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CURRENT POSITION

PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO DI STUDI ARABI E D'ISLAMISTICA (PISAI), Rome

Rector; Full Professor; Lecturer of Islamic Theology, Qur'ān and Tafsīr; Islamochristiana – Editorial Board; Encounter: Documents for Muslim-Christian understanding – Editorial Board

PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO BIBLICO (PIB), Facoltà orientalistica, Rome

Professore invitato; Lecturer of Arabic

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSITÀ LATERANENSE (PUL), Facoltà di Teologia, Vatican City

Professore incaricato; Lecturer of Islamic Studies

PLATEFORME UNIVERSITAIRE DE RECHERCHE SUR L'ISLAM EN EUROPE ET AU LIBAN (PLURIEL)

Coordinating committee

EDUCATION

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C., 2009-2013

Ph.D. in Theological & Religious Studies, awarded with Distinction, January 2014.

Dissertation: "The Mirror of the Other: Shihāb al-Dīn al-Qarāfī's *Splendid Replies*." Examiners: Paul L. Heck (advisor), Sidney H. Griffith, Daniel A. Madigan and Julia A. Lamm. Published Ann-Arbor: U.M.I., 2014

Masters of Arts in Theological & Religious Studies, awarded January 2012

PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO DI STUDI ARABI E D'ISLAMISTICA (PISAI), Rome, 2004-2006

Licentia (Licentiate) in Arabic and Islamic Studies with the distinction *summa cum laude*, June 2006

Diploma in Arabic Studies with the distinction *summa cum laude*, June 2005

UNIVERSITE DE LA SORBONNE NOUVELLE – PARIS III, INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES ARABES ET ISLAMIQUES

Brevet d'Arabe littéral, October 2006

Certificat d'Arabe littéral, December 2005

DAR COMBONI FOR ARABIC STUDIES, Cairo, 2003-2004

Baccalaureate in Arabic Studies, June 2004

CENTRE CULTUREL ET DE DOCUMENTATION SAHARIENNE (CCDS), Ghardaïa, Algeria, 2002-2003

Studies in Colloquial Algerian Arabic

- THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA (CUEA), Nairobi, 1997-2001
Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in Religious Studies, October 2001
- TANGAZA COLLEGE, Nairobi, 1997-2001
Diploma in Theology, March 2001
Diploma in Mission Studies, March 2001
- PONTIFICAL URBANIANA UNIVERSITY, Rome
Bachelor of Sacred Theology with the distinction *summa cum laude probatus*, May 2001
- CATHOLIC LANGUAGE INSTITUTE OF KHARTOUM (CLIK), Khartoum, Sudan, 1995-1996
Studies in Colloquial Sudanese Arabic
- FACULTAD DE TEOLOGÍA SAN DÁMASO, Madrid, 1992-1994
Studies in Philosophy
- INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE CIENCIAS RELIGIOSAS Y CATEQUÉTICAS SAN PIO X, Madrid, 1992-1993
Studies in Missiology

LANGUAGES

Spanish (mother tongue), Valencian, English, French, Italian, Arabic

TEACHING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO DI STUDI ARABI E D'ISLAMISTICA, Rome, 2006-2013
Visiting Lecturer. Lectures: Islamic History; Islamic Theology
- GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY, Washington, D.C., 2009-2013
Research & Teaching Assistant
- GROUPE DES RECHERCHES ISLAMO-CHRETIEN (GRIC), Tunis, 2006-2009
Member
- CENTRE CULTUREL ET DE DOCUMENTATION SAHARIENNE, Ghardaïa, Algeria, 2001-2003
Staff member

PUBLICATIONS

AUTHORED BOOKS:

Muslim-Christian Polemics across the Mediterranean: The Splendid Replies of Shihāb al-Dīn al-Qarāfī (d. 684/1285) [The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 23], Leiden: Brill, 2015.

Review by Uri SHACHAR, in *Al-'Uṣūr al-Wuṣṭā* 26 (2018) 243-248

Review by Sona GRIGORYAN, in *Entangled Religions* 3 (2016) CXVI- CXXII

Review by Jacques SCHEUER, in *Nouvelle Revue Théologique* 138/3 (2016) 502

Review by Charles L. TIESZEN, in *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 24/3 (2015) 362-363

Review by Maurice BORRMANS, in *MIDÉO* 31 (2015) 277-284 (in French)

Review by Maurice BORRMANS, in *Islamochristiana* 40 (2014) 360-364 (in English)

EDITED BOOKS:

[Co-edited with Valentino COTTINI and Felix KÖRNER] *Rahma: Muslim and Christian Studies in Mercy* [Studi arabo-islamici del PISAI, 22], Roma: Pontificio Istituto di Studi Arabi e d'Islamistica, 2018.

Review by Tobias SPECKER and Tobias MÜLLER, in *Islamochristiana* 44 (2018) forthcoming.

ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS:

“‘On How to Discern the Truth of Religion’, by Ḥunayn b. Iṣḥāq. The Impersonal Recension”, *Islamochristiana* 44 (2018) forthcoming.

“Islam as a ‘disturbing’ factor in the Christian view of salvation history”, in *Theology of Religions – Roman Catholic Perspectives – Conference Volume*, Newman Institute Academic Series, Uppsala, forthcoming.

“El diálogo como exigencia para experimentar juntos la alegría de la Verdad”, *Educatio catholica* Anno IV 2 (2018) 103-106.

“The Law of Justice (ṣarī‘at al-‘adl) and the Law of Grace (ṣarī‘at al-faḍl) in Medieval Muslim-Christian Polemics”, in *Intolerance – Polemics – Debate: Cultural Resistance in the Ancient World*, ed. George van Kooten and Jacques van Ruiten (Berlin; Boston: De Gruyter), forthcoming.

“Corresponding across Religious Borders: The *Letter of al-Qūṭī*”, *Islamochristiana* 43 (2017) 149-171.

[Co-authored with Marek NAPIŁOWSKI] “Medieval Muslim Polemics against the Christian Creed: The Critique of Ṣāliḥ b. al-Ḥusayn al-Ġa‘farī (d. 668/1270)”, *Islamochristiana* 42 (2016) 71-102.

[Co-authored with Daniel A. MADIGAN] “Thinking Outside the Box: Developments in Catholic Understandings of Salvation”, in *Religious Perspectives on Religious Diversity*, ed. Robert McKim (Leiden: Brill, 2016) 63-119. Series: Philosophy of Religion – World Religions, 6.

Review by Francis X. CLOONEY, *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* 12/1 (2017) 1-3.

Review by Jacques SCHEUER, *Nouvelle Revue Théologique* 140/1 (2018), 156.

Review by Reinhold BERNHARD, *Theologische Literaturzeitung* June 2018, 591-593.

“Se battre pour la cause de Dieu : vice ou vertu ? Vues de Shihāb al-Dīn al-Qarāfī (d. 1285)”, *Islamochristiana* 41 (2015) 95-107.

“The Philosopher as the Heir of the Prophets: Averroes’s Islamic Rationalism”, *Al-Qanṭara: Revista de Estudios Arabes* 36/1 (2015) 45-68.

“Corresponding across Religious Borders: Al-Bāijī’s Response to a Missionary Letter from France”, *Medieval Encounters* 18 (2012) 1-35.

“Spiritual Anti-Elitism: Ibn Taymiyya’s Doctrine of Sainthood (*walāya*)”, *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 22/3 (2011) 275-291.

[Co-authored with Daniel A. MADIGAN] “Islam and Christianity”, in *Oxford Bibliographies: Islamic Studies*, ed. Tamara Sonn (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011).

“Carta de Ibn Taymiyya a un cruzado en Chipre”, *Collectanea Christiana Orientalia* 8 (2011) 109-164.

“Corresponding across Religious Borders: Letter from Ibn Taymiyya to a Crusader in Cyprus”, *Islamochristiana* 36 (Roma: PISAI, 2010) 187-212.

“La fetua de Ibn Taymiyya sobre los monjes”, *Miscelánea de Estudios Árabes y Hebraicos (Sección Árabe-Islam)* 59 (2010) 171-190.

“Jihād and the Islamic philosophers: Alfarabi as a case study”, *Encounter: Documents for Muslim-Christian Understanding* 354 (Rome: PISAI, May 2010).

“Dans la Sunna le Prophète donne le bon exemple”, *Oasis* 9 (Venezia: Fondazione Internazionale Oasis, 2009) 37-40.

“Un irreductible choque de ortodoxias: Ibn Taymiyya y la controversia religiosa medieval en torno a la interpretación del Corán”, *Collectanea Christiana Orientalia* 6 (2009) 287-337.

“Iglesias en tierra de Islam: La *Mas’alat al-kanā’is* de Ibn Taymiyya”, *Collectanea Christiana Orientalia* 5 (2008) 287-324.

“Carta a un amigo musulmán de Sidón de Pablo de Antioquía”, *Collectanea Christiana Orientalia* 4 (2007) 189-215.

“The Tijāniyya - an infallible way of salvation”, *Encounter: Documents for Muslim-Christian Understanding* 316 (Roma: PISAI, 2005).

“Muhammad b. Abd al-Wahhāb y los orígenes del wahhabismo”, *Encuentro Islamo-Cristiano* 401 (Madrid: Darek-Nyumba, 2005).

“¿Podemos rezar juntos? La práctica de la oración interreligiosa”, *Encuentro Islamo-Cristiano* 349 (Madrid: Darek-Nyumba, 2001).

BOOK REVIEWS:

Pieter Sjoerd VAN KONINGSVELD, *An Arabic Source of Ramon Martí. Al-Saif al-Murhaf fī al-Radd ‘alā al-Muṣḥaf* (“The Whetted Sword in Refutation of the Koran”). *Introductory Study with Text and Translation of its Surviving Fragments* (Leiden: Aurora, 2018). *Islamochristiana* 44 (2018) forthcoming.

Peter SCHADLER. *John of Damascus and Islam: Christian Heresiology and the Intellectual Background to earliest Christian-Muslim Relations* (Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2018) [The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 34]. *MIDEO* 34 (2019), forthcoming.

Al-Radd al-jamīl – A Fitting Refutation of the Divinity of Jesus. Attributed to Abū Ḥamid al-Ghazālī. Edited by Mark BEAUMONT and Maha EL-KAISY FRIEMUTH (Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2016) [The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 28]. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 138.3 (2018) 645-648.

Rémi CAUCANAS. *Chrétiens et musulmans en Méditerranée: Ombres et lumières de l’entre-deux-guerres (1919 – 1939)* (Marseille: Publications Chemins de Dialogue, 2017). *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 29 (2018) 107-108.

Christian S. KROKUS. *The Theology of Louis Massignon: Islam, Christ, and the Church* (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2017). *Islamochristiana* 43 (2017) 435-438.

Daniel J. JANOSIK. *John of Damascus, First Apologist to the Muslims: The Trinity and Christian Apologetics in the Early Islamic Period* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2016). *Islamochristiana* 43 (2017) 430-432.

J. Scott BRIDGER. *Christian Exegesis of the Qur’ān: A Critical Analysis of the Apologetic Use of the Qur’ān in Select Medieval and Contemporary Arabic Texts* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2015) [American Society of Missiology Monograph Series, 23]. *Islamochristiana* 42 (2016) 324-326.

Dominique VALERIAN, ed., *Islamisation et arabisation de l'Occident musulman médiéval (VII^e–XII^e siècle)* (Paris: Publications de la Sorbonne, 2011). *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 23 (2012) 555-556.

David M. FREIDENREICH and Miriam GOLDSTEIN, eds. *Beyond Religious Borders: Interaction and Intellectual Exchange in the Medieval Islamic World* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012) [Jewish Culture and Contexts]. *Islamochristiana* 38 (2012) 341-344.

Michelina DI CESARE. *The Pseudo-Historical Image of the Prophet Muḥammad in Medieval Latin Literature: A Repertory* (Berlin; Boston: De Gruyter, 2011) [Studien zur Geschichte und Kultur des islamischen Orients, 26]. *Islamochristiana* 38 (2012) 338-341.

Fred M. DONNER. *Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam* (Cambridge, MA, and London: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2010). *Islamochristiana* 37 (2011) 310-312.

David THOMAS and Alex MALLETT, with Juan Pedro MONFERRER SALA... [et al.], eds. *Christian-Muslim Relations. A Bibliographical History. Volume 2 (900–1050)* (Brill, Leiden: 2010). [The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 14]. *Islamochristiana* 37 (2011) 358-359.

José Luis SÁNCHEZ NOGALES, José Serafín BÉJAR BACAS, and Pablo RUIZ LOZANO sj, eds. *Cristianismo, Islam y Modernidad: II Congreso de Teología de la Facultad de Teología de Granada (10–12 de febrero de 2010)* (Granada: Facultad de Teología de Granada, 2011). *Islamochristiana* 37 (2011) 349-350.

James HOWARD-JOHNSTON. *Witnesses to a World Crisis: Historians and Histories of the Middle East in the Seventh Century* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010). *Collectanea Christiana Orientalia* 8 (2011) 360-365.

Marlies ter BORG. *Sharing Mary: Bible and Qur'an side by side* (Lexington, KY: CreateSpace, 2010). *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 22 (2011) 108-109.

Paul L. HECK. *Islam, Christianity, and Religious Pluralism* (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2009). *Islamochristiana* 36 (2010) 386-387.

Abdullahi Ahmed AN-NA'IM. *Islam and the Secular State: Negotiating the Future of Shari'a* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008). *Islamochristiana* 35 (2009) 324-325.

Daniel W. BROWN. *A New Introduction to Islam*, 2nd edition (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009). *Islamochristiana* 35 (2009) 333-336.

Jerrilynn D. DODDS, Maria Rosa MENOCA and Abigail K. BALBALE. *The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews, and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2008). *Islamochristiana* 34 (2008) 295-296.

Rosa María RODRÍGUEZ MAGDA, *Inexistente Al Ándalus. De cómo los intelectuales reinventan el Islam* (Oviedo: Ediciones Nobel, 2008). *Islamochristiana* 34 (2008) 326-327.

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES, MEETINGS & SEMINARS

CHRZEŚCIJANIE W ŚWIECIE ISLAMU. DIALOG – POSŁANNICTWO – ŚWIADECTWO [“Christians in the World of Islam: Dialogue – Mission – Testimony”], Symposium organised by the Missionaries of Africa and the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa in collaboration with the Faculty of Theology at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin [Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II], Lublin, 25 – 26 January 2019.

Speaker

SEMINAR “WOMEN, FAITH AND CULTURE”, organised by the International Foundation for Interreligious and Intercultural Education (IFIIE) and the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Rome, 14 November 2018.

Panel Chair

XXII COURSE OF ONGOING FORMATION IN MISSIONARY PASTORAL CARE: CHALLENGES OF MISSION TODAY, organised by the Salesian Pontifical University, Rome, 24 September – 14 December 2018.

Short course on “The Islamic World Today” (2-5 November 2018).

FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, conference organised by the President’s Office in collaboration with The Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, The Department of Theology and The Catholic Studies Program, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 13 – 14 September 2018.

Session moderator

“ISLAM & BELONGING” PLURIEL 2nd International Congress, Gregorian Pontifical University, Rome 26 – 28 June 2018.

Scientific organization and session moderator

CUANDO LO VIEJO MUERE Y LO NUEVO NO ACABA DE NACER: EL MUNDO ISLÁMICO EN MUTACIÓN, Pontifical Spanish College of St Joseph, Rome, 1 May 2018.

Speaker

MAKING SENSE OF ISLAM: THE ARAB CHRISTIAN CONTRIBUTION TO AN UNRESOLVED THEOLOGICAL PROBLEM, World Religions World Church Colloquium, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, 5 April 2018.

Speaker

TACKLING VIOLENCE COMMITTED IN THE NAME OF RELIGION, international conference organised by Wilton Park (Foreign & Commonwealth Office), in association with the Rashad Center for Cultural, Governance of the Adyan Foundation and the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue, Rome 31 January – 2 February 2018.

Speaker

“THE WHOLE IS GREATER THAN ITS PARTS”: CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS ENCOUNTER TODAY, international conference organised by the World Religions World Church (WRWC) program of the University of Notre Dame, Rome Global Gateway, 8 – 10 January 2018.

Speaker

XXI^o CORSO DI FORMAZIONE PERMANENTE DI PASTORALE MISSIONARIA: LE SFIDE DELLA MISSIONE, organised by the Salesian Pontifical University, Rome, 25 September – 13 December 2017.

Short course on “Il mondo islamico oggi” (2-3 November 2017)

THEOLOGY OF RELIGIONS – ROMAN CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVES, international conference organised by the Newmaninstitutet – Högskola för Teologi, Filosofi och Kultur, Uppsala, Sweden, 6 – 8 October 2017.

Speaker

INTOLERANCE – POLEMICS – DEBATE: CULTURAL RESISTANCE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD, international conference organised by the Department of Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Origins, Faculty of theology and Religious Studies, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 16 – 18 May 2017.

Speaker

IL SUFISMO: FIGURE, TESTI, LUOGHI – SUFISM: FIGURES, TEXTS, PLACES, Study Day organised by the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome, 24 March 2017.

Scientific organization and moderator

EXTREMISM AND VIOLENCE IN THE NAME OF RELIGION. WHICH APPROACH TO RELIGION?, 10th Colloquium jointly organised by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (Vatican City) and the Center for Interreligious Dialogue of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization, Teheran, Islamic Republic of Iran, Rome, 22 – 23 November 2016.

Member of the Catholic delegation

XX^o CORSO DI FORMAZIONE PERMANENTE DI PASTORALE MISSIONARIA: I NUOVI CONTESTI DELLA MISSIONE, organised by the Salesian Pontifical University, Rome, 26 September – 15 December 2016.

Short course on “Il mondo islamico oggi” (2-4 November 2016)

RAHMA: MUSLIM AND CHRISTIAN STUDIES IN MERCY, international conference organised by the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Pontifical Urbaniana University, Rome, 13 – 15 October 2016.

Scientific organization and panel moderator

MISERICORDIA Y VIOLENCIA EN ISLAM: UN COMPLEJO EQUILIBRIO, Pontifical Spanish College of St Joseph, Rome, 12 April 2016.

Speaker

ANTICHI MANOSCRITTI DEL CORANO – ANCIENT QUR’ANIC MANUSCRIPTS, Study Day organised by the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome, 17 March 2016.

Scientific organization and moderator

GUERRE DI PAROLE TRA CRISTIANI E MUSULMANI NEL MEDIOEVO, book presentation, organised by the Gregorian Center for Interreligious Studies, Gregorian University, Rome, 18 January 2016.

Speaker

“ROME SEMINAR” WITH STUDENTS FROM CAMBRIDGE MUSLIM COLLEGE AND THE CENTRE OF ISLAMIC THEOLOGY, TÜBINGEN UNIVERSITY, organized by The Lay Center, Rome, 11 May 2015.

Guest speaker

IL PATRIMONIO CRISTIANO ARABO – ARAB CHRISTIAN HERITAGE, Study Day organised by the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Rome, 30 April 2015.

Scientific organization and moderator

THE SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES (BRAIS), London, 13 – 15 April 2015, Senate House, University of London.

Panelist

SIXTH GLOBAL FORUM OF THE UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS, “Unity in Diversity: Celebrating Diversity for Common and Shared Values”, Bali, Indonesia, 29 – 30 August 2014.

Panelist

MEETING THE CURRENT CHALLENGES THROUGH EDUCATION, colloquium jointly organised by the Royal Institute of Inter-Faith Studies (Amman, Jordan) and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (Vatican City), Amman, Jordan, 13 – 14 May 2014.

Member of the Catholic delegation

WORK EXPERIENCE

BIBLIOTHEQUE DES SCIENCES DES RELIGIONS (Bibliothèque diocésaine), Tunis, 2006–2009

Director

PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO DI STUDI ARABI E D'ISLAMISTICA (PISAI), Rome, 2014–2018

Director of Studies