

**Call for papers:  
Romano-Arabica XIX**

***Curses and profanity in the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa***

All people curse. This is a valid assumption for any period and any location on Earth. Curses have been varying in meaning from maledictions and oaths to offensive language and insults. Curses have evolved together with languages throughout history, but they have essentially kept their status as simple wishes or solicitations towards a deity to do harm to someone, while giving benefits to the solicitor.

With the passing of time, such curses generated profanity, foul or blasphemous language. Socio-linguistic studies on this topic are rather scarce and this new issue of *Romano-Arabica* invites scholars who wish to discuss about curses and profanity in the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa.

**Abstract submission**

If you wish to submit an abstract, keep in mind that it must be **no longer than 200 words**, it must contain **at least five keywords**, as well as some short bibliographical information. Please also send with the Abstract a brief presentation about yourself.

Abstracts must be sent to the e-mail address of the Center for Arab Studies, University of Bucharest: [csa.unibuc@gmail.com](mailto:csa.unibuc@gmail.com).

The accepted papers will be published in the *Romano-Arabica* Journal, XIX/2019.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding the volume, kindly send them by e-mail to the editors-in-chief, Prof. Dr. habil. George Grigore (University of Bucharest, e-mail: [gmgigore@yahoo.com](mailto:gmgigore@yahoo.com)) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Laura Sitaru (University of Bucharest, e-mail: [laura.sitaru@lils.unibuc.ro](mailto:laura.sitaru@lils.unibuc.ro)).

**Important dates**

Submission of abstracts	March 30, 2018
Notification on the acceptance or rejection of the proposal	April 30, 2018
Submission of full papers	October 31, 2018
Expected date of publishing the <i>Romano-Arabica</i> Journal, XIX/2019	January-February 2019

**Topics**

This current issue of our Journal is open to all topics relevant to the study of curses, blasphemies and profanity in any of the languages and cultures of the Middle East and North Africa, especially in *ʿAmmiyya* Arabic and *Fuṣḥā* Arabic. Here are some suggested topics:

- Ethnolinguistic studies of curses and profanity;
- Sociolinguistic studies of curses and profanity;
- *Gros mots*: euphemisms and metaphors;
- Etymological studies of curse phrases and expressions;
- Diachronic and synchronic semantic studies of curse and profanity.

**Languages accepted for the papers:** Arabic, English, French, German, Spanish.

**For more information about Romano-Arabica, visit the following websites:**

[http://araba.lils.unibuc.ro/?page\\_id=2791](http://araba.lils.unibuc.ro/?page_id=2791)  
<http://unibuc.academia.edu/RomanoArabicaJournal>