



Sufism and the Body

International Conference, 12-13 September 2019, Utrecht University

Venues: Sweelinckzaal Drift 21 and Stijlkamer Janskerkhof 13

Conference Program

Thursday 12 September 2019: Sweelinckzaal, Drift 21

10:30-10:45 Welcome and introduction

10:45-12:00 Panel 1

'Aṭṭār's Book of Affliction and the Inner Human Faculties: A Sufi Psychology of Union
– Cyrus Ali Zargar

Physiognomy in Medieval Islam: Between the Natural and Esoteric – Liana Saif

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-15:00 Panel 2

Pain as a form of Piety in Rifā'ī Self-Mortification Rituals: The Role of the Body in 'Training the Soul' (riyāḍat al-nafs) – Sara Kuehn

Sensational Bodies in Medieval Hagiographical Literature: The Case of Awḥad al-Dīn Kirmānī – Lloyd Ridgeon

The Body and Shame in Sufism – Rose Deighton



15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-16:45 Panel 3

Bodies in Pilgrimage: The Ka'ba as a Body - Dzenita Karic

Visuality and the Unseen in 19th Century Urdu-Language Lithographs: Talismans, Bodies and Divination – Nur Sobers-Khan

Friday 13 September 2019: Sweelinckzaal, Drift 21

9:30-10:45 Panel 4

In the Absence of "Microcosmic Pearls": Parallel Readings of Ibn 'Arabī's Kitāb 'Anqā' Mughrib – Elizabeth Alexandrin

The Replica of the Higher World: Human Body in Kubrawī Teachings According to Najm al-Dīn al-Rāzī Dāya – Mojtaba Shahsavari

10:45-11:15 Coffee break

11:15-12:30 Panel 5

Sensing the Body to Dilute the Self: The Corporeal Acquisition of a Sufi Identity – Marta Dominguez

Between Strengthening and Self Discipline: The Qur'an and Two Examples of Body Culture in Present-day Sufism – Yunus Hentschel

12:30-14:30 Lunch

Friday 13 September Afternoon Sessions: Stijlkamer, Janskerkhof 13

14:30-15:45 Panel 6

Blood and Bloodlines in Moroccan Sufism – Manuela Ceballos

Disabilities, Undisciplined Bodies, and Sainthood in Moroccan Sufism – Mehdi Sajid

15:45-16:15 Coffee break

16:15-17:30 Panel 7

Bodies of the Dead – Ahmad Khan

Contentious Sufi Bodies: Shrines and their Detractors in Post-War Sri Lanka -
Shobhana Xavier

End

