



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

FACHBEREICH

ASIEN-AFRIKA-INSTITUT

Iranistik

Prof. Julia Rubanovich

(The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Testicles in a Box An Iranian Tale Goes Biblical

The talk explores an intriguing transformation of the tale about the Sasanian king Ardashīr, the daughter of the Parthian king Ardavān, and Ardashīr’s loyal vizier as it transitions from Firdausī’s *Shāh-nāma* (“Book of Kings”) into a biblical narrative poem, the *Bereshīt-nāma* (“Book of Genesis”), by the 14th-century Judeo-Persian poet Shāhīn. By focusing on Shāhīn’s rendition of Genesis 24, which relates the story commonly known as The Betrothal of Isaac or The Wooing of Rebekah, the talk highlights his patterns of selection, adoption, and adaptation of Jewish postbiblical and Persian literary material. The resulting narrative illustrates Shāhīn’s ability to bridge cultural and religious traditions and breathe new life into the biblical tale for an Iranian Jewish – and potentially also Muslim – audience.

Montag, 13.01.2025 um 16:00 Uhr

Universität Hamburg, Gebäude ESA-Ost, 2. Stock, Raum 122

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Iranian Studies

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