A Workshop on Muslim, Christian and Jewish Arabic in the Ottoman Empire

Organisers: Esther-Miriam Wagner and Geoffrey Khan

Date: 21 and 22 April 2016

Venue: Common Room, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (FAMES), Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge


The written Arabic of the Ottoman Empire from the 16th to the 19th centuries is an immensely fruitful topic. The texts display a proximity to the vernacular that cannot be encountered in earlier material and provides unprecedented access to the spoken language. This rich material remains underexplored, as traditional scholarship on Arabic has focussed overwhelmingly on the literature of the various Golden Ages between the 8th and the 13th centuries, and lack of interest left many the Ottoman sources almost completely neglected. In order to approach the topic from all its angles, the conference will bring together scholars working on literacy and appreciation of Arabic in the Ottoman Empire, on the philological parameters, and on the sociolinguistics of Ottoman Arabic.

This event is open to all, please register by writing an email to the contact below.

Further information: www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/events
Contact: emw36@cam.ac.uk