

Quote: “Sources are Indispensable!”

“The importance of accessing the original Manuscript of Alqosh 169 [*olim.* Baghdad 509] for a better understanding to the text of *Synodicon Orientale*, in the light of the forthcoming critical edition of: *Corpus Christianorum—Conciliorum Oecumenicorum Generaliumque Decreta V.2*”

Outlines:

- I. Introduction (10 mins.)
 - a. What is Syriac?
 - b. Importance of Syriac Synods?
 - c. *Synodicon Orientale*

- II. *Synodicon Orientale* / Characteristics of the MS Alqosh 169 Baghdad 509 (45 mins.)
 - a. Texts (Content)
 - i. Chabot / Vosté / Haddad
 - ii. Excel file

 - b. Codicology
 - i. Binding
 - ii. Dimensions
 - iii. Damages (1- old holes, 2- recent bad binding, 3- black ink spots)

 - c. Paleography
 - i. Scribal habits
 - ii. Repetition
 - iii. Scribal errors

- III. COGD 5.2 Critical Edition (45 mins.)
 - a. Short history of the work
 - b. Getting the other MSS in addition to MS Alqosh
 - c. Birnie English translation
 - d. Constructing Stemma
 - e. Creating the textual corpus:
 - i. Manual transcription from Chabot’s edition
 - ii. Digital OCR / Mar Aba letters
 - iii. Simtha e-corpus / letter of Timothy II
 - f. The Edition of COGD 5.2
 - i. Content
 - ii. Ground-breaking outcome (Mar Aba letters)
 - iii. New Synods (from Timothy until the end)

(5 mins. break)

- g. Some Helpful Hints
 - i. Sources are Indispensable!
 1. MSS even late copies
 2. Old copies (B/W photocopy of Alqosh MS)
 3. Previous editions (Chabot, Braun...)
 4. Online corpora (Simtho, Syri.ac...)
 5. Other ongoing projects (Kaufhold's *Turas Dine*)

 - ii. Consultations / Communication
 1. With General Editor
 2. With scholars (in addition to contributors of COGD)
 3. With colleagues (COGD, Syriac studies)

 - iii. Organize your files properly
 1. Metrical names for the files
 2. Backup the files after each major step
 3. Make sure to name the files according to each change

 - iv. Record your steps
 1. Take several notes (work diary)
 2. Screenshots whenever it is possible
 3. Emails: check previous discussions

 - v. Beware of losing your work!
 1. Save your CTE file frequently
 2. Try not to open many files at the same time
 3. Print out and even pdf make another visual reality

 - vi. Train your CTE
 1. Syriac in CTE and Mac (some conflicts)
 2. Build your model/template according a previous file
 3. Tricks in CTE Apparatus and how to print

 - vii. Bibliography
 1. Make a file for all the bibliography
 2. Not every bibliography online is correct (check the books)!
 3. Consistency of Names, places, dates, titles...

 - viii. Pottering a complete pdf draft
 1. Separate files for: Introductions, Text of the edition, Translation
 2. Each complete draft with unite header/footer (date and name)
 3. Patience with many different comments!

Discussion and questions