

NUHA ALSHAAR

**SICILY: FĀṬIMID AND KALBID POLICIES TOWARDS THEIR CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIM POPULATIONS**

Monday Majlis Online on the 25th of May, 17:00-18:30 (UK time)

[Centre for the Study of Islam](#), Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter

Register please on this link: <https://tr.ee/nFSybgZk9>



**Bio:** Nuha Alshaar is Professor of Islamic Intellectual History, Ethical and Political Thought, and Director of the Center of Arab Studies and Islamic Civilizations (CASIC) at the American University of Sharjah. Her books include *Ethics in Islam: Friendship in the Political Thought of al-Tawḥīdī and His Contemporaries* (Routledge 2015), *On God and the World: An Arabic Critical Edition and English Translation of Epistles 49-51* (co-authored with W. Madelung, C. Baffioni, and C. Uy, Oxford University Press 2019), as well as the edited volumes *Sources and Approaches across Disciplines in Near Eastern Studies* (co-edited with V. Klemm, Peeters 2013), *The Qur'an and Adab: The Shaping of Literary Traditions in Classical Islam* (Oxford University Press 2017), *The Humanities in the 21st Century: Perspectives from the Arab World and Germany* (co-edited with B. U. La Sala, J. R. Oesterle, and B. Winckler, Dossiers Forum Transregional Studies, 2022), *Muslim Sicily: Encounters and Legacy* (Edinburgh University

In the spirit of the label 'Majlis' and also to make the talks even more interesting, our speakers present the topic discussed as embedded in their own journey.

You can watch the previous Majlises here [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8YRkUahFj\\_81oJzCSDLTx4kVQQgeHLC-](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8YRkUahFj_81oJzCSDLTx4kVQQgeHLC-) However, we don't record the Q&A in order to keep the discussion free.

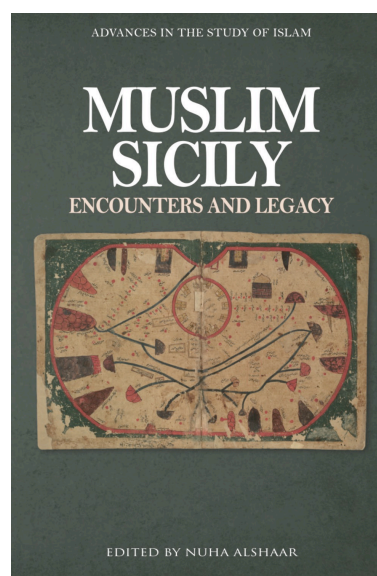
Please come and enjoy the talks and the discussions :) If you'd like to be included in the CSI (Centre for the Study of Islam, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter) mailing list, please write to me ([I.T.Kristo-Nagy@ex.ac.uk](mailto:I.T.Kristo-Nagy@ex.ac.uk)).

We'll be happy to welcome you!

István T Kristó-Nagy <https://experts.exeter.ac.uk/4333-istv%C3%A1n-t-krist%C3%B3nagy>

Press, 2024), and *Storytelling, Seafaring, and Travel Writing: The Arabian Seas, the Persian Gulf, and the Indian Ocean* (co-edited with B. U. La Sala & D. Wilmsen Brill, 2026).

<https://www.aus.edu/faculty/nuha-alshaar>



**Abstract:** My presentation explores the intellectual, social, and political landscape of Sicily under the Arab Fāṭimid rule (909–965) and their Kalbid allies (948–1053). Building on research from my edited volume *Muslim Sicily: Encounters and Legacy*, it further examines Sicily's connections with al-Andalus, Qayrawān, and Cairo. The talk highlights the dynamic nature of Christian–Muslim relations within a broader context of interaction among diverse ethnic and religious communities over several centuries. Drawing on recently published Arabic and Coptic texts, it also considers Fāṭimid state policies and Sicily's role as a key player in the medieval Mediterranean.