

African Voices in Islamic Manuscripts from Mali
Hamburg, 31 October–1 November 2018

On 31 October and 1 November 2018 the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC, at Hamburg University) hosted the conference ‘African voices in Islamic manuscripts from Mali’ sponsored by the DFG-funded project ‘African voices in Islamic manuscripts from Mali: documenting and exploring African languages in Arabic script (Ajami)’.

Various little explored manuscript traditions from Islamic Africa were featured. Soninke tradition was explored by Djibril Drame (Hamburg) in his talks ‘Soninke of the Islamic Manuscripts: A comparative overview of a written register and modern (spoken) Soninke’, and, together with Samby Khalil Magassouba (Bamako), ‘Analysis of a Soninke Ajami poem’. Darya Ogorodnikova (Hamburg) explored the marginal notes left in study manuscripts coming from the greater Senegambia region and Guinea to describe ‘The scribes of the Soninke Islamic manuscripts and their networks’. Lameen Souag (Paris) presented some ‘Preliminary notes on a page of premodern Songhay and Tamasheq poetry from Timbuktu’. Fula poetry, transmitted in Arabic script, was explored by Hamadou Boly (Bamako) in his talk ‘Une étude analytique de la poésie du cheick Mouhammad Abdoulaye Souadou’.

The programme and abstracts are available at <<https://www.manuscript-cultures.uni-hamburg.de/cal-details/181031111%20Ajami%20WS%20programme.pdf>>.

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Medieval Biblical Manuscripts
from the Thames to the Euphrates
Texts, Paratexts, Forms, and Uses
Aix-en-Provence, 8–9 November 2018

On 8 and 9 November 2018, the conference ‘Medieval Biblical Manuscripts. From the Thames to the Euphrates: Texts, Paratexts, Forms, and Uses’ took place in the Maison méditerranéenne des sciences de l’homme at Aix-en-Provence. It was convened by the principal investigators of two major research projects, Élodie Attia of the *Manuscripta Bibliae Hebraicae* (funded by the French National Research Agency, Aix-Marseille University) and Patrick Andrist of the *ParaTexBib – Paratexts of the Bible* project (funded by the European Research Council, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), with support from Marilena Maniaci (Università degli studi di Cassino e del Lazio meridionale).