



MagEIA



22nd JUNE 2026 –
24th JUNE 2026



MagEIA HOUSE, 1st FLOOR,
SEMINAR ROOM 01.001
BIBRASTRASSE 14
97070 WÜRZBURG

WORKSHOP

MAGIC IN THE PERSIANATE AND ISLAMIC WORLDS

Organized by:
Neda Darabian

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Monday, 22nd of June

14:15–14:30 Welcome Address by **Neda Darabian**

SESSION 1

Formation of Islamic Magic

14:30–16:15 **Sebastian Günther** (University of Göttingen)
Unveiling the Hidden: Cultural Entanglements and the Formation of Islamic Magic

16:15–16:30 Coffee Break

16:30–17:00 **Daniel Schwemer** (University of Würzburg)
Introducing the MagEIA project
Introduction to Magic in West Asia before Islam

Tuesday, 23rd of June

SESSION 2

Magic in Literary and Material Sources

10:15–10:45 **Emily Selove** (University of Exeter)
Some Recent Reflections on a 13th-century Arabic Grimoire

10:45–11:30 **Ursula Hammed** (University of Munich)
Uses of the Quran in Arabic papyrus talismans and beyond

11:30–11:45 Coffee Break

11:45 – 12:30 **Bink Hallum** (British Library)
The Centenary Wafq: Magic Squares, Talismanic Shirts and Charts in Theory and Practice

12:30–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–14:45 **Sarah Kiyarad** (University of Munich)
Script-bearing Amulets in Iran. From Sasanian Legacy to the Mongol Invasion

14:45–15:30 **Adam Bursi** (Cornell University)
Whispered Scriptures: Magic and Canonization at the End of the Qur'an

18:00 Dinner/ Wirtshaus Lämmle

Wednesday, 24th of June

SESSION 3

Reception of "Malevolent" beings in the Islamic World

- 10:00- 10:45 **Tobias Nünlist** (University of Zurich)
Demons in Islamic Cultures: Friends and Foes of Humans
- 10:45: 11:30 **István T. Kristó-Nagy** (University of Exeter)
Chasing, Choosing and Chaining our Jinn: Solomon's Judgement
- 11:30–11:45 **Coffee Break**
- 11:45- 12:30 **Ali Langroudi** (University of Munich)
Manichaeans and Demons in Genghis Khan's Magnetic Mausoleum
- 12:30- 13:00 General Discussion