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Abstract – Sektion 1, Panel 1

Referent *Nora K. Schmid*
Thema *Lot's Wife – Late Antique Paradigms of Sense and the Inner Chronology of the Qur'an*

The nameless wife of Lot appears as a rather marginal figure in the Qur'an. Her fate is addressed in different ways within the context of the destruction of Lot's people. A chronological and literary analysis of relevant passages shows that this figure, although de-allegorized, is increasingly charged with meaning by the Prophet and the interpreting community forming around him. In the course of this process, Lot's wife develops into a prototypical sinner. This development points to an intensifying negotiation of sense paradigms, circumscribed by a historical debate about the meaning of words, in which Alexandrian and Antiochene exegetes were engaged for example. A chronological perspective on the Qur'an allows for understanding how a new hermeneutic evolved in response to the thought world of earlier traditions.