

PRO ORIENTE

FIRST COLLOQUIUM SYRIACUM

The Syriac Churches encountering Islam: Past experiences and future perspectives
Salzburg, November 14 – 16, 2007

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Inauguration

09:00 Archbishop ALOIS KOTHGASSER, Metropolitan of Salzburg and Primas Germaniae
Opening Prayer and Welcome Address

Cardinal WALTER KASPER, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity
Greeting Address (read by Mons. JOHAN BONNY)

Fr. ALOIS SCHWARZFISCHER SAC
Welcome Address

PRO ORIENTE President JOHANN MARTE
Welcome Address

DIETMAR W. WINKLER
General Introduction to the Colloquium Syriacum I

Morning Session

ISLAM IN THE SYRIAC SOURCES

SYRIAC CHURCHES IN THE TIMES OF THE FOUR CALIPHS

Moderator: Mor Gregorios Y. Ibrahim, Aleppo/Syria

09:45 Paper 1: MAR LOUIS SAKO, Kirkuk/Iraq
Muslim-Christian Dialogue in Syriac sources

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Paper 2: SIDNEY GRIFFITH, Washington D.C./USA (paper read *in absentia*)
Syriacisms in the "Arabic Qur'an"

11:45 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

Afternoon Session

SYRIAC CHURCHES IN THE Umayyad PERIOD

Moderator: Mar Bawai Soro, California/USA

15:00 Paper 3: Mor GREGORIOS YOHANNA IBRAHIM, Aleppo/Syria
The Syrian Churches in the Umayyad Era (661-750)

15:45 Coffee break

16:00 Paper 4: DIETMAR W. WINKLER, Salzburg/Austria
Christian responses to Islam in the Umayyad Period (661-750)

16:45 Discussion

17:15 Transfer with Mini-Bus to the Catholic School of Theology (University of Salzburg)

Evening Panel for the Public

Religious Conflicts? Relations between Christians and Muslims in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon

Moderator: Dietmar W. Winkler, Salzburg/Austria

18:15 3 Statements, 15-20 minutes each and discussion with the audience

Iraq: Mar LOUIS SAKO, Kirkuk (Chaldean Church)

Syria: Mor GREGORIOS Y. IBRAHIM, Aleppo (Syrian Orthodox Church)

Lebanon: KARAM RIZK, Kaslik (Maronite Church)

20:00 Dinner-reception

Stiftskeller St. Peter (<http://www.haslauer.at/>), situated in the heart of Salzburg's old town; first mentioned in a document (803) by Alkuin, the court theologian of Emperor Charlemagne

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Morning Session

SYRIAC CHURCHES IN THE ABBASID PERIOD (INCLUDING MONGOL PERIOD)

Moderator: Mar Joseph Powathil, Changanassery, Kerala/India

09:00 Paper 5: Mar BAWAI SORO, California/USA

The Contribution of Mesopotamian Christianity during the Abbasid Period

09.45 Coffee break

10.15 Paper 6: HERMAN TEULE, Nijmegen/The Netherlands

The Syrian Renaissance. A Period of Inter-religious and Inter-cultural Dialogue?

11.00 Discussion

12:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session

SYRIAC CHURCHES IN THE OTTOMAN PERIOD

Moderator: Mar Bawai Soro, California/USA

15:00 Paper 7: Mar MIKHAEL AL-JAMIL, Rome/Italy

The personal status of Christians in the Ottoman Empire (read in French)

15:45 Coffee break

16:15 Paper 8: MARTIN TAMCKE, Göttingen/Germany

Syriac Churches encountering Islam in the Ottoman Period, some aspects

17:00 Discussion

18:00 Dinner

After Dinner:

Optional short and easy walk with panoramic view from the Mönchsberg (Monk's Hill) onto Salzburg's old town, designated by UNESCO as a Cultural Heritage Site

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007

Morning Session

THE INDIAN EXPERIENCE OF ISLAM

PRESENT SITUATION AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Moderator: Mar Joseph Powathil, Changanassery, Kerala/India

- 09:00 Paper 9: BABY VARGHESE, Kottayam, Kerala/India
Christian-Muslim Relationships on the Malabar Coast
- 09:45 Coffee break
- 10:15 Paper 10: JOSEPH YACOB, Lyon/France
Christian Minorities in the countries of the Middle East: A glimpse to the present situation and future perspectives
- 11:00 Discussion
- 12:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Moderator: Mor Gregorios Y. Ibrahim, Aleppo/Syria

- 15:00 Discussion: Final Statement and press release
- 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:30 concluding session
- 17:15 Departure with Mini-Bus to the Benedictine Archabbey St. Peter Salzburg founded in 696 for the Christian mission to the South Alps and thus the oldest monastery in the German-speaking world.
- Benedictine Evening Prayer (Vespers) in the Abbey Church
Visit of the famous library (oldest in Austria)
Dinner-Reception by Archabbot Edmund Wagenhofer OSB

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2007

- 09:00 Departure with Mini-Bus for Sightseeing Salzburg
- 09:30 Guided City Walking Tour (departure point: Rupertinum Salzburg)
- 12:30 Lunch