LOOP
Late Ottoman Palestinians

Modelling social and cultural dynamics
on the eve of the modern Middle East
1880–1920

HTR Ottoman Hackathon
Developing Handwritten Text Recognition Tools for the Analysis of Late Ottoman Population Register

International workshop of the research project "Late Ottoman Palestinians: Social and Cultural Dynamics in an Eastern Mediterranean Society during the Age of Empire, 1880-1920 (LOOP)"
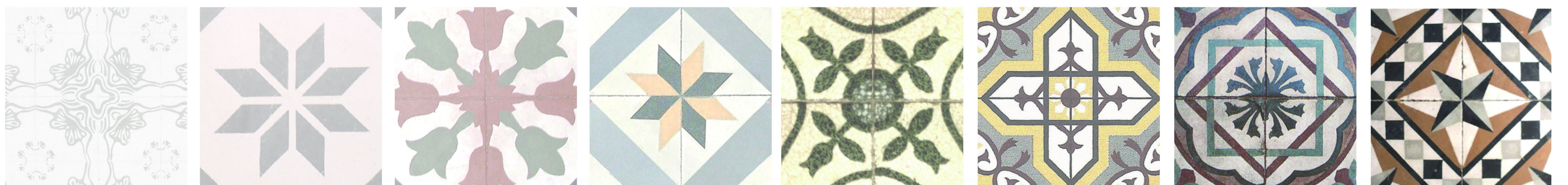
Objectives
The workshop is designed to advance the ongoing efforts and to set the course for further collaboration. The aim is to develop a holistic concept for the semi-automatic extraction of data that can be used as a standard in Ottoman history.

8-12 September 2024
Venue: Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies,
seminar room West, GB 02/131
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Contact: islamwissenschaft@ruhr-uni-bochum.de

European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

RUHR UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

RUB

Modelling social and cultural dynamics
on the eve of the modern Middle East
1880–1920

Late Ottoman Palestinians

Background

The ERC-funded research project LOOP examines society and culture in the region of Palestine at the turn of the 20th century as a particularly diverse and dynamic part of the eastern Mediterranean on the eve of the emergence of the modern Middle East. The main source of the project is about 1,000 Ottoman census registers covering the area of what later became Mandate Palestine and containing information on about 500,000 people.

The aim to extract large amounts of data from the available Ottoman population registers is one of the main challenges of the project. The LOOP team has therefore joined forces with the Digital Humanities Center at Ruhr-Universität and with Eliyahu Laboratory (eLijah-Lab), the digital humanities laboratory in the Department of Israeli History at the University of Haifa. Recently, the ISF-funded research project "The Jewish Colonies in Late Ottoman Palestine through the Prism of the 1905 Imperial Census" by Yuval Ben-Bassat of the University of Haifa joined these efforts.

Participants:

Nadia Ammuna, eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa (online participation)
Eliezer Baumgarten, Department of Jewish History & eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa
Yuval Ben-Bassat, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Haifa
Olaf Berg, Digital Humanities Center & Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Liat Bonen, eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa
Johann Büssow, Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Sarah Büssow, Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Hülya Çelik, Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
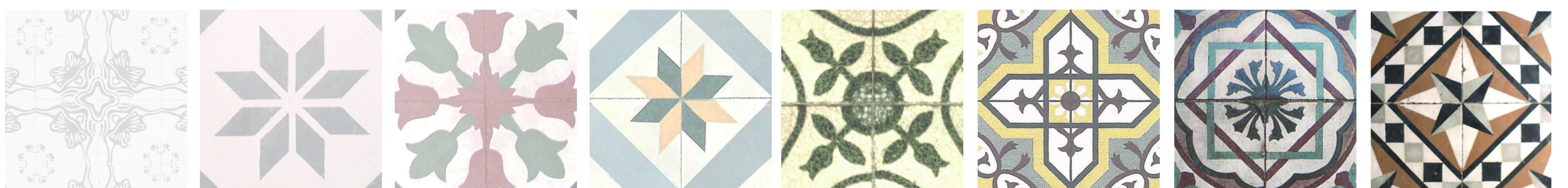**Adi Cholev,** eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa (online participation)
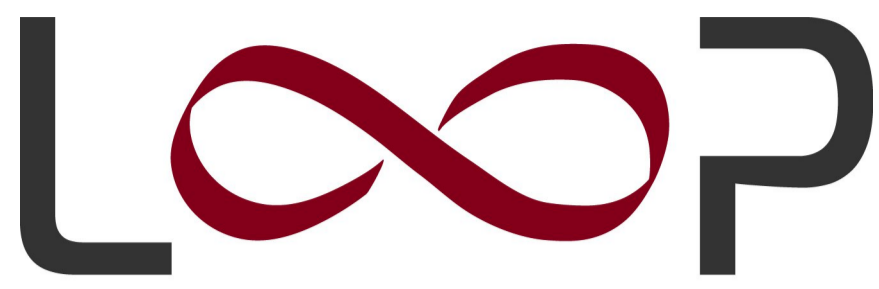**Moshe Lavee**, Department of Israeli History & eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa
Hadar Miller, eLijah-Lab, University of Haifa
Enes Niziplioğlu, Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Nils Riecken, Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Student assistants: **Franzis Hessling, Annika Jung, Marco Jusman, Katharina Krause**

European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

RUHR
UNIVERSITÄT
BOCHUM

RUB

Modelling social and cultural dynamics
on the eve of the modern Middle East
1880–1920

Schedule

Sunday, 8 September

5 pm: Opening in the lobby of the Mercure Hotel

6 pm: Welcome-Dinner at restaurant Yamas

Monday, 9 September

9 - 9.45 am: Johann Büssow & Olaf Berg: Research questions and methodology of the research project LOOP.

9.45- 10.15 am: Yuval Ben-Bassat: Research questions and methodology of the research project "The Jewish Colonies in Late Ottoman Palestine through the Prism of the 1905 Imperial Census".

Coffee break

10.30 - 11 am: Moshe Lavee & Liat Bonen: Response.

11 - 12 am: Discussion: Dividing tasks, forming work groups

12.15 am: Lunch at Mensa Rote Beete

1.30 - 5 pm: Hackathon (work groups)

5 pm: Plenary session; Summary of day 1

Tuesday, 10 September

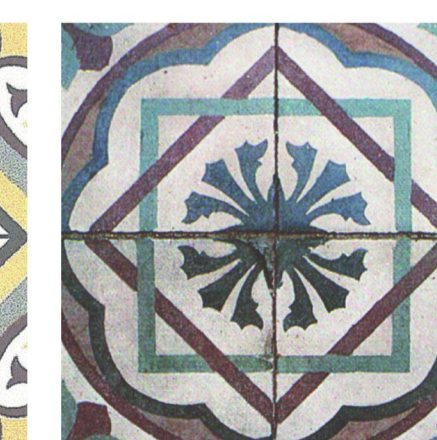9 - 12 am: Hackathon (work groups)

12.15 am: Lunch at Mensa Q West

1.30 - 5 pm: Hackathon (work groups)

5 pm: Plenary session: Summary of day 2

Wednesday, 11 September

9 - 11.45 am Hackathon (work groups)

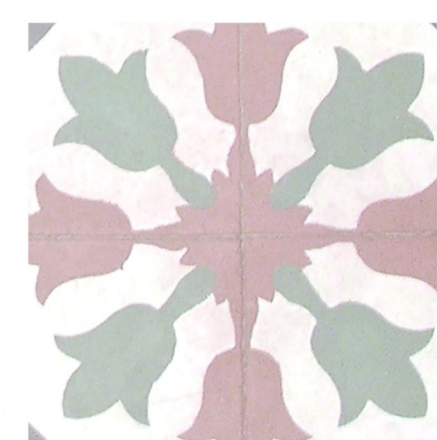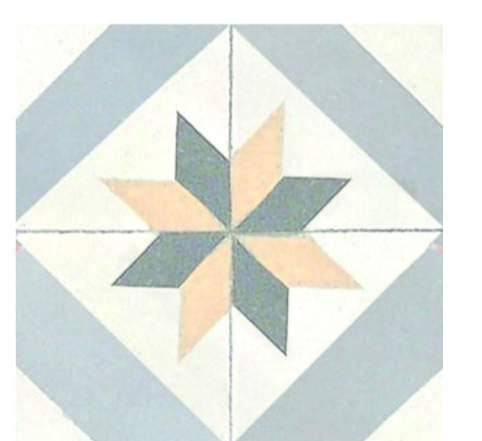*11.45 am: Walk through the Botanical Garden, 12.30 am lunch at restaurant Beckmanns Hof*
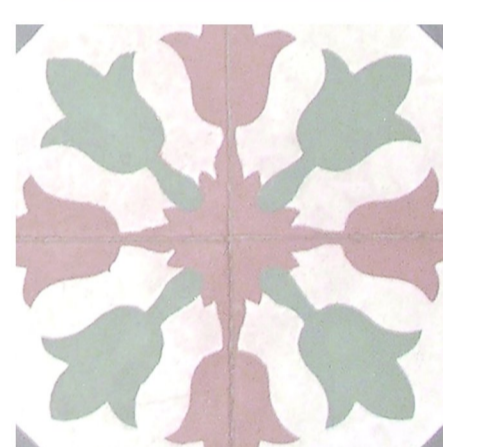
2 - 5 pm: Hackathon (work groups)

5 pm: Plenary session: Summary of day 3

Thursday, 12 September

9 - 12 am: Final discussion

12.15 am: Farewell Lunch at Mensa Rote Beete

European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

RUHR UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

RUB