

The University of Notre Dame's
Medieval Institute and Department of History present

Civilizational Formation: The Carolingian and 'Abbāsīd Eras

an international conference in
celebration of Thomas F.X. Noble



April 14–16, 2013

McKenna Hall
Notre Dame Conference Center



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

College of Arts and Letters

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Civilizational Formation: The Carolingian and 'Abbāsid Eras

an international conference in
celebration of Thomas F.X. Noble

Carolingianist and 'Abbāsidist scholars from around the world gather to examine the similarities, dissimilarities, and connections between the cultural institutions formulated under these Christian and Islamic empires—the foundations of which last until the present day.

Conference participants are listed on page 6.

*All events are in the Notre Dame Conference Center in
McKenna Hall, unless otherwise noted.*

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Room 100

12–1:15 p.m.

Notre Dame Welcomes:

Deborah Tor, Olivia Remie Constable,
Patrick Griffin, and Maura Ryan

Keynote Address by Michael McCormick

1:15–2:45 p.m.

lunch break

2:45–4:15 p.m.

Session I: Before and After

Ian Wood, “The Decadence of Late Merovingian Culture”

Yitzhak Hen, “Court, Culture, and the Migration of Ideas”

Minoru Inaba, “The Frontier After the ‘Abbāsīd
Break-Up: The 10th Century East”

4:15–4:45 p.m.

coffee break

4:45–6:15

Session II: Material Culture: Places and Objects

Julia Smith, “Pippin III and the Sandals of Christ”

Rob Meens, “Drawing Boundaries: Holy Places
in the Frankish World”

Alastair Northedge, “‘Abbāsīd Loci of Power”

12–1:30 p.m.

lunch break

1:30–3 p.m.

Session V: Lords and Laws

Jürgen Paul, “Lordship and Vassalage in the
‘Abbāsīd Empire”

Régine Le Jan, “‘Coopetition’: The Carolingian Elite and
the Game of Power”

Michael Cook, “Legislation in the Early Medieval World,
East and West”

3:00–3:30 p.m.

coffee break

3:30–5 p.m.

**Session VI: Culture: Learning, Science, and
Pastimes**

Eric Goldberg, “Carolingian and ‘Abbāsīd Hunting:
Comparison and Contact”

John Contreni, “What Did the Classics Mean to the
Carolingians? A Case Study”

Stefan Heidemann: “Technological Innovation at the
Court of Harun al-Rashid: Patronage and Recovery of Lost
Knowledge”

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Room 100

8 a.m.

coffee and pastries

8:30–10 a.m.

Session III: Religious and Ethnic Groups

Walter Pohl, “Ethnicity in the Carolingian Empire”

Michael Cooperson, “‘Arabs’ and ‘Persians’: The Uses of
Ethnicity in the Early ‘Abbāsīd Period”

Chase Robinson, “The Zuqun Economy”

10–10:30 a.m.

coffee break

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Session IV: Imperial Court Ceremonies
and Careers**

Jinty Nelson, “Making Rulers, Shaping Rules: Carolingian
and ‘Abbāsīd Inauguration Rites in Comparative Context”

Jennifer Davis, “Imperial Power and Delegation: The Case
of Charlemagne’s *Missi Dominici*”

Hugh Kennedy, “‘Abbāsīd Court Ceremonies and Rites”

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Room 210

8 a.m.

coffee and pastries

8:30–9:30 a.m.

Session VII: Religion and Ruler

Mayke de Jong, “The Two Republics: Carolingian
Distinctions Between ‘Church’ and ‘State’ Around 850”

Robert Gleave, “‘Abbāsīds and Shi’ites: A Mutual Shaping”

9:30–10 a.m.

coffee break

10–11 a.m.

Closing Remarks by Michael Cook
with discussion

11–11:30 a.m.

Response by Thomas F.X. Noble

Conference Participants

Paul Cobb, Professor of Medieval Islamic History, University of Pennsylvania

Olivia Remie Constable, Professor of Medieval History and Robert M. Conway Director of the Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame

John Contreni, Professor of History, Purdue University

Michael Cook, Class of 1943 University Professor of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University

Michael Cooperson, Professor of Arabic, University of California, Los Angeles

Patricia Crone, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Islamic History, Institute for Advanced Study

Jennifer Davis, Assistant Professor of History, Catholic University of America

Mayke de Jong, Professor of Medieval History, University of Utrecht

Robert Gleave, Professor of Arabic Studies, University of Exeter

Eric Goldberg, Associate Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Sidney Griffith, Professor of Early Christian Studies, Catholic University of America

Gerald Hawting, Emeritus Professor of the Near and Middle East, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

Stefan Heidemann, Professor of Islamic Studies, University of Hamburg

Yitzhak Hen, Anna and Sam Lopin Professor of History, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Minoru Inaba, Professor of the History of the Orient, University of Kyoto

Hugh Kennedy, Professor of Arabic, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

Régine Le Jan, University Professor of the History, Civilization, Archeology, and Art of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Rob Meens, Associate Professor of Medieval History, University of Utrecht

Michael McCormick, Francis Goelet Professor of Medieval History, Harvard University

Jinty Nelson, Emeritus Professor of Medieval History, King's College London

Thomas F.X. Noble, Professor of Medieval History, University of Notre Dame

Alastair Northedge, University Professor of the History, Civilization, Archeology, and Art of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Jürgen Paul, Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

Walter Pohl, Professor of Medieval History, University of Vienna, and Director of the Institute for Medieval Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Chase Robinson, Distinguished Professor of History and Provost, The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Julia Smith, Edwards Professor of Medieval History, University of Glasgow

Deborah Tor, Assistant Professor of Medieval Middle Eastern History, University of Notre Dame

Ian Wood, Professor of Early Medieval History, University of Leeds



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