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Abstract - Sektion 1, Panel 1

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Thema Isrā'īliyyāt as an early cross-linking of three hermeneutics

Isrā'īliyyāt are texts which are widely used in Islamic literature to interpret or supplement the Qur'anic stories which are often characterized by an allusive style. Similar stories are known from Judaism and Christianity. At the time of the Qur'anic revelation, the Arabian Peninsula was a place where Jews, Christians and Polytheists lived. They had a common culture and access to stories of their religions. From these three religions people converted to Islam. Isrā'īliyyāt are an important part of Islamic narrative exegesis. Narrative exegesis, however, plays an important part in Judaism and Christianity, too. The presentation will argue that the three religions share are common exegetical heritage which is reflected e.g. by the similarities of these "Islamic" traditions to "Jewish" and "Christian" stories. They will be analyzed considering the approach of intertextuality which refuses the classical concepts of influence (since every text is an intertext). Isrā'īliyyāt can give an important view on the early cross-linking of the three hermeneutics of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.