



MESA 2021

**MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION
55TH MESA ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 3**



MESA 2021

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NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 2021

Conference Login: <https://mesa2021.secure-platform.com/>

You must be registered to attend.

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Welcome to the 55th Annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association from Dina Khoury, President of MESA.



Photo by Ziad Turki al-Jazana

Dina Rizk Khoury
MESA President
Professor, George
Washington University

We meet virtually again this year in what promises to be a stimulating gathering of our members. The diversity of papers and panel proposals speaks to the innovative scholarship you all produce and to the labor that goes into it. The meeting's time falls at a particularly demanding period of the academic year. Teaching and administrative responsibilities together with Zoom fatigue can take their toll. I hope that you find the time and intellectual space to attend and enjoy a productive dialogue with your colleagues.

MESA's Board of Directors and its Secretariat are grateful for your participation and for your support. We look forward to meeting in person next year in Denver. Until then, however, we hope you find in MESA a space away from your teaching and other professional responsibilities to inspire your scholarship.

Conference

Personal Behavior

The MESA meeting is a harassment-free event for everyone regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, age or religion.

Any attendee who displays inappropriate behavior or creates a disturbance or safety hazard will be subject to having their registration revoked.

Social Media

To facilitate virtual conversations and to share with those unable to attend the conference, MESA encourages attendees to live tweet using **#MESA2021**.

Speakers presenting materials that they do not wish to be tweeted live should make a request to the audience at the beginning of their presentations.

Follow MESA on **Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram** for the latest on **#MESA2021** and the field of Middle East studies.

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General Information

The Middle East Studies Association (MESA) is a private, non-profit, learned society that brings together scholars, educators and those interested in the study of the region from all over the world. From its inception in 1966 with 51 founding members, MESA has increased its membership to over 2,700 and now serves as an umbrella organization for nearly fifty institutional members and forty affiliated organizations. The association is a constituent society of the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Council of Area Studies Associations, and a member of the National Humanities Alliance.

As part of its goal to advance learning, facilitate communication and promote cooperation, MESA sponsors an annual meeting that is a leading international forum for scholarship, intellectual exchange and pedagogical innovation. It is responsible for the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, the premiere journal on the region, the *MESA Review of Middle East Studies* and *Issues in Middle East Studies*, a biannual newsletter. An awards program recognizes scholarly achievement, service to the profession, undergraduate education, and exemplary student mentoring. MESA is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors elected by the membership.



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Calendar of Events

The following is a chronological listing of all events being held during the MESA 2021 annual meeting. The number preceding the session name indicates the panel number.

Wednesday, November 24

9:00 am Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Board Meeting

Sunday, November 28

9:00 am American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA) Executive Board Meeting

12:00 pm 16th American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT) Online Annual Pre-Conference for Graduate Students in Turkish and Turkic Studies

1:00 pm American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA) Annual Panel

4:00 pm American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA) Annual Business Meeting

Monday, November 29

9:00 am Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Business Meeting

11:30 am Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) *Al-Sit* Film Screening and Discussion with Cast & Crew

Monday, November 29

11:30 am, Session I

- I-01 (R) Reading Practices and Contexts in the Early Ottoman Empire
- I-02 (R) Modern Coptic Studies? Tracing the Contours of a Field, in Egypt and Beyond
- I-03 (R) What's Up in Turkish Studies
- I-04 (R) New Frontiers in Research on Contentious Politics in the Middle East
- I-05 (P) Governing through the Senses: Garbage and other Slow Violences
- I-06 (P) Art and Revolution in Iraq
- I-07 (P) The Politics of Culture in Postcolonial Morocco and its Diasporas
- I-08 (P) New Directions in Islamic Intellectual History
- I-09 (P) Israel in the Middle East: A New Era?
- I-10 (P) Rethinking Race as an Analytic in the Early Twentieth Century
- I-11 (P) Imagining Alternative Commons from the Levant: Digital Archives, Images, Documents, and Ecologies
- I-12 (P) Reconstructing Loss: Jewish Spaces in the Middle East and Beyond
- I-13 (P) Mapping the Literary Corpus: The Geography of Early Modern Persian Anthologies
- I-14 (P) Capitalism, Imperialism, and Colonial Counter-Revolution in North Africa
- I-15 (P) Trade, Diplomacy, and Travel in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire
- I-16 (P) The State and its Aftermaths: Civil Society, Religion, Violence, and Identity Formation
- I-17 (P) Migrant Lives: Activism, Economics, and Asylum in Europe
- I-18 (P) New Perspectives in Gender History, 19th-20th c.
- I-19 (P) The Politics of Infrastructure: Colonialism and Conservation
- I-20 (P) Statecraft and State Survival
- I-21 (P) Technologies of Empire: Medicine, Land Policy, Special Commissions, & Financial Advisory Missions
- I-22 (P) New Perspectives in Medieval Islamic and Mamluk History
- I-23 (P) What is Modern in Modern Arabic Literature?
- I-24 (P) New Forms of Social Mobilization: Culture, Morality, and Class Formation
- I-25 (P) Environment, Infrastructure and Geopolitics
- I-26 (P) Youth Socialization and Education
- I-27 (P) Pandemics and Covid-19: Surveillance, Governance, and Control
- I-28 (P) Small States, Big Influence? Foreign Policy in the Persian Gulf

- I-29 (P) Migration between Imperialism and Nationalism
- I-30 (P) Whose Narratives? Whose Classrooms? Teaching Palestine and Gender; Sexual Justice in the Age of (Corporatized) Pandemic

Tuesday, November 30

11:30 am, Session II

- II-01 (R) Staying Outside: Negotiating Anti-Assimilationist Gender and Sexual Variance in South West Asia, North Africa, and Diasporas
- II-02 (R) Reimagining Middle Eastern Studies: Notes from the Margins
- II-03 (R) How and When Empire Ends: The Ottoman Empire and its Successors
- II-04 (R) The State of Middle Eastern and North African Humor Studies: Pasts, Presents, and Horizons
- II-05 (R) New Directions in Middle Eastern Literatures
- II-06 (P) Deserts as Archives (Part I)
- II-07 (P) Masculinities and Crisis in the Middle East
- II-08 (P) Early Modern Mobilities: People, Animals, and Objects within and beyond the Ottoman Empire
- II-09 (P) Medical Humanities in the Middle East: Health, Medicine, and Life
- II-10 (P) The Historical Turn in Contemporary Arabic Fiction
- II-11 (P) Fraud in the Colonial Archive: Writing a Social History of the Modern Maghrib
- II-12 (P) Localizing the Imperial: Histories of Northeast Africa in the 19th Century
- II-13 (P) Exilic Cultural Production: Belonging and Estrangement
- II-14 (P) Security in Context: Political Economies of 21st Century Violence and Conflict
- II-15 (P) Islamic Art and the Politics of Museum Display
- II-16 (P) Feeling Gender in Turkey
- II-17 (P) Peripheral Encounters with the Cold War in Turkey: Paradoxes and Uncertainties
- II-18 (P) Iranian Cineture: Local Narratives, Global Receptions
- II-19 (P) Internationalizing the Middle East and North Africa in the mid-Twentieth Century
- II-20 (P) The Political Economy of Gulf States: Beyond Oil
- II-21 (P) Colonialism and Anti-Colonial Resistance in North Africa
- II-22 (P) Armed Non-State Actors and their Quest for Legitimacy
- II-23 (P) Crises of Representation, Reform, and Recovery in 18th-21st c. France, Iran, & Turkey
- II-24 (P) Islamic Reform, Religious Reactions, and Political Trajectories, 19th-20th c.
- II-25 (P) The Covid Society: How Pandemics Reconfigure Social Relations
- II-26 (P) Politics of Place and Displacement: Afghanistan, Morocco, Oman, and Palestine
- II-27 (P) Medieval Philosophy and Medicine
- II-28 (P) State Feminism and Women in Politics: Comparative Perspectives

2:00 pm, Session III

- III-01 (R) Assyrian Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches and Navigating from Orientalism to Indigenous and Decolonizing Methodologies
- III-02 (R) The Unmaking and Making of the Middle East in the Great War
- III-03 (R) Ten Years after the Uprisings: New Perspectives on Tunisia?
- III-04 (R) Gender and Political Economy Across the Middle East
- III-05 (R) The Politics of the Right: Local, Global and Digital Movements and Ideas
- III-06 (P) Gaza on Screen
- III-07 (P) Decolonizing Desire in the Middle East: Incentives from Lebanon, Kurdistan, and Turkey
- III-08 (P) Race and Its Legacies in Arabic Literary Heritage and Production
- III-09 (P) Reciprocal Mobilization in the Politics of BDS: Strategy, Competition, and Wars of Position
- III-10 (P) Iraq at the Center of the New World Order
- III-11 (P) Philosophical Problems in Islamic Theology
- III-12 (P) Reimagining Heritage in the Middle East and North Africa: Whose Voices Count?
- III-13 (P) Epistemological Challenges in Islamic Thought
- III-14 (P) Race in the Medieval Middle East
- III-15 (P) Empire's Eleventh Hour: Ethnic Violence, Imperial Vision, and National Churches in the Ottoman Empire
- III-16 (P) Forgotten War's Tragedies in Yemen
- III-17 (P) Disciplining Hegemony, Disorienting Rivalries, and Disordering Economies: The Maghreb Disrupted
- III-18 (P) Confessional Frontiers in the Islamicate Mediterranean
- III-19 (P) Legal Belonging and Imperial Jurisdiction in the Ottoman Maghrib (18th-20th c.)
- III-20 (P) Narrating Dispersed Identities
- III-21 (P) Commodities, Finance, and Colonial Ecologies

- III-22 (P) The Power of Education: Instituting Religion, Nationalism, and Memory
- III-23 (P) The Politics of Urban Space
- III-24 (P) New Perspectives in Middle Eastern Environmental History
- III-25 (P) Arab Revolts 2011: Testimonials, Ethnographies, Documentation, and Narratives
- III-27 (P) Musicians, Poets, Rhetoricians, and Mystics since Al-Andalus
- III-28 (P) Cultivating Modern Egypt, 19th-20th c.: Endowments, Education, and Governmentality
- III-29 (P) Labor, Migration, and Experience in the Gulf
- III-30 (P) Israeli and Palestinian Diplomacy: Traditional and Non-Traditional Approaches

Wednesday, December 1

11:30 am, Session IV

- IV-01 (R) The Cultural Cold/Hot War in the Arab World
- IV-02 (R) Iranian Studies Unbound: Emerging Global Approaches to the Field (Part I)
- IV-03 (R) The Multilingual Shift in Middle Eastern Studies
- IV-04 (R) Knowledge Production and the Writing on Visual Culture in the Middle East from the 1950s to the late 1990s
- IV-05 (R) Promoting Public Scholarship in Middle East History II: #StudentsOfIslamicArt - Wikipedia and Open Pedagogy in the Middle East Studies Classroom
- IV-06 (W) Global Academy Workshop--Capitalism, Islamism, and the State: Turkey's Shifting Political Economy
- IV-07 (P) Deserts as Archives (Part II)
- IV-08 (P) Interrogating Citizenship in the Middle East
- IV-09 (P) Manuscript Cultures in the Islamic World
- IV-10 (P) Interrogating Race in Arabian Peninsula Studies
- IV-11 (P) Conceptual Histories of Reform (Islāhāt) in Contemporary Iran: Critical Lineages of a Familiar Idea
- IV-12 (P) Rebel Governances in the Middle East
- IV-13 (P) Beyond Discipline: Faith, Gender, and the Surveilled Society of the late Mediterranean
- IV-14 (P) Legacies of Imperialism in Ottoman-Turkish Literature
- IV-15 (P) Oceanic and Coastal Afterlives: Ethnographies of Seafarers in the Waters of the Suez Canal
- IV-16 (P) Social Hierarchy in the Modern Middle East
- IV-17 (P) Re-thinking Cultural History "Institutionally"
- IV-18 (P) Negotiating Social Identities and Livelihood through Fairs and Festivals in Modern Turkey
- IV-19 (P) Expanding the Horizons of Arabic Navigational Historiography
- IV-20 (P) History and the Politics of Memory in North Africa
- IV-22 (P) Critical Perspectives on Development Aid and Governance
- IV-23 (P) Reform, Discipline, and Agency in Late-Ottoman and Interwar Periods
- IV-24 (P) Art Histories of Design and Visualization
- IV-25 (P) The Unarticulated and the Interdentals: On Linguistics and Language Education
- IV-26 (P) Between Late Ottoman and the Soviet Union: Cultural and Scientific Engagements
- IV-27 (P) Resistance and Contentious Politics
- IV-28 (P) Authoritarian Strategies: Repression, Legalism, and Cooptation
- IV-29 (P) A Philology of Concepts: Translation and Butrus al-Bustānī

2:00 pm, Session V

- V-01 (R) Disentangling the "War on Terror"
- V-02 (R) "The Old Women of Nishapur": A Roundtable on Gender and Knowledge in Islam
- V-03 (R) Iranian Studies Unbound: Emerging Global Approaches to the Field (Part II)
- V-04 (R) Let's Put It All Together!: Pedagogical Fluency in the Middle East Studies Classroom after 2020
- V-05 (R) Ethnographies of Uprisings: Exploring Approaches to Understanding Revolt in the Middle East
- V-06 (W) Global Academy Workshop--Repercussions of Displacement in the Academy and Beyond
- V-07 (P) Politics and Conflict in the Contemporary Levant
- V-08 (P) Marking Violence: Archives, Media, and Regime Change in Contemporary Turkey
- V-09 (P) Living with the Dead: Cemeteries, Shrines, and Collective Memory in the Middle East
- V-10 (P) Debating Tawḥīd: An Ecumenical Project of Islamic Philosophy?
- V-11 (P) Agency of the Excluded: Armenians, Assyrians, Kurds, and Jews between Empire and Nation-State, 1915-1948
- V-12 (P) Canonizing Egypt: Contesting National Culture through and Beyond Text
- V-13 (P) The Late Antique in Early Islam: Pre-Islamic Heritage in Early Islamic Politics, Poetics, and Science
- V-14 (P) Storytelling, Narratives, and Social Biography in the Middle East
- V-16 (P) Political Economy of Palestine: Critical, Interdisciplinary, Decolonial Perspectives
- V-17 (P) Doctors, Patients, and the Making of Medical Subjectivities

- V-18 (P) Shia Ulama Between State Power and Sufism: Safavid to Modern Theories of Legitimacy
- V-19 (P) Modern and Contemporary Art Forms
- V-20 (P) New Middle Eastern Cinema: Iconography and Political Visions
- V-21 (P) Knowledge Production, Translation, and Governance in the Long Nineteenth Century
- V-22 (P) Political Socialization and Value Change
- V-23 (P) New Perspectives on Early Modern Ottoman History
- V-24 (P) Comparative Perspectives on Welfare State and Social Policy in a Neoliberal Era
- V-25 (P) New Perspectives on Modern Egyptian History
- V-26 (P) New Perspectives on the History of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula, 19th-20c.
- V-27 (P) Exile and Diaspora Mobilization after the Arab Spring
- V-28 (P) Authoritarian Upgrading and Repertoires of Repression
- V-29 (P) Islamists and Secularists in Electoral Politics
- V-30 (P) Persian Language Pedagogy: From Theory to Practice

4:30 pm **MESA Presidential Address** *Pessoptimism and the Discontents of the Field* by Dina Rizk Khoury
immediately followed by the **2021 Awards Ceremony** (open session)

Thursday, December 2

11:30 am, Session VI

- VI-01 (R) "Pathways of Portability," 20 Years On: A New Frontier for Scholars of the Medieval Mediterranean
- VI-02 (R) Lebanon Unsettled
- VI-03 (R) Canada and the Middle East
- VI-04 (W) Professional and Non-Academic Career Pathways
- VI-05 (W) International Funding Opportunities for Adjuncts: Opportunities for MESA Members
- VI-06 (P) Elections and Electoral Institutions in the Middle East and North Africa
- VI-07 (P) Infrastructure and Society in the Middle East and North Africa
- VI-08 (P) The (Un-)Making of Social and Material Infrastructures in Post-Revolutionary Egypt
- VI-09 (P) (Re)creating Home: Belonging and Finding Community for Refugees in or from the Middle East
- VI-10 (P) Mutton, Textile, and Salt: Economic History of the Nineteenth-Century Ottoman East
- VI-11 (P) Problematizing Child Rights: Researching Palestine/Israel Beyond and Against the Child Rights Discourse
- VI-12 (P) Beyond Boundaries: The Convergence of Adab and Other Medieval Islamic Genres
- VI-13 (P) Making God Angry
- VI-14 (P) The Asian and African Provinces of the Ottoman Empire: Marginal Histories and New Approaches
- VI-15 (P) Post-Genocide Armenian Communities in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East
- VI-16 (P) Shrinking Spaces, Excluded Communities, and Transformed Environments: Exploring Health and Environment Among Palestinians through Eco-Social Approaches
- VI-17 (P) Communal Boundaries and Networks of Learning and Communication in the Pre-Modern Maghrib
- VI-18 (P) From Disease to Disaster? The Social Consequences of the Covid-19 Pandemic in the MENA Region
- VI-19 (P) Tafsir Studies Today
- VI-20 (P) Reclaiming Identities: Racialization, Representation, and Resistance of MENA Jews Before and After 1948
- VI-21 (P) New Perspectives on the Global Cold War in the Middle East: Transnational Solidarity and South-South Connections
- VI-22 (P) Searching where the Light Fades: Patterns of Continuity and Change in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia
- VI-23 (P) The Politics of the Built Environment
- VI-24 (P) The Governance of Migration and Refugees
- VI-25 (P) Tracing Race
- VI-26 (P) Music Modes/Music Moods: Affect and Discourse in Sound
- VI-27 (P) Between Empire and the Post-Colony: Memory, (un)Belonging, and Reproducing State
- VI-28 (P) Qur'an and Law: Gender, Sexuality, and Hermeneutical Authority

2:00 pm, Session VII

- VII-01 (R) New Directions in Border and Migration Studies in the MENA Region: A Postcolonial Agenda
- VII-02 (R) Fault Lines and Fractures in the 2020 Artsakh/Nagorno Karabakh War
- VII-03 (R) The Future of Political Islam
- VII-04 (R) Academic Freedom under Authoritarian Constraints in Turkey
- VII-05 (R) The Future of Academic Studies on the Iran-Iraq War
- VII-06 (R) New Books on Afghanistan: Rethinking Knowledge, Power, and Politics Historically and on the Ground
- VII-07 (W) Professional Development Workshop Proposal Writing and Research Design: How to Fund Your Ideas
- VII-08 (P) A Climate of Change in the Gulf?
- VII-09 (P) Surveillance and Social Control in the Middle East: From Cold War to the Digital Age

- VII-10 (P) Immobility in Iraq: Historical and Anthropological Perspectives
- VII-11 (P) Rhapsody and Revulsion in Arabic
- VII-12 (P) The Past, Present, and Future of Ottoman Turkish Language Pedagogy
- VII-13 (P) Rasulid Tribal Law, Sufism, Ottoman-era Yemenite Jews, and Geography of the Tihāma: Studies in the History of Yemen
- VII-14 (P) Mediations and Interpretations of Memory
- VII-15 (P) Persian Literature in Translation: Historical, Linguistic, and Socio-Cultural Dimensions
- VII-16 (P) Knowledge in Action: Social Practices and Sciences in the Middle East
- VII-17 (P) Laughter in Times of Distress: Humor and its Politics in Middle Eastern Literature and Popular Culture
- VII-18 (P) Transottoman Mobilities in the Second Half of the 18th Century: Ottoman, Russian, and Polish-Lithuanian Entanglements
- VII-19 (P) Revolutionary Revisionings: Transforming Tunisia's History and Patrimony, Post 2011
- VII-20 (P) Analyzing Histories of Struggle: Palestine, the Past, Present and Future
- VII-21 (P) Bringing Remittances Back In: Dynamics and Impact of Syrian Remittances
- VII-22 (P) Notions of the Archive in the Medieval Middle East
- VII-23 (P) Evoking Invocations: Developments in Imami Shi'i Du'a
- VII-24 (P) Mount Lebanon in Cultural, Political, and Collective Imagination
- VII-25 (P) Contemporary Islamic Discourses: Jihad, the Self, and Travelling Symbols
- VII-26 (P) Narratives of Loss and Violence
- VII-27 (P) Law, Translation, and Material Culture in Medieval and Early Modern Islamic History
- VII-28 (P) Slaves, Captives, and Historical Narratives: Recuperation and Revision
- VII-29 (P) Indian Ocean and Pan-Asian Connections: Dress, Print, Poetry, and Politics
- VII-30 (P) Kinship as Politics: Politics as Kinship

4:30 pm **MESA Members Meeting** (closed session, current MESA members only)

Friday, December 3

11:30 am, Session VIII

- VIII-01 (R) Beyond Questioning the Convert: Muslim Practice in Latin American and Latino Worlds
- VIII-02 (R) Transition to Online Teaching: Reconstructing Language Teaching Pedagogies and Curricula
- VIII-03 (R) The Current State of Students Psyche: Dealing with the Psychological Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Students and Moving toward Motivational Methods of Teaching
- VIII-04 (R) The Lebanon Uprising of 2019: Reflections during (Counter-)Revolutionary Times
- VIII-05 (R) Islamic Occult Studies on the Rise
- VIII-06 (R) The Forgotten Mundane: Contemporary Iran Beneath and Beyond Politics
- VIII-07 (R) After the Revolution: Visions for a Sustainable Future for Sudan
- VIII-08 (R) Critical Environmental Perspectives of the MENA
- VIII-09 (S) Where is Palestine in the Battle over anti-Semitism Definitions?
- VIII-10 (P) Islamic Esotericisms: From Theology to Exegesis
- VIII-11 (P) Arab Communities around the World
- VIII-12 (P) About Time: Theorizing Temporal Constructions of Belonging in the Contemporary Levant
- VIII-13 (P) What is 'Islamic' Contemporary Art?
- VIII-14 (P) Embodiment and Gender across Genre in Medieval Arabic and Persian Texts
- VIII-15 (P) Iranian Women Poets: Diversity at the Margins of Modernity
- VIII-16 (P) Spatial and Environmental Histories of Iraq
- VIII-17 (P) State and the City: Presences and Absences in the Mashreq
- VIII-18 (P) Modalities of Text, Seeing, and Intellect in Quranic Semiotics and Hermeneutics
- VIII-19 (P) Environmental Histories of 20th Century Iran through Local, National, Colonial, and Trans-National Perspectives
- VIII-20 (P) Gender and the Body in the Late Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey
- VIII-21 (P) Societal Resistance in the Arab Gulf States
- VIII-22 (P) Political Theory, Political Practice
- VIII-23 (P) New Approaches to Islamic Law across the Indian Ocean
- VIII-24 (P) Facts on the Ground: Critical Political Economies of Land, Debt, and Development across Ottoman Egypt, Sudan, and Anatolia
- VIII-25 (P) Trauma, Displacement, and Humanitarianism
- VIII-26 (P) Architectural Forms in the Early Islamic, Mamluk, and Ottoman Eras
- VIII-27 (P) Ottoman Statecraft between Reform and Reaction, 19th-20th c.
- VIII-28 (P) Palestine International: Resistance from Algeria to Amman
- VIII-29 (P) State Religion Relations: Coercion, Accommodation, and Pluralism

12:00 pm

VIII-30 (W) CUMES Workshop (closed; workshop participants and facilitators only)

2:00 pm, Session IX

- IX-01 (R) Challenges and Possibilities of Researching Yemeni Americans
- IX-02 (R) Mapping Art Histories in the Arab World, Iran, and Turkey
- IX-03 (R) Pandemic at the Intersection of History, Gender, Religion, and Health in the Muslim Communities
- IX-04 (R) Picturing the Middle East and its Diasporas: Memory, Migration, and Archives in New Digital Landscapes
- IX-05 (R) New Directions in the Study of Palestinian Politics
- IX-06 (S) Eco-Systems of Research in the Middle East and North Africa
- IX-07 (P) Mobilizing the Memory of al-Andalus: Transnational Semiotic Landscapes in the Modern and Contemporary Arab World and the United States
- IX-08 (P) Blood and Biomedicine in the Modern Middle East
- IX-09 (P) Crime in the Archives
- IX-10 (P) Women Writers: Literary Interventions in Arab History and Politics
- IX-11 (P) The Colonial Hourglass: Sand and Political Power in the Southeastern Mediterranean
- IX-12 (P) Muslim Scholars as Agents of Change in the 19th Century
- IX-13 (P) How the COVID 19 Pandemic offers Opportunities for Student Engagement in Language
- IX-14 (P) Israel, Palestine, and the Third World
- IX-15 (P) Iran's New Century and the Formation of National Identity
- IX-16 (P) Martyrs of the Arab Left: Individual Experiences, Collective Narratives, and Memories from Lebanon and Morocco
- IX-17 (P) Culture of Disputation: Debating, Delineating, and Refuting Legal and Mystical Thought within Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Lands and Beyond
- IX-18 (P) The 2011 Arab Uprisings Ten Years On: Their Regional Impact
- IX-19 (P) Space, Place, and Textual Objects: Transforming Social Realities in the Modern Middle East
- IX-20 (P) The Critical Hope of Palestinian and Mizrahi Studies
- IX-21 (P) Postcolonial Critique and Its Limits: Religion, State, and Secularism Revisited
- IX-22 (P) Urban Life Practices in Abbasid Baghdad
- IX-23 (P) Musical Biographies and Early 20th Century Middle East Socio-Cultural History
- IX-24 (P) Colonial Cancers, Incarcerations, and Workplace Accidents: Embodied Histories of Labor in the 20th-Century Middle East and North Africa
- IX-25 (P) Non-Religion and the Media in Muslim Communities
- IX-26 (P) Modern Poets, Modern Intellectuals
- IX-27 (P) Trends in Cultural Soft Power: Media, Teleseries, and Couscous Goes Global
- IX-28 (P) Sovereignty and Empire in Safavid History
- IX-29 (W) Global Academy Workshop—Academic Displacement: Latest Developments and Mitigation Strategies

3:00 pm

IX-30 (W) CUMES Undergraduate Research Poster Presentation (open session)

Saturday, December 4

1:00 pm Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA) Annual Members Meeting

2:00 pm American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP) Annual General Meeting

3:00 pm American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP) Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony for Dr. M.R. Ghanoonparvar

Sunday, December 5

12:00 pm Middle East Medievalists (MEM) Business Meeting

Friday, December 10

12:00 pm Middle East Librarians Association (MELA) Careers in Middle East Librarianship Workshop



Book Exhibitors

Our virtual exhibit hall offers attendees the opportunity to obtain information on publications, periodicals, and programs in Middle East studies. Browse exhibitor booths for new scholarship and exciting promotions!

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The MESA FilmFest is in its 38th year and is a valued part of the MESA Annual Meeting. We are excited to be offering a virtual FilmFest where registered attendees can stream films directly from our conference site.

Ah Zaynab: A Shia Religious Statue Exhibition in Kuwait

30 min · Kuwait · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director/Producer *Nada Al-Hudaïd* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Nada Al-Hudaïd*
Filmed in Kuwait
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

This is an ethnographic film made on the process of making a religious statue exhibition in Kuwait. This exhibition took place in 2015 and features stories of the life of Saydah Zaynab, the grand daughter of Prophet Mohammed, from her birth to death. The film focuses on the creator of this artwork known as Umm Mish'al and her reasons of why she dedicated her life to creating such work. She started this tradition in Kuwait in 2004 and ever since, it gained so much popularity among Shia in Kuwait and nearby countries. Today, many Shia incorporate this type of art in their religious commemoration of Prophet Mohammed's family known as Ahl Al-Bayt. This film is a first of several series on the materiality of Shia art in the Arab Gulf countries and beyond.

Al Tabbab

7:14 min · Qatar · No dialogue
Director *Khalifa Al-Mana* · Producer *Basel Owies* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Khalifa Al-Mana*
Filmed in Qatar
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Al Tabbab is the story of a boy and his father, accompanied with their goat, on an old dhow sailing to a secret ritual site where they perform an ancient offering ritual in order to harvest pearls from a mysterious Sea Monster. On this journey, the boy sets sail determined to impress his father and make him proud. But searching for pearls is no easy task and with the odds against him, the boy struggles with his father's demands and he can't help but feel like he's a big disappointment. But when the Sea Monster prefers the boy's pet goat to the usual offerings, the boy must perform a gallant rescue in order to save his friend from certain death and to show his father that he's ready to be his own man.

Al-Sit

20 min · Sudan · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director/Producer *Suzannah Mirghani* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Suzannah Mirghani*
Filmed in Sudan
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

In a cotton-farming village in Sudan, 15-year-old Nafisa has a crush on Babiker, but her parents have arranged her marriage to Nadir, a young Sudanese businessman living abroad. Nafisa's grandmother Al-Sit, the powerful village matriarch, has her own plans for Nafisa's future. But can Nafisa choose for herself?

The Black Veil

16:35 min · Qatar · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director *A.J. Al-Thani* · Producer *Vibhav Gautam* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *A.J. Al-Thani*
Filmed in Qatar
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Reem is a young Iraqi woman who has been forced into marriage to an ISIS soldier in ISIS controlled Mosul. She was taken away from her family and home on the outskirts of Mosul. Reem finds help in a young Taxi driver named Ahmed to help her escape. She promises him a chest full of gold in exchange for his service. Reem and Ahmed journey out of Mosul and try to escape the harsh violent reality by posing as his wife. When she finds out that her family's home is destroyed, Ahmed convinces her to leave Mosul and gives her hope that they might have escaped as well. Reem and Ahmed drive into the dangerous barren dark desert where they will meet the very face they tried to escape.

Carry My Voice

19 min · Turkey · Kurdish (English subtitles)
Director/Producer *Hasan Demirtas* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Hasan Demirtas*
Filmed in Turkey

A personal story of love and separation against the backdrop of Kurdish history with profound consequences to this day.

Cycle of Apples

15:49 min · Saudi Arabia · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director *Maha Al-Saati* · Producer *Maha Al-Saati & Khalid Fahad* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Maha Al-Saati*
Filmed in Saudi Arabia
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

This film is an exploration of the Princess myth imposed on women. Set in a Disney-esque island populated by obedient princesses, unfolds a fairytale gone wrong. Snow White forms a friendship with a talking ram, but fearing that death will keep them apart, she seeks the apple of eternal life to avoid their inevitable separation.

Emsahar

7:20 min · Qatar · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director *Hassan Al-Jahni* · Producer *Ben Robinson* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Hassan Al-Jahni*
Filmed in Qatar
Sponsored by Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Fatima (10) tiptoes through the family home one night, peering through a door to see her father Baba (38) tending to her dying Grandma (92). Baba asks Fatima to say one final goodbye, but



she flees to her bedroom filled with sorrow and despair. Sitting sadly by the window with her trusty cat, Fatima hears the traditional drumming of the approaching Ramadan announcer Emsahar (65). To her amazement, the magical energy beams emitted from the Emsahar's drum illuminates the monochrome world they inhabit, bathing the neighbourhood in colour and light. Fatima hatches an ambitious plan to harness the powers of the Emsahar and resuscitate her ailing grandmother.

Despite her best efforts, nothing can revive Fatima's grandmother and she dies that night. Fatima and her father say a tearful goodbye but are soon jolted from their grief by a familiar voice outside. Running outside into the neighbourhood, Fatima is delighted to meet her Grandmother once more, now transformed into a benevolent, ghost-like Emsahar. Tears of sorrow are replaced by tears of joy as Fatima makes one final connection with her beloved Grandmother, before she watches her march away, drumming and singing into the dawn light.

Ethnocracy: Israel's African Refugees

58 min · Israel · English, Spanish, Hebrew, Arabic
Director/Producer *Lia Tarachansky & Jesse Freeston* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Lia Tarachansky & Jesse Freeston*
Filmed in Israel

"The crisis of Africa is a crisis of all of humanity" says Sergio Yahni in this film. Many have seen the difficulty, often fatal, that many Africans have had seeking to leave the continent by boat. For those unable or unwilling to take that risk, the only piece of land that connects Africa to Asia and Europe is the territory today known as Israel-Palestine. While few planned to stay in Israel, thousands found themselves in a massive, open-air prison in the Negev Desert.

Fireflies

13 min · United States · No dialogue
Director/Producer *Raouf Zaki* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Raouf Zaki*
Filmed in United States

When a withdrawn Middle Eastern man begins frequenting a Boston café, the headwaiter grows increasingly suspicious about the true nature of his visits.

Gevar's Land

78 min · Europe, Arab World · Arabic & French (English subtitles)
Director *Qutaiba Barhamji* · Producer *Karim Aitouna & Thomas Micoulet* · Filmmaker/Distributor *Qutaiba Barhamji*
Filmed in France

Recently settled with his partner and son in a Reims suburb, Gevar, who has arrived from Syria, has decided to invest in the rental of a small patch of land to grow vegetables. Filmmaker Qutaiba

Barhamji films them over four seasons as they settle on this new ground that often rebels against the couple's hopes.

the ghosts of the world behind

5:42 min · Turkey · English
Director/Producer *Can Bilir* · Filmmaker/Distributor
Filmed in Turkey

The ghosts of the world behind is a multimedia poetry that depicts life in the post-lockdown world; the anthropocentric negative affect causes the devolution of the human individuals to fungi spores. The new self in an imaginary planet, the sensation of the light, alien soundscape, and quasi-birdsong vocal interruptions of the life around generate a new sensory experience of becoming-other-than-human. The actual birdsong is a song thrush from winter Ankara soundscapes in 2021, the video is a storm in Ankara sky in 2020 Spring.

By the 1990s, the past human lives, in John Cage's words, were "outnumbered" by those who were living (Cage 1992). After the great acceleration of the 1950s, not only has the human population increased, but the environmental and ecological risks on the planet Earth as a closed territorial cell have multiplied towards rhizomatic lines of forces, towards impenetrable multiplicities. The fragile presence of life that we have inherited lacks a simple universal solution towards a promise of a sustainable future. Where to start when we are in the middle of the flux of biochemical degradation and environmental decay? Historian Dipesh Chakrabarty (2016) writes non-anthropocentric perspectives "are necessarily anchored in stories of deep time." To solve the problems of the Earth and life today, I believe we need to let ourselves resonate with lines of becoming, beyond the ecopolitical motives, for understanding the life of the human and other-than-human becoming together.

Hamtramck, USA

89 min · United States · English
Director/Producer *Razi Jafri & Justin Feltman* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Razi Jafri & Justin Feltman*
Filmed in United States

Once a city that was 90% Polish, Hamtramck became the first Muslim majority city in America. Now, this new wave of immigrants aim to gain representation in city hall.

Hamtramck, USA follows Kamal Rahman, a Bangladeshi candidate for Mayor, Fadel al-Marsoumi, a 23 year old Iraqi immigrant running for City Council, as well as the current mayor, Karen Majewski, Hamtramck's first female mayor in the city's 100 year lineage of Polish mayors. Throughout the election, candidates look to build support, coalitions, and partnerships across ethnic and religious lines.



Weaved into the election season, the film showcases the vibrant life, celebrations, and culture of those who call this city home. At the end of the election, regardless of who ultimately wins, Hamtramck will need to come together, with a new identity or the remaining fragments of the past, to face the many challenges ahead.

Henet Ward

22 min · Egypt · Arabic (English subtitles)

Director/Producer *Morad Mostafa* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Morad Mostafa*

Filmed in Egypt

Halima, a Sudanese henna painter goes to Basma's, a young Egyptian bride to prepare her for her wedding: under the eyes of her daughter Ward, the encounter between the two women grows from complicity to suddenly unveiled tensions.

A Home Called Nebraska

69 min · United States, Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq · English

Director/Producer *Beth Gage & George Gage* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Beth Gage & George Gage*

Filmed in United States

In 2020, with America's Refugee Resettlement Program hanging by a thread, *A Home Called Nebraska* is the story of midwestern welcome, acceptance, and unlikely friendships during a time of national anxiety and emboldened bigotry. In 2016, the conservative state of Nebraska resettled more refugees per capita than any other state.

A Home Called Nebraska spotlights people who escaped war, torture and persecution. It also introduces the generous Nebraskans who welcomed them, taught them, celebrated with them, and helped them find jobs and houses. Today these refugees are succeeding, and are giving back to the communities that supported them.

This heartwarming documentary by Beth and George Gage (*American Outrage*, *Bidder 70*) offers hope and an antidote to racist nationalism: communities of people in Nebraska who work to dispel fear, build bridges and change their own perceptions along the way. Here is a compelling portrait of ordinary people standing up for what is right, inspiring us to do the same.

How I Live

87 min · Egypt · English, Arabic, Spanish, Burmese

Director/Producer *Meghan Shea* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Mike Rogers*

Filmed in Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Ghana, Myanmar

How I Live follows the journeys of four children with cancer in

Guatemala, El Salvador, Myanmar and Egypt and Ghana. Following them from diagnosis through treatment, the complex issues facing patients, families and healthcare providers emerge. The film documents the difficulties not only of cancer treatment but also the physical and geographic obstacles to accessing care and how these can be the most daunting to overcome.

We meet the healthcare teams who know and understand what those challenges look like for families of children with cancer and are working to provide quality care to their patients in the face of adverse conditions. Weaving together four years of filming and stories from disparate corners of the globe, the film is a composite of: the power of parents' love, children's courage, and what is possible when a community is dedicated to treating and someday curing childhood cancer.

Hurdle

87 min · Israel / Palestine · Arabic, Hebrew, English

Director *Michael Rowley* · Producer *Hurdle Film* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Michael Rowley*

Filmed in Israel / Palestine

Living under military occupation, Palestinian youth respond to a world of walls, checkpoints and arrests in an unexpected and inspiring way. *Hurdle's* protagonists, Sami and Mohammad, begin teaching the creative practices of parkour and photography to the youth of their communities as a means to overcome the personal and political obstacles that often feel inescapable. Though these young men are separated by a wall, they are united in leading the next generation toward freedom and self-determination through creative practices.

With breathtaking visuals, intimate access and action-packed scenes, award-winning *Hurdle* (from first-time filmmaker Michael Rowley) provides audiences and critics alike with a fresh look at an old conflict. The next generation must decide what to do with the wars and walls they inherit and, ultimately, find ways to practice their freedom.

Ibrat

126 min · Uzbekistan · Uzbek (English subtitles)

Director *Djakhongir Kasymov* · Producer *Zafar Yuldashev* · Film-

maker/Distributor *"Kinomania" Studio / "San'at Mano" Studio*

Filmed in Uzbekistan, Egypt, Turkey

The historical drama depicts the life of a progressive scholar, linguist, historian - Iskhakkhan Ibrat who dedicated himself to enlightening the people of Turakurgan despite the challenging times and political intrigues in Turkestan within the Russian Empire in the late 19th and early 20th century.



In The Desert - A Documentary Diptych

220 min · Canada, Israel · Hebrew & Arabic (English subtitles)
Director *Avner Faingulernt* · Producer *Hagar Saad Shalom, Paul Cadieux, Shlomi Elkabetz, Danae Elon, Galit Bachlon; Skene Border Films (IL), Filmoption International (CAN), Deux Beaux Garçons Films (IL), Entre Deux Mondes Productions* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Avner Faingulernt*
Filmed in Israel

In The Desert is a diptych documentary about two realities, two families in one land. Both parts have a dialectic relationship to each other, an inherent tension that exists by their very juxtaposition: 'Omar's Dream' is about a Palestinian family; 'Avidan's Dream' is about a Jewish one. Both families live in an area of the West Bank that is governed by Palestinian Authority but controlled by Israeli Army - which officially prohibits anyone from settling there. The two families live on opposite hills, but never meet. Both men discover their lives are determined by a personal struggle to define who they really are rather than by a political conflict.

In The Desert is a profound journey trying to defy what is commonly known about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

“It’s What We Do”: A Play about the Occupation

55 min · Israel/Palestine · English
Director *Pamela Nice* · Producer *Cafe Aziz, Inc.* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Pamela Nice & Sharon Crissinger*
Filmed in United States

The play is drawn directly from the testimonies in the book, *Our Harsh Logic, by Breaking the Silence*. All the Israeli soldiers' reflections are verbatim; the enacted stories are ones they tell. I've made three composite soldiers who represent varying responses to the harsh occupation policies they enforce: moral indignation, power highs, inner conflict. In a debriefing, they are interviewed by The Voice, who encourages them to confront what they have done. As they recount their stories, they face their roles as perpetrators of injustice against Palestinian civilians.

We in the audience are challenged just as they are: what are we doing with our awareness of this injustice?

Mapping Lessons

60 min · Syria, Palestine · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director/Producer *Philip Rizk* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Philip Rizk*
Filmed in Syria

Mapping Lessons is a travel film in content and aesthetics. We journey with K to a Levant being colonized and then travel through time and place to anti-neocolonial struggles there set

in conversation with others across the globe - from 1936 Spain, to the early experiment of the Soviets, resistance in Vietnam and Algeria to uprisings in Argentina and the Paris Commune.

The film features lessons K learns from her encounters along the way, on agroecology and self-governance, on sustainable energy, and about education outside of the framework of the nation-state. These lessons are inspired by two similar short-lived moments in the region's history, prior to the creation of nation-states and following the Syrian government's partial withdrawal from opposition areas starting in 2012. The journey frames the current neo-colonial reality that plagues the region within the colonization of the past. Inspired by the internet tutorial format, *Mapping Lessons* tells of experiments in autonomy in the absence of a state showing experiments that act as a manual for the next time.

Mare Nostrum

14 min · Syria · English
Director *Rana Kazkaz & Anas Khalaf* · Producer *Anas Khalaf, Nicolas Lepretre, Raphael Alexandre* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Rana Kazkaz*
Filmed in Jordan

On a Mediterranean shore, a Syrian father makes a decision that puts his daughter's life at risk.

Master Eddy

113 min · United States, Lebanon · Armenian & English (English subtitles)
Director *Ara Madzounian* · Producer *Ara Madzounian* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Ara Madzounian*
Filmed in United States

Eddy Yacoubian - an immigrant from Lebanon - has been mending shoes since the tender age of nine. "If Eddy can't fix it, no one can" his patrons affirm.

In the age of digital automation, Eddy's artistry and humanity are a reminder of global cultural change. He accepts his reality with a certain discontent but also admits that luck has been a force majeure.

Shot cinema verité, *Master Eddy* with deep existential simplicity, hammers away his story one nail at a time, keeping a pragmatic philosophy of life, much like his hands do.

Muslim in America: Trump's Legacy of Fear

67 min · United States · English
Director/Producer *Deeyah Khan* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Deeyah Khan*
Filmed in United States



Since 2015, anti-Muslim hate groups, conspiracy theories and hate crimes have all risen in the United States. Emmy Award-winning director Deeyah Khan meets the family of a Kansas farmer serving 30 years for an anti-Muslim bomb plot, and films with a right wing, armed militia who believe in conspiracy theories that Muslims are trying to take over America.

Filming before and during the coronavirus pandemic and while events following the death of George Floyd unfolded around her in America, Deeyah meets ordinary Muslims whose lives have been shattered by violence and intolerance, along with campaigners who are trying to combat a rising tide of hatred. They include Minnesota congresswoman Ilhan Omar, who was among four women in the assembly told to 'go back' from where they came by President Trump – despite three of them being born in the US. Deploying her uniquely intimate filming style, Deeyah seeks to get to the heart of the Muslim experience – providing a vivid insight into their experiences of alienation, of rejection, and the daily struggles of keeping faith with both Islam and the American Dream.

Najaf Daryabandari: A Window on the World

26 min · United States, Iran · Persian (English subtitles)

Director/Producer *Bahman Maghsoudlou* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Bahman Maghsoudlou*

Filmed in Iran

Najaf Daryabandari (1929 - 2020), an Iranian self-trained painter, photographer, writer, and translator, who has left behind 28 translations, 6 collections of works and 6 interviews. He was a diligent and vanguard translator with complete command of Persian language and an apparent simple but unique style of writing. American Columbia University awarded him its Thornton Wilder's prize from for his translations.

One Image, Two Acts

44:38 min · Canada, Germany, United States, Iran ·

Persian & English

Director/Producer *Sanaz Sohrabi* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Sanaz Sohrabi*

Filmed in Canada, United States, Iran

The establishment of Iran's petroleum industrial complex in 1908 is entangled with the formation of media and visual infrastructures which propelled and sustained new ideologies and modes of identification with the emergent colonial modernity in Iran. Between 1908-1951, the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (AIOC) -currently British Petroleum (BP)- strategically utilized ethnographic film and photography production to promote and represent its colonial developments in Iran. *One Image, Two Acts* unpacks BP's widespread construction of cinemas in the oil towns of South-Western Iran and follows the transformation of this emergent image economy in contouring the nationalization

movement and the anti-colonial cinema between 1950-1980 in Iran. This film examines the ways in which the oil company's visual regimes of petro-modernity were reclaimed and countered by a growing anti-colonial cinema in which oil was a protagonist and cinemas had become the contested emblem of colonial development.

Palestinian Media in the Diaspora: The Case of Chile

16 min · Chile, Palestine · English & Spanish (English subtitles)

Director/Producer *Heba El Attar* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Heba El Attar*

Filmed in Chile

The Palestinian immigrant community in Chile is one of the largest outside the Middle East. The media have been one of several cultural forums they have cultivated. For over a century, their communal press and their radio programs played a key role in helping the community integrate into the host society without losing its cultural heritage. Not only did the Palestinian diaspora in Chile establish a solid communal press and popular acoustic programs, but also Palestinian Chilean journalists and filmmakers, like Faride Zerán and Miguel Littín, stood out in mainstream journalism and cinema, respectively. Even though other Palestinian immigrant communities in Latin America, like the one in Honduras, have significant media contributions, the Palestinian immigrant community in Chile remains the one with most cultural agency in the continent.

Parenthesis

4 min · United States, Greece, Italy · No dialogue

Director/Producer *Vasilios Papaioannu* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Vasilios Papaioannu*

Filmed in United States, Greece, Italy

In this lonely contemplation of a past summer, the ancient promontory becomes a parenthetical projection of frantic lines and alternating impressions

A Place Under the Sun

74 min · Arab World · Arabic (English subtitles)

Director *Karim Aitouna* · Producer *Karim Aitouna & Thomas*

Micoulet · Filmmaker/Distributor *Karim Aitouna*

Filmed in Morocco

Tetouan's Algeria Street is the vibrant heart of the city, where itinerant street vendors sell all manner of contraband goods. Suddenly one day, there is big news: the traders will no longer be allowed to sell their wares on the roadsides. There is a new, model souq under construction – but not all everyone will be able to have access to a stall to conduct their business. For Mohamed, Abdel Slam, and the many others who have grown up on Algeria Street, it is as though time is suddenly suspended. Some expect the worst; others form an association and organise protests.



Samt ar-ra'is

24:49 min · Switzerland · No dialogue
Director *Benjamin Dobó* · Producer *Flavio Speglitz* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Benjamin Dobó*
Filmed in Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Egypt

The media-reflective work's beginning was found during the first lockdown in Frankfurt's bank district. It is a tangible snapshot of a mystic microcosm, between what fell silent, the untold, and the left-behind fragments of architectures.

We journey into a world shaped by transience, standstill and vacuity. Void of humans, the images speak of a strange time off of which life has withdrawn itself. The only constant is made of terrestrial factualities, the timelessness of water circulating, fragments of abandoned architecture and memories of a time bygone. The past, presence and future melt together in levitation.

Suspended Wives

74 min · Maroc · Arabic (English subtitles)
Director/Producer *Karim Aitouna* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Karim Aitouna*
Filmed in Maroc

Suspended wives, are women left behind by their husbands, they are not married neither divorced. Ghita, Latifa and Saadia are seeking their freedom through an unfortunate long divorce process.

Syria: A Decade of Atrocities

7:47 min · Syria · English
Director *Andrea Kalin* · Producer *M. Night Shyamalan, Andrea Kalin, Mouaz Moustafa* · Filmmaker/Distributor *M. Night Shyamalan, Andrea Kalin, James Mirabello, Ethan Oser*
Filmed in Syria, United States

In 2011, at the height of the Arab Spring, the Syrian people took to the streets demanding democracy. What began as peaceful protests devolved into an armed conflict that has left hundreds of thousands dead and millions more displaced.

Produced in partnership with the M. Night Shyamalan Foundation, Syrian Emergency Task Force, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, *Syria: A Decade of Atrocities* reflects on the strength of the pro-democratic movement in Syria 10 years later and documents the ongoing atrocities perpetrated by the Assad Regime.

Taq Kasra: Wonder of Architecture

30 min · Iraq · English
Director *Pejman Akbarzadeh* · Producer *Persian Dutch Network* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Pejman Akbarzadeh*
Filmed in Iraq, Iran, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States

Taq Kasra: Wonder of Architecture is the first-ever documentary film on the world's largest brick vault. The palace is a symbol of the Persian Empire in the Sasanian era (224-651 AD), when a major part of Mesopotamia (modern Iraq) was part of Persia. Taq Kasra was in serious danger of ISIS attacks in 2014-2016 and this was the main motivation for documentary maker Pejman Akbarzadeh, based in the Netherlands, to travel to Iraq twice and film the arch before it was potentially destroyed. *Taq Kasra: Wonder of Architecture* explores the history and architecture of this iconic monument with respected archaeologists and scholars from around the world. The documentary also portrays the huge impact of war and ideological policies on the identity of this ancient arch.

Terrain Ahead

20:13 min · United Arab Emirates · No dialogue
Director *Anna Kipervaser & Majd Alloush* · Producer *Anna Kipervaser* · Filmmaker/Distributor *Cinematography: Anna Kipervaser + Majd Alloush, Editing: Anna Kipervaser*
Filmed in United Arab Emirates

A meditation on water, *Terrain Ahead* is a hybrid analog-digital experimental documentary exploring the trajectory of human impact on coastlines in the United Arab Emirates. The film asks questions around visibility and invisibility, around what is and can be documented and shared, and that which cannot.

Their Algeria

72 min · Algeria · French & Arabic (English subtitles)
Director *Lina Soualem* · Producer *Marie Balducci* ·
Filmmaker/Distributor *Lina Soualem*
Filmed in France, Algeria

Lina's grandparents have decided to separate. Together, they had come from Algeria to Thiers, in the center of France, more than 60 years ago, and side by side they had crossed this chaotic life of immigrants. For Lina, their separation is the occasion to question their long journey of exile, as well as their identity.



Three Tours

49 min · United States · English

Director/Producer *Betty Yu* · Filmmaker/Distributor *Betty Yu*

Filmed in United States

Three Tours is an award-winning documentary film that captures the lives of three U.S. military veterans, Nicole Goodwin, Ramon Mejia & Ryan Holleran, as they work to heal their wounds and battle with PTSD resulting from their deployments in Iraq. The film follows their transformation from U.S. military trained soldiers to agents of change advocating for proper mental health treatment of veterans and an end to unjust wars.

Trumpets In the Sky

15 min · Palestine, Lebanon, France, Belgium · Arabic (English subtitles)

Director *Rakan Mayasi* · Producer *Francois Morisset* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Rakan Mayasi*

Filmed in Palestine, Lebanon

Boushra, one of the Syrian potato-picking girls in Lebanon, returns from a long day of work in the field only to learn that today her childhood will come to an end.

The Viewing Booth

72 min · Israel/Palestine · English, Hebrew, Arabic

Director *Ra'anan Alexandrowicz* · Producer *Ra'anan Alexandrowicz & Liran Atzmor* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Ra'anan Alexandrowicz*

Filmed in United States

Dubbed by the Middle East Eye as "...a fascinating, trailblazing experiment that investigates how we see and decode images, while simultaneously interrogating their veracity", *The Viewing Booth* ventures into a space ostensibly off-limits to cinema — the internal experience of a viewer.

In a lab-like location, Maia Levy, a young Jewish American woman, watches videos portraying life under occupation in the West Bank. Maia is an enthusiastic supporter of Israel, and the images in the videos, depicting Palestinian life under Israeli military rule, contradict some of her deep-seated beliefs. Empathy, anger, embarrassment, innate biases, and healthy curiosity — all play out before our eyes as we watch her watch the images of military occupation. Six months later, Levy returns to watch more footage. This time, Maia views edited footage of herself while she was watching the images of the occupation. What is revealed in the process is multi-layered, puzzling, insightful and extends beyond the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Maia's candid and reflective analysis of her previous commentary forms a one-of-a-kind cinematic testimony of the psychology of the viewer in the digital era, and a staggering demonstration of the idea that seeing is not always believing.

A Way Home

90 min · Europe, Arab World · Arabic & French (English subtitles)

Director *Karima Saidi* · Producer *Karim Aitouna & Julie Freres* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Karima Saidi*

Filmed in Morocco, Belgium

After years of separation, the filmmaker renews her relationship with her mother, Aïcha, now suffering from Alzheimer's. From Brussels to Tangiers, the odyssey of a family marked by exile is evoked through discretion and confession, pain, separation, grief, and joy.

When Beirut Was Beirut

12 min · Lebanon · Arabic (English subtitles)

Director/Producer *Alessandra El Chanti* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Alessandra El Chanti*

Filmed in Lebanon

Hybrid documentary introduces us to three majestic abandoned buildings that witnessed Beirut's tumultuous history, and come to life through a casual conversation amongst themselves. Using animation and archival audiovisuals, this film takes us back to the Golden Era of Beirut, when the Piccadilly Theater was filled with glamorous entertainment, the Egg was bustling with people in its local markets, and Beit Beirut housed an iconic hair salon and families living under its art-deco roof.

When the Lebanese Civil War erupted in 1975, the lives of these buildings had changed completely, turning into bases for snipers on the demarcation line that split the city into East and West, based on religious sects. Years later, the August 4th 2020 explosion in Beirut awakens the three buildings from their slumber as they witness another chapter of the city's history, and reminds them of their troubling past.

Witness

14 min · Iran · Persian (English subtitles)

Director *Ali Asgari* · Producer *Francois Morisset* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Hamed Hosseini*

Filmed in Iran

A mother helps an elderly woman in a shopping mall in Tehran. A tragedy occurs, brutally confronting her with the impact of her actions.

Women of the Sun: A Chronology of Seeing

86 min · Iran · Persian (English subtitles)

Director *Hamed Zolfaghari and the Participatory Video Group of Shafiabad* · Producer *Mariam Abazeri, Hamed Zolfaghari, Nina Aminzadeh, Marie Balducci* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Hamed Zolfaghari and the Participatory Video Group of Shafiabad*

Filmed in Iran



A workshop in a small desert village in South Central Iran is held to teach villagers how to use a camera to make short videos. The remote village faces many issues including drought, poverty, and a frustrated youth population. A group of six young women attend the workshop and decide to create a video on their frustrations with women's social and economic limitations. The group then decides to organize for better wages and film the process while they tackle issues of social freedoms and religious restrictions. Their work stirs controversy and the women are confronted with an outcry against their filming from conservative community members. Nonetheless they screen their video at the local mosque and for the first time since they begin, dozens of women request to join them, expanding the six-person group to one of several hundred participants. Filmed over the span of four years from the perspective of different video group members, this film shows how a camera and a group of six determined women can open new worlds for themselves and their community, one frame at a time.

Ziyra

99 min · France, Morocco · Arabic, French, Hebrew (English subtitles)

Director *Simone Bitton* · Producer *Thierry Lenouvel* ·

Filmmaker/Distributor *Simone Bitton*

Filmed in Morocco

Celebrated documentary filmmaker Simone Bitton (Ben Barka, Wall, Rachel) returns with her most personal film to date. Inviting viewers on a cinematic pilgrimage to her homeland of Morocco, Bitton explores her Jewish roots through the sphere of the Muslim guardians of the nation's Jewish memory, centered around the tradition of "ziyara".

In the arid but beautiful landscape of rural Morocco, the country's youngest citizens have largely never themselves coexisted alongside Jews, although their presence is still felt in symbols, old shrines, synagogues and cemeteries. Many Muslims still maintain and find beauty in these commodities, seeing them as a timeless connection to the word of God.

Throughout the film, Bitton investigates the tradition of ziyara itself, a shared tradition between both Muslims and Jews. Pilgrims take a few days off in order to visit the tombs of saints, not only pray but more importantly to commune with nature, celebrate outdoors, meet new people and exchange ideas. The film is Bitton's opportunity to revisit her original identity through the eyes of maturity, rooted not in nostalgia, but in her willingness to tell the story of Jews and Muslims, as has been the consistent theme in her work for decades. And in revisiting Morocco and the "ziyara" tradition, Bitton finds a story of hope.

Bitton conducts intimate conversations not only with those old enough to remember sharing their land with Jews, but with a new generation of Moroccans inspired by their heritage. These deeply personal insights include everyday people and specialists, all of them modest and magnificent heroes in a relentless quest for modernity, dignity, and social justice.



Film Distributors/Filmmakers

Alessandra El Chanti

When Beirut Was Beirut

<http://instagram.com/alessandraelchanti/>

Alterumma Project University of Birmingham

Ah Zaynab: A Shia Religious Statue

Exhibition in Kuwait

<http://www.nadabdulla.com>

Anna Kipervaser

Terrain Ahead

<http://annakipervaser.com>

Ara Madzounian

Master Eddy

<https://filmfreeway.com/MasterEddy>

Bullfrog Films

A Home Called Nebraska

<http://www.bullfrogfilms.com>

Can Bilir

the ghosts of the world behind

<http://canbilir.com>

Cinewaves Films

Cycle of Apples

<https://malsaati.wordpress.com>

Crazy Woodpecker Studio

Women of the Sun: A Chronology of Seeing

<https://www.facebook.com/WomenoftheSun>

Doha Film Institute

Al Tabbab

The Black Veil

Emsahar

<https://www.dohafilminstitute.com/>

Flavio Speglietz, Zürich (CH)

Samt ar-ra`s

b.dobo@gmx.ch

Grasshopper Film

Hamtramck, USA

<http://store.grasshopperfilm.com/>

hamtramck-usa.html

Hasan Demirtas

Carry My Voice

<https://veqetinn.wixsite.com/veqetinfilm>

Haut les Mains Productions

Gevar's Land

A Place Under the Sun

Suspended Wives

A Way Home

<http://hautlesmainsproductions.fr>

Heba El Attar

Palestinian Media in the Diaspora: The

Case of Chile

<https://vimeo.com/572324910/f26a401abc>

Icarus Films

Ziyra

<http://icarusfilms.com/if-ziyara>

International Film & Video center

Najaf Daryabandari: A Window on the

World

<http://ifvc.com>

Lightdox

Their Algeria

<http://lightdox.com>

New Day Films

Hurdle

<http://hurdlefilm.com>

How I Live

<https://www.howilivewithcancer.com/>

Our Harsh Logic

"It's What We Do": A Play about the

Occupation

<http://www.iwwd.org>

Persian Dutch Network

Taq Kasra: Wonder of Architecture

<http://taqkasra.com>

Philip Rizk

Mapping Lessons

filfilm.com/mappinglessons

Premium Films

Mare Nostrum

<http://www.ranakazkaz.com>

RA Vision Productions, Inc.

Fireflies

<https://www.ravision.net/>

Ra'anana Alexandrowicz

The Viewing Booth

<http://theviewingboothfilm.com>

Ruth Films

In The Desert - A Documentary Diptych

<https://www.ruthfilms.com/films/new-releases/in-the-desert.html>

Salaud Morisset

Henet Ward

Trumpets in the Sky

Witness

<http://salaudmorisset.com>

Sanaz Sohrabi

One Image, Two Acts

<https://www.sanaz-sohrabi.com/#/one-image-two-acts/>

Suzannah Mirghani

Al-Sit

suzannahmirghani@gmail.com

Syrian Emergency Task Force

Syria: A Decade of Atrocities

<http://www.sparkmedia.org>

TeleSUR

Ethnocracy: Israel's African Refugees

<http://naretivproductions.com>

Third World Newsreel

Three Tours

<http://www.twn.org>

"Uzbekkino" National Agency "Kinomania" Studio / "San'at Mano" Studio

Ibrat

<http://uzbekkino.uz>

Vasilios Papaioannu

Parenthesis

<http://www.vasiliospapaioannu.com/>

Women Make Movies

Muslim in America: Trump's Legacy of Fear

<https://www.wmm.com/>

Roundtable

I-01: Reading Practices and Contexts in the Early Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Oscar Aguirre Mandujano**Chair: **Cemal Kafadar**, Harvard University

A. Tunç Sen, Columbia University
Akif E. Yerlioglu, Oslo University
Aslihan Gürbüz, McGill University
Oscar Aguirre Mandujano, University of Pennsylvania
Murat Umut Inan, University of Toronto

Roundtable

I-02: Modern Coptic Studies? Tracing the Contours of a Field, in Egypt and Beyond

Organized by **Heather J. Sharkey**, University of Pennsylvania

Weston Bland, University of Pennsylvania
Matija Miličić, Radboud University
Hiroko Miyokawa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
Ramy N. Marcoss, Hartford Seminary
Gaétan Du Roy, Radboud University
Mirna Wasef, UC San Diego

Roundtable

I-03: What's Up in Turkish Studies

Organized by **Nick Danforth**

Sponsored by Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)

Chair: **Ipek Tureli**, McGill University

Nick Danforth, ELIAMEP
Sarah-Neel Smith, Maryland Institute College of Art
Timur Hammond, Syracuse University
James Ryan, New York University

Roundtable

I-04: New Frontiers in Research on Contentious Politics in the Middle East

Organized by **Gunes Murat Tezcur** and **Ali Kadivar**Chair: **Gunes Murat Tezcur**

Neil Ketchley, University of Oxford
Chantal Berman, Georgetown University
Imren Borsuk, Europe in the Middle East, Forum Transregionale Studien
Maryam Alemzadeh, Princeton University
Ali Kadivar, Boston College
Gunes Murat Tezcur, University of Central Florida

I-05: Governing through the Senses: Garbage and other Slow Violences

Organized by **Michelle D. Weitzel**

Chair: **Hiba Bou Akar**, Columbia University
 Discussant: **Jose Ciro Martinez**, University of Cambridge

Hana Masri, University of Pennsylvania
Savage's Living-Dead Discourse in Necropolitical Palestine

Lauren Baker, Northwestern University
Trash talk: Hegemonic and subversive environmental politics in Morocco

Michelle D. Weitzel, University of Basel
Access Denied: Temporal Mobility and Circulation at the Ibrahimi Mosque

Heather Jaber, University of Pennsylvania
Infrastructures of Feeling: Lebanon and the 5G Controversy

I-06: Art and Revolution in Iraq

Organized by **Bridget Guarasci**

Chair: **Sinan Antoon**, New York University
 Discussant: **Sara Pursley**, New York University

Tiffany Floyd, Columbia University
Iraq's Temporal Terrain and The Archaeological Vision of Hamaa Malallah's The God Marduk

Bridget Guarasci, Franklin and Marshall College
Thinking about Iraq's Marshes with Dia Azgami and Muza'far al-Namwab
Ikram Masmoudi, University of Delaware
The Art of the Catalogue in the Fiction of War

Nada M. Shabout, University of North Texas
Dafatir: Reimagining a City under Siege

I-07: The Politics of Culture in Postcolonial Morocco and its Diasporas

Organized by **David Stenner** and **Shay Hazkani**

Shay Hazkani, University of Maryland, College Park
The Radicalization of Moroccan Jews between Casablanca and Wadi Salib, 1956-1959

David Stenner, Christopher Newport University
Lighthouse of Knowledge: The National Literacy Campaign in Postcolonial Morocco

Jessie Stoolman, UCLA
Cataloguing Absence: Moroccan Jewish Archival Landscapes

Brahim El Guabli, Williams College
Literary Histories of Loss: Jews as an Object of Loss in Moroccan "Mnemonic Literature"

I-08: New Directions in Islamic Intellectual History

Organized by **Frank Griffel**Chair: **Salimeh Maghsoudlou**, McGill UniversityDiscussant: **Omar Farahat**, McGill University

Ahmed Tahir Nur, Yale University
Divine Visions, Human Divisions: Intellectual Perspectives in Taşköprüzade's (d. 968/1561) Key to Happiness

Beth Price, Yale University
Revisiting the Barahima's Enigma

Ryan Brizendine, Yale University
At the Origins of Philosophical Sufism: Contextualizing the Muqaddimat al-Futuḥāt of Ibn 'Arabi (d. 638/1240)

Frank Griffel, Yale University
Ibn Khaldun on the History of Post-Classical Philosophy and kalam — What did he not like about it?

I-09: Israel in the Middle East: A New Era?

Organized by **Itamar Radai**

Sponsored by
Association for Israel Studies (AIS)

Chair: **Itamar Radai**

Discussant: **Robert O. Freedman**, Johns
Hopkins University

Liora Hendelman-Baavur, Tel Aviv
University *An Island of stability in a
sea of change: Iran's view of the Abraham
Accords*

Joshua Teitelbaum, Bar-Ilan University
Israel and the Gulf States in the Biden Era

Eyal Zisser, Tel Aviv University *Israel and
Syria - the New-Old Game*

Harel Chorev, Tel Aviv University *The
Palestinians and the normalization agreements
with Israel*

Itamar Radai, Open University of Israel
*On the Deck of the Titanic? The Rise and
Fall of the Joint List of Arab parties in
Israel*

I-10: Rethinking Race as an Analytic in the Early Twentieth Century

Organized by **Frances S. Hasso**

Chair: **Frances S. Hasso**

Discussant: **Sarah Ghabrial**, Concordia
University

Francesca Biancani, University of
Bologna *The "Maiden Tribute of Modern
Egypt": White Slavery as a Racialized
Narrative of Imperial Crisis in Early
Twentieth-Century Colonial Egypt*

Kyle Anderson, SUNY Old Westbury
*"I will not accept slavery!"— Military
Labor, the 1919 Revolution, and Racial
Nationalism in Egypt*

George Topalidis, University of Florida
*The impact of US and Ottoman Politics on
Ottoman Greek Immigrants' Racial Self-
Classification, 1900-1930*

Michael Ferguson, Concordia University
*The Legacies of Ottoman Slavery in the
Study of Race and Racism in the early
Turkish Republic*

Frances S. Hasso, Duke University
*"Children are the Treasure and Property of
the Nation": Eugenics and Mothercraft in
Colonial Palestine*

I-11: Imagining Alternative Commons from the Levant: Digital Archives, Images, Documents, and Ecologies

Organized by **Kareem Estefan**

Molly Theodora Oringer, UCLA *Borders
and Gardens: Avi Moghrabi's Cinema Verité
and Possibilities for a Future Levant*

Kareem Estefan, Brown University
*Permission to Fabulate: Archival Absence
and Reparative Fabulation in Azza El-
Hassan's Kings and Extras*

Stefan Tarnowski, Columbia University
The Syrian Archive: Images that Speak

Sherena Razek, Brown University *From
Environmental Nakba to a Worldly
Hydrocommons: Reading the Waterscapes
of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea as
Ecopolitical Refusal*

I-12: Reconstructing Loss: Jewish Spaces in the Middle East and Beyond

Organized by **Ariane Sadjed**

Michele Baussant, CEFRES *Displaced
memories without traces and traces of the past
without memories: the legacies of Egyptian
Jews in and out of Egypt*

Monica Mereu, University of Cagliari
*Oudlajān Memories: from a Communitarian
Neighbourhood to a Placeless City*

Ariane Sadjed, Austrian Academy of
Sciences *The Meaning of Space: Contested
Histories of Jewish neighborhoods in Iran*

Piera Rossetto, University of Graz
*Mind the Map: Locating InVisible Jewish
Migrations*

I-13: Mapping the Literary Corpus: The Geography of Early Modern Persian Anthologies

Organized by **James White**

Theodore Beers, Freie Universität Berlin
*Reconstructing the Geography of an Early
Safavid Taẓkirah: The Tuḥfat-i Sami (ca.
957/1550) of Sam Mīrẓā*

Hajnalka Kovacs, Harvard University *The
Geography of Knowledge in Shir Khan Lodi's
Mir'at al-khayāl*

James White, Freie Universität Berlin
*The Archive of Literary History in the
Seventeenth-Century Deccan: A Persian
Translation of Baba' al-Dīn 'Amili's (d.
1030/1621) Kashkūl*

I-14: Capitalism, Imperialism, and Colonial Counter-Revolution in North Africa

Organized by **Mabrouka M'Barek**

Brahim Rouabah, CUNY *The Colonial
Counter-Revolution and the Struggle for
Emancipation in the 21st Century*

Mabrouka M'Barek, University of
Massachusetts Amherst *Reading
Gramsci through Fanon: Tunisia's Enduring
Decolonial Struggle*

Corinna Mullin, CUNY *"Security" as colonial
counter-revolution: Rearticulating Tunisia's
police state in the face of revolt*

Mohamed-Dhia Hammami Syracuse
University *Capital in Tunisia: A social
network approach*

I-15: Trade, Diplomacy, and Travel in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Michael Polczynski**

Suraija Erika Faroqhi, Ibn Haldun
University *The commercial travels of
Martin Gruneweg (1562-after 1615)*

Michael Polczynski, Georgetown
University *The Risāle-i Tatar-i Leh: Polish-
Lithuanian Muslims in the Sublime Porte*

M. Fatih Calisir, Kırklareli University *An
English Scholar in the Ottoman Empire:
Thomas Smith (1638-1710) and his Travel
Accounts*

Yasir Yilmaz, Austrian Academy of
Sciences *The Travelogues of Damian Hugo
von Virmont and Dayezade İbrahim Paşa:
Habsburg-Ottoman Exchange of Embassies
in the Aftermath of Passarowitz, 1720-1721*

I-16: The State and its Aftermaths: Civil Society, Religion, Violence, and Identity Formation

Can Dalyan, College of Charleston *The Summer of Our Content: Remembering Military Summer Camps in Turkey*

Yaprak Damla Yıldırım, Yale University *Disposable Bodies: The Impacts of (De)Westernization on Femicide in Turkey*

Utku Balaban, Amherst College *Purity and Creed: Discourses of Contemporary Sunni-Muslim Tariqas on Everyday Life Practices and Politics in Turkey*

I-17: Migrant Lives: Activism, Economics, and Asylum in Europe

Özlem Belçim Galip, University of Oxford *"Talent has no race but...": Kurdish migrant women's aesthetics of existence through cultural and artistic activism in Europe*

Anne Sofie Schoett, Royal Danish Defence College *Alter-territorial identification with the homeland: Kurdish diaspora mobilisation in support of the Kurdish struggle against Islamic State*

Emrah Sahin, University of Florida *Playing with Doubt: Ethnicity, Community, and How Turkish-German Soccer Players Select National Teams*

Ebru Öztürk, Mid Sweden University *Conversion from Shi'a Islam to Christianity: The Ontological Security of Iranian Asylum-Seeking Converts Living in Sweden*

Sevil Cakir, University of Göttingen *Conception of Activist Biographies: The Cases of Kurdish Migrant Women in Germany*

I-18: New Perspectives in Gender History, 19th-20th c.

Sara Khorshid, Western University *Ana Hurra (I Am Free) and the Paradoxes of State Feminism in Egypt During the Nasser Era*

Mesadet Maria Sozmen, UC Santa Barbara *Gender, state and women's activism in Turkey's transition to multi-party democracy, 1946-1950*

David Rahimi, University of Texas at Austin *The Iranian Cosmopolitan Kitchen: Class, Gender, and Modernization in Zan-e Ruḡ*

Inna Blaich, Brandeis University *Divorce in early Soviet Sharia Court: Muslim Women's petitions in 1920's Dagestan*

Reda Rafei, Texas Tech University and **Wassim El Naghi**, Lebanese University *The land is gone and the milk generates few liras, now what? Socio-economic struggle and the daughters of Arous al-Thawra*

I-19: The Politics of Infrastructure: Colonialism and Conservation

Chair: **Joyce Dalsheim**

Marianna Reis, University of Toronto *Borderland Infrastructures in the Greater Nazareth Area*

Noah Hysler Rubin, Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design *Cultural heritage in the digital age: Digitizing Modern Jerusalem Archives*

Ekin Kurtic, Brandeis University *Ecologies of Infrastructure Maintenance: Dams, Sediment, and Uplands in Northeastern Turkey*

Burcu Ozdemir, CUNY Graduate Center *Among the Ruins of Old-Hasankeyf: Cultural Conservation and Space-Making in Upper Tigris Valley*

Connie Gagliardi, University of Toronto *The Icon of "Our Lady Who Brings Down Walls", Sacralizing the Palestinian face of the Israeli Separation Wall with Divine Presence*

Joyce Dalsheim, UNC Charlotte *The Temporality of a Structure: When is Settler Colonialism?*

I-20: Statecraft and State Survival

Chair: **Fred H. Lawson**, Emirates Diplomatic Academy

Lucia Kroiter, Royal Roads University *Libya: Distributive State and Regional Patronage*

Syuzanna Petrosyan, USC Institute of Armenian Studies *Understanding Independence: Armenia 1988-1996 A preliminary look at the first year of*

documentation and oral interview collection process

Pietro Marzo, Laval University *Decentralization and Local Governance in Libya. Challenges and Opportunities*

Majed Binkhunein, SOAS University of London *Overstating the Hegemony: Approaching Contradictions in the Saudi Bureaucracy*

Anton Minkov, Defence Research and Development Canada *Lebanon 2021: On the Path to State Failure or Not?*

I-21: Technologies of Empire: Medicine, Land Policy, Special Commissions, & Financial Advisory Missions

Chair: **Mario M. Ruiz**, Hofstra University

Martin Bunton, University of Victoria *Land Policies in Occupied Enemy Territory: the case of British rule in Ottoman Palestine, 1917-1920*

Mohamed Gamal-Eldin, New Jersey Institute of Technology *Healthscaping along the Suez Canal, 1860-1936*

Robert J. Bell, New York University *Deconstructing Morgan Shuster's Myths: A New Perspective on the 1911 American Financial Advisory Mission to Iran*

Alyssa Bivins, George Washington University *Sir Abdur Rahman and the "Unfortunate" Partitions of 1947*

I-22: New Perspectives in Medieval Islamic and Mamluk History

Chair: **Fadi Ragheb**, University of Toronto

Seyfeddin Kara, University of Toronto/University of Göttingen *Dating of the Muslim reports (hadiths) on the textual history of the Qur'an*

Ashley Bozian, St. John's University *Medieval Armenian Perceptions of Islamic Sexuality*

Ahmad Nazir Atassi, Louisiana Tech University *Coming to terms with the definition of "Tabaqa" in the Tabaqa genre*

Ali A. Olomi, Penn State Abington *The Science of the Apocalypse: Conjunctionalism and Empire*

I-23: What is Modern in Modern Arabic Literature?

Evelyn Richardson, University of Chicago
Territorializing the past: Arabic historical thought in the Tanzimat era

Norah Alkharashi, University of Ottawa
Translating you, translating me, translating us; Dialectics of literary translators

Ali Almajnooni, SUNY Binghamton
Desert Literature in the Arab World: Modernity, the Nation-State, and the Novel

Elijah Guerra, University of Missouri, Columbia
Raja Alem's The Dove's Necklace and Mapping the Social through the Built Environment

I-24: New Forms of Social Mobilization: Culture, Morality, and Class Formation

Chair: **William Lawrence**, American University

Douaa Sheet, CUNY Graduate Center
Recognition, Reparation, Redistribution: On Tunisia's Truth and Dignity Commission

Ouissal Harize, Durham University
Cultural Resistance during the Revolution of Smiles: Reimagining National Identity

Liv Tonnessen, Chr. Michelsen Institute
The LGBTQ+ Pre-Movement in Sudan

Nada Matta, Drexel University
The Short Lived 2012 Mini-Uprising in Jordan: State Corporatism and Class Capacities

I-25: Environment, Infrastructure, and Geopolitics

Chair: **Noha Fikry**, University of Toronto

Peter C. Valenti, New York University
Food Politics versus Political Food: Palestinian Cuniculture under Israeli Occupation

Krishna S. Kulkarni, University of Chicago
Nile Be Dammed: Environmental Consequences of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD)

Dina Najjar, ICARDA
"Even the Goats Feel the Heat:" Gender, Livestock Rearing, Rangeland Cultivation, and Climate Change Adaptation in Tunisia

Katreen Boustani, Indiana University
Bloomington Haunted Infrastructures: From the Silk Road to BRI

I-26: Youth Socialization and Education

Chair: **Uri Horesh**, Achva Academic College

Sajedeh Hosseini, University of Arizona
Touran Mirbadi, a Prominent Pioneer in Iranian Education

Rania Al-Nakib, Gulf University for Science and Technology
Kuwaiti Youth and the Evolution of the "Democratic Divaniya"

Lameese Ahmad, University of Arizona
The Physical Barriers of Public Education in Jordan

Adam Almqvist, University of Chicago
Acquiescence through Youth Empowerment? Social Entrepreneurialism and Authoritarian Renewal in Jordan

Sam Mejias, London School of Economics and **Rana Khazbak**, London School of Economics
Between National Pride and Critical Inquiry: Citizenship Education and Youth Perspectives in Kuwait

I-27: Pandemics and Covid-19: Surveillance, Governance, and Control

Chair: **Noura Chalati**, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient

Andreas Rechkemmer, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
COVID-19 Policy Tracker: Learning from MENA Government Responses to the Crisis

Nadine Kreitmeyr, University of Canterbury
First Ladies, Authoritarian Rule & the Covid response in the Middle East & North Africa

Morad Roohi, Queen's University
The Covid-19 Pandemic and a New Form of Subjectivity and Resistance in Rojhilat (Iranian Kurdistan)

I-28: Small States, Big Influence? Foreign Policy in the Persian Gulf

Chair: **Kristin Diwan**, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington

Betul Dogan-Akkas, Durham University/
Qatar University
Deconstruction of Hegemony: A Discourse Theory approach to the GCC Crisis

Deborah L. Wheeler, US Naval Academy
SOS? (States on Sand): The Survival

and Foreign Policy of Small States in the Arabian Gulf—A View from Kuwait

Omran Al-Abri, University of York
Omani regional neutrality during Iran-Iraq war 1980-1988: What was behind it?

I-29: Migration between Imperialism and Nationalism

Chair: **Joseph Leidy**, Brown University

John Ermer, Ransom Everglades School
Sociedad Libanesa: Transnational Identity Formation and Associational Life among Lebanese and Syrian Migrants in Twentieth-Century Cuba

Kristin Shamas, University of Oklahoma
Syrians in the Choctaw Nation, 1893-1920

Bedros Torosian, UC Irvine
A Man at Home is Worth a Thousand Men at Sea: Territoriality, Nationalism, and the Making of Ottoman Armenian Masculinity

Dahlia El Zein, University of Pennsylvania
Africa and the Mahjar: The Lebanese Syrian Diaspora in West Africa and Tirailleurs Sénégalais in Greater Syria during the Interwar Years

I-30: Whose Narratives? Whose Classrooms? Teaching Palestine and Gender; Sexual Justice in the Age of (Corporatized) Pandemic

Organized by **Rabab Abdulhadi**

Organized under the auspices of Arab and Muslim Ethnicities and Diasporas Studies (AMED), and Women and Gender Studies (WGS) at San Francisco State University

Chair: **Jamila Ghaddar**, University of Toronto

Discussant: **Michelle Hartman**, McGill University

Tomomi Kinukawa, San Francisco State University
Redefining Intellectual Labor at a Neoliberal University: Knowledge Production for Militant Feminist and Queer Resistance

Saliem Shehadeh, UCLA/San Francisco State University
Speaking Palestine at San Francisco State?

Rabab Abdulhadi, San Francisco State University
Whose Narratives? Teaching Palestine in the Age of Pandemic and the Corporate University

The Colonizing Self

OR, HOME AND HOMELESSNESS
IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Hagar Kotef



**Becoming
PALESTINE**



TOWARD AN ARCHIVAL IMAGINATION OF THE FUTURE
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the Settler Colonial Imagination, 1958-1973

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Marriage in Modern Iran

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Roundtable

**II-01: Staying Outside:
Negotiating Anti-Assimilationist
Gender and Sexual Variance in
South West Asia, North Africa,
and Diasporas**

Organized by **Anne Marie Butler**

Organized under the auspices of
Queer Studies Interest Group

Chair: **Andrew Gayed**, New York
University

Discussant: **Anne Marie Butler**,
Kalamazoo College

Razan Ghazzawi, University of Sussex
Tahereh Aghdasifar, California State
University, Dominguez Hills
Sabeena Shaikh, McGill University

Roundtable

**II-02: Reimagining Middle
Eastern Studies: Notes from the
Margins**

Organized by **Sargon Donabed**

Sponsored by
Assyrian Studies Association (ASA)

Sargon Donabed, Roger Williams
University/Assyrian Studies
Association

Thomas A. Carlson, Oklahoma State
University

Candace Lukasik, Washington University
in St. Louis

Thomas Simsarian Dolan, George
Washington University

Roundtable

**II-03: How and When Empire
Ends: The Ottoman Empire and
its Successors**

Organized by **Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular**
and **Milena Methodieva**

Chair: **Virginia Aksan**, McMaster
University

Christine M Philliou, UC Berkeley
Milena Methodieva, University of
Toronto

Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular, Rutgers
University

Renee Worringer, University of Guelph
Cemil Aydin, UNC Chapel Hill
Michael Provence, UC San Diego

Roundtable

**II-04: The State of Middle
Eastern and North African
Humor Studies: Pasts, Presents,
and Horizons**

Organized by **Elizabeth M. Perego** and
Mostafa Abedinifard

Leila Zonouzi, UC Santa Barbara
Mostafa Abedinifard, University of British
Columbia
Elizabeth M. Perego, Appalachian State
University

Roundtable

**II-05: New Directions in Middle
Eastern Literatures**

Organized by **Huda J. Fakhreddine**

Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of
Pennsylvania

Adam Talib, Durham University
Nora Parr, Freie Universität Berlin
Domenico Ingenito, UCLA

Lital Levy, Princeton University
Charis Olszok, University of Cambridge

II-06: Deserts as Archives Part 1

Organized by **Itzea Goikolea-Amiano** and
Brahim El Guabli, Williams College

Marta Scaglioni, University of Milano-
Bicocca *Toay's legacy of slavery in Southern
Tunisia between colonial documents and oral
memories*

Paraska Tolan-Szkilnik, University of
Pennsylvania *Gender Bending and Colonial
Conquest*

Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen, Yale University
*Through Deep Space and Epiphenomenal
Time: Migrant Adventures and Desert
Passages in the Eur.African Borderlands*

Itzea Goikolea-Amiano, SOAS University
of London *Archives of Race and
Enslavement across the Sahara: Maghribi
literature and the breaking of silence*

July Blalack, SOAS University of London
*Saharan Orature: Gathering an Ephemeral
Desert Archive*

**II-07: Masculinities and Crisis in
the Middle East**

Organized by **Onursal Erol**

Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
*The Making of Modern Turkish
Masculinities in the Early Republican Era
through Vernacular Photography*

Alessandro Columbu, University of
Westminster *Of knives, mustaches,
and beards: the fall of the Qabaday in
Zakariyya Tamir's short stories*

Mohamed El-Shewy, University of
Warwick *The Masculine Hero of Egypt's
2011 Uprising*

Tamar Shirinian, University of Tennessee,
Knoxville *The Figure of the Homosexual:
Masculinity in and between Biopolitical
and Traumatic Spatiotemporal Frames in
Postsocialist Armenia*

Onursal Erol, University of Southern
California *Efendilik: Civility, Urbanity,
and Homobistoricism in Contentious Istanbul*

**II-08: Early Modern Mobilities:
People, Animals, and Objects
within and beyond the
Ottoman Empire**

Organized by **Daniel Ohanian**

Sponsored by
Society for Armenian Studies (SAS)

Chair: **Natalie Rothman**, University of
Toronto

Isin Taylan, Yale University *Genres in
Transit: Movement of Geographical Forms in
the Early Modern Ottoman Empire*

Arlen Wiesenthal, University of Chicago
*The Empire Comes to Town: Towards a
Social History of Sultan Mehmed IV's (r.
1648-87) Extended Residence in Ottoman
Yenişehir, 1668-69*

Erin Pinon, Princeton University *Printing*

Pilgrimage: Replication and Imagination between Tokat and Jerusalem

Daniel Ohanian, UCLA *Mobility, Captivity, and Autobiography: The Tribulations of Bishop Awetik', 1706-1711*

II-09: Medical Humanities in the Middle East: Health, Medicine, and Life

Organized by **Mazyiar Ghiabi** and **Hande Yalnizoglu Altinay**

Chair: **Mazyiar Ghiabi**

Mazyiar Ghiabi, University of Exeter *The pharmakon to all evils: knowledge production on medicine/ drugs in Iran, 1900-1941*

Hande Yalnizoglu Altinay, University of Oxford *Plague or Not? Knowledge Production on Disease in Ottoman Baghdad, 1867-1880*

Taylor M. Moore, Harvard University *Tibb al-Rukka: Jinnealogies of Healing in Late Ottoman Cairo*

Chris Sandal-Wilson, University of East Anglia *Petitions and colonial psychiatry in British mandate Palestine*

Hannah-Louise Clark, University of Glasgow *Of Jinn Theories and Germ Theories: Translating Microbes, Bacteriological Medicine, and Islamic Law in Algeria*

II-10: The Historical Turn in Contemporary Arabic Fiction

Organized by **Ahmed Idrissi Alami**

Ahmed Idrissi Alami, Purdue University *Arabic Historical Fiction and/ as Witness Bearing*

Cristina Dozio, Università degli Studi di Milano *Fooling the Rules of History: the Court Jester in Contemporary Arabic Fiction*

Alexa Firat, Temple University *Philosophical Turns in Syrian Historical Fiction*

Amal Amireh, George Mason University *The Usable Past: Narrating History in Rabee' Jaber's Novel Druze Belgrade*

II-11: Fraud in the Colonial Archive: Writing a Social History of the Modern Maghrib

Organized by **Danielle Beaujon**

Sponsored by American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)

Chair: **Julia Clancy-Smith**, University of Arizona

Brooke Durham, Stanford University *The Mayor and his Merger: 1950s Oranais Poor Relief Reform and Efforts to Stop It*

Danielle Beaujon, New York University *Black Market Algerians: Race, Space, and Fraud in WWII French Empire*

John Dieck, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *Cannabis Trafficking Post-1932: Press Attention in French Protectorate Morocco*

Myriam Amri, Harvard University *Fake Coins in the Archive: Counterfeit Money and Anxious Power in the Tunisian Protectorate*

II-12: Localizing the Imperial: Histories of Northeast Africa in the 19th Century

Organized by **Lacy N Feigh**

Chair: **Eve Troutt Powell**, University of Pennsylvania

Discussant: **Amal Ghazal**, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

Bayan Abubakr, Yale University *Imagining the Black Arabs of Tarikh Al-Sudan*

Lacy N. Feigh, University of Pennsylvania *Builders of Empires: Enslaved Knowledge and Labor in the 19th Century Nile Valley*

Özgül Özdemir, Stanford University *"More than Local, Less than Global"*

Chloe L Bordewich, Harvard University *News from Gundet: Knowledge, Silence, and the Contraction of Egypt's East African Empire*

II-13: Exilic Cultural Production: Belonging and Estrangement

Organized by **Jonas Elbousty**

Chair: **Jonas Elbousty**, Yale University

Doaa A Omran, University of New Mexico *Exilic [Compassionate] Consciousness in Baba' Tāher's Love in Exile*

Touria Khannous, Louisiana State University *Moving Spaces, Heterotopias and Exile in Mariam Touzani's film Adam (2019)*

Nida Kiali, University of Washington *From Nationalization to Transculturation; New Approaches to Palestinian Literature in Israel*

Rima Sadek, Kenyon College *Liminality, Madness and Narration in Hassan Blasim's "Why don't you Write a Novel, Instead of Talking about all these Characters" and "The Nightmares of Carlos Fuentes"*

II-14: Security in Context: Political Economies of 21st Century Violence and Conflict

Organized by **Pete W. Moore**

Organized under the auspices of Security in Context

Chair: **Omar Dahi**, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Discussant: **Sarah E. Parkinson**, Johns Hopkins University

Tariq Dana, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies *Weapon diplomacy: Israel military/ security productions and the regional order*

Sean Yom, Temple University *US Security Assistance in Jordan: Normalizing Failure and Constructing Crises*

Pete W. Moore, Paris School of International Affairs *The Kuwaiti Military Since 1990: Transnational Incentives and Domestic Constraints*

Zaynab El Bernoussi, International University of Rabat *Contesting Precarity from the Margins: The Politics of Dignity and Citizenship in South Africa and Morocco*

Matteo Capasso, Ca' Foscari University *From Libya to Venezuela: De-Centring Western Visions of Security and Development*

II-15: Islamic Art and the Politics of Museum Display

Organized by **Constance Jame** and **Philip Geisler**

Sponsored by **Historians of Islamic Art Association (HIAA)**

Chair/Discussant: **Fahmida Suleman**, Royal Ontario Museum

Beyza Uzun, IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca *Between the Transnational and the Local: Assessing the Changing Profile of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Art, Istanbul*

Leila Moslemi, University of Toronto *The Malek National Library and Museum: Negotiating Curatorial Agency in an Iranian waqf*

Abdelrahman Kamel, Queen's University *The Cultural Diplomacy and Contested Modernity of Museological Development in Qatar: A Case Study on the Museum of Islamic Art and the Qatar National Museum*

Constance Jame, Heidelberg University *Redefining National Identity through Islamic Arts Exhibition in France*

Philip Geisler, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies *Islamic Art as a Multicultural Mythology in Spain and Canada*

II-16: Feeling Gender in Turkey

Organized by **Zeynep Korkman**

Discussant: **Yael Navaro**, University of Cambridge

Zeynep Korkman, UCLA *Feelings that Move: Gendered Affect, Political Agency, and Pro-Peace Academic Voices from Turkey*

Nisa Goksel, Arizona State University *Reconsidering Violence against Women: A Feminist Politics of Anger in Turkey*

Melissa Bilal, UCLA *Decolonizing Gendered and Affective Constructions of the "Armenian" in Turkey*

Emrah Karakus, University of Arizona *Politics of Kurdish Face: Queer Affect and Intimate Counter/insurgency in Turkey*

Umur Yildirim, Freie Universität Berlin *Spaced out States*

II-17: Peripheral Encounters with the Cold War in Turkey: Paradoxes and Uncertainties

Organized by **Ali Sipahi**

Chair: **Ali Sipahi**
Discussant: **Begum Adalet**, Cornell University

Feyza Burak-Adli, Northwestern University *Sufism, Universalism, and Nationalism in Cold War Turkey: The Case of Female Shaykha Samiha Ayverdi*

Can Evren, Independent Scholar *"Those Physical Educators who are the Cogwheels of the State in the World of Sport": Autonomy of Sport as a Cold War Cultural Discourse in Turkey*

Sertac Sen, Brown University *Smoking Under A Volcano: The Cold War in Turkish Thrace*

Ali Sipahi, Özyeğin University *Politics of Ethnography during the Cold War: Lloyd A. Fallers' Unfinished Turkey Research in the 1960s*

II-18: Iranian Cineture: Local Narratives, Global Receptions

Organized by **Naghmeh Esmailpour**

Naghmeh Esmailpour, Humboldt University in Berlin *Global Media Culture and Iranian Cineture*

Arash Mohammadavali, Leiden University *The Poetics of Communicating Trauma in Iranian Post-war Cineture*

Kaveh Rafie, University of Illinois at Chicago *The Transcendence of Trauma: The Aesthetics of Perils in Morteza Avini and Ernst Jünger*

II-19: Internationalizing the Middle East and North Africa in the mid-Twentieth Century

Chair: **Ali Dogan**, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient

Tilman Luedke, Arnold Bergstraesser Institut *Tracking West Germany's 2019s Moment in the Middle East: The Org. Geblen and the BND (West German Foreign Intelligence Service) in Egypt and Syria during*

the 1950s and 1960s

Sarp Kurgan, UC Santa Barbara *The Great Merge: Kemalist National-Liberationism and Leninist Socialism in Turkey's Progressive Politics, 1960-1971*

Sarah Slingluff, University of Edinburgh *Hidden in Plain Sight: Andalusí Cultural Heritage Sites in the Southern Meseta*

Andrea L. Stanton, University of Denver *Reading for Sound: Memoirs and Mid-Century Arabic Radio Broadcasting*

II-20: The Political Economy of Gulf States: Beyond Oil

Chair: **Mehran Kamrava**, Georgetown University Qatar

Edward Sayre, University of southern Mississippi *Labor Market Reform, Labor Nationalization, and Regional Economic Challenges in Qatar*

Jocelyn Sage Mitchell, Northwestern University in Qatar *More than Money: Rentier Politics in Qatar*

Robert Mogielnicki, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington *A Political Economy of Energy Transition: Privatizing Natural Gas Assets in Gulf Arab States*

II-21: Colonialism and Anti-Colonial Resistance in North Africa

Chair: **Khaoula Bengezi**, York University

April Najjaj, Texas A&M University-San Antonio *Memories of al-Andalus in Spanish Morocco: A Colonial Paradox*

Odile Moreau, Montpellier University SIRICE Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne *Prelude to the Rif War in Morocco (1921-1926)*

Nadia Sariahmed Belhadj, Columbia University *Weapons of the Weak: Resistance and Collaboration in the Algerian Revolution (1954-1962)*

Fredrick Walter Lorenz, UCLA *Nomads, Refugees, and Empires: Dilemmatic Mobility along Tripoli-Tunisia Border, 1881-1893*

Chris Rominger, University of North Florida *New Enemies, Temporary Friends: Local Perspectives on a Political Awakening along the Tunisia-Tripolitania Frontier during the Italo-Ottoman War, 1911-12*

II-22: Armed Non-State Actors and their Quest for Legitimacy

Chair: **Christina Sciabarra**, Bellevue College

Martin Kear, University of Sydney
Questioning the Moderation Dichotomy: Understanding Hamas's Progressive Moderation

Regine Schwab, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt
Jihadist groups in civil war – the case of the Islamic Ahrar al-Sham Movement in Syria

Kota Suechika, Ritsumeikan University
Hezbollah's Framing of the Two-front Resistance: A Quantitative Analysis of Hasan Nasrallah's Speeches

Alaa Tartir, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Addressing and Preventing Violent Extremism in the Borderlands of South Libya and Northern Sudan

II-23: Crises of Representation, Reform, and Recovery in 18th-21st c. France, Iran, & Turkey

Chair: **Massih Zekavat**, Europa-Universitaet Flensburg

Nahid Ahmadian, University of Maryland College Park
Method and Formation in Iranian Theater Histories

Zeinab Eskandari, University of Pennsylvania
A Reflection on the Unveiling Project in Poetry of the Late Qajar Era (1848-1925)

Mateo Farzaneh, Northeastern Illinois University, **Naser Shahryari**, Isfahan University, and **Saeid Tabesh**, University of Mazandaran
Iranian Armenians in Sports

Hazal Halavut, University of Toronto
Zabel and Halide: A Tale of Feminist Nostalgia, Colonial Agnosia and Armenian Genocide in Modern Turkey

II-24: Islamic Reform, Religious Reactions, and Political Trajectories, 19th-20th c.

Chair: **Mohammed A. Salih**, University of Pennsylvania

Ahmad Kindawi, Independent Scholar
Toward a New Synthesis in Saudi Arabia

Marya Hannun, Georgetown University
'Almanac of Religion': Locating Abd al-Rahman's Afghanistan on the map of Islamic Reform

Mohammad Ataie, Brandeis University
The Khomeinist Script: the Ecumenical Ulama and Exporting the Iranian Revolution

II-25: The Covid Society: How Pandemics Reconfigure Social Relations

Chair: **Michela Cerruti**, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Elena Aoun, Catholic University Louvain
Dealing with violence against women during the coronavirus pandemic in Jordan: an unexpected route towards greater symmetry between local actors and global donors?

Kathy Kamphoefner, Wenzhou-Kean University
To Mask or Not to Mask? Egyptian attitudes towards wearing a mask to prevent COVID

Max Gallien, Institute of Development Studies
Zakat, tax, and the state: Obligation and charity in times of COVID-19

Jan Völkel, Arnold Bergstraesser Institut
Leadership, trust and behavior: Risk governance in the Middle East and North Africa

II-26: Politics of Place and Displacement: Afghanistan, Morocco, Oman, and Palestine

Chair: **Rami Salameh**, Birzeit University

Sameera Ibrahim, University of Wisconsin Madison
At the "bottom rung of the migrant hierarchy"?: Afghan experiences of the EU-Turkey Deal of 2016

Heba Alnajada, UC Berkeley
"This Camp is Full of Hujjaj": Land Tenure and Property in the Shadow of Black September

Asmaa Elgamal, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Tying the natives to the soil: The security origins of land use policy in colonial Morocco

David Marshall, Elon University
Sacred Space/Contested Place - The Shifting Meanings of Joseph's Tomb

Lara Christmann, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
Changing lifestyles, mobility patterns and its linked identity challenges of young Omani nationals in Mascat

II-27: Medieval Philosophy and Medicine

Mohammad Amin Mansouri, University of Toronto
Nāsir-i Khusraw's Aristotelian Interpretation of the Resurrection (Qiyāma)

Lutz Richter-Bernburg, University of Tuebingen
'Plato is my friend, but a greater friend is truth: the discordant reception of an Aristotelian maxim in Arabic and Persian

Naser Dumairieh, University of Montreal
Ibrāhīm al-Kūrānī's (d. 1101/1690) Akbarian Solution to the Avicennian Issue of God's Knowledge of Particulars

Joseph Leonardo Vignone, Harvard University
Contagion, Causality, Critique: A Late-Mamluk Digest of Natural Science

II-28: State Feminism and Women in Politics: Comparative Perspectives

Chair: **Federica Stagni**, Scuola Normale Superiore

Hanna Al-Taher, Independent Researcher
Performing Gender and Belonging in Amman

Douja Mamelouk, Le Moyne College
Reconsidering Tunisian Feminism: What if Bourguiba was not the savior?

Bethany Shockley, American University of Sharjah
State feminism, public opinion, and identity in the UAE

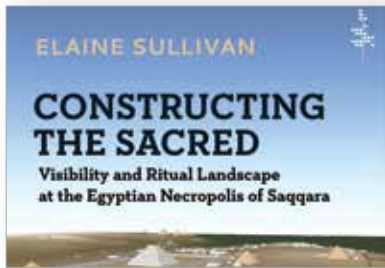
Ayda Apa-Pomeshikov, University of Washington
Religious Ethnicity and Communitarian Politics: Pious Turkish Women's Engagement in Humanitarian Volunteering



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Oral Art of the Mahra
Samuel Liebhaber

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Roundtable

III-01: Assyrian Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches and Navigating from Orientalism to Indigenous and Decolonizing Methodologies

Organized by **Joseph Hermiz** and **Sargon Donabed**

Sponsored by **Assyrian Studies Association (ASA)**

Chair: **Hannibal Travis**

Discussant: **Sargon Donabed**, Roger Williams University/Assyrian Studies Association

Andreas Onver Cetrez, Uppsala University
Hannibal Travis, Florida International University

Ruth Kamar, Assyrian Studies Association

Nashie Shamon, Victoria University of Wellington

Joseph Hermiz, University of Chicago

Roundtable

III-02: The Unmaking and Making of the Middle East in the Great War

Organized by **Jonathan Wyrzten**, Yale University and **Mustafa Aksakal**, Georgetown University

Christine M Philliou, UC Berkeley
Hussein Omar, University College Dublin
Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, University of Pennsylvania

Ali Abdullatif Ahmida, University of New England

Elizabeth F. Thompson, American University

Laura Robson, Pennsylvania State University

Roundtable

III-03: Ten Years after the Uprisings: New Perspectives on Tunisia?

Organized by **Lana Salman** and **Myriam Amri**

Sponsored by **American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)**

Discussant: **Sami Zemni**, Ghent University

Margaux Fitoussi, Columbia University
Myriam Amri, Harvard University
Shreya Parikh, UNC Chapel Hill/CERI-Sciences Po Paris

Lana Salman, Harvard University

Roundtable

III-04: Gender and Political Economy Across the Middle East

Organized by **Sherene R Seikaly** and **Cihan Tekay**

Chair: **Cihan Tekay**, CUNY Graduate Center

Sherene R. Seikaly, UC Santa Barbara
Julia Elyachar, Princeton University
Rosie Bsheer, Harvard University
Muriam Haleh Davis, UC Santa Cruz
Seda Altug, Boğaziçi University
Schluwa Sama, University of Exeter

Roundtable

III-05: The Politics of the Right: Local, Global and Digital Movements and Ideas

Organized by **Billie Jeanne Brownlee**

Chair: **Billie Jeanne Brownlee**

Billie Jeanne Brownlee, Exeter University
Heba Raouf Ezzat, Ibn Haldun University
Lisa Wedeen, University of Chicago
Walter Armbrust, University of Oxford
Marc Owen Jones, Hamad bin Khalifa University

Rima Majed, American University of Beirut
Cristina Moreno-Almeida, King's College London

III-06: Gaza on Screen

Organized by **Nadia Yaqub**

Chair: **Nadia Yaqub**, UNC Chapel Hill
Discussant: **Kamran Rastegar**, Tufts University

Viviane Saglier, McGill University *Gazan Cinema as an Infrastructure of Care*

Shaira Vadasaria, University of Edinburgh
Sound as Method: The Politics of Hearing Gaza under Siege

Yaron Shemer, UNC Chapel Hill *So Close, So Far: Gaza in Israeli Cinema*

Hatim El-Hibri, George Mason University
Televised Solidarity and the 2014 Lebanese Broadcast for Gaza

III-07: Decolonizing Desire in the Middle East: Incentives from Lebanon, Kurdistan, and Turkey

Organized by **Sabiha Allouche**

Chair: **Sophie Chamas**, SOAS University of London

Sertaç Sehlükoglu, University College London
Desires through Rhythms: Exercising Bodies & Self-Time in Istanbul

Sabiha Allouche, University of Exeter
Decolonizing Singledom: Asexuality as Hetero-Pessimism – A view from Lebanon

Asli Zengin, Rutgers University
Intimate Experiments with Kinship: Transgender Daughterhood/Motherhood/Friendship in Turkey

III-08: Race and Its Legacies in Arabic Literary Heritage and Production

Organized by **Clarissa C. Burt** and **Rachel Schine**

Discussant: **Eve Troutt Powell**, University of Pennsylvania

Alexa Herlands, University of Chicago
Wonder and Race in Zakariyyā al-Qazwīnī's 'Ajā'ib al-Makbluqat wa-gharā'ib al-manjūdāt

Clarissa C. Burt, United States Naval Academy
Representing Race in Productions

of *'Antara bn Shaddaad For the Arabic Screen*

Rachel Schine, University of Colorado Boulder *A Tale of Two 'Antarabs: Race and Reception Between Jabiliyya Poetics and Islamic Popular Prose*

Nadine Sinno, Virginia Tech *"I couldn't stand their sticky bodies!" Confronting Anti-Black Racism in Huda Hamed's *She Who Counts the Stairs**

Nuha Al-Shaar, Institute of Ismaili Studies *The Treatment of the marginalized-self: Race and Social Injustice in The Poetry of 'Antara b. Shaddad and al-Sulayk b. Sulka*

III-09: Reciprocal Mobilization in the Politics of BDS: Strategy, Competition, and Wars of Position

Organized by **Nathaniel Shils**

Sponsored by
Palestinian American Research Center (PARC)

Chair: **Noura Erakat**, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Discussant: **Maha Nassar**, University of Arizona

Taib Biygautane, Kennesaw State University and **Maia Carter Hallward**, Kennesaw State University *The Politics of Anti-Normalization among Moroccan Leftist, Islamist, and BDS Activists*

Sophia Hoffinger, University of Edinburgh *Judge as German: The Politics of Judgement in the Palestinian Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Efforts in Germany*

Nathaniel Shils, University of Pennsylvania and **Ian Lustick**, University of Pennsylvania *Israeli Responses to BDS: A War of Maneuver to Avoid a War of Position*

III-10: Iraq at the Center of the New World Order

Organized by **Michael Brill**

Samuel Helfont, Naval War College *Ba'thist Iraq at the End of History*

Joseph Kotinsky, University of Texas at

Austin *Brave New World Order: The Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq and the Politics of Suffering*

Wisam Alshaibi, UCLA *The Anatomy of Regime Change: The Iraqi Opposition in the Shaping of US Foreign Policy*

Kate Tietzen, U.S. Army Center of Military History *Iraq in East Africa: Ba'thist Ideology and Foreign Policy Collide*

Michael Brill, Princeton University *After the Exodus: The History of Iraq's Last Jews*

III-11: Philosophical Problems in Islamic Theology

Organized by **John Walbridge**

John Walbridge, Indiana University Bloomington *The Digression on Universals in Ibn Arabi's *Fusus Ch. 1**

Andi Herawati, Indiana University Bloomington *The Multifold of Signs: Creative Imagination as Sufi Methodology of Self-Knowledge*

Ferhat Taskin, Indiana University Bloomington *The Problem of Divine Simplicity and Freedom*

Jason Browning, Indiana University Bloomington *The Soteriological Force of al-Maturidi's Ontology and Its Roots in Central Asian Buddhist Scholastic Philosophy*

Zeyneb Betul Taskin, Indiana University Bloomington *A Mu'tazilite Objection Against the Theory of Kasb*

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Organized by **Sofya Shahab**

Organized under the auspices of
Coalition for Religious Equality and Inclusive Development

Benjamin Isakhan, Deakin University *The Islamic State's Destruction of Christian Heritage: Persecution, Displacement and Reconstruction*

Mariz Tadros, University of Sussex *Coptic youth as gatherers, preservers and mediators of popular heritage: whose voices count?*

Sofya Shahab, University of Sussex *Nostalgic engagements with heritage futures in Iraq and Syria*

Elizabeth Prodromou, Fletcher School at Tufts University *De-Colonizing Cultural Heritage Policy as Strategy for Sustaining Vulnerable Communities: Deconstructing Turkey's Cultural Heritage Policy Towards Ethno-Religious Minorities*

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Organized by **Sarah Azmeh**

Yasemin Kole, Indiana University *Sufi Epistemology in the 10th and 11th Century*

Sarah Azmeh, Indiana University Bloomington *Al-Khidr Husayn's Defense of Traditional Islamic Historiography against *Taba Husayn**

Recep Erkmen, New York University *Al-Juwayni's Epistemological Critique in *Kalam: Intellectual Limits in Metaphysical Knowledge**

Derya Dogan, Indiana University Bloomington *Medieval Islamic Scholars on Pedagogy of Teaching and Learning*

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Organized by **Hannah Barker** and **Magdalena Moorthy Kloss**

Chair: **Hannah Barker**

Magdalena Moorthy Kloss, Austrian Academy of Sciences *The impact of medieval slavery on racialist discourse in Yemen*

Lamia Balafrej, UCLA *Images of Arabs, non-Arabs, and Blacks in the Medieval Middle East*

Hannah Barker, Arizona State University *The Tatars of the Sudan: Racialized Comparisons in al-'Umari's *Masalik al-absar**

Peter Webb, Leiden University *Arabness and the Other in the pre-nationalist Middle East*

III-15: Empire's Eleventh Hour: Ethnic Violence, Imperial Vision, and National Churches in the Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Umit Eser**

Simon Najm, University of Balamand *The Arabization of the Rum Orthodox*

Patriarchate of Antioch: The Role of the Russians and the Decline of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (1884 – 1906)

Umit Eser, Independent Researcher
Revisiting the Nationalist Schism: Disintegration of the Orthodox Christian Communities in the Late 19th Century Philippopolis and Its Environs

Maria Pia Ester Cristaldi, Marmara University
Liturgical language and trans-national spiritual communities: the case of the Greek Orthodox Christians between the end of the Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic

Ayca Baydar, Independent Scholar
'Either cease to be Greek or cease to exist': Homogenization policies during the early Turkish Republic and the foundation of the Turkish Orthodox Church

III-16: Forgotten War's Tragedies in Yemen

Organized by **Khaled Al-Hammadi**

Summer Nasser, Yemen Aid
Unresponsiveness of Foreign Aid to Yemen's Humanitarian Crisis

Ammar Abdulla, Concordia University
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Khaled Al-Hammadi, Rights Radar for Human Rights in Yemen
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Mohammed Alshuwaiter, Independent Scholar
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Organized by **William Lawrence**

Chair/Discussant: **Clement Moore Henry**, Emeritus University of Texas at Austin

Yahia Zoubir, KEDGE Business School
New Geopolitical Dynamics and External Rivalries in the Maghreb

Azzedine Layachi, St. John's University
The Maghreb: A Partner in Cross-Regional Competition or a Pawn in the Global Economic Reordering?

Elena Maestri, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart
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William Lawrence, American University
Disciplinary Punishment, Distorted Projections, and Disconnected Development: The Systematic Failures of Maghrebi Youth Analysis and Intervention

III-18: Confessional Frontiers in the Islamicate Mediterranean

Organized by **Brian A. Catlos**

Organized under the auspices of **Mediterranean Seminar**

Chair: **Brian A. Catlos**, University of Colorado Boulder

Discussant: **Travis Bruce**, McGill University

Fadi Ragheb, University of Toronto
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Zeynep Aydogan, Institute for Mediterranean Studies, FORTH
"For the Love of Idols, Church Clapper and the Baptismal Font": Furnishings of Being Infidel

Joel Pattison, UCLA
Christian Ambassadors for Muslim Rulers in the Medieval Maghrib

David Gyllenhaal, Princeton University
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Organized by **Youssef Ben Ismail**

Sponsored by **American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)**

Discussant: **Lale Can**, CUNY, City College and Graduate Center

Noureddine Amara, Yale Law School 1830
- Did the Algiers war take place? Algerians

in the Ottoman Empire: The battle of the nationality

M'hamed Oualdi, Paris Institute of Political Studies
North African captives in 18th century Europe. Their claims and legal belongings

Youssef Ben Ismail, Columbia University
Tunisians between French protection and Ottoman nationality (1881-1914)

Jessica Marglin, University of Southern California
Legal Belonging in Nineteenth-Century Tunisia: Or, What the Nationality of a Tunisian Jew Can Tell Us About Citizenship in North Africa

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Chair: **Jason Rodriguez Vivrette**, UC Berkeley

Jeannette Okur, University of Texas at Austin
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Hanan Al-Alawi, Pennsylvania State University
"In a Forest of Translations": Embodied Dispossession in the Language of Mona Kareem's 2019s Femme Ghosts

Nevine Abraham, Carnegie Mellon University
Narrating Minority Coptic Identity: Navigating Belonging in Shady Lewis's Ways of the Lord

Benjamin Schreier, Pennsylvania State University
Arab American Literature Is About Arab American Literature

Hella Cohen, St. Catherine University
Wild Ecologies of Palestinian Diaspora Poets

Tariq Adely, George Washington University
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Chair: **Abdulaziz Almuslem**, Kuwait University

Rohan Advani, UCLA
Forming Finance: The Establishment of a Domestic Financial Sector in the Persian Gulf, 1952-1973

Rasmieyh R. Abdelnabi, George Mason University
A Gendered Politics of Life: Embroidery as a Source of Economic Sustenance and Cultural Continuity

Mona Khneisser, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Cracks & Seams Within the Bisri Dam Project: The Environmental Intifada, Neoliberal Globalization & Developmental Logic in Lebanon*

Eda Cakmakci, Harvard University *After the Cotton Era: Tomato-Patriotism and Region-making in Antalya*

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Chair: **Silvia Ferabolli**

Tamir Sorek, Pennsylvania State University *Do Palestinians in Israel remember Gamal Abd el-Nasser? The power of the Israeli education system and its limit*

Mohamed Mohamed, George Mason University *Beyond the National: Al-Azhar's Role in Global Politics After 9/11*

Hulya Delihuseyinoglu, Boğaziçi University *Governing Armenian Schools Through Ambiguity*

Seda Baykal, University of Pittsburgh *Institutionalization of the Turkish-Islamic Theology: Ankara University Divinity School*

Silvia Ferabolli, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul *Studying the International Relations of the Arab World: the significance, but not the centrality, of the Arab League*

Ian VanderMeulen, New York University *Reclaiming the Warsh Zone: Islam, Education, and Moroccan Neo-Imperialism*

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Chair: **Nada Moumtaz**, University of Toronto

Tessa Farmer, University of Virginia *Vernacular Water Sabils in Contemporary Cairo*

Farha Ghannam, Swarthmore College *Sites for Insights: Balconies in Urban Egypt*

Burc Kostem, McGill University *Strolling A Geosocial Limit: "Hafriyat" and Politics in Istanbul's Urban Peripheries*

Ladin Bayurgil, Boston University *Move from Coerced to Consented Urban Transformation in Istanbul: Framing Complicity In Authoritarian Neoliberal Urbanism*

Noha Fikry, University of Toronto *Pigeon-rearing & Food-preparing: Rooftops as Spaces of Nurturance in Contemporary Egypt*

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Isacar Bolaños, California State University Long Beach *Ottoman Environmental Imaginaries of Iraq during the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries*

Noah Haiduc-Dale, Centenary University *Bird Watching as Blood Sport: The Politics of Birding in Israel/Palestine*

Brannon Wheeler, United States Naval Academy *Cimate Change, Sacrifice, and the Geographical Origins of Islam*

Patrick Adamiak, California State University San Marcos *Controlling Cattle Plague, Cholera, and other Microbes in Ottoman Syria, 1880-1914*

Saghar Sadeghian, Willamette University *Caspian Forests as Political Setting: A Socio-Environmental Study of the Babi Resistance at the Fort of Shaykh Tabarsi*

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Chair: **Sena Karasipahi**, Texas A&M University

Rania Said, University of Massachusetts Boston *Fathers, Daughters, and Transgenerational Resistance: The Testimonial Writing of Tunisian Political Families After 2011*

Hanadi Al-Samman, University of Virginia *The Politics of Sexual Insult in Civil Revolutions*

Susanne Dahlgren, Tampere University *The Revolution Continues - The Southern Cause in Yemen*

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Shahla Farghadani, University of Michigan *From Rhetoric to History: The Refashioning of Style (Tarz) in Sayf Jam-i Hiravi*

Tom Abi Samra, Dartmouth College

Against Inhibit; or, Reading al-Shirbini's Haz̤ al-qubuf in Context

Amanda Caterina Leong, University of California Merced *Fitna as Javanmard: Nizami's Haft Paykar as a Mirror for Princesses*

Catherine Ambler, Columbia University *The Reed Mat of Speech: Meaning and Multiplicity in the Divan of Shawkat Bukhari*

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Chair: **James H. Sunday**, Johns Hopkins University

Doga Ozturk, Independent Scholar *Philanthropy and Elite Self-Identification in Late Ottoman Egypt*

Mohamed Abdou, New York University *The Egyptian Ministry of Endowments' Rise as Financial Institution, Educator, and Landlord, 1858-1914*

Samar Nour, University of Toronto *"Mental Hygiene" and Child Governmentality in Egypt*

Simon Conrad, Princeton University *Mysticism comes to School: Abu al-'Ila 'Afifi and the Academic Study of 'tasawwuf' in 20th century Egypt*

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Chair: **Edward Sayre**, University of Southern Mississippi

Lisa Reber, University of Michigan *The Cramped and Crowded Room: The Search for a Sense of Belonging Among Temporary Low-Wage Migrant Workers in Dubai*

Michael Ewers, UNC Charlotte and **Justin Gengler**, Qatar University *Kafala, hierarchy and bargaining power: Varieties of migration experience in the Gulf*

Alessandra L. González, University of Chicago *A Processual Model of Culture Change: Hiring First Females in All-Male Organizations*

Hanaa Almoaibed, London School of Economics *Narratives of work in Saudi Arabia: A map of experiences, ambitions and opportunities*

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Chair: **Robert Flahive**, Virginia Tech

Jérémy Dieudonné, Catholic University Louvain *Securitization, desecuritization and counter-securitization all at once: the case of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal*

Daniel J. Levine, University of Alabama *Voices Carry: Teaching the Israel-Palestine Conflict in the time of COVID*

Zülâl Fazlıoğlu Akın, Ohio State University *Cultural diplomacy in conflict: The Arab Capitals of Culture Program as a Tool of Cultural Diplomacy for Palestine*

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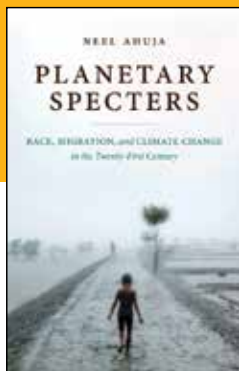
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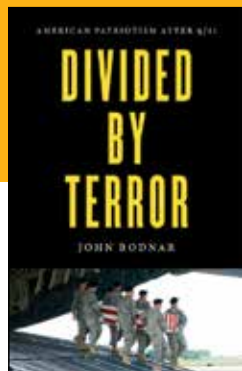
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Roundtable

IV-01: The Cultural Cold/Hot War in the Arab World

Organized by **Adey Almohsen** and **Zeina Maasri**

Chair: **Adey Almohsen**

Elliot Colla, Georgetown University
Robyn Creswell, Yale University
Sarah Rogers, Middlebury College
Elizabeth M. Holt, Bard College
Zeina Maasri, University of Brighton
Adey Almohsen, Grinnell College

Roundtable

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Organized by **Negar S Razavi**

Chair: **Shirin Vossoughi**

Shirin Vossoughi, Northwestern University
Rustin Zarkar, UNC Chapel Hill
Emrah Yildiz, Northwestern University
Ida Yazadeh, Harvard University
Arash Davari, Whitman College
Negar S. Razavi, Northwestern University

Roundtable

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Organized by **Orit Bashkin**, University of Chicago

Basil Salem, University of Chicago
Sooyong Kim, Koç University
Natalie Rothman, University of Toronto
Uri Horesh, Achva Academic College
Annie Greene, University of Chicago
Lara Harb, Princeton University
Alda Benjamen, UC Berkeley

Roundtable

IV-04: Knowledge Production and the Writing on Visual Culture in the Middle East from the 1950s to the late 1990s

Organized by **Yasmine Nachabe Taan**

Organized under the auspices of **Khatt Foundation**

Lina Hakim, Kingston University
Rasha Dakkak, Sandberg Instituut
Moe Elhossieny, Design Repository
Lara Balaa, Rutgers University
Yasmine Nachabe Taan, Lebanese American University/Bilkent University
Huda Smitshuijzen Abifares, Khatt Books
Yara Khoury, American University of Beirut

Roundtable

IV-05: Promoting Public Scholarship in Middle East History II: #StudentsOfIslamicArt - Wikipedia and Open Pedagogy in the Middle East Studies Classroom

Organized by **Stephennie Mulder**

Chair: **Stephennie Mulder**

Glaire Anderson, University of Edinburgh
Leslee Michelsen, Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art
Emily Neumeier, Temple University
Alex Dika Seggerman, Rutgers University-Newark
Sam Bowker, Charles Sturt University
Stephennie Mulder, University of Texas at Austin

Workshop

IV-06: Global Academy Workshop—Capitalism, Islamism, and the State: Turkey's Shifting Political Economy

Organized by the **Global Academy Committee**

Chair/Discussant: **Cihan Z. Tugal**, UC Berkeley

Sumercan Bozkurt Gungen, Simon Fraser University *The Mutations and Crisis of Neoliberalism in Turkey*

Ali Riza Gungen, York University *Comparing Authoritarianisms and Growth Models in Turkey and Egypt: How and Why?*

Utku Balaban, Amherst College *Industrial Islamism*

IV-07: Deserts as Archives Part 2

Organized by **Itzea Goikolea-Amiano**, SOAS University of London

Fiona McLaughlin, University of Florida *Linguistic landscapes of the Sahara: A contemporary desert archive*

Hassan Ould Moctar, SOAS University of London *Viewing the Sahara as Archive of Social Relations and Urban Development in Mauritania*

Samia Henni, Cornell University *Toxifying the Sahara: On France's Top-Secret Norms and Forms*

Francisco E. Robles, University of Notre Dame *Geopoetic Archives of the Sonoran Desert*

Jill Jarvis, Yale University *Radiant Matter: Mapping the Afterlives of French Nuclear Imperialism at Taourirt Tan-Afella*

IV-08: Interrogating Citizenship in the Middle East

Organized by **Lillian Frost**

Chair: **Shira Robinson**, George Washington University

Discussant: **Laurie Brand**, University of Southern California

Paola Rivetti, Dublin City University and

Shirin Saiedi, University of Arkansas
The Unbearable Lightness of the State: Precarity, "Surplus Citizens" and the Limits of Acts of Citizenship

Lillian Frost, Virginia Tech *Citizenship Spectrums: Misalignments of Nationality, Passports, and Belonging among Palestinian Protracted Refugees in Jordan*

Paul Esber, Independent Scholar *Ruptures within a (Near)Perfect Dictatorship? Revolution and the Possibility of New Citizenship in Lebanon*

Zahra Babar, Georgetown University Qatar *From talented migrants to passive citizens: Conditional Citizenship in the UAE*

IV-09: Manuscript Cultures in the Islamic World

Organized by **Kyle Wynter-Stoner**

Chair: **Ahmed El Shamsy**, University of Chicago

Discussant: **Noah Gardiner**, University of South Carolina

Torsten Wollina, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin
Ahmad Taymur, his manuscripts and the Photostat

Boris Liebrecht, Saxon Academy of the Sciences and Humanities *The Arabic Aristotle in Constantinople*

Jane H. Murphy, Colorado College *The Social Lives of 'Scientific' Manuscripts in al-Jabarti's Biographies*

Kyle Wynter-Stoner, University of Chicago
The Founding of the Maḥmūdīyab Library, As Told By Its Books

IV-10: Interrogating Race in Arabian Peninsula Studies

Organized by **Neha Vora** and **Amelie Le Renard**

Sponsored by
Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Idil Akinci, University of Edinburgh
Shifting boundaries of Arabness in Dubai: Young Emirati narratives on citizenship and national belonging

Neha Vora, Lafayette College and **Amelie Le Renard**, CNRS, Paris *Racial*

Formations in/of the Arabian Peninsula
Gokh Amin Alshaiif, UC Santa Barbara
Leaving the Margins: The Mubamasheen of Yemen and the Lessons They Hold

Noora Lori, Boston University *Who counts as "People of the Gulf"? Disputes over the Arab status of Zanzibaris in the UAE*

Danya Al-Saleh, University of Wisconsin Madison *U.S. Universities and the Production of Engineering Labor and Expertise from Nation to Empire*

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Organized by **Eva Zahiri**

Sajjad Rizvi, University of Exeter *Reformist Metaphysics and the Critique of Moral Realism: On 'Allāmah Ṭabaṭabā'ī's Ontology of Conceptual and Suppositional Notions (idrākāt-i i 'tibārī)*

Constance Arminjon, EPHE-PSL
Questioning the notion of religious reform in Islam: Philosophical and theological inquiries in Iran and their historiographical consequences

Eskandar Sadeghi-Boroujerdi, Goldsmiths College, University of London
Abu Dharr Revisited: Ayatollah Taleqani, Socialist Communitarianism and Council Democracy

Eva Zahiri, EPHE-PSL *Legal duality and the call for modernization of law: The emergence of a new epistemology of law in Iran*

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Organized by **Ayse D. Lokmanoglu**

Chair: **Arran Walshe**, New York University
Discussant: **Ammar Shamaileh**, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

Christopher Anzalone, George Mason University *Islamizing Rebel Governance in Somalia: Al-Shabaab's Proto-State*

Marta Furlan, University of St. Andrews
Rebel Governance Between Ideology and Pragmatism: al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula in 2011-12 and 2015-16

Matthew Bamber, Graduate Institute of Development Studies *"Without Us, There Would Be No Islamic State": The Role of Civilian Employees in ISIS's State Project*

Ayse D. Lokmanoglu, Northwestern University *Performative Statehood in the Virtual World: The Family*

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Organized by **Karim Malak**

Chair: **Alaa El-Shafei**, Columbia University
Discussant: **Kent Schull**, SUNY Binghamton

Emily Jane O'Dell, Sichuan University-Pittsburgh Institute *Spiritual Technologies of Surveillance in Malta: Slavery, Superstition, and Religion in the Medieval Mediterranean*

Karim Malak, Columbia University *All Hands on Deck: The Prisoners of the Alexandria Arsenal 1829-1840*

Gizem Sivri, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich *Women Behind the Bars: Women's Imprisonment and Women Prisoners in the Late Ottoman Empire (1840-1918)*

Salma Shash, University of California Santa Barbara *Before they Were Monsters: The Ordinary Lives of Raya and Sekina (1919- 1921)*

Julia Gettle, Brown University *"We All Were Arrested": Arab Nationalist and Marxist Activists and the Rise of the Eastern Mediterranean Security State, 1950-1970*

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Organized by **Kaitlin Staudt** and **Kenan Sharpe**

Kaitlin Staudt, Auburn University *The Rise of the Turkish Novel and Question of Ottoman Imperialism*

Nazan Maksudyan, Freie Universität Berlin/Centre Marc Bloch *Ottoman Imperial Legacies of Genocide and Denial in Turkey: Fearful Anticipation of 'Disaster' in Zaven Biberyan's Novels from the 1960s*

Kenan Sharpe, Boğaziçi University *The Ottoman Past in Turkish Modernist Poetry*

Arif Camoglu, School of the Art Institute of Chicago *Imperial Masculinity in 19th Century Ottoman Turkish Fiction*

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Organized by Nefissa Naguib and Karin Ahlberg

Chair: Beth Baron, CUNY City College and Graduate Center
Discussant: On Barak, Tel Aviv University

Karin Ahlberg, Stockholm University *Lessepsian migrants, or imperial debris returning to haunt human and non-human socialities and landscapes*

Lucia Carminati, Texas Tech University *Gateway and Getaway: Port Said and the Contradictions of Mediterranean Mobility*

Mandana Limbert, CUNY *Escape from Zanzibar: after-lives of the Indian Ocean shipping regime*

Nefissa Naguib, University of Oslo *Above Board: Female Seafarers in the Waters of the Suez Canal*

Samuli Lähteenaho, University of Helsinki *Fighting the Lionfish: invasive species, coastal environmentalism, and relationship to the sea in Lebanon*

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Organized by Alon Tam and Dina Danon

Hanan Hammad, Texas Christian University *Class versus Respectability Among Egyptian Workers*

Dina Danon, SUNY Binghamton *The 'Esnaf' and Social Belonging in the late Ottoman Sephardi World*

Alon Tam, Columbia University *Social Hierarchy and the Jewish Community in 20th Century Cairo*

Fatemeh Masjedi, University of Goettingen *A German Factory in Early Twentieth-Century Iran: PETAG and the effects on the formation of labor and social relations*

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Organized by Hussam R. Ahmed

Chair: Hussam R. Ahmed

Angela Giordani, Columbia University *Towards an Institutional History of Philosophy in Twentieth-Century Egypt*

Hussam R. Ahmed, Maynooth University *"He Whispered in my Ear: " Al-Abram and Hassanein Heikal's Journalistic School*

Chihab El Khachab, University of Cambridge *Narrating the Revolution: On the Egyptian Information Administration, 1954-1967*

Susanna Ferguson, Smith College *Schooling and the Education of Desire in Late-Ottoman Beirut and Mt. Lebanon*

Giedre Sabaseviciute, Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences *Subverting the Institutional Work: Cairo's Literary Clubs and the Practice of Takrim*

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Organized by Semih Gokatalay

Chair: Reuben Silverman, UC San Diego
Discussant: Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken

Hakki Gurkas, Kennesaw State University *Multifaceted Negotiations between Sacred and Secular Aspects of Religious Festivals in Turkey*

Semih Gokatalay, UC San Diego *Negotiating the Economic and Social Meaning of the Izmir Fair in interwar Turkey*

Seda Ozdemir Simsek, Boğaziçi University *Commercial Fairs in Balıkesir during the Early Republican Era: Both 'Sefabat' and Local Capitalist Development*

Hale Yilmaz, Southern Illinois University Carbondale *From Small Town Fair to Garlic Festival: Panayirs in a Black Sea Province*

IV-19: Expanding the Horizons of Arabic Navigational Historiography

Organized by Eric M. Staples

Juan Acevedo, ERC RUTTER Project *A New Arabic Nautical Manuscript in Lisbon*

Inês Bénard, ERC RUTTER Project *From the Anecdote to the Report in Maritime East-West Encounters*

Eric M. Staples, Zayed University *Sulayman Al-Mahri and Ahmad Ibn Majid: Textual Countercurrents in Navigational Literature*

IV-20: History and the Politics of Memory in North Africa

Organized by Driss Maghraoui

Chair: Driss Maghraoui
Discussant: Azzedine Layachi, St. John's University

Paul A. Silverstein, Reed College *Realms of Amazigh Memory: Place-Making and Past-Making on the Moroccan Frontier*

Belkacem Iratni, University of Algiers *3 National Identity in Algeria: The bard quest of reconciling people's unity and cultural diversity*

Claris Harbon, Al Akhawayn University *Moroccan Jews in the Moroccan Diaspora: Forced to Forget, and Resisting to Remember.*

Driss Maghraoui, Al Akhawayn University *The Conflicting Memories of Mohammed Ben Abdelkrim El Khattabi*

IV-22: Critical Perspectives on Development Aid and Governance

Chair: Mariam Karim, University of Toronto

Lama Tawakkol, Queen's University *Governing Crisis and Development: A Political Economy Analysis of Humanitarian-Development Aid and Infrastructure Loans in Lebanon Post-2011*

Charlotte Vekemans, Ghent University *Instrumentalizing the past to guarantee political stability: heritage development in Jordan*

Lorena Gazzotti, Lucy Cavendish College,

University of Cambridge *Facilitating, Negotiating, Obstructing. Aid in migration diplomacy at the Euro-Moroccan border*

Lily Hindy, UCLA and **Monica**

Widmann, UCLA *Skewed Recovery: Minority Assistance Programs to Iraq in Historical Perspective*

Karen Pfeifer, Smith College *Access-Based or Transformative Empowerment for Women in Egypt and Tunisia after 2011*

Barbara Schenkel, SOAS University of London *Traveling theory? Constructing Jordanian women's citizenship in international development*

IV-23: Reform, Discipline, and Agency in Late-Ottoman and Interwar Periods

Chair: **Evren Altinkas**, University of Guelph

Elizabeth Williams, University of Massachusetts Lowell *Aleppo post-1908: The Nature and Politics of Reform in the Late Ottoman Empire*

Melis Sulos, CUNY Graduate Center *Social Hygiene and Spatial Reorganization of Childhood in Turkey in 1930s*

Philip Hoffman, UCLA *Faces of "Progress"-Celebrity Profiles in pre-Ba'ath Syria*

Philippe Bourmaud, Université Jean Moulin - Lyon 3 *Independent missionary work or a part of the French colonial grid of social control? "French" protestantisms in Syria and Lebanon under mandate (1922-1946)*

Saghar Bozorgi, University of Texas at Austin *Medicalization without Doctors: The Popularization of Medical Discourse in Iran, 1941-1951*

IV-24: Art Histories of Design and Visualization

Chair: **Leticia R. Rodriguez**, Florida State University

Alison Terndrup, Boston University *Mapping the "Miracle-Showing" Portrait in Istanbul*

Liat Berdugo, University of San Francisco *The Weaponized Camera in the Middle East: Video, Politics, and the Visual in Israel and Palestine*

Hyunjin Cho, Boston University *Painting*

the Printed Lines: Hand-colored Lithographed Books in Nineteenth-Century Iran

Murtaza Shakir, Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah *A Faṭimi-era Na'ūrah (Waterwheel), as experienced by the poet Al-Amīr Tamīm (d. 984 CE)*

John Andrews, Rutgers University *Clinging to the Past: National Unity and the Rejection of Rifat Chadirji's Redesigned Iraqi Flag*

IV-25: The Unarticulated and the Interdentals: On Linguistics and Language Education

Chair: **Derya Dogan**, Indiana University Bloomington

Mona Farrag Attwa, Tilburg University/ University of Colorado Boulder *Allah, Allah, Allah: the role of God in the Arab version of The Voice 2019*

Yasmine Sedeek, University of Mississippi *Factors that Influence the Pronunciation of Interdentals in Modern Standard Arabic and English by Egyptian Arabic Speakers*

Niaz Aziz, Soran University *Pragmatics and Islamic Jurisprudence: The effect of unarticulated constituents on Sharia laws*

Sadam Issa, Michigan State University *Political comics and cartoons in language education: Suggestions for Arabic as a Foreign Language in classrooms in the USA*

Alyeh Mehin Jafarabadi, University of Arizona *Sounding Like A New Yorker: Language Ideologies and Identities of English Language Teachers in Iran*

IV-26: Between Late Ottoman and the Soviet Union: Cultural and Scientific Engagements

Chair: **Dimitrios Stergiopoulos**, University of California San Diego

Berkay Uluc, University of Michigan *Theorizing Aesthetics: Late Ottoman Literary Epistemologies and the Question of Race*

Nergis Erturk, Pennsylvania State University *Abidin Dino Between Turkey and the Soviet Union*

Ferenc Csirkes, Sabanci University *Turkish Literature and Language Ideology in Late Safavid and Afsharid Iran*

Maria L. Swanson, United States Naval Academy *The Ukrainian Direction of The*

Graduates of Russian Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society's Schools: Works, Careers and Fates

IV-27: Resistance and Contentious Politics

Chair: **Ece Algan**, California State University San Bernardino

Patrick S. Snyder, University of Minnesota *Great Expectations: The February 20th Movement and Rising Politicization in Morocco*

Hashem Alrefai, University of Pittsburgh *How do ordinary people become political opponents in an authoritarian state?*

Jinan Al-Habbal, London School of Economics *Consociationalism and Civil Resistance in Lebanon and Iraq*

IV-28: Authoritarian Strategies: Repression, Legalism, and Cooptation

Chair: **Martin Kear**, University of Sydney

Selin Gumrukcu, Rutgers University *Authoritarian Legalism and Democratic Backsliding in Turkey*

Motasem Abuzaid, Georgetown University *Reassessing the Ascendancy of Assad and Husien: The Institutional Blueprint of Authoritarian Resilience in Syria and Iraq, 1968-1979*

Rosalie Rubio, George Washington University *Dollar Driven Dominance: American Security Assistance and the Empowerment of Security Services in Jordan*

IV-29: A Philology of Concepts: Translation and Butrus al-Bustānī

Organized by **Jeffrey Sacks**

Nadia Bou Ali, American University of Beirut *Violent Conversions: Civil War and the Logic of Sacrifice*

Jeffrey Sacks, University of California Riverside *Al-Bustānī's Pomegranate, or, The Social Logic of Abstraction in "Khitāb fi al-hay'a al-ijtimā'iyya"*

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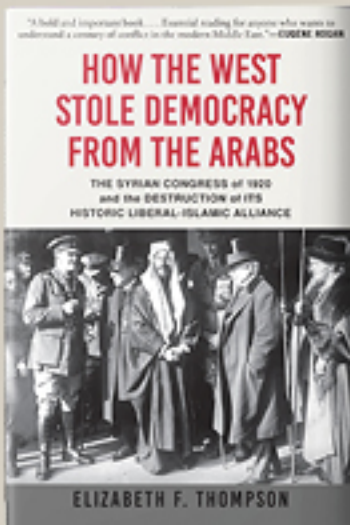
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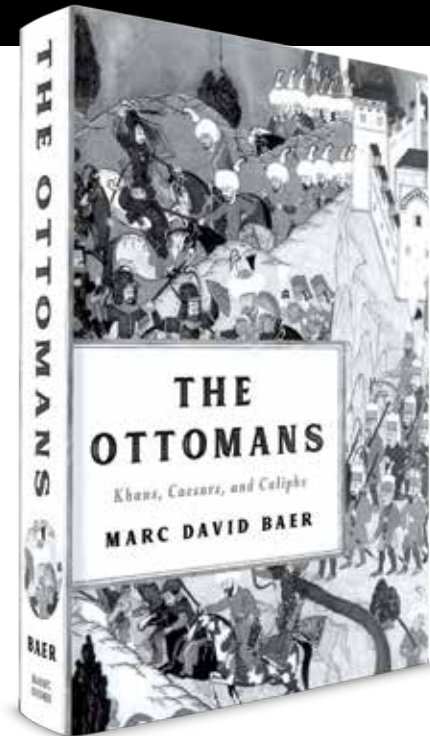
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Rochelle Davis, Georgetown University
Marya Hannun, Georgetown University
Lucile Martin, Gent University
Shah Mahmoud Hanifi, James Madison University
Ping-hsiu Alice Lin, Harvard Academy
Yousef Baker, California State University Long Beach

Roundtable

V-02: “The Old Women of Nishapur”: A Roundtable on Gender and Knowledge in Islam

Organized by **Setrag Manoukian**

Chair: **Setrag Manoukian**

Katherine Lemons, McGill University
Sara Abdel-Latif, McGill University
Kausar Bukhari, McGill University
Rula Jurdi Abisaab, McGill University
Setrag Manoukian, McGill University

Roundtable

V-03: Iranian Studies Unbound: Emerging Global Approaches to the Field (Part II)

Organized by **Hosna Sheikholeslami**

Vahid Abedini, Florida International University
Narges Bajoghli, Johns Hopkins University SAIS
Marie Ostby, Connecticut College
Hosna Sheikholeslami, Denison University

Roundtable

V-04: Let’s Put It All Together!: Pedagogical Fluency in the Middle East Studies Classroom after 2020

Organized by **Victoria Hightower**

Organized under the auspices of **Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)**

Kristi N. Barnwell, University of Illinois at Springfield
James Worrall, University of Leeds
Victoria Hightower, University of North Georgia
Pheroze Unwalla, University of British Columbia
Sean Foley, Middle Tennessee State University
Farah Al-Nakib, California Polytech State University

Roundtable

V-05: Ethnographies of Uprisings: Exploring Approaches to Understanding Revolt in the Middle East

Organized by **Sa’ed Atshan**, Swarthmore College

Sponsored by **Association for Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)**

Chair: **Anne Meneley**, Trent University

Marta Agosti, SOAS University of London
Heba Ghannam, American University
Susanne Dahlgren, Tampere University
Sherine Hafez, UC Riverside
Farha Ghannam, Swarthmore College

Workshop

V-06: Global Academy Workshop—Repercussions of Displacement in the Academy and Beyond

Organized by the **Global Academy Committee**

Evren Altinkas, University of Guelph
Starting From Scratch: Displaced Scholars in Host Countries
Halil Yenigun, San Jose State University
Global Academic Solidarity Five Years after the Academics for Peace Petition
Basileus Zeno, Amherst College
Education and Alienation: The Case of Displaced Syrians and Refugees
Katty Alhayek, Georgetown University
A Reflection on Displacement and Related Methodological and Ethical Considerations
Ahmad Mohammadpour, University of Massachusetts Amherst
The Collective Securitization and the Experience of Individual Pain: A Displaced Kurdish Scholar from Iran

V-07: Politics and Conflict in the Contemporary Levant

Organized by **Reva Dhingra**

Chair: **Melani C. Cammett**
 Discussant: **Ellen Lust**, University of Gothenburg
Christiana Parreira, Princeton University
“The City Receives What She is Worth”: Post-Conflict Local Governance in Lebanon’s Urban Periphery
Reva Dhingra, Harvard University and **Melani C. Cammett**, Harvard University
Distributive Post-Conflict Politics: the case of Iraq (1997-2012)
Elizabeth Parker-Magyar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Repression or Co-optation? Public Employment and Contentious Action Under Authoritarianism
Kristen Kao, University of Gothenburg
Legal Pluralism and Fragmented Sovereignty After Conflict: A Survey Experiment in Mosul

V-08: Marking Violence: Archives, Media, and Regime Change in Contemporary Turkey

Organized by **Kate Elizabeth Creasey** and **Timur Hammond**

Chair: **Kate Elizabeth Creasey**

Discussant: **Zeynep Devrim Gürsel**, Rutgers University

Asli Z. Igsiz, New York University *The 1980 Coup in Turkey: A History of the Present*

Serra Hakyemez, University of Minnesota *Perverse Intimacies and Suffering Subjects: The Walls of a Counterinsurgency War in Turkey*

Kate Elizabeth Creasey, Brown University *Smoke Rose above the Skyline: Archive Destruction as Political Strategy in 1980*

Timur Hammond, Syracuse University *The Political Geographies of Marking Violence: Reflections on Turkey's July 2016 Coup Attempt*

Banu Bargu, UC Santa Cruz *Muhar Conventions and the Remaking of Turkey*

V-09: Living with the Dead: Cemeteries, Shrines, and Collective Memory in the Middle East

Organized by **Alex Shams**

Discussant: **Shahla Talebi**, Arizona State University

Alex Shams, University of Chicago *Urban Politics of Sacred Space in Contemporary Iran*

Elmirasadat Alihosseini, University of Toronto *Sovereignty and Intercession in the lives of Hazara Refugees in Mashhad (Iran)*

Mahshid Zandi, University of Toronto *"Ask Martyrs to Help You with Your Research": Theo-Political Agency of Iran-Iraq War Martyrs*

Foroogh Farhang, Northwestern University *Strangers of the Grave: Living and Dying in Al-Ghuraba Cemetery in Northern Lebanon*

V-10: Debating Tawhīd: An Ecumenical Project of Islamic Philosophy?

Organized by **M. Fariduddin Attar**

Chair: **Robert J. Wisnovsky**, McGill University

Zain Alattar, McGill University *What does it Mean to be One? Yahyā ibn 'Adi contra al-Fārābī on Tawhīd*

M. Fariduddin Attar, McGill University *Metaphysics, Theology, and the Cosmic System in Post-Avicennian Hikma: Abū al-Barakāt al-Baghādī and Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī's Interpretation of Ibn Sīnā's 'Rule of One' (Qā'idat al-wahīd)*

Hassan Arif, McGill University *From wājib al-wujūd to waḥdat al-wujūd*

V-11: Agency of the Excluded: Armenians, Assyrians, Kurds, and Jews between Empire and Nation-State, 1915-1948

Organized by **Joel Veldkamp** and **Victoria Abrahamyan**

Chair: **Jordi Tejel Gorgas**, University of Neuchâtel

Discussant: **Laura Robson**, Pennsylvania State University

Victoria Abrahamyan, University of Neuchâtel *Loyalty at Stake: Armenians, Revolt and Violence in French Mandatory Syria*

Joseph Hermiz, University of Chicago *Between Self-Help and Foreign Determination: Assyrian-Americans on the post-World War I International Scene*

Joel Veldkamp, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies *"So that We Can Safeguard Your Lives": The Jews of Aleppo between Colonialism, Nationalism, and Zionism, 1918-1946*

V-12: Canonizing Egypt: Contesting National Culture through and Beyond Text

Organized by **Anny Gaul** and **Nicholas Mangialardi**

Anny Gaul, University of Maryland College Park *Recipes for a Nation: Orienting modern Egypt through midcentury cookbooks*

Anthony Shay, Pomona College *Staging the Folk: Egypt*

Paul Tchir, UC San Diego *Calling Time-Out: Egypt and Sport in the Aftermath of the 1952 Revolution*

Nicholas Mangialardi, Williams College *Vessels of Verses: Songbooks and the Invention of Egyptian Musical Heritage*

Ifdal Elsaket, Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo *"Whirlpools of Frivolity": Cinema audience tastes and films critics in 1960s Egypt*

V-13: The Late Antique in Early Islam: Pre-Islamic Heritage in Early Islamic Politics, Poetics, and Science

Organized by **Kyle Longworth** and **Yaara Perlman**

Chair: **Fred M. Donner**, University of Chicago

Discussant: **Lev Weitz**, Catholic University of America

Pamela Klasova, Macalester College *Creating the Arabic Poetic Canon: A Comparative Perspective*

Kyle Longworth, University of Chicago *Some are More Equal than Others: Clientage in the Early Umayyad Administration*

Thomas Benfey, University of Oxford *Astrological History and a Supposedly Sasanian Calendrical Reform in Early 'Abbāsīd Iraq*

Yaara Perlman, Princeton University *The Role of Nursing Relationships in the Career of 'Abd al-Malik's Secretary, Qabisa ibn Dhu'ayb*

V-14: Storytelling, Narratives, and Social Biography in the Middle East

Organized by **Brandon Wolfe-Hunnicut** and **Zainab Saleh**

Chair: **Zainab Saleh**, Haverford College

Alize Arican, Rutgers University *Dying Elsewhere*

Nadia Jones-Gailani, Central European University *"Delights from the Garden of Eden": Sensory Narrations of Home in Oral Histories with Iraqi Diasporic Women*

Brandon Wolfe-Hunnicut, California State University Stanislaus *Khair el-Din Haseeb: The Making of an 'Economic Czar'*

Mai Alkhamissi, Princeton University *Storytelling, Intellectual Histories and Political Geographies: Egyptians in Exile*

V-16: Political Economy of Palestine: Critical, Interdisciplinary, Decolonial Perspectives

Organized by **Alaa Tartir**

Chair/Discussant: **Alaa Tartir**, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Timothy Seidel, Eastern Mennonite University *Settler Colonialism, Political Economy, and Land-Based Struggle in Palestine*

Ibrahim Shikaki, Trinity College *The Political Economy of Dependency and Class Formation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories since 1967*

Catherine Chiniara Charrett, University of Westminster *Gaza, Palestine and the Political Economies of Indigenous Non-Futures*

Walid Habbas, Hebrew University of Jerusalem *The West Bank-Israel economic integration Palestinian interaction with the Israeli border and permit regimes*

V-17: Doctors, Patients, and the Making of Medical Subjectivities

Organized by **Jennifer Derr**

Chair/Discussant: **Elise Burton**, University of Toronto

Soha Bayoumi, Johns Hopkins University *The Good (Colonial) Doctor? Arthur Cecil Alport's Medical Crusade and its Reinvention in Postcolonial Egypt*

Jennifer Derr, UC Santa Cruz *Defining the Doctors and Patients of Public Health in Interwar-Period and Nasserist Egypt*

Lamia Moghnieh, University of Copenhagen *Involitional Melancholia and the Cultural Authority of Psychiatry in late 1930s Lebanon: The case of May Ziade*

Sara Pulliam, George Washington University *Sorcery, Devils, and Capitalism: The Case of "Pellagra Insanity" in Colonial Egypt*

V-18: Shia Ulama Between State Power and Sufism: Safavid to Modern Theories of Legitimacy

Organized by **Alexander Shepard**

Chair/Discussant: **Sholeh A. Quinn**, UC Merced

Mohammed Al Ameri, Indiana University *The Politics of the Marja'yya Shi'i Religious Institution of Iraq*

Seyed Amir Asghari, Indiana University Bloomington *Sufism in the contemporary Shia Seminary, Studies on Shaykh Mubammad Bahari*

Ezra Tzfadya, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg/Indiana University Bloomington *Key Fault-lines of Debates on Mysticism, Law and Politics in Contemporary Iranian-Shia Islam: Comparative Insights from Modern Jewish Thought*

Azadeh Aghighi, Indiana University *The Religion and The State; Shi'i 'Ulamā's Religiopolitical Roles in the Safavid Empire*

Alexander Shepard, Indiana University Bloomington *Shia Islam and the Pahlavi Dynasty: Conflict, Cooperation, and Consolidation*

V-19: Modern and Contemporary Art Forms

Chair: **Terri Ginsberg**, Concordia University

Adham Hafez, New York University *Queeriyā? The politics of queer Arab art in the diaspora, 2011-2021*

Anne Marie Butler, Kalamazoo College *Unruly Strands: Hair and the Negotiation of the Doubled Self in Najab Zabout's Collages*

Rachel Winter, UC Santa Barbara *The World of Islam Festival 45 Years Later: Finding the Contemporary*

Maidah Khalid, Indiana University Bloomington *The Gap Between Confronting Muslim Art & Contemporary Aesthetics*

Özge Karagöz, Northwestern University *Reconfiguring Modernist Criteria: The 1934-35 Exhibition of Soviet Art in the New Turkey*

V-20: New Middle Eastern Cinema: Iconography and Political Visions

Chair: **Nadia Yaqub**, UNC Chapel Hill

Karly Alderfer, Duke University *Filming Digital Surveillance: Al Asleyeen and the Intensification of Digital Surveillance in Egypt*

Jasper Schutt, UNC Chapel Hill *Hashemite Discourse and Jordanian National Identity in Independent Film*

Badreddine Ben Othman, SUNY Binghamton *Rachid Bouchareb and "Transnational Cinema": Authorship, Genre and Reception of Indigènes (Days of Glory)*

Kholoud Hussein, Cornell University *Silver Screen Cinderella: Soad Hosny and the Fashioning of a Cultural Image*

V-21: Knowledge Production, Translation, and Governance in the Long Nineteenth Century

Chair: **Virginia Aksan**, McMaster University

Kaoutar Ghilani, University of Oxford
Language, Race, and Civilization: A Discursive Excavation of Moroccan Nationalism and Nation-Building

Meltem Toksoz, Wesleyan University
How the Orient writes into Orientalism: Hammer-Purgstall's "Ottoman History" and Ottoman history writers

Allison Korinek, Washington University in St. Louis
Algerian Administrative Idiom, Land Management, and the Entrenchment of Empire

Florence Ollivry, Montreal University
The Place of Subjectivity in the Study of Islamic Mysticism: An Epistemological Reflection Based on the Analysis of Louis Massignon's Work

Jilian Ma, Koç University
Sharing the Spiritual Homeland: Travels to the Middle East and Chinese Muslim Publishing in the Early Twentieth Century

Ismail Noyan, Simon Fraser University
Conservative Approach to Governance: Intellectual History of Conservatism through Ahmet Cevdet Pasha's Governorships in the 1860s of the Ottoman Empire

V-22: Political Socialization and Value Change

Calvert Jones, University of Maryland
Comic Critics: Investigating How Comedy in Authoritarian Regimes Influences International Opinion

Fahed Al-Sumait, Gulf University for Science and Technology
Cultural Influences on Opinion Expression in an Online and Offline Kuwaiti Context

Mansoor Moaddel, University of Maryland College Park
Trend in Values in Egypt, Tunisia, and Turkey: Findings from Three Waves of A Panel Survey

Emily Schneider, Northern Arizona University
Politicization through Dialogue? Sympathy, Attitude Change, and Mobilization in Conflict Resolution Programs

V-23: New Perspectives on Early Modern Ottoman History

Chair: **Mark Stein**, Muhlenberg College

Tyler Kynn, University of Memphis
Bringing Banat into the Islamic World: The Romanian Peasant and the Bukharan Sufi

Feray Coskun, Özyeğin University
In Pursuit of the Lost Grave: The Discovery of Abu Ayyub al-Ansari's memory in post-conquest Istanbul

Tommaso Stefani, Yale University
Seeking Justice at the "Threshold of Felicity": Venetian merchants before the Ottoman Imperial Council (divan-ı hümayun)

Sultan Toprak Oker, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Alcohol Networks of Ottoman Istanbul in the Seventeenth Century

V-24: Comparative Perspectives on Welfare State and Social Policy in a Neoliberal Era

Chair: **Anis Ben Brik**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Ibrahim Oker, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
The Politics of Authoritarian Social Welfare Provision: Insights from the Middle East and North Africa

Gabriel Gluskin-Braun, UCLA
Politics and Policies of Reform - Comparing Egyptian land and education policy to Costa Rica

Asya El-Meehy, New York University
Political economy of pension reforms in Egypt

V-25: New Perspectives on Modern Egyptian History

Chair: **Laila Mourad**, York University

Farida Makar, University of Oxford
Teacher Activism in Egypt: 1922-1952

Salma Serry, Boston University
Bittersweet Biscuits: A History of Colonialism, Modernity and Class in European Pastries of Egypt

Amy Fallas, UC Santa Barbara
Imperial Diplomacy and Esther Fahmy Wissa's Advocacy in Interwar Egypt

Ahmed El-Damanhoury, University of Alberta
The forgotten founders of Egyptian

football: Sports, Culture and Society (1890-1956)

Dina El-baradie, Georgetown University
In Retrospect: Collective Memory of the Military in Post-1952 Egypt

Mourad Takawi, University of the Incarnate Word
Representing the Coptic Community: The Community Council (al-majlis al-milli) and the Road to the 1911 Coptic Congress

V-26: New Perspectives on the History of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula, 19th-20c.

Chair: **Fred H. Lawson**, Emirates Diplomatic Academy

Carl Forsberg, US Air War College
A Constructed Entanglement: Egypt and Saudi Arabia in the Sadat Era

Thomas Kuehn, Simon Fraser University
"The Empire ends in Yemen: Ottoman imperial sovereignty in southwest Arabia from the October 1918 Armistice to the proclamation of the Turkish Republic"

Bret Windhauser, University of Washington
Smuggling Under Sovereignities: Illicit Trade in Transitioning Iraq

Michael Battalia, Princeton University
The Arabian Peninsula through the eyes of the Nabḍa

G. P., York University
From lenj Boats to Nuclear Reactors: the Rise of Bushehr, 1850-1989

V-27: Exile and Diaspora Mobilization after the Arab Spring

Chair: **Magda El-Sherbini**, Ohio State University Library

Ahmed Khattab, Georgetown University
Political Crises and Diaspora Enfranchisement: Egypt and Tunisia's Emigrant-Citizens

Amr ElAfifi, Syracuse University
Safety in Numbers: Trauma and Political Participation Amongst Post-Arab Spring Exiles

Sahar Khamis, University of Maryland College Park and **Randall Fowler**, University of Maryland (Re)Visiting
Digital Authoritarianism and Diasporic

"Cyberactivism" a Decade After the Arab Spring: The Cases of Egyptian and Saudi Exilic Resistance Communities

Emily Cury, Pine Manor College *The Syrian Diaspora and the Syrian Civil War: Overlapping Conflicts and Competing Narratives*

V-28: Authoritarian Upgrading and Repertoires of Repression

Chair: **Nadine Kreitmeyr**, University of Canterbury

Lisel Hintz, Johns Hopkins University SAIS *Subnational Authoritarianism: Repression Testing and Expansion in Turkey's Kurdish Municipalities*

Maria Josua, German Institute for Global and Area Studies *How Autocrats Legitimize Repression: Empirical Insights from the Maghreb*

Jean Lachapelle, University of Gothenburg *Rules of Repression: Military Regimes, Coercion, and Autocratic Survival*

V-29: Islamists and Secularists in Electoral Politics

Chair: **Nur Köprülü**, Near East University

Hesham Sallam, Stanford University *Identity, Nationalism, and Authenticity: Historical Foundations of Islamist-Leftist Contention in Contemporary Egypt*

Miaad Hassan, University of Florida *Cleavage Politics and Party System Formation*

Sohail Jannessari, Universitat Pompeu Fabra *Iran 2 Middle Class: Voting for Ahmadinejad in Iran*

Aytug Sasmaz, Stanford University *Political Selection in Secular-Islamist Competition: The Relative Advantage of Islamist Parties in Candidate Quality*

V-30: Persian Language Pedagogy: From Theory to Practice

Organized by **Pounch Shabani-Jadidi**

Chair: **Michelle Quay**, University of Chicago
Discussant: **Pounch Shabani-Jadidi**, McGill University

Mahbod Ghaffari, University of Cambridge *Persian as an Interlanguage*

Yass Alizadeh, New York University *How to be a Good Listener*

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Photo by Ziad Turki al-Jazzaa

Dina Rizk Khoury, Professor, George Washington University

Emile Habibi, Palestinian/Israeli award-winning author and politician recounts in his book, *The Secret Life of Saeed: the Pessoptimist*, the story of Saeed, an ordinary Palestinian attempting to navigate life in Israel between 1948 and 1967 as both informer for the Israeli state and victim of the politics of survival of Palestinians. Pessoptimism is Saeed's existential condition, his mode of being in the world. It speaks to his desire to make meaning of his life under untenable historical conditions. It struck me, during summer months spent in Beirut, that Saeed's pessoptimism is a particularly apt portrayal of lives lived day by day and hour by hour of an increasing number of citizens, protestors, refugees, displaced persons and migrants in the nations and regions we cover during the past twenty years or so. I would hazard to say as well, that despite the vast differences in our material and political circumstances, pessoptimism has increasingly animated our ability, particularly in fields of inquiry that cover the modern period, to write and teach the Middle East and North Africa. As a field of inquiry, the study of the MENA region is thriving despite the challenges of funding, limitations on the ability to conduct research, and the field's entanglements with the foreign and domestic politics of the US. Yet, we often feel suspended between the elation and hope that we share with the people whose lives, protests, and creative reckonings inspire our intellectual engagements and the violence and loss that accompanies and often coexists with much of the politics. What are our responsibilities to our colleagues whose help and research we use to our professional advantage in a country deeply implicated in the violence against the people of the region? What are the strategies we can develop to continue teaching the Middle East during these years of structural transformation in the political economy of higher education that are compounded by systemic attempts by state legislatures in the US to undermine our ability to teach its modern history without erasures?

Awards Ceremony

begins immediately following the Presidential Address

Please join us in honoring excellence in the field of Middle East studies.

We will be presenting the following awards:

MESA Mentoring Award

Academic Freedom Award

Undergraduate Education Award

Albert Hourani Book Award

Nikki Keddie Book Award

Fatema Mernissi Book Award

Roger Owen Book Award

Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Awards in the Humanities and in the Social Sciences

MESA Graduate Student Paper Prize

Roundtable

**VI-01: “Pathways of Portability,”
20 Years On: A New Frontier for
Scholars of the
Medieval Mediterranean**

Organized by **Bihter Esener**

Sponsored by
Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Chair: **Michelle Al-Ferzly**

Michelle Al-Ferzly, University of
Michigan

Peter Boudreau, McGill University

Bihter Esener, Koç University/University
of Michigan

Eva R. Hoffman, Tufts University

Sarah Mathiesen, Florida State University

Arielle Winnik, Bryn Mawr College

Roundtable

VI-02: Lebanon Unsettled

Organized by **Deen Sharp**

Chair/Discussant: **Deen Sharp**

May Farhat, Holy Spirit University of
Kaslik

Deen Sharp, London School of
Economics

Noura Wahby, American University in
Cairo

Diala Lteif, University of Toronto

Roundtable

**VI-03: Canada and the
Middle East**

Organized by **Thomas Juneau**

Organized under the auspices of
Defence and Security Foresight Group

Chairs: **Thomas Juneau**, University
of Ottawa, **Kareem Shaheen**,
Independent Scholar, **Aisha Ahmad**,
University of Toronto, and **Bessma
Momani**, University of Waterloo

Chris Kilford, Canadian International
Council

Mike Fleet, Government of Canada
E.J. Karmel, University of Guelph
Frédéric Boily, University of Alberta
Nermin Allam, Rutgers University
Costanza Musu, University of Ottawa
Justin Massie, Université du Québec à
Montréal

Workshop

**VI-04: Professional and Non-
Academic Career Pathways**

Organized by **Rita Stephan**

Sponsored by
**Association for Middle East
Women’s Studies (AMEWS)**
**Association for Middle East
Anthropology (AMEA)**
**Association for Middle East Children
and Youth Studies (AMECYS)**
**Arab American Studies
Association (AASA)**

Rita Stephan, USAID
Catherine Batruni, U.S. Department of
State Foreign Service Institute
Ana Escrogima, U.S. Department of State

Workshop

**VI-05: International Funding
Opportunities for Adjuncts:
Opportunities for MESA
Members**

Organized by **Jaclyn Assarian**

Jaclyn Assarian, Outreach and
Recruitment Specialist, Fulbright
U.S. Scholar Program, Institute of
International Education
Katie Jost, CAORC Program Director
Geoff Burrows, Senior Program Officer,
National Endowment for the
Humanities
Suha Kudsieh, Program Officer, National
Endowment for the Humanities

**VI-06: Elections and Electoral
Institutions in the Middle East
and North Africa**

Organized by **Yuree Noh**

Chair: **Ellen Lust**, University of
Gothenburg
Discussant: **Lillian Frost**, Virginia Tech

Tugba Bozcaga, Harvard University
*Members of the Same Club? Subnational
Variations in Electoral Returns to Local
Public Goods*

Yuree Noh, Rhode Island College
*Regime Support and Gender Quotas under
Authoritarianism*

Scott Williamson, Bocconi University *It’s
Good to Be King: Ruler Type and Perceptions
of Democracy in Authoritarian Regimes*

Erin York, Vanderbilt University *Horizontal
Accountability under Autocracy*

**VI-07: Infrastructure and Society
in the Middle East
and North Africa**

Organized by **Xiaoyue Li**

Chair: **Juan Cole**, University of Michigan
Discussant: **Tessa Farmer**, University of
Virginia

Xiaoyue Li, University of Michigan *The
Railway Economy and its Politics in Colonial
Egypt*

Elvan Cobb, Hong Kong Baptist
University *Failing to Succeed: Agency in the
Construction of Izmir’s Railways*

Robert Ames, New York University *Digital
Infrastructure and Financial Security in the
Islamic Republic: Iranian Banks, State, and
Society*

Zachary D Cuyler, New York University
Two Battles of the Holiday Inn

VI-08: The (Un-)Making of Social and Material Infrastructures in Post-Revolutionary Egypt

Organized by **Aya Nassar**

Discussant: **Julia Elyachar**, Princeton University

Nada El Kouny, American University in Cairo *Infrastructural Citizenship in Egypt's Nile Delta*

Heba M Khalil, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign *Political Lawyering: Mediating legal and street infrastructures for social change*

Omnia Khalil, CUNY Graduate Center *Securitizing the Urban Geography of Cairene post-Revolutionary Times*

Aya Nassar, Durham University *Bridges, Billboards and Kites: Material and affective infrastructures in Cairo's curfews*

VI-09: (Re)creating Home: Belonging and Finding Community for Refugees in or from the Middle East

Organized by **Mohammed Kadalal**, Santa Clara University

Chair/Discussant: **Giulia El Dardiry**, Beirut School of Critical Security Studies, Arab Council for the Social Sciences

Wendy Pearlman, Northwestern University *What is Home? Displaced Syrians' Narratives of Identity and Belonging*

Nell Gabiam, Iowa State University *Encampment and homemaking after the War in Syria: Experiences of Secondary Palestinian Displacement*

Mohammed Kadalal, Santa Clara University *Syrian Refugees in Connecticut: Re-inventing 'Home' in the Land of Salvation'*

Allia Ida Griffin, Santa Clara University *"This Remaking of Oneself": On Memoir Writing in the Diaspora"*

VI-10: Mutton, Textile, and Salt: Economic History of the Nineteenth-Century Ottoman East

Organized by **Ugur Bayraktar** and **Yasar Tolga Cora**

Yonca Koksall, Koc University and **Can Nacar**, Koç University *Animal Trade in the Ottoman East: Tribes, Meat Merchants and Drivers in Erzurum*

Yener Koc, Independent Scholar *Sheep, Pastureland and Tribe: The Impacts of the Sheep Trade on the Nomadic Tribes of the Ottoman East, 1850-1900*

Ugur Bayraktar, Social Sciences University of Ankara *Salt, Tribe and State: Making of a Monopoly in Ottoman Siirt/Sğerd, 1861-1881*

Yasar Tolga Cora, Boğaziçi University *Cottage Industries in the Ottoman East: Textile Production in Van in the Nineteenth Century*

VI-11: Problematizing Child Rights: Researching Palestine/Israel Beyond and Against the Child Rights Discourse

Organized by **Hedi Viterbo**

Sponsored by **Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)**

Bree Akesson, Wilfrid Laurier University *Beyond Trauma: Researching the Everyday Experiences of Palestinian Children and Families*

Heidi Morrison, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse *How did the Child Behave?: Rethinking Children's Agency in Palestine from an Emotions-Based Perspective*

Hedi Viterbo, Queen Mary University of London *The Complicity of Child Rights in State Violence Against Palestinians*

Mohammed Alruzzi, University of Bath *The visible and invisible everyday resistance of children in the occupied territories*

VI-12: Beyond Boundaries: The Convergence of Adab and Other Medieval Islamic Genres

Organized by **Raha Rafii**

Chair: **Daniel Sheffield**, Princeton University

Discussant: **Matthew Keegan**, Barnard College

Rubina Salikuddin, Bryn Mawr College *Timurid Shrine Visitation Guides at the Intersection of History, Hagiography, and Entertainment*

Raha Rafii, University of Exeter *The Medieval Islamic Judge: Between Jurisprudence and Mirrors for Princes*

Ali Asgar Alibhai, University of Texas at Dallas *The Rise of the Fatimid Crescent Moon: Adab as a Tool for Understanding the Practice of Ru'yat al-Hilal*

VI-13: Making God Angry

Organized by **Reyhan Durmaz** and **Aaron Hagler**

Scott Savran, Thomas Jefferson HSST *The Two Old Soothsayers in the Islamic Historiographical Tradition*

Reyhan Durmaz, University of Pennsylvania *Fear of God and Confidence in Deed: Narrating Saint Antony to a Muslim Audience*

Aaron Hagler, Troy University *We Have Nobody to Blame but Ourselves: Narratives of Communal Self-blame in the face of calamity*

VI-14: The Asian and African Provinces of the Ottoman Empire: Marginal Histories and New Approaches

Organized by **Jane Hathaway**

Chair/Discussant: **Jim Grehan**, Portland State University

Jane Hathaway, Ohio State University *Ottoman Egypt in the Documents of the Cairo Geniza*

Stefan Winter, Koç University *The Afrin District under Ottoman Rule*

Charles Wilkins, Wake Forest University
*Mollas, Mystics, and Merchants: Kurdish
Notables in Early Ottoman Aleppo*
Zoe Griffith, Baruch College, CUNY
Alexandria as an Arena of Ottoman Politics

**VI-15: Post-Genocide Armenian
Communities in the Eastern
Mediterranean and the
Middle East**

Organized by **Merih Erol**

Sponsored by
**Ottoman and Turkish Studies
Association (OTSA)**

Chair: **Baki Tezcan**, UC Davis
Discussant: **Tsolin Nalbantian**, Leiden
University

Susan Pattie, Armenian Institute London
*Armenians in Cyprus: Building a Shared
Identity in a Safe Space*

Antranik Dakessian, Haigazian
University *A refugee ragtag reconstructed
and transformed: the Lebanese Armenian
community (1920s–1940s)*

Merih Erol, Özyeğin University *“We are
descendants of Haik”: Armenians’ history in
Greece from refugees to a diasporic community*

Lerna Ekmekcioglu, MIT *History becomes
Destiny: Armenians in Istanbul Experiencing
the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne*

**VI-16: Shrinking Spaces,
Excluded Communities, and
Transformed Environments:
Exploring Health and
Environment Among Palestinians
through Eco-Social Approaches**

Organized by **Weeam Hammoudeh**

Sponsored by
**Palestinian American Research Center
(PARC)**

Brian Boyd, Columbia University *People,
plants and landscapes: future ecologies in
Palestine*

Weeam Hammoudeh, Birzeit University
*Environment and Health in the Northwest
Jerusalem Enclave*

Usama Tanous, Emory University *The*

*Health of Palestinians in Israel from a Settler
Colonial Perspective*

Maysaa Nemer, Birzeit University *Social
and political determinants of health of
Palestinian Agriculture Working Women in
the Jordan Valley*

**VI-17: Communal Boundaries
and Networks of Learning and
Communication in the Pre-
Modern Maghrib**

Organized by **Camilo Gómez-Rivas**

Aslisho Qurboniev, ISMC Aga Khan
University *Memory, Textual Networks and
Religious Change: The Malikization of the
Maghrib*

Camilo Gómez-Rivas, UC Santa Cruz
*Maliki Jurists as Negotiators and Diplomats
in the Medieval Maghrib and al-Andalus*

Tomoaki Shinoda, Tokyo University of
Foreign Studies *Improvising diplomacy and
the making of inter-religious relationships in
fifteenth-century northern Morocco*

Caitlyn Olson, NYU Abu Dhabi *Creedal
Controversy Between the Maghrib and the Sabel*

Catey Boyle, Harvard University *“I am
Your Slave and Servant.” Friendship,
homosexuality, and state formation in 18th-
century Ottoman Tunis*

**VI-18: From Disease to Disaster?
The Social Consequences of
the Covid-19 Pandemic in
the MENA Region**

Organized by **Holger Albrecht**

Amirah El-Haddad, German
Development Institute/Cairo
University *Effects of the COVID19 crisis
on manufacturing: Evidence from Egypt*

Markus Loewe, German Development
Institute *The Impact of the Covid-19
Pandemic on the Social Contracts in Tunisia,
Egypt, and Lebanon*

Holger Albrecht, University of Alabama
*States or Social Networks? Responses to
Health Crises in Lebanon and Tunisia*

Kevin Koehler, Leiden University *Complying
with Containment? The Behavioral
Consequences of COVID-19 Restrictions in
Turkey*

VI-19: Tafsir Studies Today

Organized by **Walid A. Saleh**

Chair: **Lisa Alexandrin**, University of
Manitoba

Ash Geissinger, Carleton University *Let’s
Talk about Gender—Not Women: A
Theoretical Intervention in Tafsir Studies*

Tariq Jaffer, Amherst College *Ash‘ari-Sunni
Theories of Qur’anic Miracles: A Study of
Divine and Evidential Signs*

Sara Abdel-Latif, McGill University
*Where Al-Zamakhsbari and Rumi Meet:
Renegotiating Genre Boundaries in the Arabic
and Persian Tafsir Tradition*

Walid A. Saleh, University of Toronto
*Periodization of the History of Qur’an
Commentary (Tafsir): A New Attempt*

Ahmed H. al-Rahim, University of
Virginia *Concupiscent Curiosity of the Gaze
in Medieval Islam: Qur’ān 24:30–31*

**VI-20: Reclaiming Identities:
Racialization, Representation,
and Resistance of MENA Jews
Before and after 1948**

Organized by **Noa Hazan**

Chair: **Shoshana Madmoni-Gerber**
Discussant: **Claris Harbon**, Al Akhawayn
University

Shoshana Madmoni-Gerber, Suffolk
University *“Not Nice”: Representation,
Oppression and Resistance of Yemeni Jews
Before and After 1948*

Noa Hazan, CUNY *Racialization Between
Casablanca and Jerusalem: Moroccan Jewry
on Display*

Shirly Bahar, Columbia University *In
Formation: Contemporary Visualizations
of the Making and Becoming of the Middle
Eastern Jew*

**VI-21: New Perspectives on the
Global Cold War in the Middle
East: Transnational Solidarity
and South-South Connections**

Organized by **William Andrew Figueroa**

Chair: **Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet**, University
of Pennsylvania

Discussant: **Lorenz Luthi**, McGill University

Arash Azizi, New York University *Iranians and the Vietnam War: Cold War or Global South connections?*

Lorenz Luthi, McGill University *Nasser, Sadat, and Non-Alignment*

William Andrew Figueroa, University of Pennsylvania *Socialist Solidarity and Anti-Communism in Sino-Iranian Relations, 1949-1959*

VI-22: Searching where the Light Fades: Patterns of Continuity and Change in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia

Organized by **Alessandra Bonci** and **Fabrizio Leonardo Cuccu**

Chair: **Francesco Cavatorta**, Université Laval

Fabio Merone, Independent Researcher *Islamic Political Theology: building the Tunisian political community*

Nada Ahmed, Transitional Justice Institute *An intertwined system of repression and corruption Tunisia's Truth & Dignity Commission's (TDC) report*

Nathan Grubman, Stanford University *The Party System in Tunisia's Marginalized Regions*

Fabrizio Leonardo Cuccu, Dublin City University and **Alessandra Bonci**, Laval University *How the moderate/radical divide shapes the security apparatus in Tunisia*

Ameni Mehrez, Central European University *The Determinants of Voting Behavior in the 2019 Tunisian Elections*

VI-23: The Politics of the Built Environment

Chair: **Stacy E. Holden**, Purdue University

A. Sameh El Kharbawy, California State University *Lands of No Men: The Sites and Spaces of Women's Activism in the (Post)Colonial Imagination*

Ingy Higazy, UC Santa Cruz *Arteries of Power: The Politics of Mobility and Infrastructure in Egypt, 1970—Present*

Robert Flahive, Virginia Tech *Settler Colonialism without Settlers? Remaking the*

Past through Architectural Preservation in Casablanca

Marielle Risse, Dhofar University *Private Lives in Public Spaces: Perceptions of Space-Usage in Southern Oman*

Miguel Fuentes, UC Santa Barbara *Cairo's urban sexualities: Cityscapes of abortion, HIV and gender reassignment*

VI-24: The Governance of Migration and Refugees

Chair: **Rachel Winter**, UC Santa Barbara

Emily K. M. Scott, McGill University *Humanitarian Boundaries? Institutions, Disruption, and Syrian Migrants*

Danae C. Panissie, Tuebingen University *Germany's fight against forced migration in the MENA - examining the migration-development nexus in authoritarian regimes*

Tim Jacoby, University of Manchester *Implementing Turkey's Refugee Policy: The Case of the Directorate General of Migration Management*

Zeynep Balcioğlu, Northeastern University *Stretching the Limits of Authority: Why Do Local Governments Cater for Refugees?*

Tina Zintl, German Development Institute *Donor-sponsored Cash-for-Work Programmes and social cohesion: effects on ownership and trust in Jordanian communities hosting Syrian refugees*

VI-25: Tracing Race

Chair: **Ghenwa Hayek**, University of Chicago

Wijdan Alsayegh, University of Michigan *Black Arabs and Blackness in the Contemporary Arab Fiction*

Deena Al-halabieh, UC Santa Barbara *Situating Religion, Language, and Race in 18th-19th Century US African Muslim Slave Narratives*

Bentley Brown, University of Colorado Boulder *Do you consider yourselves 'Arab'? Hybridized identities and questions of belonging in 'Revolution From Afar'*

Shyla González-Doğan, Arizona State University *"You're Black. You're from Africa. You can't be the principal." Black Men's Experiences in Leadership in U.S. based Islamic Institutions*

VI-26: Music Modes/Music Moods: Affect and Discourse in Sound

Chair: **Zeina Zaatari**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Deina Rabie, University of Texas at Austin *Tea and the Adhān in Al Zaab*

Audrey Williams, George Mason University *A Spark of Curiosity: The Role of Social Identity and Narrative Genre in Musicking Turkish-Kurdish Reconciliation*

Liz Matsushita, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Nationalism and Universalism in Wadia Sabra's Musical Science, 1932-1944*

VI-27: Between Empire and the Post-Colony: Memory, (un)Belonging, and Reproducing State

Chair: **Najat Rahman**, University of Montreal

Yulia Gilich, UC Santa Cruz *Settler Innocence or What Really Happened on May 14*

May Kosba, Graduate Theological Union *... And Bid Him Sing: A Tale of Longing and (un)Belonging Centering 1960s Cairo in African Diasporic Memory*

Lucy El-Sherif, University of Toronto *Tightrope Dabke: Embodiment and Settler Citizenship on Turtle Island*

Ovgu Ulgen, University of Montreal *How do Jews remember? State formation and majority-minority relations in Morocco and Turkey (1950-1970)*

Mehraneh Ebrahimi-Eshratbadi, Independent Scholar *Refugee Literature: Stories as Human Rights*

VI-28: Qur'an and Law: Gender, Sexuality, and Hermeneutical Authority

Jean-Michel Landry, Carleton University *Approaching the Shari'a through the Questions Animating it*

Halla Attallah, Georgetown University *Gender and (In)fertility in the Qur'an's Narrative Content*

Daryoush Mohammad Poor, Institute of Ismaili Studies *Ismaili Genres of Ta'wil: Examples of Evolution*

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Council of American Overseas Research Centers
Fostering International Scholarship



Founded in 1981, the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) is a private nonprofit federation of independent Overseas Research Centers (ORCs) that promotes advanced research in the humanities and social sciences. The centers are located in 29 countries around the world.

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Deadline: November 16, 2021

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS support faculty members at community colleges and minority-serving institutions by providing fully-funded, overseas seminars. The next seminars will take place in India, Mexico, and Senegal.

Deadline: TBD

caorc.org

Roundtable

VII-01: New Directions in Border and Migration Studies in the MENA Region: A Postcolonial Agenda

Organized by **Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen** and **Lorena Gazzotti**, Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge

Chair: **Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen**, Yale University

Katharina Natter, University of Leiden
Anissa Maâ, Université libre de Bruxelles
Cynthia Magallanes-Gonzalez, University of Michigan
A. George Bajalia, Wesleyan University
Catherine Therrien, Al Akhawayn University

Roundtable

VII-02: Fault Lines and Fractures in the 2020 Artsakh/Nagorno Karabakh War

Organized by **Sossie Kasbarian**

Sponsored by
Society for Armenian Studies (SAS)

Chair: **Sossie Kasbarian**, University of Stirling

Rachel Goshgarian, Lafayette College
Elyse Semerdjian, Whitman College
Bedross Der Matossian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Keverk Oskanian, University of Birmingham
Tamar Shirinian, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Roundtable

VII-03: The Future of Political Islam

Organized by **Jocelyne Cesari**

Jocelyne Cesari, Georgetown University
Aaron Rock-Singer, University of Wisconsin Madison
Nader Hashemi, University of Denver
Annelle Sheline, Quincy Institute

Robert Hefner, Boston University
Ahmet Erdi Ozturk, Coventry University/
 London Metropolitan University

Roundtable

VII-04: Academic Freedom under Authoritarian Constraints in Turkey

Organized by **Baki Tezcan**

Sponsored by
Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)

Chair: **Baki Tezcan**, UC Davis

Asli Z. Igsiz, New York University
Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat, University of Connecticut
Asli Bali, UCLA School of Law
Asli Odman, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University
Salih Can Aciksoz, UCLA
Ayse G. Kadioglu, Sabanci University

Roundtable

VII-05: The Future of Academic Studies on the Iran-Iraq War

Organized by **Shirin Saeidi**

Chair: **Mateo Farzaneh**

Mateo Farzaneh, Northeastern Illinois University
Narges Bajoghli, Johns Hopkins University SAIS
Shirin Saeidi, University of Arkansas
Shahla Talebi, Arizona State University

Roundtable

VII-06: New Books on Afghanistan: Rethinking Knowledge, Power, and Politics Historically and on the Ground

Organized by **Helena Zeweri**

Wazhmah Osman, Temple University
Alla Ivanchikova, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Purnima Bose, Indiana University
Helena Zeweri, University of Virginia

Nivi Manchanda, Queen Mary University of London

Workshop

VII-07: Professional Development Workshop Proposal Writing and Research Design: How to Fund Your Ideas

Organized by **Suad Joseph**

Sponsored by
Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)
Association for Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)
Association for Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)
Arab American Studies Association (AASA)

Suad Joseph, University of California, Davis

VII-08: A Climate of Change in the Gulf?

Organized by **Deen Sharp**

Sponsored by
Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Chair/Discussant: **Deen Sharp**, London School of Economics

Kanwal Tareq Hameed, LSE Middle East Centre *Cooling vests & racial capitalism: Thinking about climate change in the carbon economy*

Reem Alawadhi, Kuwait University *Environmental Citizenship in Kuwait*

Abrar Alshammari, Princeton University *Politicians, Green Entrepreneurs, and Environmentally and Socially Responsible Discourses in Kuwait*

Aisha Al-Sarihi, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center *Aligning climate policies with Saudi Arabia's economic diversification: politics, challenges and opportunities*

VII-09: Surveillance and Social Control in the Middle East: From Cold War to the Digital Age

Organized by **Seckin Sertdemir Ozdemir** and **Deniz Yonucu**

Chair: **Erol Saglam**, Istanbul Medeniyet University/Freie Universität Berlin
 Discussant: **Elizabeth M. Holt**, Bard College

Seckin Sertdemir Ozdemir, University of Turku *Authoritarianism and biopolitics of security in Turkey*

Ali Dogan, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient *No limits for the Mukhabarat - Iraq's methods of repression in Europe during the Cold War*

Noura Chalati, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient *The Syrian surveillance architecture & the Stasi*

Deniz Yonucu, Technical University of Berlin *Undercover Policing as Spectacle: Rage, Refusal and the Reclamation of Dignity*

VII-10: Immobility in Iraq: Historical and Anthropological Perspectives

Organized by **Kerem Ussakli** and **Naz Yucel**

Naz Yucel, George Washington University *"Leave No Place Uncultivated": Tribal Governance and (Im)mobility in the Hamidian Era*

Henrik Andersen, Roskilde University *'Stuck Together': Immobility, Imprisonment and State Violence in Iraq (1914-1958)*

Kerem Ussakli, Stanford University *Accusations, Immorality and Immobility in Iraqi Geographies of Displacement*

Annie Greene, University of Chicago *Perceptions of Stasis in Late-Ottoman Baghdad*

VII-11: Rhapsody and Revulsion in Arabic

Organized by **Samuel England**

Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania *Umm Kulthum's Qasida:*

The Personal Ordeal that Engenders a Revolution

Samuel England, University of Wisconsin Madison *In Praise of Yachts*

Adam Talib, Durham University *Connoisseurship, Voyeurism, and Sexual Violence: against the shallowness of Arabic literary history*

Emily Drumsta, University of Texas at Austin *Against the "Straight" Path: Sonallah, Shidiyaq, and other Possible Modernisms*

VII-12: The Past, Present, and Future of Ottoman Turkish Language Pedagogy

Organized by **Beyza Lorenz** and **Nilufer Hatemi**, Princeton University

Sponsored by **American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)**

Chair: **Erika H. Gilson**, University of Pennsylvania

Discussant: **Cornell Hugh Fleischer**, University of Chicago

Beyza Lorenz, UCLA *Teaching in Medias Res: Challenges and Opportunities of Teaching Intermediate Ottoman Turkish*

Selim Kuru, University of Washington *Old Language Young Again: An Active Knowledge of Ottoman Turkish*

Hakan Karateke, University of Chicago *Teaching Ottoman Turkish: Experiences from the Field*

Burcu Karahan, Stanford University *Teaching Ottoman Turkish: Methods, Planning, and Strategies*

VII-13: Rasulid Tribal Law, Sufism, Ottoman-era Yemenite Jews, and Geography of the Tihāma: Studies in the History of Yemen

Organized by **Daniel Martin Varisco**

Sponsored by **American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)**

Daniel Martin Varisco, AIYS President

Mid-14th Century Tribal Customary Law Document, Ahkam al-man', from Rasulid Yemen

Bat-Zion Eraqi Klorman, Open University of Israel *Yemeni Jewish Migration to East Africa and to Palestine during the Ottoman era (1880s-1918)*

Alexander Knysh, University of Michigan/St. Petersburg State University *Sufism in Yemen: A Struggle for Purity and Authenticity*

Francine Stone, Independent Scholar *Identifying Previously Undocumented City Sites on the Yemen Tihama*

Bernard Haykel, Princeton University *Zaydi Polemics against Sufism and the Ottomans in the 11th/17th Century: The Qasimi Imams and their Opponents*

VII-14: Mediations and Interpretations of Memory

Organized by **Nancy E. Gallagher**

Sponsored by **Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)**

Chair/Discussant: **Helen M. Rizzo**, American University in Cairo

Nancy E. Gallagher, UC Santa Barbara *"Contradictions of the Association for Middle East Studies Oral History Project"*

Sondra Hale, UCLA *Some Conundrums for Western Feminists Collecting Oral Histories: Ethics and Accountability in Research with Sudanese Women*

Hoda Elsadda, Cairo University *"Narratives of Dissent: Memory, Gender and the Ethics of Representation"*

VII-15: Persian Literature in Translation: Historical, Linguistic, and Socio-Cultural Dimensions

Organized by **Michelle Quay**

Chair: **Pounch Shabani-Jadidi**
 Discussant: **Michelle Quay**

Sam Hodgkin, Yale University *Persian Poetry in the Second-World Translation System*

Domenico Ingenito, UCLA *On Translating the Flesh, the Gender, and the Spirit of the Persian Ghazal*

Michelle Quay, University of Chicago *The Role of the Translator in Shaping the Canon: Gender and Contemporary Persian Short Story Anthologies, 1980 to 2020*

Alexander Jabbari, University of Oklahoma *Sa'di's Gulistan in British India: A Provocation*

Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, McGill University *Linguistic Perspective on Persian Literary Translation*

VII-16: Knowledge in Action: Social Practices and Sciences in the Middle East

Organized by **Gul Kale**

Chair: **Gul Kale**

Ingrid Hehmeyer, Ryerson University *Mathematics and its applications: An example from Rasulid Zabid, Yemen*

Gul Kale, Carleton University *The aerial balance in scientific works and in action in the Ottoman empire*

Emily Neumeier, Temple University *Visualizing Geographic Knowledge in the Ottoman Provinces*

Adrien Zakar, University of Toronto *When Ottoman Mapping Became Cartography*

VII-17: Laughter in Times of Distress: Humor and its Politics in Middle Eastern Literature and Popular Culture

Organized by **Linda Istanbuli**

Chair: **Linda Istanbuli**, Pennsylvania State University

Discussant: **Mostafa Abedinifard**, University of British Columbia

Elizabeth M. Perego, Appalachian State University *"Back to Black (Humor)? Laughter Amidst Repression in Algeria's Revolution of Smiles"*

Mohamed Hassan, Amherst College *The Subversive Power of Humor as a Form of Dissent after the Arabic Spring*

Massih Zekavat, Europa-Universitaet Flensburg *The Primary Functions of*

Pandemic Humor in the Context of Iran

Elianne El-Amyouni, University of Waterloo *Humor in Contemporary Palestinian Hip Hop*

Niall Ó Murchú, Western Washington University *Transcultural Blending and Political Laughter in "Divine Intervention" (2002)*

VII-18: Transottoman Mobilities in the Second Half of the 18th Century: Ottoman, Russian, and Polish-Lithuanian Entanglements

Organized by **Gul Sen**

Chair: **Linda T. Darling**, University of Arizona

Discussant: **Suraija Erika Faroghi**, Ibn Haldun University

Yusuf Karabicak, Mainz University *Defending Polish Liberty: A History of the Ottoman Declaration of War on Russia in 1768*

Gul Sen, University of Bonn *Crossing Borders: Transottoman Semiospheres in Necati Efendi's Narrative of Russian Captivity (1771-75)*

Stefan Rohdewald, University of Leipzig *Constructing Alliances beyond the Limits of Otherness: Warsaw and Istanbul vs. Saint Petersburg according to Piotr Potocki's Embassy Report from 1789*

Stephan Conermann, University of Bonn *Johann Christian Struve and Heinrich Christoph von Reimers: Two German-Speaking Observers in the Russian Diplomatic Mission to Istanbul (1793-94)*

VII-19: Revolutionary Revisionings: Transforming Tunisia's History and Patrimony, Post 2011

Organized by **Silvia Marsans-Sakly**

Silvia Marsans-Sakly, Fairfield University *Freedom, Work, and National Dignity: Tunisia as Martyr and Its Demands, 1920s*

Ola Galal, CUNY Graduate Center *Excavating the Essence: Feminist Scholars, Inheritance Rights, and Religious Revisionism in Post-Revolution Tunisia*

Laura Thompson, Harvard University *Abdelaziz al-Thaalbi's Heirs: "Islamists,"*

"Progressives," and the Contested Legacy of a Tunisian Nationalist

Ridha Moumni, Harvard University *Modernism and Political Modernity: Tunisian Art in Time of Bourguiba*

Joshua Picard, Princeton University *Revisiting Ibn Abi al-Diyaf's relationship with the 'Abd al-Aman*

VII-20: Analyzing Histories of Struggle: Palestine, the Past, Present, and Future

Organized by **Chandni Desai**

G.N. Nithya, York University *Resistance Pedagogies: Labour Struggles in Palestine and Beyond*

Chandni Desai, University of Toronto *Palestinian Revolutionaries in Lotus and Third World Cultural Movements*

Wafaa Hasan, McMaster University *Palestinian Women, Interrupted: Colonial Dialogues in Anti-Occupation Solidarity Organizing*

Rana Sukarieh, York University/American University of Beirut *Towards a sustained solidarity with Palestine in Toronto: a political generational analysis*

VII-21: Bringing Remittances Back In: Dynamics and Impact of Syrian Remittances

Organized by **Asya El-Meehy**

Chair/Discussant: **Asya El-Meehy**, New York University

Joseph Daher, European University Institute *Syrian Remittances: An Analysis from the Recipients' Side*

Benjamin Schraven, German Development Institute *The Syrian diaspora in Germany and remittances from Germany to Syria - A state of the art report*

Ola G. El-Taliawi, Carleton University *Syrian Remittances from Jordan*

Erica Moret, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies *Political Economy of Syria Remittances: Sanctions, the COVID-19 Pandemic & Digital Innovation*

H. Tolga Bolukbasi, Bilkent University *Syrian Remittances from Turkey*

VII-22: Notions of the Archive in the Medieval Middle East

Organized by **Ahmad Khan**

Sponsored by
Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

- Tamer El-Leithy**, Johns Hopkins University *Archiving Practices in non-Muslim Documentary Collections: The Waqfiyyas of the Coptic Patriarchate Archive in Cairo*
- Ahmad Khan**, American University in Cairo *Logic of the archives in Khurasan and Egypt, eighth-tenth centuries*
- Arezou Azad**, University of Oxford and **Majid Montazer Mahdi**, University of Oxford *Archiving and scribal practices exhibited in Arabic and Persian texts and documents from the pre-Mongol Islamicate East*
- Marina Rustow**, Princeton University *Holes and Markings: Physical Traces of Archiving Practices in Fatimid Documents*

VII-23: Evoking Invocations: Developments in Imami Shi'i Du'a

Organized by **Ameena Yovan**

- Gianni Izzo**, University of Arizona *In Your Hand is the Good: Mulla Hadi Sabzıvari's Commentary on Du'a al-Sabah*
- Zahra Moeini Meybodi**, University of Chicago *Prayer at Karbala: The Formation of Religious Language Amidst Tragedy*
- Ameena Yovan**, University of Chicago *The Canonization of Supplication: The Development of the Shi'a Du'a Manual*
- Reza Hemyari**, University of Chicago *What does dua do? Shaykh Al-Tusi's Mishab al-Mutabajjid between the Judicial, Theological, and Aesthetic*

VII-24: Mount Lebanon in Cultural, Political, and Collective Imagination

Organized by **Randa Tawil**

- Joshua Donovan**, Columbia University *A Battle over Bishops: Proto-nationalisms, Imagined Geographies, and the status of Mount Lebanon's Orthodox Christians*

Randa Tawil, Texas Christian University *Who Gets Left Behind: Memory, Empire, and Mt. Lebanon*

Jeremy Randall, CUNY Graduate Center *Mount Lebanon as an Emergent Secular Nationalist Imaginary in Postcolonial Lebanon*

VII-25: Contemporary Islamic Discourses: Jihad, the Self, and Travelling Symbols

Chair: **Regine Schwab**, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt

- Morgen A. Chalmiers**, UC San Diego *Gratitude to God within Islamic Doctrine and Practice*
- Youssef Yacoubi**, Seton Hall University *From Prescriptive to Reflexive Sermon: The "Return" of Philosophy to the Mosque in Exile*
- Mathias Ghyoot**, University of Copenhagen *Signs of the Merciful: 'Abdullah 'Azqam (d. 1989) and the Miraculous Chronicles of the Afghan Jihad, 1982-1992*

Nareman Amin, University of Pennsylvania *Harnessing Hope: Egyptian Televangelism and Revolutionary Ethical Self-Cultivation*

Mohammed A. Salih, University of Pennsylvania *The Islamic State's Discourse of Identity and Subjectivity*

Jeffrey Bishku-Aykul, Independent Scholar *The Diffusion of Malcolm X as a Political Symbol Among Turkish Islamists and the Rise of the AK Party, 1996-2019*

VII-26: Narratives of Loss and Violence

Chair: **Jonas Elbousty**, Yale University

Tazeen M. Ali, Washington University in St. Louis *Beyond TV Terrorists: Hulu's Ramy and Post-2016 Media Portrayals of Arab Muslims*

Elizabeth Bentley, University of Arizona *Telling an Extinction Story: Animal Extinction and Indigenous Human Dispossession in Palestine*

Maria Holt, University of Westminster *The Right to Live in Dignity and Civility: Palestinian Refugee Voices as a Counter-Narrative*

VII-27: Law, Translation, and Material Culture in Medieval and Early Modern Islamic History

Chair: **Mohamud Awil Mohamed**, University of Minnesota

Malissa Taylor, University of Massachusetts Amherst *"The Sultan has a choice...": the reversal of the Hanafi doctrine of conquered land*

Shatha Almutawa, American University *The Role of Manichaean Texts and Communities in the Transmission of Buddhist Narratives into Arabic in the Abbasid Period*

Nadir Ansari, University of Toronto *Supersession or subsumption? The Sunni-Hanafi legal theory, tafsir studies, and the inter-religious dialogue*

Edith X. Chen, University of Oxford *Jurisdiction Matters in Ilkhanate Iran: Law and Reality*

Omar Farahat, McGill University *"No One Can Specialize the General": Norm, Text, and the Jurist's Role in Islamic Legal Theory*

VII-28: Slaves, Captives, and Historical Narratives: Recuperation and Revision

Chair: **Christine Isom-Verhaaren**, Brigham Young University

Seong Hyun Kim, American University in Cairo *A Comparative Study of Anti-Slavery in the Khedivate of Egypt and the Husaynid Beylik of Tunis: Focused on the Different State Policies and Demands for Military Manpower*

Pardis Minucheher, Academy for International Culture and Professional Education *Captives of Occupation: Intellectuals interrogated in Arak (WWII)*

Ali Atabey, University of Texas at San Antonio *"We are helping him for the sake of charity": Social Support and Communal Solidarity for Muslim Captives in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul*

Weston Bland, University of Pennsylvania *"The Finest Flower of our garden of the nascent Church": the form and genre of missionary narratives of the Nile Valley slave trade in "Report on Bianca Lemuna"*

Anthony A. Lee, Independent Scholar *Gulchirih Khanum: Enslaved Labor, Resistance, and Accommodation in the Court of Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar*

VII-29: Indian Ocean and Pan-Asian Connections: Dress, Print, Poetry, and Politics

Chair: **Fizza Joffrey**, University of Oxford

Alshaatha Alsharji, University of Arkansas *Master Narratives in Omani history: Between Glorification and Erasure*

Mariam Elashmawy, American University in Cairo *The Importance of Being Translated: Naqshbandi immigrants, translators and print networks in the nineteenth century*

Mikiya Koyagi, University of Texas at Austin *A Moment of Eastern Solidarity: Iran, Japan, and the Nisshomaru Incident of 1953*

William Bamber, University of Washington *Indians in Turkish Dress: Consumption, Image and Ottoman Influence in late 19th century South Asia*

VII-30: Kinship as Politics: Politics as Kinship

Chair: **James H. Sunday**, Johns Hopkins University

Reyhaneh Javadi, University of Alberta *Rationalization of Injustice: The Genesis of a Highly Gendered Judicial System in Post-Revolution Iran*

Michela De Giacometti, School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences *Reproducing social hierarchies from the battlefield to rituals: advocacy for civil marriage in Lebanon and wedding experiences in Cyprus*

Maral Sahebame, University of Washington *Social Change in Iran: Establishing a 'Collective Presence' through White Marriage*

Diane E. King, University of Kentucky *Descent and Citizenry in Islamic State State-Formation*



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December 2, 2021

4:30 pm

MESA Members Meeting

This is an annual administrative meeting open to the entire membership. The meeting mainly consists of reports (see sample agenda below). A member in good standing may suggest names to be added to the list of people who will be invited to run for the Nominating Committee, augmenting those proposed by MESA's Board.

All current full (fellows and students) MESA members are invited to attend the annual Members Meeting, which will convene at 4:30pm EST on Thursday, December 2 via Zoom.

The MESA Secretariat has received a resolution seeking a general membership vote, also known as a referendum. If the resolution is approved by the majority at the Members Meeting, then a referendum on the resolution will be held in early 2022, during which time all current voting-eligible members will be furnished with a ballot.

1. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum
2. Adoption of Meeting Rules
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. In Memoriam and Moment of Silence
5. Announcement of 2021 MESA Election Results
6. 2022 MESA Nominating Committee Call for Names
7. Report of the Executive Director
8. Report of Committee on Academic Freedom Chair
9. Resolution on BDS
10. New Business

Please note that this is a closed meeting, for members only.



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Temple of Bel sanctuary, Palmyra, Ursula Schulz-Dornburg, 2010.
Photo courtesy the artist. Getty Research Institute

Roundtable**VIII-01: Beyond Questioning the Convert: Muslim Practice in Latin American and Latino Worlds**Organized by **Camila Pastor de Maria y Campos****Mariam Saada**, California State University Fullerton**Camila Pastor de Maria y Campos**, Centro de Investigación y Docencia**Britt Dawson**, UC Berkeley**Miguel Fuentes**, UC Santa Barbara**Roundtable****VIII-02: Transition to Online Teaching: Reconstructing Language Teaching Pedagogies and Curricula**Organized by **Ilknur Lider**, AATTSponsored by
American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)Chair: **Esra Predolac**, University of Kansas
Discussants: **Funda Guven**, NazarbayevUniversity and **Didem Havlioglu**, Duke University**Zuleyha Colak**, Columbia University
Olivia Ceyda Steele, Ohio State University
Meryem Demir, Harvard University
Nilay Sevinc, University of Michigan
Emrah Sahin, University of Florida**Roundtable****VIII-03: The Current State of Students Psyche: Dealing with the Psychological Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Students and Moving toward Motivational Methods of Teaching**Organized by **Soheila Kian**Sponsored by
American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP)Chair: **Soheila Kian****Farima Sadigh-Mostowfi**, Georgetown University**Pardis Minuchehr**, Academy for International Culture and Professional Education**Alyeh Mehin Jafarabadi**, University of Arizona**Soheila Kian**, UC Irvine**Roundtable****VIII-04: The Lebanon Uprising of 2019: Reflections during (Counter-)Revolutionary Times**Organized by **Rima Majed** and **Jeffrey G. Karam**Chairs: **Jeffrey G. Karam** and **Rima Majed****Sana Tannoury-Karam**, Forum Transregionale Studien/Freie University**Rima Majed**, American University of Beirut**Mona Harb**, American University of Beirut**Moné Makkawi**, New York University**Joseph Daher**, European University Institute**Jeffrey G. Karam**, Lebanese American University**Roundtable****VIII-05: Islamic Occult Studies on the Rise**Organized by **Noah Gardiner** and **Matthew Melvin-Koushki**Chair: **Sajjad Rizvi**, University of Exeter**Emily Selove**, University of Exeter**Michael-Sebastian Noble**, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich**M. Fariduddin Attar**, McGill University**Nicholas Harris**, University of Pennsylvania**A. Tunç Sen**, Columbia University**Dunja Rašić**, University of Belgrade**Noah Gardiner**, University of South Carolina**Matthew Melvin-Koushki**, University of South Carolina**Roundtable****VIII-06: The Forgotten Mundane: Contemporary Iran Beneath and Beyond Politics**Organized by **Maryam Alemzadeh**Chair: **Maryam Alemzadeh**, Princeton University**Nazanin Shahrokni**, London School of Economics**Arzoo Osanloo**, University of Washington**Nahid Siamdoust**, Harvard University**Maziyar Ghiabi**, University of Exeter**Roundtable****VIII-07: After the Revolution: Visions for a Sustainable Future for Sudan**Organized by **Josepha Wessels**Organized under the auspices of
Swedish Research Council**Vittorio Felci**, Malmö University**Bentley Brown**, University of Colorado Boulder**Josepha Wessels**, Malmö University**Fanny Christou**, Lund University**Roundtable****VIII-08: Critical Environmental Perspectives of the MENA**Organized by **Gabi Kirk**Organized under the auspices of
Jadaliyya Environment PageChair: **Owain Lawson**, Columbia University**Jennifer Derr**, UC Santa Cruz**Noura Wahby**, American University in Cairo**China Sajadian**, CUNY Graduate Center**Jeannie Sowers**, University of New Hampshire**Gabi Kirk**, UC Davis

Special Session

VIII-09: Where is Palestine in the Battle over anti-Semitism Definitions?

The question of how to best combat anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial has preoccupied Western scholars and politicians since at least the 1980s. The framing of Palestinians as anti-Semites because of their resistance against their displacement and expulsion is as old as Zionist settler colonialism. But in response to growing grassroots- and student support for the Palestinian call for boycotting, divesting from and sanctioning Israel (BDS), Israeli officials and other leading right-wing Zionists resuscitated a defunct 2005 EU “non-legally binding working definition of anti-Semitism” and turned it into a document of intimidation and criminalization of Palestinian advocacy. Although Islamophobia and New Anti-Semitism scholars have since warned about the vagueness of the definition and the pro- Israeli examples given in its annex, this new definition was adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) which has set the global agenda as close to 30 countries and countless municipalities and universities have adopted this definition. International Holocaust scholars, German and Jewish historians have offered a substantial alternative definition in their Jerusalem Declaration which, in turn has received nuanced and constructive criticism from the BDS movement in Palestine. This special session was conceived by its organizers as building a long-term infrastructure of engagement with this pressing issue.

Organized by **Dyala Hamzah** and **Jens Hanssen**

Chair: **Jens Hanssen**, University of Toronto

Seth Anziska, University College London UK *Universities and the IHRA: On the Limits of Definitions and Institutional Responses to Antisemitism, Racism and Prejudice*

Meera Shah, Harvard University *Chilling speech in support of Palestinian rights: Flawed Definitions and How to Push Back*

Anna-Esther Younes, University of Amsterdam *“The War on Anti-Semitism” as the “New anti-Semitism”*

Sarah Anne Minkin, Foundation for Middle East Peace *Debating Israel/Palestine: the Battle over IHRA and Competing Definitions of Antisemitism*

Dyala Hamzah, University of Montreal *IHRA, the “surge in Antisemitism” and the obfuscation of Palestine*

VIII-10: Islamic Esotericisms:
From Theology to Exegesis

Organized by **Khalil Andani**

Discussant: **Matthew Melvin-Koushki**,
University of South Carolina

Aaron Viengkhou, Harvard University
*Signs on the Horizons: The Universal
Hermeneutics of Ḥaydar Amuli*

Khalil Andani, Augustana College *Adamic
Creation as Prophetic Initiation: Ismaili
Exegesis (ta’wil) of the Quranic Adam Story*

Syed Zaidi, Emory University *The Use of the
Qur’an in the Brethren of Purity’s (Ikbwān
al-Safā’) conception of God*

VIII-11: Arab Communities
around the World

Organized by **Mariam Alkazemi**

Chair/Discussant: **Mariam Alkazemi**,
Virginia Commonwealth University

Manal al-Natour, West Virginia University
*“Welcome, But Be Ready to Work”:
Negotiating Gender Norms as Refugees in
America*

Youssef Chouhoud, Christopher Newport
University *(How) Does Nativity Influence
Arab-American Attitudes and Behaviors?*

Diogo Bercito, Georgetown University
*Can We Be Governed by Someone Who Eats
Kibbeh? Lebanese Migrants and Brazilian
Politics*

Bessma Momani, University of Waterloo
*Arab Youths’ Sense of Belonging to Canada:
Integrated and Hyphenated Identities*

VIII-12: About Time: Theorizing
Temporal Constructions of
Belonging in the Contemporary
Levant

Organized by **Patricia Ward** and **Melissa
Gatter**

Chair: **Hiba Bou Akar**, Columbia
University

Discussant: **Noora Lori**, Boston University

Irene Tuzi, Humboldt University *Agency
as temporally embedded in displacement:
Syrian families renegotiating gender roles and
relations in Lebanon*

Melissa Gatter, University of Sheffield
*The Camp as Temporal Exclusion: The
bureaucratic foreclosure of refugee futures in
Jordan*

Ammar Azzouz, University of Oxford *Slow
violence and the city Homs after a decade of
radical destruction*

Patricia Ward, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity *Pacing in place: Turnover time and Jordanians' upward mobility in the transnational aid sector*

VIII-13: What is 'Islamic' Contemporary Art?

Organized by **Michelle Al-Ferzly**

Sponsored by
Association for Modern & Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran, & Turkey (AMCA)

Chairs: **Michelle Al-Ferzly** and **Sascha Crasnow**, University of Michigan

Hamed Yousefi Koupai, Northwestern University *Modernism in Islamic Art, Modernism as Islamic Art*

Kylie Gilchrist, University of Manchester *Re-Constructing Geometry: Rasheed Araeen's Negotiations of 'Islamic Art'*

Michelle Al-Ferzly, University of Michigan *Not Everyone's Heaven: Adeela Suleman's Transhistorical Domesticities*

Valerie Behiery, Al Faisal University *Islam, Contemporary Art and Cultural Vision*

VIII-14: Embodiment and Gender across Genre in Medieval Arabic and Persian Texts

Organized by **Zayde Antrim**

Sponsored by
Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Saqer A. Almarri, NYU Abu Dhabi *Knowing Oneself Complexly: The Struggle for Khuntha Self-Determination*

Shireen Hamza, Harvard University *In Sore Need of Healing: Medicine and Masculinity in the Medieval Indian Ocean*

Matthew Thomas Miller, University of Maryland College Park *(Dis)embodying Sufi Poetry: Theories of Poetic Imagery and the Mistranslation of the Imaginal Body*

Zayde Antrim, Trinity College *Neither Disguise nor Drag: Cross-Dressing and Embodiment in Middle Arabic Literature*

VIII-15: Iranian Women Poets: Diversity at the Margins of Modernity

Organized by **Azita Taleghani**

Chair: **Azita Taleghani**, University of Toronto

Reza Taher-Kermani, University of Toronto *Women, Nationhood, and Foreignness in the Writings of Zandokht Sīrāzi*

Farangis Ghaderi, Jagiellonian University/ University of Exeter *Kurdish women poets; an untold history*

Yusuf Rabbani, University of Pennsylvania *"In the corner of a cage,": Defining the Feminine Voice in the Poetry of Alam-taj Qa'em Maqami Zbaleh and Parvin E'tesami*

VIII-16: Spatial and Environmental Histories of Iraq

Organized by **Huma Gupta** and **Camille Cole**

Organized under the auspices of
Jadaliyya Environment

Discussant: **Faisal Husain**, Pennsylvania State University

Huma Gupta, Brandeis University *The Making of Urban 'Wetlands' in Baghdad from Ma'dan to Mayzara*

Gabriel Young, New York University *Nationality, Territoriality, and Agricultural Wealth in Southern Iraq: Peasant uprisings on the Sabab properties, 1933-1934*

Kali Rubaii, Purdue University *T-walls in Iraq: Militarized Landscaping and Environmental Estrangement*

Camille Cole, University of Cambridge *Banditry, borrowed names, and the spatialization of belonging in late Ottoman 'Amaru*

VIII-17: State and the City: Presences and Absences in the Mashreq

Organized by **Omar Sirri** and **Jose Ciro Martinez**

Discussant: **Sophia Stamatopoulou-Robbins**, Bard College

Omar Sirri, University of Toronto *Bureaucraft (I): Soldiers as Statemakers in Baghdad*

Jose Ciro Martinez, University of Cambridge *Bureaucraft (II): Bread, Bakers and State-Makers in Amman*

Diala Lteif, University of Toronto *Dispossession by inaction: the Lebanese state and the last IDPs of Beirut*

Nadi Abusaada, University of Cambridge *The City and the Non-State: Municipalisation in Late Ottoman and Mandate Palestine*

VIII-18: Modalities of Text, Seeing, and Intellect in Quranic Semiotics and Hermeneutics

Organized by **Hassan Arif**, McGill University

Muhammad Ali Hashmi, Independent Scholar *Modality of Text in the Quran*

Waël Chanab, Independent Scholar *Modality of Seeing in the Quran*

Ali Asad Khan, Independent Scholar *Modality of Intellect in the Quran*

VIII-19: Environmental Histories of 20th Century Iran through Local, National, Colonial, and Trans-National Perspectives

Organized by **Amit Sadan**

Discussant: **Saghar Sadeghian**, Willamette University

Arman Azimi, Independent Scholar *"Climate, Disease, and the Emergence of Oil Imperialism in Iran, 1902-1932"*

Amit Sadan, University of Michigan *Revitalizing the Land, De-Orientalizing the Nation: The Pahlavi State, Foreign Experts, and Attempts at Development in the Iranian*

Environment

Shima Houshyar, CUNY Graduate Center
Nature, Infrastructure, and the Political Geography of Twentieth-Century Iran
Bryan Sitzes, University of Texas at Austin
Forging Transnational State and Non-State Links Around the Environment

VIII-20: Gender and the Body in the Late Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey

Organized by **Kate Dannies**

Chair/Discussant: **Marcia C. Inhorn**, Yale University

Stefan Hock, Tulane University *Abortion and the Female Body in Late Ottoman Wartime Society*

Oyman Basaran, Bowdoin College *The medicalization of male circumcision in Turkey*

Kate Dannies, Miami University
Bureaucratizing the Body: War and Masculinity in the Late Ottoman Empire

Erol Saglam, Istanbul Medeniyet University/Freie Universität Berlin
Sovereign Bodies: Conspiracy Theories, Masculinities, and Statecraft

VIII-21: Societal Resistance in the Arab Gulf States

Organized by **Dana El Kurd**

Sponsored by
Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Chair/Discussant: **Dana El Kurd**

Dana El Kurd, University of Richmond
Pro-Palestine Groups as Incubators of Democracy

Andrew Leber, Harvard University *Framing and Fundamentals in Authoritarian Policy Evaluation: Evidence from Saudi Arabia*

Omar AlShehabi, Gulf Centre for Development Policies *Social movements and technocrats: The origins of the welfare state in the Gulf Arab States*

Jessie Moritz, Australian National University *Repression and Pathways of Resistance in the Arabian Peninsula*

VIII-22: Political Theory, Political Practice

Organized by **Julian Weideman** and **Hussein Omar**

Chair/Discussant: **Muriam Haleh Davis**, UC Santa Cruz

Julian Weideman, Princeton University
Praxis of Islamic Reform: The Politics of Zaytuna Student Housing, 1900-1960

Hussein Omar, University College Dublin
Theories of the Political: Insights from Egypt, 1882-1919

Hannah Scott Deuchar, New York University
Talking Politics: Dialogue as Theory and Praxis in Abu Naddara Zarqa

Arran Walshe, New York University
Between the Material & the Moral: Political Theory and Social Services in Iraq

VIII-23: New Approaches to Islamic Law across the Indian Ocean

Organized by **Alexandre Caeiro**

Chair/Discussant: **Amal Ghazal**, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

Noorudeen Pattasserri, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
Islamic Law in the Indian Ocean World: A Study of Zayn al-Din al-Makhdam's al-Ajibat al-'ajibat 'an al-as'ulat al-gharibat

Mahmood Kooria, Leiden University
Questions from the Ocean, Answers from the Mountain: Law, Love, and Lust

Elizabeth Lhost, Dartmouth College
Local Muftis and Long-Distance Legalities: Fatwas as texts of migration and belonging in the Indian Ocean

Alexandre Caeiro, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
The Islamic Law of Pearlring: Ritual Obligation and Economic Practice in the Arabian Gulf (1910s-1940s)

VIII-24: Facts on the Ground: Critical Political Economies of Land, Debt, and Development across Ottoman Egypt, Sudan, and Anatolia

Organized by **Hengameh Ziai**

Discussant: **Aaron G. Jakes**, The New School

Hengameh Ziai, Yale University
Imminent Critique: Mabdism, the End of Time, and Rethinking Political Economy in Ottoman Sudan, 1881-1925

Matthew Ghazarian, University of Michigan
Precarities of Plenty: Famine and Sovereign Debt in the Late Ottoman Empire, 1881-1894

Ibrahim Elhodaiby, Columbia University
Navigating the canal's history: a tale of two firmans

Rana Baker, Columbia University
Tentacles and Technics: Debt and Land Development in Egypt

VIII-25: Trauma, Displacement, and Humanitarianism

Chair: **Renee Ragin Randall**, University of Michigan

Malay Firoz, Arizona State University
Forgotten Refugees of Syria: Hyphenated Nationalities and the Taxonomies of Humanitarian Value

Fizza Joffrey, University of Oxford
The Hazaras of Pakistan: Violence, Sectarianism, and Resilience

Hooman Oliaei, Brandeis University
Negotiating Victimhood: Displaced Yazidis and Politics of Belonging in Post-ISIS Iraq

VIII-26: Architectural Forms in the Early Islamic, Mamluk, and Ottoman Eras

Chair: **Carter V. Findley**, Ohio State University

Berin Golonu, University at Buffalo
Taming the pastoral: Late Ottoman public gardens established in the "new style"

Sarah Tabbal, Vitrocentre Romont
Historic

source or imagination: Islamic stucco glass windows in European Orientalist Paintings

Karen Rose Mathews, University of Miami *Making the Mamluks Mediterranean: The Use of Ancient Spolia in Mamluk Architecture as a Mediterranean Visual Koine*

VIII-27: Ottoman Statecraft between Reform and Reaction, 19th-20th c.

Chair: **Ismail Noyan**, Simon Fraser University

Jamie Pelling, Princeton University *Policing Morality, Pursuing Modernity: Sex and the City in the late-Ottoman Empire*

Alev Berberoglu, Koç University *Healing the Ottoman Children, Healing the Imperial Image: Photographs from the Hamidiye Children's Hospital*

Ibrahim Halil Kalkan, AAT University of Science and Technology *The Abolition of Torture and Perceptions of the Tanzimat in Late Ottoman Empire*

VIII-28: Palestine International: Resistance from Algeria to Amman

Chair: **Liat Berdugo**, University of San Francisco

Arab Yanise, University of Montreal *Rouaged Sadek Ben Brahim, itinerary of a native Algerian in Palestine (1923-1954)*

Marwan D. Hanania, UC Berkeley *Amman 1970: A New Social and Political History*

Daniella Talmon-Heller, Ben-Gurion University *Saladin in Palestine and Israel: Myths, Historiography and Commemoration*

Erica Augenstein, University of Chicago *Jabra Nicola and the Construction of a Revolutionary Legacy*

VIII-29: State Religion Relations: Coercion, Accommodation, and Pluralism

Chair: **Mirna Lattouf**, Arizona State University

Limor Lavie, Bar-Ilan University *The Constitutionalization of the Civil State in Egypt, Tunisia and Yemen*

Neil Russell, University of Edinburgh *Hollow statism: Discourse and Praxis in the Nationalization of Islamic institutions in Sisi's Egypt*

Mohammad Mesbahi, Islamic College/ Birmingham University *An assessment of collective leadership within hawza 'ilmīyya of Qum*

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Special Session

IX-06: Eco-Systems of Research in the Middle East and North Africa

Stalled economies, shrinking public spheres, decreasing resources for public institutions and increasing securitization and privatization of data collection—this is the prevailing dismal picture of the MENA region and the discouraging context of knowledge production and Higher Education. Add to this the global pandemic and resultant restrictions on mobility and convening and the future for research appears bleak indeed. And yet, research continues to take place, and there are lively online discussions and burgeoning portals for the production and dissemination of analysis and commentary on the politics, economics and social transformations of the region. This creative flow blurs the boundaries between academia and media, between academia and activism and between the institutional and the interstitial. What then are the patterns and trends, constraints and potentials in current research contexts and practices in the MENA region. What is the present and future of research in the region in the light of unfolding crises, the fall of old orders and the rise of new hegemonies? How are research communities and institutions responding to the heightened demands for new knowledge in the context of deteriorating infrastructures, and decreasing resources? Speakers will address multiple aspects of these questions including: The current challenges to higher education and research institutions; new possibilities emerging from new actors, interstitial collectivities, and thought-communities; the emergence of new audiences for new types of knowledge and the changing connections between academia, activism and policy. Finally, what are the possibilities for constructive and ethical collaboration between researchers based in different locations – in the MENA region, in diasporic spaces, in the Global South, in the Global North? Given the highly variegated landscape of knowledge production across the region, specific cases and examples will highlight local complexities as well as regional commonalities.

Organized by **Seteney Shami**

Sponsored by **Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS)**

Chairs: **Seteney Shami**, Arab Council for the Social Sciences and **Dina Rizk Khoury**, George Washington University

Lisa Anderson, Columbia University/American University in Cairo *Social Science Research in the Arab Middle East and North Africa: guidelines for the conduct of responsible, ethical and constructive social inquiry*

Mohammed A. Bamyeh, University of Pittsburgh *Decolonizing social science*

Hanan Sabea, American University in Cairo *Nodes of Knowledge: Possibilities in and Beyond the University*

Omar AlShehabi, Gulf Centre for Development Policies *Knowledge Production in the Gulf Arab States*

Zeynep Gambetti, Boğaziçi University *Defending academic freedom in an age of post-truth*

Roundtable

IX-01: Challenges and Possibilities of Researching Yemeni Americans

Organized by **Waleed Mahdi**

Sponsored by
American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)

Chair: **Sunaina Maira**, UC Davis

Neama Alamri, Independent Scholar

Sally Howell, University of Michigan
Dearborn

Abdulhakem Alsadah, Henry Ford
College

Ammar Naji, Colorado College

Gokh Amin Alshaif, UC Santa Barbara

Waleed Mahdi, University of Oklahoma

Roundtable

IX-02: Mapping Art Histories in the Arab World, Iran, and Turkey

Organized by **Sarah Rogers**

Sponsored by
Association for Modern & Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran, & Turkey (AMCA)

Chairs: **Sarah Rogers**, Middlebury College
and **Nada M. Shabout**, University of
North Texas

Discussant: **Tiffany Floyd**, Columbia
University

Anneka Lenssen, UC Berkeley

Pamela Karimi, University of
Massachusetts

Dina A. Ramadan, Bard College

Sarah-Neel Smith, Maryland Institute

College of Art

Jessica Gerschultz, University of Kansas

Roundtable

IX-03: Pandemic at the Intersection of History, Gender, Religion, and Health in the Muslim Communities

Organized by **Enaya Othman**

Timothy Y. Loh, Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

Wael Hegazy, UC Santa Barbara

Enaya Othman, Marquette University

Mohamud Awil Mohamed, University of
Minnesota

Simonetta Calderini, Roehampton
University

Roundtable

IX-04: Picturing the Middle East and its Diasporas: Memory, Migration, and Archives in New Digital Landscapes

Organized by Amy Malek

Chair: Amy Malek

Amy Malek, Princeton University

Zeynep Devrim Gürsel, Rutgers University

Sarah M.A. Gualtieri, University of Southern California

Beeta Baghoolizadeh, Bucknell University

Roundtable

IX-05: New Directions in the Study of Palestinian Politics

Organized by Nathaniel Shils

Chair: Khaled Elgindy, Georgetown University

Nathaniel Shils, University of Pennsylvania

Tareq Baconi, International Crisis Group

Dana El Kurd, University of Richmond

Diana Greenwald, City College of New York, CUNY

IX-07: Mobilizing the Memory of al-Andalus: Transnational Semiotic Landscapes in the Modern and Contemporary Arab World and the United States

Organized by Peter Polak-Springer

Chair: Maryam Al Thani, Independent Scholar

Discussant: Samuel England, University of Wisconsin Madison

Abigail Balbale, New York University
*American Alhambras: The Shriners, Islam and al-Andalus in 20th c. America*Peter Polak-Springer, Qatar University
*Al-Andalus in Negotiations of "Us" and "Them" in the Palestinian Arab Press of the Mandatory Era*Alaa Laabar, Qatar University
*Al-Andalus in 20th century Arab music: A transnational narrative of struggle and resistance*Irene Theodoropoulou, Qatar University
Al-Andalus discourse as part of the linguistic and semiotic landscape of Qatar

IX-08: Blood and Biomedicine in the Modern Middle East

Organized by Elise Burton and Samin Rashidbeigi

Discussant: Sara Farhan, American University of Sharjah

Samin Rashidbeigi, Princeton University
*Cadaveric Blood Transfusion in 1960s Iran*Elise Burton, University of Toronto
*Blood banks, the Cyprus conflict, and Greek-Turkish genetic kinship in the 1950s-60s*Laila Prager, Hamburg University
*Failing Genetic Counselling Programs, Mediterranean Anemia, and Ethnic Stigmatization in Turkey*Laura Goffman, University of Arizona
'We thank God because we don't import blood from abroad': HIV/AIDS and Biomedical Borders in Kuwait

IX-09: Crime in the Archives

Organized by Emily Drumsta

Chair: Alex Winder

Discussant: Emily Drumsta, University of Texas at Austin

Golnar Nikpour, Dartmouth College
*Curing Crime: Social Problems and Carceral Solutions in Modern and Contemporary Iran*Owain Lawson, Columbia University
*Policing the Litani: Genealogies of Environmental Crime in Lebanon*Dalia Mostafa, University of Manchester
*Crime and Dystopia in the Post-2011 Egyptian Novel: Dissecting Cityscapes and the Body as a Site for Political Critique*Alex Winder, Brown University
Bandit Narratives in 1930s Palestine: Abu Jilda in Fact and Fiction

IX-10: Women Writers: Literary Interventions in Arab History and Politics

Organized by Brady Ryan

Discussant: Camelia Suleiman, Michigan State University

Levi Thompson, University of Texas at Austin
*In the Haunts of Miral al-Tabany's Brooklyn Heights with Furugh Farrukhjad*Rebecca Forney, SUNY Binghamton
*Unblocking Everything: Melancholia and chora in Assia Djebar's "Femmes d'Alger dans leur appartement"*Michael Ernst, New York University
*Orphanhood and Allegoresis in Radwa Ashour's Granada Trilogy*Brady Ryan, UCLA
*Arwa Salih: Theorizing Neoliberal Egypt*Stephanie Kraver, University of Chicago
Two Elegies by Fadwa Tuqan: Mourning for the Physical and Metaphysical in Palestine

IX-11: The Colonial Hourglass: Sand and Political Power in the Southeastern Mediterranean

Organized by Dotan Halevy

Chair/Discussant: Naor Ben-Yehoyada, Columbia University

Fatima Abreek-Zubiedat, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich
*Concrete Conflicts: The Israeli Resettlement of the Palestinian Refugees in the Coastal Cities of the Gaza Strip*Dotan Halevy, Columbia University
*Settling Lands: The Ecological Alienation of Native Rights in Coastal Dunes*Moriel Ram, Newcastle University
Building Barricaded Castles in the Sands: The Bar-Lev Line and the Geopolitics of Fantasy

IX-12: Muslim Scholars as Agents of Change in the 19th Century

Organized by Maariyah Lateef

Chair/Discussant: Samy Ayoub, University of Texas at Austin

Brian Wright, Zayed University
Negotiating

Colonial Culture through the Fatwas of the 'Ulama' in British India and the Arab World

Omar Qureshi, University of Southern California *The Sacred Balance: Religion, State, and Society in the Islamic Secular*

Ebadur Rahman, Columbia University *What Can Social History Add to Our Understanding of a 19th Century Qur'anic Exegesis?*

Maariyah Lateef, Brown University *Ulema as Context: Ibn 'Abidin as a Window into Early 19th Century Ottoman Lawmaking*

IX-13: How the COVID 19 Pandemic offers Opportunities for Student Engagement in Language

Organized by **Magda El-Sherbini**, Ohio State University Library

Sponsored by
Middle East Librarians
Association (MELA)

Iman A. Soliman, American University in Cairo *The New Normal in Foreign Arabic Language Learning: Issues and possibilities of enhancing cross cultural student interaction, presence, & Performance in online teaching from a language program director's perspective*

Spencer Scoville, Brigham Young University *International Language Experiences from the Comfort of Home?*

Sarab Al Ani, Yale University *Partnering with an expert: Using telecollaboration in the Arabic language classroom*

Souad T. Ali, Arizona State University *An Online Teaching Model to Enhance Vocabulary/Sentence Building, and Conversational Skills in the Foreign Target Language: A Focus on Arabic*

IX-14: Israel, Palestine, and the Third World

Organized by **Maya Wind**

Chair: **Loubna Qutami**

Gavriel Cutipa-Zorn, Yale University *Historiographic Hindsight: Israeli Developmental Imperialism after Bandung*

Maya Wind, New York University *Collectivist Conquest: Israeli military ventures in the Third World*

Jennifer Kelly, UC Santa Cruz *Witnesses in Palestine: Imperfect Analogies, Acts of Translation, and Refusals to Perform*

Loubna Qutami, UCLA *Karameh: The Palestinian Guerillas and Third World Solidarity*

Sara Awartani, Harvard University *Weaponizing Solidarity: Puerto Rico, Palestine, and US Counterterrorism in the 1980s*

IX-15: Iran's New Century and the Formation of National Identity

Organized by **Tabby Anvari**, Iran 1400

Organized under the auspices of
Iran 1400 Project

Discussant: **Yass Alizadeh**, New York University

Rasool Nafisi, Strayer College *The Crisis of Traditional Conceptualization of Marriage and Gender Roles in Urban Iran*

Aram Hessami, Montgomery College *The Heaviest Loads of Nationalism & Religiosity: The Challenge of Defining Iran's National Identity*

Hossein S. Seifzadeh, Montgomery College *Deconstructing Iranians' Manifested Identity*

Sydney Martin, Iran1400 *Molding the Language of Nationalism in Three Recent Periods in Iran*

IX-16: Martyrs of the Arab Left: Individual Experiences, Collective Narratives, and Memories from Lebanon and Morocco

Organized by **Idriss Jebari**

Chair: **Maha Nassar**, University of Arizona

Discussant: **Hannah Elsi**, University of Cambridge

Sophie Chamas, SOAS University of London *Ghosts of Marxists Past: Bassem Chit and the Death of Revolutionary Love*

Dylan Baun, University of Alabama in Huntsville *Cleaning The Slate: Family Memories and Narrative (Re)constructions of Imad Nuwaybid*

Nadia Guessous, Colorado College *Remembering the Left Otherwise: The Less Told Stories of Bnat al-Yasar*

Idriss Jebari, Trinity College Dublin *Erasure through Commemoration: Omar Benjelloun and his Missing Political Legacy*

IX-17: Culture of Disputation: Debating, Delineating, and Refuting Legal and Mystical Thought within Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Lands and Beyond

Organized by **Ahmet Baris Ekiz**

Chair: **Gottfried Hagen**, University of Michigan

Discussant: **Walid A. Saleh**, University of Toronto

Cevat Sucu, Sabanci University/Samsun University *The Debate of Gnosis and Knowledge in the Fifteenth-Century Ottoman Manuals*

Samet Budak, University of Michigan *From Şeyh Bedreddin to Akşemseddin: Sufi Controversies on Monism, Lettrism and the Occult in the Fifteenth Century*

Cankat Kaplan, Central European University *An Examination on Ibrahim al-Halabi's Risala About the Standing Up During the Recitation of Prophet's Birth*

Ahmet Baris Ekiz, University of Michigan *When the Ottoman Muftis were Philologists: Humanities and Law through Kemalpaşazade's (d. 1534) Critique of the Hanafi Legal Canon*

IX-18: The 2011 Arab Uprisings Ten Years On: Their Regional Impact

Organized by **Alborz Ghandehari**

Chair: **Lila Sharif**, University of Illinois
Discussant: **Noura Erakat**, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Ahmad Al-Sholi, Stony Brook University *Why is Tunisia the Sole Success of the Arab Spring Uprisings? The Role of Capital in Revolutions*

Alborz Ghandehari, University of Utah *The 2017-2019 Iranian Uprisings in Relation to Revolts Across the Region*

Jennifer Mogannam, UC Davis *Anti-Imperialism's Crossroads: Syria, Marxist Thought(s) and Movement(s)*

Yousef Baker, California State University Long Beach *Protesting elites, proxies and patrons; reflections on crises of governance and the rise of nationalism*

Maytha Alhassen, Sawaha *The Arab Revolutionary Decade in Pop Culture*

IX-19: Space, Place, and Textual Objects: Transforming Social Realities in the Modern Middle East

Organized by **Mekarem Eljamal**, **Mary Kathleen Smith**, **Carly A. Krakow**, and **Kylie Broderick**

Organized under the auspices of Arab Studies Institute

Kylie Broderick, UNC Chapel Hill *Building the Modern Woman: Gender, Capitalism, and Nationalism in Early 20c. Greater Syria*

Mekarem Eljamal, Columbia University *From Medina to Eir: Imagining Haifa through Municipal Plans, 1948-1968*

Mary Kathleen Smith, Georgetown University *A Man of His Word: Text-Informed Reconstructions of Masculinity and War-Fighting in Revolutionary Algeria*

Carly A. Krakow, London School of Economics *The 'Jealous States' of Literature and International Law: Exile in Contemporary Iraqi and Palestinian Fiction*

IX-20: The Critical Hope of Palestinian and Mizrahi Studies

Organized by **Nancy Ko**, **Caroline Kahlenberg**, and **Ryan Zohar**

Discussant: **Bryan K. Roby**, University of Michigan

Caroline Kahlenberg, Harvard University *Age, Race, and Jewish Terrorism on Trial in Mandatory Palestine: The Case of Rachel Habshush*

Nancy Ko, Columbia University *Complicit Racialization: The Making of the Mizrahi Native from the Perspective of Asian Americanist Critique*

Chelsie May, University of Chicago *Zionist*

Racism from the Standpoint of its Jewish Victims: Iraqi Jews, Israeli Immigration Camps, and the Construction of Racial Difference

Ryan Zohar, New York University/Long Island University *"Isra'el al-thāniyah": The Mizrahi Question from the Perspective of Palestinian Intellectuals in the Arab World*

IX-21: Postcolonial Critique and Its Limits: Religion, State, and Secularism Revisited

Organized by **Mona Oraby**

Chair: **Khaled Fahmy**, University of Cambridge

Mina Khalil, Harvard Law School *The Birth of the Interrogation in Nineteenth-Century Egypt*

Mona Oraby, Amherst College *Sanhuri, Nasser, and the Administrative Order of the New Republic*

Ahmed Ezzat, University of Cambridge *Law and Moral regulation in modern Egypt*

Andreas Nabil Younan, University of Cambridge *Codification and Revival of the Shari'a in Egypt: Two Islamist Readings of the 1948 Codification of the Egyptian Civil Code*

IX-22: Urban Life Practices in Abbasid Baghdad

Organized by **Muhsin J. Al-Musawi**

Organized under the auspices of Journal of Arabic Literature

Chair: **Nizar F. Hermes**

Discussant: **Muhsin J. Al-Musawi**, Columbia University

Nizar F. Hermes, University of Virginia *Bakr Ibn Hammad al-Tabarti: A Maghribi Poet in al-Mu'tasim's Court*

Jennifer Tobkin, George Washington University *Sober as a Judge: Muhammad ibn Dawūd al-Zahiri's Ambivalent Wine Song*

Chiara Fontana, Ca' Foscari University of Venice *"Literary Artisans in 9th-Century Baghdad. Philological Inquiries into the rhetorician Ibn Abi 'Ann"*

Mona Hassan, Duke University *Restoring the Urban Culture of Baghdad to Life: The Thirteenth-Century Maqamah of Ibn al-Kaẓaruni*

IX-23: Musical Biographies and Early 20th Century Middle East Socio-Cultural History

Organized by **Hazem Jamjoum**

Chair: **Virginia Danielson**, Harvard University

Mohsen Mohammadi, UCLA *Mordechai or Morteza: A Case on Minorities in Iranian Music*

Gabriel Lavin, UCLA *"Constructing 'Middle Eastern Music' in Early Twentieth Century America: Prince Mubiddin's Travels to New York City, 1924-1932"*

Yara Salahiddeen, University of Oxford *Munira al-Mahdiyya: An Audible Biography of One Woman's Music-making in Early Twentieth Century Egypt*

Hazem Jamjoum, New York University *Dabi bin Walid: The Whitewash of an Enslaved Music Pioneer*

IX-24: Colonial Cancers, Incarcerations, and Workplace Accidents: Embodied Histories of Labor in the 20th-Century Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Kristen Alff**

Discussant: **Marie Grace Brown**, University of Kansas

Elizabeth Bishop, *Architecture of (Re)Moving Parts: Construction Workers in Constantine, Algeria (1955-1960)*

Rebecca Gruskin, Queen's University at Kingston *"A Known Occupational Disease:" Silicosis, Cancer, and the Transnational Biopolitics of Medicine in Tunisia's Gafsa Phosphate Mines (1920s-1980s)*

Kristen Alff, North Carolina State University *Correcting Bodies: Incarceration, Debt, and Capitalism in Early 20th Century Palestine*

Basma Fahoum, Stanford University *More Than Depeasantization: The Body*

and Labor of Tobacco-Growing Peasant Family Households in Palestine/Israel (1920s-1980s)

Nimrod Ben Zeev, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute *“That’s When I Understood the French Revolution”*: Narrating Pain, Danger, and Injury in Palestine/Israel’s Construction Industry, 1930-1993

IX-25: Non-Religion and the Media in Muslim Communities

Organized by **Natalie Khazaal**

Chair: **Natalie Khazaal**
Discussant: **Pierre Hecker**, Philipps University Marburg

Sebastian Elsässer, Kiel University *Arab atheists and freethinkers on YouTube: How the medium shapes the message*

Natalie Khazaal, Georgia Tech *Gender, media, and nonreligious activism*

Lena Richter, Radboud University *From ‘talking among’ to ‘talking back’? An anthropological perspective on online narratives of young non-believers in Morocco and the Moroccan diaspora*

IX-26: Modern Poets, Modern Intellectuals

Chair: **Sean Widlake**, Independent Scholar

Amanda Al-Raba’a, KIMEP University *Pessoa & Heteronymy in Ali Badr’s Ḥāris al-tibgh*

Tianrui Ma, Indiana University *Poetry and Translation as Bridges: Exploring Nizār Qabbani’s Translation Theory*

Linda Istanbuli, Pennsylvania State University *Mihyar’s Precarious Journey: Imagining the Intellectual in Modern Syrian Literature*

Alice Xiang, Duke Kunshan University *Nazım Hikmet and world literature: beyond and between China, communism, and cosmopolitanism*

IX-27: Trends in Cultural Soft Power: Media, Teleseries, and Couscous Goes Global

Chair: **Ece Algan**, California State University San Bernardino

Seyyed Hossein Hosseini Nassab, Emory University *Images of the Cleric in Iranian Islamic Comedy-Dramas: Lizard (Marmulak, 2004) and Scandal (Rosvayi, 2013)*

Sylvie Durmelat, Georgetown University *Couscous Goes to UNESCO*

Fatima el Issawi, University of Essex/ London School of Economics *Diversity and Democratic Transition: Between Clientelism and Repression*

Sabah Firoz Uddin, Bowie State University and **Esra Kazanbas**, University of Toronto *Deepening the Divide between Tradition and Modern: A Closer Look at Dizîs on Turkish Television*

Yasemin Y. Celikkol, University of Pennsylvania *The New Turkish Delight: Turkish TV Series as a Global Phenomenon*

IX-28: Sovereignty and Empire in Safavid History

Ata Anzali, Middlebury College *Revisiting the history of the Nurbakhsbi Sufi Network in Safavid Iran*

Riza Yildirim, Emory University *Chub-e Tariq Revisited: A Safavid-Qizilbash Ritual and Its Religious and Political Functions*

Morgan S. Tufan, Stanford University *One Sovereign, Two Timelines: Turkež dating in early Safavid Iran*

Workshop

IX-29: Global Academy Workshop—Academic Displacement: Latest Developments and Mitigation Strategies

Organized by the Global Academy Committee

Chair: **Asli Bali**
Discussant: **Rochelle Davis**, Georgetown University

James King, Scholar Rescue Fund
Aysuda Koleman, Open Society University Network

Arien Mack, New University in Exile Consortium

Rose Anderson, Scholars at Risk

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In 2021, the review committee selected papers from a highly competitive pool of applications. The undergraduate students represent universities from a number of institutions across the United States, with a diverse range of academic disciplines and paper topics. The students will present their work in a poster session open to all registered attendees. All conference attendees are encouraged to view the posters and are invited to engage these young scholars during this open session as they take their first step into presenting at an academic conference.

Facilitators

Bland Addison, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
George Bajalla, Wesleyan University
Kristi Barnwell, University of Illinois-Springfield
Hatim El-Hibri, George Mason University
Emma Harver, UNC Chapel Hill
Victoria Hightower, University of North Georgia

Youness Mountaki, Wofford College
Deen Sharp, London School of Economics
Steve Tamari, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Jeff VanDenBerg, Drury University
Noura Wahby, American University in Cairo

Workshop Participants

Maha Abadi, University *The Struggle of Palestinian Refugee Women in Lebanon*

Sophia Brown, Tulane University *Strange Alliance: The Case of Hezbollah and the FPM in Post-Taif Lebanon*

Kathryn Carroll, University of Alabama in Huntsville *The Great Divide: Sectarian Life in Beirut and the Response Of Youth To Sectarianism*

Juliana Cosenza, Villanova University *Mind the Gap: Aid Provision to Iraqi and Syrian Refugees in Jordan*

Lillian Giles, Wake Forest University *Strategic Indifference' in Tunisia's Approach to Migration*

Leonora Haag, Stockholm University *Awakening Egyptian Women's Conscience: A critical discourse analysis of Durriya Shafiq's articles in Bint al-Nil from a feminist postcolonial perspective*

Hanane Idihoum, St. Olaf College *Mapping Queer Resistance in Morocco*

John Jamil Kallas, New York University *Housing and National Development: Transitioning Political Economies of Scale in Syria*

Nina Kaushikkar, Carleton University *Jineology and Gender Justice: Rethinking a Feminist Peace in Syria*

Seva Nix, Drury University *Framework for Democracy: A Study of Placemaking and the Macrocosm of The Egg in Beirut*

Tanya Raghuram, University of Texas at Austin *South Asian Migrant Workers in Dubai*

Jasper Schutt, UNC Chapel Hill *Hashemite Discourse and Jordanian National Identity in Independent Film*

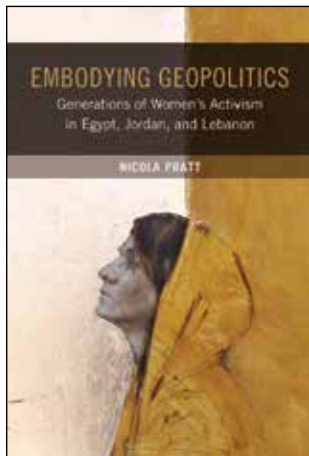
Irmak Şensöz, Georgetown University *'Are We Going to Establish This Nation Divided?': Integration of Muslim Refugees in Turkey After the 1923 Population Exchange*

Khushboo Shah, Georgetown University in Qatar *Nation Branding, Soft, and Subtle Power Projection: A Comparative Study of UAE and Qatar*

Ian Smith, Purdue University *Omani Diplomacy and Maritime Trade in the Indian Ocean World, 1792-1856*

Coco Zhang, University of Southern California *Orientalism in Sounds of The Mummy: Tracking changes in Orientalist attitudes through time*

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Nicola Pratt

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Neve Gordon and Nicola Perugini

Global Middle East: Into the Twenty-First Century
Edited by Asef Bayat and Linda Herrera

Policing Iraq: Legitimacy, Democracy, and Empire in a Developing State
Jesse Wozniak

Turkey: A Past Against History
Christine M. Philliou

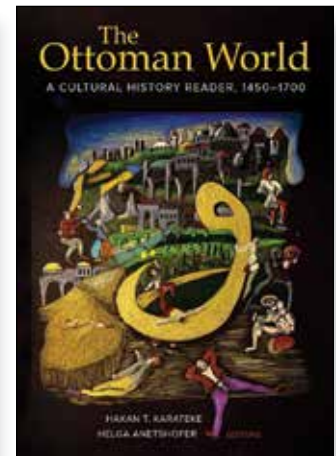
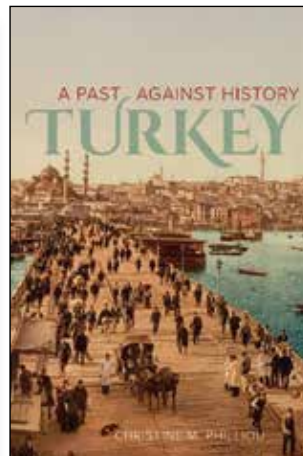


Feeding Iran: Shi'i Families and the Making of the Islamic Republic
Rose Wellman

Sisters in the Mirror: A History of Muslim Women and the Global Politics of Feminism
Elora Shehabuddin

Prisms of Prejudice: Mediating the Middle East from the United States
Karin Gwinn Wilkins

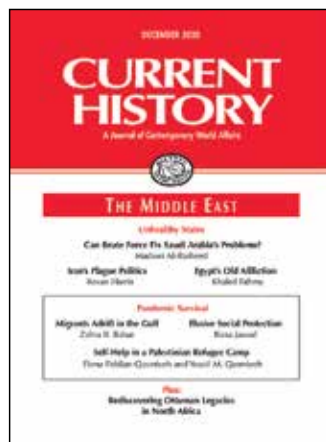
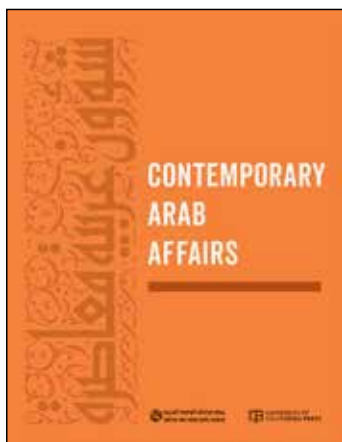
Imperial Resilience: The Great War's End, Ottoman Longevity, and Incidental Nations
Hasan Kayali



The Ottoman World: A Cultural History Reader, 1450-1700
Edited by Hakan T. Karateke and Helga Anetshofer

Prisoner of the Infidels: The Memoir of an Ottoman Muslim in Seventeenth-Century Europe
Osman of Timisoara. Edited by Giancarlo Casale

A Prophet Has Appeared: The Rise of Islam through Christian and Jewish Eyes, A Sourcebook
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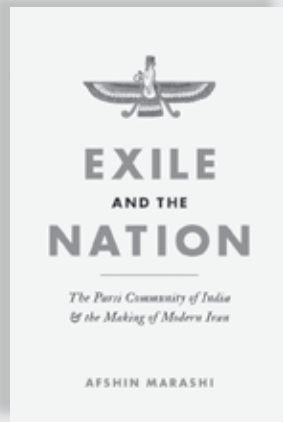
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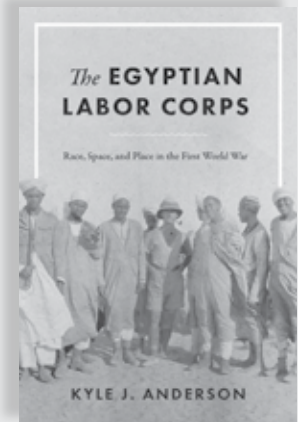
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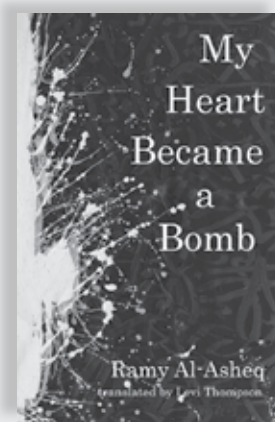
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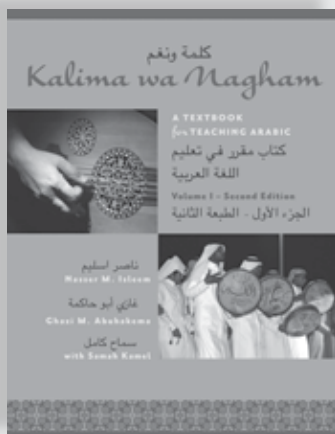
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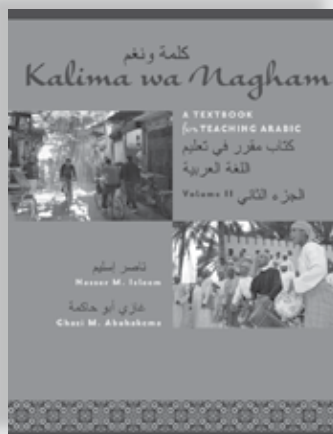
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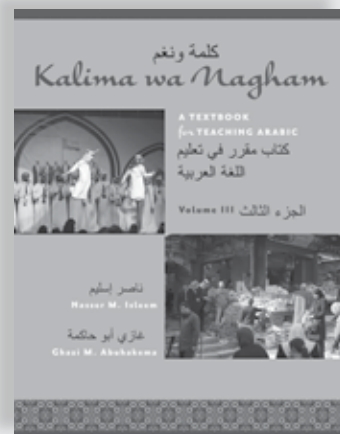
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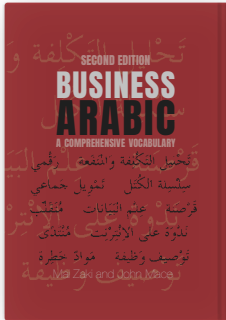


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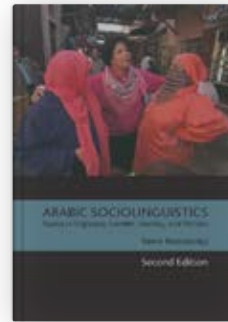
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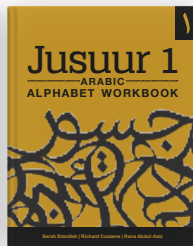
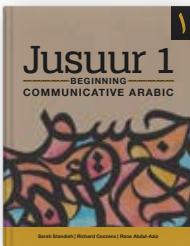


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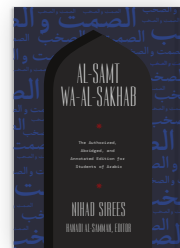


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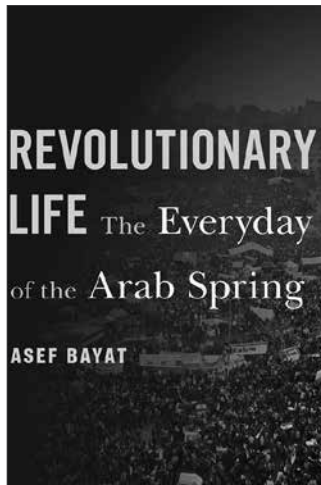
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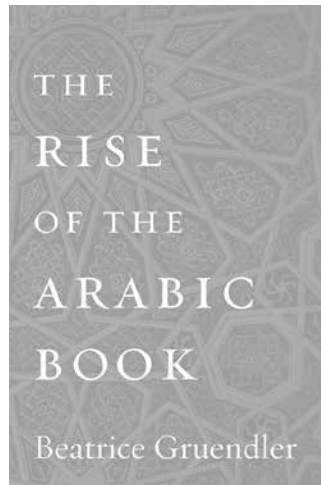
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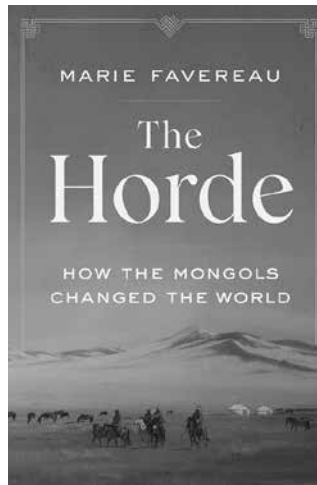


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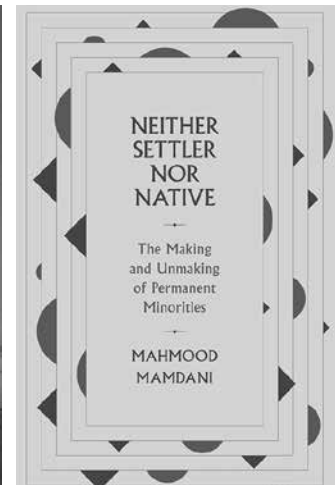


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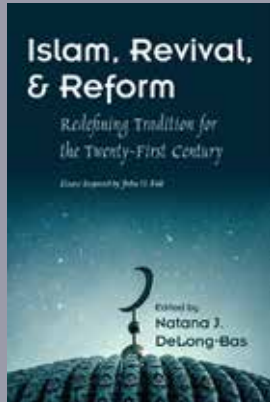
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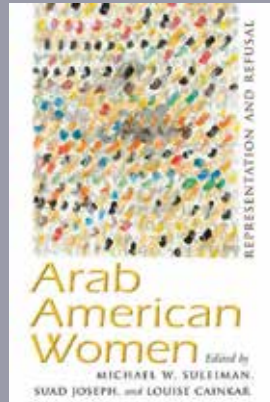
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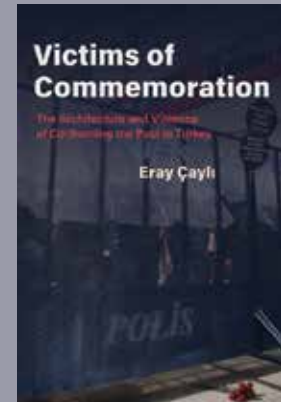
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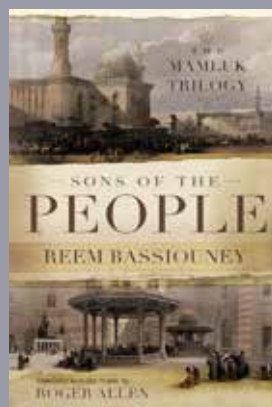
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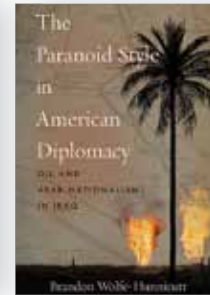
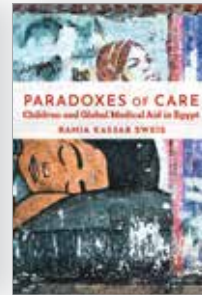
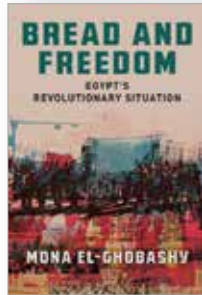
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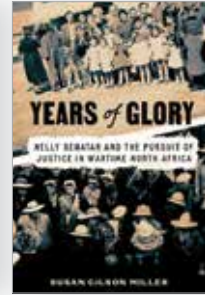
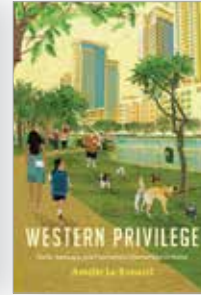
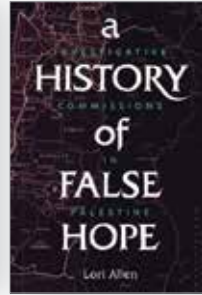
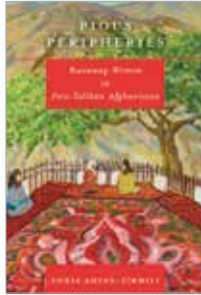


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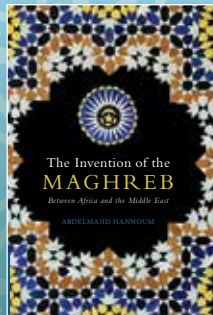
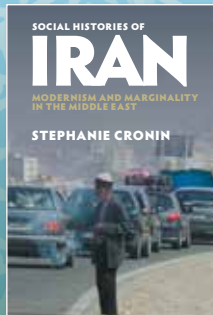
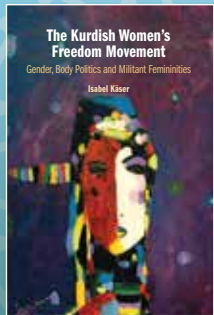
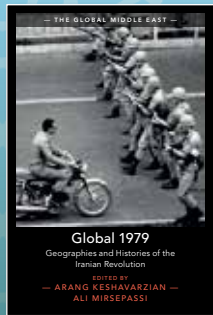
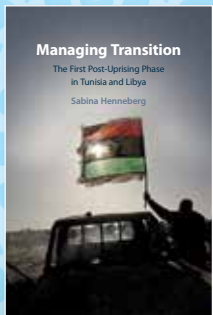
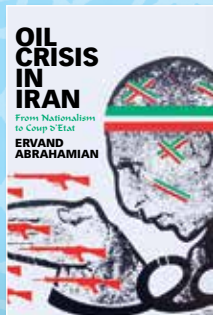
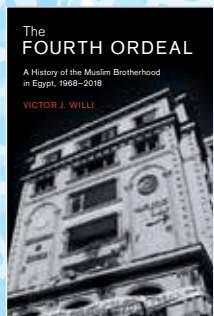
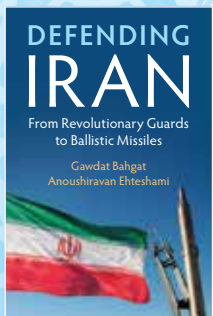
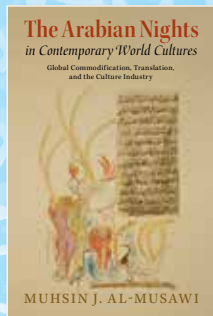
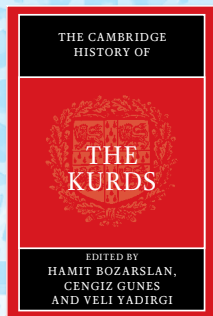
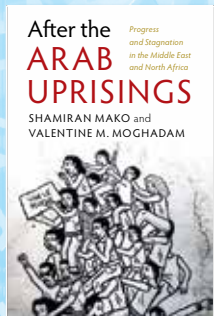
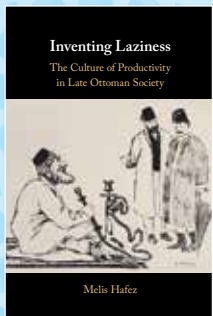
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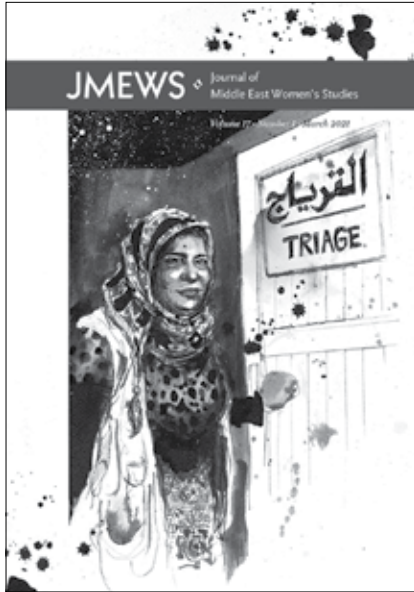


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