

Han Hsien LIEW
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, incoming 2021.

MINERVA SCHOOLS AT KECK GRADUATE INSTITUTE (KGI).

Assistant Professor of Arts and Humanities, 2019–2020.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Postdoctoral Graduate Writing Fellow, 2018–2019.

LESLEY UNIVERSITY.

Adjunct Instructor, Fall 2018.

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Ph.D., History and Middle Eastern Studies, 2018.

A.M., History, 2015.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

B.A. (with Honors), College of Social Studies and History, 2012.

Certificate: Middle Eastern Studies.

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Islamic intellectual history, including major debates in Islamic law, philosophy, and theology.

Islamic political thought.

Islamic historiography.

Islam in Southeast Asia.

Religious and social movements in the Islamic world.

Religion and politics in premodern societies.

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Ibn al-Jawzī and the Cursing of Yazīd b. Mu‘āwiya: A Debate on Rebellion and Legitimate Rulership,”
Journal of the American Oriental Society, 139/3 (2019): 631–646.

“The Caliphate of Adam: Theological Politics of the Qur’ānic Term *Ḥalīfa*,” *Arabica*, 63/1 (2016): 1–29.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Hermeneutics of Legitimate Leadership: Qurtūbī’s Commentary on Q 2:30 (the Adam Verse),” in *New Trends in Qur’anic Studies: Text, Context and Interpretation*, ed. Mun’im Sirry (Atlanta: Lockwood Press, 2019), 233–247.

BOOK REVIEWS

Mona Hassan, *Longing for the Lost Caliphate: A Transregional History*, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 139/3 (2019): 746–749.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Abū l-Ḥasan al-Māwardī,” in *Handbook of Qur’ānic Hermeneutics*, ed. Georges Tamer (Walter de Gruyter, under review).

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Middle East Studies Association Wadad Kadi Travel Fellowship for Doctoral Students, 2018.

Middle East Studies Association Graduate Student Paper Prize, 2017.

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University, 2017–2018.

Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations Junior Fellowship, Koç University, Istanbul, 2016–2017.

Derek Bok Center Certificate of Teaching Excellence, Harvard University, 2015.

Center for Middle Eastern Studies Summer Grant, Harvard University, 2013.

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Fellowship for Islamic Studies, Harvard University, 2012–2013.

Center for the Humanities Student Fellowship, Wesleyan University, 2012.

Freeman Asian Scholarship, Wesleyan University, 2008–2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**MINERVA SCHOOLS AT KGI.**

Comparing Societies and Histories: The Impact of Time and Place (Spring 2020).

Global History (Fall 2019, Spring 2020).

LESLEY UNIVERSITY.

World History I: 4000 BCE–1500 CE (Fall 2018).

HARVARD UNIVERSITY (AS TEACHING FELLOW).

Western Intellectual History II: The Prehistory of Modern Thought (Professor James Hankins, Spring 2016).

Western Intellectual History I: Greco-Roman Antiquity (Professor James Hankins, Fall 2015).

Tangible Things: Harvard Collections in World History (Professor Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Spring 2015).

History of the Middle East: 600–1055 (Professor Roy Mottahedeh, Fall 2014).

European Legal History (Professor Tamar Herzog, Fall 2014).

HARVARDX (AS ONLINE TEACHING FELLOW).

Tangible Things: Discovering History Through Artworks, Artifacts, Scientific Specimens, and the Stuff Around You (Professor Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Summer 2015).

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

“Navigating Power: Eloquence and Emotions in Ibn al-Jawzī’s Political Thought.” Dartmouth College, Department of History (8 January 2020).

“Envisioning a Learned Polity: Ibn al-Jawzī’s Reassessment of Scholar-Ruler Relations.” Malaysia Design Archive (30 November 2019).

“Politics and Rulership in Islam: Key Concepts and Vocabulary.” Wesleyan University, College of Social Studies and Middle East Student Union (21 February 2019).

“Negotiating History, Law, and Politics: Juristic Prudence in Ibn al-Jawzī’s Treatment of Rebellion.” Columbia University, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (6 March 2018).

“Islam: A Semitic Religion?” Harvard University (23 April 2015).

CONFERENCES

Conferences Organized

“Constructing Ideologies, Communicating Identities.” Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations. Istanbul, Turkey (6 May 2017).

Panels Organized

“The Language of Power: Articulating Kingship in the Medieval Islamic World.” 49th Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado (21–24 November 2015).

Papers Presented

“Converting Tyranny to Justice: The Role of Preachers in Ibn al-Jawzī’s Political Thought.” 22nd Biennial Symposium of the International Medieval Sermon Studies Society. Caleruega, Spain (postponed to July 2021 due to COVID-19).

“Preaching Justice and Piety: Ibn al-Jawzī and the Emotive Turn in Medieval Islamic Political Thought.” Inaugural Conference of the Society for the Study of Medieval Emotions. St. Andrews, United Kingdom (postponed to May 2021 due to COVID-19).

“Encoding Ritual and Power: The *Proskynesis* in Abbasid, Fatimid, and Byzantine Books of Ceremonies.” 55th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, Michigan (canceled due to COVID-19).

“History as Political Thought: The Saqīfa Meeting and the Sunni Theory of the Caliphate.” 52nd Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting. San Antonio, Texas (15–18 November 2018).

“Caliph Yazīd ibn Mu‘āwiya’s Attack on Mecca and Medina in Islamic Historical Memory.” Pillaging Sacred Spaces: Diachronic and Cross-Cultural Perspectives. Cologne, Germany (3–4 May 2018).

“Alexander the Great in the Articulation of Malay Islamic Kingship.” Space and Speech: Discursive Environments Across Non-Arab Islam. Nashville, Tennessee (7–9 September 2017).

“The Adamic Inheritance: Genealogical Legitimation in the Works of Abū Ḥafṣ ‘Umar al-Suhrawardī.” Constructing Ideologies, Communicating Identities. Istanbul, Turkey (6 May 2017).

“Ibn al-Jawzī and the Cursing of Yazīd b. Mu‘āwiya: A Debate on Rebellion and Rightful Leadership.” 227th American Oriental Society Meeting. Los Angeles, California (17–20 March 2017).

“Revelational Politics: Justifying the Necessity of the Caliphate in Medieval Sunni Theological Writings.” The Origins of the Islamic State: Sovereignty and Power in the Middle Ages. London, United Kingdom (16–17 February 2017).

“The Cursing of Yazīd and Ḥanbalī Political Thought.” 31st Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference. Chicago, Illinois (6–7 May 2016).

“The Thirty-Year Caliphate: Revisiting Legitimate Authority in Medieval Islam.” 49th Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado (21–24 November 2015).

“The Caliphate of Adam: Theological Politics of the Qur’ānic Term *Khalīfa*.” Recent Trends in Qur’anic Studies International Conference. Yogyakarta, Indonesia (4–7 August 2015).

“Articulating Caliphal Legitimacy in Ibn al-Jawzī’s *al-Miṣbāḥ al-muḍī’ fī khilāfat al-Mustaḍī’*.” 2nd Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Saint Louis, Missouri (16–18 June 2014).

Discussant

“Knowledge—Pasts and Futures.” 2nd Annual Science, Religion, and Culture Symposium. Cambridge, Massachusetts (10–11 May 2016).

LANGUAGES

English (native proficiency)

Arabic (advanced classical and modern)

Persian (advanced classical and modern)

Malay (native proficiency)

Turkish (elementary)

Mandarin Chinese (native proficiency)

Hokkien Chinese Dialect (native proficiency)

Cantonese Chinese Dialect (native proficiency)

French (advanced)

German (reading proficiency)

MEMBERSHIPS

American Oriental Society

International Qur’anic Studies Association

Middle East Studies Association

American Historical Association

Middle East Medievalists

Medieval Academy of America

British Association for Islamic Studies

Association for Political Theory