

SEAN W. ANTHONY, PH.D.
Associate Professor
The Ohio State University
Near Eastern Languages & Cultures
323 Hagerty Hall
1775 College Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1340
Email: anthony.288@osu.edu

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – *present* **The Ohio State University** (Columbus, OH), Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Associate Professor
- Fall 2013 **Institute for Advanced Study** (Princeton, NJ), School of Historical Studies, Member and Andrew W. Mellon Fellow
- 2010 – 2015 **University of Oregon** (Eugene, OR), Department of History, Assistant Professor

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
A.M., Ph. D., with honors, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, August 2009
Specialization: Islamic Thought and Early Islamic History
Dissertation Title: *The Caliph and the Heretic: ‘Abdallāh ibn Saba’, the Saba’īya, and the Origins of Shī’ism between Myth and History*
Dissertation Committee: Profs. Wadad Kadi (advisor), Fred M. Donner, and Wilferd Madelung

LANGUAGES

Arabic, Persian, Syriac, French, and German

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Religion and Society in Late Antiquity and Medieval Islam
Early Canonical Literatures of Islam (Qur’an and Hadith)
Statecraft in the Early Islamic, Umayyad, and Abbasid periods (*ca.* 600-1250 CE)
Comparative Apocalypticism and Messianism

PUBLICATIONS

Translations and critical editions

Ma‘mar ibn Rāshid al-Azdī (d. 770), *The Expeditions (Kitāb al-maghāzī): An Early Biography of Muḥammad*, edited, translated, and annotated by S. W. Anthony (New York: New York University Press and the Library of Arabic Literature, 2014; paperback 2015)

Monographs

Crucifixion and the Spectacle of Death: Umayyad Crucifixion in Its Late Antique Context, American Oriental Series 96 (New Haven, Conn.: American Oriental Society, 2014)

The Caliph and the Heretic: Ibn Saba' and the Origins of Shi'ism, Islamic History and Civilization 91 (Leiden: Brill, 2012)

Co-Authored

Harald Motzki with Nicolet Boekhoff-van der Voort and Sean W. Anthony, *Analysing Muslim Traditions: Studies in Legal, Exegetical, and Maghāzī Ḥadīth*, Islamic History and Civilization 78 (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2010; paperback 2013), ch. 7, "Crime and Punishment in Early Medina: The Origins of a Maghāzī-Tradition".

Articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited works

1. "Sayf ibn 'Umar's Account of 'King' Paul and the Corruption of Ancient Christianity," *Der Islam*, vol. 85, no. 1 (July 2009), pp. 164-202.
2. "The Domestic Origins of Imprisonment: An Inquiry into an Early Islamic institution," *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, vol. 129, no. 4 (Oct-Dec 2009), pp. 571-96.
3. "The Prophecy and Passion of al-Ḥarīṭ ibn Sa'īd al-Kaddāb: Narrating a Religious Movement from the Caliphate of 'Abdalmalik ibn Marwān," *Arabica*, vol. 57, no. 1 (2010), pp. 1-29.
4. "Dionysius of Tell Maḥrē's Syriac Account of the Assassination of 'Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 69, no. 2 (October 2010), pp. 209-24.
5. "The Legend of 'Abdallāh ibn Saba' and the Date of *Umm al-Kitāb*," *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 3rd ser., vol. 21, no. 1 (January 2011), pp. 1-30.
6. "Who was the Shepherd of Damascus? The Enigma of Jewish-Messianist Responses to the Islamic Conquests in Umayyad Syria and Mesopotamia," in: Paul M. Cobb, ed., *The Lineaments of Islam: Studies in Honor of Fred McGraw Donner*, Islamic History and Civilization 95 (Leiden: Brill, 2012), pp. 21-59.
7. "The Maḥdī and the Treasures of al-Ṭālaqān: Zaydī Imāms and Imāmī-Shī'ite Apocalypticism," *Arabica*, vol. 59, no. 5 (2012), pp. 459-83.

Persian translation: "Mahdaviyat va Ganjīnahā-ye Ṭālaqān," tr. Maryam Kamali for *Ketābkhānah-ye Tārikh-e Islām* (<http://historylib.com/index.php?action=article/view/1594>)

8. "Chiliastic Ideology and Nativist Rebellion in the Early 'Abbāsīd Period: Sunbādh and the *Jāmāsp-Nāmāh*," *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, vol. 132, no. 4 (Oct-Dec 2012), pp. 641-55.
9. "Further Notes on the Word *Ṣibgha* in Qur'ān 2:138," *Journal of Semitic Studies*, vol. 59, no. 1 (Spring 2014), pp. 117-29.
10. "Muḥammad, the Keys to Paradise, and the *Doctrina Iacobi*: A Late Antique Puzzle," *Der Islam*, vol. 91, no. 2 (November 2014), pp. 243-65.
11. "Ibn al-Zubayr's Meccan Prison and the Imprisonment of Muḥammad ibn al-Ḥanafīyya," in: Maurice Pomerantz and Aram Shahin, eds., *The Heritage of Arabo-Islamic Learning: Studies Presented to Wadad Kadi* (Leiden: Brill, 2015), pp. 3-29.
12. "Fixing John Damascene's Biography: Historical Notes on His Family Background," *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, vol. 23, no. 4 (Winter 2015), pp. 607-627.
13. (co-authored with Catherine Bronson), "Did Ḥafṣah bint 'Umar Edit the Qur'ān? A Response with Notes on the Codices of the Prophet's Wives," *Journal of the International Qur'anic Studies Association*, vol. 1, no. 1 (forthcoming 2016)
14. "Muḥammad, Menaḥem, and the Paraclete: New Light on Ibn Ishāq's (d. 130/767) Arabic Version of John 15:23-16:1," *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* (accepted for publication and forthcoming)
15. "Was Ibn Wādiḥ al-Ya'qūbī a Shi'ite Historian? The State of the Question," in: Matthew Gordon, Chase Robinson, and Everett Rowson, eds., *The Works of al-Ya'qūbī* (accepted for publication and forthcoming)

Encyclopedia articles

In *Encyclopædia Iranica*, ed. Ehsan Yarshater (New York: Encyclopædia Iranica Foundation, 1983-):

- "Abd Allāh b. Saba" (c. 1,500 words, forthcoming)
- "Kaysāniya," (c. 3,500 words: vol. 16, fasc. 2, pp. 183-88 and <http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/kaysaniya>);
- "The Nawbakṭi Family," (c. 6,000 words: iranicaonline.org/articles/nawbakti-family)
- "Ya'qubi" (c. 2,000 words, forthcoming)

In *The Encyclopædia of Islam, THREE*, eds. Gudrun Krämer, Denis Matringe, John Nawas, Everett, Rowson (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2007-)

- “Bazīgh b. Mūsā”;
- “Ghulāt (Extremist Shi‘ites)” (forthcoming, c. 3,000 words);
- “Ghurābiyya”;
- “Ibn al-Ḥanafīyya, Muḥammad”;
- “Ibn al-Ḥanafīyya, Ḥasan b. Muḥammad”;
- “Ibn Mas‘ūd, ‘Abd Allāh” (forthcoming, c. 1,000 words);
- “Jurayj” (forthcoming, c. 500 words)

In *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, ed. Gerhard Böwering *et al.* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2012):

- “‘Alī (c. 599-661 CE), fourth caliph”;
- “Ḥasan (c. 624-669 CE), son of ‘Alī”;
- “‘Umar (c. 580-644 CE), second caliph”; and
- “‘Uthmān (c. 580-656 CE), third caliph.”

Book reviews

Review of David Thomas, *Christian Doctrines in Islamic Theology* (Leiden: Brill, 2008); in *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, vol. 42, no. 2 (February 2010), pp. 342-344.

Review of Ruth Glasner, *Averroës’ Physics: A Turning Point in Medieval Natural Philosophy* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2009); in *HOPOS*, vol. 1, no. 1 (Spring 2011), pp. 175-178.

Review of Christian Lange, *Justice, Punishment, and the Medieval Muslim Imagination* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008); in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 71, no. 1 (April 2012), pp. 102-104.

Review of *Epistles of the Brethren of Purity: On Magic I, An Arabic Critical Edition and English Translation of Epistle 52a*, ed. and trans. Godefroid de Callataÿ and Bruno Halflants, forward by Nader El-Bizri (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2012); in *HOPOS*, vol. 3, no. 2 (Fall 2013), pp. 384-387.

Review of Asad Q. Ahmad, *The Religious Elite of the Early Islamic Hijaz: Five Prosopographical Studies*, *Prosopographia et Genealogica* 14 (Oxford: Unit for Prosopographical Research, 2011); in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 74, no. 1 (forthcoming 2015)

Review of David S. Powers, *Zayd* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014); in *Review of Qur’anic Research*, vol. 1, no. 1 (2015)

Review of Najam Haider, *The Origins of the Shi‘a: Identity, Ritual and Sacred Space in Eight-Century Kūfa* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2011); in *Islamic Law & Society* (forthcoming)

“Arab Dominion, Umayyad Kingship: Species of *Mulk* in the Early Islamic Polity,” invited lecture presented for the panel, **The Early Islamic World I: Umayyad Rule, Law, and Religion**, organized by Andrew Marsham at the *Leeds International Medieval Congress*, University of Leeds (6 July 2015).

Invited panel discussant, “Reading the Corpus,” at the workshop, *A Corpus, Not a Canon: A Workshop on the Library of Arabic Literature*, All Souls College, Oxford University (25 April 2015).

“Mutual Intelligibility across Late Antique Hagiographies: the *Sīra* as a case study,” invited paper to be presented at the workshop, **Hagiography and Counter-Culture in the Latin West, Byzantium, Sasanid Iran, and the Islamic Middle East**, organized by Christian Sahner, Helmut Reimitz, and Jack Tannous, Department of History, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (6 December 2014).

“Heraclius Foresees the Kingdom of the Circumcised: Embedding the *Maghāzī* Literature in Late Antiquity,” invited paper presented at the European Research Council workshop, **Defining Belief and Identities in the Eastern Mediterranean: The Role of Interreligious Debate and Interaction (6th-8th centuries AD)**, convened by Yannis Papadogiannakis and Barbara Roggema at King’s College, London, UK (21-22 February 2014).

“Hidden Redeemers, Wandering Messiahs, and Sleeping Heroes: The *Ghayba*-Idea in 8th Century Iran,” invited lecture delivered to the **Seminar on Iranian Studies**, Columbia University, New York, NY (11 December 2013).

“Muḥammad, the Keys to Paradise, and the *Doctrina Iacobi*: A Late Antique Puzzle,” invited lecture delivered at **Medieval Studies Lecture Series**, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (12 November 2013)

“Why Was the Baker ‘Crucified’ by Pharaoh? Notes on Crucifixion Terminology in the Qur’ān,” at **The Qur’ān: Text, Society & Culture**, convened by M.A.S. Abdel Haleem and Helen Blatherwich, The School for Oriental and African Studies, London, UK (7-9 November 2013).

“Menaḥem b. Hezekiah, Muḥammad, and the Paraclete: Late Antique Jewish Messianism, Early Islam, and Christian Palestinian-Aramaic Gospel Translation,” paper presented at **School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study**, Princeton, NJ (28 October 2013)

“Hidden Redeemers, Sleeping Heroes, and Wandering Messiahs: Early Shi‘ite Messianism in the Sectarian Milieu,” invited lecture delivered at **Mellon Islamic Studies Initiative: Studying Shi‘i Islam: Prospects and Challenges**, convened by Prof. Robert Gleave (Univ. of Exeter) at the Divinity School at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (8 March 2013)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Mellon Fellowship for Assistant Professors and Membership, The Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies (2013 – 2014)

National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship (2012 – 2013)
(awarded for annotated English translation of Ma'mar ibn Rāshid's *Kitāb al-Maghāzī*)
Zahid Ali Award of the Institute of Ismaili Studies (2011)
(awarded for forthcoming monograph project, *Hidden Redeemers, Sleeping Heroes, and Wandering Messiahs*)
Brush Faculty Fellowship, University of Oregon Department of History (2011 – 2012)
Junior Faculty Development Grant, University of Oregon (Summer 2011)
Whiting Dissertation Year Fellowship (2008 – 2009)
Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago Divinity School (2007 – 2008)
Provost's Summer Fellowship, University of Chicago (Summer 2007)
University Unendowed Fellowship, University of Chicago (2006 – 2007)
Grant for Persian Language Study, American Institute of Iranian Studies, Tehran, Iran (Summer 2005)
Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (2004 – 2006)
Foreign Language Area Studies Summer Fellowship (Summer 2004, Summer 2006)

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

American Oriental Society
International Society for Iranian Studies
Middle East Studies Association
Middle East Medievalists
Society of Biblical Literature
International Quranic Studies Association

UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Associate Editor, *Shi'i Studies Review*
Editorial Board, Library of Arabic Literature (www.libraryofarabicliterature.org)
Co-Editor, *Review of Qur'anic Research* (<https://iqsaweb.wordpress.com/publications/rqr/>)
Advisory Board, Middle East Medievalists
Peer-reviewed monographs and articles for:

Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies
History of Religions
Journal of Near Eastern Studies
Journal of Qur'anic Studies
Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society
Journal of Shi'a Studies
al-Masāq: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean
Edinburgh University Press
E.J. Brill Publishers
New York University Press

Routledge
Yale University Press

REFERENCES

Wadad Kadi
Prof. of Islamic Studies, Emerita
The Oriental Institute
1155 East 58th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
United States of America
w-kadi@uchicago.edu

James E. Montgomery
Sir Thomas Adams Professor of Arabic
Faculty of Asian and Middle Easter Studies
Sidgwick Avenue
Cambridge CB3 9DA
United Kingdom
jem33@cam.ac.uk

Fred McGraw Donner
Prof. of Near Eastern History
The Oriental Institute
1155 East 58th Street, 224
Chicago, Illinois 60637
United States of America
f-donner@uchicago.edu

Joseph E. Lowry
Associate Professor
Department of Religious Studies
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
United States of America
elowry@sas.upenn.edu