

## ACADEMIC COOPERATION

Storytelling has a long tradition in the history of Islamic education, dating back to the time of the Prophet Muḥammad. It is one of the traditional forms of Islamic education to convey values, virtues and attitudes that are embedded in cultural texts, that is, narratives. It is implicit in narratives that they construct cultural phenomena such as beliefs, knowledge, behaviors, and values and preserve them in the collective memory. How can they become the basis for reflection and orientation and how can they create identity?

The Department of Islamic Religious Education and Practical Theology at the Berlin Institute of Islamic Theology (BIT) attaches great importance to the aesthetic-religious education of children. A particular focus is on literature from the Islamic educational tradition, including the masterpiece “Mathnawī” by Jalāladdīn Rūmī (1207-1273), which contains numerous stories. Since 2023, the Berlin Institute for Islamic Theology and the Institute for Sufi Studies have been working together as part of the “Mathnawī Children Project” on how these stories from the Mathnawī can be integrated into religious education processes and contribute to literary-aesthetic learning. In this project, we would like to prepare the narrative material of the tradition in a more contemporary and child-friendly way.

We cordially invite all interested scholars to participate in this first international symposium on Rūmī from a religious education perspective.

## INFORMATION

Berlin Institute of Islamic Theology  
The Institute for Sufi Studies

Concept and organization  
Prof. Dr. Tuba Işık  
Berlin Institute of Islamic Theology,  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Elif Emirahmetoğlu  
Berlin Institute of Islamic Theology,  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Prof. Dr. Elif Erhan  
Institute for Sufi Studies,  
Üsküdar University Istanbul

Contact  
Secretary of Department for Islamic Education  
and Practical Theology (BIT)  
sekrelpa@hu-berlin.de

Please register by September 15, 2024  
at latest via email: [sekrelpa@hu-berlin.de](mailto:sekrelpa@hu-berlin.de)

MAWLĀNĀ JALĀL AL-DĪN  
*Rūmī*  
In Today's  
Education:  
**RETHINKING  
METHODOLOGIES**

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**  
**11th – 13th October 2024, BERLIN**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin,  
Senatssaal (main building 1st floor)  
Unter den Linden  
10117 Berlin



INSTITUTE FOR  
SUFİ STUDIES

**Friday, October 11, 2024**

**5 pm-7 pm** Senatssaal (main building)

**SYMPOSIUM OPENING**

Welcome Speeches

Prof. Dr. Serdar Kurnaz (Director of BIT)

Prof. Dr. Nevzat Tarhan (President of Üsküdar University, Istanbul)

Opening Panel

*Rûmî and the Meaning of Samâ'*

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Tuba Işık

Cemalnur Sargut and

Prof. Dr. Kemal Sayar

Refreshments 7pm-8pm

**Saturday, October 12, 2024**

**9:30am-11:00am**, Lichthof (main building)

**PANEL 1: Rûmî's significance in Islamic Theology**

Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Anna Akasoy

Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç

*Intellect (al-'Aql) in Rûmî*

Prof. Dr. Mohammed Rustom

*Sleepers Awake! Rumi on the People of the Cave*

15 Mins Coffee Break

**11:15am-1:30pm** Lichthof (main building)

**PANEL 2: Mathnawî as a literary masterpiece for education**

Chairperson: Hibatolah Nassiri-Vural

Prof. Dr. Danielle Widmann Abraham

*The Challenge of Rûmî in the Age of Identity*

Prof. Dr. Emine Yeniterzi and Dr. Esin Tümer

*An Examination of the Methods of Values of Education in Rûmî's Mathnawî*

1:30pm-2:30pm Lunch and Prayer Break

**2:30pm-4:00pm** Lichthof (main building)

**PANEL 3: Aesthetic dimensions of Mathnawî**

Chairperson: Dr. Rasool Akbari

Dr. Hatice Dilek Güldütuna

*Mathnawî and the Inner Dimensions of Aesthetics*

Dr. Cangüzel Güner Zülfikar

*"If a thorn pricks you, be thankful! For there, is a Rose!": The Aesthetic Understanding of the Mathnawî-yi Ma'navî*

15 Mins Coffee Break

**4:15pm-6:15pm** Lichthof (main building)

**PANEL 4: Reflection of knowledge in spirituality**

Chairperson: Dr. Cangüzel Güner Zülfikar

Prof. Gernot Galib Stanfel

*Purifying the water of the soul: The terms of development, love and immediacy in the Mathnawî and Mevlevi Tradition as guiding elements for concepts of nowadays Islamic teaching*

Dr. Rasool Akbari

*Mathnawî and the meaning of life: educational implications*

**Sunday, October 13, 2024**

**9:30 am-11:00 am**, Lichtsaal (main building)

**PANEL 5: Mathnawî as a source of ethical education**

Chairperson: Dr. Mahmud Kellner

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Faruque

*Rûmî, Ethical Education, and Sufi Theories of Personality*

Prof. Dr. Anna A. Akasoy

*The Ethics of Violence in the Mathnawî*

15 mins Coffee Break

**11:15am-12:00** Lichthof(main building)

**Plenary Session: Reflections and Discussion**

Dr. Mahmud Kellner and İlknur Bahadır

12:30 pm Closing Lunch