

## *The Qur'an and the Biblical Tradition*

**Chairs:** Cornelia Horn and Holger Zellentin (Contact: [Holger.Zellentin@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Holger.Zellentin@nottingham.ac.uk); [cbhorn68@gmail.com](mailto:cbhorn68@gmail.com))

**Description:** The focus of this unit is the Qur'an's relationship to the Biblical tradition in the broadest sense: the books of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament in the various languages of their original composition and later translations (regardless of a particular book's status of canonization within specific Jewish or Christian groups), the exegetical traditions of the Bible, and the homiletic, narrative, and legal corpora that have developed in close dialogue with this Biblical tradition prior to the emergence of the Qur'an and subsequently in exchange with the Qur'an.

**Call for Papers:** For the 2014 IQSA meeting in San Diego, we plan to organize two panels, one of which will be co-sponsored by the SBL Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Texts section. For these panels, we welcome proposals that engage the Qur'an's dialogue with any aspect of the Biblical tradition. Emphases include—but are not limited to—the role of Syriac homilies by authors such as Jacob of Serugh or Philoxenos of Mabbug, the role of the rabbinic narrative and legal traditions as they are embodied in the Palestinian and Babylonian Talmud and Midrash, and the role of the Ethiopic tradition. As a second focus of interest, we welcome proposals that address methodological questions pertinent to the study of the literary shape of the Qur'an both on its own terms and in relationship to other written and oral texts. We wish to examine whether, where, and how interactions of “influx,” “influence,” “adaptation,” or “adoption” best characterize the interplay between the Qur'an and the Biblical traditions.

Proposals should include a title and an abstract of approximately 400 words. They can be submitted [here](#) from late January onwards. Informal queries in advance of submission can be addressed to the unit chairs.