



جائزة الشيخ زايد للكتاب
Sheikh Zayed Book Award
الذكرى المئوية | 20th Anniversary



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Università
Ca' Foscari
Venezia



The Sheikh Zayed Book Award at the Department of Culture and Tourism of Abu Dhabi and the Abu Dhabi Arabic Language Centre, in collaboration with Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, and Università di Napoli L'Orientale, presents:

**THE SHEIKH ZAYED BOOK AWARD ITALIAN TOUR
IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

Authenticity, Authority, and Mediation: From Classical Translation to Contemporary Literary Cultures and Digital Humanisms

**Bologna-Venice-Naples
11-15 May 2026**



Conference website

Thursday 14 May

Università di Napoli L'Orientale

CULTURAL MEMORY, TRANSLATION, AND THE ETHICS OF TRANSMISSION

Palazzo Du Mesnil

10.00 – 10.30 INSTITUTIONAL WELCOME

Roberto Tottoli, Rector, Università di Napoli L'Orientale

Roberta Giunta, Head of Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies

Alfredo Guardiano, Fondazione Premio Napoli

10.30–13.00 PANEL: Translation, Circulation, and the Ethics of Literary Value

10.30–11.15 **H. E. Ali Bin Tamim**, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Arabic Language Centre and Secretary-General of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award
Two Decades of Excellence: Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award

11.15–11.45 COFFEE AND TEA BREAK

11.45–12.15 **Muhsin J. al-Musawi**, Columbia University, SZBA laureate
The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters

12.15–12.45 **Bilal Orfali**, American University in Beirut, SZBA chair
Mediating Arabic Texts: Anthologists, Philologists, and Editors

Moderators: **Monica Ruocco** and **Oriana Capezio**, Università di Napoli L'Orientale

13.00–14.00 LUNCH

14.00–14.45 KEYNOTE LECTURE

Chokri al-Saadi, University of Tunis, SZBA laureate
Translation as Domestication

Discussant: **Maria Avino**, Università di Napoli L'Orientale

15.00–15.45 KEYNOTE LECTURE

Marco Di Branco, Sapienza Università di Roma, SZBA laureate
Greek and Roman History in the Arabic Historical Sources

Discussant: **Roberta Denaro**, Università di Napoli L'Orientale

16.00–16.45 BOOK PRESENTATION

Reem Bassiouney, American University in Cairo, SZBA laureate
Al-Halwani: The Fatimid Trilogy. Drawing on History, Culture, and Food to Forge a Historical Identity

Moderator: **Monica Ruocco**, Università di Napoli L'Orientale

17.00–18.00 Musical Performance by **Marzouk Mejri** (Oud and Vocals)