Kongress 2014
Horizonte der Islamischen Theologie

Abstract – Sektion 5, Panel 1/2/3

Referent   *Daniel Birnstiel*

Thema   *Verb Derivation in Qurʾānic Arabic: Some First Impressions*

One of the most well-known and characteristic features of Semitic (and Afro-Asiatic in general) is the derivation of verbal stems with apparently predictable semantic connotations vis-à-vis the basic stem by means of prefixation or infixation or the doubling of the second or third root consonant. Classical Arabic possesses altogether 14 derived verbal stems of which only 8 are common and usually presented as possessing clear shades of meaning.

However, a text linguistic analysis of the Qurʾān reveals that in a number of cases the actual meaning does not easily fit the predicted semantic connotations. In this paper I will discuss the different verbal derivations of the root byn as attested in the Qurʾānic corpus and present the semantic relationships between them.