

The Future of Syriac Studies

and the Legacy of Sebastian P. Brock

Sigtuna, Sweden
June 12th-15th 2018

Tuesday
June 12th

13:00 - 16:30

Registration and Welcome

Refreshments will be served from 14:00 to 16:30



16:30 - 17:00

Opening Session and Introductions

Room:

Stora salen

Michael Hjäl

Dean of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy, Stockholm School of Theology

Samuel Rubenson

Lund University, Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy, Stockholm School of Theology

Mor Polycarpus Augin Aydin

*Archbishop of the Syriac Orthodox Church in the Netherlands
Rector of Sankt Ignatios Syriac Orthodox Seminary, Södertälje
Rector of Suryoye Theological Seminary, Salzburg*



17:00 - 18:00

Plenary Presentation

Room:

Stora salen

Introduction:

Mor Polycarpus Augin Aydin

Plenary Speaker:

Kathleen McVey

Princeton Theological Seminary

“Ephrem and the Samaritan woman at the well: Betrothal to Christ and Spiritual Progress”



18:30 - 20:30

Dinner

Syriac Dialogue Poetry

Wednesday

June 13th

7:00 - 8:30

Breakfast



9:00 - 10:00

Morning Plenary Presentation

Room:

Stora salen

Introduction:

Robert Kitchen

Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

Plenary Speaker:

Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

“The Ladder of Prayer, the Ship of Stirrings, and the Exodus from Egypt”



10:00 - 10:30

Coffee & Tea



Session I-A

Room:

Framtiden

Chair:

Craig Morrison

Pontifical Biblical Institute

10:30 - 11:00

James “Chip” Coakley

Cambridge

“Three short chapters in the history of the estrangela script”

11:00 - 11:30

Herman G. B. Teule

Louvain

“The Recent Synod of the Chaldean Church”



Session I-B

Room:

Toleransen

Chair:

Sergey Minov

Oxford

10:30 - 11:00

Jeff Childers

Abilene Christian University

“Bringing the Syriac Climacus to the Twenty-First Century”

11:00 - 11:30

Jan van Ginkel

Freie Universität Berlin

*“Alexander died in Bagdad
The Laments of the Philosophers
over Alexander in Syriac
Revisited”*



Session I-C

Room:

Tacksamheten

Chair:

Christine Shepardson

University of Tennessee

10:30 - 11:00

István Perczel

Central European University, Budapest

*“Kadavil Chandy Kattananar /
Alexandros Lmenaya: A Second
Volume of 17th c. Indian Syriac
Poetry”*

11:00 - 11:30

Shraga Bick

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*“Between faith and prayer, voice
and silence: Ephrem and Rabbis
on prayer”*

11:30 - 12:00

René Roux

Lugano, Switzerland

“The Impact of Syriac Studies on Roman-Catholic Ecumenical Perspectives”

11:30 - 12:00

Anton Pritula

Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

“Dialogue elements in late Syriac poetry: the ways of transformation”

11:30 - 12:00

Emiliano Fiori

Ca'Foscari University of Venice

“The Greek Fathers in Syriac: Open Questions and New Challenges”

12:00 - 12:30

Alberto Camplani

University of Rome

“Severus of Antioch on Ancient Church Customs: Cyprian in Severus and in the Canonical Collections”

12:00 - 12:30

Sami Aydin

Uppsala University

“The Giant Bird called ‘Impressive-winged’ in the Syriac Physiologus”

12:00 - 12:30

Yonatan Moss

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

“The Jewish Contribution to Syriac Studies and the Syriac Contribution to Judaism: The Case of Wilhelmine Germany”



12:30 - 14:00

Lunch



Session 2-A

Room:

Framtiden

Chair:

Bas ter Haar Romeny

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam



Session 2-B

Room:

Toleransen

Chair:

Eleanor Coghill

Uppsala University



Session 2-C

Room:

Tacksamheten

Chair:

Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet

CNRS Paris

14:00 - 14:30

Martin Tamcke

Göttingen

“Syriac Language in the Lutheran Reform-Movement in the Church of the East”

14:00 - 14:30

Terry Falla

Whitley College, University of Divinity, Melbourne

“Peshitta Parables as Oral Performance”

14:00 - 14:30

Stephen J. Shoemaker

University of Oregon

“Syriac Apocalypticism and the Rise of Islam”

14:30 - 15:00

Gabriel Rabo

Universität Salzburg, Universität Eichstatt

“The Syrian Orthodox Monastery of Mor Thoma, Jerusalem: History & Conversion to Mosque.”

14:30 - 15:00

Srecko Koralija

Cambridge

“Inner-Syriac Developments in the Peshitta: Lexicographical Issues”

14:30 - 15:00

Emmanouela Grypeou

Stockholm University

“Syriac Post-Islamic Apocalyptic Literature and the Symbolic Construction of the ‘Other’”

15:00 - 15:30

Željko Paša

Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome

“Problem of the Authenticity of ʿAbdīšūʿ’s authorship of the Book of the Pearls of Utility (Kitāb farāʿid al-fawāʿid)”

15:00 - 15:30

Dominique Sirgy

Yale University

“Studying the transmission of the Syriac Diatesseron into Arabic through scriptural exegesis: Ibn al-Ṭayyib’s commentary on the Gospel of Matthew in an Islamic cultural context”

15:00 - 15:30

Rachel Dryden

Cambridge

“Syriac and Qurʾānic Studies: State of the Field Review”

15:30 - 16:00

Lucy Parker
Oxford

“Syriac in the Sixteenth Century: New Texts, New Contacts, New Questions”

15:30 - 16:00

Marion Pragt
KU Leuven

“Findings from the Margins. Annotating Practices in a Syriac Exegetical Collection”

15:30 - 16:00

Bert Jacobs
KU Leuven

“Mapping Terra Incognita: Syriac Translations of the Qur’ān”



16:00 - 16:30

Coffee & Tea



Session 3-A

Room:
Framtiden

Chair:
Jan Van Ginkel
Freie Universität Berlin



Session 3-B

Room:
Toleransen

Chair:
Robert Kitchen
Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy



Session 3-C

Room:
Tacksamheten

Chair:
Scott Johnson
University of Oklahoma

16:30 - 17:00

George Kiraz

Institute of Advanced Studies, Beth Mardutho: The Syriac Institute

“The Rise of the Digital Humanities and the Future of Syriac Computing”

16:30 - 17:00

Lisa Iino

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Tokyo

“Syriac Music in Ethnomusicology: Towards a New Positioning as a Nation/Ethnic Group”

16:30 - 17:00

Gabriel Bar-Sawme

Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

“Understanding the Syriac liturgy in the 6th Century: Two Mimre and Two Perspectives”

17:00 - 17:30

Samuel Chew Barry
Kingsport, Tennessee

“Ḥunayn ibn Ishāq’s Explicating Translations in Isho’ bar ‘Ali’s Syriac Lexicon XML Tagging Strategies for a Prospective Digital Version”

17:00 - 17:30

Jean Fathi
KU Leuven

“Pourquoi y a-t-il trois hypostases, ni plus ni moins?: Une réponse inédite de Yahyā ibn ‘Adī en l’an 969”

17:00 - 17:30

Pierre Jabbour
Institut Catholique de Paris

“Quelle vision pneumatologique trouve-t-on dans les deux rituels d’ordinations du presbytre, Qašišo, dans les Vat. Syr. 51 et 309?”



17:45 - 18:30

Panel Discussion on the Future of Syriac Studies

Room:

Stora salen

Moderator:

Mor Polycarpus Augin Aydin

Glane, The Netherlands

Panelists:

Witold Witakowski

Uppsala University

Jack Tannous

Princeton University

Grigory Kessel

Austrian Academy of Sciences, University of Manchester



18:30 - 20:00

Dinner



20:00 - 21:00

Evening Plenary Presentation

Room:

Stora salen

Introduction:

Robert Kitchen

Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

Plenary Speaker:

Susan Ashbrook Harvey

Brown University

“Seeking the Women of Ancient Syriac Christianity: Strategies of Method and Remembrance”

Thursday

June 14th

7:00 - 8:30

Breakfast



9:00 - 10:00

Morning Plenary Presentation

Room:

Stora salen

Introduction:

Scott Johnson
University of Oklahoma

Plenary Speaker:

Jack Tannous
Princeton University

“Syriac Studies: Past, Present, Future”



10:00 - 10:30

Coffee & Tea



Session 4-A

Room:

Framtiden

Chair:

René Roux
Lugano

10:30 - 11:00

Craig Morrison
Pontifical Biblical Institute

*“The Church’s ‘Third Lung’
Voices from Syriac Antiquity
Speaking to Today’s Western
Society”*

11:00 - 11:30

Aho Shemunkasho
Universität Salzburg

*“John of Dara’s Treatise on
Celestial Hierarchy”*



Session 4-B

Room:

Toleransen

Chair:

Jeff Childers
Abilene Christian University

10:30 - 11:00

Alexey Muraviev
School of Oriental Studies, Moscow

*“Textual stratigraphy and
dating the Syriac hagiography
cases of the Man-of-God and the
Julian Romance”*

11:00 - 11:30

Sergey Minov
Oxford

*“Friday Veneration among
Syriac Christians: The Witness
of the Story of the Holy Friday”*



Session 4-C

Room:

Tacksamheten

Chair:

Susan Harvey
Brown University

10:30 - 11:00

Vittorio Berti
University of Padova

*“A Nisibene Exegesis on the
Books of Sessions in the first half
of the 6th Century
Mar Aba’s Explanations on
Proverbs and Sirach”*

11:00 - 11:30

Manolis Papoutsakis
Research Fellow, The National Library of
Greece

*“Romanos the Melodist and the
Syriac Tradition”*

11:30 - 12:00

Nichifor Tănase

Eftimie Murgu University, Romania

“One ‘Shining Face’, Two Eyes and the Light (nuhrā) of Trinity: The influence of Syrian spirituality in late Byzantine Hesychast revival and in neopatristic movement”

11:30 - 12:00

Mary Hansbury

Philadelphia

“Various Aspects of Hope (sabrā) in Early Syriac Mystical Literature”

11:30 - 12:00

Ute Possek

Harvard Divinity School

“Transmitting Theodore to the Church of the East: The Role of Thomas of Edessa”

12:00 - 12:30

Ephrem Ishac

Universität Graz, Universität Salzburg

“Syriac Liturgical Manuscripts in Garshuni”

12:00 - 12:30

Catalin-Stefan Popa

Institute for Advanced Studies in the Levant Culture & Civilization, Bucharest, Romania

“Syriac monastic memories about Palestine and Egypt and their historical function (9th c.)”

12:00 - 12:30

Andy Hilkens

Ghent University, Belgium

“Armenian translations from Syriac: towards the development of a methodological framework”

استراحة

Lunch

12:30 - 14:00

جلسة

Session 5-A

Room:

Framtiden

Chair:

Salam Rassi

Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, St. John's University

جلسة

Session 5-B

Room:

Toleransen

Chair:

Kathleen McVey

Princeton Theological Seminary

جلسة

Session 5-C

Room:

Tacksamheten

Chair:

Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony

The Hebrew University

14:00 - 14:30

Grigory Kessel

Austrian Academy of Sciences, University of Manchester

“Syriac Language in the Lutheran Reform-Movement in the Church of the East”

14:00 - 14:30

Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet

CNRS Paris

“Looking to Syriac culture through realia”

14:00 - 14:30

Samuel Rubenson

Lund University, Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

“Sayings and Monastic Formation in Early Syriac Monasticism”

14:30 - 15:00

Erin Galgay Walsh

Duke University

“From Emesa to Constantinople: Romanos Melodist and the Syriac Literary Tradition”

14:30 - 15:00

Bas ter Haar Romeny

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

14:30 - 15:00

Scott F. Johnson

University of Oklahoma

“From Assimilation to Antagonism: Early Syriac and the Greek World”

15:00 - 15:30

Yuri Arzhanov
Bochum

“Syriac ‘Curiosities’: Sebastian Brock and the so-called Popular Philosophy”

15:00 - 15:30

Thomas Carlson
Oklahoma State University

“Who Says? A Social History of Syriac Use in the Medieval Islamic Period”

15:00 - 15:30

Robert Kitchen

Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy
“Asceticism as the Perfection of Holiness: A New Approach to Syriac Asceticism”

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16:00 - 16:30

Coffee & Tea

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Session 6-A

Room:
Framtiden

Chair:
Thomas Carlson
Oklahoma State University

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Session 6-B

Room:
Toleransen

Chair:
Erin Galgay Walsh
Duke University

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Session 6-C

Room:
Tacksamheten

Chair:
Mary Hansbury
Philadelphia

16:30 - 17:00

Salam Rassi

Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, St. John's University

“Beyond Late Antiquity; or, Why Study the Philosophy of Barhebraeus?”

16:30 - 17:00

Christine Shepardson

University of Tennessee

“Teach Your Children Well: Mothers of Martyrs and Monks in Severus of Antioch”

16:30 - 17:00

Eleanor Coghill

Uppsala University

“An early manuscript in a Hakkari dialect of Sureth”

17:00 - 17:30

Jennifer Griggs

Bochum

“Barhebraeus and Divine Metaphysics, in Dialogue with Islamic thought”

17:00 - 17:30

Bro. Andrew Hochstedler

University of Notre Dame

“Interrogating Angels: Mary as a model of monastic spiritual warfare in Jacob of Sarug’s homiletic embellishments on the Annunciation”

17:00 - 17:30

Broula Barnohro Oussi

Stockholm University, Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

“Poetry of Displacement: Recurring Themes in 20th Century Poetry in Surayt or Western Neo-Aramaic, from the Homeland and the Diaspora”

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18:00 - 18:30

The Order of Sankt Ignatios Award Ceremony

Room:
Stora salen

Michael Hjälms
Presider

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18:30 - 19:30

Evening Plenary Presentation

Room:

Stora salen

Introduction:

Samuel Rubenson

Lund University, Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy

Plenary Speaker:

Sebastian P. Brock

Oxford

“Half a century of Syriac studies: looking both backwards and forwards”

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19:30 - 21:00

Dinner

Syriac Music

