

Call for Papers

Aspects of al-Ghazali's Influence on Modern and Contemporary Islam

A Workshop at Yale University, December 9–10, 2011

December 2011 will mark the 900th anniversary of the death of al-Ghazali, one of Islam's most influential theologians and thinkers. His contributions to Islamic scholarship range from responding to the challenges of Aristotelian philosophy to creating a new type of Islamic mysticism and integrating both these traditions—*falsafa* and Sufism—into the Sunni mainstream. At the same time he advocated for a virtue theory within the deontological system of Ash'arite ethics, introduced the consideration of "public benefit" into Islamic jurisprudence, and promoted a more morally conscious kind of Islamic scholarship.

While al-Ghazali's influence on the centuries right after his death is evident and tangible in many writers, the ways he influenced Muslim thinkers in the modern and contemporary era is less clear. Yet we know, for instance, that al-Ghazali's *Revival of The Religious Sciences* was among the books favored by Hasan al-Banna' and read in the evening classes of the early Muslim Brotherhood. This call for papers solicits contributions to the study of al-Ghazali's position within Islamic discourses during the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, be it in the fields of philosophy, Sufism, education, political theory, ethics, or any other topic. This can be in the form of a positive influence as well as in the form of an adversary that is argued against.

Abstracts of no more than 600 words along with a short bio or CV should be submitted by January 12, 2011 preferably via e-mail to Amaar al-Hayder, Council on Middle East Studies, Yale University, amaar.al-hayder@yale.edu.

THE WHITNEY AND BETTY MACMILLAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND AREA STUDIES AT YALE

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