
Harmonizing Sources, Reframing Narratives

Islamic Sicily in the Mediterranean Context

4-5 December 2025

Biblioteca Giorgio La Pira
via degli Schioppettieri 25, Palermo

Info: favaretto@fscire.it | www.fscire.it
In person and online (Zoom)



Harmonizing Sources, Reframing Narratives

Islamic Sicily in the Mediterranean Context

4-5 December 2025 – Biblioteca Giorgio La Pira, Palermo

4 December

9.00-09.30: Opening remarks – Welcome address by the organizers and presentation of the Foundation and the Library

SESSION 1 – chair Ivana Panzeca (Unipa | FSCIRE)

09.30-10.30: **Jeremy Johns** (Oxford) – *Arabic Documents from Sicily from the Treasury of the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus*

10.30-11.30: Coffee break

11.30-12.30: **Nadia Jamil** (Oxford) – “There Is No Covenant between the Faithful and Those Who Would Commit Oppression”: *The Piety of al-Hasana, a Parable from Eleventh-century Sicily*

12.30-13.30: **Giuseppe Mandalà** (Unimi) – *The Bite of the Tarantula: Sicily through the Lens of Some Andalusi Scholars*

13.30-15.00: Lunch break

SESSION 2 – chair Francesco Cargnelutti (FSCIRE)

15.00-16.00: **Giacomo Favaretto** (Unipa | FSCIRE) – *Rethinking Kalbid Autonomy: Networks of Power and Piety Linking Sicily and Fatimid Egypt*

16.00-17.00: **Delia Cortese** (Middlesex University) – *Ibn Zafar al-Siqillī's Work in the Bohra Tradition*

17.00-17.30: General discussion and closing remarks of day 1

17.40-18.15: La Pira Library guided tour

5 December

SESSION 3 – chair Giacomo Favaretto (Unipa | FSCIRE)

09.00-10.00: **Shainool Jiwa** (Institute of Ismaili Studies) – *Fatimid Relations with Ifrīqiya, Sicily and Spain Post Their Settlement in Egypt*

10.00-10.30: Coffee break

10.30-11.30: **Alex Metcalfe** (Lancaster University | Ludwig Maximilian University) – *Muslim Jurists of Medieval Sicily*

11.30-12.30: **Marco Di Branco** (Università La Sapienza) – *Towards al-arḍ al-kabīra: A Brief History of Islamic Military Expeditions from Sicily to Mainland Italy in the Ninth Century CE*

12.30-14.30: Lunch break

14.30-15.30: **Aslisho Qurboniev** (Institute of Ismaili Studies) – *All the Imam's Men: Fatimid Elite in a Period of Transition*