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Exploring the life of amulets in Palestine: from healing and protective remedies to the Tawfik Canaan Collection of Palestinian Amulets

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Curriculum vitae

Marcela A. Garcia Probert was born in Mexico City on 17 June 1981. She studied Arts at Universidad del Claustro de Sor Juana and obtained her BA in 2005. From 2007 to 2008 she carried out a specialisation in History and Theories in the Study of Religion at the Institute of Philological Research of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. In 2010 she obtained her MA degree in Middle East Studies from El Colegio de México. Her MA thesis is a study of the terms used in the Quran that refer to the sacredness of the Kaaba and adjacent sites prescribed to be visited during the ḥajj. After her studies in Mexico, she traveled to Egypt to deepen her knowledge of Classical Arabic and to learn Egyptian Dialect (2009-2011, and in 2012). She taught BA courses on the History of Islam and the Middle East in International Relations in the National Autonomous University of Mexico, the Hellenic Cultural Center of Mexico and Casa Lamm. In 2014 she moved to the Netherlands to study a PhD under the supervision of Dr. Petra Sijpesteijn (Leiden University) and Dr. Salim Tamari (Birzeit University /Institute for Palestine Studies). During her time in Leiden, Marcela attended and participated in many seminars, workshops and conferences in the Netherlands. She became a member of NISIS and participated in the 2015 Spring School in Rabat and in 2016 in Istanbul. In 2016 she co-organised the international conference: Amulets and Talismans in the Muslim World in Leiden. For her doctoral research, Marcela carried out extensive fieldwork in Palestine. Since 2019 she teaches the BA course Anthropology of Islam with Dr. Cristiana Strava.