In narratives that report about past events, the human body is a crucial locus for thematizing time. This can occur through treating human life, bookended by the birth and death of the body, as a unit for constructing sequences of time such as genealogies. Similarly, reports on the past that invoke emotive aspects of human experience, such as pain and pleasure, contain appeals to presumed common understandings of bodily reactions and sensations to create discursive meaning. This talk will thematize such deployments of the body in Islamic materials for the purposes of understanding the conjunction between corporeality and temporality.

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