

International Workshop

**Ethiopic Hagiographic Literature:
Manuscript Tradition, Textual Transmission,
Motifs, and Use**

8–9 October 2024

Asien-Afrika-Institut (Room 221), University of Hamburg

Convenor: Vitagrazia Pisani (University of Hamburg)



PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 8 October 2024

9:15–9:45 Registration

9:45–10:00 Opening

Aaron Butts (Director of the Hiob Ludolf Centre for Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies, University of Hamburg)

Vitagrazia Pisani (Convenor of the Workshop)

Chair: Alessandro Gori (University of Copenhagen)

10:00–10:30 The Role of Hagiography in Current Trends of Ethiopian Studies
Alessandro Bausi (Sapienza University of Rome)

10:30–11:00 A Growing Corpus of Early Hagiographies: The *Passio* of Eleutherius and Anthia (CAe 3167)
Massimo Villa (University of Naples L'Orientale)

11:00–11:30 Saint Menas the Egyptian Martyr and Miracle Worker: His Ethiopic Dossier in the Context of Other Traditions
Rafal Zarzeczny (Gregorian University, Rome)

11:30–12:00 **Coffee Break** (Room 222)

Chair: Michael Hensley (University of Hamburg)

12:00–12:30 The Legend of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus: Shared and Unshared Features in the Gə'əz Versions (and Beyond)
Antonella Brita (University of Florence)

12:30–13:00 The *Life of Gregentios*: Traces of an Ethiopian Cult in a Byzantine Hagiography?
Giulia Casella (University of Hamburg)

13:00–13:30 The Linguistic Turn and the Study of Hagiography: A Fruitful Methodological Approach for Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies
Aaron Butts (University of Hamburg)

13:30–14:30 Lunch (Room 222)

*Chair: **Daria Elagina** (University of Hamburg)*

14:30–15:00 Distinctive Features of Content of the Early Ethiopic Synaxarion
Dorothea Reule (University of Hamburg/Philipps University of Marburg)

15:00–15:30 St Peter of Alexandria in the Corpus of *Dəggwā*-Type Antiphons
Jonas Karlsson (University of Hamburg)

15:30–16:00 “Does it Not Seem to You Like the Roots of the Vine?”: *Malkə’a Yā’qob zagəṃud* and its Unique Relationship to His *Gadl*
Augustine Dickinson (University of Hamburg)

16:00–16:30 Coffee Break (Room 222)

*Chair: **Sophia Dege-Müller** (University of Hamburg)*

16:30–17:00 The Miracles of Qirqos as a Distinct Corpus from the *Gadl*:
Elements of Content and Manuscript Tradition
Vitagrazia Pisani (University of Hamburg)

17:00–17:30 The Martyrdom of St Cyricus and his Mother Julitta: Some
Remarks on the Interpretation of the Story in Ethiopian Painting
Ewa Balicka-Witakowska (Uppsala University)

19:00 Dinner (for Speakers and Chairs only)
Restaurant Brodersen Hamburg (Rothenbaumchaussee 46)

Chair: **Hewan Semon Marye** (University of Hamburg)

- 9:30–10:00** History and Hagiography Revisited: With a Little Her-Story
Steven Kaplan (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 10:00–10:30** The Living Codex: Exploring the Role of Sacred Manuscripts as Characters in Gə‘əz Hagiographies
Mersha Alehegne (University of Hamburg/Addis Ababa University)
- 10:30–11:00** Traditional Attribution of Manuscripts: What Did Abbā Garimā Write?
Denis Nosnitsin (University of Hamburg)

11:00–11:30 **Coffee Break** (Room 222)

Chair: **Magdalena Krzyzanowska** (University of Hamburg)

- 11:30–12:00** Hagiographic Tradition of *Abunä Abrəham*
Hagos Abrha Abay (University of Toronto)
- 12:00–12:30** Holy Nuns in Medieval Ethiopia: Three *Gadlāt* in Comparison
Martina Ambu (FNRS, Free University of Brussels)
- 12:30–13:00** Hagiographic Traditions of the Ḥṣṭifanosites in Tigray
Teweldeberhan Mezgebe (Mekelle University)

13:00–14:00 **Lunch** (Room 222)

Chair: **Dalit Rom-Shiloni** (Tel Aviv University)

- 14:00–14:30** The Manuscript Tradition of the *Gädlä Fəqərtä Krəstos*
Zewdie Gebreegziabher (Addis Ababa University)
- 14:30–15:00** The Beta ’Ēsrā’el in Ethiopic Hagiographies
Sophia Dege-Müller (University of Hamburg)
- 15:00–15:30** Some Hagiographic Elements in the Chronicle of Šarḏa Dəngəl (r. 1563–1597)
Solomon Gebreyes Beyene (University of Hamburg)

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break (Room 222)

Chair: Steven Kaplan (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

16:00–16:30 Miracles of Lālibalā as Contained in the *Gadla Lālibalā* Collection

Nafisa Valieva (University of Hamburg)

16:30–17:00 Miracles, Hagiographic Literature and History in Medieval Ethiopia: Some Thoughts from the *Ta'āmmēra Ēwoṣṭātēwos*
Olivia Adankpo-Labadie (Grenoble Alpes University)

17:00–17:30 The Role of Divine and Earthly Assistants in the 'Akkonu bə'si-type Miracles of Mary: A Focus on First-Gondarine-Style Manuscripts (1632–1730)

Guesh Solomon Teklu (University of Hamburg)

17:30–17:45 Closing

19:30 Final Dinner (for Speakers and Chairs only)
I VIGNERI – Osteria & Enoteca (Große Bäckerstraße 13)

The workshop is funded by DFG project no. 468455109 'The Gə'əz Version of the Passio of St Cyricus (Gadla Qirqos): A Critical Edition, Translation, and Commentary' (PI Vitagrazia Pisani; Hiob Ludolf Centre for Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies, University of Hamburg)

<https://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/en/ethiostudies/research/gadlaqirqos.html>

Photo: MS KY–001, Gadla samā' tāt (f. 4v, upper part), 15th cent. (digitized by Ethio-SPaRe in Təgrāy, Ethiopia)