

Curriculum Vitae

Paolo Sartori

Education

16.03.2006 — Ph.D. in Islamic Studies, University of Rome ‘la Sapienza’. Dissertation: *Ambiguous definitions: the Tashkent ‘Ulama between Tradition and Revolution, 1917-18* (in Italian)

7.11.1998 — M.A. in Oriental Languages and Literatures (Iranian and Turkic Studies) with honours of the first class (*magna cum laude*), University of Venice ‘Ca’ Foscari’. Thesis: *Soviet Iranology and Persian-Russian Bilingual Lexicography* (in Italian)

Present Status

01/2017 – Present – Tenured Senior Fellow, Austrian Academy of Sciences

01/2014 – Present — Principal Investigator in the START Project *Seeing like an Archive: Documents and Forms of Governance in Islamic Central Asia (18th-19th Centuries)*, funded by the Austrian Research Fund (FWF) <https://seeinglikeanarchive.wordpress.com/>

01/2013 – Present — Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Economic and Social History of the Orient* (Brill)

Academic Experience

08/2018 ☑ Eligibility to Full Professorship (*Abilitazione Prima Fascia*) in History of Central Asia and the Far East (10/N3), Ministry of Education, Italy

08/2018 ☑ Eligibility to Associate Professorship (*Abilitazione Seconda Fascia*) in History of the Middle East (10/N1), Ministry of Education, Italy

Spring semester 2018 ☑ Central Asian Visiting Scholar, University of Leiden

08/2011 – 12/2016 — Senior Scientist, Institute of Iranian Studies, Austrian Academy of Sciences (Vienna)

2016 ☐ Elected Member of the Young Academy of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

08/2011 – 12/2013 — Deputy Director of the Research Project *The Archives Talk: Writing the Social History of Colonial Central Asia* funded by the Volkswagen Foundation

2011 ☐ École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris): **Professeur invité** (Visiting Professor), [April-May 2012]

Spring semester 2011 ☐ Graduate Instructor, Institute of Oriental Studies, Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Halle)

7/2007 – 07/2011 — Volkswagen Foundation Fellow, Institute of Oriental Studies, Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Halle)

Spring semester 2007 ☐ Invited professor at the University of Palermo for “Turkic Languages and Cultures of Central Asia”

Spring semester 2006 ☐ Invited professor at the University of Trieste for “History of Islamic Law”

Grants and Awards

2019 ☐ Bahari Visiting Fellowship in the Persian Arts of the Book, Bodleian Libraries, Oxford [August-October, 2019]

2018a ☐ Grant from the Austrian Academy of Sciences for the constitution of a Thematic Platform “Religion, Society and Politics in Eurasia” (2018-2020) with Prof. Kristina Stöckl [40.000 €]

2018b ☐ Grant of the Young Academy of the Austrian Academy of Sciences for the organization of the Summer School “Documents and Archives in Persianate Eurasia: (15th – 19th Centuries), planned in early June 2019 [5000 €]

2016 ☐ Open Access Grant from the Volkswagen Foundation [5,630 €]

2015 ☐ Brill Publishers Grant for the organization of the JESHO lecture series in Asian History at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, 2016-2022 [5000€ x year]

2014 ☐ Best Publication Award, Austrian Academy of Sciences for the article “Colonial Legality in Russian Central Asia: on Guardianship”, *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 56/2 (2014): 419-47 [3.700 €]

2013 ☐ Austrian Science Fund (FWF), START Prize for the project *Seeing Like an Archive: Documents and Forms of Governance in Islamic Central Asia (18th-19th Centuries)* [1.052.060 €]

<https://www.oeaw.ac.at/iran/forschung/kultur-und-sozialgeschichte-der-moderne/mit-den-angendes-archivs/>

2012 ☐ Gerda Henkel Foundation: Research Grant for the Creation of a Catalogue of the Manuscript Fund of the Institute of History, Ethnography and Archeology, Qaraqalpaq Branch of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences, Nukus (2012-14) in collaboration with Abdusalim Idrisov [13.120 €]

09.2010-08.2013 ☐ Volkswagen Fellowship, Research Project “The Archives Talk: Writing the Social History of Colonial Central Asia” [544.000 €] <https://thececessblog.com/2014/02/from-halle-to-tashkent-to-vienna-the-volkswagenstiftung-international-research-partnership/>

2009 ☐ German Research Foundation (DFG): Grant for the workshop “Social History of Early Modern and Colonial Central Asia: A Focus on Arabic-script documents (18th-20th centuries)”, University of Halle-Wittenberg 11-12.12.2009 [12.000 €]

2008-10 ☐ Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI): Post-Doctoral research grant. Research project *Religion and Society in Kazakhstan (1821-1941)*

2008 ☐ Gerda Henkel Foundation: Grant for the workshop “Islamic Institutions and Muslim Culture in the Interwar Soviet Union (1919-39)”, University of Halle-Wittenberg 11-12.12.2008 [10.000 €] https://www.jstor.org/stable/41105358?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

2007-2010 ☐ Volkswagen Fellowship, Research Project “Islamic Law in Central Asia under Tsarist and Soviet Rule (1865-1928) [271.300 €] <http://portal.volkswagenstiftung.de/search/projectDetails.do?ref=82325>

2006 ☐ Short-term grant by IFEAC (French Institute for Central Asian Studies), Tashkent

2002–5 — Ph.D. scholarship at the Graduate School of Oriental Studies, University of Rome ‘la Sapienza’

2001–2 — Grant awarded by the post-graduate international programme at the University of Perugia

1999 — Award for distinguished Master degree’s thesis

Invited Lectures and Papers

31. “Imperial Unknowns: What Can Sharia Tell us About Russian Imperial History”, International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, 16.04.2019
30. “Why Sharia Matters: Writing Islamic Law into Imperial and Global History”, Doctoral Program in Global History of Empires, University of Turin, 07.03.2019
29. “Vernacular Canon: Re-assembling Islamic Jurisprudence in Central Eurasia (16th – early 20th Centuries),” Workshop on Pre-Modern Codification and Canonization of Islamic Law, University of Bergen, 29-30.11.2018 [read in absentia]
28. “Of Saints, Shrines, and Tractors: Writing Muslim Religiosity into Soviet History”, Central Asia Seminar Series, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, 19.11.2019

27. "Taking Stock of Vernacularization from Kazan to Yarkand: Entexting Before Codification," at the *Uses of the Past in Islamic Law: Past and Present* international symposium, University of Exeter, 27-29.09.2018
26. "Twilight of the Persianate: The Vernacularization of Central Asia (18th – early 20th Centuries), TOSCCA Seminar, New College, University of Oxford, 31.06.2018
25. "Between Holy War and Quietism: On Uzbek Khanates Facing Russian Invasion," Invited Commentator on Alexander Morrison's forthcoming monograph *The Conquest of Central Asia* (Cambridge University Press), New College, University of Oxford, 29.06.2018.
24. "Twilight of the Persianate: The Vernacularization of Central Asia (18th – early 20th Centuries)" University of Leiden, 12.04.2018
23. "How Can We Study Islam in post-WWII Central Asia?", Masterclass at the University of Leiden, 17.04.2018
22. "The Secular that Never Was: Untangling the Meaning of Islam in Soviet Central Asia," Opening Keynote Speech at the Joint CESS-ESCAP Conference, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek 29.06.2017
21. "Modern Local: The World Seen from Khiva," Leon B. Poullada Memorial Lecture Series (3 lectures), Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Princeton, Spring 2017
20. "Sufis in the Archive: The Ethnographic State According to the Khans of Khorezm," École Normale Supérieure, Paris, 23.05.2016.
19. "Sufism, Ethnography, and Soviet Islam: Lessons from Khorezm", European University, St Petersburg, 20-21.04.2016.
18. "Checking the Archive? The Khan and the Historian," 6 Lucis Lecture Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society, 10. 03.2016.
17. "On the Reconfiguration of Islamic Law in Modern Central Asia", Department of Central Eurasian Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, 16.11.2015.
16. "Into the Archive: Information, Writing, and the Meanings of Knowledge in 19th-Century Khorezm", Committee on Inner Asian and Altaic Studies, Harvard University, 11.11.2015.
15. "Taking Stock of Justice: Writing Sharia in Post-Chinggisid Central Asia," Department of History, University of Exeter, 23-24.05.2015.
14. "Changing Legal Consciousness in 19th-Century Central Asia", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris, 19.01.2015.
13. "Law and Society in the Middle East", Beer-Sheva University of the Negev, 03-04.01.2015
12. "Rethinking the Islamic Juridical Field: a View from Modern Central Asia", *Reimagining Asia: 50 Years Anniversary of the Indian Economic and Social History Review*, The Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi, 14.12.2013

11. "Neither Imperial nor Global: The History of Muslim Family Law in a Russian Colony," Institute of Area Studies, Leiden University, 07.02.2013.
10. "The Archive of the Khans of Khiva: An Islamic Culture of Documentation?," University of Naples, 06.12.2012.
09. "Assessing the Imperial Rights Regime in Turkestan", University of Liverpool, 23.11.2012.
08. "On the Consumption of Law in Modern Central Asia: Who Cares for Doctrinal Citations in the Fatwas?" Institute of Ismaili Studies, London 20-30.05.2012.
07. "Solicited Legal Opinions and their Applicants: Making Sense of Central Asian *Fatawa*", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris 04.05.2012.
06. "An Imperial Rights Regime? A Reappraisal from Central Asia", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris 13.04.2012.
05. "Revoking *Awqāf* in a Situation of Legal Pluralism", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris 12.04.2012.
04. "On Muslims' Normative Agency in Russian Central Asia", Institute of Iranian Studies, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna 27.01.2011.
03. "Legal Pluralism and Muslims' Legal Consumption in Colonial Central Asia", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris 14.01.2011.
02. "The Birth of a Custom: Nomads, *Shari'a* Courts and Established Legal Practices in the Tashkent province (ca. 1880-1919)", School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris 13.01.2011.
01. "Imperial Discourse vs. Legal Practice: Islamic and Customary Law in Russian Turkestan", guest lecture at the Plenum SFP 586 *Differenz und Integration*, Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle 27.02.2009.

Events Organized

- 02-07.06.2019 – Summer School 'Cultures of Documentation in Persianate Eurasia (15th-19th Centuries)', Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna
- 06.11.2018 — Third *JESHO* Lecture on Asian History, Austrian Academy of Sciences (lecture series sponsored by Brill)
- 04-05.10.2018 — Symposium "Beyond the Islamicate Chancery: Archives, Paperwork, and Textual Encounters across Eurasia", Austrian Academy of Sciences, (with Dr. James Pickett)
- 23-24.05.2017 — Symposium "Islamic Cultures of Documentation: Archive, Paperwork and State Power in Eurasia", University of Pittsburgh, (with Dr. James Pickett)
- 24-25.03.2017 — Authority in Islam in Muslim Eurasia, Indiana University, Bloomington (with Devin DeWeese and Ron Sela)

- 03-04.11.2016 — Second *JESHO* Lecture on Asian History, Austrian Academy of Sciences (lecture series sponsored by Brill)
- 23-24.06.2016 — Symposium “Persianate Cultures of Documentation”, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna (with Dr. James Pickett, Yale University and University of Pittsburgh)
- 02-05.08.2016 — Panel “Connectivity and Remoteness across Transoxiana” at the Eleventh Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, University of Vienna
- 26-28.05.2016 — Conference “Empires of Water: Water Management and Politics in the Arid Regions of China, Central Eurasia and the Middle East (16th-20th Centuries)”, University of Hong Kong (with Dr. Niccolò Pianciola and Dr. Loretta Kim, Honk Kong University)
- 02-04.11.2015 — Symposium “Sharia in the Russian Empire”, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna
- 13.10.2015 — First *JESHO* Lecture on Asian History, Austrian Academy of Sciences (lecture series sponsored by Brill)
- 12.12.2014 — Workshop “Sharia in the Russian Empire”, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna
- 09-10.10.2014 — Workshop “On Khorezmian Connectivity: Space, Mobility, Imagination”, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna (with Dr. Christine Nölle-Karimi, Austrian Academy of Sciences)
- 26-27.04.2014 — Workshop “Beyond Muslim Modernism: Re-assessing Cultural Change among the Muslim Communities of Central Asia, Russia and Western China in the 19th and the 20th Centuries”, Harvard University (with Dr. Jeff Eden, Harvard University)
- 03-07.09.2012 — Summer-school “Towards a New Social History of 19th- and early 20th- Century Central Asia”, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna (with Dr. Thomas Welsford, All Souls College, University of Oxford)
- 09-10.12.2010 — Workshop “The Dynamics of Muslim Legal Pluralism under Colonial Rule,” Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle
- 11-12.12.2009 — Workshop “Social History of Early Modern and Colonial Central Asia: A Focus on Arabic-script documents (18th-20th centuries)”, Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg (with Prof. Jürgen Paul, Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg)
- 29-30.10.2009 — International Conference “Religion and Society in Central Eurasia. New Sources for the Religious History of Kazakhstan”, Cini Foundation, Island of St. George, Venice (with Niccolò Pianciola, Lingnan University of Hong Kong)
- 11-12.12.2008 — Workshop “Islamic Institutions and Muslim Culture in the Interwar Soviet Union (1919-39): The Limitations and the Potentials of the Archival Revolution”, University of Halle-Wittenberg (with Prof. Jürgen Paul, Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg)

Editorship

Series *Handbooks of Oriental Studies (Section 8 Uralic & Central Asian Studies)* – Brill Publishers

Manuscript Reviewer for

Acta Slavica Iaponica

Asiatische Studien (De Gruyter)

Brill Academic Publisher (Middle East, Islam & African Studies)

Central Asian Survey (Francis Taylor & Co.)

California University Press

De Gruyter

Encounters: An International Journal for the Study of Culture and Society (Zayed University Press)

Europe-Asia Studies (Francis Taylor & Co.)

Cahiers du Monde Russe (editions EHESS)

Comparative Studies in Society and History (Cambridge University Press)

Indiana University Press

Institute of Advanced Studies (The School of Historical Studies, Princeton University)

Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (Brill)

Pittsburgh University Press

PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review (Wiley)

Yale University Press

Membership

International Society of Iranian Studies

Association for the Study of Persianate Societies

Central Eurasian Studies Society

European Society for Central Asian Studies