

Qur'an Seminar

Chairs: Mehdi Azaiez and Tommaso Tesei (Contact: mehdi.azaiez@yahoo.fr; teseitommaso@gmail.com)

Description: The Qur'an Seminar is a collaborative research project that brings together scholars from all around the world to discuss and comment on selected key Qur'anic passages. This research emerges from current trends in Qur'anic Studies that seek to excavate and explore the religio-cultural ties between the Qur'anic text and the intellectual history of the Late Antique Near East. Scholars will be asked to produce commentaries that bring innovating views concerning three central topics inherent to an understanding of the Qur'an:

1. its textual structure (i.e., logical, rhetorical, and literary qualities, or *nazm*);
2. its intertextual relationships with both Biblical and extra-Biblical traditions;
3. the historical context from which the Qur'anic text and the Islamic movement emerged.

Call for papers: For the 2014 meeting in San Diego, we have selected four passages to be discussed in two different panels. Each panel will include two passages, which will be organized as follows:

- Panel n. 1: surah 74 and Q 18:60–102.
- Panel n. 2: surahs 19 and 88.

Scholars are invited to submit an abstract for one of the two panels or for both of them, including a commentary of 400 words maximum for each selected passage. We especially welcome innovative commentaries that address the Qur'an directly and do not rely on the categories of medieval exegesis. Proposals can be submitted [here](#) from late January onwards. Informal queries in advance of submission can be addressed to the unit chairs.