Middle Eastern and North African Studies Colloquium Series

The Search for Qur'anic Laws: Insights from a Yemeni Qur'an Commentary



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The legal verses of the Qur'an remain severely understudied in the field of Islamic Studies. The reasons for this situation are complex, but may derive in part from the ambiguity within the Islamic tradition over which Qur'anic verses are relevant to the articulation of Islamic law. Fortunately, several scholars affiliated with the Zaydi school of Islam in medieval Yemen wrote commentaries devoted exclusively to the legal passages of the Qur'an. The goal of this talk is to introduce the insights of one of these Yemeni-Zaydi scholars, Muhammad b. al-Hadi (d. 1320), found in his unpublished commentary, The Garden and the Pool. This talk will show how Ibn al-Hadi identified legal passages in the Qur'an and linked them to the vast discourse of Islamic law. It will also provide reflections upon the significance of Qur'anic laws for Muslims in the 21st century.

Friday, February 12th, 2021 at 3pm

Zoom registration: cmes.arizona.edu/colloquium

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