Commemorating Bar ʿEbroyo (1226–1286)—a West Asian Polymath, 14-17 October 2026

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Department of History, European History of the Middle Ages

Freie Universität Berlin, Institute for Semitic Studies, Institute for Arabic Studies

Science, Theology and Literature

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Wednesday, 14 October 2026

13:30-14:00	Welcoming
Philosophy and Natural Philosophy	
14:00-14:40	**Hidemi Takahashi** (Tokio, Japan) The style and the audience of Bar ʻEbroyo's works
14:40-14:45	Changeover break
14:45-15:25	**Jens Ole Schmitt** (München) Barhebraeus on True Inference from a Cause (According to APo)
15:25-15:55	Coffee break
15:55-16:35	**Florian Jäckel** (Trier) Of Drops, Leeches, and Souls: Barhebraeus's Notions of the Unborn
16:35-16:40	Changeover break
16:40-17:20	**Giulia Secli** (Drest, Italy) Barhebraeus' Terminological Strategies in his Syriac Reworking of Avicenna's Kitāb al-Ishārāt (Ktābā d-Remzē, Chapters II.8–10)
17:20-17:25	Changeover break
17:25-18:05	**Yousef Khouriye** (Berlin) Die Verwendung der philosophischen Begriffe in der Theologie des Buches „Leuchtturm der Heiligen" bei Bar Hebräers
19:00	Dinner

Thursday, 15 October 2026

9:00-11:00	**The Visit of Staatsbibliothek – Department of Oriental Literature**
Theology, Grammar, Poetry and Mysticism	
11:30-12:10	**Bas ter haar Romeny** (Amsterdam, Netherlands) Bar ʿEbroyo's Interpretation of Genesis and Its Sources
12:10-12:15	Changeover break
12:15-12:55	**Hanna Hoogenraad** (Amsterdam, Netherlands) Bar ʿEbroyo's Interpretation of Romans 9–11 and its Place within the West Syriac Tradition
12:55-14:30	Lunch
14:30-15:10	**George Kiraz** (Piscataway (NJ), USA) Reflections on the Grammar of Bar Ebroyo
15:10-15:15	Changeover break
15:15-15:55	**Selva Can** (Berlin) Das "Buch der Strahlen" im praktischen Sprachunterricht
15:55-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-17:10	**Jean Fathi** (Aleppo, Syria) al-Warqāʾ fī ṭarīqat al-irtiqāʾ A newly discovered book by Barhebraeus representing his own Arabic translation of his Syriac Book of the Dove
17:10-17:15	Changeover break
17:15-17:55	**Hermann Teule** (Leuven, Belgium) Bar Ebroyo and his autobiography in the Book of the Dove
17:55 – 18:15	Concluding discussion
18:45	Dinner

Syriac Historiography in Interaction

Freie Universität Berlin

Friday, 16 October 2026

13:30-14:00	Welcoming
Medieval Syriac Historiography and Bar 'Ebroyo's Historiographical Legacy	
14:00-14:45	**Dorothea Weltecke** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) Medieval Syriac Historiography: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead
14:45-15:30	**Salam Rassi** (University of Edinburgh) Barʿ Ebroyo on the Bad Times: A Poem on the Mongol Conquests and its Literary and Historiographical Contexts
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
Syriac Historiography in Contact	
16:00-16:45	**Adrian Pirtea** (Austrian Academy of Sciences) The Place of the Maronite Chronicle of 713 in Syriac and Arabic Historical Writing
16:45-17:30	**Andy Hilkens** (University of Vienna) A Piece of Syro-Armenian Historiography: Michael I Rabo's Appendix on Armenian History
17:30-18:15	**Ute Pietruschka** (University of Goettingen) The Construction of a Christian Identity in Historiographical Works during the Coptic and Syriac Renaissance
18:30	Dinner

Saturday, 17 October 2026

West Meets East: Syriac Historiography across Traditions	
9:00-9:45	**Silvio Roggo** (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt) Reading John of Ephesus through the lens of Michael the Syrian
9:45-10:30	**Giovanni Gomiero** (University of Ghent) East Syrian Late Antique Hagiography and Historiography: The Works of Thomas of Marga (9th c.) in Context
10:30-11:15	**Julia Furman** (Freie Universität Berlin) East Syrian Historiography at the Dawn of Islam: Yohannan bar Penkaye and the Book of the Main Points
11:15-11:45	Coffee break
History in Fragments	
11:45-12:30	**Giorgia Nicosia** (University of Ghent) History as a Medium of Authorities: The Case of MS DS 28A as an Example of Multi-Genre Collection of Excerpts
12:30-13:15	**Jan van Ginkel** (University of Leiden) Fragments of Historiography in Syriac Manuscripts. What was their purpose? First Soundings on the Basis of an Analysis of Berlin Or. 167 (Sachau 315)
13:15-15:00	Closing Lunch and Informal Discussion