

Curriculum Vitae

Merlin
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of

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Religion

Boston University
745 Commonwealth Avenue,
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Education

PhD Harvard University, 1967
BD Goshen College, 1960
BA Eastern Mennonite University, 1955

Teaching and Professional Experience

National University of Singapore, semester 2 of the 2008-09 academic year (Visiting Professor in the Department History)
Boston University (1973 to present), Associate Professor (Islamic Studies, Comparative Religion): Department of Religion. Promoted to Full Professor in 1989. Professor Emeritus 2008
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University (1970-1972), Post Doctoral Research Fellow and part-time instructor
American University of Beirut (1967-1970), Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, Department of Religion

Research Fellowships and Grants

Fulbright Research Grant in Islamic Civilization, 1989-1990 academic year for research in Syria, Egypt and Turkey.
Grant awarded by the Humanities Foundation, Boston University, for a conference on revivalist tendencies in contemporary Islam
Research Fellowship (summer 1975), Graduate School, Boston University, for travel and research in the Middle East
Post Doctoral Research Fellowship (1970-1972), The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University
Fulbright-Hayes Research Fellowship (1965-1966), for research in Egypt, Syria and Turkey

Other Honors: Invited papers (selected) at international conferences and colloquia:

- 1) The Penn-Paris-Dunbarton Oaks Colloquia, III (*Prédication et propagande au Moyen Age: Islam, Byzance, Occident*) sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania and Université de Paris-Sorbonne, La Napoule, France (October 1980): "The Medieval Majlis al-Waœã"
- 2) The Penn-Paris-Dunbarton Oaks Colloquia, IV (*L'Humanisme du*

Moyen Age et de la renaissance, du 11e au 15e siècle) sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio Conference Center, Bellagio, Italy (November 1989): "Arabic Rhetoric and the Medieval Homily: Aspects of the Humanist Tradition in Medieval Islam"

3) The General Theological Institute, Portland (Fundamentalism and Modernity), sponsored by the University of Maine (May 1988): "Medieval Roots of 'Fundamentalist' Impulse in Contemporary Islam".

4) Levi della Vida Lectureship Series, the G. E. von Grunebaum Center, University of California, Los Angeles (May 8-10, 1993) : "Arabic Rhetoric and the Jawzian Homily".

5) The International Congress of Asian and North African Studies, University of Hungary, Budapest (July 1997): "A Ûanbalî Defense of TaÇewil (Metaphorical Exegesis)".

6) The International Congress of Asian and North African Studies, University of Montreal (August 2000): "A Medieval Critique of Anthropomorphism"

7) Middle East Studies Association (2006): "The Place of the Khuåba in the Medieval Arabic Homily"

Listed in following directories:

Who's Who in Religion

Directory of North American Scholars and Teachers

Directory of American Scholars (7th edition), I, 753

The National Faculty Directory (1987), IV, 3639

Directory of the Council of Societies for the Study of Religion (1988), 482

Professional Societies

Member, American Oriental Society

Fellow, Middle East Studies Association of North America

Member, The Middle East Institute, Washington, DC.

Member, American Society of Teachers of Arabic

Member, American Academy of Religion

Member, International Congress of Asian and North African Studies

Administrative and Related Experience

Director of Undergraduate Advising, Department of Religion, Boston University, 1993 to 1997.

Chairman, ad interim, Department of Religion, July 1991--August 1992.

Organizer and chair of a one-day conference on "Religion and Politics in Contemporary Muslim Revivalism", at Boston University, April 10, 1986.

Acting Chair, Department of Religion, Boston University, Semester II,

1981.

Acting Chair, Department of Religion, Boston University, 1978-1979.

Chair of a number of standing committees in the Department of Religion and the Graduate Division of Religious Studies

Related Professional Experience

Reviewer of manuscripts for the following publishers:

Oxford University Press (New York)

Wadsworth Press (Belmont, CA)

Scribners and Sons (New York)

State University of New York Press (Albany)

Greenwood Publishing Group (Westport, CT)

Cambridge University Press (UK)

International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies

Reviewer of books, films and software in the fields of Islamica and Religious Studies for the Association of College and Research Libraries (reviews published in Choice)

Publications (Books)

Ibn al-Jawzi's Kitāb al-Quḥūḥ wa'l-Mudhakkirīn (Beirut: L'Institut de Lettres Orientales, 1971), 435 pages

Humaniora Islamica, volume I, 1973 (The Hague: Mouton, 1974), co-editor and contributor, 284 pages

Humaniora Islamica, volume II, 1974 (The Hague: Mouton, 1975), co-editor, 307 pages

Studies on Islam (New York: Oxford University Press, 1981), 284 pages

A Medieval Critique of Anthropomorphism: Ibn al-Jawzi's 'Akhbār al-Āifat.' A Critical Edition of the Arabic Text with Translation, Introduction and Notes (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2002).

Publications (Articles and Studies)

"The Position of Jews in Arab Lands Since the Rise of Islam," in Reflections on The Middle East Crisis, H. Mason, editor (The Hague: Mouton, 1970), pp. 17-37

"A Seventh-Century Sunni Creed: The ʿAqīda Wāsiʿiyya of Ibn Taymiyya," Humaniora Islamica, I (1974), pp. 91 - 131

"Rules of the Popular Preacher in Twelfth-Century Baghdad," in Prédication et Propagande au Moyen Age: Islam, Byzance, Occident (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 1983), pp. 223 - 239.

Articles for the Encyclopedia of Asian History, 4 volumes, edited by

Ainslie T. Embree (New York: Scribners and Sons, 1988) as follows:

“Al-Ashœarī,” vol. I, 93

“Ùadīth,” vol. II, 18

“Ùanbalīs,” vol. II, 24-25

“Ùanafīs,” vol. II, 24

“Mālikīs,” vol. II, 476-477

“Muœetazilīs,” vol. III, 66-67

“Shāfiœīs,” vol. III, 418-419

“Preaching, Islamic,” *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*, 12 volumes; Joseph Strayer, edited in chief (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1982- 1988), vol. X, 70-74.

“A Ùanbalī Critique of Anthropomorphism,” *The Arabist: Budapest Studies in Arabic* (Budapest University, 1999)

“Arabic Rhetoric and the Art of the Homily in Medieval Islam,” *Religion and Culture in Medieval Islam* (Levi Della Vida Volume dedicated to G. Makdisi), R. Hovannisian, ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999)

“Ùanafī(s),” *Encyclopaedia Iranica* (Columbia University Press, 2003)

“Ùanbalī(s),” *Encyclopaedia Iranica* (Columbia University Press, 2003)

“Ibn œAqīl,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Legal History* (Oxford University Press 2007)

“The Hanbalite School,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Legal History* (Oxford University Press 2007)

“Mufti,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Legal History* (Oxford University Press 2007)

Publications (Book Reviews)

Lane-Poole, *Studies in a Mosque* (Beirut, 1966), reviewed in the *Muslim World*, 58 (1968), pp. 165 -166

S. Radhakrishnan, *Religion in a Changing World* (London, 1967), in the *Near East School of Theology Quarterly*, 15 (1968), pp. 40 - 43

J. Lassner, *The Topography of Baghdad in the Early Middle Ages* (Detroit, 1970), in *Speculum*, 47(1972), pp. 320 - 321

A. Hourani and S. Stern (editors), *The Islamic City* (University of Pennsylvania, 1970), in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 93 (1973), pp. 237 - 238

H. Gätje, *Koran und Koranexegese* (Zurich, 1971), in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (Chicago), 32 (1973), pp. 273 - 275

W. M. Thackston, *The Tales of the Prophets of al-Kisa'i* (Boston: Twayne Press, 1978), in the *Muslim World*, 72 (1982), pp. 55 - 57

T. Matheny, *Reaching the Arabs* (Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1981), in *Mission Focus*, 10 (1982), 34-35.

A. Welch and P. Cachia (editors), *Islam: Past Influence and Present*

- Challenge. In Honor of William Montgomery Watt* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1979) in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 103 (1983), pp. 444f.
- F. Rahman, *Islam and Modernity: Transformation of an Intellectual Tradition* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1982), in the *Muslim World*, 75 (1985), pp. 186 - 187
- F. Peters, *Children of Abraham: Judaism, Christianity, Islam* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1982), in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 104 (1984), pp. 592 - 593
- A. Duri, *The Rise of Historical Writing Among the Arabs* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1983), in the *American Historical Review* (1985), pp. 188-189
- J. Esposito, *Islam and Politics* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984), in *Choice* (published by the Association of College and Research Libraries) (March 1985), 275.
- M. Ruthven, *Islam in the World* (London: Oxford University Press, 1984), in *Choice* (May 1985), 297.
- W. M. Watt, *Islamic Philosophy and Theology, an Extended Survey, 2nd edition* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1985), in *Choice* (April 1986), 247.
- R. Savory and D. Agius (editors), *Logos Islamikos: Studia Islamica in Honorem Georgii Michaelis Wickens* (Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, 1984), in the *Muslim World*, 76 (1986), pp. 46 - 47.
- E. Sivan, *Interpretations of Islam: Past and Present* (Princeton: Darwin Press, 1985), in *Choice* (July-August, 1986), 288.
- K. Nelson, *The Art of Reciting the Quran* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1985), in *Choice* (November 1986), 291.
- Shams ad-Din, *The Rising of Husayn* (London, 1986), in *Choice* (March, 1987), 277-278.
- M. Zia Ullah, *The Islamic Conception of God* (London: Kegan Paul International, 1984), in the *Muslim World*, 78 (1988), 87.
- A. Schimmel, *And Muhammad Is His Messenger* (London, 1985), in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 108 (1988), 492-493.
- S. Hossein Nasr, *Traditional Islam in the Modern World* (London and New York: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1986) in *Choice* (July-Aug., 1987), 276-277.
- Reinhard Eisener, *Zwischen Faktum und Fiktion: Eine Studie zum Umayyadenkalifen Sulaimân b. 'Abdalmalik und seinem Bild in den Quellen* (Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1989), in the *Muslim World*, 144.
- Smith, *The Babi and Baha'i Religions: From Messianic Shi'ism to*

- World Religion* (Cambridge University Press, 1987) for *Choice* (February, 1988), 269-270.
- Tabari, *The Commentary on the Quran*, by Abu Ja'afar J b. Jarir al-Tabari; with Introduction and Notes by J. Cooper (Oxford University Press, 1987), in *Choice* (Oct. 1989), 289-290.
- L. Gardet, *Regards chretiens sur l'Islam* (Paris: Desclée de Brouwer, 1986), in *the Muslim World* (1989), 136-137
- Bürgel J. C. *The Feather of Simurgh: The 'Licit Magic' of the Arts in Medieval Islam*. New York University Press, 1988 (reviewed in *Choice*, Jan. 1989), 92-93
- Madelung, W. *Religious Trends in Early Islamic Iran*. *Bibliotheca Persica*, 1989 (reviewed in *Choice*, April 1989), 310-311.
- Daftary, Isma'ïlis, *Their History and Beliefs* (Cambridge University Press, 1990), *Choice* (Dec., 1990), 54-54.
- Malik ibn Anas, *al-Muwatta' of Imam Malik ibn Anas, The First Formulation of Islamic Law*, translated by Aisha Abdurrahman Bewley, *The Islamic Classical Library* (London and New York: Kegan Paul International, 1989); reviewed in *the MESA Bulletin* (1991)
- Khuri, F. *Imams and Emirs: State, Religion and Sects in Islam* (London, 1990), *Choice* (Dec. 1991), 318
- The Sea of Precious Virtues (Bahr al-Fava'id), A Medieval Islamic Mirror for Princes*, translated from the Persian by J. S. Meisami (University of Utah Press, 1991); *Choice* (Dec. 1991), 284
- Campo, J. E., *The Other Side of Paradise: Explorations into the Religious Meaning of Domestic Space in Islam* (University of South Carolina Press, 1991) in *Choice* (Dec. 1991)
- Karen Armstrong, *Muhammad, A Biography of the Prophet* (New York: Harper Collins, 1992/ a UK edition published by Victor Gollancz, LTD in 1991)] in *Choice* (Summer, 1992)
- Hava Lazarus-Yafeh, *Intertwined Worlds, Medieval Islam and Bible Criticism* (Princeton University Press, 1992); in *Choice* (Summer/fall, 1992)
- Larry Poston, *Islamic Da'wah in the West: Muslim Missionary Activity and the Dynamics of Conversion to Islam* (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 1992); in *Choice* (Fall, 1992)
- A. Schimmel, *Islam, An Introduction* (Albany: SUNY Press, 1992); in *Choice* (Fall, 1992)
- Dabashi, Hamid, *Theology of Discontent, The Ideological Foundation of the Islamic Revival in Iran* (New York University Press, 1993), in *Choice* (Spring 1993)
- Esposito, John L., *The Islamic Threat, Myth or Reality?* (Oxford University Press, 1992), reviewed in (Winter, 1992-93) *Choice*

- Schubel, Vernon J., *Religious Performance in Contemporary Islam, Shi'i Devotional Rituals in South Asia* (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1993), in *Choice* (Spring 1993)
- Sumner B. Twiss and Walter H. Conser, Jr., *Experience of the Sacred, Readings in the Phenomenology of Religion* (Hanover and London: Brown University Press, 1992), in *Choice* (Summer 1993)
- John R. Bowen, *Muslims Through Discourse* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993), reviewed in the *International Journal of Comparative Religion* (Summer 1994)
- F. E. Peters, *The Hajj: The Muslim Pilgrimage to Mecca and the Holy Places* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), reviewed in *Choice* (Spring 1994)
- Zebiri, Kate, *Mahmud Shaltut and Islamic Modernism* (Oxford, New York, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1993), reviewed in *Choice* (Summer 1994)
- Mohammed Arkoun, *Rethinking Islam: Common Questions, Uncommon Answers*, translated and edited by Robert D. Lee (Boulder, San Francisco, Oxford: Westview Press, 1994), reviewed in *Choice* (Fall 1994)
- Murata, S., *The Vision of Islam* (Paragon House 1994), reviewed in *Choice* (June 1995)
- DeWeese, Devin, *Islamization and Native Religion in the Golden Horde: Baba Tükles and Conversion to Islam in Historical and Epic Tradition* (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994), reviewed in *Choice* (Spring 1995)
- Martinson, P. V., *Islam: An Introduction for Christians* (Augsburg Press 1994), reviewed for *Lutheran Quarterly* (May 1995)
- Spellberg, D. A., *Politics, Gender, and the Islamic Past: the Legacy of 'A'isha bint Abi Bakr* (Columbia 1995), reviewed in *Choice* (October 1995).
- John Burton, *An Introduction to the U̇adith* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1994) reviewed in *Choice* (November 1995).
- Ian Richard Netton, *Seek Knowledge: Thought and Travel in the House of Islam* (Richmond, Surrey: Curzon Press, 1994), reviewed in *Choice* (May 1996).
- John V. Tolan, *Medieval Christian Perceptions of Islam: A Book of Essays* (New York and London: Garland Publishers, Inc., 1996), reviewed in *Choice* (June 1996).
- S. Vali Reza Nasr, *Mawdudi and the Making of Islamic Revivalism* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), reviewed in *Choice* (July/August 1996)
- Sonn, Tamara, *Interpreting Islam: Bandali Jaws'i's Islamic Intellectual History* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), *Choice*, vol. 34/9 (May 1997).

- Farhad Daftary (ed.), *Medieval Isma'ili History and Thought* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), *Choice*, vol. 34/5 (January 1997)
- Esack, Farid, *Qur'an, Liberation and Pluralism: an Islamic Perspective of Interreligious Solidarity against Oppression* (Oxford: Oneworld, 1997), *Choice*, vol. 35/1 (September 1997)
- Khuri, Richard K., *Freedom, Modernity, and Islam: Toward a Creative Synthesis* (Syracuse, 1998), *Choice*, vol. 36 (Nov. 1998), no. 3
- Naipaul, V. S., *Beyond Belief: Islamic Excursions among the Converted People* (Random House, 1998), reviewed in *Choice*, vol. 36 (Feb. 1999), no. 6
- Islam and Modernity: Muslim Intellectuals Respond*, ed. by John Cooper, Ronald L. Nettler and Mohamed Mahmoud (J. B. Tauris, 1998), reviewed in *Choice*, vol. 36/2 (Oct. 1998).
- Taylor, M. C., ed., *Critical Terms for Religious Studies* (University of Chicago Press, 1998), In *Choice*, vol. 36/8 (April 1999).
- Mousalli, Ahmad S., *Moderate and Radical Fundamentalism: The Quest for Modernity, Legitimacy, and the Islamic States* (University Press of Florida, 1999). In *Choice*, vol. 37/5 (January 2000).
- Mousalli, A. S., *Historical Dictionary of Islamic Fundamentalist Movements in the Arab World, Iran and Turkey* (Scarecrow Press, 1999). In *Choice*, vol. 37/8 (April 2000)
- Cole, Juan R. I. *Modernity and the Millennium: The Genesis of the Baha'i Faith in the Nineteenth-Century Middle East*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1998. In *American Historical Review*, June 2000.
- Motzki, Harald, ed., *The Biography of Muhammad: The Issue of Sources*, (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2000). In *Choice*, October 2000.
- Ibn Warraq, ed. and trans. by, *The Quest for the Historical Muhammad* (Prometheus Books, 2000). In *Choice*, 38 October 2000.
- Lecker, Michael, *Muslims, Jews and Pagans: Studies on Early Islamic Medina* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1995). In *Islamic Studies* (Fall 2001).
- Newman, N. A., *Muhammad, the Qur'an and Islam* (Hatfield, PA: Interdisciplinary Biblical Research Institute). In *Islamic Studies* (Fall 2001).
- Draz, M. A. *Introduction to the Qur'an* (I. B. Taurus, 2000). In *Choice*, July 2001
- Michael Lecker, *Muslims, Jews & Pagans: Studies on Early Islamic Medina* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1995), in *Islamic Studies*, 41/1 (2002), 142-145
- N. A. Newman, *Muhammad, the Qur'an and Islam* (Outfield, PA: Interdisciplinary Biblical Research Institute, 1996), in *Islamic Studies*, 41/1 (2002), 118-119

- Tarif Khalidi, *The Muslim Jesus: Sayings and Stories in Islamic Literature* (Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 2001) in *Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly*, 25/4 (2002), 690-693
- Swarup, Ram, *Understanding the Hadith: The Sacred Traditions of Islam* (New York: Prometheus Books, 2002), in *Choice*, Winter 2002
- Tolan, John V., *Saracens: Islam in the Medieval European Imagination* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2002), in *Choice*, Autumn 2002.
- Paul Wheatley, *The Places Where Men Pray Together: Cities in Islamic Lands, Seventh Through The Tenth Centuries* (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2001), in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 71/4 (2003)
- Berkey, Jonathan P. *The Formation of Islam: Religion and Society in the Near East, 600-1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003) in *Choice*, Spring 2003.
- Safi, Omid, ed., *Progressive Muslims On Justice, Gender and Pluralism* (Oxford: Oneworld, 2003) in *Choice*, Summer 2003
- Hughes, Aaron W. *The Texture of the Divine: Imagination in Medieval Islamic and Jewish Thought* (Indiana University Press: Bloomington and Indianapolis, 2004) In *Choice*, Spring 2004
- Saeed, Abdullah and Hassan, *Freedom of Religion: Apostasy and Islam* (Ashgate Press: Aldershot, UK and Burlington, VT, 2004, *Choice*, Summer 2004
- Sajoo Aryn B., *Muslim Ethics: Emerging Vistas* (I. B. Tauris Publishers: London and New York, 2004), *Choice* Winter 2005
- Taji-Farouki, Suha., *Modern Muslim Intellectuals and the Quran* (Oxford University Press: London, 2004), *Choice*, Spring 2005
- Cook, David. *Contemporary Muslim Apocalyptic Literature* (Syracuse University Press: Syracuse, NY, 2005), *Choice*, Summer 2005
- Pick, Lucy K. *Conflict and Coexistence: Archbishop Rodrigo and the Muslims and Jews in Medieval Spain* (University of Michigan Press: Ann Arbor, 2004), *Choice*, Winter 2005
- The Qur'an: An Encyclopedia*, ed. by Oliver Leaman (Routledge, 2006), *Choice*, Spring 2006.
- Lev, Yaacov, *Charity, Endowments, and Charitable Institutions in Medieval Islam* (University Press of Florida, 2005), *Choice*, Spring 2006
- Cook, David. *Martyrdom in Islam* (Cambridge, 2007), in *Choice*, Spring, 2007).
- L.P. Harvey, *Muslims in Spain: 1500-1614*. . The University of Chicago Press, 2005, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2007).
- Kugle, Scott. *Rebel Between Spirit and Law: Ahmad Zarruq, Sainthood, and Authority in Islam* (Indiana, 2006), in *Choice*

- Summer, 2007.
- Lawrence, Bruce, *The Qur'an: A Biography* (Atlantic Monthly 2006), in *Choice*, Summer, 2007.
- Mahmoud, Mohamed A. *Quest for Divinity: A Critical Examination of the Thought of Mahmud Muhammad Taha* (Syracuse, 2007), *Choice*, Fall 2007.
- Afsaruddin, Asma, *The First Muslims: History and Memory*, pp. 254 (Oxford: Oneworld, 2008), in *Choice*, Spring 2008
- Juynboll, G. H. A. , *Encyclopedia of Canonical U`adith* (Brill, 2007). 804 pages, in *Choice*, Spring 2008
- Mattson, Ingrid, *The Story of the Qur'an: Its History and Place in Muslim Life* (Blackwell Publishing, 2008), in *Choice*, Summer 2008
- Saeed, Abdullah, *The Qur'an: An Introduction* (Routledge, London and New York, 2008), in *Choice*, Spring 2008
- Campbell, Robert A., *Reading the Qur'an in English* (Cape Breton University Press, 2009), in *Choice*, summer 2009)
- Betts, Robert B., *The Southern Portals of Byzantium: A Concise Political, historical and demographic survey of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem. Musical Times*, 2009, in *Choice*, autumn 2009

Selected Papers and Lectures

- "*The Quranic and Pre-Islamic World Views: A Comparative Study*" given at The American University of Beirut, April 9, 1969
- "*The Role of Mysticism (Sufism) within Hanbali Islam*," Center for Middle East Studies, Harvard University, October 18, 1973
- "*Recent Research on the Thought and History of the Hanbalite School*," The Middle East Center, Columbia University, March 16, 1976
- Presentation to a colloquium on "*Phenomenology and the Academic Study of Religion*," the American Academy of Religion, Trinity College (Hartford), April 11, 1977
- "*Comparative Method and the Academic Study of Religion*," Research Colloquium, Graduate Division of Religious Studies, Boston University, November 5, 1979
- Colloquium on "*Islam and the Academic Study of Religion*," Middle East Studies Association (University of Michigan), November 10, 1979
- "*Iran and the Politics of Islamic Resurgence*," a colloquium on religion and politics sponsored by the Department of Religion, Boston University, March 24, 1980
- "*Iran: a Report on the First Anniversary of the Khomeini Regime*," Tufts University, March 27, 1980
- "*Iran under Khomeini and the Future of Islamic Revival*," Emmanuel College April 10, 1980

of classical and medieval rhetoric, and the impact of these on the tradition of the popular preacher in medieval Islam. A completely unexplored aspect of medieval Islamic culture.

The Tradition of the Popular Preacher in Medieval Islam

In this project I have undertaken a systematic study of popular preaching in Islam and its place in Islamic history. My primary objectives are to clarify the origins of popular preaching in Islam, the various stages through which this tradition passed in the course of its historical evolution, the role played by the preachers in both the religious and political life of Islam, and the contribution made by the representatives of this tradition to the formation of classical Islamic civilization. This study is based exclusively on the original sources (most of which are in Arabic and a great many in manuscript form) and is both historical and systematic in its approach to the data derived from these sources.

Ibn al-Jawzi and the apophatic tradition in medieval Islamic theology. This is a continuation of the work I began with the publication of my "Critique of Anthropomorphism in Medieval Islam..." (Brill 2002). The project will build on the work of Josef van Ess, Daniel Gimaret and Richard Frank.