

Call for Papers and Demonstrations*
(Deadline for submission of abstracts Sept 15th 2017)

Loricati milites. Status, equipment and importance of the Francian military forces in the Early Medieval Period (Lorsch, March 14th-16th 2018)



(Stuttgart Psalter, Württembergische Landesbibliothek Stuttgart, fol. 71v)

During the Carolingian period, war represented an important and integral part of the exercise of power, rule and everyday life. Numerous written sources provide an idea of the equipment, composition and supply of the Carolingian army, the campaigns and the opponents of the Frankish empire. However, as is often the case, there is a lack of detailed insights into the specific contexts: equipment details, weapon technologies, strategies or even organizational questions of military logistics. Approaches to these subjects are only possible with the inclusion of archaeological and iconographic sources, as well as intensive experimental archaeological research. Within the framework of the planned symposium, an international and interdisciplinary team of specialists will discuss current research questions on the above topics and expand upon them through demonstrations and experimental archaeology at Lauresham, the open-air laboratory. The ideal outcome would be to have a plan for the (re)construction of the complete equipment of a Carolingian mounted and armoured warrior for Lauresham.

The event also aims to stimulate professional dialogue between scientists, archaeologists, artisans and members of the reenactment community.

Programme:

Wed, March 14 th 2018	Arrival day, reception and evening lecture
Thu, March 15 th 2018	Panel sessions Demonstrations
Fri, March 16 th , 2018	Panel sessions Demonstrations Summary of the results / discussion Public evening lecture

Areas of interest for possible papers and demonstrations:

Wars in the Early Medieval Period
Weapons
Animals in warfare
Wardrobe and armour of the mounted warrior
Logistics and strategy
Clergy and early medieval warfare

Deadline for submission of abstracts with title (150 words): Sept 15th 2017
(NOTE: if accepted, papers will have to be of no more than 15 minutes duration)

Please include presenter's name, affiliation and contact information.

Kindly submit the abstract in a pdf format to c.kropp@kloster-lorsch.de.

Accepted applicants will be notified by October 1st 2017. The selection of papers will take into consideration how the combination of contributions might best stimulate conversations and debates, and expand perspectives on the topic.

Contact:

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*Demonstrations may take the form of ongoing experimental archaeological experiments, craft displays, warfare techniques etc.