

# Byzantium, the Arabs, and the Rise of Islam

Colloquium in Memory of Irfan Shahîd (1926–2016)

October 13, 2017

Georgetown University and Dumbarton Oaks



Mosaic at the church of St. George, Khirbat al-Mukhayaṭ, Mount Nebo. Photo by G. Saliba.

“Byzantium, the Arabs, and the Rise of Islam” gathers leading scholars to explore areas that interested the late Irfan Shahîd. Within the broad framework of the relations between Byzantium and its Arab neighbors, speakers investigate a wide array of sources, from epigraphic and archaeological materials to the canon of Arabic poetry. Topics include the religion of the pre-Islamic nomads of Arabia, the Christian presence in the Arabian Peninsula and the Levant, and the possible pre-Islamic Arabic translation of the Bible.

## Participants:

Ahmad Al-Jallad (Leiden University)  
Nadia Maria El Cheikh (American University of Beirut)  
Sidney Griffith (The Catholic University of America)  
Robert Hoyland (New York University)  
Walter Kaegi (University of Chicago)  
Maria Mavroudi (University of California, Berkeley)  
Jack Tannous (Princeton University)  
Alan G. Walmsley (Macquarie University/Dumbarton Oaks)

Organizer: Emma Gannagé, Georgetown University

## Registration is required

9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Georgetown University  
CCAS Boardroom (ICC 241)  
2:00–5:15 p.m. Dumbarton Oaks  
The Oak Room  
1700 Wisconsin Avenue NW  
5:15–6:00 p.m. Reception in the Oak Room

Co-organized by the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies at Georgetown University and Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection.

Cosponsored by the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies and the Medieval Studies Program at Georgetown University.

RSVP, program, and abstracts at [arabic.georgetown.edu/events/other-events/shahid-colloquium](http://arabic.georgetown.edu/events/other-events/shahid-colloquium).

For more information, contact the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Georgetown University (202-687-2735 or [arabic@georgetown.edu](mailto:arabic@georgetown.edu)).