# Sean W. Anthony, PhD

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The Ohio State University
Near Eastern Languages & Cultures
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#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015 – *present***The Ohio State University** (Columbus, OH), Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Associate Professor

Fall 2013 Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, NJ), School of Historical Studies, Member and Andrew W. Mellon Fellow

2010 – 2015 University of Oregon (Eugene, OR), Department of History, Assistant Professor

#### **EDUCATION**

## The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

A.M., Ph. D., with honors, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, August 2009
Specialization: Islamic Thought and Early Islamic History
Dissertation Title: *The Caliph and the Heretic. 'Abdallāh ibn Saba', the Saba'īya, and the Origins of Shī'ism between Myth and History*Dissertation Committee: Profs. Wadad Kadi (advisor), Fred M. Donner, and Wilferd Madelung

#### LANGUAGES

Arabic, Persian, Syriac, French, and German

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Religion and Society in Late Antiquity and Medieval Islam

Early Canonical Literatures of Islam (Qur'an and Hadith)

Statecraft and Political Thought from the early Islam period to the Abbasid period (*ca.* 600-1250 CE)

Comparative Apocalypticism and Messianism

#### **RECENTLY TAUGHT COURSES**

The Arabo-Islamic Intellectual Tradition [Graduate Seminar] Classical Arabic Literature in Translation Introduction to Arabic Philosophy Introduction to Islam
Medieval Islamic Political Thought
The Qur'an in Translation
Qur'anic Arabic
Narratives of Islamic Origins [Graduate Seminar]

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

- Critical Arabic edition and English translation of the *Sīrat ʿUmar ibn ʿAbd al-ʿAzīz* by Abū Muḥammad Ibn ʿAbd al-Ḥakam (d. CE 829) [to be published by NYU Press's Library of Arabic Literature]
- (with Stephen Shoemaker) English translation of the Georgian and Arabic text of *The Capture of Jerusalem by the Persians in CE 614* attributed to Strategius. (Awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant)

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

### Monographs

- 2020 *Muḥammad of Arabia: Reading the Late Antique and Early Islamic Sources.* Berkeley: University of California Press.
- 2014 *Crucifixion and the Spectacle of Death: Umayyad Crucifixion in Its Late Antique Context,* American Oriental Series 96. New Haven, Conn.: American Oriental Society.
- 2012 *The Caliph and the Heretic: Ibn Saba' and the Origins of Shī'ism*, Islamic History and Civilization 91.

Leiden: Brill.

#### Translations and critical editions

2014 Maʿmar ibn Rāshid al-Azdī (d. CE 770), *The Expeditions* (*Kitāb al-maghāz*ī): *An Early Biography of Muḥammad*, edited, translated, and annotated by S. W. Anthony. New York: New York University Press and the Library of Arabic Literature.

### Co-Authored

2010 Harald Motzki with Nicolet Boekhoff-van der Voort and Sean W. Anthony, *Analysing Muslim Traditions: Studies in Legal, Exegetical, and Maghāzī Ḥadīth.* Islamic History and Civilization 78. Leiden: Brill.

Articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited works

2009 "Sayf ibn 'Umar's Account of 'King' Paul and the Corruption of Ancient Christianity," *Der Islam* 85.1: 164-202.

- 2009 "The Domestic Origins of Imprisonment: An Inquiry into an Early Islamic institution," Journal of the American Oriental Society 129.4:. 571-596.
- 2010 "The Prophecy and Passion of al-Ḥārit ibn Saʿīd al-Kaddāb: Narrating a Religious Movement from the Caliphate of ʿAbdalmalik ibn Marwān," *Arabica* 57.1: 1-29.
- 2010 "Dionysius of Tell Maḥrē's Syriac Account of the Assassination of 'Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb," Journal of Near Eastern Studies 69.2: 209-224.
- 2011 "The Legend of 'Abdallāh ibn Saba' and the Date of *Umm al-Kitāb,*" *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ser., 21.1: 1-30.
- 2012 "Who was the Shepherd of Damascus? The Enigma of Jewish-Messianist Responses to the Islamic Conquests in Umayyad Syria and Mesopotamia," *The Lineaments of Islam:* Studies in Honor of Fred McGraw Donner, 21-59. Edited by Paul M. Cobb. Islamic History and Civilization 95. Leiden: Brill.
- 2012 "The Mahdī and the Treasures of al-Ṭālaqān: Zaydī Imāms and Imāmī-Shī'ite Apocalypticism," *Arabica* 59.5: 459-483.
  - Persian translation: "Mahdaviyat va Ganjīnahhā-ye Ṭālaqān," tr. Maryam Kamali for Ketā bkhā nah-ye Tā rī kh-e Islā m
  - (http://historylib.com/index.php?action=article/view/1594)
- "Chiliastic Ideology and Nativist Rebellion in the Early 'Abbāsid Period: Sunbādh and the Jāmāsp-Nāmah," Journal of the American Oriental Society 132.4: 641-55.
- 2014 "Further Notes on the Word *Şibgha* in Qur'ān 2:138," *Journal of Semitic Studies* 59.1: 117-129.
- 2014 "Muḥammad, the Keys to Paradise, and the *Doctrina Iacobi*. A Late Antique Puzzle," *Der Islam* 91.2: 243-265.
- 2015 "Ibn al-Zubayr's Meccan Prison and the Imprisonment of Muḥammad ibn al-Ḥanafiyya," *The Heritage of Arabo-Islamic Learning: Studies Presented to Wadad Kadi*, 3-29. Edited by Maurice Pomerantz and Aram Shahin Leiden: Brill.
- 2015 "Fixing John Damascene's Biography: Historical Notes on His Family Background," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 23.4: 607-627.
- 2016 (with Catherine Bronson), "Did Ḥafṣah bint 'Umar Edit the Qur'ān? A Response with Notes on the Codices of the Prophet's Wives," *Journal of the International Qur'anic Studies Association* 1: 93-126.
- 2016 "Muḥammad, Menaḥem, and the Paraclete: New Light on Ibn Isḥāq's (d. 150/767) Arabic Version of John 15:23-16:1," Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies 79.2: 255-278.
- 2016 "Was Ibn Wāḍiḥ al-Yaʿqūbī a Shiʿite Historian? The State of the Question," *al-ʿUṣūr al-Wustā* 24: 15-41.

- 2017 (with Matthew S. Gordon), "Ibn Wāḍiḫ al-Yaqʿūbī: A Biographical Sketch," *The Works of Ibn Wāḍiḥ al-Yaʿqūbī: An English Translation*, 3 vols., 1:9-22. Edited by Matthew Gordon, Chase Robinson, Everett Rowson, and Michael Fishbein. Leiden: Brill.
- 2018 "Early Arabo-Islamic Epigraphy and the Positivist Fallacy: a brief communication," al-ʿUṣūr al-Wustā 26: 201-207.
- 2019 "The Satanic Verses in Early Shiʿite Literature: A Minority Report on Shahab Ahmed's *Before Orthodoxy,*" *Shii Studies Review* 3.1-2: 211-248.

## forthcoming

- "Abrahamic Dominion, Umayyad Rule: Species of *Mulk* in the Early Islamic Polity," in: Andrew Marsham, ed., *The Umayyad World*. London: Routledge.
- "Two 'Lost' *Sūra*s of the Qur'ān: Sūrat al-Khal' and Sūrat al-Ḥafd between Textual and Ritual Canon (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Centuries)," *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 46
- "The Conversion of Khadīja bint Khuwaylid," in: Nimrod Hurvitz, Christian Sahner, Uriel Simonsohn, and Luke Yarbrough (eds.), *Turning to Mecca: A Sourcebook on Conversion to Islam in the Classical Period.* Berkeley: University of California Press.
- "The Cosmos and Creation," in: Nicolai Sinai, Marianna Klar, Gabriel S. Reynolds, and Holger M. Zellentin (eds.), *Biblical Traditions in the Qur'an.* Princeton: Princeton University Press.

### Encyclopedia articles

In *Encyclopædia Iranica*, ed. Ehsan Yartshater (New York: Encyclopædia Iranica Foundation, 1983-):

- o "'Abd Allāh b. Saba'" (c. 1,500 words, forthcoming)
- "Kaysāniya";
- "The Nawbakti Family";
- o "Ebn Wāżeḥ al-Yaʿqubi" (c. 2,000 words, forthcoming).

In *The Encyclopædia of Islam, THREE*, eds. Gudrun Krämer, Denis Matringe, John Nawas, Everett, Rowson (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2007-):

- o "Bazīgh b. Mūsā";
- "Ghulāt (Extremist Shiʿites)";
- "Ghurābiyya";
- o "Ibn al-Ḥanafiyya, Muḥammad" (c. 1,000 words);
- o "Ibn al-Ḥanafiyya, Ḥasan b. Muḥammad" (c. 1,000 words);
- "Ibn Masʿūd, ʿAbd Allāh";
- "Jurayj";
- o "Kāhin" (c. 500 words);

- o "Khashabiyya" (c. 500 words);
- "al-Khirrīt" (c. 500 words);
- o "Kuraybiyya" (c. 750 words);
- "Maghāzī";
- o "Ma'mar b. Rāshid";
- o "Muḥammad" (c. 10,000 words)
- o "Muqanna'" (c. 500 words).

In *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, ed. Gerhard Böwering *et al.* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2012):

- o "'Alī (c. 599-661 CE), fourth caliph";
- o "Ḥasan (*c*. 624-669 CE), son of 'Alī";
- o "'Umar (c. 580-644 CE), second caliph"; and
- o "'Uthmān (c. 580-656 CE), third caliph."

#### Book reviews

Review of David Thomas, *Christian Doctrines in Islamic Theology* (Leiden: Brill, 2008); in *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, vol. 42, no. 2 (February 2010), pp. 342-344.

Review of Ruth Glasner, *Averroës' Physics: A Turning Point in Medieval Natural Philosophy* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2009); in *HOPOS*, vol. 1, no. 1 (Spring 2011), pp. 175-178.

Review of Christian Lange, *Justice, Punishment, and the Medieval Muslim Imagination* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008); in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 71, no. 1 (April 2012), pp. 102-104.

Review of *Epistles of the Brethren of Purity: On Magic I, An Arabic Critical Edition and English Translation of Epistle 52a*, ed. and trans. Godefroid de Callataÿ and Bruno Halflants, forward by Nader El-Bizri (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2012); in *HOPOS*, vol. 3, no. 2 (Fall 2013), pp. 384-387.

Review of Asad Q. Ahmad, *The Religious Elite of the Early Islamic Hijaz: Five Prosopographical Studies*, Prosopographia et Genealogica 14 (Oxford: Unit for Prosopographical Research, 2011); in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 74, no. 1 (April 2015), pp. 167-69.

Review of David S. Powers, *Zayd* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014); in *Review of Qur' anic Research*, vol. 1, no. 1 (2015)

Review of Dirār ibn ʿAmr al-Ghaṭafānī (d. AH 200/CE 815), *Kitā b al-Taḥnīsh*, ed. Hüseyin Hansu and Mehmet Kaskin (Istanbul: Shirkat Dār al-Irshād, 2014); in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 76, no. 1 (April 2017), pp. 199-203.

## RECENT/ FORTHCOMING LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

"When Baanes met Khālid: Conquest and Prophecy at the Twilight of Byzantine Syria," invited lecture at the conference The Islamic-Byzantine Border: From the Rise of Islam to the Fall of Constantinople, The Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame (28 April 2019)

"Martyrs of Mu'tah," invited lecture at Saints at War workshop, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim (23 February 2019)

"Qur'anic Cosmology," invited lecture to be delivered at **Biblical Traditions in the Qur'an**, the British Academy (11-12 October 2018)

"The Reception of the 'Satanic Verses' Story in the Works of Early Shiʿite Scholars (9th – 12th c. CE)," invited lecture delivered at **Spring Lecture Series in Shiʿi Studies**, organized by the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam & Society (20 February 2018)

"Authors of Piety, Poets of Blasphemy: Caliphal Authorship in the Construction of the Umayyad Past," invited lecture delivered at **Rulers as Authors: Knowledge, Authority and Legitimacy**, organized by Sonja Brentjes, Maribel Fierro, and Tilman Siedensticker. Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg University (18-19 December 2017)

"Two 'lost' Sūras of the Qur'ān: *Sūrat al-Khal*' and *Sūrat al-Ḥafd* between textual and ritual canon (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> centuries)," invited lectured delivered at **From Jāhiliyya to Islam**, organized by The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (6 July 2016)

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant (awarded August 2017, with

Stephen Shoemaker, University of Oregon)

Mellon Fellowship for Assistant Professors and Membership, The Institute for Advanced Study,

School of Historical Studies (2013 – 2014)

National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship (2012 – 2013) Zahid Ali Award of the Institute of Ismaili Studies (2011) Brush Faculty Fellowship, University of Oregon Department of History (2011 – 2012)

Junior Faculty Development Grant, University of Oregon (Summer 2011)

Whiting Dissertation Year Fellowship (2008 – 2009)

Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago Divinity School (2007 – 2008)

Provost's Summer Fellowship, University of Chicago (Summer 2007)

University Unendowed Fellowship, University of Chicago (2006 –2007)

Grant for Persian Language Study, American Institute of Iranian Studies, Tehran, Iran (Summer 2005)

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (2004 –2006)

Foreign Language Area Studies Summer Fellowship (Summer 2004, Summer 2006)

#### ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

**American Oriental Society** 

Middle East Studies Association

Middle East Medievalists

International Quranic Studies Association

#### University and Academic Service

Editorial Board, Library of Arabic Literature (www.libraryofarabicliterature.org)

Associate Editor, *Shi'i Studies Review* (www.brill.com/products/journal/shii-studies-review)

Peer-reviewed monographs and articles for:

Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies

History of Religions

Intellectual History of the Islamicate World

Journal of Late Antiquity

Journal of Near Eastern Studies

Journal of Qur'anic Studies

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society

Journal of Shi`a Studies

al-Masā q: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean

**Edinburgh University Press** 

E.J. Brill Publishers

New York University Press

Routledge

University of California Press

Yale University Press

#### REFERENCES

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