

Deborah Tor

Department of History, 434 Decio Hall
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556
E-mail: dtor@nd.edu

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Associate Professor of Medieval Middle Eastern History

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Nov. 2002 *Ph.D., History and Middle Eastern Studies*

REFEREED ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED ACADEMIC BOOKS:

MONOGRAPHS:

- *The Great Seljuq Sultanate and the Formation of Islamic Civilization: A Thematic History.* Studies in Islamic Civilization Series. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming (forthcoming, signed contract).
- *Violent Order: Religious Warfare, Chivalry, and the 'Ayyar Phenomenon in the Medieval Islamic World.* Istanbul Texte und Studien der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft, Band 11 Würzburg: Ergon Verlag, 2007.

EDITED VOLUMES:

- D.G. Tor and Alexander Beihammer, eds., *The Islamic Byzantine Border: From the Rise of Islam through the Crusading Period* (under review)
- D.G. Tor and Minoru Inaba, eds., *The History and Culture of Iran and Central Asia in the First Millennium AD: From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Period* (Notre Dame, Indiana: Notre Dame University Press, in press)
- D.G. Tor, ed., *The 'Abbāsīd and Carolingian Empires: Comparative Studies in Civilizational Formation.* Islamic History and Civilization Series. Leiden: Brill, 2017.
(CONT.)

- Hassan Ansari, Sabine Schmidtke, and D.G. Tor, eds., *The Religio-Intellectual History of Rayy from AD 900 through the Seljuq Period*, Special issue of *Der Islam* 93:2 (2016).
- A.C.S. Peacock and D.G. Tor, eds., *Medieval Central Asia and the Persianate World: Iranian Tradition and Islamic Civilisation*. British Institute of Persian Studies Series. London: I. B. Tauris, 2015.

REFEREED ACADEMIC RESEARCH ARTICLES (Published/In Press only):

- “The Religious History of the Seljuq Period,” in Sheila Canby, Deniz Beyazit, and Martina Rugiadi, eds. *The Seljuqs and their Successors: Art, Culture and History* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2020), 53-71.
 - “The Parting of Ways Between ‘Alid Shi‘ism and ‘Abbāsīd Shi‘ism: An Analysis of the Missives between the Caliph al-Manṣūr and Muḥammad al-Nafs al-Zakiyya,” *Journal of ‘Abbāsīd Studies* 6:2 (2019), 209-227.
 - “The Eclipse of Khurasan in the Twelfth Century,” *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 81:2 (2018), 251-76.
 - “Jews in the Eleventh Century in the Central Islamic Lands,” in Federica Francesconi, Stanley Mirvis, and Brian Smollett, eds. *From Catalonia to the Caribbean: The Sephardic Orbit from Medieval to Modern Times: Essays in Honor of Jane. S. Gerber* (Leiden: Brill, 2018), 187-206.
 - “The Political Revival of the ‘Abbāsīd Caliphate: Al-Muqtafī and the Seljuqs,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 137:2 (2017), 301-14.
 - “The ‘Abbāsīd and Carolingian Dynasties in Comparative Perspective,” in *The ‘Abbāsīd and Carolingian Empires: Comparative Studies in Civilizational Formation*. Islamic History and Civilization Series (Leiden: Brill, 2017), 2–10.
 - “Rayy and The Religious History of the Seljuq Period,” *Der Islam* 93:2 (2016), 377-405.
 - “The Importance of Khurāsān and Transoxiana in the Classical Islamic World,” in A.C.S. Peacock and D.G. Tor, eds., *Medieval Central Asia and the Persianate World: Iranian Tradition and Islamic Civilisation*. British Institute of Persian Studies Series (London: I. B. Tauris, 2015), 1-12.
 - “God’s Cleric: Fuḍayl b. ‘Iyāḍ and the Transition from Caliphal to Prophetic Sunna,” in *Islamic Cultures, Islamic Contexts: Essays in Honor of Professor Patricia Crone*, ed. Behnam Sadeghi, Asad Q. Ahmed, Adam Silverstein, and Robert Hoyland
- (CONT.)

(Leiden: Brill, 2014), 195-228.

- “The Long Shadow of Pre-Islamic Iranian Rulership: Antagonism or Assimilation?” *Late Antiquity: Eastern Perspectives*, ed. Teresa Bernheimer and Adam Silverstein, E. J. W. Gibb Memorial Series (Oxford: Oxbow, 2012), 145-163.
- “The Islamising of Iranian Kingly Ideals in the Persianate Fürstenspiegel,” *Iran: Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies* 49 (2011), 15-22.
- “Mamlūk Loyalty: Evidence from the Late Saljūq Period,” *Asiatische Studien* 65: 3 (2011), 767-796.
- “‘Sovereign and Pious’: The Religious Life of the Great Seljuq Sultans,” *The Seljuqs: Politics, Society, and Culture*, ed. Christian Lange and Songul Mecit (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2011), 39-62.
- “A Tale of Two Murders: Power Relations Between Caliph and Sultan in the Twelfth Century,” *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft (ZDMG)* 159 (2009), 279-297.
- “The Islamization of Central Asia in the Sāmānid Era and the Reshaping of the Muslim World,” *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies (BSOAS)*, 72:2 (2009), 272-299.
- “The Mamlūks in the Military of the Pre-Seljūq Persianate Dynasties,” *Iran: Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies*, 46 (2008), 213-225.
- “Privatized Jihad and Public Order in the Pre-Saljūq Period: The Role of the *Mutaṭṭawwi‘a*,” *Iranian Studies* 38:4 (2005), 555-573.
- “Historical Representations of Ya‘qūb b. al-Layth al-Ṣaffār: A Reappraisal,” *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society (JRAS)*, 12: 3 (Nov. 2002), 247-275.
- “A Numismatic History of the First Saffarid Dynasty,” *Numismatic Chronicle*, Series 7, 162 (2002), 293-314.
- Toward a Revised Understanding of the ‘Ayyar Phenomenon, in *Iran; Questions et Connaissances: actes du IVe congrès des études Iraniennes organisé par la Societas Iranologica Europaea, Paris, 6-10 Septembre 1999. Vol. II: Périodes médiévale et moderne*. Ed. M. Szuppe. *Cahiers de Studia Iranica* 23 (Paris: Peeters Editions, 2002), 231- 254.
- “An Historiographical Re-examination of the Appointment and Death of ‘Alī al-Riḏā,” *Der Islam* 78: 1 (2001), 103-128.

REFEREED ACADEMIC ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

- ***Encyclopaedia of Islam***, 3rd ed. (Leiden, E.J. Brill, 2010-)
“Fuḍayl b. ‘Iyād”; “Futuwwa”; “Ghaznavids”(declined); “Ayyār”; “Awāṣim”(declined);
“Arslān b. Seljūq”; “Chaghri Beg”; “Imrān b. Shahīn”; “al-Muktafī bi-Allāh Abū
Muḥammad ‘Alī b. Aḥmad”; “al-Muntaṣir bi’Ilāh Abū Ja‘far Muḥammad b. Ja‘far”;
“al- Mustakfī bi’Ilāh Abū al-Qāsim ‘Abd Allāh b. ‘Alī”
- ***Encyclopaedia Iranica***, ed. Ehsan Yarshater (New York: Columbia University
Press, 1982-)
“*Sanjar b. Malikshāh*” (1500 words); “Khorāsān from the Ghaznavids to the
Mongols” (2,608 words)
- ***The Encyclopedia of Ancient History***, 2nd edition. Ed. Roger Bagnall *et al.*
Wiley Blackwell Online Library, “Patricia Crone”
- ***The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought***, ed. Gerhard
Böwering, Patricia Crone, Wadad al-Qadi, *et alii*, (Princeton University Press, 2012):
“Sultan”; “Seljūq Dynasty”; “Sāmānid Dynasty”; “Ghaznavid Dynasty”;
“Shāhānshāh”; “Ghāzī”

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

THE ISRAEL INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

2021-2022 ***Fellowship*** (yearlong)

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES (ACLS)

2017-2018 ***Fellowship*** (yearlong)

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH)

2014 ***Fellowship*** (yearlong)

2008 ***Summer Research Stipend***

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, PRINCETON

2013-2014 ***Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Senior Member, School
of Historical Studies*** (yearlong)

ISRAEL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT (ISF)

2007-2010 ***Individual Research Grant***

GERMAN-ISRAELI FOUNDATION FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (GIF)

2008-2009 ***Young Scientists Research Grant***

(CONT.)

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AFGHANISTAN STUDIES

2006 ***Research Grant***

BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY, KREITMAN SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

2004-2005 ***Kreitman Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship***

FOUNDATION FOR IRANIAN STUDIES

2003 ***Dissertation Prize*** (Awarded to the best dissertation written anywhere in the world, in any field or period of Iranian studies)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME INTERNAL GRANTS

2018 *Large Henkels Conference Grant*

2016 *Large Henkels Conference Grant*

2012 *Large Henkels Conference Grant*

2012 *Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Large Research Grant*

2011 *Library Acquisitions Grant* (together with Li Guo and Gabriel Said Reynolds)

GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

2001 - 2002 ***Packard Humanities Fellowship***

1999 - 2002 ***Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship*** (FLAS)

2001 ***Harvard Graduate Society Term-Time Dissertation Research Award***

1998 - 1999 ***Center for Middle Eastern Studies Merit Award***

1997 - 1999 ***Center for Middle Eastern Studies Fellowship***

MIDDLE EAST MEDIEVALISTS

2000 ***Graduate Student Prize***

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Summer 1999 ***Graduate Fellowship***

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

1990 - 1991 ***Dean's Prize*** (First in a department of 300 students)

1989 - 1991 ***Dean's List*** (Top 5% in the entire Faculty of Humanities throughout the B.A.)

1988 - 1989 ***Horace W. Goldsmith Scholarship Award***, Rothberg School for Overseas Students

ACADEMIC PAPERS PRESENTED

INVITED ACADEMIC PAPERS (PAST TWELVE YEARS ONLY)

- “Chivalry (*Futuwwa*) in the Medieval Eastern Islamic World,” the Yuri Bregel Lecture, Indiana University, Bloomington, November 2019.
- “Chivalric Bands (*futuwwa/fityān*) in Medieval Islamic Cities,” Lecture delivered at Kyoto University, Japan, March 15, 2019.
- “Religious Partisanship (*ta‘aṣṣub*) in the Medieval Islamic City: A Case Study of Baghdād in the Būyid and Seljūq Eras,” Lecture delivered at Tokyo University, Japan, March 12, 2019.
- “On the Integrality of Shi‘ism to the Study of the History of the Classical Islamic Caliphate,” conference on *Approaching Shi‘i Islam in the Academy*, Leiden University Center for Islamic Studies, November 2018.
- “The Commemoration of the Seljuqs in Historical Narratives,” conference on *Memory and Commemoration in Islamic Central Asia*, Leiden University Center for Islamic Studies, University of Leiden, November 2016.
- “Religion in the Seljuq Period,” Symposium on *Court and Cosmos: The Great Age of the Seljuqs*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, June 10-11, 2016.
- “A History of Islamic Chivalry,” at the conference on Chivalry sponsored by the Institut für Theologie und Frieden, held at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bonn, October 9-10 2015.
- “The Role of Pre-Seljuq Marv in Early Islamic History,” Conference on *Iranian Cities: From the Rise of Islam Until the Modern Era*, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, May 1-2, 2015.
- “Religious fraternities and Islamic rulers: *Futuwwa* from the rise of the proto-Sunnis through the Seljuq era,” Conference on *Monarchische Herrschaft und religiöse Vergemeinschaftung*, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany, November 2014.
- "What difference did the Seljuqs make? The significance of the Seljuqs in the context of Islamic history and civilization," Conference on *The Intellectual History of Rayy, 900-1100*, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, April 2014.
- “The Reign of Al-Muqtafi: a Case Study in the Relations between Caliph and Sultan,” School of Historical Studies Colloquium, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, December 2013.
- “Sultan and Caliph in the Great Seljuq Period,” Conference on *Eastern Iran and Transoxiana 750-1150: Persianate Culture and Islamic Civilisation*, University of St. Andrews, March 2013.
- “Futuwwa: Chivalric Violence in the Seljuq and Mongol Periods,” Conference on

Legitimate and Illegitimate Violence in Islamic Thought (ESRC and AHRC funded), University of Exeter, September 2012. (CONT.)

- “On the Edge of a Sword: The Seljuq rulers between Khān and Sultān,” Conference on *Nomad aristocrats in a world of empires*, Sonderforschungsbereich of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Universities of Leipzig and Halle-Wittenberg, Hamburg, November 2011.
- “The Realm of the Zunbil: A Late Antique Survival in Early Islamic Times,” Research Workshop on *Shifting Frontiers: Current Issues in the History of Early Islamic Central Asia*, Leiden University, Holland, December 2010.
- “Limited Loyalty: A Case Study of the Islamic Military Slave System in the Late Seljuq Period,” *International Workshop in Memory of David Ayalon*, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, December 2008.
- “The Seljuqs and the Turkmens,” Institut für Turkologie, Freie Universität, Berlin, December 2008.
- “A Case Study in the Downfall of Kings: The End of Great Seljuq Rule,” Conference on *Kingship in the Middle East and Mediaeval Europe*, University of Cambridge, September 2008.
- “The Seljuq Sultans and Personal Piety: Religion and Politics in the Seljuq Era,” International Symposium on *The Seljuqs: Islam Revitalized?* University of Edinburgh, September 2008.
- “The Long Shadow of Pre-Islamic Iran: Conflict or Assimilation?” Oxford Centre for Late Antiquity Seminar on *Late Antiquity: Eastern Perspectives*, University of Oxford, February 2008.

SUBMITTED ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PAPERS (PAST TWELVE YEARS ONLY):

- “*Futuwwa* and *Fityān* in the Early Islamic Period,” on a panel organized by D.G. Tor on “The Social History of the Early Islamic Caliphate,” American Oriental Society 230th Annual Meeting, Boston, March 2020 (Cancelled by Covid).
- “Relations between the Caliphs and Khurasan in the Transition to the Autonomous Dynastic Period of the Caliphate, AD 800-900,” Conference on “The Ties that Bind: Mechanisms and Structures of Social Dependency in the Early Islamic Empire,” Leiden University, The Netherlands, December 2019.
- The Parting of Ways between ‘Alid Shi‘ism and ‘Abbāsīd Shi‘ism,” *Fourteenth Conference of the School of ‘Abbāsīd Studies*, Yale University, July 2018.
- Panel organizer and paper presenter on the panel “Decline and Fall in the Medieval

Middle East”, International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK, July 2018. (CONT.)

- “The Eclipse of Khurāsān in the Twelfth Century,” The 228th Meeting of The American Oriental Society, Pittsburgh, March 2018.
- “The Parting of Ways Between ‘Alid Shi‘ism and ‘Abbāsīd Shi‘ism in the Wake of the ‘Abbāsīd Revolution: A Re-Examination,” International Conference on “Shi‘i Studies: The State of the Art,” The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton NJ, December 2017.
- “The Treatment of Elite Slaves in the Medieval Muslim Caliphate,” The 227th Meeting of The American Oriental Society, Los Angeles, March 2017.
- “The Political Revival of the ‘Abbāsīd Caliphate in the Twelfth Century,” School of ‘Abbāsīd Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands, July 2016.
- “The Treatment of Elite Slaves in the Medieval Islamic World,” International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, England, July 2016
- “Lost in Time and Translation: Changes in Literary Transmission as Historical Evidence,” Conference on “The Histories of Books in the Islamicate World,” Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales (CCHS) at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas a(CSIC), Madrid, Spain, March 2015.
- “‘The Centre Cannot Hold’: Center and Periphery in the Great Seljuq Empire,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Boston, January 2011.
- “‘Zābul and Kābul’: A Late Antique Relict in Early Islamic Times,” Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) Annual Meeting, San Diego, November 2010.
- “The Islamization of Iranian Kingly Ideals: The Persianate Fürstenspiegel of the Seljuq Era,” Conference on *The Shahnameh and Persianate Identity*, University of St. Andrews, UK, April 2010.
- “Overweening Amirs? Magnates and Sultan in the Late Seljuq Period,” Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) Annual Meeting, Boston, November 2009.

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

GRANT REFEREE

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

2020

External Grant Reviewer

Erasmus + EISCAS Project

2020 External Grant Reviewer

European Research Council (ERC)

2019 External Grant Reviewer

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

2017 Selection committee, Middle East and Africa subject area, Yearlong grants

2015 Selection committee, Middle East and Africa subject area, Yearlong grants

2010-2011 Selection committee, Middle East and Africa subject area, Summer grants

Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

2020 External Grant Reviewer

2019 External Grant Reviewer

2018 External Grant Reviewer

2017 External Grant Reviewer

2016 External Grant Reviewer

2015 External Grant Reviewer

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research - Council for the Humanities

2016 External Grant Reviewer

2015 External Grant Reviewer

Israel Academy of Arts and Sciences

2019-2020 External Grant Reviewer

2016-2017 External Grant Reviewer

2008-2009 Middle Eastern History Selection Committee

2007-2008 Middle Eastern History Selection Committee

ACADEMIC EDITORSHIPS AND REFEREEING

Editorial board membership

2020- present Editorial board member (Medieval), *Journal of Iranian Studies*

2013- 2017 Editorial board member, *Cambridge World History of Violence*,
Cambridge University Press (resigned).

Article referee

Der Islam; *Iran*; *Iranian Studies*; *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society (JRAS)*; *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies (BSOAS)*; *Journal of the American Oriental Society (JAOS)*; *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (JESHO)*; *Studia Islamica*; *Al-Masaq*; *Revue des Mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée (REMMM)*

Book referee

Cambridge University Press

Columbia University Press

Edinburgh University Press
Oxford University Press
Brill, Inner Asian Library series
I.B. Tauris/Bloomsbury

OTHER SERVICE:

The University of Notre Dame

2021 Search Committee member, Edward H. Arnold University Librarian
2019-2021 At-Large Faculty Representative, University Committee on Libraries
2020 Member, TPAC
2016- present Initiator and chairperson, Committee on Middle Eastern Studies

Organizer, International Symposium on “Purity and Pollution in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages,” at Notre Dame Jerusalem Gateway- Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, March 7-8, 2022, sponsored by the Department of Theology and the Nanovic Institute for European Studies

Initiator and co-organizer of the international conference, “The Islamic-Byzantine Border from the Rise of Islam to the Fall of Constantinople,” April 30-May 1, 2019, University of Notre Dame.

Initiator and co-organizer of the international conference, “Jewish Life in the Medieval Christian and Muslim World,” April 22-23, 2018, University of Notre Dame.

Initiator and co-organizer of the international conference, “The History and Culture of Iran and Central Asia in the First Millennium CE: From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Era”, held jointly with Kyoto University, June 25-27, 2017, Notre Dame London Global Gateway.

Initiator and Organizer of the international conference, “Civilizational Formation: The Carolingian and ‘Abbāsīd Eras”, April 14-15, 2013, University of Notre Dame.

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, History Review Committee
Member 2015, 2017, and 2018

Standing Committee on Jewish Studies, Department of Theology

2016- Present Member

Served on various Departmental committees, prize committees, and dissertation committees, in the last case in both the Department of History and in the Department of Theology.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Arabic, Danish (also Swedish and Norwegian Bokmål), English, French, German, Hebrew, Latin, Persian, and Turkish