

International Conference of the Arab-German  
Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)

# Communities of Fear

29 September – 2 October 2023  
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

## Public Keynotes

**To Fear or Not to Fear the Face of Death:  
The Mediterranean Basin from Homer to  
Gregory the Great (d. 604)**

Friday, 29 September | Barbara H. Rosenwein (Chicago)

**The Laconic Antidote: Addressing Fear in Classical  
Arabic Literature**

Saturday, 30 September | Lale Behzadi (Bamberg)



agya.info

The conference and the keynote lectures by  
Professor Rosenwein (Friday) and Professor  
Behzadi (Saturday) are open to the public.  
If you like to attend, please send a message  
to Konstantin Klein: [k.m.klein@uva.nl](mailto:k.m.klein@uva.nl)

The Conference is a project organized by  
AGYA members Mohammad Alwahaib, Luise  
Fischer, Ikram Hili, Mujtaba Isani, Christian  
Junge, Lando Kirchmair, Konstantin Klein,  
Anne-Marie McManus, and Suhair Sunoqrot.



F. Goya, La romería de San Isidro (detail), 1819–1823, Museo del Prado/Madrid  
© wikimedia commons

In cooperation with

 UNIVERSITY  
OF AMSTERDAM

In cooperation with

 UNIVERSITY  
OF AMSTERDAM

## Friday, 29 September 2023

Venue: University Library, Doelenzaal  
Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam

18:00 – 19:30 **Keynote Lecture**  
**To Fear or Not to Fear the Face of Death:  
The Mediterranean Basin from Homer to  
Gregory the Great (d. 604)**  
Barbara Rosenwein  
*Loyola University Chicago, USA*

19:30 – 21:30 **Reception**

## Saturday, 30 September 2023

Venue: University Library, Doelenzaal  
Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam

09:45 – 10:10 **Organizing Team**  
**Welcome and Introduction**

10:10 **The Force of Fear**  
Chair  
Dionysios Stathakopoulos  
*University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus*

10:15 – 10:40 **On Fear and False Securities: Was Jonah  
Relieved to be Swallowed by the Whale?**  
Jean Ehret  
*Luxembourg School of Religion & Society,  
Luxembourg*

10:40 – 11:05 **Between Fear of God and Fear of the Elder:  
Construction of Fear and the Construction  
of Monastic Communities in Late Antique  
Egypt**  
Chrysi Kotsifou  
*Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities,  
Germany*

11:05 – 11:30 **Fear in Islamic Culture: Some Reflections  
on the Entanglement Between Fear and  
Law in the Construction of Arab Identity**  
Raja Sakrani  
*Center for Advanced Study in the Humanities  
"Law as Culture", Bonn, Germany*

11:30 – 12:00 **Discussion**

12:00 – 14:00 **Lunch Break**  
Rederij P. Kooij  
Oude Turfmarkt 125, 1012 GC Amsterdam

14:00 **Rhetorics and Collective Identities**  
Chair  
Luise Fischer  
*AGYA member & Leipzig University, Germany*

14:05 – 14:30 **The Politics of Fear: Violence Against  
Women in Lebanon's Sectarian Power-  
Sharing System**  
Fatimah Saadi  
*Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain*

14:30 – 14:55 **The Rhetoric of Fear and Collective  
Behavior in Gregory of Tours and  
Procopius of Caesarea**  
Daniëlle Sloom  
*University of Amsterdam, Netherlands*  
Christof Paulus  
*Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany*

14:55 – 15:25 **Discussion**

15:25 – 15:55 **Coffee Break**

15:55 **Fear as a Topos**  
Chair  
Klazina Staat  
*Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands*

16:00 – 16:25 **Thinking About Fear in Ancient Greek  
Historiography**  
Konstantin Klein  
*AGYA member & University of Amsterdam,  
Netherlands*

16:25 – 16:50 **Reading Fear in Post-Revolutionary Egypt**  
Christian Junge  
*AGYA member & University of Marburg, Germany*

16:50 – 17:20 **Discussion**

17:20 *Walk to the Location of the Keynote Lecture*

Venue: De Waalse Kerk, Consistoriekamer  
Walenpleintje 157–159, 1012 JZ Amsterdam

18:00 – 19:30 **Keynote Lecture**  
**The Laconic Antidote: Addressing Fear  
in Classical Arabic Literature**  
Lale Behzadi  
*University of Bamberg, Germany*

19:30 – 21:30 **Reception**

**Sunday, 1 October 2023**

**Venue: Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam, Prinsenzaal 6.6  
Oosterdoksade 143, 1011 vDL Amsterdam**

- 09:40**      **Traumatic Fears**  
**Chair**  
**Christian Junge**  
*AGYA member & University of Marburg, Germany*
- 09:45 – 10:00** **Power of Fear, Civil War Memory, and Political Change in the MENA Region (digital)**  
**Faouzia Zeraoulia**  
*AGYA member & Mohamed Seddik ben Yahia University, Jijel, Algeria*
- 10:00 – 10:25** **Trauma and the Intersection of Fear, Gender, and Power in Fadia Faqir's My Name is Salma**  
**Mohamed Bataoui**  
*Université Hassan-I<sup>er</sup>, Settat, Morocco*
- 10:25 – 10:50** **Carmen Miserabile: Fear and Terror as Tactics of War During the Mongol Invasions of Eurasia**  
**Phillip Grimberg**  
*AGYA member & University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany*
- 10:50 – 11:10**      **Discussion**
- 11:10 – 11:35**      **Coffee Break**
- 11:35**      **Navigating Fear**  
**Chair**  
**Lando Kirchmair**  
*AGYA member & Bundeswehr University Munich, Germany*
- 11:40 – 12:05** **Where Can We Go? An Autoethnographic Account on the Role of Fear in Transnational Research Projects**  
**Luise Fischer**  
*AGYA member & Leipzig University, Germany*
- 12:05 – 12:30** **Do Security Fears Prevent Protests? Evidence from Post-ISIS Iraq**  
**Mujtaba Isani**  
*AGYA member & German Center for Integration and Migration Research (DeZIM), Berlin, Germany*
- 12:30 – 13:00**      **Discussion**

- 13:00 – 14:00**      **Lunch Break**  
**Openbare Bibliotheek**
- 14:00**      **Gender, Fear and Urban Spaces**  
**Chair**  
**Omar Khalaf**  
*Tishk International University, Erbil, Iraq*
- 14:05 – 14:30** **Navigating the Urban Fear: Exploring the Psyche of Cairo and Johannesburg**  
**Walaa Said**  
*University of Marburg, Germany*
- 14:30 – 14:55** **Fear Objects in Public Place: Everyday Encounters at an Urban Coast**  
**Büşra Kılıç**  
*Ondokuz Mayıs University, Istanbul, Turkey*
- 14:55 – 15:25**      **Discussion**
- 15:25 – 15:55**      **Coffee Break**
- 15:55**      **Manifestations of Fear in the 21st Century**  
**Chair**  
**Abdulsatar Sultan**  
*AGYA member & Catholic University in Erbil, Iraq*
- 16:00 – 16:25** **Understanding Fear as a Major Barrier to Access in Higher Education for Displaced Minorities: The Case of Yazidi Students in Iraq**  
**Heike Wendt**  
*University of Graz, Austria*
- 16:25 – 16:50** **Fear in Light of the Covid-19 Pandemic in the Westbank**  
**Sarah Carol**  
*AGYA member & University College Dublin, Ireland*
- 16:50 – 17:30**      **Discussion and Closing Remarks**
- 18:30**      **Farewell Dinner at a Restaurant**