

Workshop: Knowing Islam, Mediating Islam

Monday, June 30: 10. 15h to 18.15h, BGSMCS Altensteinstr. 48

Description:

Achieving knowledge is a praised task for a Muslim believer that is how it is often stated in Islamic texts; it enables a person to get out of the state of "ignorance" and closer to God. Nevertheless, questions arise about what is the kind of knowledge necessary to know for a believer and how is it appropriate to achieve knowledge about Islam? Is reading books, listening to cassettes or the consumption of audiovisual media equivalent to listening to a knowledgeable person? Is the new media by its possibilities of interactivity and speed over long distances creating new roads for the popularization of knowledge about Islam? What happens to the knowledge itself if mediated through these diverse possibilities? The prospects of new media such as the internet and cell phones is a popular and controversial debated theme in research. In the mediatization paradigm, the new information and communication technologies are seen as part of a larger and ongoing historical process of transformation advanced by "old" and "new" media. Avoiding technological determinism or media centrism, this paradigm enables to view several social fields such as religion or politics from a new perspective and grasp ongoing social changes.

Program:

10.15 -11.45h Lorenz Graitl: Media and political change

Reading: Hofheinz, Albrecht. 2011. "Nextopia? Beyond Revolution 2.0." *International Journal of Communication* 5: 1417–1434.

12.00h-13.30h Britta Frede: Approaching Islamic knowledge

13.30h -15.00h lunch break

15.00h-16.30h Katharina Muehlbeyer: Discussion of : Mariani, Ermete, Cyber-Fatwas, Sermons, and Media Campaigns: Amr Khaled and Omar Bakri Muhammad in Search of New Audiences. In *Producing Islamic knowledge: Transmission and Dissemination in Western Europe*, ed. Martin van Bruinessen and Stefano Allievi, 142-168. Routledge, London & New York, 2011.

16.45h-18.15h Jasmin Mahazi: Different Modes of Mediating Islam: Vave Ritual and Poems on cassettes