

RELS 222

Introduction to Hadith Studies

conquest period ~ 632-661

Umayyads (661) and Abbasid revolution (750)

hadith studies is a science, begun by ulema who recognized fabrication and conflicting content
development of text collections is result of this scholarship but also development of their own authority
and internal struggles over methodology and vision of tradition
their criticism was essentially continued by orientalist scholars

authority is constructed--how, when, by whom?

al-Bukhari d. 870, from Bukhara

Muslim b. Hajjaj d. 875, from Nishapur

traditional account suggests science existed from beginning

gradualist model claims hadith was systematized beginning in late 600s but not entirely till 700s

up for question: notion of sunna only applied to Prophet, existence of isnads

all of these were once contested and worked out through scholarly interchange

resistance of Iraqi scholars to closed canon

what a biographical dictionary (ilm al-rijal) entry looks like: Reinhart p 414

common-link analysis, begun by Schacht and continued by Juynboll

based on surprising data--most hadith are ahad and not mutawatir

how a common-link analysis works--Reinhart p 418-419, 421