Fedor Benevich

Curriculum Vitae

Education

<u>2007-2011</u> BA in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, St Petersburg State University

<u>2011-2013</u> MA in Islamic Studies, Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen

<u>2013-2016</u> PhD in Philosophy (major) and Islamic Studies (minor), Ludwig-Maximilans-Universität München, thesis title: „Essentialität und Notwendigkeit: Avicenna und die Aristotelische Tradition" (*Essentiality and Necessity: Avicenna and The Aristotelian Tradition*).

Academic Career

<u>April 2016 – July 2020</u> Research assistant at the Department of Late Antique and Arabic Philosophy (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München) as participant of the project "The Heirs of Avicenna: Philosophy in the Islamic East from the 12th to the 13th Century", under the supervision of Prof Peter Adamson (funded by the German Research Council).

<u>Since August 2020</u> – Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh

Books

Fedor Benevich. *Essentialität und Notwendigkeit: Avicenna und die Aristotelische Tradition*. *Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Science* 107. Brill: Leiden-Boston 2018.

Peter Adamson and Fedor Benevich. *The Heirs of Avicenna: Philosophy in the Islamic East from the 12th to the 13th Century: Metaphysics and Theology*. Brill 2023.

Edited Volumes

Fedor Benevich and Hamid Taieb (eds.). *Mental Being and Intentionality*. In: *On What There Was*, *Conceptions of Being 500-1650*, Brepols, *in progress*.

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

1. „'Wenn sie sagen…, dann sagen wir…'": Die Ursprünge des Dialektischen Verfahrens des *Kalām*." *Le Museon* 128, 1 (2015): 181-202.

2. „'Die „göttliche Existenz': Zum ontologischen Status der *Essenz qua Essenz* bei Avicenna." *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale* 26 (2015): 103-28.

3. "The Classical Ashʿarite Theory of *Aḥwāl*: Juwaynī and His Opponents." *Journal of Islamic Studies* 27:2 (2016): 136-75.

4. "Fire and Heat: Yaḥyā b. ʿAdī and Avicenna on the Essentiality of Being Substance" *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* 27:2 (2017): 237-68.

5. "The Essence-Existence Distinction: Four Elements of the Post-Avicennian Metaphysical Dispute (11-13th centuries)." *Oriens* 45:2 (2017): 1-52.

6. "The Reality of the Non-Existent Object of Thought: The Possible, The Impossible, and Mental Existence in Islamic Philosophy (11-13th c.)." *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy* (2018): 31-61.

7. Peter Adamson and Fedor Benevich. „The Thought Experimental Method: Avicenna's Flying Man Argument." *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 4:2 (2018): 147–164.

8. "God's Knowledge of Particulars: Avicenna, Kalām, and The Post-Avicennian Synthesis." *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 76:1 (2019): 1–47.

9. "The Priority of Natures and The Identity of Indiscernibles: Alexander of Aphrodisias, Yaḥyā b. ʿAdī and Avicenna on Genus as Matter." *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 57:2 (2019): 205–33.

10. „Individuation and Identity in Islamic Philosophy after Avicenna: Bahmanyār and Suhrawardī." *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 28 (2019): 4–28.

11. "Perceiving Things in Themselves: Abū l-Barakāt al-Baġdādī's Critique of Representationalism." *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* (2020): 229–64

12. "Representational Beings: Suhrawardī (d. 1191) and Avicenna's Mental Existence." *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 87 :2 (2020) : 289–317

13. "Bar Hebraeus on Evil: Christian Philosophy between Arabic Neoplatonism and Islamic Theology", *The Journal of Eastern Christian Studies* 73:3-4 (2021): 191–218.

14. "Meaning and Definition: Skepticism and Semantics in Twelfth-Century Arabic Philosophy." *Theoria* 88:1 (2022): 72–108.

15. "Avicennian Essentialism," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 30:3 (2022): 410–433.

16. "Knowledge as a Mental State in the Muʿtazilite Kalām." *Oriens* 50.3-4 (2022), 244–79.

17. "First-Person and Third-Person Views in Arabic Philosophy of Mind." *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 90.1 (2023): 1–46.

18. "Non-Reductionist Theories of Sense-Perception in the Philosophy of Kalām." *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* 34:1 (2024): *forthcoming*.

19. "Personal Identity in the Philosophy of Kalām." *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale*, *forthcoming*.

Other Publications

1. „Christliche Trinitätslehre vor dem Islam: ein Beispiel von Abū Rāʾiṭa al-Takrītī." *Oriens Christianus* 96 (2012): 149-65.

2. "The Metaphysics of Muḥammad b. ʿAbd al-Karīm al-Šahrastānī (d. 1153): *Aḥwāl* and Universals." A. Al-Gouz (ed.), *Proceedings of the Conference "Islamic Philosophy from the 12th to the 14th Century"*, Bonn: Bonn University Press 2018, 323–53.

3. "A Rebellion against Avicenna? Suhrawardī and Abū l-Barakāt on 'Platonic Forms' and 'Lords of Species'." *Ishrāq*: *Islamic Philosophy Yearbook* (2019): 23–53.

4. "The Necessary Existent (*wājib al-wujūd*): From Avicenna to Faḫr al-Dīn al-Rāzī." A. Shihadeh and J. Thiele (eds.), *Philosophical Theology in Islam: The Later Ashʿari Tradition*, Brill 2020, 123–55.

5. "A Case Study in Arabic Doxography: Šahrastānī's Account of Pythagoras and Its Ismāʿīlī Background". In: A. Lammer and M. Haas (eds.). *Received Opinions: Doxography in Antiquity and the Islamic World*, Brill 2022, 354–402.

Online resources

1. "Die Unterscheidung zwischen Potentialität und Möglichkeit im Arabischen Avicennismus." In *Proceedings of the Erstes Philosophisches Symposium der DFG zum Thema „Potentialität"*, *forthcoming* [accepted for publication].

2. Adamson, Peter and Fedor Benevich, "Fakhr al-Din al-Razi", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/al-din-al-razi/

3. "Essence and Existence in Islamic Philosophy" *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, forthcoming.

Talks

1. (May 2011) "The Alexandrian philosophical school and the arising of the Dialectical theology in the 6ᵗʰ century" in *Second Graduate Student Day: Legacies and Discontinuities in the Eastern Mediterranean: Comparative and Innovative Methodologies in Late Antique, Byzantine and Ottoman Studies, organized by the Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies, CEU* in Budapest, Hungary.

2. (August 2011) "A Flourishing of the Dialectical Theology in the 6ᵗʰ century Byzantine Empire", in *22ⁿᵈ International Congress of Byzantine Studies*, in Sophia, Bulgaria.

3. (March 2014) "The Concept of 'Essential' as a Key to Metaphysics and Theology in *falsafa* and *kalām*", in *Workshop "Rational Theology and Greek Philosophy in Samaritan Bible Exegesis* in Bergen, Norway.

4. (April 2014) "What is Essential for a Subject? Avicenna's Theory of "Essential Accidents" as a Key to his Epistemology and Metaphysics", in *Inaugural Conference of British Association for Islamic Studies* in Edinburgh, UK.

5. (June 2014) "Epistemic and Metaphysical Necessity in Avicenna" in *Colloquium Avicenna and Avicennisms*" in SOAS, London, UK.

6. (November 2015) "The Analytic/Synthetic Distinction in Avicenna", in *Finnish Workshop in Medieval Philosophy* in Jyväskylä, Finland.

7. (November 2015) "Conceptual Inseparability and Intensional Implication in Avicenna's Essentialism", lecture in University of Cambridge, Faculty of Divinity, Cambridge, UK.

8. (February 2016) "The Rise of Avicennian Ashʿarite Metaphysics: Shahrastānī on *Aḥwāl* and Existence", in *Islamic Philosophy from the 12ᵗʰ to the 14ᵗʰ century* in Bonn, Germany.

9. (Mai 2017) "Essence-Existence Distinction in the Post-Avicennian Metaphysics » in *Colloque International «Philosopher au XIIeme siecle*, in College de France, Paris, France.

10. (September 2017) « The Thought Experimental Method: Avicenna's Flying Man Argument », *Deutscher Orientalistentag: Asien, Afrika und Europa,* Jena, Germany.

11. (September 2017) «The Reality of the Non-Existent Object of Thought», *Deutscher Kongress für Philosophie*, Berlin, Germany

12. (October 2017) «Redefining Necessity in Avicenna's *Posterior Analytics*», *Dialectic and Analytics in the Aristotelian Tradition*, Providence RI, USA

13. (March 2018) "The Presocratics in al-Šahrastānī's *Kitāb al-Milal wa-l-niḥaľ*", *Received Opinions: Doxography in Antiquity and the Islamic World*, Munich, Germany.

14. (January 2019) "No Entity without Identity: The Reasons behind Metaphysical Realism Debates in 12th-13th Centuries Islamic East", *Workshop: Metaphysical Realism in the Post-Classical Period*, Paris, France.

15. (February 2019) "The Eternalism-Presentism Debate: God's Knowledge of Particulars in Post-Avicennian Philosophy", *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting 2019*, Denver, USA.

16. (March 2019) "Die Unterscheidung zwischen Potentialität und Kontingenz im Arabischen Avicennismus", *Philosophisches Symposium der DFG zum Thema „Potentialität"*, Villa Vigoni, Como, Italy.

17. (May 2019) „Rāzī and Ḫūnaǧī on the Criticism of Definitions and Meno's Paradox", *Workshop in the History of Arabic Logic*, St Andrews, UK.

18. (May 2019) "Contingency of Human Action in the Heirs of Avicenna", *Heirs of Avicenna, Workshop # 3*, Munich, Germany.

19. (June 2019) "Avicenna's Theory of Non-propositional Thought and its Later Critiques", *Thinking: Philosophical History*, University of Liverpool, UK.

20. (October 2019) "Perceiving Things in Themselves: Post-Avicennian Critique of Peripatetic Representationalism," *Theories of Cognition in the Aristotelian Tradition*, University of Notre Dame, London Gateway, London, UK.

21. (January 2020) "No Entity without Identity: Metaphysical Anti-Realism in Post-Classical Islamic Philosophy," *Epistemic Transitions in Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Science, Workshop III: Metaphysical Realism in the Post-Classical Period*, University of Jyväskylä (presented in Paris, Institut finlandais).

22. (February 2020). "Avicenna on Existence and Identity." *The natural history of the concept of being*. University of Bochum, Bochum, Germany.

23. (February 2020). "Nothing Else Matters: Individuation in Twelfth Century Islamic Philosophy." Invited lecture at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

24. (January 2021). "Intentional Objects and Mental Properties in Islamic Philosophy." Edinburgh Speaker Series, University of Edinburgh, UK.

25. (April 2022) "Resurrection and Personal Identity in Islamic Philosophy." *British Society for the History of Philosophy Conference*, Edinburgh, UK.

26. (October 2022) "Intensional Objects: Maʿānī after Avicenna" at the workshop *The term ma'na (intentio) in the Arabic tradition - between kalâm, falsafa, and grammar* (Université Paris Cité).

27. (November 2022) "Nonreductive Theories of Sense-Perception in the Philosophy of Kalām." Invited presentation for the departmental talk series at the HU Berlin.

28. (January 2023) "Avicenna and the Epistemology of Kalām" at the workshop *Avicenna and Early Kalām: Status Quaestionis and Future Perspectives* (Université Paris Cité).

29. (April 2023) "Suhrawardī's Panpsychism and It Origins" at the conference *Cognizing as Being in the History of Philosophy* (University of Notre-Dame).

30. (December 2023) "Testimonial Knowledge in Islamic Philosophy and Law" as part of the seminar *Translatio studiorum: Medieval Islamic and Latin Philosophy* (Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris).

Fellowships

1. (2011) One year study fellowship from *Diakonisches Werk der evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland*

2. (2013) One year study fellowship from *Diakonisches Werk der evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland*

3. (2013-2016) Three years research fellowship from the *Ludwig-Maximilans Universität München*

Fedor Benevich

Awards

1. (2021) The 28th World Award for the Book of the Year in Iran for *Essentialität und Notwendwigkeit: Avicenna und die Aristotelische Tradition*

Teaching

LMU Munich

1. <u>2016</u> *Tutorial to the class «Ancient Philosophy»:* Readings of Plato's *Meno* and Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics (*undergraduate course).
2. <u>2017</u> *Introduction to Philosophy of Plotinus* (undergraduate course).
3. Winter semester 2017/18 *Introduction to The Main Texts of Islamic Philosophy* (undergraduate course).
4. <u>2018</u> *Personal Identity: Historical Perspectives*: Readings of Plato, Plotinus, Avicenna, Thomas Aquinas, and John Locke (undergraduate course).
5. <u>2018/19</u> *Determinism in Ancient and Arabic Philosophy*: Readings of Aristotle, Cicero, Alexander of Aphrodisias, Plotinus, and Islamic occasionalism (undergraduate course).
6. <u>2019/20</u> *Eternity of the World in Ancient and Arabic Philosophy*: Readings of Aristotle, John Philoponus, Avicenna, and al-Ġazālī (undergraduate course).

University of Edinburgh

7. <u>Since 2020/21</u> Islamic Philosophy (one undergraduate and two postgraduate courses; one of them fully online)
8. <u>2021/2022</u> Philosophy Work (undergraduate course in philosophical methods and principles)
9. <u>Since 2022/23</u> Introduction to History of Philosophy (undergraduate course covering western and non-western philosophy)

Language Proficiency

1. Russian: native speaker
2. English: fluent
3. German: fluent
4. Classical Arabic: very good (reading proficiency)
5. Ancient Greek: very good (reading proficiency)
6. French: good
7. Italian: good
8. Modern Greek: good
9. Latin: good (reading proficiency)
10. Persian: good (reading proficiency)
11. Syriac: good (reading proficiency)
12. Turkish: basic (reading proficiency)