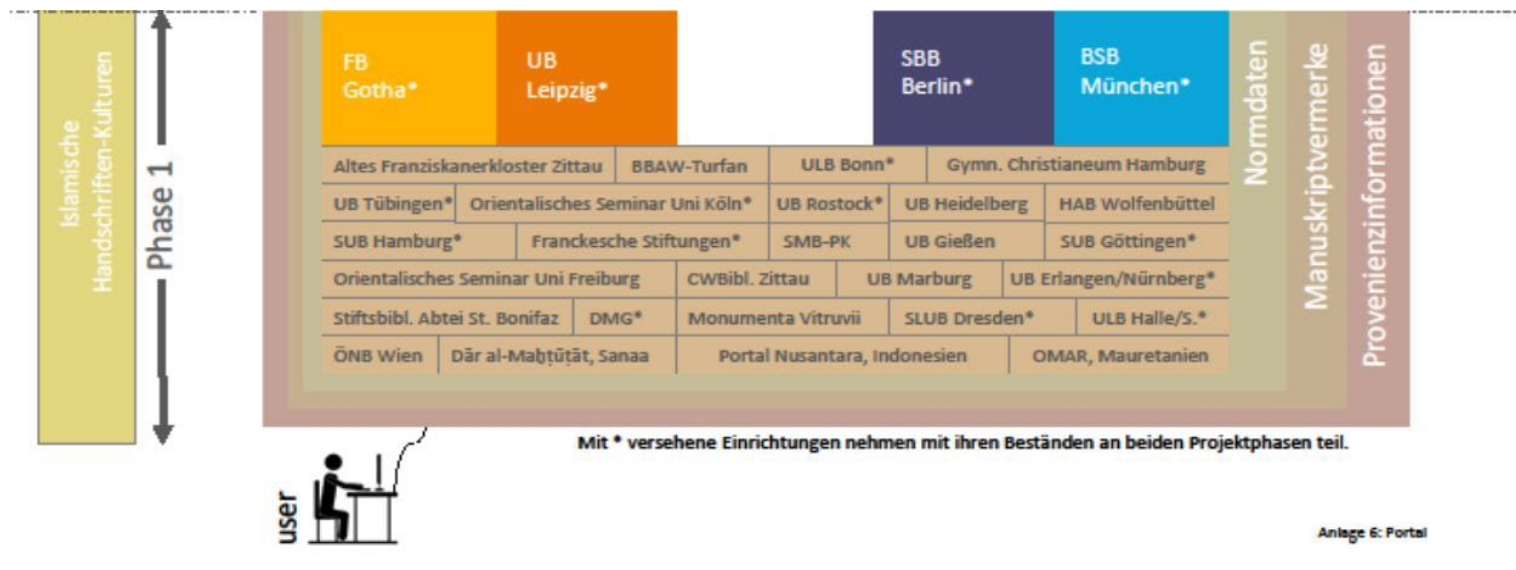


- I. Achievements of 1st project-phase (2020-2023)
- II. Objectives of 2nd project-phase (2023-2026)
- III. Future strategic development



- access to the metadata of manuscripts from more than **25 institutions**, mostly university libraries, but also museums and one private collection (retro-cataloguing, data import)
- about 1,800 work-data entries
- about 9,000 person data sets



full text DE | EN

customised search

Manuscripts

Qalamos provides direct access to metadata and digitised copies of Oriental manuscript collections in Germany. It comprises approximately 135,000 manuscript datasets from Asian and African script traditions containing descriptions of 120,000 physical objects written in more than 160 languages and 80 scripts. The mission of Qalamos is to provide the metadata and digitised copies of Oriental holdings of all German memory institutions. Moreover, it aims to enhance international cooperation: Qalamos currently already presents collections from Indonesia, Yemen, Mauritania and Austria.

- [Display all manuscripts](#)
- [Search in manuscripts](#)

Titles

In Qalamos, you can either search for a title directly or browse authority records for over 1,000 mainly Arabic, Persian and Ottoman Turkish works, which are partly linked to title records of the Integrated Authority File (GND) and [Library of Congress Authorities](#) . Each work dataset provides an overview of the exemplars of a work contained in Qalamos. Moreover, it indicates the relation of this work to commentaries, translations and other expressions, if these are also contained in Qalamos.

- [Display all titles](#)
- [Search in titles](#)

Persons

An important feature of Qalamos is authority control. The portal contains authority records of authors, copyists, owners and other individuals connected to a manuscript. These are partly based on data from the Integrated Authority File (GND) and the [Library of Congress Authorities](#) , and supplemented on the basis of the relevant reference works. De person datasets enable unambiguous identification of a person and the works and manuscripts linked to this person in the portal.

- [Display all persons](#)
- [Search in person](#)

3 central modules

- manuscript
- work (authority titles)
- agent (authority persons)

Project partners



UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG

BSB Bayerische
StaatsBibliothek
Information in erster Linie




funded by



- Works info
- Person data
- Content
- General info
- Access and usage

Tuḥfat al-aḥrār

Author  Jāmī, Nūr al-Dīn 'Abd al-Raḥmān ibn Aḥmad
Language Persian

▸ Works info

Work Title Tuḥfat al-aḥrār تحفة الأحرار

Alphabet Arabic

Language Persian

Work Relation is editing of  Haft aurang

Exemplars

- [\[DE-SBB\] Diez A oct. 25: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-SBB\] Diez A oct. 97 - 1: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-SBB\] Diez A oct. 169: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-SBB\] Hamilton 635: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-SBB\] Ms. or. fol. 28 - 5: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-SUBHam\] Cod. Orient. 201 - 2: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)
- [\[DE-TUEB\] Ma III b 51: Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)

Link to manuscripts has commentary [\[DE-FBG\] Ms. orient. P 80: Ṣerḥ-i Tuḥfat al-aḥrār](#)

Person data

Author

- ↳ Name  Jāmī, Nūr al-Dīn 'Abd al-Raḥmān ibn Aḥmad
- ↳ Data of life * 1414
† 1492

▸ Content

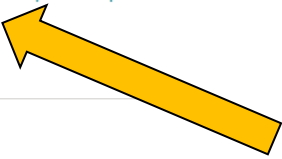
Content maṭnawī-Gedicht im Vermaß sarī, verfasst im Jahr 886/1481; es macht ein



Link to a related work



Links to the mss.
containing the same text



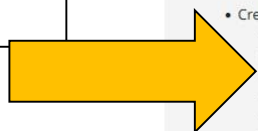
Link to related mss.



Links to related persons
(author, copyist etc.)

The screenshot shows the Qalamos website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'name authority' and a search icon. Below the search bar, the text 'customised search in persons' is visible. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a sidebar with navigation links under 'Topics and projects' and 'The portal'. The middle column lists search results for various locations: Freiburg, Gießen, Göttingen, Gotha, Halle, Hamburg, Heidelberg, Köln, Leipzig, Marburg, Munich, Rostock, Stützerbach, Tübingen, Wolfenbüttel, and Zittau. The right column lists search results for various institutions: Universitätsbibliothek, Universitätsbibliothek der Justus-Liebig-Universität, Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek, Forschungsbibliothek Gotha der Universität Erfurt, Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-Anhalt, Franckesche Stiftungen, Gymnasium Christianeum, Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Hamburg Carl von Ossietzky, Universitätsbibliothek, Universität Köln, Orientalisches Seminar, Universitätsbibliothek, Universitätsbibliothek, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Benediktinerabtei St. Bonifaz, Universitätsbibliothek Rostock, Stiftung Monumenta Vitruvii, Universitätsbibliothek der Eberhard Karls Universität, Herzog August Bibliothek, Christian-Weise-Bibliothek, and Städtische Museen. Below these, there are sections for Austria (Vienna), Indonesia (Project Nusantara), Mauritania (Project OMAR), and Yemen (Project Sanaa Quran).

Import
from GND and LoC
MARC-XML



- ## Authority Files
- Library of Congress Authorities (LoC)
 - Integrated Authority File (GND)
 - Virtual International Authority File (VIAF)



II. Objectives of the 2nd project-phase (2023-2026)

New language groups



Migration of KOHD database

The screenshot shows the website for the KOHD Digital database. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Start, Team, Dokumentation, Kontakt, Links, and English. The main heading reads "Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen" and "Katalogisierung der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland". Below this, the text describes the "Datenbank 'KOHD Digital'" as a project of the "Katalogisierung der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland (KOHD) der Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen". It lists various participating institutions, including the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Forschungsbibliothek Gotha, Herzogin Anna Amalia Bibliothek Weimar, Kunstpalast, Kunstmuseum Düsseldorf, Max-Freiherr-von-Oppenheim-Stiftung Köln, Museum für Asiatische Kunst - Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Hamburg, Thüringer Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Jena, Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, Universitäts- und Stadtbibliothek Köln, Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg, Universitätsbibliothek Tübingen, Wissenschaftliche Stadtbibliothek Mainz, and Württembergische Landesbibliothek Stuttgart. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a logo and a list of links: Handschriften, Normdaten, Hilfe zur Suche, and Merkliste. At the bottom, there are several small thumbnail images of manuscript pages.

International partners

Cooperations with the National- and University-Libraries in:

- Basel / Switzerland
- Helsinki / Finnland
- Leiden / Netherlands
- Prague / Czech Republic
- Oslo / Norway
- Vienna / Austria

Import of person-data corpora

Sie sind hier: Startseite / Projekte / Bibliotheca Arabica – Neue Geschichte der arabischen Literatur / Bibliotheca Arabica – Towards a New History of Arabic Literature

Bibliotheca Arabica – Towards a New History of Arabic Literature

- AKTUELLES
- AUSSCHREIBUNGEN
- DIE AKADEMIE
- MITGLIEDER
- MITARBEITER
- PROJEKTE**
- PLENUM
- PUBLIKATIONEN
- AKADEMIE DIGITAL
- FÖRDERVEREIN
- PRESSE
- MEDIATHEK
- IMPRESSUM
- DATENSCHUTZ

Bibliotheca Arabica is dedicated to research on Arabic literatures dating from the years 1150 to 1850 CE, and combines literary and manuscript studies. Within this defined period of investigation, Bibliotheca Arabica focusses on literary production, transmission, and reception, and sets these in relation to the political and social transformations that were taking place at that time. By reconstructing the transmission and distribution of manuscripts and the mobility of scholars, the transregional perspective will go beyond the famous centres of Arabic literary production—namely Egypt, Syria, and Anatolia—to regions as diverse and far-flung as the Indian subcontinent, sub-Saharan Africa, and Southern Europe. Although the project is dedicated to literatures in Arabic, it also takes into account the embeddedness of Arabic cultural production in the multilingual textual environments of the Islamicate world. Project Period: 2018 – 2035.

Macro: Production, Transmission, and Reception
Manuscript cabinet in a library, Damascus 19th century. © Max Freiherr von Oppenheim Foundation / House Archive Bankhaus Oppenheim, Cologne

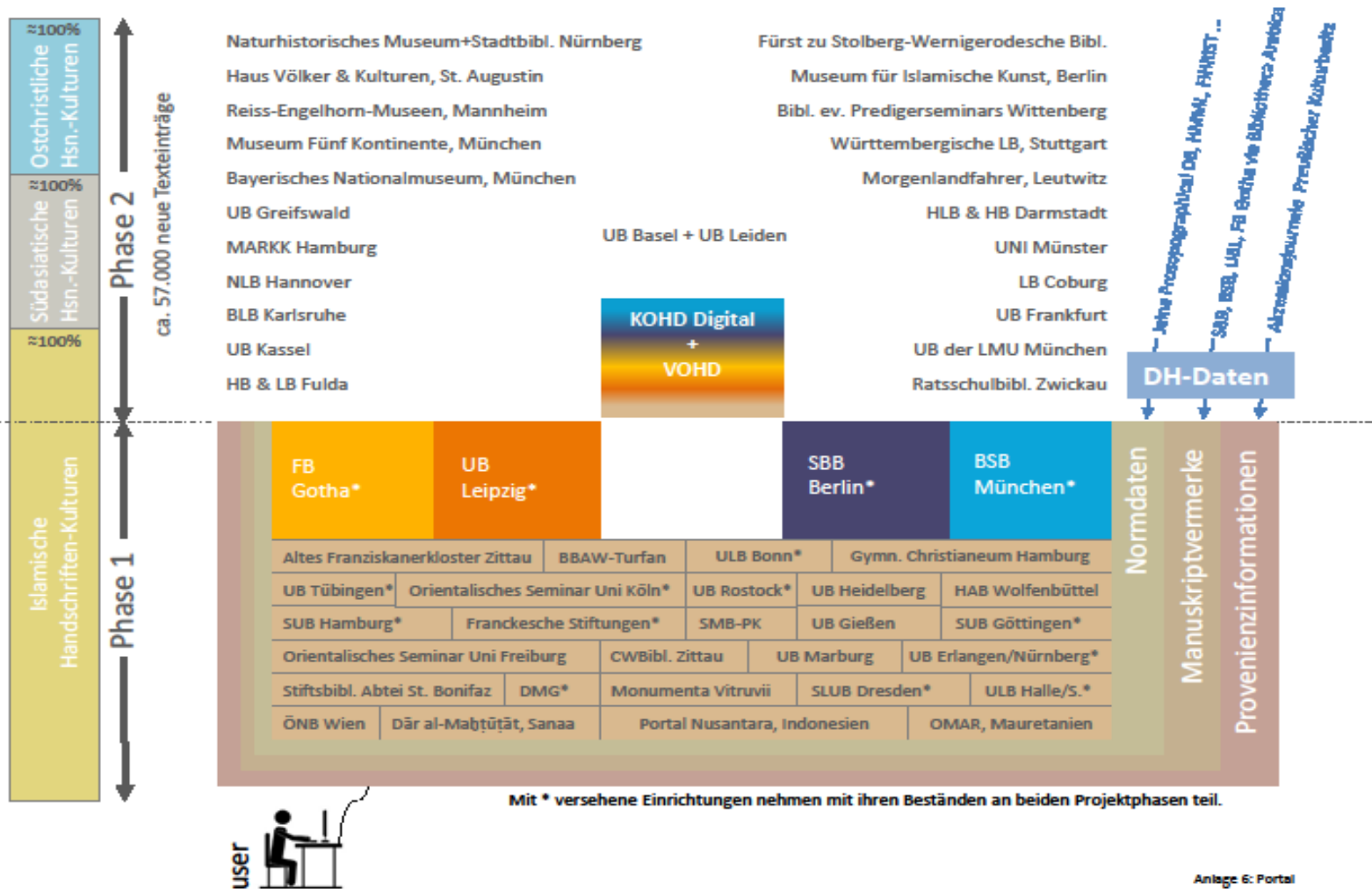
Micro: Reception and Collection
Platform: People, Books, and Notes
Team: About us
Activities & News
Publications

Khizana: Bibliotheca Arabica Digital Database
Manuscript cabinet in a library, Damascus 19th century. © Max Freiherr von Oppenheim Foundation / House Archive Bankhaus Oppenheim, Cologne

> Approach: Literary History and Manuscript Studies

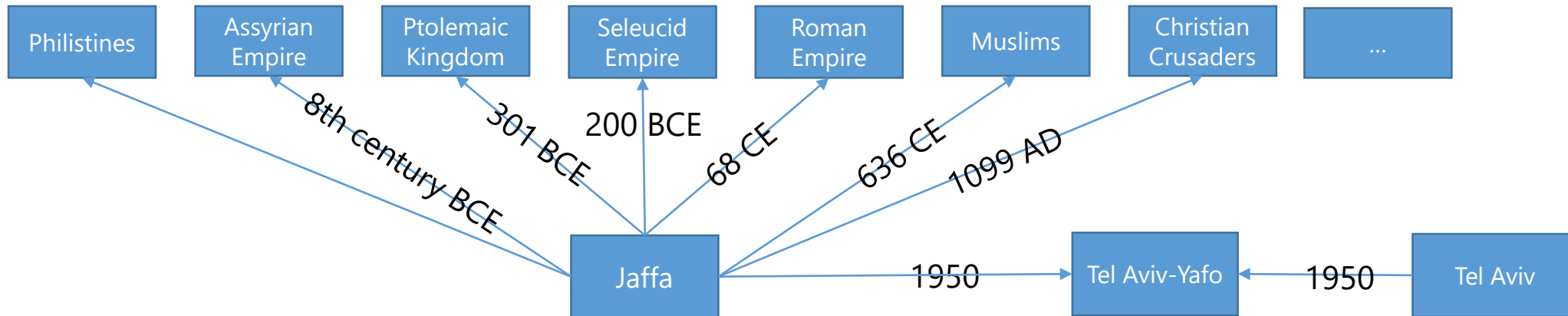
For a long time, the focus of scholarly research in Arabic literature has been guided by a narrative of steady cultural decline after the perceived Golden Age of the Abbasid era (750-1258 CE). Our project offers a counter to this narrative by turning our focus towards the manuscripts that were produced, collected, and read throughout this period of so-called decline, from 1150 to 1850. Until well into the 19th century, the Arabic literary tradition was mostly handwritten, rather than printed. Even though this manuscript heritage is one of the largest in the world, many texts are either unknown, or, if catalogued, have not yet been edited. In addition, the histories of Arabic literature have been based mainly on edited sources, concentrating oftentimes on a structured "canon" of chosen genres. By analysing actual manuscript production and use, the benefit is twofold.

- WEBSITE DURCHSUCHEN
- BIBLIOTHECA ARABICA: LATEST PUBLICATIONS**
- > Verena Klemm: "Hidden Literary History. Isma'ili Tradition in Syria"
 - > Boris Liebrecht: "Curious Readers: The Bodleian's Book of Curiosities as a Fatimid View of the World Through Ottoman Eyes"
 - > Boris Liebrecht: "Ibn Ḥazm's Ṭawq al-Ḥamām: The Neck-Ring of the Dove"
 - > Thomas Efer "Graph Technologies in the Humanities 2020"
 - > Stefanie Brinkmann: "From Iran to Kawkabān: The Transfer of Sunni Ḥadīth to Zaydī Yemen"
- BIBLIOTHECA ARABICA: NEWS**
- > 14 March 2023: Nadine Löhr ÖAW Webinar Lecture "Astronomy in the Ilkhanate"
 - > 18 January 2023: Daniel Kinitz teaches on Digital Philology



- more than 32.000 new manuscript datasets by retro-cataloguing
- 25.100 new manuscript datasets by migration

- Classification for geographica
- Spelling, names, affiliation changes over time -> dynamic representation necessary
- Hierarchies exist (countries, cities) -> flat layout not sufficient



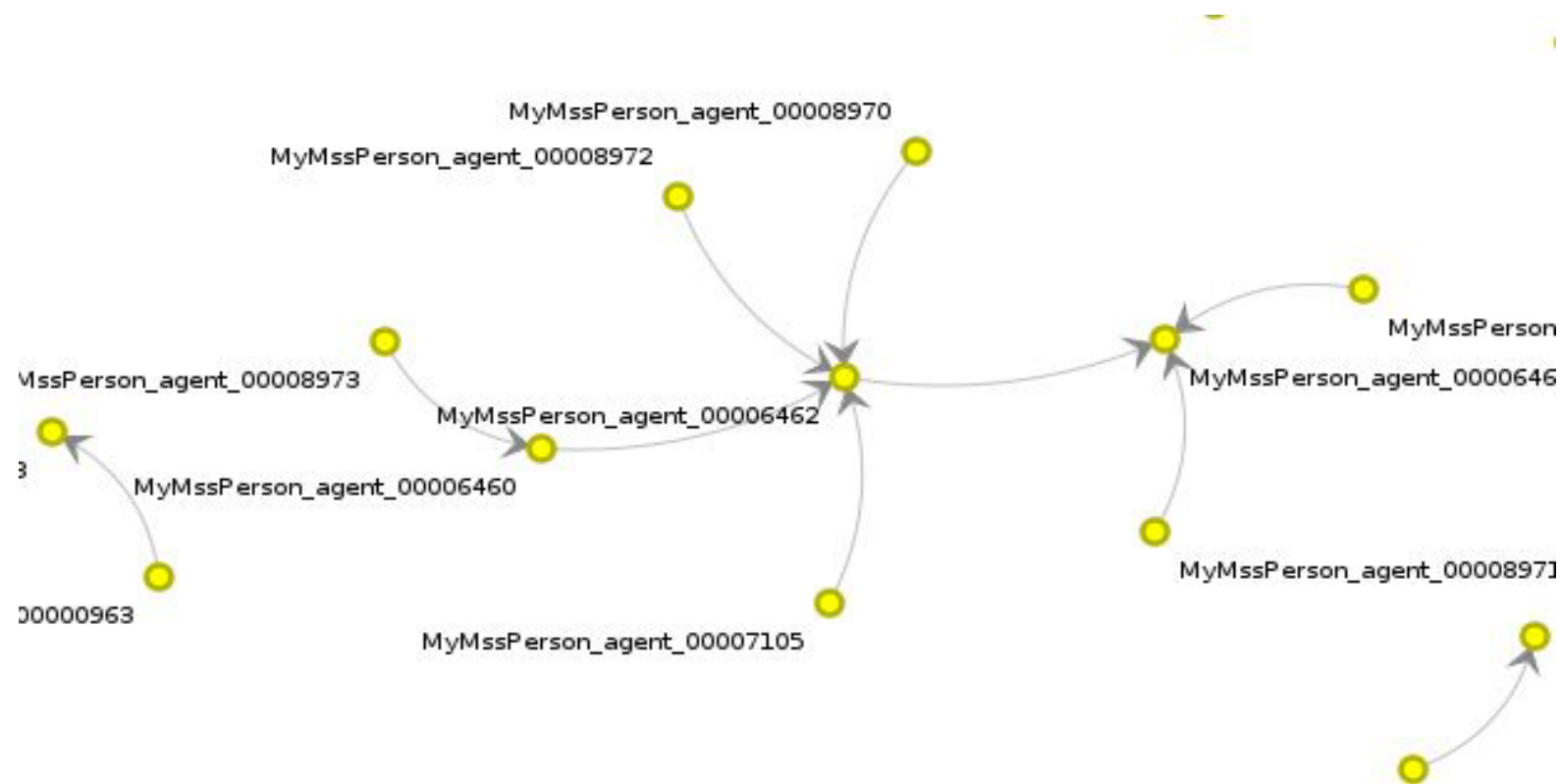
- SKOS: Simple Knowledge Organizing System: allows for defining complex classifications using consistent syntax and precise semantics; publish and reuse classifications
- Project goal: create a modular catalogue of historical places

- Common export formats: MARC/TEI for external information systems (K10plus)
- Export for semantic web/LOD: JSON
- More complex queries using GraphQL: identify links/relations between metadata objects
 - Who was listening to a manuscript read by the scholars of a specific teacher?



```
1 query {
2   agent(agent_id: "Teacher_ID") {
3     agent_id
4     agent_name
5     relations(relationType: "isTeacherOf"){
6       href {
7         agent_id
8         agent_name
9         relations(relationType: "hasRead") {
10          href{
11            manuscript_id
12            manuscript_name
13            relations(relationType: "hasListened") {
14              href {
15                agent_id
16                agent_name
17              }
18            }
19          }
20        }
21      }
22    }
23  }
24 }
```

- Visualized browsing
 - Persons relations: has parent



▪ **Metadata versioning**

- Continuous improvement of metadata quality
- versioning allows for exact representation of the state of knowledge at a specific time
- Persistent identifiers for a specific version (ID?rev=1)
- Based on Oxford Common File Layout (OCFL)

▪ **Automated integrity checks**

- Currently: check for dead internal and external links
- Planned
 - Check title (e.g. [Sammelhandschrift] [collective manuscript])
 - Check metadata completeness



III. Further strategic development (2023-2026)

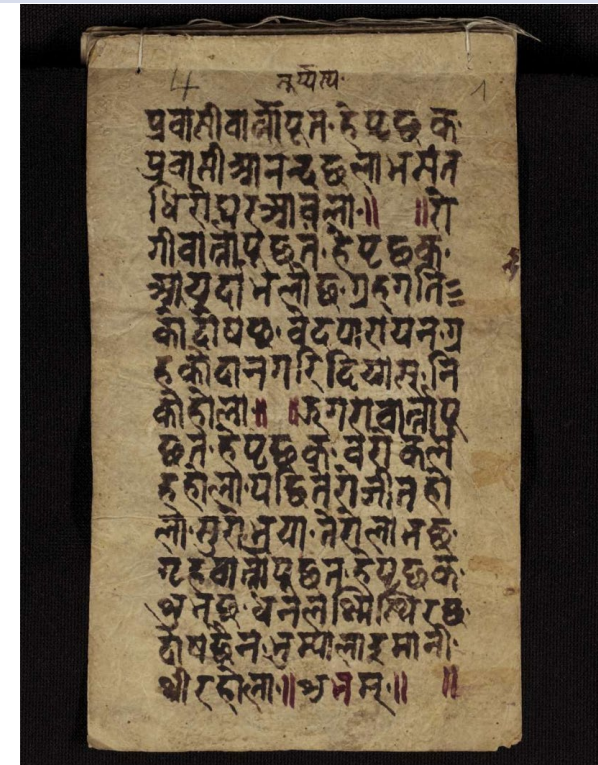
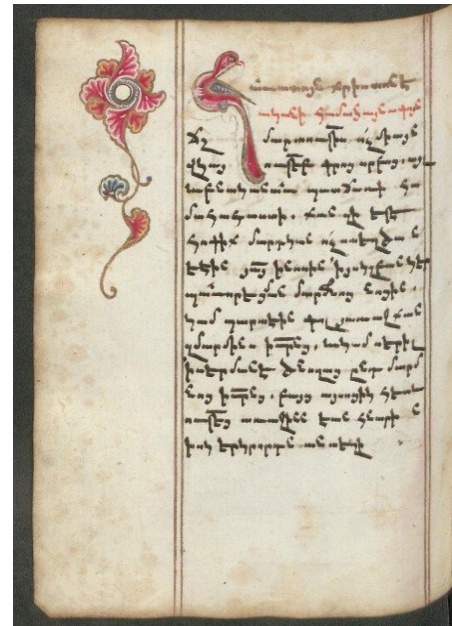
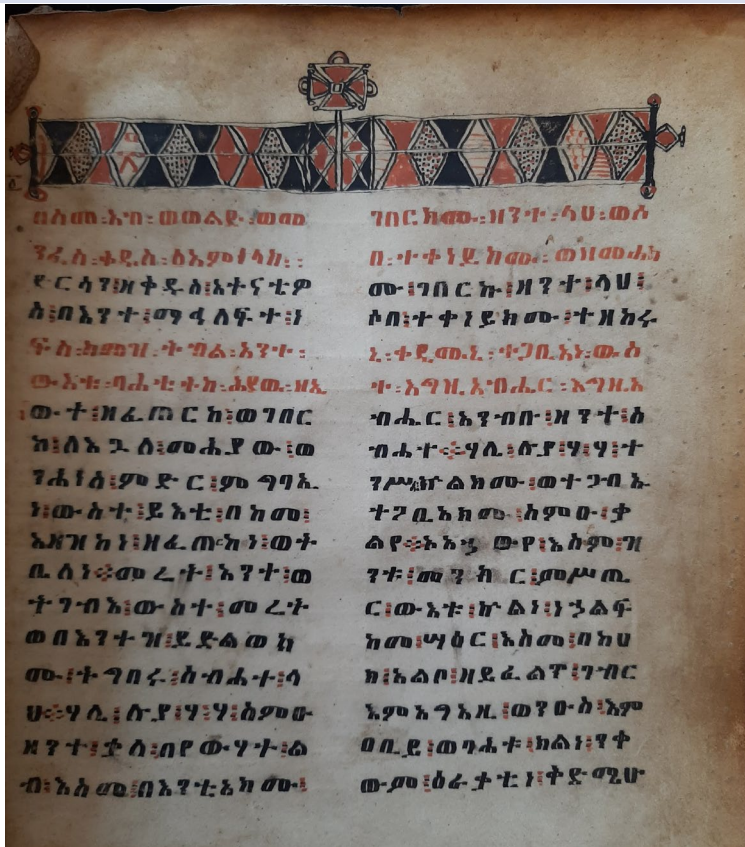
- **Currently:** large manual effort for importing a new collection

- **Qalamos II:** use ETL (extract, transform, load) approach to automatise as many steps as possible:
 - Provide mapping between input and output metadata fields
 - Provide mapping between classification categories
 - Tool generates mapping software

- **Prerequisites**
 - Precise formulation of import steps
 - ETL process engine for guiding users
 - Additional information in our data models (content types, maximum lengths, relation to authorities etc.)
 - Standardised data sharing contract

- **After the end of Qalamos II (2023-26)**
 - Organisational: metadata updates after project end
 - Technical: Qalamos portal after project end
 - Inventory books
- **More modules for more meta data**
 - Adaptation of modules for book-art and manuscript notes
 - Creation of a module for seals and eventually also for book bindings
- **Close cooperation with „Handschriftenportal“** (<https://handschriftenportal.de/>)
 - Transfer of detailed descriptions and digitized copies

Thank you
for you
attention!



If your institution is interested in a cooperation,
please feel free to contact us:
qalamos@sbb.spk-berlin.de