

Colloque international

SignEt signatures et estampilles

Marques d'identification et de validation
dans le Proche-Orient médiéval

Signatures and Seals. Identification and validation marks
in the Medieval Near East

Organisation :

Jean-Charles Ducène
& Julie Marchand

Ifao, Le Caire
20-21 octobre 2025





International conference

**SignEt: Signatures and Seals.
Identification and validation marks in the Medieval Near East**

Organisation

Jean-Charles Ducène (EPHE-PSL)
Julie Marchand (Université libre de Bruxelles & Royal Museums of Art and
History, Brussels)

Scientific Committee

Jean-Charles Ducène (EPHE-PSL), Anna Laragon (Ifao), Julie Marchand
(ULB & RMAH), Jean-Michel Mouton (EPHE-PSL), Ahmed Shoki (Ayn Shams
University), Naïm Vanthieghem (IRHT-CNRS)

Sunday 19 October 2025

18h-19h **Keynote lecture by D. BEHRENS ABOUSEIF** (Professor emeritus, School of Oriental and African Studies-University of London)
Reflections on craftsmen's signatures in the Mamluk period

Monday 20 October 2025

9h-9h30 Institutional welcome. Conference opening

Session 1: Chairman A. Shoky

9h30-10h Naïm VANTHIEGHEM (IRTH, CNRS, Paris)
Sceaux d'argile arabes des périodes omeyyade et abbasside

10h-10h30 Khaled YOUNES (University of Sadat City)
The Seals of Egypt's Arab Governors: The Abbasid Governor Mālik b. Dalham and His Seal

10h30-11h Reem AL-RUDAINI (Kuwait university)
Two Seals and Our Queens from Baghdad

11h-11h30 Jean-Charles DUCÈNE (École Pratique des Hautes Études/PSL, Paris)
Les sceaux du Proche-Orient médiéval de la collection Al Sabah (Koweït)

11h30-12h Coffee break

Session 2: Chairman N. Vanthieghem

12h-12h30 Martina FILOSA – Claudia SODE (Universität zu Köln)
When the Seal Serves as Signature: Self-Representation of Seal Issuers in Byzantium

12h30-13h Christos MALATRAS (Marie Skłodowska Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, Sorbonne Université)
Criteria for identification and the demography of seal owners in Byzantium (7th-9th centuries)

13h-14h30 Lunch

Session 3: Chairman J.-C. Ducène

14h30-15h Ibrahim AKEL (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3)
Signing a Certificate of Reading. An Analysis of Identification Marks in Reading Certifications Inscribed in Manuscript Margins

15h30-16h Aya SAKKAL (Université de Strasbourg)
Between anonymity and visibility: The Painter's Signature in Medieval Arabic Illuminated Manuscripts

16h30-17h Riham Aida MOKRANI (École Pratique des Hautes Études /PSL, Paris)
What Does a Signature Signify? Calligraphic Identity and Authenticity in the Yāqūt Legacy

Tuesday 21 Octobre 2025

9h30-10h30 **Keynote lecture by A. D'OTTONE**
(La Sapienza - Università di Roma)
De Muhammad à Daesh: les sceaux dans la culture Arabo-Islamique

Session 1: Chairman J. Marchand

10h30-11h Anna LAGARON (Institut français d'archéologie orientale)
Pèlerinage au Sud-Sinaï à l'époque médiévale : quels types de signatures pour les chrétiens arabophones ?

11h-11h30 Clément DUSSART (Université de Poitiers)
S'identifier au Proche-Orient : les graffitis des nobles occidentaux dans le réfectoire du monastère Sainte-Catherine du Sinaï (XIV^e et XV^e siècles)

11h30-12h Coffee break

Session 2: Chairman J. Marchand

12h-12h30 Judith SCHLANGER (École Pratique des Hautes Études /PSL, Paris)
Les 'alāmāt des signatures de documents hébraïques de la Genizah du Caire : typologie d'une pratique diplomatique

12h30-13h Joud NASSAN AGHA (University of Hamburg)
Marks of Authenticity: Seals, Endowments, and Social Practices in Late Ottoman Damascus

13h-14h30 Lunch

Session 3: Chairman A. Lagaron

14h30-15h Dorota DZIERZBICKA (University of Warsaw)
Reading identities on stamped amphora sealings from Naqlun

15h30-16h Julie MARCHAND (Université Libre de Bruxelles & RMAH, Brussels)
Moulded names of artisan potters on tableware and lamps from the Near East (7th-9th centuries)

16h-16h30 Valentina VEZZOLI (University of Udine)
Signatures and Symbols on Mamluk "Blue and White Ware": An Evaluation of the Archaeological Record

16h30-17h Concluding remarks

