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# EPISTEMOLOGY & KNOWLEDGE IN ISLAMIC LEGAL THEORY & THEOLOGY

### TRACING THE EPISTEMOLOGICAL TRADITION

- Al-Nasafī's text is obviously dependent on previous scholars' work: whose?
- Al-Nasafī's text is almost identical to that of two of his contemporaries: how? And then, why?
- Future question: how did the relationship between Ḥanafī theology and legal theory develop into the theological turn of the 12th century CE?

## **ASPIRATIONS AND SOLUTIONS**

- Corpus of excerpts from three scholars on khabar (testimony)
  - Sentence by sentence comparison view
    - Aspirational: planned wireframe of website, visualization
  - Annotate for structure, identical terms, and shared topics
  - And/or topic modeling
    - Aspirational: across legal theory corpus, would address research question #3
    - Voyant Tools revealed that \*excerpts\* are not long enough to be effective for topic modeling

### MAKE GOOD CHOICES



http://www.gettysburgcollegeitt.org/LRCblog/2014/12/when-arabic-tattoos-go-bad-or-why-you-should-talk-to-a-translator-first/

### (?TOOLS DIGITAL LTR OR) ARABIC OF CHALLENGES THE: PERSPECTIVE

### فصل في الأخسار

288 ــ الخبرُ كلامٌ بِصِيغة مخصوصة يَحصُل بها العلمُ بِالمُخبَر (1) به وحده، ما يدخُله الصِّدقُ والكِذبُ. إلاّ أن (2) هذا الحدَّ يبطُل بِخبرِ الله \_ تعالى! \_ وخبرِ الأنبِياء والخبرِ المُتواتِرِ.

	0	1	2	3	4
TXT	فصل	في	الأخبار	288 _	الخبر
AUT [sentence]					s
AUT [paragraph]	para				
AUT [line]	lb		lb		
AUT [structuresem]	bold,sec	t_name		bold,sect_mark	bold
AUT [pers_name]					
AUT [place_name]					
AUT [concept]					
AUT [episteme]					

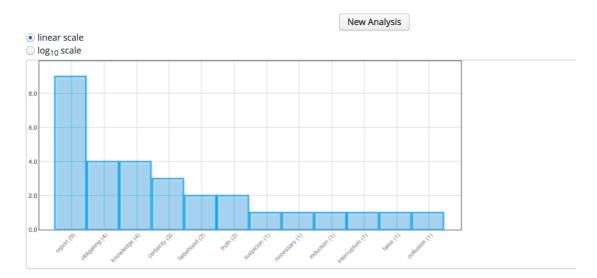


# ANNOTATION

- TXT: normalized, with the exception of formatting
- Sentence
- Structuresem
- Paragraph
- Line

- Pers\_name
- Place\_name
- Concept
- Episteme
- Def\_arg
- Quran

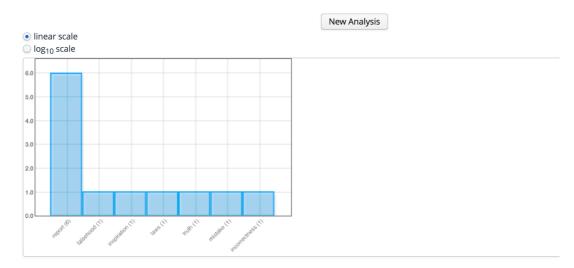
### **ANNIS: Episteme Frequency Analysis**



### 12 items with a total sum of 30 (query on NasafiExmaraldaAnnotation)

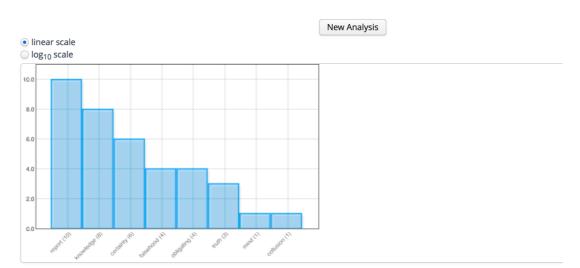
rank	#1 episteme	count
1	report	9
2	obligating	4
3	knowledge	4

Al-Nasafī



7 items with a total sum of 12 (query on SamarqandiExmaraldaAnr	notation)
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rank	#1 episteme	count
1	report	6
2	falsehood	1
3	inspiration	1



8 items with a total sum of 37 (query on LamishiExmaraldaAnnotation)

rank	#1 episteme	count
1	report	10
2	knowledge	8
3	certainty	6

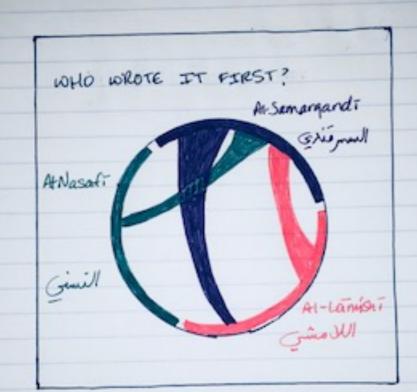
Al-Lāmishī

Al-Samarqandī

# EPIKILTT المعرفة والعلم في الأجول الفقه والكلام Epistemology & Knowledge in Islamic Legal Theory & Theor

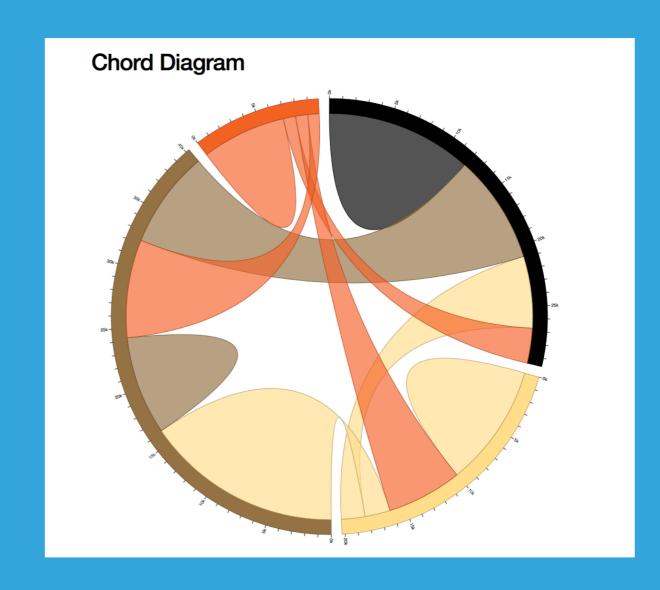
Research Editions About

Lome



Nasafi ii)	Al-Lāmkhī Gina WI	Al-Samargan Girapull
Sition]	Ceaithon	cedition]

# WIREFRAME



# & Visualization

https://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/4062006

## **GOALS**

- Build website for digital editions of these three sections on testimony
- Finish digital edition of complete Nasafi text
- Create corpus of Islamic legal theory texts from 8<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> centuries CE for topic modeling for course project and to address the following question:
  - How does the structure of Islamic legal theory works change over time and by school?