

PUBLIC EVENT

ON FORGOTTEN CHRISTIAN KINGDOMS IN AFRICA

An Event of the long-term Academy Project „Corpus Coranicum“, Member of the Centre of Ancient Studies of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW)

Tuesday, 26th June / 6 pm

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Conference Room 2, Jägerstraße 22/23, 10117 Berlin

Please register at pirtea@bbaw.de

Sharp dividing lines are often traced by scholars of the Middle Ages between the Christian and Muslim worlds, conveniently apprehended in terms of West vs. East. One can also see divisions between North and South, e.g. across the Mediterranean or along the Nile Valley. In light of new approaches in scholarship however, these dividing lines have become more fluid and the exchanges between the two worlds can be better appreciated. This situation is best reflected in the study of the Nubian kingdoms, which ruled the Middle Nile Valley between ca. 500-1500 CE.

This lecture will present the history of these Christian Nubian kingdoms with a focus on the religious literacy and on the contacts of the Nubians with the other states and religious groups of the region, such as the Caliphate, the Byzantine Empire, and other African kingdoms. The second part of the lecture will discuss a few texts in Coptic and Old Nubian, which in the larger context of Late Antique Christian apocrypha can contribute to a better understanding of the religious and literary background of the Qur'an.



Ruins of the Nubian Cathedral at Sai (Sudan).
Photo: Alexandros Tsakos

Welcoming Speech

Michael Marx

BBAW

Tonio Sebastian Richter

BBAW/FU Berlin

Introduction

Adrian Pirtea

BBAW/FU Berlin

On Forgotten Christian Kingdoms in Africa

Alexandros Tsakos

University of Bergen

Admission free.
Registration is required.

Further Information:

Kirsten Schröder / kschroederbbaw.de

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How to get there:

S-Bahn: Friedrichstraße / U2: Hausvogteiplatz
or Stadtmitte / U6: Französische Straße or
Stadtmitte