

Curriculum Vitae of Dr Michael Josef MARX



Director „Corpus Coranicum e.V.“

2007-2024: Director of Corpus Coranicum based at Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (Potsdam, Germany)

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born 1971 in Trier; Abitur at Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium (Trier) 1990; Zivildienst 1990/1991; married with Dr. Iryna Vyrva, two children;

1992-2001: Arabic Studies (Arabistik/Islamwissenschaft), Semitic Languages und General Linguisticx at FU Berlin (1992-1994), Études Arabes at Institut des langues et civilisation orientales Paris (1994-1996), Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität (1997-2001) and University of Teheran (1999/2000).

1994-2001: member of Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes

1998-2002: translations and consultations about Middle East and Russia (Inter Nationes, Goethe Institut Bonn, Apollo e.V., and others);

2003-2006: Scientific Collaborator, Lecturer at the Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik (FU Berlin);

2004-2006: together with A. Neuwirth and N. Sinai: conception of the project “Corpus Coranicum“ (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften), founded 2007;

2007- : director of the Department “Corpus Coranicum“ of Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften;

Dissertation at EPHE (Paris), supervisor: François Déroche (Collège de France); “Le problème d’une édition critique du Coran: Etude de la relation entre la transmission écrite et la transmission orale” (soutenance: december 13th 2024);

Language skills: German (native), English, French, Arabic, Russian (fluent), Persian, Turkish, Hebrew (intermediate), Latin, Ancient Greek, Syriac, Ancient Ethiopian (reading skills).

Editor

Digital publications

Manuscripta Coranica, reference online catalogue of Qurʾān manuscripts, corpuscoranicum.de/en/manuscripts (since 2008); since 2025: corpuscoranicum.org/en/manuscripts

Variae Lectiones Coranica, online catalogue of variant readings of the Qurʾān, corpuscoranicum.de/en/variants (since 2008); since 2025: corpuscoranicum.org/en/variants

Texte aus der Umwelt des Korans, online catalogue of source texts from the world of the Qurʾān, corpuscoranicum.de/en/intertexts (since 2009); since 2025: corpuscoranicum.org/en/intertexts

in collaboration with Tobias J. Jocham et al. *Edition of the Qurʾān (al-Qurʾān al-karīm)*, Cairo 1924, *Image, Unicode Text, Latin Transcription*, digital edition, corpuscoranicum.de/de/verse-navigator/sura/20/verse/1/print; since 2025: corpuscoranicum.org/de/verse-navigator/sura/20/verse/1/print

in collaboration with Claus Franke et al., *Rafael Talmon (1948-2004)'s Morphological Concordance of the Qurʾān, minimally modified for the Corpus Coranicum data set* corpuscoranicum.de/en/verse-navigator/sura/1/verse/1/concordance/word/1; since 2025: corpuscoranicum.de/org/verse-navigator/sura/1/verse/1/concordance/word/1

Printed publications

together with F. Déroche and Christian Robin: series editor of “*Documenta Coranica*” (Brill publishers, Leiden), since 2017;

together with A. Kaplony (eds.), *Qurʾān Quotations Preserved on Papyrus Documents, 7th to 10th centuries and the problem of carbon dating Early Qurʾāns*, *Documenta Coranica* 2, Leiden 2019;

together with J.Pahlitzsch and D.Weltecke (eds.), *Östliches Christentum in Geschichte und Gegenwart – Perspektiven und Hindernisse der Forschung*, *Der Islam* 2012;

together with A. Neuwirth and N. Sinai (eds.), *The Qurʾān in Context: Literary and Historical Investigations into the Qurʾānic Milieu*, Leiden 2010;

Dirk Hartwig/W. Homolka/M.Marx/A. Neuwirth (eds.), “*Im vollen Licht der Geschichte*”. *Die Wissenschaft des Judentums und die Anfänge der kritischen Koranforschung*, Würzburg 2008.

Third party funded projects

Sanaa Qurʾān manuscripts: M.Marx and Christoph Rauch: Digitization of the manuscript films of the German Mission (1981-1989) in Sanaa (2021-2022) funded by Neustart Kultur der Bundesbeauftragten für Kultur;

“Qatarkoran” (2020-2021): Catalogue project of early Qurʾān manuscripts of Qatar National Library (cf. manuscripts of Qatar National Library listed under <https://corpuscoranicum.de/en/manuscripts>);

together with F. Déroche (Collège de France) 2015-2019: head of the French-German project Paleocoran (canonisation and text variants in manuscripts from al-Fustāṭ, Old-Cairo, funded by ANR/DFG;

together with Christian J. Robin (Paris): coordination of the French-German project “[Coranica](#)”, 2011-2015, funded by DFG and ANR.

Publications (cf. also bbaw.academia.edu/michaelmarx)

“About the Corpus Coranicum mark-up system”, in: M. Tillier/N. Vanthieghem (eds.), *The Book of the Cow, An Early Qurʾānic Codex on Papyrus* (P. Hamb. Arab. 68), Leiden/Boston 2024, pp. 103-105;

with Ali Aghaei/F. Bahrololoumi/I. Hajdas/R. Jafarian/L. Kordavani, “Radiocarbon Dating of Manuscripts kept in the Central Library of the Univ. of Tehran”, *Radiocarbon* (2023), pp. 1-15;

“Two folios from an Umayyad Qurʾan Manuscript”, *Museum of Islamic Art: The collection*, Doha 2022, pp. 74-77;

with Ali Aghaei, “Carbon Dating of Seven Parchment Qurʾān Manuscripts and One Syriac Bible of the National Museum of Iran”, *Journal of Iran National Museum* 2/1 (2021), pp. 205-226.

with Chr. Rauch, “Die Entzauberung der Koranhandschriften von Sanaa. Digitale Erschliessung einer Sammlung frühislamischer Pergamenthandschriften“, *Bibliotheksmagazin* 3/2022, pp. 32-36;

“Introduction”, in: A. Kaplony/M. Marx (eds.), *Qurʾān Quotations Preserved on Papyrus Documents, 7th to 10th centuries and the problem of Carbon dating Early Qurʾans*, *Documenta Coranica* 2, Leiden 2019, pp. 1-41;

with Tobias J.Jocham, “Radiocarbon Dating of Qurʾanic manuscripts,“ in: A. Kaplony/M. Marx (eds.), *Qurʾān Quotations Preserved on Papyrus Documents, 7th to 10th centuries and the problem of Carbon dating Early Qurʾans*, *Documenta Coranica* 2, Leiden 2019, pp. 188-221;

with Tobias J.Jocham, “Zu den Datierungen von Koranhandschriften durch die 14C-Methode”,

- Frankfurter Zeitschrift für islamische Theologie* 2015, pp. 9-43.
- “Le coran de ‘Uṭmān dans le traité de Versailles”, in: F. Déroche/Chr. Robin/M. Zink (eds.), *Les origines du Coran, le Coran des origines*. Paris 2015, pp. 271-295.
- with E.Youssef-Grob, T.Jocham and I.Hajdas, “The Chronology of Holy Scriptures”, *ETH Yearbook 2014*, URL: ams.ethz.ch/publications/annual_reports/2014/037.
- “Manuscript British Library, Or. 2165 and the transmission of the Qur’ān”, in: A. Bausi *et al.* (2015), *Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies. An Introduction*, Hamburg 2015, pp. 430–435.
- “Der Korantext als Herausforderung”, in: G. Dane/J. Jungmayr/M. Schotte (eds.), *Wege zur Weltliteratur. Komparatistische Perspektiven der Editionswissenschaft*, Berliner Beiträge zur Editionswissenschaft 15, Berlin 2015, pp. 253–278.
- “Europa, Islam und Koran: Zu einigen Elementen der gegenwärtigen gesellschaftlichen Debatte”, K. Spenlen (ed.), *Gehört der Islam zu Deutschland, Fakten und Analysen zu einem Meinungsstreit*, Düsseldorf 2013, pp. 61–98.
- “Sprachen und Schriften Arabiens – ein Rundgang” and “Der Koran: Das erste arabische Buch”, in: U.Franke/J.Gierlichs (eds.), *Roads of Arabia. Archäologische Schätze aus Saudi-Arabien*, Berlin 2012, pp. 180–193; pp. 194–207.
- “Le Coran d’Uthman dans le Traité de Versailles“, *Comptes Rendus de l’Académie des Inscriptions & Belles-Lettres* 2012, pp. 431–454.
- “Isa Sohn Marias nicht Sohn Gottes – Was sagt der Koran über Jesus“, *Welt und Umwelt der Bibel* 1 (2012), pp. 33–35;
- together with Esra Gözeler et al. (D. Kiltz, H. Koloska, Y. Kouriyhe, N. Schmid), “Corpus Coranicum projesi: Kur’an’ı Geç Antik döneme ait bir metin olarak okumak”, *Ankara Üniversitesi İlahiyat Fakültesi Dergisi* 53 (2012), pp. 57-92.
- “Sprachen und Schriften Arabiens – ein Rundgang“ and “Der Koran: Das erste arabische Buch“, in: U. Franke/J. Gierlichs (eds.), *Roads of Arabia. Archäologische Schätze aus Saudi-Arabien*, Berlin 2012, pp. 180–193 and pp.194–207.
- “Glimpses of a Mariology in the Qur'an: From Hagiography to Theology via Religious-Political Debate”, in: A. Neuwirth/N. Sinai/M. Marx (eds.), *The Qur’an in Context: Historical and Literary Investigations into the Qur’anic Milieu*, Leiden/Boston 2010, pp. 533–561;
- “Quel discours coranique sur Jésus?“, *Le Monde de la Bible* 2010, pp. 32-35.

- “Die Religion der Schönheit: Die besondere Ästhetik des Islam entspringt einem Bilderverbot”, *Spiegel Geschichte: Der Islam* 2010, pp. 62-70; with T. Jocham, “Der Koran auf Agfafilm”, in: Lutz, Petra/Vogel, Klaus (ed.) *Kraftwerk Religion. Über Gott und die Menschen*, Dresden 2010, pp. 137-144;
- “The Koran according to Agfa - Gotthelf Bergsträfers Archiv der Koranhandschriften”, *Trajekte* 19 (2009), pp. 25-29.
- “Ein Koran-Forschungsprojekt in der Tradition der Wissenschaft des Judentums: Zur Problematik des Akademienvorhabens Corpus Coranicum”, D. Hartwig et. al. (eds.), “*Im vollen Licht der Geschichte*”. *Die Wissenschaft des Judentums...*, Würzburg 2008, pp. 41-54.
- “The Lost Archive, the Myth of Philology and the Study of the Qur’an”, [Internet Publication](#) 16. Januar 2008;
- “Projeh-e mustanadsâzî-e qur'ân-e karîm”, *Qur'an wa-mustashreqân*, Qum/Iran 1386/2007 [transl.: T. Khademalsharieh], pp. 117-127.
- Dispute among Islam Scholars - Did Muhammad Ever Really Live?* Interview *SPIEGEL online international*, 18.9.2008;
- “Koran, aber im Kontext – eine Replik” (together with A. Neuwirth and N. Sinai), *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 6.11.2007;
- “Bahira-Legende, Dante und Luxenberg – Von verschiedenen Koranwahrnehmungen”, in: Christoph Burgmer (ed.), *Streit um den Koran*, Verlag Hans Schiler, Berlin 2004;
- “Ein neuer Impuls zur Erforschung des Korans”, Teil I, *inamo* 33 (2003) and “Ein neuer Impuls zur Erforschung des Koran”, Teil II, *inamo* 34 (2003).

Organization of workshops and conferences

Conference: “Material evidence in Qur’ānic studies and its digital representation”, BBAW Berlin, 14-15 September 2024;

Scriptorium Workshop: Material Aspects of Manuscripts of the Islamicate World, with a Special Focus on Bookbinding, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Unter den Linden 8, Berlin-Mitte, 9.-13th September 2024, funded by al-Furqān (London), Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Orientabteilung and Corpus Coranicum (BBAW);

Scriptorium Workshop: Qur’ānic manuscripts past and present: Cataloging and digital tools, 18th- 23rd September 2023, funded by al-Furqān (London), Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Orientabteilung and Corpus Coranicum (BBAW). Preceding events cf. corpuscoranicum.de/en/about/events