGSMS) Welcome

Roman Seidel and Nils Riecken  
Welcome & Introduction

10 - 10.30 **Coffee break**

**Panel 1: Philosophy from a transregional perspective I**  
Chair: Nils Riecken (ZMO, Berlin / Freie Universität Berlin)

10.30 - 11.30 Roman Seidel (BGSMS, Freie Universität Berlin)  
Comparing Now and Then.  
How to Engage with Middle Eastern Philosophy from a Comparative Perspective, and Why

11.30 - 12.30 Mohammad Mahdi Mojahedi (BGSMS, Freie Universität Berlin / Mofid University, Qom)  
Comparativity and Contemporaneity.  
A Critical-Rational Notion of Comparative Philosophy as a Critical Heuristic Device  
Discussant: Anke von Kügelgen (Universität Bern)

12.30 - 2 **Lunch at the BGSMS**

**Panel 2: Philosophy from a transregional perspective II**  
Chair: Roman Seidel (BGSMS, Freie Universität Berlin)

2 - 3 Kata I. Moser (Universität Bern, Walter Benjamin Kolleg)  
The Contemporaneity of Contemporary Arabic Philosophy: Some Remarks on the Arabic Reception of Heidegger and Hegel

3 - 4 Jan-Peter Hartung (SOAS, University of London)  
Two "Times" after Iqbal  
Discussant: Anke von Kügelgen (Universität Bern)

4 - 4.30 **Coffee Break**

**Panel 3: Negotiating pasts and futures in the present**  
Chair: Jordan Allen Kynes (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

4.30 - 5.30 Shahzad Bashir (Stanford University)  
Novel Theory: Modern Historical Fiction as Venue for Negotiating Islamic Pasts

5.30 - 6.30 Carool Kersten (King's College London)  
A Matter of Time: Turathiyyun, Tradition and the Future of Islam  
Discussant: Harald Viersen (Philipps-Universität Marburg)

7 **Workshop dinner**

## Day 2 Saturday, 4 June 2016

**Panel 4: Temporalities and narratives of history**  
Chair: Saadi Nikro (ZMO, Berlin)

10 - 11 Abed Azzam (Berlin)  
The Temporality of the Death of God between Orient and Occident

11 - 11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30 - 12.30 Islam Dayeh (Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik, Freie Universität Berlin)  
Setting the Qur'an in life. On Temporalities of Interpretation  
Discussant: Ruth Mas (BGSMS, Freie Universität Berlin)

12.30-1.30 **Lunch at the BGSMS**

1.30 - 2.30 Nils Riecken (ZMO, Berlin / Freie Universität Berlin)  
Relational Difference, Time, and the Refracted Grounds of Comparison: Abdallah Laroui's Critique of Centrism  
Discussant: Henning Trüper (Technische Universität Berlin)

2.30-3.30 Final discussion

3.30 **End of workshop**