Otherness in medieval society could be defined in many ways, typically by outward signs of difference. In a society where animals were polysemous and good to think with, it is unsurprising to find them regularly deployed in constructions of otherness. This meeting of the Medieval Animal Data Network (MAD) aims to bring together scholars from a range of disciplines to consider the diverse use of animals in constructions of otherness. It encompasses not only conceptualised difference, but also physical societal differences expressed in the varied treatment of real and imagined animals. The meeting also encompasses the use of animals to emphasise contrast more broadly, such as the juxtaposition between good and evil, or positive and negative features.

Conference organised by:
Departamento de Historia del Arte I (Medieval), Complutense University of Madrid
In collaboration with
The Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University of Budapest, Hungary
Department of Archaeology, University of Reading, United Kingdom


Comité organizador: Mª Victoria Chico Picaza, Mónica Ann Walker, Francisco de Asís
February 7th, 2011

9:30- Registration.
9:45- Opening remarks

**Animals between reality and the imaginary**
10:00- Dr. Thierry Buquet (Institut Français du Proche-Orient, Damascus, Syria): “Animalia extranea ad stupenda videndum. Describing exotic beasts in the Middle Ages”
10:30- Dr. Xenia Muratova (Professeur émérite des Universités, Paris, France): “The naked man and the animal’s fur : Two marvels of Creation in front of each other”
11:00- Dr. Laura Fenelli (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Italy – Max Planck Institut): “From the Vita Pauli to the Legenda breviarior: real and imaginary animals as a guide to the hermit in the desert”
11:30- Break

**Of Dogs and Serpents**
12:00- Mr. Marco Iuffrida (Università di Bologna, Italy): “Dog and Human relationship between solidarity and Otherness in the Leges Barbarorum”
12:30- Ms. Svetlana Tsonkova (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary): “Pernicious and Poisonous Snake: The Malicious and Dangerous Other in Medieval Bulgarian Charms”
13:00- Dr. Gerhard Jaritz (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary): “Draconopedes, or a Virgin’s Face”
13:30-16:00- Lunch break

**Animals in Zooarchaeology**
16:00- Dr. Angel Fuentes and Dr. Alexandra Uscatescu (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain): “On men and animals: Boundaries between human and non-human spaces in the Middle Ages”
16:30- Dr. Aleks Pluskowski (University of Reading, England): “The Dragon’s Skull: How can Zooarchaeologist Contribute to Our Understanding of Otherness in the Middle Ages?”
17:00- Dr. Alice Choyke and Mr. László Bartosiewicz (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary): “Ottoman Camels: The Exotic Intruders”
17:30- Dr. László Daróczy-Szabó and Dr. Mártá Daróczy-Szabó (Budapest History Museum, Hungary): “Horse meat ban - reality or misinterpretation?”
18:00- Closing remarks

February 8th, 2011

**Animals and their relation with religious, philosophical, and moral concepts**
10:00- Mr. David González Ginocchio (Universidad de Navarra, Spain): “Remarks on Avicenna’s Philosophy of the Animal Soul”
10:30- Dr. César García Álvarez (Universidad de León, Spain): “A labyrinthine symbolic bestiary: vices and virtues in the apses’ spandrels of Leon Cathedral”
11:00- Ms. Teresa Camacho de Abes (Islamic Studies, Claremont Graduate University, U.S.A.): “Animals as paradigms for the known and unknown”
11:30- Break

**Animals in the arts and the cultures of the Near East**
12:00- Dr. Hatice Demir (Kastamonu Üniversitesi Kastamonu Meslek Yüksekokulu / Kuzyeykent, Turkey): “An Iconographical Study: The Animals as Ornamentation in Medieval Anatolian Turkish Arquitecure”
12:30- Dr. Yehoshua Frenckel (University of Haifa, Israel): “Animals and Otherness in Mamluk Egypt and Syria”
13:00- Dr. Laura Rodríguez Peinado (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain): “Representing the Hare in Coptic Textiles of the Nile Valley”
13:30-16:00—Lunch break

**Animals and the image of power**
16:30- Dr. Olga Vassilieva-Codognet (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France): “Ambiguous Figures of Otherness: Princely Badges of Predatory Animals in the Late Middle Ages”
17:00- Ms. Marisa Costa (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal): “Unexpected Animals in an Unexpected Place? Representing the Otherness in a Portuguese Medieval Tomb”
17:30- Dr. Anna Sharibzhanova (V.N. Karazin Kharkov National University, Ukraine): “Symbolisms of Ottoman Sultan’s authority: fantastic animal images on yatagan Suleiman the Magnificent (1526-1527, master Ahmed Tekelü -or Beckli-, museum Topkapi, Istanbul)”
18:00- Closing remarks