

The Chair of Practical Theology and Kalām (DIRS)

International Conference: Rationality in Islamic Theology in the Post-Classical Period (1200-1900)

28-29.09.2022

The post-classical period is a very important period and the connecting bridge between the classical and the modern Islamic thought. In this period interdisciplinary connections between the Islamic sciences became an important characteristic element and took place between many disciplines.

We find a connection between Kalām and philosophy which started from the works of Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī (d. 1209) especially in his work *al-Maṭālib al-ʿĀliya*. This attempt of reconciliation between Kalām and philosophy produced what we can call philosophical Kalām and opened the door for Mutakalimun after him to take up an integral part in philosophical thinking such as al-Ṭūsī (d. 1274), ʿAḍud ad-Dīn al-Ījī (d. 1355) and al-Sharīf al-Jurjānī (d. 1413). Also, in the field of Sufism Ibn ʿArabī (d. 1240) and al-Jīlī (d. 1424) made great use of philosophical concepts and started a philosophical mysticism which became clear in the works of Mullā Ṣadrā (d. 1640).

In this area is the recent book Frank Griffel, *the Formation of Post Classical Philosophy in Islam*, of great importance. It provides a deep understanding of the formation of the post-classical era and built the ground for perceiving its emergences. Interdisciplinary also took place in Qurʾanic studies in Tafsīr al-Rāzī *Mafātih al-Ghayb* using philosophy in interpreting qurʾanic verses.

There are many other theologians, philosopher, Sufies and Fuqahaʾ in this period whose works demonstrate such an interdisciplinary tendency and who will be included in this conference. However, we are also discussing here the historical background and the influence of Mamluk politics on the Islamic sciences.

Thus, our aim is to trace the importance of rationality in the interdisciplinary tendency of the post-classical period. Therefore, we are holding in Erlangen a conference on the post-classical period in order to shade a special light on the importance of this period. Thus, we are inviting researchers who are interested in this period in order to produce together a work through this conference which highlights the different elements of the post-classical period.