We welcome you to the Symposium on Irfan Ahmad’s book

Religion as Critique: Islamic Critical Thinking from Mecca to the Marketplace

(University of North Carolina Press, 2017 and Oxford University Press, Delhi)

Date: 9 November 2017 • Time: 2 to 5 PM • Venue: Library Hall, Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 Göttingen

A distinguished panel will discuss the book followed by response from the author and Q & A.

Ruth Mas, BGSMCS–Free University Berlin
Armando Salvatore, the Keenan Chair in Interfaith Studies and Professor of Global Religious Studies, McGill University, Canada
Peter van der Veer, Director, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen
Irfan Ahmad, Author and Senior Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen

...until this intervention by Professor Ahmad almost no one has tried to look at how Muslims themselves criticize their tradition... [Scholars] in social sciences and humanities [and] those with a broad interest in transnational publics, whether in Euro—America or South Asia, will find here an extraordinary vision of what it is to exercise double critique... Bruce Lawrence & Carl Ernst

... incisive book. Scholars of religion and philosophy will find plenty of challenges to assumptions about what counts as critique and who can deploy it. Publishers Weekly

Religion as Critique elevates both terms... With sustained intellectual courage and intelligence, Irfan Ahmad...constitut[es] a framework from within which the past, present and future...can be rethought. The idea of critique that emerges from this book is deeply attentive to the present by articulating...resources to think in concrete and abstract ways. This book is a genuinely thoughtful contribution to the understanding of Islam...and the world we live in. Uday Mehta, author of Liberalism and Empire

This important and passionate book is filled with original ideas. Arjun Appadurai