

**Middle East Studies Association
59th Annual Meeting**

MESA 2025

**November 22-25, 2025
Westin Washington, DC Downtown**

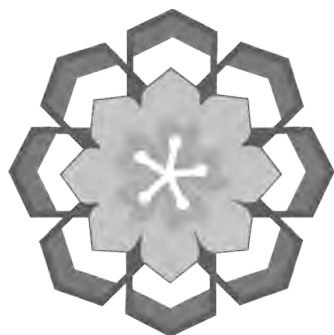
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MESA 2025 Mobile App

<https://guidebook.com/g/mesa2025>

Passphrase: **2025MESA**



Why use the mobile app?

- Available for Apple and Android phones and tablets
- Set up a personalized agenda
- Browse session presenters/participants
- Receive up-to-date information and real time alerts during the conference
- Browse exhibitors and exhibit hall location
- View maps of the Westin

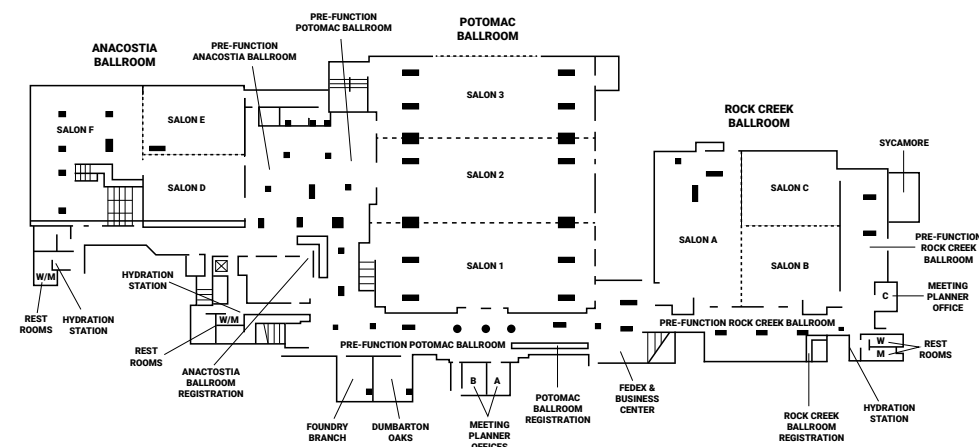
Conference Schedule-at-a-Glance

Scholarly sessions run the duration of 120 minutes unless explicitly noted. Session chairs are requested to see that sessions and meetings end on time to avoid conflicts with subsequent activities scheduled in the same room.

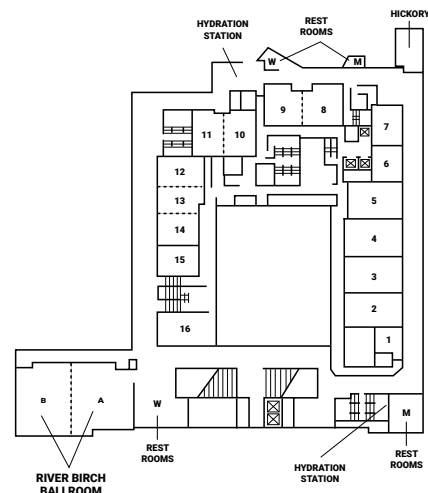
	Saturday November 22	Sunday November 23	Monday November 24	Tuesday November 25
Registration and Information	10am-8pm	8am-6pm	8am-5pm	8am-1:30pm
Exhibits	Closed	1-6pm	9am-6pm	8am-12pm
Coffee Breaks		3:30-4pm	10:30-11am	
Sessions	I: 3:30-5:30pm II: 6-8pm	III: 8:30-10:30am IV: 11am-1pm V: 1:30-3:30pm VI: 4-6pm	VII: 8:30-10:30am VIII: 11am-1pm IX: 1:30-3:30pm X: 4-6pm	XI: 8:30-10:30am XII: 11am-1pm XIII: 1:30-3:30pm
Presidential Address & Awards Ceremony		6:30-8:30pm		
MESA Reception		8:30-10pm		
MESA Members Mtg			6:15-7:45pm	
Dance Party			9pm-1am	
Meetings in Conjunction	see pp. 12-13	see pp. 12-13	see pp. 12-13	see pp. 12-13

Westin Washington, DC Downtown

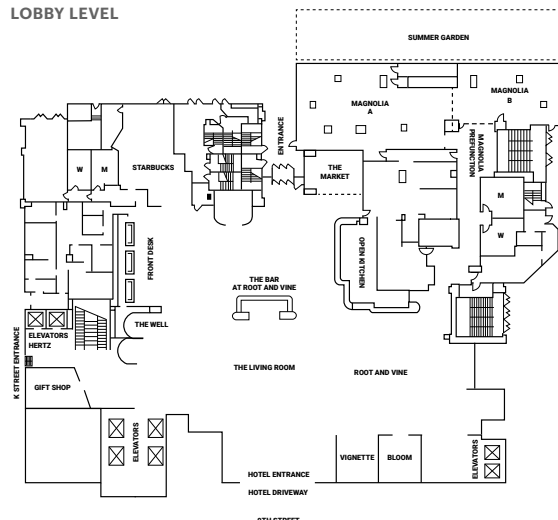
BALLROOM LEVEL



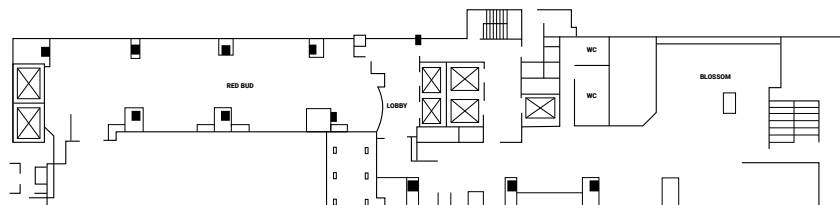
MEETING ROOM LEVEL



LOBBY LEVEL



SECOND LEVEL



Wi-Fi

The complimentary Wi-Fi is sufficient to allow web browsing and email, but will not support rapid transfer of large amounts of data. *Please refrain from video streaming of any sort.*

Network: **Westin_Conference**
Password: **MESA2025**

Ballroom Level

Registration (Foyers)
Book Exhibit (Potomac)

Rock Creek A
Rock Creek B
Rock Creek C
Anacostia Salon D
Anacostia Salon E
Anacostia Salon F
Foundry Branch
Dumbarton Oaks
Sycamore

Meeting Level

Meeting Rooms 1-16
Hickory
River Birch A
River Birch B

Lobby Level

Magnolia A
Magnolia B
Root and Vine restaurant

Second Level

RedBud
Blossom



MESA 2026

MESA's 60th Annual Meeting

November 21-24, 2026
Hilton Boston Park Plaza
Boston, Massachusetts

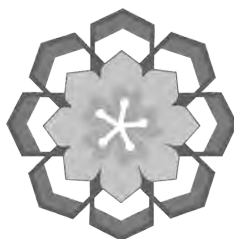
CALL FOR PAPERS

Detailed Call for Papers instructions, including the review criteria used by the program committee, will be posted on MESA's website. All prospective participants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with what is expected of submissions. Proposals must conform to the guidelines listed in the Call for Papers instructions.



MESA 2027

October 7-10, 2027
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
Toronto, Ontario, Canada



We extend a special thank you to our
Conference Sponsors

GOLD LEVEL

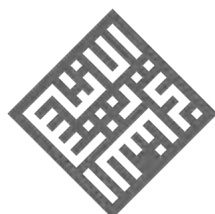
**Qalam wa Lawh Center
for Arabic Studies in
Rabat, Morocco**



**QALAM
—WA—
LAWH**

SILVER LEVEL

**Khayrallah Center for
Lebanese Diaspora Studies
Penn State University Press;
Palestine/Israel Review
The New Arab**



NC STATE UNIVERSITY
Khayrallah Center for
Lebanese Diaspora Studies

**PALESTINE/ISRAEL
REVIEW**



BRONZE LEVEL

**American University in Cairo
Press
Edinburgh University Press
FIE: Foundation for
International Education
Gorgias Press
Muteferriqa**



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COFFEE BREAK

Arab Gulf States Institute



**Arab Gulf States
Institute**

Conference Policies

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 membership includes a diverse community of scholars in the United States, Canada, and abroad. MESA serves as an umbrella organization for dozens of institutional members and 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 a biannual newsletter. An awards program recognizes scholarly achievement, service to the profession, and exemplary student mentoring. MESA is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors elected by the membership.

As we gather, we must work together to create a culture of care. That means that each attendee does their part to keep our community and the spaces where we convene safe and healthy.

BADGE REQUIRED: Meeting badges are required to access the MESA meeting space. Please wear your badge at all times. This means that only attendees who are registered for the meeting will be allowed in the MESA Annual Meeting spaces. Anyone not wearing a badge may be removed, and potentially barred from attending future meetings.

(BEYOND) LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Middle East Studies Association of North America acknowledges the unjust history of settler colonialism in our continent, specifically the expropriation and theft of native land, on which many of us live and work.

Generic words are not sufficient to convey our moral and financial debts to the indigenous peoples who belong to the historical territories where we will meet.

As a gesture of solidarity, the MESA Secretariat would like to ensure that the Annual Meeting is open to all American Indian, First Nation, and indigenous peoples of North America. We are reaching out to regional representatives of the tribes near Washington DC to offer waived registration to any interested in attending this meeting, and to ask what else we can do for their thriving communities.

WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT (Personal Code of Conduct)

MESA is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment for all members and participants in MESA events. Intolerance, discrimination, and harassment undermine the values of MESA's mission and purpose, which is to facilitate professional opportunities for all participants and members. We strive to maintain dialogue, create a culture of care, and provide space for the academic exchange of ideas. MESA supports the identities of all participants, regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion or religious belief, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or immigration status.

All attendees of MESA events are expected to adhere to these values, including conference participants, students, guests, staff, contractors and exhibitors, and participants in professional and social events.

Any attendee who creates an unwelcoming environment for others through inappropriate behavior, or who creates a disturbance or safety hazard, will be subject to having their registration revoked, and potentially be barred from attending future meetings.

If you are being harassed or notice an act of harassment, please see the MESA Information Help Desk located in the registration area, and/or email meeting@mesana.org.

SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By attending the MESA Annual Meeting, you expressly agree to comply with any and all rules and safety guidelines put in place by MESA and by local authorities, and voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19, waiving all claims and potential claims against MESA and their affiliated companies relating to such risks.

To help mitigate health risks relating to endemic respiratory diseases:

Masks Optional: Masks may be worn, and the choice to wear a mask should be considered and respected by all.

DO NOT attend the MESA conference if either of the following is true:

- You test positive for COVID-19;
- You are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., a fever of 100.4F or higher, cough, shortness of breath, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, extreme fatigue, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 as identified by relevant health authorities).

The safety protocols are subject to change.

RECORDING SESSIONS

MESA does not allow audio or video recording of sessions or events without advance written permission from each participant in a session or event.

To report unauthorized recording, visit the MESA Information and Help Desk, email meeting@mesana.org, with the Room location and Session title, along with any relevant information.

MESA reserves the right to revoke registration of anyone who records a session without appropriate permission.

In short, no one may record any person by audio or video without express written permission at the MESA conference.

LIVE TWEETING

To facilitate virtual conversations and to share with those unable to attend the conference, MESA encourages attendees to live tweet using #MESA2025. 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.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

As a courtesy to meeting attendees, electronic devices must be in silent/vibrate mode during all sessions; devices that beep, ring, etc. are prohibited. We ask that you please do not conduct phone conversations while in attendance at sessions.

PHOTOGRAPHY DISCLOSURE

MESA may take photographs during its meeting and events for use in association advertising, newsletters, and other promotional materials, whether in print, electronic or other media, including the MESA website. By participating in this conference you grant MESA the right to use your name and photograph for such purposes.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions, statements, presentations, data, images, videos, documents, and other information expressed or otherwise shared by presenters or other participants at the meeting are for informational purposes only. The views and opinions expressed by presenters are not those of MESA, unless expressly indicated otherwise. MESA is not responsible for the accuracy, quality, or reliability of any of the materials presented, or liable for any damages arising therefrom. MESA shall not be responsible for any defamatory, offensive, or illegal conduct of any meeting attendee.

POLICY ON ADVERTISING

Appropriate advertisements are accepted for MESA publications on a space-available basis. MESA reserves the right to refuse ads it deems inappropriate or in conflict with MESA's objectives. MESA publications will not accept advertising from defense and intelligence related agencies from any government. The appearance of an ad in a MESA publication does not imply endorsement by MESA.

NO-SHOW POLICY

We understand that things come up at the last minute that prevent a participant from attending the meeting. As a courtesy to your co-panelists, please notify them as well as us at MESA if you cannot attend the meeting.

If you are scheduled to participate in the Annual Meeting in any capacity and you do not show up and you have not informed the MESA Secretariat (preferably by emailing meeting@mesana.org), you will be considered a "no-show" and will not be eligible to participate in next year's meeting. A "no-show" is someone who is not physically present at their session at the conference and has not notified the MESA Secretariat beforehand.

Book Exhibit

The Book Exhibit is an open event featuring publishers of Middle East studies along with organizations and programs relevant to MESA members.

HOURS

Sunday, November 23..... 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Monday, November 24 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Tuesday, November 25..... 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

IN THE BOOK EXHIBIT

Complimentary Coffee Breaks

Sunday, November 23.....3:30 - 4:00 pm

Sponsored by



Arab Gulf States
Institute

Monday, November 24 10:30 - 11:00 am

Sponsored by MESA

Poster Session of CUMES Undergraduate Participants

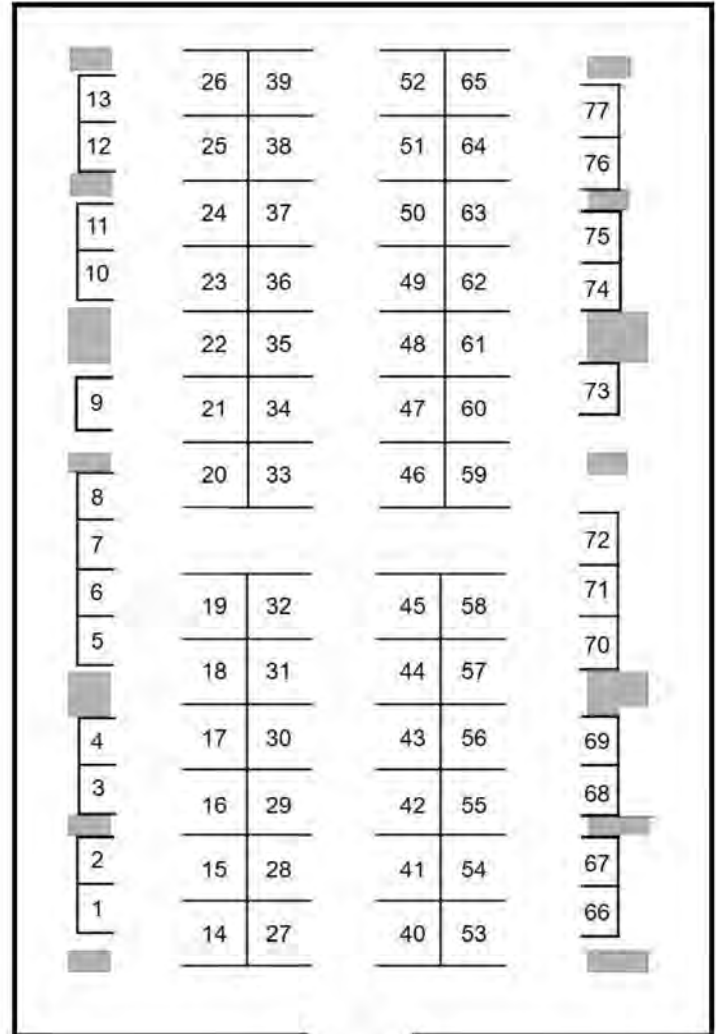
Sunday, November 23.....3:30 - 4:00 pm

Monday, November 24 10:30 - 11:00 am

Sponsored by MESA's Committee on Undergraduate Middle
East Studies

Posters will be on display during book exhibit hours.

Located in the Potomac Ballroom

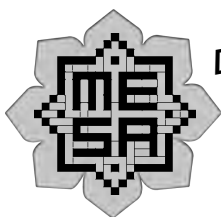


Main Entrance

Visit the MESA Booth (#1-2) to make a donation

A Stitch of Hope, A Thread of Love

Support MESA with a minimum donation
and receive a gift from Palestine!



Donate

\$69 to select from all t-shirt designs

\$59 to select one of the classic t-shirts

\$15 to receive a Tatreez bookmark

Each item is a story of artistic collaboration

The t-shirts were made in a factory in Hebron, printed by a shop in Tulkarem. Some include tatreez fabric from Nablus that was added by a sewing workshop in Tulkarem.

The bookmarks were lovingly hand-stitched by a group of amazing women in Hebron, many of whom work from their homes.

Your donations support the work we do together at MESA and our mission to defend academic freedom and ensure scholarly exchange continue to flourish.

Exhibitors

American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA).....	5
American University in Cairo Press.....	35/36
Arab American Language Institute in Morocco (AALIM).....	17
Arab Gulf States Institute	4
Arab Studies Institute.....	73
Arabic Calligraphy by Nihad Dukhan.....	71
AramcoWorld.....	38/39
Cambridge University Press.....	46/47
Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies at Simon Fraser University	29
Columbia University Press.....	48
Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program	16
De Gruyter Brill	56
Duke University Press	9
e-Marefa Databases.....	33
East View Information Services	52
Edinburgh University Press.....	20/21
English for Heritage Language Speakers Program	6
FIE: Foundation for International Education	8
Georgetown University Press.....	40
GINGKO	68
Gorgias Press, LLC	7
I.B. Tauris	31
Indiana University Press	30
Ingram Academic + Professional	34
Institute for Advanced Study in the Global South at Northwestern University in Qatar (#IAS_NUQ).....	66
Intellect Books	70
ISD LLC.....	18/19
Issam Fares Institute at the American University of Beirut	69
McGill-Queen's University Press	15
Middlebury Language Schools	37
Middle East Books + More / Washington Report	51
Muteferriqa	32
Oneworld Publications	55
Pathfinder Press	22
Penn State University Press ; Palestine/Israel Review	41
Persian Heritage Foundation	53/54
Qalam wa Lawh, Rabat, Morocco	27/28
Qasid Arabic Institute.....	49
Memoirs of an Arabian Princess	72
Silver Treasures	60/61
Stanford University Press.....	14
Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center	59
Syracuse University Press	44/45
Tamazgha Studies Journal.....	57
University of California Press.....	42
University of Maryland Persian Flagship Program and Summer Language Institute	3
University of Texas Press.....	43
University of Utah Press.....	67

Members Meeting



MESA Members Meeting

Monday, November 24, 2025

6:15-7:45 PM

Anacostia Salon D (Ballroom Level)

The Members Meeting is an annual meeting of the membership open to all members. Voting is restricted to fellow and student MESA members. The meeting mainly consists of reports (see agenda below). A member in good standing can add names to the list of people who will be invited to run for the Nominating Committee, augmenting those proposed by MESA's Board.

Quorum

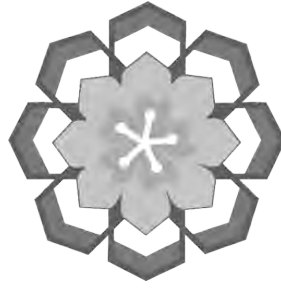
A minimum of 35 voting-eligible members must be in attendance for votes to be taken. Failing that, the meeting can be held but votes cannot be taken.

Resolutions

When important issues are before the membership, resolutions are sometimes presented at the members meeting. Resolutions can originate from MESA's Board or from the membership. For resolutions from the membership to be acted upon at the 2025 Members Meeting, they must have been in the hands of the MESA Secretariat three weeks prior to the annual meeting. Instructions for submitting resolutions can be found in MESA's Bylaws, which are posted on MESA's website at mesana.org.

MESA Members Meeting Preliminary Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Meeting Rules
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. In Memoriam and Moment of Silence
5. Announcement of 2025 MESA Election Results
6. 2026 MESA Nominating Committee Call for Names for Candidates
7. Update from President Asli Bali
8. Report of Executive Director Jeffrey D. Reger
9. Reports of Editors: Lara Deeb and Heather Ferguson for *IJMES* and Hoda Yousef for *RoMES*
10. Committee Reports
11. New Business
12. Adjournment



NOVEMBER 23, 2025
6:30-10:00 PM

Presidential Address

***Unprecedented Times, Ongoing Solidarity:
Reflections on Two Years of Challenges
and Resilience in Middle East Studies***

Aslı Bâli, Yale Law School

MESA Awards Ceremony

We will honor the best in Middle East studies and
present the following awards:

MESA Mentoring Award
Jere L. Bacharach Service Award
Academic Freedom Award
Albert Hourani Book Award
Nikki Keddie Book Award
Fatema Mernissi Book Award
Roger Owen Book Award
Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Awards
MESA Student Paper Prize

MESA Reception

Please join us for the MESA Reception in the Potomac Ballroom Foyer
following the Awards Ceremony.

Meetings in Conjunction



MESA Committee Meetings & Events

Saturday, November 22

Committee on Academic Autonomy (CAA) Meeting, 10:30 AM-Noon (Sycamore)
Task Force on Civil and Human Rights (TFCHR) Meeting, 1:00-3:00 PM (Blossom)
MESA Global Academy Reception, 2:30-3:30 PM (Magnolia A)

Sunday, November 23

Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF) Meeting, 8:30-10:30 AM (Meeting Room 15)
IJMES Editorial Board Meeting, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM (Blossom)
RoMES Editorial Board Luncheon, 11:45 AM-1:15 PM (Root & Vine)
CUMES Poster Presentation, 3:30-4:00 PM (Book Exhibit)

Monday, November 24

Middle East Center and Program Directors Meeting, 8:30-10:00 AM (RedBud)
CUMES Poster Presentation, 10:30-11:00 AM (Book Exhibit)
Officers of MESA's Affiliated Associations Meeting, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM (RedBud)
MESA Members Meeting, 6:15-7:45 PM (Anacostia Salon D)

Tuesday, November 25

Editors of Middle East Studies Journals Meeting, 8:30-10:00 AM (RedBud)

Events by Affiliated Organizations & Other Organizations

AATA – American Association of Teachers of Arabic

Saturday, November 22

Executive Board Meeting, 8:00-11:00 AM (Meeting Room 1)
Annual Panel 2025, 12:00-2:00 PM (Meeting Room 8)
Business Meeting, 2:00-3:00 PM (Meeting Room 8)

AATP – American Association of Teachers of Persian

Saturday, November 22

Roundtable: Increasing Student Engagement and Motivation in Persian Classrooms, 10 AM-12 PM (Magnolia B)
Annual Business Meeting, 12:00-1:30 PM (Magnolia B)
AATP Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony and AATP Reception, 1:30-3:00 PM (Magnolia B)

ASI - Arab Studies Institute

Sunday, November 23

Reception, 4:30-5:30 PM (Book Exhibit, Booth 73)

AIS - Association for Iranian Studies

Saturday, November 22

Annual General Meeting, 8:30-10:00 PM (Meeting Room 6)

AGAPS – Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies

Saturday, November 22

Board Meeting, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM (Meeting Room 3)
Business Meeting, 1:00-3:00 PM (Meeting Room 3)

Meetings in Conjunction



AMECYS- Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies

Tuesday, November 24

Board Meeting, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM (RedBud)

Member Meeting, 12:30-2:00 PM (RedBud)

AMEWS – Association for Middle East Women’s Studies

Saturday, November 22

Board Meeting, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM (Rock Creek B)

General Membership Meeting, 1:30-3:00 PM (Meeting Room 5)

Monday, November 24

AMEWS 40th Anniversary Reception co-hosted with AASA, AMEA, and AMECYS, 8:00-10:00 PM (Anacostia E-F)

Consortium of Middle East National Resource Centers Directors

Monday, November 24

Meeting, 10:00-11:00 AM (RedBud)

CCAS - Georgetown University, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies

Saturday, November 22

Reception, 8:30-10:00 PM (Anacostia F)

Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Saturday, November 22

Reception, 8:30-9:30 PM (Meeting Room 12)

OTSA – Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association

Saturday, November 22

Board Meeting, 9:00-11:00 AM (Hickory)

Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, Noon-2:00 PM (Magnolia A)

PARC – Palestinian American Research Center

Saturday, November 22

Gathering for Members and Friends, 2:00-3:00 PM (Meeting Room 7)

POMEPS – Project on Middle East Political Science

Monday, November 24

Reception, 8:00-10:00 PM (Magnolia A)

SHAMS – Society for Humanistic Arab Media Studies

Saturday, November 22

First Annual Meeting, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM (Meeting Room 6)

SSA – Syrian Studies Association

Monday, November 24

Annual Business Meeting and Reception, 6:00-7:00 PM (RedBud)

UPenn – University of Pennsylvania, Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Saturday, November 22

Reception, 8:30-10:00 PM (Meeting Room 10)

MESA'S 2025 Institutional Members

Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations
American University in Cairo
American University of Beirut, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs
Arab Center Washington DC
Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Boston College
Brown University, Center for Middle East Studies
Columbia University, Middle East Institute
Cornell University, Department of Near Eastern Studies
Council of American Overseas Research Centers
George Washington University, Institute for Middle East Studies
Georgetown University, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies
Georgetown University, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies
Georgetown University, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding
Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
ILEX Foundation
McGill University, Institute of Islamic Studies
New York University, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies
North Carolina Consortium for Middle East Studies
Northwestern University, Program of Middle East and North African Studies
Ohio State University, Middle East Studies Center
Pennsylvania State University, Department of History
Portland State University, Middle East Studies Center
Princeton University, Department of Near Eastern Studies
Simon Fraser University
Stanford University, Sohaib and Sara Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies
Syracuse University, Middle Eastern Studies Program
University of Arizona, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Arkansas, King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies
University of California, Berkeley, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Near Eastern Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for Middle East Studies
University of Chicago, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Houston, Arab-American Educational Foundation Center for Arab Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
University of Maryland, Roshan Institute for Persian Studies
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies
University of Pennsylvania, Middle East Center
University of Southern California, Department of Middle East Studies
University of Texas at Austin, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Toronto, Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations
University of Utah, Middle East Center
University of Virginia, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures
University of Washington, Seattle, Middle East Center
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Middle East Studies Program
Vanderbilt University
Yale University, Council on Middle East Studies

Calendar of Events



The following is a chronological listing of all events being held during the MESA 2025 annual meeting.

Saturday, November 22

8-11am	AATA Executive Board Meeting.....	Meeting Room 1
9am-11am	OTSA Business Meeting	Hickory
9am-12pm	AGAPS Board Meeting.....	Meeting Room 3
9am-2pm	SHAMS First Business Meeting	Meeting Room 6
10am-12pm	AATP Roundtable: Increasing Student Engagement and Motivation in Persian Classrooms.....	Magnolia B
11:30am-1pm	AMEWS Board Meeting	Meeting Room 4
11:45am-1:15pm	RoMES Editorial Board Meeting	Root and Vine
12-1:30pm	AATP Annual Business Meeting.....	Magnolia B
12-2pm	AATA Annual Panel 2025	Meeting Room 8
12-2pm	OTSA Luncheon and Reception.....	Magnolia A
12-3pm	CUMES Workshop (checkin begins at 11:30am).....	RedBud
1-3pm	Task Force on Civil and Human Rights (TFCHR) Meeting.....	Blossom
1-3pm	AGAPS Business Meeting.....	Meeting Room 3
1:30-3pm	AATP Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony and AATP Reception.....	Magnolia B
1:30-3pm	AMEWS General Membership Meeting.....	Meeting Room 4
2-3pm	AATA Business Meeting.....	Meeting Room 8
2-3pm	PARC Gathering for Members and Friends	Meeting Room 7
2:30-3:30pm	MESA Global Academy Reception	Magnolia A

3:30-5:50pm Session I

I-01:	WORKSHOP: Using Primary Sources to Teach about the Middle East.....	RedBud
I-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Poetry after Gaza.....	Blossom
I-03:	ROUNDTABLE: (Re)Centering Lived Knowledges and Relationalities in the Doing of SWANA Feminisms(s)	Meeting Room 7
I-04:	ROUNDTABLE: History of Medicine in Modern and Contemporary Egypt: New Directions and Research Challenges.....	Hickory
I-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Honoring and Analyzing Joe Stork's Legacy: The Field-shaping Impact of MERIP and Middle East Report.....	Meeting Room 2
I-06:	Tongues of Power: The Turkish Language and the Intricacies of Empire in the Early Modern Ottoman Lands	Rock Creek B
I-07:	Sound Approaches to Urban Morocco	Rock Creek C
I-08:	Literary Representations of Prostitution	Meeting Room 8
I-10:	Developing Arabic for Academic Purposes and Building Interdisciplinary Research Networks: Projects from the CASA Program.....	Meeting Room 4
I-11:	New Directions in the Study of Society and History in the Arabian Peninsula.....	Meeting Room 5
I-12:	The Age of World Wars.....	Meeting Room 6
I-13:	Mediated Genocide/Genocidal Media.....	Rock Creek A
I-14:	Exhibitions, Reflections, and Affect in Arab Art and Music.....	Meeting Room 9
I-15:	Knowledge, Nature, and Stars.....	Magnolia B

6:00-8:00pm Session II

II-01:	SPECIAL SESSION: Precarity, Academic Freedom, and the Profession in a Time of Genocide.....	Rock Creek A
II-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Counterrevolution and Reaction Since 2011	Blossom
II-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Middle Eastern Literary Studies Journals: A Conversation with Editors ...	Meeting Room 7
II-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Studies at a Crossroads: Producing Knowledge Amid Genocide, Scholasticide, and Censorship	Hickory

Calendar of Events



II-05:	Society, Culture, and Science in Early Ottoman Syria.....	Rock Creek B
II-06:	Dealing with Delinquency: Sex, Addiction, and Disorder in the Late Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Mediterranean	Rock Creek C
II-07:	Ideology in Ansar Allah (Houthi) Yemen: Between Aspiration and Possibilities of Implementation.....	Meeting Room 2
II-08:	New Directions in MENA Security Studies	Meeting Room 3
II-09:	Archives of the Ephemeral.....	Meeting Room 4
II-10:	Intimacies Visible and Invisible: Muslim-Jewish Friendships Across the Modern Mediterranean.....	Meeting Room 5
II-11:	Education and Pedagogy.....	Meeting Room 6
II-12:	Borderlands and Belonging: Conflict and Mobility in the Modern Middle East	Meeting Room 9
II-13:	Ethnic and Religious Minorities: Space, Memory, and Politics	Meeting Room 8
II-14:	US Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East and Central Asia	RedBud
II-15:	Mad Sultans, Imams, Pilgrims, Entertainers, and Brokers: Biographical Literature.....	Magnolia A
II-16:	Cemeteries Past and Present	Magnolia B

8:30-9:30pm	Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies Reception	Meeting Room 12
8:30-10pm	AIS Annual General Meeting.....	Meeting Room 6
8:30-10pm	Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University Reception.....	Anacostia Salon F
8:30-10pm	University of Pennsylvania, Center for Middle Eastern Studies Reception	Meeting Room 10

Sunday, November 23

8:30-10:30am	Committee on Academic Freedom Meeting.....	Meeting Room 15
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8:30-10:30am Session III

III-01:	SPECIAL SESSION: Social Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa: Guidelines for the Conduct of Responsible, Ethical and Constructive Social Inquiry	Rock Creek A
III-02:	WORKSHOP: Publishing in a MESA Journal (closed).....	RedBud
III-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Contending with “Hope” and “Anti-Hope” in Ethnographies of Iranian Society, Law, and Diaspora	Meeting Room 7
III-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Navigating Fieldwork and Research in Turkey: Challenges, Adaptations, and Insights.....	Meeting Room 12
III-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Palestinian Young People and Research Methodologies	Meeting Room 13
III-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Carceralocracy and Practices of Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa.....	Anacostia Salon F
III-07:	Mobilities and Territorialities in the 19th Century: The Jazira as a Case Study	Rock Creek B
III-08:	The Structural Limits of Reforms in Morocco	Rock Creek C
III-09:	Ottoman Borderlands: Critical Perspectives on Historiography and Empire	Anacostia Salon D
III-10:	Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies I: Crafting Virtual Worlds Brick by Brick	Anacostia Salon E
III-11:	Multimediated Politics.....	Foundry Branch
III-12:	Religion in Zionist and Palestinian Politics.....	Dumbarton Oaks
III-13:	Social Movements and the State.....	River Birch A
III-14:	COVID, Crises, and the Losses to Women’s Work in the SWANA Region	River Birch B
III-15:	The Political Economy of Islamic Taxation: Understanding Medieval States from the Abbasids to the Ghurids and Mamluks	Meeting Room 2
III-16:	Outsiders and Intermediaries in Ottoman Tunis and the Sicilian Channel.....	Meeting Room 3
III-17:	Painting, Performance, and Photography: Transformations in Late-Qajar Iran	Meeting Room 4
III-18:	Governance in the Arabian Gulf: Beyond the Rentier State	Meeting Room 5
III-19:	Faith and Flux: Sectarianism and Religious Revival	Meeting Room 6
III-20:	Language Teaching and Learning and Use of Technology in the Classroom.....	Meeting Room 8

Calendar of Events



III-21:	Rethinking Land, Money, the Company and Property	Meeting Room 9
III-22:	Imperial Intersections: Geopolitics, Faith, and the Arts.....	Meeting Room 10
III-23:	Digital Media: Security, Privacy, Access, and Dysfunction	Meeting Room 11
III-24:	Madhabs, Civil Law, Constitutions, and Law Enforcement Between State and Religious Authority	Meeting Room 14
III-25:	Spatial Analysis of Modern Iraqi History	Meeting Room 16
III-27:	The Politics of Social and Economic Development.....	Magnolia B

11am-1pm	IJMES Editorial Board Meeting.....	Blossom
11:45am-1:15pm	RoMES Editorial Board Meeting	Root and Vine

11am-1pm Session IV

IV-01:	Publishing Workshop for Precarious Scholars	RedBud
IV-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Not Just Fun and Games: Negotiating Power through Popular Culture in Egypt, past to present.....	Meeting Room 7
IV-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Reconfiguration, Realignment, and Resilience in the Contemporary Maghreb: Navigating Internal and External Change.....	Meeting Room 12
IV-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Ethical Research and Emic Investment: Reinvigorating Marginal Fields.....	Meeting Room 13
IV-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Countering “Day After” Narratives: Advancing Palestinian Rights in the Shadow of Israel’s War in Gaza and Proposed Annexation of the West Bank	Hickory
IV-06:	Islamist Movements in SWANA.....	Dumbaron Oaks
IV-07:	Conflict, Terror, Empire: International Law in the Middle East	Rock Creek A
IV-08:	Syria After the Revolution: Democratized Discourses and Uncertain Futures	Meeting Room 2
IV-09:	Perspectives on Slavery in the Medieval Middle East.....	Rock Creek C
IV-10:	From Biopolitics to Necropolitics: Living and Dying	Anacostia Salon D
IV-11:	Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies II: Constructing the Medieval Mediterranean in the Age of the Great Caliphs.....	Anacostia Salon E
IV-12:	The Micro-Dynamics of Legislative Politics in the Middle East and North Africa	Anacostia Salon F
IV-13:	Illicit Circuits: Smuggling, Contraband, and Underground Economies	Foundry Branch
IV-14:	Queer and Feminist Solidarity in Literature, Knowledge Production, and Translation.....	River Birch A
IV-15:	New Approaches to Arab Asian Solidarity	River Birch B
IV-16:	Before Citizenship: New Research on Ottoman Subjecthood in the Early Modern Period	Rock Creek B
IV-17:	International Film Education and Governmentalized Practices.....	Meeting Room 3
IV-18:	Navigating Identity and Memory Through Armenian Performance and Art	Meeting Room 4
IV-19:	Excavating Erased Histories: Rethinking the Relations Between Iran and Iraq.....	Meeting Room 5
IV-20:	The Imprisoned, the Disappeared, and Arabic Literature.....	Meeting Room 6
IV-21:	Environment, Ecologies, and Toxicities	Meeting Room 8
IV-22:	Residents, Migrants, and Guests in the Gulf and Lebanon.....	Meeting Room 9
IV-23:	Sufism and Religious Symbolism in Modern Middle Eastern Literature	Meeting Room 10
IV-24:	Revolutionary Change: Gender, Activism, and Marginalization	Meeting Room 11
IV-25:	Migrants and Refugees: Rentierism, Political Participation, and Precarity	Meeting Room 14
IV-26:	Glitch Insurgencies, Technodystopias, and Futurity	Meeting Room 16
IV-27:	Hope in Hopelessness: Love Unrequited in Different Climes	Magnolia B
IV-28:	ROUNDTABLE: Zouj (Two): Dynamic Judeo-Maghribi Interaction.....	Magnolia A

1-6pm Book Exhibit.....Potomac Ballroom

1:30-3:30pm Session V

V-01:	CURRENT EVENTS SESSION (see addendum for details)	Rock Creek A
V-02:	WORKSHOP: How to Fund Your Ideas: Professional Development Workshop for Proposal Writing and Research Design.....	RedBud

Calendar of Events



V-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Fifty Years of Arab Studies: Identity, Knowledge Production and Resistance from the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS), Georgetown University	Meeting Room 12
V-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Geopolitical Transition, Diplomatic Activity, and Cultural Production in Postwar Beirut	Meeting Room 13
V-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Voicing the Enslaved: Histories, Narratives, and Translations of Ottoman Slavery	Meeting Room 15
V-07:	ROUNDTABLE: The Color Black and Beyond	Hickory
V-08:	The Gothic, the Grotesque, and the Freaky in Middle Eastern Literature.....	Rock Creek B
V-09:	Give or Take: New Approaches to Muslim-Christian Interactions in the Ottoman Empire	Rock Creek C
V-10:	Engaging with Musical Archives: Scholarship, Teaching, and Performance of Music from the Arab World	Anacostia Salon D
V-11:	Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies III: Catalyzing Learning Technologies for Engagement in Islamic Histories	Anacostia Salon E
V-12:	Discursive Transformations in Syria: Analyzing Linguistic and Ideological Shifts of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham	Anacostia Salon F
V-13:	Empowering Arabic Language Learning with Generative AI for 21st-Century Skills	Foundry Branch
V-14:	The Politics and Practice of Medicine, Ecology, and Knowledge in the Eastern Mediterranean	Dumbaron Oaks
V-15:	Whose Civility, Whose Tolerance? Reflections on Emerging Grammars of Citizenship in MENA.....	River Birch A
V-16:	Bearing Witness: The Transmission of Memory and Truth in Contemporary Algerian Literature and Music	River Birch B
V-17:	Actors of Conflict and Peace in the Middle East: Changing Dynamics and Emerging Identities	Meeting Room 2
V-18:	Entangled Power: Clinical and Cultural Readings of Sadomasochistic Dynamics in Iran	Meeting Room 3
V-19:	Gender, the Family, and Islam.....	Meeting Room 4
V-20:	Middle Eastern Philology I: Language Study in the Persianate World.....	Meeting Room 5
V-21:	Heritage, Theft, and Preservation	Meeting Room 6
V-22:	Post-Ottoman Economy: Networks, Actors, and Trends.....	Meeting Room 8
V-23:	From Ancient Saba to Sufi Saints: Current Research on the History of Yemen	Meeting Room 9
V-24:	Diasporic Formations: Religious and Cultural Practice in the West	Meeting Room 10
V-25:	Islamic Law: Classification, Semantics, and Positionality	Meeting Room 11
V-26:	Crossed Perspectives Between the Iranian and Hispanic Worlds: Narratives and Representations in Contemporary Times.....	Meeting Room 14
V-27:	Populism in Erdoğan's Turkey: Capturing the State, Capturing Culture	Meeting Room 16
V-28:	Disciplinary (De)Formations: The Making and Unmaking of Colonial Subjects in the Modern Middle East and North Africa	Magnolia A
V-29:	The (In)Stability Paradox: Coups, Regional Conflicts, and Foreign Policy Challenges	Magnolia B

3:30-4pm	Complimentary Coffee Break.....	Book Exhibit
3:30-4pm	Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES) Poster Presentation.....	Book Exhibit

4-6pm

Session VI

VI-01:	The Nakba, Constantine Zurayk and the History of the Present	Anacostia Salon D
VI-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Theorizing Mohabbat: Love as an Epistemological Framework in Islamic Studies and the Study of Religion	Meeting Room 7
VI-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Towards an Ethic of Comparison: The Study of Genocide and Mass Violence in the Middle East	Meeting Room 12
VI-04:	ROUNDTABLE: A Lexicon for Watching History Unfold.....	Meeting Room 13
VI-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Feminist Historiographies of the Middle East Beyond Borders: Origins, Trajectories, and New Developments	Meeting Room 14
VI-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Reimagining Jews in the Modern Middle East.....	Meeting Room 15

Calendar of Events



VI-07:	ROUNDTABLE: How to Optimize Your Book Publishing Experience	Hickory
VI-08:	Media, Witnessing, and Knowledge Production in a Time of Genocide/War in Palestine.....	Anacostia Salon E
VI-09:	Gender and Religious Identity on Screen	Anacostia Salon F
VI-10:	How Poetry Revolts: Traditions of Poetic Revolution in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu.....	Foundry Branch
VI-11:	Race and Carcerality Across Borders	River Birch A
VI-12:	Above and Below: Sacred Verticalities	River Birch B
VI-13:	Leftists, Liberals, and Revolutionaries	Meeting Room 2
VI-15:	Religious Institutions and the State in the Arab World	Meeting Room 4
VI-16:	Political Economy and State-Society Relations in Contemporary Iran	Meeting Room 5
VI-17:	Grieving and Mourning: The Social and Political Work of Death	Meeting Room 6
VI-18:	Middle Eastern Philology II: Traditions of Literary Theory and Criticism.....	Meeting Room 8
VI-19:	Navigating Ruptures: Continuity and Change in Fatimid Ifrīqiya and Sicily	Meeting Room 9
VI-20:	Chronicles, Libraries, and Archives	Meeting Room 10
VI-22:	Secret Histories (and Possible Futures) of Middle Eastern and Islamic Media.....	Meeting Room 16
VI-23:	Arab Gulf Futurism: Mapping the Terrain.....	RedBud
VI-24:	Translating Palestinian Thought	Magnolia A
VI-25:	Maghreb Literature as World Literature.....	Magnolia B

4:30-5:30pm	Arab Studies Institute Reception	Book Exhibit, Booth 73
6:30-8:30pm	Presidential Address & Awards Ceremony	Rock Creek
8:30-10pm	MESA Reception	Potomac Foyer

Monday, November 24

8:30-10am	Middle East Center and Program Directors Meeting	RedBud
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8:30-10:30am Session VII

VII-01:	Academic Freedom: Political Instability and Conflict	Rock Creek C
VII-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Rethinking Militarism and Militarized Policy in and with the Middle East.	Meeting Room 7
VII-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Foreign Aid in the MENA: Past and Future.....	Meeting Room 12
VII-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Interdisciplinary Graduate Topics in Amazigh Studies.....	Meeting Room 13
VII-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Critical Perspectives on Environmental Justice in the Middle East	Meeting Room 15
VII-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Using Games and Simulations in the MES Classroom.....	Hickory
VII-07:	Anticolonial Politics in Egypt.....	Rock Creek B
VII-08:	Lebanon as a Site of Internationalist Solidarity	Anacostia Salon D
VII-09:	Empire, Capital, and Rurality: The Commodification of Tribal Property in the Modern Middle East	Anacostia Salon E
VII-10:	Translating Cultures: Legal, Linguistic, and Literary Intersections in Ottoman-European Exchanges	Anacostia Salon F
VII-11:	Sufi Shrines to AI: Contemporary Islamic Piety	Foundry Branch
VII-12:	Borders, Bodies, and Becoming in Transnational Kurdish Literatures.....	Dumbaron Oaks
VII-13:	Purposes of Arabic Eloquence: Building the State and Understanding the World	River Birch A
VII-14:	The Politics, Lives and Afterlives of Infrastructure in West Asia - Interdisciplinary Approaches	River Birch B
VII-15:	Gender in Iran: Digital and Social Media.....	Meeting Room 2
VII-16:	Rupturing Loss: The Poetics of Ruination, Remembrance, and Resistance in North Africa and the Middle East	Meeting Room 3
VII-17:	Shifting Political Landscapes in Iran: Elite Configurations, Institutional Conflicts, and Grassroots Contestations	Meeting Room 4
VII-18:	Exploring Empire in “Low” Places.....	Meeting Room 5
VII-19:	Arab-American Hybridity and Shifts Across Borders	Meeting Room 6

Calendar of Events



VII-20:	Narrating the Nation: Media and Memory in Middle Eastern Histories	Meeting Room 8
VII-21:	Performance and Resistance.....	Meeting Room 9
VII-22:	Displacement, Disenchantment, and Contemporary Fiction.....	Meeting Room 10
VII-23:	Political Thought in Transnational Perspective	Meeting Room 11
VII-24:	Histories of the Margins in the Eastern Mediterranean	Meeting Room 14
VII-25:	Matrilineal Legacies, Feminist Solidarities, and Non-Traditional Kinship in New Arab Documentary Practices	Meeting Room 16
VII-27:	From Tahqiq to Javanmardi: Sufism, Shi'ism, and Religious Entanglements in Mongol and post-Mongol Iran	Magnolia B

10-11am	Consortium of Middle East National Resource Centers Directors Meeting.....	RedBud
10:30-11am	Complimentary Coffee Break.....	Book Exhibit
10:30-11am	Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES) Poster Presentation.....	Book Exhibit
11am-12:30pm	Officers of MESA's Affiliated Associations Meeting.....	Blossom

11am-1pm Session VIII

VIII-01:	SPECIAL SESSION: A Multifaceted Defense of Academic Freedom in Times of Genocide	Anacostia Salon D
VIII-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Ecology and Infrastructure: New Approaches to Racial Capitalism	Meeting Room 7
VIII-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Expanding and Developing the Field of International Relations Within Middle East Studies – A Roundtable Honoring the Work of F. Gregory Gause III	Meeting Room 12
VIII-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Queer Turkish and Ottoman Literature.....	Meeting Room 13
VIII-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Genocide and the Middle East and North Africa.....	Meeting Room 15
VIII-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Writing Syrian History in the Time of Upheaval.....	Hickory
VIII-07:	Cosmic Jazz: Weiriding the World Through Textual-Visual Play in a Messianic Age	Rock Creek B
VIII-08:	Learning and Knowledge Transmission in Morocco.....	Rock Creek C
VIII-09:	Transnational Histories of Early Arab Cinema	Anacostia Salon E
VIII-10:	Rethinking Financial Control: The Material Life of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration	Anacostia Salon F
VIII-11:	Contestation and Place-Making in Palestine/Israel.....	Foundry Branch
VIII-12:	Occidentalism Reconsidered: The West Through the Eyes of Its Other	Dumbaron Oaks
VIII-13:	Fluid Archives: Tracing Memory Through Sludge, Stains, and the Sea	River Birch A
VIII-14:	Shifting Racial Categories on the Arabian Peninsula	River Birch B
VIII-15:	Ottoman Archaeology in the Long 19th Century: Archives, Networks, Museums, Laws, and Practices	Meeting Room 2
VIII-16:	New Directions in Researching Gender in Authoritarian Egypt: Securitizing Reform, Policing Bodies, and Co-opting Sexualities.....	Meeting Room 3
VIII-17:	Women and Gender in Iran/Persia: The Long View	Meeting Room 4
VIII-18:	Rethinking Civilizationism, Identitarianism, and Political Governance in New Turkey.....	Meeting Room 5
VIII-19:	Political Parties: Formation, Tactics, Impact	Meeting Room 6
VIII-20:	Trajectories and Afterlives of Revolution: Between Hope and Disappointment.....	Meeting Room 8
VIII-21:	Modern Islam, State Power, and Society	Meeting Room 9
VIII-22:	Minorities at Home and Abroad	Meeting Room 10
VIII-23:	Mechanisms of Repression.....	Meeting Room 11
VIII-24:	Ecocriticism and Middle Eastern Literatures	Meeting Room 14
VIII-25:	Law, Leisure, and Politics: Children and Youth as Historical Actors in the MENA Region.....	Meeting Room 16
VIII-26:	Print, Prison, and Homeland: Shaping Identities in the Late Ottoman Empire.....	Magnolia B
VIII-27:	North African Narratives: The Works of Berrada, Choukri, Mosteghanemi, and Zafzaf	Magnolia A

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1:30-3:30pm Session IX

IX-01:	SPECIAL SESSION: Celebrating 40 Years of AMEWS and 20 Years of JMEWS: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future of Middle East Women's and Gender Studies	Anacostia Salon D
IX-02:	SPECIAL SESSION: Israel-US War on Iran and its Consequences	Meeting Room 7
IX-03:	WORKSHOP: Professional Development in Active Learning: Introducing Reacting to the Past	Anacostia Salon F
IX-04:	ROUNDTABLE: New Edited Book Roundtable on Decolonizing Afghanistan	Meeting Room 12
IX-05:	ROUNDTABLE: The Anthropologist as Reader: Remembering and Thinking with Brinkley Messick	Meeting Room 13
IX-06:	ROUNDTABLE: Art in Academia: Integrating the Study of Art into Middle East Studies	Meeting Room 15
IX-07:	ROUNDTABLE: Research and Scholarship in the New Syria: Possibilities and Ethical Responsibilities	Hickory
IX-08:	Insurgent Performances: Solidarity Aesthetics and Bodily Production Within Middle Eastern/SWANA and Diasporic Expressive Cultures	Rock Creek A
IX-09:	Mystical Webs: Sufi Networks and Multilayered Spaces	Rock Creek B
IX-10:	Mothering and Un-mothering in Palestine	Rock Creek C
IX-11:	Nationalism, Public Health, and Medical Institutions in North Africa and the Middle East: Colonial and Postcolonial Encounters (19th-20th Centuries)	Anacostia Salon E
IX-12:	Elite Politics: Capitalists, Presidents, and Monarchs	Foundry Branch
IX-13:	Moral Epistemes Between Philosophy, Language, and Law	Dumbaron Oaks
IX-14:	Borrowed Sovereignty: Longue Durée Perspectives on Capital and Justice in Egypt (ca. 1800-ca. 2000)	River Birch A
IX-15:	Literary Criticism and Affect Across Forms and Concepts	River Birch B
IX-16:	Ousting and Inclusion of the In/Visible Arab Americans: The Works of Eman Quotah, Aya Khalil, Hala Alyan, Amal Kassir and Seif-Eldein	Meeting Room 2
IX-17:	Modernity Framed: The Politics of Art Through the Lens of Economy and Class Struggle in Iran Between Revolutions	Meeting Room 3
IX-18:	Surviving the Late Ottoman Empire	Meeting Room 4
IX-19:	Education, Curricular Innovations, and New Classroom Strategies	Meeting Room 5
IX-20:	Engaging Zionism: History, Theory, and the Politics of Knowledge Production	Meeting Room 6
IX-21:	Love in Translation: Identity and Censorship in Novels	Meeting Room 8
IX-22:	Franklin Books and the Cultural Cold War in Comparative Contexts	Meeting Room 9
IX-23:	Contemporary Islamic Thought	Meeting Room 10
IX-24:	From Intimate Space to the Cosmos in Classical Islamic Thought	Meeting Room 11
IX-25:	International Relations and Diplomacy	Meeting Room 14
IX-26:	Popular Mobilization, Subaltern Histories, and Revolutionary Politics: Drawing on Gramsci to Renew the Study of Resistance	Meeting Room 16
IX-27:	Commodity Histories of Lebanon	Magnolia A
IX-28:	Matter Out of Place: Dirt, Waste, and Marginality in the Modern Middle East	Magnolia B

4-6pm Session X

X-01:	SPECIAL SESSION: New Directions in MENA Dance	Rock Creek A
X-02:	WORKSHOP: Toward Tamazight-Conscious Approaches in Tamazgha Studies	Meeting Room 7
X-03:	WORKSHOP: After Liberation: Imagining the Future of the Levant	Meeting Room 12
X-04:	WORKSHOP: Wise Women and New Approaches: Honoring Those Who Study Iranian and ME (SWANA) Gender and Women Issues	Meeting Room 13
X-05:	WORKSHOP: The Middle East and its Revolutions	Meeting Room 15
X-06:	WORKSHOP: Middle East Migrations: Minority Perspectives and the Transnational Politics of Pluralism	Hickory
X-07:	Late Ottoman Readers and Writers	Rock Creek B

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X-08:	Student Circuits in the Global Middle East	Rock Creek C
X-09:	Paradoxes of Humanitarianism: Anthropological Inquiry in Times of Crisis.....	Anacostia Salon E
X-10:	Sense-Making and Making Sense during Environmental Crises: Consumers, Peasants, and Intellectuals in the 19th and 20th Centuries	Foundry Branch
X-11:	Sufism and Sufi Sites in MENA Literature	Dumbaron Oaks
X-12:	The Question of Race in Middle East Studies: Land, Language, and Violence in Cultural Production on Palestine and Afghanistan	River Birch A
X-13:	Economic Sovereignty in Thought and Praxis in the Middle East and North Africa, c. 1880–1958.....	River Birch B
X-14:	State, Society, and Art in the Medieval World.....	Meeting Room 2
X-15:	Alternative Futures for Iran	Meeting Room 3
X-16:	The Erasure of Palestine and the Unraveling of the Neoliberal University Since October 7, 2023: The Canadian Case	Meeting Room 4
X-17:	The Diversity and Resilience of Bektashi Heritage: Historical and Contemporary Ethnographic Perspectives.....	Meeting Room 5
X-18:	Hauntings and Longings in Palestinian Literature	Meeting Room 6
X-19:	Technologies of Occupation.....	Meeting Room 8
X-20:	American Orientalisms: Speaking Back Through Islamic Art History.....	Meeting Room 9
X-21:	International Aid and Humanitarian Assistance.....	Meeting Room 10
X-22:	Political Narratives, Discourses, and Myths.....	Meeting Room 11
X-23:	Discursive Constructions of Turkey in Geopolitical Context: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives.....	Meeting Room 14
X-24:	Emotions in the Medieval Islamic Intellectual Tradition.....	Meeting Room 16
X-25:	New Directions in SWANA Queer Studies.....	Magnolia A
X-26:	Music and Soundscapes: Gender, Activism, and Communal Expressions	Magnolia B

6:15-7:45pm	MESA Members Meeting	Anacostia Salon D
6-7pm	SSA Annual Business Meeting and Reception	RedBud
8-10pm	AMEWS 40th Anniversary Reception co-hosted with AASA, AMEA, and AMECYS	Anacostia Salons E-F
8-10pm	POMEPS Reception	Magnolia A

Tuesday, November 25

8:30-10am	Editors of Middle East Studies Journals Meeting (by MESA Publications Committee).....	RedBud
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8:30-10:20am Session XI

XI-01:	ROUNDTABLE: Security, Development, and Political Participation in the Middle East and North Africa	Meeting Room 7
XI-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Methods and Ethics in the Study of Minorities in the Middle East: The Case of Assyrians/Syriacs.....	Meeting Room 12
XI-03:	ROUNDTABLE: The Present Day: Peacemaking Alternatives for Israeli Policy	Meeting Room 13
XI-04:	WORKSHOP: Current Debates in Middle East Studies with Global Academy Fellows and Arab Political Science Network.....	Meeting Room 15
XI-05:	Capital and Social History in the Middle East.....	Anacostia Salon D
XI-06:	Embodied Politics: Masculinity, Sexuality, and Intimacy	Anacostia Salon E
XI-07:	Generative Ruptures: Religious Transformation in and beyond the Middle East	Anacostia Salon F
XI-08:	Innovations in Academic and Professional Reading in Middle Eastern Languages.....	Foundry Branch
XI-09:	Palestinian Alternative Media in a Time of Genocide.....	River Birch A
XI-10:	Perspectives in Visual Studies of the Maghrib	River Birch B
XI-11:	Politics and Poetics of Social Reproduction	Meeting Room 2
XI-12:	Pathways of Contagion: The Politics of Disease and Mobility in Nineteenth Century's Middle East	Meeting Room 3

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XI-13:	Transregional Migrant Labor and Racial Formations in the Gulf	Meeting Room 4
XI-14:	Re/Considering and Re/Imagining Community in the Middle East	Meeting Room 5
XI-15:	State, Society, and Governance	Meeting Room 6
XI-17:	State Making in the Ancient and Medieval World	Meeting Room 9
XI-18:	New Explorations in Classical Islamic Philosophy	Meeting Room 10
XI-19:	Knowledge and the Self in Classical Arabic Literature	Meeting Room 11
XI-20:	Women Writing Women.....	Meeting Room 14
XI-21:	Mediascapes, Stardom, and Popular Music Consumption Within, Across, and Beyond National Boundaries in the Contemporary Arab World	Meeting Room 16
XI-22:	Imperial Echoes: Continuity and Rupture in the Ottoman Legacy of Modern Turkey	Magnolia A
XI-23:	On Anti-Palestinian Racism	Magnolia B
XI-24:	Transregional Entanglements: European Narratives and Local Agency in Mediterranean Migration Governance	Dumbaron Oaks

11am-1pm

Session XII

XII-01:	ROUNDTABLE: From Apartheid to Democracy: Mapping Policy Pathways in Israel-Palestine	Anacostia Salon D
XII-02:	ROUNDTABLE: Science and Technology Studies in the Middle East and North Africa	Meeting Room 7
XII-03:	ROUNDTABLE: Recognizing and Counteracting Intellectual Extractivism in MENA: Decolonizing and Dismantling the Exploitative Structures of Academia.....	Meeting Room 12
XII-04:	ROUNDTABLE: Tied Up In Tehran: Women, Social Change, and the Politics of Daily Life in Postrevolutionary Iran	Meeting Room 13
XII-05:	ROUNDTABLE: Somatization of Disasters: Rethinking Event and Embodied Temporalities in the Middle East.....	Meeting Room 15
XII-06:	The State in Islamic Law and Thought.....	Hickory
XII-07:	Arabic Speculative Literature Amidst Destruction, Repression, and Trauma	Anacostia Salon E
XII-09:	Beyond Modern Categories: Rethinking Theory in Medieval Islamic Studies	Foundry Branch
XII-10:	Forms of Ottoman Patronage: New Approaches and Directions of Research.....	Dumbaron Oaks
XII-11:	Legal Pluralism, Colonial Rule, and State Policies: Governing Religious Diversity in Arab States	River Birch A
XII-12:	Voice, Music, and the Production of Belonging.....	River Birch B
XII-13:	Contemporary Political Contestation in Iran.....	Meeting Room 2
XII-14:	Worldbuilding Classical Arabic Literature	Meeting Room 3
XII-15:	Women, Gender, and Freedom	Meeting Room 4
XII-16:	Armeno-Turkish Culture in the Late Ottoman Empire	Meeting Room 5
XII-17:	Piety and Religious Articulations	Meeting Room 6
XII-18:	Jewish Living, Writing, and Dissenting from the Middle East to Europe	Meeting Room 8
XII-19:	Aesthetics of Power: Spectacles and Performances	Meeting Room 10
XII-20:	Psychoanalysis in the Times of War and Death	Meeting Room 9
XII-21:	Lebanon: Violence, Multimodality, and Knowledge Production	Meeting Room 11
XII-22:	Protest Politics in the Middle East and North Africa.....	Meeting Room 14
XII-23:	Reframing Islamic Historiography and Epistemologies: Chronologies and Intellectual Traditions	Meeting Room 16
XII-24:	Voter Mobilization and Electoral Outcomes	Magnolia A
XII-25:	Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and the Environment: Contested Politics	Magnolia B

11am-12:30pm	AMECYS Board Meeting	RedBud
12:30-2pm	AMECYS Member Meeting	RedBud

Calendar of Events



1:30-3:30pm Session XIII

XIII-01:	ROUNDTABLE: Conducting Fieldwork on Sex, Sexuality, and Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Middle East and North Africa: Part III	Meeting Room 12
XIII-02:	WORKSHOP: New Directions in the Study of the Persianate World: Research from the Global Academy Fellows	Meeting Room 13
XIII-03:	ROUNDTABLE: New Ethnographies of Islam: A Roundtable	Meeting Room 15
XIII-04:	Gendered Contestations: Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia	Anacostia Salon D
XIII-05:	Ottoman Empire: Urban Development, Design, and Bureaucracies	Anacostia Salon E
XIII-06:	Refugees and Displacement	Anacostia Salon F
XIII-07:	Time, the State, and the End of the World in Arabic Fiction	Foundry Branch
XIII-08:	Social Inequalities: Unrest, Redistribution, Austerity, and the Law	Dumbaron Oaks
XIII-09:	Civilizations and Their Others	River Birch A
XIII-10:	Body and Voice in Modern Türkiye	River Birch B
XIII-11:	Redefining the Boundaries of Political Islam: Hybridization and Change	Meeting Room 2
XIII-12:	Framing Violence in the Late Ottoman World	Meeting Room 3
XIII-13:	The Middle East and Korea: Historical and Cultural Intersections	Meeting Room 4
XIII-14:	Captivity, Control, and the Shaping of Order in Medieval Islam	Meeting Room 5
XIII-15:	Mediterranean Crossings: Borderscapes, Colonialism, and Migrations (19th–21st Centuries)	Meeting Room 6
XIII-16:	Gender Roles, Economic Structures, and the Legal System in the Ottoman Context	Meeting Room 8
XIII-17:	Religion and Politics in Persianate Literature	Meeting Room 9
XIII-18:	Doing, Decoding, and Critiquing Poetry	Meeting Room 10
XIII-19:	Insurgency, Militarism, and Urban Violence	Meeting Room 11
XIII-20:	Empire and Extraction: Land, Labor, and Environmental Control	Meeting Room 14
XIII-21:	Palestinian Citizens of Israel	Meeting Room 16
XIII-22:	Women's (Dis)Empowerment in Historical Perspective and Contemporary Activism	Magnolia A



REDBUD (Second Level)

WORKSHOP**I-01: Using Primary Sources to Teach about the Middle East**

University faculty and K-14 teachers who cover the Middle East in their classrooms face an increasingly politically charged environment in which course materials can become lightning rods for controversy. One way to engage meaningfully with contentious issues and current events is by incorporating primary source materials that allow teachers to introduce historical context and highlight regional voices.

This workshop will highlight major historical and current regional issues and introduce a selection of primary sources that can be used to teach on each of these issues. Organized under the auspices of the Institute for Middle East Studies, George Washington University

Funded by a Title VI National Resource Center grant from the US Department of Education and organized by the Institute for Middle East Studies at the George Washington University and the Center for Contemporary Arabic Studies at Georgetown University.

Shana Marshall, George Washington University
Joel Blecher, George Washington University
Dina Rizk Khoury, George Washington University

BLOSSOM (Second Level)

ROUNDTABLE**I-02: Poetry after Gaza**

Organized by **Nouri Gana**, UCLA

Chair: **Karim Mattar**, University of Colorado at Boulder
Nouri Gana, UCLA
Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania
Jeffrey Sacks, UC Riverside
Anthony Alessandrini, Kingsborough Community College, CUNY
Mohamed Ben Hammed, UC Berkeley

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**I-03: (Re)Centering Lived Knowledges and Relationalities in the Doing of SWANA Feminisms(s)**

Organized under the auspices of the SWANA Collective by **Laila Mourad**, York University

Chair: **Khaoula Bengezi**, York University

Laila Mourad, York University
Khaoula Bengezi, York University
Nay Rahi, University of Toronto
Besan Jaber, University of Illinois

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**I-04: History of Medicine in Modern and Contemporary Egypt: New Directions and Research Challenges**

Organized by **Soha Bayoumi**, Johns Hopkins University

Chair: **Soha Bayoumi**, Johns Hopkins University
Soha Bayoumi, Johns Hopkins University
Amy Fallas, UC Davis
Karim Malak, Wagner College
Taylor M. Moore, Yale University
Yasmin Shafei, CEDEJ Cairo (Center for Economic, Legal, and Social Studies and Documentation)
Sam Pulliam, George Washington University
Jennifer Derr, UC Santa Cruz



MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**I-05: Honoring and Analyzing Joe Stork's Legacy: The Field-shaping Impact of MERIP and Middle East Report**

Sponsored by the Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP)

Organized by **James Ryan**, Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP) and **Lisa Hajjar**, UC Santa Barbara

Chairs: **James Ryan**, MERIP and **Lisa Hajjar**, UC Santa Barbara

Marya Hannun, University of Exeter

Zachary Lockman, New York University

Judith E. Tucker, Georgetown University

Joel Beinin, Stanford University

Sarah Leah Whitson, DAWN

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

I-06: Tongues of Power: The Turkish Language and the Intricacies of Empire in the Early Modern Ottoman Lands

Organized by **Nir Shafir**, UC San Diego and **Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano**, University of Pennsylvania

Chair/Discussant: **Helen Pfeifer**, University of Cambridge
Nir Shafir, UC San Diego *An Ottoman Empire, the Turkish Language, and the Cairene Streets in the Seventeenth Century*

A. Tunç Sen, Columbia University *Translation as a Vocation: Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Madrasa Graduates and Their Turkish Input*

Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano, University of Pennsylvania
Whispers of Rebellion: The Language of Gossip, Rumor, and Calumny in the Early Modern Ottoman World

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

I-07: Sound Approaches to Urban Morocco

Chair/Discussant: **Andrea L. Stanton**, University of Denver

Adeli Block, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *"Speaking With 'Noon'": Raciolinguistic Ideologies in Southeastern Morocco*

Mustapha Outbakat, UCLA *Sonic Urbanism in the Southern Moroccan City of Agadir*

Lydia Barrett, UC Santa Cruz *"There is No Time for Music, There Are Too Many Worries": The Politics and Presences of Women's Rest Amidst Movement Across Morocco's Northern Shore*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

I-08: Literary Representations of Prostitution

Organized by **Brady Ryan**, University of Connecticut

Chair/Discussant: **Brady Ryan**, University of Connecticut
Zahraa Habeeb, University of Missouri-Columbia
Prostitution and the Trifecta of Subjugation in Elif Shafak's 10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World

Egem Atik, Ozyegin University *"Not a Real Person": A Sex Worker's Portrayal in Noontime in Yenisehir*

Cimen Gunay-Erkol, Ozyegin University *Sex work in Turkish Literature: Suat Derviş, Sevgi Soysal and Elif Şafak*

Brady Ryan, University of Connecticut *The Prostitute's Haunt: Sex, Nation, and Nahḍa in post-Arab Spring Historical Novels*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

I-10: Developing Arabic for Academic Purposes and Building Interdisciplinary Research Networks: Projects from the CASA Program

Sponsored by the Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA)

Organized by **Sonia Shiri**, University of Arizona

Chair: **Sonia Shiri**, University of Arizona

Discussant: **Lauren Osborne**, Whitman College

Eric Calderwood, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Babel's Bounty: Multilingual Arts in North Africa and al-Andalus*



Elizabeth Claire Saylor, North Carolina State University *Building Bridges, Breaking Boundaries: The Revolutionary Voice of 'Afifa Karam*

Abigail Balbale, New York University *Colonial legacies and the Memory of al-Andalus: Bank al-Maghrib in Rabat*

Jack Carew, Yale University *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Modeling Relationships Between Climate Variables and Cutaneous Leishmaniasis Incidence*

Maria Swanson, US Naval Academy *From Revolution to Resettlement: Russian Emigration to North Africa and Its Lasting Impact*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

I-11: New Directions in the Study of Society and History in the Arabian Peninsula

Organized by **Richard Harrod**, Washington University in St. Louis

Chair/Discussant: **Javier Guirado**, Kennesaw State University

Richard Harrod *"The Struggle Against the Deprivation of Education": A Social History of Educators in Oman from 1970 to 1986*

Ayesha Mualla, University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Oman *The Social Life of Frankincense: Migration, Sociality, and Sensory Flows in Dhofar's Trade Networks*

Scott Erich, Baruch College, CUNY *The View from Yet Another Boat: The Maritime and the Marine in the Study of the Arabian Peninsula*

Nasser Al Saqri, Sultan Qaboos University *Education in Oman from 1932-1970: Between Marginalization and Widespread Desire: A Reading of Sultan Said bin Taimur's View of Education*

Abrar Alshammari, Princeton University *Constructing Kinship: Family and Belonging, Cases from Kuwait*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

I-12: The Age of World Wars

Chair: **Tylor Brand**, Trinity College Dublin

Gregory Aftandilian, American University *Soldiers as ethnic connectors: Armenian-American GIs during World War II and their diaspora encounters*

Golaleh Pashmforoosh, York University *The Persian Gulf under Allied Occupation (1941-1946): Contestation, Deprivation and Local Resilience*

Dahlia El Zein, Northwestern University in Qatar *West African Colonial Soldiers and Race-Making in French Mandate Lebanon*

Rami Ginat, Bar-Ilan University *India, the Non-Aligned Camp and the Suez Crisis (1956)*

ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)

I-13: Mediated Genocide/Genocidal Media

Organized by **Rebecca L. Stein**, Duke University

Chair: **Rebecca L. Stein**, Duke University

Discussant: **Nadia G. Yaqub**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Rebecca L. Stein *Seeing Like a Genocidal State*

Miriyam Aouragh, University of Westminster

Technological Illusion, Political Delusion: The Trials and Tribulations of Hasbara in Times of Genocide

Amahl Bishara, Tufts University *The Long Roots and Global Dimensions of Israel's War on Journalism*

Alejandro I. Paz, University of Toronto *Bibi, King of Israel, on Channel 14: Genocide in Palestine and the Israeli "Fox News"*

Kamran Rastegar, Tufts University *In the Light of: Revisiting Gaza Video Art*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

I-14: Exhibitions, Reflections, and Affect in Arab Art and Music

Chair: **Christophe Katrib**, UC Riverside

Kenneth Habib, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo *Palestinian Resistance and American Reckoning Through Transformations of Fairuz*

Nadine Sinno, Virginia Polytechnic Institute *#allmeansall #buildthegallows: Articulating Affect in Lebanese Protests and Cultural Production*

Zeina Tarraf, American University of Beirut *Feeling Hariri, Feeling the Nation: Affective Management in Lebanon's Postwar*

Joy Al-Nemri, Columbia University *Inscriptions Unbound: Edward Said's Library*

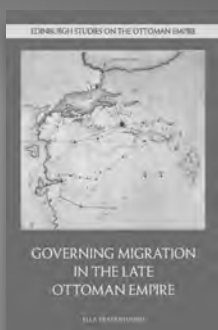
Fabiola Hanna, The New School *Impossible Conversations: Beyond Collective Amnesia in Post-War Lebanon*

Kimberly Cleveland, Georgia State University *Navigating Land, Sea, and the Cosmos: The Shipping Container in Mariam Abouzid Souali's Art*

I-15: Knowledge, Nature, and Stars

Shahīd Nigro, Temple University *Freeing al-Fārābī from Orientalism*

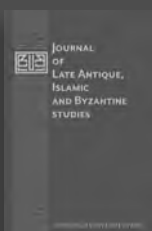
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ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)



SPECIAL SESSION

II-01: Precarity, Academic Freedom, and the Profession in a Time of Genocide

Precarity plays a particular role in the lives of emerging scholars in the field of Middle East studies. Like graduate students, adjunct professors, and pre-tenure faculty throughout the profession, they are forced to reckon with a job market that has all but dried up. But in addition, they inhabit a field which is under political attack from all directions. While attacks on Middle East studies scholars have been ongoing for decades, the right-wing targeting on higher education, coupled with attacks on scholars working in defense of academic freedom and in opposition to the ongoing Israeli genocide in Gaza, have made even the most ostensible “secure” scholars in the field feel a sense of their more general precarity. What, then, of those emerging scholars without any institutional privilege? The panel is both to provide a forum for the speakers and those in attendance to analyze the forms of precarity that pervade their work as scholars and teachers, but also to work collectively towards concrete ways that MESA can address and hopefully mitigate this precarity.

Coordinated by MESA’s Committee on Precarity and Adjunctification

Chairs: **Anthony Alessandrini**, Kingsborough Community College, CUNY and **Dahlia El Zein**, Northwestern University in Qatar
Sami Hermez, Northwestern University in Qatar
Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania
Ahmed Kamal Junina, MESA Global Academy
Laurie Brand, University of Southern California
Razan Idris, University of Pennsylvania
Ahmed Junina, Al-Aqsa University, Palestine
Badar Khan Suri, Georgetown University
Mohsen Mahdawi, Columbia University

BLOSSOM (Second Level)

ROUNDTABLE

II-02: Counterrevolution and Reaction Since 2011

Organized by **Atef Said**, University of Illinois at Chicago and **Killian Clarke**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Jillian M. Schwedler**, Hunter College, CUNY
Killian Clarke, Georgetown University
Rima Majed, American University of Beirut
Atef Said, University of Illinois at Chicago
Jamie Allinson, University of Edinburgh
Ahmed Abozaid, University of Cambridge

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

II-03: Middle Eastern Literary Studies Journals: A Conversation with Editors

Organized by **Rebecca Johnson**, Northwestern University

Chair: **Rebecca Johnson**, Northwestern University
Nasrin Rahimieh, UC Irvine
Muhsin J. Al-Musawi, Columbia University
Anna Ziajka Stanton, Pennsylvania State University
C. Ceyhun Arslan, Koc University
Michael Allan, University of Oregon
Bilal Orfali, American University of Beirut

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

II-04: Palestine Studies at a Crossroads: Producing Knowledge Amid Genocide, Scholasticide, and Censorship

Organized under the auspices of the Institute for Palestine Studies

Chair/Discussant: **Sherene Seikaly**, UC Santa Barbara
Jehad Abusalim, New York University
Maria Houry, Institute for Palestine Studies
Nadim Bawalsa, Institute for Palestine Studies
Diana Hamideh, Institute for Palestine Studies



ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

II-05: Society, Culture, and Science in Early Ottoman Syria

Organized by **Charles L. Wilkins**, Wake Forest University

Chair/Discussant: **James Grehan**, Portland State University

Charles L. Wilkins, Wake Forest University *The Intellectual Horizons of the Aleppan Notable Mustafa Tahazade (d. 1680)*

Malissa Taylor, University of Massachusetts Amherst *The Science of Farming and its Social Implications in Early Modern Damascus*

Helen Pfeifer, University of Cambridge *A Multispecies History of Masculinity in Ottoman Syria*

Tarek Abou Hussein, American University of Beirut *The Nuances of Accommodationist Policy and Integration in Early Ottoman Syria – The Case of the Derviş Paşa Madrasa*

David Meza, UC Riverside *Corsairs, Clergy, and the Courts of the Ottoman Empire: Imperial Oversight of the Monastery of St. Simon in 18th-Century Antioch*

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

II-06: Dealing with Delinquency: Sex, Addiction, and Disorder in the Late Ottoman and Post-Ottoman Mediterranean

Organized by **Daniel-Joseph MacArthur-Seal**, Scuola Normale Superiore

Daniel-Joseph MacArthur-Seal *“Pleasure-Giving Poisons”: Defining Opium Addiction and its Treatment from the Ottoman Empire to the Turkish Republic*

Kutluğhan Soyubol, Bogazici University *Republican Constellations: Psychiatry, Gender, and Statehood in Turkey, 1923-1950*

Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University *From Habitual Drinker to Alcoholic: Shifting Perceptions of Drinking Behavior in the Late Ottoman Empire*

Marisa Natale, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Parental Governance and Constructions of Juvenile Delinquency in Mandate Palestine*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

II-07: Ideology in Ansar Allah (Houthi) Yemen: Between Aspiration and Possibilities of Implementation

Sponsored by the American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)

Organized by **Marieke Brandt**, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Chair: **Charles Schmitz**, Towson University

Marieke Brandt, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Ansar Allah in Yemen: An Ideological Project in the Making
Maysaa Shujaa Addin, Sanaa Center for Strategic Studies
Alam Al Huda in Ansar Allah's Ideology

Charles Schmitz, Towson University *Houthi Visions for the Yemeni State*

Yasmeen Al-Eryani, Tampere University *Contradictions in Houthi Ideology and Practice Toward Women: Repression, Exploitation, and Impunity*

Alexander Weissenburger, Austrian Fund for the Documentation of Religiously Motivated Political Extremism *Al-Īmān Yamān wa-l-Ḥikma Yamāniyya: The Houthi movement's attempts to formulate an Islam-based Yemeni patriotism*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

II-08: New Directions in MENA Security Studies

Organized by **Matt Buehler**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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

Matt Buehler, University of Tennessee, Knoxville *The Lost Colony? American Power in Morocco*

Sean Yom, Temple University *Deconstructing Small State Security in the Middle East*

Waleed Hazbun, University of Alabama *The Many Faces of Security: Critical Security Studies in the Middle East*

Marwa Daoudy, Georgetown University *Climate Security is Climate Justice: Critical Security Perspectives from the Arab World*



MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

II-09: Archives of the Ephemeral

Organized by **Timur Hammond**, Syracuse University

Chair/Discussant: **Nilay Özok-Gündoğan**, Florida State University

Timur Hammond, Syracuse University *Plant Fragments of 20th Century Istanbul: A Possible History of Ephemeral Species*

Anoush Tamar Suni, UCLA *Enigmatic Maps: Deciphering Violent Traces in Van*

Berin Golonu, University at Buffalo *Horticultural Expertise, and Shifting Notions of the Local in Late Ottoman Istanbul*

Ugur Z. Peçe, Lehigh University *Can We Hear History? An Auditory Approach to Ottoman Social History*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

II-10: Intimacies Visible and Invisible: Muslim-Jewish Friendships Across the Modern Mediterranean

Organized by **Julia Phillips Cohen**, Vanderbilt University and **Mostafa Hussein**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Chair: **Mostafa Hussein**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Mostafa Hussein, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Bound by Pages: A Tale of Jewish-Muslim Friendship*

Sami Everett, University of Cambridge *Suspicious Friendship: The 'Last Rabbi of the Quartiers Nords' and the Local Algerian Imam*

Julia Phillips Cohen, Vanderbilt University *Inferred Intimacies: Locating Cross-Confessional Friendships in Modern Diasporic Contexts*

Sonja Mejcher-Atassi, American University of Beirut *Ahmad Samih al-Khalidi and Judah Leon Magnes: Education, Collegiality, and Friendship across religious lines in British Mandate Palestine*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

II-11: Education and Pedagogy

Chair: **Mohssen Esseesy**, George Washington University
Farida Makar, University of Oxford *Progressive Aesthetics: A Close Up on Progressive Pedagogues' Interiors in Early 20th Century*

Levon Ghanimian, Claremont Graduate University *Constructing a Non-Western Settler-Colonial Identity: A Synthesis of the Literature on History and Social Studies Curriculum in the Republic of Turkey*

Erin Kelleher, University of Texas at Austin *What Would Khayr Ad-Dīn Pasha Do? Ottoman Oriented Tunisian Responses to French Colonial Education*

Yasser Sultan, Georgetown University *From Pharaohs to Presidents: Egypt's Military and the Politics of History*

Camron M. Amin, University of Michigan, Dearborn *The University of Michigan and The Middle East: Towards a Comprehensive History*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

II-12: Borderlands and Belonging: Conflict and Mobility in the Modern Middle East

Chair: **Ahmad Nazir Atassi**, Louisiana Tech University
Carl Shook, University of Chicago *The Past, Present, and Future of Syria's Contingent Borders*

Marlaina Yost, Yale University *Security by Construction: The Ahmed Hamdi Tunnel and Post-Naksa Subterranean Infrastructure*

Robyn Morse, University of Virginia *Mobile Bahrainis: Claiming Subjecthood and Overlapping Jurisdictions in Late Ottoman Basra*

Hacı Ömer Akyıldız, University of Connecticut and **Metin M. Cosgel**, University of Connecticut *Beyond Birthplace: Geographic Mobility during Ottoman Modernization*
Ilkay Yilmaz, Freie Universität Berlin *Borderland Governance and Violence: Security, Colonialism, and Reform in the Ottoman East (1895–1899)*



MEETING ROOM 8(Meeting Level)

II-13: Ethnic and Religious Minorities: Space, Memory, and Politics

Chair: **Ian M. Hartshorn**, University of Nevada, Reno
Ali Baroutian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Hojjatiya: From an Anti-Baha'i Association to an Anti-Religious Reform Movement

Marc Marin Webb, University of Pennsylvania
The Yezidi Archive Project: Preserving Cultural Memory in Post-Genocide Iraq

Fidahussain Yamani, Aljamea tus Saifiyah
Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah as an Architectural Codex: Inscription, Narrative, and Identity in Dawoodi Bohra Space

Rachel M. Scott, Virginia Tech
The Eliahu Hanavi Synagogue in Alexandria—The Political Uses of Religious Heritage in Egypt

David Villeneuve, Université Laval
A Demographic and Spatial Analysis of Christian Settlement in Duhok, Iraqi Kurdistan

REDBUD (Second Level)

II-14: US Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East and Central Asia

Chair: **Tyler Parker**, Mercer University
Jeremy Pressman, University of Connecticut
Influencing Congressional Views on the Middle East: A Study of Two Former Members of the US House

Fawad Poya, University of Pittsburgh
Legal Implications of the Doha Agreement: Prospects Under a Second Trump Presidency

Tyler Parker, Mercer University
Explaining the United Arab Emirates' Strategic Autonomy from the US

Habib Battah, St. Lawrence University
Diplomatic Moves on Beirut: Transnational Power and Cultural Production in Contemporary Lebanon

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

II-15: Mad Sultans, Imams, Pilgrims, Entertainers, and Brokers: Biographical Literature

Chair: **Rao Mohsin Ali Noor**, Johns Hopkins University
Hale Yilmaz, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Sevda: Biography of a Panayır Worker

Evan Siegel, Borough of Manhattan Community College,
 CUNY
Ayatollah Montazeri's Conflicted Life of Struggle
Muhammet Topal, University of Arizona
Speaking Truth to Power: Mehmed Murad Bey's Individuation and Political Socialization in the Formation of the Late Ottoman Public Intellectual

Omer Topal, Princeton University
A Broker Between Istanbul and Najd: The Extraordinary Life of Rushayd al-Layla

Mehmet Durmaz, Harvard University
The Mad Sultans: Political Culture and Early Modern State Formation in the Ottoman Empire

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

II-16: Cemeteries Past and Present

Chair: **Sylvia W. Onder**, Georgetown University
Kim Shively, Kutztown University
Making a New Homeland: Death, Cemeteries, and the Gülen Movement in the U.S.

Remziye Secen, Social Sciences University of Ankara
Cholera Epidemic in Istanbul During the Crimean War and the Role of British Military Cemeteries in International Relations

Jessie Stoolman, UCLA
"Mia'rat bila amwaat"/ "Cemeteries without Dead Bodies": The Fate of Jewish Cemeteries in Morocco

Muna Guvenc, Brandeis University and **Gunes Murat Tezcur**, Arizona State University
The Politics of Visual Grief: The Yezidi Genocide Memorial



ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)



SPECIAL SESSION

III-01: Social Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa: Guidelines for the Conduct of Responsible, Ethical and Constructive Social Inquiry

Animated by the conviction that research is a collective enterprise, and drawing on the findings of the “REMENA Project” (<https://remena.sipa.columbia.edu/>), this panel will present guidelines for the promotion of research that not only produces fruitful contributions to the social sciences and humanities but reflects ethical practices, particularly in research in communities under duress. These guidelines include recommendations tailored to funders; research oversight authorities; university leaders; development, human rights and policy practitioners; publishers and journal editors; senior researchers; departmental advisors; and early career scholars.

Organized by **Lisa Anderson**, Columbia University

Chair/Discussant: **Lisa Anderson**, Columbia University

Seteney Shami, Arab Council for the Social Sciences

Sarah Parkinson, Johns Hopkins University

Ellen Lust, University of Gothenburg

Hisham Aidi, Columbia University

REDBUD (Second Level)

WORKSHOP

III-02: Publishing in a MESA Journal

Coordinated by MESA’s Publications Committee

Learn from the editors of MESA journals *IJMES* and *ROMES* about these publications, the publishing process, and what makes for a successful submission.

Chair: **Jessica Winegar**, Northwestern University

Lara Deeb, IJMES Editor, Scripps College

Heather Ferguson, IJMES Editor, Claremont-McKenna

Hoda Joseph, RoMES Editor, Denison University

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

III-03: Contending with “Hope” and “Anti-Hope” in Ethnographies of Iranian Society, Law, and Diaspora

Organized by **Maral Sahebame**, Princeton University and **Negar S. Razavi**, Princeton University

Chairs: **Maral Sahebame**, Princeton University and **Negar S. Razavi**, Princeton University

Maral Sahebame, Princeton University

Manata Hashemi, University of Oklahoma

Hosna Sheikholeslami, UC Irvine

Nazanin Shahrokni, Simon Fraser University

Arzoo Osanloo, Princeton University

Negar S. Razavi, Princeton University

Marzieh Tofighi Darian, Princeton University



MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**III-04: Navigating Fieldwork and Research in Turkey: Challenges, Adaptations, and Insights**Organized by **Mehmet Eroglu**, Michigan State University

Chair: **Mehmet Eroglu**, Michigan State University
Mehmet Eroglu, Michigan State University
Timur Hammond, Syracuse University
Gizem Zencirci, Providence College
Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Ayla Deniz, Ankara University
Hale Yilmaz, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Ella Fratantuono, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**III-05: Palestinian Young People and Research Methodologies**

Sponsored by the Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS) and the Palestinian American Research Center (PARC)

Organized by **Heidi Morrison**, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse

Chair: **Heidi Morrison**, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse
Heidi Morrison, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse
Janette Habashi, University of Oklahoma
Fida Adely, Georgetown University
Amahl Bishara, Tufts University
Catherine Pitcher, Harvard University
Cindy Sousa, University of Washington, Tacoma

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

ROUNDTABLE**III-06: Carceralocracy and Practices of Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa**Organized by **Mark LeVine**, UC Irvine

Chair/Discussant: **Mark LeVine**, UC Irvine
Mark LeVine, UC Irvine
Lucia Sorbera, University of Sydney
Sherine Elbanhawey, McGill University
Mina Ibrahim, University of Marburg / Shubra's Archive/
 MENA Prison Forum
Shai Gortler, UC Santa Cruz
Paul Amar, UC Santa Barbara
Robin Jones, UC Santa Cruz
Maria Frederika Malmström, University of Gothenburg

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

III-07: Mobilities and Territorialities in the 19th Century: The Jazira as a Case StudyOrganized by **Matthieu Rey**, National Center for Scientific Research

Chair: **Nora Barakat**, Stanford University
Matthieu Rey, National Center for Scientific Research
Border, Borderland or Shoreline? Al-Jazera communities around the Euphrates River at the turn of the 18th century
Safiah Al-Salameen, University of Jordan
Mobility, Power, and Imperial Strategy: The Kurdish Millî Tribe and the Hamîdiye Light Cavalry in the Late Ottoman Empire
Seda Altug, Koc University
Remaking of a Kurdish-Syriac Enclave in Jazira in the Late 19th Century

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

III-08: The Structural Limits of Reforms in MoroccoOrganized by **Driss Maghraoui**, Al Akhawayn University

Chairs: **Driss Maghraoui**, Al Akhawayn University
 and **Asma Abbas**, Bard College at Simon's Rock and Al Akhawayn University
 Discussant: **Azzedine Layachi**, St. John's University



Driss Maghraoui, Al Akhawayn University
The Structural Challenges of Decentralization in Morocco
Saloua Zerhouni, Mohammed V University in Rabat
Navigating Corporate Responsibility: Analyzing Human Rights Practices in Morocco's Economic Landscape
Ian Wallace, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The Case of Social Protection Reform in Morocco: Governance, Informality, and International Organizations
Farid Boussaid, University of Amsterdam
The International Context of the Limits of Economic Development in Morocco

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

III-09: Ottoman Borderlands: Critical Perspectives on Historiography and Empire

Organized by **Fariba Zarinebaf**, UC Riverside

Chair: **Ali Gheissari**, University of San Diego
 Discussant: **Ariel Salzmann**, Queen's University
Christine Isom-Verhaaren, Brigham Young University
The Aegean Sea as a Maritime Borderland in the 15th and 16th centuries
Fariba Zarinebaf, UC Riverside
Ottoman Statesmen and Historians on War and Peace with Iran in the 16th century
Sabri Ates, Southern Methodist University
1639 Qasr-i Shirin/Zohab Treaty: A Reassessment
Linda T. Darling, University of Arizona
Empire and Finance at the Margins: Syria in the Ottoman Fiscal System

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

III-10: Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies I: Crafting Virtual Worlds Brick by Brick

Coordinated by MESA's Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Organized by **Ali Asgar Alibhai**, The University of Texas at Dallas

Chair: **Ali Asgar Alibhai**, The University of Texas at Dallas
Tyler Kynn, Central Connecticut State University
A Digital Ottoman Empire: Developing Educational Games on the Early Modern Ottoman World
Dallin Evans, Rice University
Digital Animations at the MFAH Islamic Galleries, Potentials Now and Next

Isabella Inskip, University of Edinburgh
Global Learning: The Pedagogical Benefits of Studying History for the Development of a Video Game
Bihter Esener, Northwestern University
Classroom in the Ludic Age: Teaching Islamic Art with Video Games
Anna Shovlin, The University of Texas at Dallas
The 3D Reconstruction of the Great Lantern of al-Mu'izz: Integrating Video Game Production Techniques in Art Historical Research and Pedagogy

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

III-11: Multimediated Politics

Chair: **Hasan Bulent Kahraman**, Isik University
Hafsa Maqsood, University of Calgary
Theorizing Counter-Orientalism in Relation to Palestine: Beyond Academic Essentialism and the Subjugated Oriental
Frank Peter, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Digital Islam in France: A Case Study of Debates about Islamic Finance, Riba and Homeownership on YouTube
Omar Alsayyed, New York University
Political Fantasies of Sovereignty

DUMBARTON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

III-12: Religion in Zionist and Palestinian Politics

Organized by **Tamir Sorek**, Pennsylvania State University

Chair: **Tamir Sorek**, Pennsylvania State University
Tamir Sorek, Pennsylvania State University
"Death to the Arabs" - The Emergence of a Genocidal Discourse in Israel
Malakeh Abdellatif, The Pennsylvania State University
Religious Zionist Settlement in Jerusalem: EL'AD as a study case
Dag Tuastad, University of Oslo
Patriarchy and Social Religiosity in Gaza Under Hamas
Awad Halabi, Wright State University
The Religiosity of Shaykh Abd al-Qadir al-Muzaffar: From Ottoman, to Arab, to Palestinian activist, 1916-1923



RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

III-13: Social Movements and the State

Chair: **Hashem Alrefai**, University of Pittsburgh
Alyssa Miller, German Institute of Global and Area Studies *Stupid Death and Familial Catastrophe After the Islamic State*

Sara Ababneh, The University of Sheffield *Lessons in Transformative Politics (beyond the Identity Paradigm) from Jordan's Popular Movement*

Shamiran Mako, Boston University *Colonial Statebuilding, Exclusion and Ethnic State Capture in Iraq: a Historical Institutional Explanation*

Shifaa Alsairafi, Georgetown University *Small but Potent, the 1965 Intifada in Bahrain and its Place in the Wider Arab World*

James Worrall, University of Leeds *Defensive Binding? Mapping the Dynamics of Gulf States Normalisation with Iran*

Mohammed Othman, Freie Universität Berlin *Rural Hegemony in Urban Space: Reversing Iraqi Nation-Building and Social Production in Post-Baathist Kurdistan*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

III-14: COVID, Crises, and the Losses to Women's Work in the SWANA Region

Organized by **Nisreen Salti**, American University of Beirut

Chair: **Rosie Bsheer**, Harvard University
Nisreen Salti, American University of Beirut *Where have all the Mothers Gone? COVID and Mothers Leaving the Labor Force in Egypt*

Ali Abboud, American University of Beirut *Predictors of Labor Force Attrition in Lebanon During Multifaceted Crises: The Role of Chronic Diseases*

Sasha Fahme, American University of Beirut *Facilitators and Barriers to Women's Labor Market Retention, Re-entry, and their Health Consequences: Qualitative Evidence from Lebanon*

Ghada Saad, American University of Beirut *Gender Gaps in Employment Attrition and Resulting Food Insecurity During COVID in Lebanon*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

III-15: The Political Economy of Islamic Taxation: Understanding Medieval States from the Abbasids to the Ghurids and Mamluks

Organized by **Lorenzo Bondioli**, Harvard University

Chair: **Lorenzo Bondioli**, Harvard University
Marie Legendre, University of Edinburgh *The Struggle for Abbasid Taxation*

Lorenzo Bondioli, Harvard University *Turning Nature and Labor into Money: The Fatimid State and the Medieval Islamic Commercial Revolution*

Arezou Azad, Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales *The Warehouse of Bamiyan: Tax Collection and Peasant Resistance in Medieval Khurasan*
Yossef Rapoport, Queen Mary, University of London *Harvesting the Olive trees of Beitunia: Collective taxation and Arab Clans in fourteenth-century Palestine*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

III-16: Outsiders and Intermediaries in Ottoman Tunis and the Sicilian Channel

Organized by **Nat Cutter**, The University of Melbourne

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

Nat Cutter, The University of Melbourne *Foreign Trade and Economic Power in Ottoman Tunis: The 'Intricate and Uncertain Business' of James Chetwood, 1693-99*

Catey Boyle, Middlebury College *"Dressed as a Christian:" Tabarqin from Marginality toward Belonging in Ottoman Tunis and the Archipelagic Mediterranean, 1736-1803*

Brent Rosenstein, Independent Scholar *"Nothing Feels Less Like Barbary": French Perceptions of Eighteenth-Century Tunis*

John Curry, University of Nevada, Las Vegas *Overlooked Contexts: How Shifting Mediterranean Relationships Contributed to the Muradid Wars of Succession*



MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

III-17: Painting, Performance, and Photography: Transformations in Late-Qajar Iran

Organized by **Hamed Yousefi**, Northwestern University

Chair: **Hamed Yousefi**, Northwestern University

Discussant: **Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi**, University of Toronto

Hamed Yousefi, Northwestern University *Reinventing Islamic Art for the Constitutional Subject*

Leila Pourtavaf, York University *Taking the Stage: Performing Modernity in Nasser al-Din Shah's Harem*

Shabnam Golkhandan, University of Toronto *The Mirror(ed) Image--On Local Techniques of Mass Production of Works on Paper*

Maryam Heydarkhani, University of Calgary *Harmonizing Tradition and Innovation: The Architectural Evolution of Mosque-Madrasas in the Qajar Period*

Chaeri Lee, Indiana University Bloomington *Artistic Experimentation and Literary Tradition in Nineteenth-Century Persian Lacquer Painting*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

III-18: Governance in the Arabian Gulf: Beyond the Rentier State

Organized by **Luai Allarakia**, University of Richmond

Chair: **Nermin Allam**, Rutgers University

Luai Allarakia, University of Richmond *Understanding the Saudi Shura Council: Standing Committees as Proxies*

Mohammad Alyousef, University of Virginia *Do Autocratic Legislatures Matter? The limits of Policy Making and Accountability in Autocratic Legislatures*

Sultan Alamer, Harvard University *The Impact of Digital Technologies on State Capacity in Rentier States*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

III-19: Faith and Flux: Sectarianism and Religious Revival

Chair: **Joseph Kotinsky**, Saint Edward's University

Mohammad Magout, Freie Universität Berlin *Religious Otherization in the Ottoman-Syrian Press: Representations of Heterodoxy and Rurality*

Ali Karimi, University of Calgary *A Collective Death Warrant: The Afghan State's Proclamation on the Anathematization of the Hazaras (1892)*

Samuel Scurry, University of Mississippi *Al-Hadiyya al-Sunniyya (The Sunni Gift): A Najdi Defense of Moderate Wahhabism*

Omar Kamal, University of Chicago *A Channel for Interfaith Concord and Negotiation: Nahda Ecumenism and Disputation through the Dreyfus Affair*

Avner Wishnitzer, Tel Aviv University *Sunnitizing Imagination in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Empire*

Arzu Eylul Yalcinkaya, Uskudar University *Sufi as Officials in the Bureaucratic Era: Agency and Adaptation in Late Ottoman Governance*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

III-20: Language Teaching and Learning and Use of Technology in the Classroom

Chair: **Mona K. Hassan**, American University in Cairo

Neda Sahranavard, UC Irvine *Integrating AI-Generated Materials for Culturally Inclusive Language Learning: A Case Study in a Persian Classroom*

Azza Hassanien, American University in Cairo *Enhancing AFL Learner Comprehension: Rethinking Arabic Verb Forms and Tenses*

Maryah Converse, University of Arizona *Leveraging Research on Arabic First Language Acquisition in the Second Language Arabic Classroom*

Mona K. Hassan, American University in Cairo *The Art of Expression: Enhancing Students' Public Speaking Skills in Arabic as a Foreign Language (AFL) Classroom*

Hicham Assaoui, Virginia Military Institute *Understanding Arabic Relatives: Structural and Linear Constraints*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

III-21: Rethinking Land, Money, the Company and Property

Organized by **Rana Baker**, King's College London

Chair: **Rana Baker**, King's College

Rana Baker, King's College *Toward an Agrarian Theory of Money: Money, Markets and Commodities in Egypt*

Kristen Alff, North Carolina State University *The Genealogy of the Company in the Middle East*

Aaron G. Jakes, University of Chicago *The Suez Canal, Corvée Labor, and the Normative Constitution of Property*



Nada Moumtaz, University of Toronto *Contemporary Waqf and the Ownership Model of Property: A View from Beirut*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

III-22: Imperial Intersections: Geopolitics, Faith, and the Arts

Chair: **Zaina Khalil**, Georgetown University
Q-mars Haeri, Princeton University *Where Geopolitics and a Theatre District Meet: The U.S. Cultural Presence in Iran and the Transformation of Lalehzar Street*
Elizabeth Rauh, American University in Cairo *A View of Islam: Artistic Heritage Revival and Popular Resistance in 1950s Iran*
Mehrnoosh Alborzi, Concordia University *From Architectural Historian to Architect of a Coup: Donald Wilber and Extractive Humanities*
Zaina Khalil, Georgetown University *Wallace Stegner's Arabian Frontier: How Narratives Shape American Hegemony*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

III-23: Digital Media: Security, Privacy, Access, and Dysfunction

Chair: **Maha Houssami**, Duke University
Chafic Najem, Northwestern University in Qatar *Arab Prisons as Media Laboratories: Tracing Illicit Communication Practices in the Arab World*
Ziya Kaya, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley *Agro-Securityscapes: Pest Invasion, Digitalization, and Securitization in Agriculture in Turkey*
Yassine Akhiate, Brahim Akhiate Foundation for Cultural Diversity *The Marrakech Earthquake of 2023: How AI Highlights Cultural and Communication Dysfunction in the Media*
Abdullah Omran, Indiana University Bloomington *Private Lives in Digital Display: Content Creators, Muftis, and Audiences on the Boundaries of Public and Private*
Joe F. Khalil, Northwestern University in Qatar *Reimagining Arab Audiences: Colonial Legacies, Market Forces, and Digital Transformations*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

III-24: Madhabs, Civil Law, Constitutions, and Law Enforcement Between State and Religious Authority

Chair: **Khalil Masmoudi**, University of Delaware
Kamran S. Aghaie, University of Texas at Austin *Creating the Modern Iranian Policeman, 1911-1935*
Relli Shechter, Ben Gurion University of the Negev *Engineering Progress: Social Rights and State Authority in the 1964 Interim Constitutions of Egypt, Iraq, and Syria*
Samir Saad, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law *Escaping the Long Shadow of Nasserism: The Politics of Enacting a Jordanian Civil Code, 1953-1976*
Ibrahim Gemeah, Duke University *Institutionalizing Shari'a: Islam and the Making of Nasser's Egypt*
Yoshiaki Tokunaga, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science/ Nihon University *Election Fraud in the "Free Elections": 6th National Assembly Election in Qom, Iran (1926)*
Mohamud Awil Mohamed, University of Pennsylvania *Reframing the Master Work: The Enduring Legacy of Minhāj al-Ṭālibīn in the Somali Peninsula*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

III-25: Spatial Analysis of Modern Iraqi History

Organized by **Alissa Walter**, Seattle Pacific University

Chair/Discussant: **Arbella Bet-Shlimon**, University of Washington, Seattle
Bret Windhauser, Graduate Center, CUNY *Racialized Necrogeographies: British Indian Army Dead in Iraq, 1914-1924*
Megan Ekstrom, The University of Texas at Austin *Urban Pastures: A Sociohistorical Analysis of Water Buffalo Domestication in Mid-Twentieth-Century Baghdad*
Gabriel Young, Brown University *Labor Struggles as Urban Processes: The 1953 Basra General Strike*
Alissa Walter, Seattle Pacific University *Infrastructure, Local Governance, and the Politics of Memory in Baghdad Neighborhoods*



MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

III-27: The Politics of Social and Economic Development

Chair: **Val Moghadam**, Northeastern University

Soodeh Mansouri, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Gender Development in Post-Revolutionary Iran: A Comparative Analysis of Reformist and Conservative Development Plans*

Hadi Kahalzadeh, The Crown Center for Middle East Studies *Ungovernability and Iranian Pension Funds Crisis*

Gail Buttorff, University of Houston *Gendering the Evolving Social Contract in the GCC*

Faruk Yalvac, Atılım University *Uneven and Combined Development in the MENA Region: The International, State, and Class*

Bitá Mousavi, New York University *Iran's Living Pyramid: The Dez Dam Project and the Promise of Development*

Dorian Bon, Princeton University *Arab Decision-Making during the Oil Embargo of 1973-74: Returning to the Historical Record*

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REDBUD (Second Level)
WORKSHOP (CLOSED)

IV-01: Publishing Workshop for Precarious Scholars

Precarity plays a particular role in the lives of emerging scholars in the field of Middle Eastern studies. Like graduate student workers, adjunct professors, and pre-tenure faculty throughout the profession, they are forced to reckon with a job market that has all but dried up. But in addition, they inhabit a field which is under political attack from all directions. While attacks on Middle Eastern studies scholars have been ongoing for decades, the right-wing targeting of higher education, coupled with attacks on scholars working in defense of academic freedom and in opposition to the ongoing Israeli genocide in Gaza, have made even the most ostensibly “secure” scholars in the field feel a sense of their precarity. What, then, of those emerging scholars without any institutional privilege? This is a question that the Middle East Studies Association Board of Directors has decided to take up in this workshop for participants who inhabit precarious positions (as graduate student workers, adjunct instructors, pre-tenure faculty, and independent scholars) in the field. Hands-on discussions and workshops will focus on preparing work for publication, approaching journals and scholarly publishers, and academic freedom in the classroom.

Coordinated by MESA’s Committee on Precarity and Adjunctification

Chair: **Anthony Alessandrini**, Kingsborough Community College, CUNY
Sherene Seikaly, University of California, Santa Barbara
Max Weiss, Princeton University
Kate Wahl, Stanford University Press

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)
ROUNDTABLE

IV-02: Not Just Fun and Games: Negotiating Power through Popular Culture in Egypt, past to present

Organized by **Dina El-Baradie**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Elliott Colla**, Georgetown University
Dina El-Baradie, Georgetown University
Aida Bardissi, New York University
Adel Iskandar, Simon Fraser University
Andrew Simon, Dartmouth College
Nicholas Mangialardi, Library of Congress
Carmen M.K. Gitre, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)
ROUNDTABLE

IV-03: Reconfiguration, Realignment, and Resilience in the Contemporary Maghreb: Navigating Internal and External Change

Organized by **William Lawrence**, National Council on US-Arab Relations

Chair/Discussant: **Yahia Zoubir**, Middle East Council on Global Affairs
Jacob Mundy, Colgate University
Robert P. Parks, Center for Maghrib Studies in Algeria (CEMA)
Mary Fitzgerald, Middle East Institute
Azzedine Layachi, St. John’s University
William Lawrence, National Council on US-Arab Relations
Maro Youssef, George Washington University



MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IV-04: Ethical Research and Emic Investment: Reinvigorating Marginal Fields

Sponsored by the Assyrian Studies Association (ASA)

Organized by **Sargon Donabed**, Roger Williams University

Chair/Discussant: **Sargon Donabed**, Roger Williams University

Sargon Donabed, Roger Williams University

Andreas Onver Cetrez, Uppsala University

Kelly Hannavi, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Arbella Issa, San Francisco State University

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IV-05: Countering “Day After” Narratives: Advancing Palestinian Rights in the Shadow of Israel’s War in Gaza and Proposed Annexation of the West Bank

Organized by **Nur Arafah**, Carnegie Middle East Center

Chair: **Nur Arafah**, Carnegie Middle East Center

Discussant: **Leila Farsakh**, University of Massachusetts Boston

Mimi Kirk, Georgetown University

Nur Arafah, Carnegie Middle East Center

Leila Farsakh, University of Massachusetts Boston

DUMBARTON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

IV-06: Islamist Movements in SWANA

Chair: **Valerie J. Hoffman**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Vish Sakthivel, College of Charleston *The “Hizb-Haraka Dilemma” in Algeria’s Movement for a Society of Peace: Islamist Meaning and Identity in an Era of Political Apathy*

Sami Emile Baroudi, Lebanese American University *Islam as a Religion of Empowerment: The Centrality of Power in the Discourses of Contemporary Sunni Islamists*

Muhammet Akkus, Binghamton University, SUNY *Islamic Movement Affiliation and Political Regime Preferences: Evidence from Turkey*

Courtney Freer, Emory University *Islamists in Gulf Legislatures: The Death of Ideology?*

Glenn E. Robinson, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey *Hamas in Gaza: From Social Movement to Movement of Rage?*

ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)

IV-07: Conflict, Terror, Empire: International Law in the Middle East

Organized by **Aslı Bâli**, Yale Law School

Chair: **Aslı Bâli**, Yale Law School

Aslı Bâli, Yale Law School *Incomplete Decolonization and Palestine at the UN*

Darryl Li, University of Chicago *The Difference Imperialism Makes: A Relational Approach to Legal Regimes of Settler Solidarity*

Noura Erakat, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *We Charge Nakba: The Limits and Potential of Law to Prevent and Punish Genocide*

Maya Mikdashi, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *What Does International Law Do? Thinking with Lebanon*

Maryam Jamshidi, University of Colorado, Boulder *TERROR-izing the University*

Ghuna Bdiwi, University of Ottawa *Reinvigorating the Preventive Resolve of the UN Convention Against Torture*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

IV-08: Syria After the Revolution: Democratized Discourses and Uncertain Futures

Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association (SSA)

Organized by **Joshua Donovan**, Boston College

Chair:

Joshua Donovan, Boston College *Beyond Minorities and Majorities: Historical Memory and Christian Discourses in Post-Revolution Syria*

Linda Istanbuli, Pennsylvania State University *Resurrecting the Umayyads: Reclaiming Identity and Reimagining National Discourse in Post-Revolution Syria*



Luay Ahmad, Beijing Jiaotong University *Who Owns Syria's Authenticity? The Struggle to Define a Nation*
Basileus Zeno, Trent University *Rhetoric of Unity and Inclusion: Analyzing Media Narratives and Challenges to Inclusive Political Processes in Syria*

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

IV-09: Perspectives on Slavery in the Medieval Middle East

Organized by **Matthew S. Gordon**, Miami University

Chair: **Matthew S. Gordon**, Miami University
Matthew S. Gordon, Miami University *The Ṭulūnid Household and its Unfree Members*
Craig Perry, Emory University *Modern Memory and the Violence of Medieval Slavery: a View from Nubia*
Kristina Richardson, University of Virginia *Identifying the Medieval Swahili Slaving Port Town of Qanbalū*
Lamia Balafrej, UCLA *On Jawārī's Mediation: Enslavement, Gender, and the Image in Medieval Islam*

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

IV-10: From Biopolitics to Necropolitics: Living and Dying

Chair: **Maya Aghasi**, American University of Sharjah
Yasmine Ansari, University of Wisconsin-Madison *Reproductive Governance in Post-Revolutionary Iran*
Orçun Can Okan, University of Oxford *Recasting Resources of Remedy: The Role of Nationality in the Reconstruction of the Medical Profession in post-Ottoman Turkey and the Mashreq (1908-1928)*
Bushra Demirkol, University of Washington, Seattle *Death, Mercy, and Creativity: Male Narratives and Women's Abortion Practices in the Late Ottoman Empire*
Layth Malhis, Georgetown University *Dehealthification in Gaza: The Israeli State's Colonial Strategy of Health Destruction*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

IV-11: Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies II: Constructing the Medieval Mediterranean in the Age of the Great Caliphs

Sponsored by the Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Organized by **Sarah Slingluff**, University of Edinburgh

Chair: **Michael Ernst**, Temple University
Sarah Slingluff, University of Edinburgh *The Córdoba Journey: An Adventure in History and Play in Digital Humanities*
Stephennie Mulder, The University of Texas at Austin *The White Banner: Critical Heritage, Digital Gaming, and Islamic Archaeology*
Fernando Casamayor Molina, Harvard University *New Approaches to Early Islamic Residences: Dwellings and Palaces of Samarra*
Huzefa Jawadwala, Aljamea tus Saifiyah and **Hussein Taher Hajee**, Aljamea tus Saifiyah *The Portal of Opulence and Tradition: Reimagining Bāb al-Dhahab (The Golden Gate) of the Great Fatimid Eastern Palace at Cairo.*
Cristina Aldrich, New York University *Digitizing al-Andalus: 3D Technologies in the Study of Madinat al-Zahra's Artistic Legacy*
Ali Asgar Alibhai, The University of Texas at Dallas and **Seher Karakas**, University of Texas at Dallas *The Muqaddimah: Exploring the Great Mosque of Kairouan – A Digital Pedagogical Tool for Islamic Art and Architecture*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

IV-12: The Micro-Dynamics of Legislative Politics in the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Kevin Koehler**, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

Chair/Discussant: **Sebnem Gumuscu**, Middlebury College
Discussant: **Théo Blanc**, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies
Kevin Koehler, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies *Signaling Loyalty: Elite Support for Incumbent Takeover in Turkey*
Julius Strunk, Scuola Normale Superiore *The Better You Are, the Higher You Climb? Analysing the link between parliamentary performance and career trajectories of elites in authoritarian states.*



Camille Abescat, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies
Including or Excluding the Old Regime Elite in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia: Evolution of a Cleavage Inside the Assembly of People's Representatives (2011–2021)

Lorenzo Fruganti, Scuola Normale Superiore *Debating Terror, Securing Power: Elite Struggle Behind Tunisia's 2015 Law*

Ameni Mehrez, William and Mary *Democratic Backsliding and Party System Institutionalization in Tunisia*

Déborah Perez, University Mohammed VI Polytechnic
Ruling But Not Governing? Ennahdha's Decade in the Tunisian Parliament (2011–2021)

FOUNDARY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

IV-13: Illicit Circuits: Smuggling, Contraband, and Underground Economies

Chair: **Anil Askin**, UCLA

Bedros Torosian, UC Davis *"Not All Smugglers are the Same: Some are Righteous and Some are Crooked:" Patriotism, Race, and the Syrian Smuggling Industry in Transit (1900–1914)*

Christopher Cooper-Davies, University of Oxford *From Scoundrels to Nationalists: Gang-Violence or Revolution in Jabal `Amil and Iraq, 1918–1920*

Toygun Altıntaş, Freie Universität Berlin *The Black Market and the State: Contraband Tobacco and Smuggling in the Late Ottoman Empire*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

IV-14: Queer and Feminist Solidarity in Literature, Knowledge Production, and Translation

Organized by **Salma Shaaban**, McGill University

Salma Shaaban, McGill University *Women's 'Āmmiyya Poetry: Feminist Solidarity in Vernacular Language and Translation*

Sherine Elbanhawy, McGill University *Diaspora, Feminism, and Resistance: The Role of Arab-Canadian Feminist Anthologies in Challenging Multicultural Narratives*

Heather Porter Abu Deiab, McGill University *Literary Inversions, Anti-Muslim Racism, and Feminist Foundations of Muslim Futurism*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

IV-15: New Approaches to Arab Asian Solidarity

Organized by **Peiyu Yang**, George Mason University

Chair/Discussant: **Michael Hill**, College of William and Mary

Peiyu Yang, George Mason University *Competing Solidarities: Ghassan Kanafani in China and India*

Shir Alon, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *"Warm Saudi, Cool Japan": Saudi Anime and GCC Futurescapes*

Andrea Wright, College of William and Mary *"My Heart Burns for Palestine": Indian Solidarity with Palestine from the 1930s to the Present*

Salah D. Hassan, Michigan State University *Hadrami in Jambi: An Arab Diasporic Cultural Formation in Indonesia*

Joanna Lee-Brown, Columbia University *Language of the Soul: Translingual Solidarity in Zhang Chengzhi*

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

IV-16: Before Citizenship: New Research on Ottoman Subjecthood in the Early Modern Period

Organized under the auspices of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Organized by **Tommaso Stefini**, Sabanci University

Chair/Discussant: **Joshua White**, University of Virginia

Tommaso Stefini, Sabanci University *Defining the "Franks": Changing Ottoman Legislation on the Legal Status of European Immigrants (Seventeenth–Eighteenth Centuries)*

Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer, New York University *Revisiting Subjecthood in the Early Modern Middle East: Belonging, Agency, and the Qizilbash*

William Smiley, University of New Hampshire *Being Russian in the Ottoman Empire*

Meliksah Arslan, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *An Ottoman Identity in Transition: From "Rum Millet" to "Rums" and "Arabs"*

Riza Yildirim, Independent Scholar *The Decline of the Safavid-Qizilbash Order and the Integration of Anatolian Qizilbash-Alevi Communities in the Ottoman Sociopolitical Order*



MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

IV-17: International Film Education and Governmentalized Practices

Organized by **Terri Ginsberg**, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

Chair: **Hadi Gharabaghi**, Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema

Terri Ginsberg, Rutgers *Resituating Empiricism: The Political Unconscious of (Reading) USIA's Reportage on Sudan in the Era of Global Climate Disaster*

Kaveh Askari, Michigan State University *Networks of Media Education: The Land-Grant University and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union in the 1970s*

Hadi Gharabaghi, Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema *Rooz-e Daneshju: Examining Iranian "Student/Opposition Day" of 1953 through the Making of the USIA-sponsored Iran News Report of Nixon's Visit to Iran*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

IV-18: Navigating Identity and Memory Through Armenian Performance and Art

Organized by **Basak Yagmur Karaca**, University of Southern California

Chair: **Fatma Müge Göçek**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Rustem Ertug Altinay, University of Milan *Dark Utopias: Militarism and Turkification in Late Ottoman Children's Performances*

Hulya Delihuseyinoglu, University of Milan *Liminal Spaces of Cultural Resilience: Contestations of Armenian Identity on Stage*

Seyda Nur Yildirim, Brown University *Relational Aesthetics and Minoritarian Memory in Sarkis's Respiro (2015) and Endless (2023)*

Basak Yagmur Karaca *Arousak Papazian's Impact in the Late Ottoman Social Sphere: Where Theatre Serves as a Site of Confinement and Liberation for Women*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

IV-19: Excavating Erased Histories: Rethinking the Relations Between Iran and Iraq

Organized by **Zainab Saleh**, Haverford College

Chair: **Zainab Saleh**, Haverford College

Zainab Saleh, Haverford College *The Legal Construction of "Iraqis of Iranian Origin" Under Saddam Hussein's Regime*

Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, University of Pennsylvania *Crossing Empires: Basrah as a Hub of Commerce and Consumption*

Shaherzad Ahmadi, University of St. Thomas *The Iran-Iraq Southern Borderland: Institutions and Cultures*

Sarah Eskandari, University of Pennsylvania *Frontier of Faith and Disease: Cholera, Pilgrimage, and Power in Qajar Iran and Ottoman Iraq, 1800-1925*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

IV-20: The Imprisoned, the Disappeared, and Arabic Literature

Chair: **Stephanie Kraver**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Amal Amireh, George Mason University *"The Last Lifeline": Memory and Postmemory in Ibtisam Azem's Novel The Book of Disappearance*

Jasper Hunsinger, Georgetown University *Gender in Islamist Prison Literature: A Study of Zaynab al-Ghazālī's Memoir in Nasir's Prison*

Radwa El Barouni, University of Pennsylvania *Disappearance: Fissures in Knowledge, Identity and Subjectivity in Rabī Jābir's Novels*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

IV-21: Environment, Ecologies, and Toxicities

Chair: **Ecem Saricayir**, Institute of Mediterranean Studies

Kaveh Ehsani, DePaul University *The Making of Toxic Ecologies: Legacies of Warfare and Authoritarian Modernization in Southern Iran and Iraq*

Sertac Sen, Brown University *The Military's Conception as an Environmental Steward in Turkey*

Eda Tarak, Brown University *Chemical Mobilities at the Edge of Europe: Shipping Maintenance in the Gulf of Izmit*



Spyros Sofos, Simon Fraser University *Material Histories of Disenfranchisement: The Political Economy and Ecology nexus in Turkish Populism*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

IV-22: Residents, Migrants, and Guests in the Gulf and Lebanon

Chair: **Anna Reumert**, Brandeis University

Zahra Babar, Georgetown University Qatar *Speaking for Themselves: Migrant Voices in Qatar*

Roula Seghaier, Rutgers University-Newark *Two Systems, One Purpose: How the Kafala System Sustains Consociationalism in Lebanon*

Musaab Alkhatib, University of Western Sydney *Experiences of Highly Skilled Arab Residents Born in Qatar*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

IV-23: Sufism and Religious Symbolism in Modern Middle Eastern Literature

Chair: **Muhammet Topal**, University of Arizona

Hafiz Abid Masood, International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI) and **Khawaja Aneeq Ahmed**, Faculty of Arabic, International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI) *South Asian Literary Response to Algerian War of Independence: A Study of Urdu-Speaking Intelligentsia*

Anna Wessels, Georgetown University *Exclusive Love and Oppression: The Virgin Mary in Literary Depictions of Sectarian Violence in Sitt Marie Rose and The Baghdad Eucharist*

Dima Nasser, Brown University *Taswir in the Poetry of Samir Sayegh*

Yaseen Noorani, University of Arizona *Aesthetics, Secularization and the Formation of National Culture: The Pagan Sufism of Adunis*

Claire Jacobson, Indiana University Bloomington *(Im)pious Irreverence: Satirizing Religion in 20th-Century Kurdish Short Fiction*

Emel Zorluoglu Akbey, Erzurum Technical University *A "Mesnovelic" Narrative: A Cross-Cultural Narrative Between the Mesnevi Tradition and the Postmodern Novel in Güneli Gün's On the Road to Baghdad*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

IV-24: Revolutionary Change: Gender, Activism, and Marginalization

Chair: **Golasa Sadat Haji Mirzaei**, Yale University

Golasa Sadat Haji Mirzaei, Yale University *Pathways to Participation: Analyzing the Motivations and Mechanisms Leading to Involvement in the "Woman, Life, Freedom" Movement*

Ali Kadivar, Boston College *The Contingency of Structures: Triggers and the Social Geography of Revolutionary Episodes in Iran 2018-2022*

Maral Karimi, University of Toronto *Mapping Marginalization: A Systems Theory Approach to Ethnic Marginalization in Iran*

Chaymaa Hassabo, ERC Live-AR, CEPED, IRD *Activists' Voices Through the Egyptian Revolution: Oral History, Ethics and Positionality*

Ashkan Hashemipour, University of Oxford *Tracing Iranian Revolutionary Networks in Cairo: The Liberation Movement of Iran, Nasser's Egypt, and the Contingencies behind the Turn to Armed Struggle*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

IV-25: Migrants and Refugees: Rentierism, Political Participation, and Precarity

Chair: **Hania Abou Al-Shamat**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Shaddin Almasri, University of Continuing Education KREMS *Maintaining the Right to Deport: The Limits of Refugee Rentierism in Facilitating Local Integration in Jordan and Turkey*

Mahmoud Nowara, Journalist and Independent Scholar *A Refuge for Revolution: The Role of Palestinian Camps in Syrian Political Life*

Müge Uguz, George Washington University *Proceeding to the "Exit": Medical Doctors' Emigration from Turkey: A Profession-Based Approach to Migration Reasons*

Nihal Kayali, Brandeis University *Residual Temporariness and the Limits of Citizenship for Syrian Doctors in Turkey*



MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

IV-26: Glitch Insurgencies, Technodystopias, and Futurity

Organized by **Laila Shereen Sakr**, UC Santa Barbara and **Yulia Gilichinskaya**, Institute for the Critical Study of Zionism

Chair: **Laila Shereen Sakr**

Laila Shereen Sakr *Building Data Bodies - Qareen: An Arab-Futuristic Game about Liberation*

Yulia Gilichinskaya, Institute for the Critical Study of Zionism *Glitch Colonialism: The Case of Palestine*

Christophe Katrib, UC Riverside *Diasporic Practices During Genocide: Glitch as Anti-Imperial Boomerang*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

IV-27: Hope in Hopelessness: Love Unrequited in Different Climes

Organized and funded by the ILEX Foundation

Chair: **Negin Yavari**, Independent Scholar

Olga M. Davidson, Boston University *A Rhetoric for Unrequited Love in Khosrow and Shirin of Nezāmi*

Dominic Brookshaw, University of Oxford *When Khusraw is Shirin, and Shirin Can Become Farhad: Gendered Roleplay in Early Qajar Poetry*

Domenico Ingenito, UCLA *Erotic Reversibility and Suspension of Subjective Desire in Rāmin's Lyric Songs*

Asma Abbas, Bard College at Simon's Rock and Al Akhawayn University *Between Unrequitedness and Betrayal: Refurnishing the Anticolonial Sensorium*

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IV-28: Zouj (Two): Dynamic Judeo-Maghribi Interaction

Organized by **Paul Silverstein**, Reed College and **Sami Everett**, University of Cambridge

Chairs/Discussants: **Paul Silverstein**, Reed College and **Sami Everett**, University of Cambridge

Sami Everett, University of Cambridge

Paul Silverstein, Reed College

Jessie Stoolman, UCLA

Hisham Aidi, Columbia University

Erica Weiss, Brown University



ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)

**CURRENT EVENTS SPECIAL SESSION****V-01: Topic and Title TBD (see addendum)**

REDBUD (Second Level)

WORKSHOP**V-02: How to Fund Your Ideas: Professional Development Workshop for Proposal Writing and Research Design**

Those embarking on academic careers must master the art of writing proposals for research funding. Whether you are conducting research for a dissertation or book or seeking support for a special project, locating and securing funding is critical. This workshop will provide expert guidelines on how to write compelling proposals from the initial phrasing of the research question, step by step, to the research outcomes, significance, dissemination, and public outreach. It will also address such issues as identifying and working with funding agencies, effectively communicating research methodology and goals, preparing budgets, and planning for the dissemination of results.

Prior to the workshop:

Please see <https://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/proposal-writing-and-funding-research> and read the document, **Components of a Humanities/Social Sciences Research Proposal**.

Organized and presented by **Suad Joseph**, UC Davis

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**V-04: Fifty Years of Arab Studies: Identity, Knowledge Production and Resistance from the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS), Georgetown University**

Organized by **Marwa Daoudy**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Fida Adely**, Georgetown University
Marwa Daoudy, Georgetown University
Adey Almohsen, Grinnell College
Judith E. Tucker, Georgetown University
Rochelle Anne Davis, Georgetown University
Ziad M. Abu-Rish, Bard College

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**V-05: Geopolitical Transition, Diplomatic Activity, and Cultural Production in Postwar Beirut**

Organized by **Habib Battah**, St. Lawrence University

Chair: **Habib Battah**, St. Lawrence University
 Discussant: **Sumayya Kassamali**, University of Toronto
Habib Battah, St. Lawrence University
Karim Makdisi, American University of Beirut
Hatim El-Hibri, George Mason University
Kristin Shamas, Miami University Ohio
Omayr Ghani, Cardiff University

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**V-06: Voicing the Enslaved: Histories, Narratives, and Translations of Ottoman Slavery**

Organized by **Michael Ferguson**, Concordia University
 and **Nefise Kahraman**, University of Toronto

Chair: **Nefise Kahraman**, University of Toronto
Burcu Karahan, Stanford University



Aysegul Kayagil, SOAS
Iclal Vanwesenbeeck, SUNY Fredonia
Michael Ferguson, Concordia University
Özgül Özdemir, Stanford University
Ezgi Cakmak, Towson University

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

V-07: The Color Black and Beyond

Organized by **Taylor M. Moore**, Yale University

Chair: **Taylor M. Moore**, Yale University
Taylor M. Moore, Yale University
Rosie Bsheer, Harvard University
Beeta Baghoolizadeh, Columbia University
Carmen M.K. Gitre, Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Zeynep Gursel, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

V-08: The Gothic, the Grotesque, and the Freaky in Middle Eastern Literature

Chair: **Carly Krakow**, London School of Economics and Political Science
Mourad Takawi, University of the Incarnate Word
Assembling the Ruins: The Sacred and the Grotesque in Frankenstein in Baghdad
Fatima-zohra Kettaf, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Cultures (INALCO) *Prosopopeia and Spectrality in Sinan's Waḥdahā Šağaratu al-Rommān*
Hanadi Al-Samman, University of Virginia *The Aesthetics of the Freak in Hoda Barakat's Hind or the Most Beautiful Woman in the World*
Saman Javaherian, The University of Texas at Austin
Gothic Sensibility in Medieval Islamic Literature: Tracing the Uncanny in Turquoise Dome Tale in Nizāmī's Haft Peykar

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

V-09: Give or Take: New Approaches to Muslim-Christian Interactions in the Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Ali Neyzi**, UC Davis and **Hüseyin Göcen**, UC Davis

Chair: **Baki Tezcan**, UC Davis

Ali Neyzi, UC Davis *Endowing the Cizye: Tracing Non-Muslim Assets in Ottoman Vakfs (1400-1500)*

Hüseyin Göcen, UC Davis *Interreligious Relations at Grassroots Level as Seen Through the Lenses of Provincial Fatwa Collections in the Ottoman Empire, 1600-1800*

Xiwen Yang, UC Davis *An Ottoman Sufi's Interpretation of 'New Astronomy'*

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

V-10: Engaging with Musical Archives: Scholarship, Teaching, and Performance of Music from the Arab World

Organized by **Anne Elise Thomas**, Sweet Briar College

Chair: **Anne Elise Thomas**, Sweet Briar College

Anne Elise Thomas, Sweet Briar College *"Aiwa ya Habibi!": Close Listening as Pedagogy and Performance in Engaging with Archival Arab/American Audio Histories*

Anne K. Rasmussen, College of William and Mary *Left on the Cutting-Room Floor: The Ethics of Archival Listening, Preservation, and Stewardship of an Arab American Soundworld*

Albert Nasser Agha, American University of Sharjah
Performing the Archive: Reviving Arab American Musical Legacies

Jared Holton, University of Georgia *Lost in Transcription: Finding Creative Possibility in Archival Absence*



ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

V-11: Digital Reimaginings of Middle Eastern Studies III: Catalyzing Learning Technologies for Engagement in Islamic Histories

Coordinated by MESA's Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Organized by **Michael Ernst**, Temple University and **Sarah Slingluff**, University of Edinburgh

Chair: **Sarah Slingluff** University of Edinburgh
Michael Ernst, Temple University *Conflicted Feelings: A Preliminary Look into Affect, Azerbaijani Video Games, and the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict*

Hamida Khatri, The University of Texas at Dallas
From Başar to Waḥş – A Virtual Reality Exploration of Metamorphosis

Lilian Abou-Tabickh, University of Toronto *Visualizing Continuity in Intellectual History Using Interactive Learning Technologies*

Fatma Mohamed, Akhawayn University in Ifrane *Arabic Interactive Digital Storytelling: Production and Outcomes*

Burcak Ozludil Altin, New Jersey Institute of Technology and **Ersin Altin**, Pratt Institute *Storytelling with XR: Reconstructing Lost Histories in Nineteenth-Century Istanbul*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

V-12: Discursive Transformations in Syria: Analyzing Linguistic and Ideological Shifts of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham

Organized by **Rabie Barakat**, American University of Beirut and **Toni Rouhana**, University of York

Chairs: **Rabie Barakat**, American University of Beirut and **Toni Rouhana**, University of York

Toni Rouhana, University of York *Language and Ideology in HTS's Organizational Evolution*

Zedoun Alzoubi, Lugarit Ltd *From Public Service Agencies to the Salvation Government: HTS's Adaptive Governance and Ideological Shifts*

Karim Barakat, American University of Beirut *Strategic Evolution: Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham's Shifting Narratives of Legitimacy*

Rabie Barakat, American University of Beirut *The Reconstruction of HTS's image*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

V-13: Empowering Arabic Language Learning with Generative AI for 21st-Century Skills

Funded by Al Akhawayn University & Sultan Moulay Slimane University

Organized by **Meriem Sahli**, Al Akhawayn University

Chair: **Jaouad El Bakili**, Al Akhawayn University
 Discussant: **Abderrahim Er-ragragi**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Meriem Sahli, Al Akhawayn University *Giving a Face-Lift to a Survey of Arabic Literature through AI Tools*

Abderrahim Er-ragragi, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *AI for Arabic as an FL: The Opportunities, Implications, and Challenges*

Mustapha Jaghboub, University of Sultan Moulay Slimane *Empowering Arabic as FL Student's Reading Skill with AI*

Jaouad El Bakili, Al Akhawayn University *Challenges of Using AI in Teaching Arabic Literature and Writing: A Case Study at Al Akhawayn University*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

V-14: The Politics and Practice of Medicine, Ecology, and Knowledge in the Eastern Mediterranean

Organized by **Sam Pulliam**, George Washington University

Chair/Discussant: **Soha Bayoumi**, Johns Hopkins University

Sam Pulliam, George Washington University *'Abbasiya Mental Asylum's Erased Italian Intermezzo, 1883-1885*

Fikri Cicek, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *The Politics and Knowledge of Gout: Shared Health Crisis, Royal Ableism, and Transfer of Chemical Therapeutics in the 17th Century Mediterranean World*

Jackson Perry, US Naval Academy *What Use are Seeds Without the Right Expertise: Social Hierarchy and Natural Knowledge in Ottoman/British Cyprus*



RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

**V-15: Whose Civility, Whose Tolerance?
Reflections on Emerging Grammars of Citizenship
in MENA**

Organized by **Elizabeth Derderian**, Brandeis University
and **Kerem Ussakli**, Brandeis University

Chair: **Kerem Ussakli**, Brandeis University
Discussant: **Kirsten Scheid**, American University of Beirut
Elizabeth Derderian, Brandeis University *Scaffolding
Publics and the Art of Tolerance: Museums and
Multiculturalism in the UAE*
Kerem Ussakli, Brandeis University *Life-Giving Acts:
Civility Beyond Tolerance in Kurdish-Iraqi Borderlands*
Secil Dagtas, University of Waterloo *Reworking
Tolerance: The Vernaculars of Coexistence in Turkey's
Southern Borderlands*
Abdulla Majeed, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies
*"Little by Little it Will be Madaniyah:" Exilic Bourgeoise
Civility and the Cunning of the Civil State*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

**V-16: Bearing Witness: The Transmission of
Memory and Truth in Contemporary Algerian
Literature and Music**

Organized by **Valerie K. Orlando**, University of Maryland,
College Park

Chair: **Valerie K. Orlando**, University of Maryland,
College Park
Valerie K. Orlando, University of Maryland, College Park
*Bearing Witness in the 'Reconstructive' Text: Kamel
Daoud's Houris as a Non-Fiction Fiction Novel about an
Undocumented War*
Mildred Mortimer, University of Colorado at Boulder
Bearing Witness to Torture: Louise Ighilahriz, Algérienne
Naïma Hachad, American University *"Long Live Algeria!":
Transgenerational Memory in Maghrebi Immigrant Songs*
Robert Mortimer, Haverford College *Boualem Sansal:
Public Intellectual*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

**V-17: Actors of Conflict and Peace in the Middle
East: Changing Dynamics and Emerging Identities**

Organized by **Busra Nur Ozguler Aktel**, University of
Maryland, Baltimore County

Chair: **Busra Nur Ozguler Aktel**, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County
Discussant: **Osman Bahadır Dinçer**, Bonn International
Centre for Conflict Studies
Busra Nur Ozguler Aktel, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County *The Fabric of Tribal Society: Power,
Hierarchy, and Identity in Conflict and Peacebuilding*
Miray Philips, University of Toronto *Appropriating
Christian Persecution: The American Religious Right and
Middle Eastern Christians*
Saman Omar, University of Duhok *Iran's Influence in
Post-2003 Iraq: An Examination of the Popular Mobilization
Forces, Security Threats, and Implications for the Gulf
Cooperation Council and the Kurdistan Region*
Dana Abu-Haltam, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
*How to Politely Say No: Jordan's Foreign Policy towards
US-Chinese Competition*
Mohammad El Sahili, Georgetown University *The
Emergence of a New Sunni Identity in the Aftermath of
October 7 and the Fall of the Assad Regime*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

**V-18: Entangled Power: Clinical and Cultural
Readings of Sadomasochistic Dynamics in Iran**

Organized by **Mahrou Zhaf**, St. Lawrence University

Chair/Discussant: **Mahrou Zhaf**, St. Lawrence University
Discussant: **Zahi Zalloua**, Whitman College
Fateme Aghaie Meybodi, Yazd University *How To Raise
Submissive/Aggressive Children? Emotion Socialization in
the Service of Sadomasochism*
Arash Mohagheghi, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences
Obedience, Defiance, and the Psychiatric Gaze in Iran
Mahrou Zhaf, St. Lawrence University *Cultural
Psychopathology: Eroticized Power and the Unconscious
Structures of Social Order*



MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

V-19: Gender, the Family, and Islam

Chair: **Asma Afsaruddin**, Indiana University Bloomington
Mehvish Siddiqui, University of Massachusetts Amherst
"Milk Kinship": Decolonizing the Family Unit in the Islamicate World

Samaneh Oladi, Virginia Commonwealth University
Redefining Authority: Women's Religious Activism and Legal Reform

Hina Azam, University of Texas at Austin *Why Polygamy is Superior to Monogamy: A Traditionalist Response to Islamic Feminism*

Heba Arafa Abdelfattah, Independent Scholar *Quranic Contexts of Revelation and the Public Use of Reason in Child Cartoon*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

V-20: Middle Eastern Philology I: Language Study in the Persianate World

Organized by **Alexander Jabbari**, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Chair: **Amir Moosavi**, Rutgers University-Newark

Discussant: **Samuel Hodgkin**, Yale University

Alexander Jabbari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Vernacular Philology in Persian: The Earliest Grammars, 1660-1756

Jamie O'Connell, Princeton University *When the Avesta Is Not Enough: Non-Zoroastrian Textual Evidence and the 18th-century Parsi Calendar Controversy*

Taymaz Pour Mohammad, Northwestern University
Negaran and heyran: Mirza I'tisam al-Din and the Return of a Disoriented Gaze

Amir M. Izadpanah, Columbia University *The Place of Persian*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

V-21: Heritage, Theft, and Preservation

Chair: **Leticia R. Rodriguez**, University of Houston
Sara Ann Knutson, University of British Columbia
Reinterpreting 'Speaking Objects' in the Islamic World
Elya Assayag, Columbia University *Women's History Through the Threads of Embroidery: The Case of the Franciscan Sisters in Morocco*

Brett Wilson, Central European University *Abodes of Culture: Sufi Buildings and Historical Preservation in modern Turkey (1925-1950)*

Charles Sills, UC Davis *Cultural Imperialism and the American Scramble for Antiquities in Mandate Syria: 1920-1939*

Abdul Basith Basheer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Invocations of Islam's Past: Modern Jordan and the Development of an Islamic Historical Heritage*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

V-22: Post-Ottoman Economy: Networks, Actors, and Trends

Organized by **Ramazan Hakki Oztan**, Trinity College Dublin

Chair: **Semih Gokatalay**, Virginia Military Institute
Discussant: **Aimee Genell**, Boston University
Kaleb Herman Adney, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Global Trade, National Policy: Aligning Oriental Tobacco with National Economy in Turkey, Greece, and Bulgaria (c. 1910s and 20s)

Ramazan Hakki Oztan Trinity College Dublin *Trade among the Equals? Political Economy of Anti-Westernism between Japan and Turkey, 1925-1929*

Elizabeth Williams, University of Massachusetts Lowell
Reconfiguring Ottoman Economic Space in French Mandate Syria and Lebanon, 1920s-1930s



MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

V-23: From Ancient Saba to Sufi Saints: Current Research on the History of Yemen

Sponsored by the American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)

Organized by **Daniel Martin Varisco**, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Chair: **W. Flagg Miller**, UC Davis

Daniel Martin Varisco, Austrian Academy of Sciences *A Unique Zodiacal Almanac from Rasulid Yemen*

Alexander Knysh, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *In the Presence of Sanctity: The Sacred Geography of Yemen*

Lily Filson, Unaffiliated Independent Scholar *Visualizing the Tahirids: A New Identification in the Codex Casanatense*

Mohammed Atbuosh, International Black Sea University *Yemeni Mummies and Afterlife in Pre-Islamic South Arabia*

Michael Harrower, Johns Hopkins University *The Archaeology of Water in Yemen and the Contemporary Importance of the Ancient Past*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

V-24: Diasporic Formations: Religious and Cultural Practice in the West

Chair: **Razan Ghazzawi**, Oregon State University

Guilnard Moufarrej, United States Naval Academy *Sacred Landscapes in Displacement: The Role of Icons in Religious and Cultural Identity Negotiation among the Syrian Melkite Christian Community in Germany*

Cihangir Can, UCLA *Feeling Turkish in Diaspora: Making Social and Sexual Self in Germany*

William P.G. Tucker, University of Arizona *Alt-Wallahi, Habibi: Developmental History and Comparative Analysis of the Muslim-American Alt-Right Manosphere*

Sevil Suleymani, George Mason University *Identity, Migration, and Representation: How Iranian Women in the U.S. Navigate Intersectional Belonging*

Melike Yucel-Koc, University of Washington, Seattle *Reshaping Local Histories through Oral Narratives: A Preliminary Study of Immigrant Experiences*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

V-25: Islamic Law: Classification, Semantics, and Positionality

Chair: **Saleem Abu Jaber**, Achva Academic College

Matthew Steele, Yale University *A Salafi Reading of School Loyalty? Muḥammad al-Amīn al-Shinqīṭī (d. 1974) on Scripture and Devotion to the Madhhab*

Jason Andrus, University of Denver *Judicial Positionality in Islamic Law*

Fatima Razvi, University of Texas at Austin *Muslim Divorce in Flux: Judicial Discretion and the Transformation of Talaq in Pakistan*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

V-26: Crossed Perspectives Between the Iranian and Hispanic Worlds: Narratives and Representations in Contemporary Times

Funded by Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation, and Universities

Organized by **Fernando Camacho Padilla**, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid

Chair: **Farshad Zahedi**, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Discussant: **Raffaele Mauriello**, Allameh Tabataba'i University

Fernando Camacho Padilla, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid *Iran's Image on Spanish Television (TVE, Spain's National Public Television): From the Shah's Regime to the Pezeshkian Presidency*

Javier Gil Guerrero, Universidad de Navarra *Spanish-Iranian Relations during Aznar's government, 1996-2004*

Pablo Martínez Muñiz, Universidad Internacional de La Rioja *The Past and Present of Iran Seen Through the Photographic Work of Isabel Muñoz and Manolo Espaliú*

Parisa Delshad, University of Burgos *Resonances of Elsewhere: Iranian Musical and Textual Exchange in Spain and the Broader Diaspora*

Farshad Zahedi, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid *The Image of Earth in the Works of Abbas Kiarostami and Victor Erice*

Raffaele Mauriello, Allameh Tabataba'i University *Latin America in Iran's Press in the Long Global Sixties and 1979: Literal, Aspirational, and Conspiratorial Connections*



MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

V-27: Populism in Erdoğan's Turkey: Capturing the State, Capturing Culture

Organized by **Sophia Zervas**, Harvard University

Chair: **Lisel Hintz**, Johns Hopkins University

Sophia Zervas, Harvard University *Musical Populism in Erdoğan's Turkey*

Andrew O'Donohue, Harvard University *Law versus Democracy: Minoritarian Courts, Audience Costs, and Democratic Backsliding in Turkey*

Audrey Williams, George Mason University *Into the Songworld: The Political Aesthetics of Büşra Kayıkçı's "Madde 42"*

Nil Basdurak, University of Toronto *The Aural and Sonic Politics of Islamic Populism in Turkey: Collective Feminist Shout vs. the Ezan*

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

V-28: Disciplinary (De)Formations: The Making and Unmaking of Colonial Subjects in the Modern Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Fatima-Ezzahrae Touilila**, Cornell University

Chair: **Omar Cheta**, Syracuse University

Fatima-Ezzahrae Touilila, Cornell University *From Natives to Muslims: Tracing the Religious Racialization of North Africans in the French Empire*

Olga Verlato, Cornell University *Discipline and Education in Egypt's Khedival Schools: Re-Ordering the Colonial Framework*

Bandar Alsaheed, University of Southern California *Pearl Fishers, Oil Workers, and the Making of the Foreigner in Bahrain*

Hicham Chami, Yale University *Sounding Empire: Colonial Epistemologies and the Framing of Maghrebi Music.*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

V-29: The (In)Stability Paradox: Coups, Regional Conflicts, and Foreign Policy Challenges

Chair: **Paul S. Rowe**, Trinity Western University

Walker Gunning, University of Chicago *How Sudan Fell into the Transition Trap*

Yasmina Abouzzohour, Princeton University *Shifting Public Opinion under External Shocks: Evidence from the Qatar Blockade*

Mizhgaan Kakakhel, Hampshire College *Citizenship, Identity and the Politics of Segmentation in the MENA Region*

Hana Attia, Leuphana University *The Political Deadlock Over the GERD: Between Regional Tensions and Domestic Stability*

Asli Peker Dogra, New York University *Thinking Regionally: State Formation, Regime Survival and Contention in the MENA*

Youssef Yacoubi, Seton Hall University *Establishing Postcolonial Sovereignty in the Maghreb: The Tension between History and International Law*



ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

**SPECIAL SESSION****VI-01: A MESA-ACSS Roundtable: The Nakba, Constantine Zurayk and the History of the Present**

Constantine Zurayk's *The Meaning of the Disaster* (Ma'na al-Nakba), published in 1948, is a seminal work that shaped the debates on Palestine for two generations of Arab intellectuals and scholars of the modern Middle East. It was a call to action addressed to an Arab public for a political, social and cultural transformation that would create the conditions for modern Arab order that would spearhead the liberation of Palestine. Zurayk's assumption was that the Nakba was a singular historical event of the recent past. His call to action set the "horizon of expectation," to use Koeselleck's phrase, for a future in which Palestine is free because a pan-Arab modern secular national order had made it possible.

The twinning of pan-Arabism with the liberation of Palestine is no longer part of the politics or rhetoric of Palestine. In addition, scholars and activists have argued the Nakba is not a singular event of the past through which one can imagine a future that does not repeat the past. Rather it is an ongoing process that shapes power dynamics that govern Palestinian lives, their ongoing ethnic cleansing, their disenfranchisement as a diasporic community, their sociality, and their imaginary.

Organized and funded by the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS)

Chair: **Seteney Shami**, ACSS

Ussama Makdisi, UC Berkeley

Seteney Shami, ACSS

Abdel Razzaq Takriti, Rice University

Randa Tawil, Texas Christian University

Adrien Zakar, University of Toronto

Huda Zurayk, American University of Beirut

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**VI-02: Theorizing Mohabbat: Love as an Epistemological Framework in Islamic Studies and the Study of Religion**

Organized by **Arwa Hussain**, Concordia University and **Arwa Palanpurwala**, Columbia University

Chairs/Discussants: **Arwa Hussain**, Concordia University and **Arwa Palanpurwala**, Columbia University

Discussant: **Fidahussain Yamani**, Aljamea tus Saifiyah

Arwa Hussain, Concordia University

Molly Wells, The University of Texas at Austin

Muhammad Yacoob, Georgetown University

Amina Tawasil, Teachers College, Columbia University

Mohammed Mehdi Ali, University of Chicago

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**VI-03: Towards an Ethic of Comparison: The Study of Genocide and Mass Violence in the Middle East**

Organized by **Keith D. Watenpaugh**, UC Davis

Chair: **Keith D. Watenpaugh**, UC Davis

Keith D. Watenpaugh, UC Davis

Melanie Tanielian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Arbella Bet-Shlimon, University of Washington, Seattle

Yigit Akin, Ohio State University

Samuel Dolbee, Vanderbilt University

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**VI-04: A Lexicon for Watching History Unfold**

Sponsored by the Arab American Studies Association (AASA)

Organized by **Natalie El-Eid**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Natalie El-Eid**, Georgetown University

Amira Jarmakani, San Diego State University



Lara Sheehi, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies
Sima Shakhsari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Heike Schotten, University of Massachusetts Boston
Leila Farsakh, University of Massachusetts Boston
Eman Ghanayem, University of San Diego

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level) ROUNDTABLE

VI-05: Feminist Historiographies of the Middle East Beyond Borders: Origins, Trajectories, and New Developments

Sponsored by Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)

Organized by **Lucia Sorbera**, University of Sydney

Chair: **Beth Baron**, City College and Graduate Center, CUNY

Discussant: **Suad Joseph**, UC Davis

Sherine Hafez, UC Riverside

Khaoula Bengezi, York University

Sara Rahnema, Morgan State University

Laila Mourad, York University

Lucia Sorbera, University of Sydney

Miriam Cooke, Duke University

Sertaç Sehlükoglu, University College London

Margot Badran, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level) ROUNDTABLE

VI-06: Reimagining Jews in the Modern Middle East

Organized by **Lior B. Sternfeld**, Pennsylvania State University

Chair: **Lior B. Sternfeld**, Pennsylvania State University

Orit Bashkin, University of Chicago

Michelle U. Campos, Pennsylvania State University

Annie Greene, University of Utah

Shay Hazkani, University of Maryland, College Park

Caroline Kahlenberg, University of Virginia

Alma Heckman, UC Santa Cruz

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VI-07: How to Optimize Your Book Publishing Experience

Organized by **Kathleen Kelly**, University of Oklahoma and **Emine Ö. Evered**, Michigan State University

Chair: **Kathleen Kelly**, University of Oklahoma

Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University

Kathleen Kelly, University of Oklahoma

Bethany Mowry, Indiana University Press

Jim Burr, University of Texas at Austin

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

VI-08: Media, Witnessing, and Knowledge Production in a Time of Genocide/War in Palestine

Chair: **Hagar Attia**, Gustavus Adolphus College

Abdalla Bayyari, Institute for Palestine Studies "*The Ungeographic Palestinian: Urbicide, Scholasticide and the Erasure of Palestinian Spatiality*"

Hagar Attia, Gustavus Adolphus College *Narratives of Palestinian Women Amid the Gaza War: A Comparative Media Framing Analysis*

Emily Schneider, Northern Arizona University and

Yara Asi, University of Central Florida *Protected Status? American Media Coverage of Israeli Attacks on Palestinian Hospitals*

Sherena Razek, Brown University *On Seeds and Soil: Palestinian Subterranean Imaginaries*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

VI-09: Gender and Religious Identity on Screen

Chair: **Naz Oktay**, UCLA

Yasemin Celikkol, Northwestern University in Qatar

Between Subversion and Accommodation: Kızıl Goncalar, Islamophobia, and the Hybrid Representations of Islam in Turkish Dramas

Zeynep Sertbulut, Haverford College "*They Don't Care What We Watch*": *On Ratings and Culture-Making in the Dizi Industry*

Navid Darvishzadeh, Grand Valley State University *The Past That Persists and the Present That Unfolds: Imaginal Time in Iranian Cinema's Souls*



Michelle Quay, Brown University *A Modern Woman? The Female Intellectual in Post-Revolutionary Iranian Cinema*
Maria Lafleur, University of Arizona *Innocence and Agency: A Comparative Analysis of Child Protagonists and Women in Iranian and Japanese War Cinema as Mediums for National Trauma, Historical Memory, and Sociopolitical Critique*

Lalu Esra Ozban, UC Santa Cruz *Histories of Koli Cinemas*
Shirin Nazari, University of Texas at Austin *Depicting Gender in a Genderless Language: Expressions of Sex in Persian*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

VI-10: How Poetry Revolts: Traditions of Poetic Revolution in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu

Organized by **Rawad Wehbe**, University of Utah

Chair/Discussant: **Suzanne Stetkevych**, Georgetown University

Rawad Wehbe, University of Utah *Recharting Liminality: Identifying Arabic Poetry's Other Mukhaḍram Moment*

Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania *Revolutionizing the Tradition: Umm Kulthūm Curates and Performs the Arabic Qasīdah*

Fatemeh Shams, University of Pennsylvania *The Silent Revolution of Capacious Poetic Form: Yahdollah Royai and his Espacementalist Poetry*

Leyla Tajer, Asbury University *Bridging Persian and Malay Sufi Traditions: Hamzah Fansuri's Contributions to Islamic Mysticism and Southeast Asian Literature*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

VI-11: Race and Carcerality Across Borders

Organized by **Amy Kallander**, Syracuse University

Chair: **Amy Kallander**, Syracuse University

Bayan Abusneineh, The Ohio State University *Reproductive Genocide and Carcerality in Palestine*

Alaa El-Shafei, Columbia University *Colonial Carcerality: Racial Segregation, Security, and Egyptian Prisons, 1883-1914*

Amy Kallander, Syracuse University *Prisons as War: Algeria, Counterviolence, and Imperial Policing*

Douaa Sheet, American University *A Risk/Benefit Analysis of Expanding the Carcerality Framework Beyond Prison Studies*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

VI-12: Above and Below: Sacred Verticalities

Organized by **Noha Fikry**, University of Toronto

Discussant: **Bilge Firat**, University of Texas at El Paso
Noha Fikry, University of Toronto *Digging for the Ancestors: On Perfect Pasts & Futures Perfect*

Firat Bozcali, University of Toronto Mississauga *Kurdish Oil Theft Economies in Turkey and the Shallow Subterranean*

Jacob Bessen, University of Toronto *Death and the Regeneration of What? Decomposing and Recomposing Communities*

Alaa Attiah M., University of Toronto *Sinai's Multiple Verticalities: Between Boreholes and Mountains*

Ferda Nur Demirci, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology *The National Economy Form, Debt and Underground Minework: The Extractive Rhythms of "Energy Dependence" in the Soma Lignite Basin*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

VI-13: Leftists, Liberals, and Revolutionaries

Chair: **Susanne Dahlgren**, Finnish Institute in the Middle East

Lujain Beruwien, University of Edinburgh *"There is No State!": Attempting to Unpack the Narratives of Libyan Women's Rights Activists and the State*

Cyrus Roedel, Durham University *Typology of the Arab Left*

Mansoor Moaddel, University of Maryland, College Park *Trends toward liberal values in Egypt and Türkiye: Findings from a panel survey*

Robin Jones, UC Santa Cruz *Building the "Third Pole": Syria's communist opposition responds to the Islamist-regime conflict, 1976-1982*

Federico Vélez, American University of Kuwait *The Orphan Arabism of Latin American Revolutionaries*



MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

VI-15: Religious Institutions and the State in the Arab World

Organized by **Bedirhan Mutlu**, George Washington University and **Nathan J. Brown**, George Washington University

Chair: **Salih Yasun**, Virginia Military Institute
 Discussant: **Jocelyne Cesari**, Georgetown University
Ani Sarkissian, Michigan State University *Anomaly or Analogue? The Governance of Religious Affairs in the Middle East in Comparative Perspective*

Bedirhan Mutlu, George Washington University and
Nathan J. Brown, George Washington University
Transformations of the Religious Institutions in the Gulf States

David H. Warren, Washington University in St. Louis
Religious Tolerance, Interfaith Dialogue, and the International Relations of the Arab Gulf States
Muhammad Amasha, Yale University *Islam and Ideological Shifts in Search for Liberation in the Modern Middle East*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

VI-16: Political Economy and State-Society Relations in Contemporary Iran

Organized by **Vahid Abedini**, University of Arkansas

Vahid Abedini, University of Arkansas *Reform and Its Discontents: Political Economy and Failed Development Models in Contemporary Iran*

Mohammad Sayyadi, Florida International University and **Eric Lob**, Florida International University
Corruption and Democracy Under the Islamic Republic

Niloofar Adnani, Johns Hopkins University
Firms Under Comprehensive Sanctions: A Framework

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

VI-17: Grieving and Mourning: The Social and Political Work of Death

Chair: **Mario M. Ruiz**, Hofstra University
Ali Yildirim, University of Houston *Honoring Can (Soul): Funerals of Dissidents and Religio-Queer-National Relationalities in Turkey*

Ali Murat Gali, Northwestern University *Let This Scent Tell You Who We Are: Rihen, Antakya, living on*

Luke Peterson, Chatham University *The Authoritative News Media Discourse on Iraq, 2003–2004*

Sareh Afshar, Princeton University *Enduring Necrogeographies: Architectures of Grief, Abiding with the Dead*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

VI-18: Middle Eastern Philology II: Traditions of Literary Theory and Criticism

Organized by **Samuel Hodgkin**, Yale University

Chair: **Shahla Farghadani**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Discussant: **Domenico Ingenito**, UCLA
Matthew Keegan, Barnard College *Philological Debates in the Commentary Tradition of al-Hariri's Maqamat Ghayde Ghraowi, Yale University *Classical Continuities: Literary Criticism in the Rayḥānat al-Alibbā**

Nalan Erbil, University of Wisconsin-Madison *"Edebiyat Yapma!" Ottoman/Turkish Literary Literature and its Discontents since 19th century*

Angela Giordani, Columbia University *Incoherence of the Philologists: Mustafa 'Abd al-Raziq's Critique of Comparative Philology*

Samuel Hodgkin, Yale University *Referentiality and Conventionality: Post-Romantic and Post-Persianate Approaches to Vaşf, 1930s-70s*



MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

VI-19: Navigating Ruptures: Continuity and Change in Fatimid Ifrīqiya and Sicily

Sponsored by the Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Organized by **Aslisho Qurboniev**, Institute of Ismaili Studies and **Yusuf Umrethwala**, Aljamea tus Saifiyah

Chair/Discussant: **Lorenzo Bondioli**, Harvard University
Yusuf Umrethwala, Aljamea tus Saifiyah *Documentary Production in Fatimid Ifrīqiya (297-363 H/909-969 CE)*

Giacomo Favaretto, FSCIRE Foundation for Religious Studies Giovanni XXIII *Reassessing Kalbid Independence: Political and Religious Ties between Islamic Sicily and Fatimid Cairo*

Aslisho Qurboniev Institute of Ismaili Studies *All the Imam's Men: Fatimid Elite in a Period of Transition*

Ksenia Ryzhova, Princeton University *Fatimid afterlives in Norman Sicily, c.1060–c. 1150*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

VI-20: Chronicles, Libraries, and Archives

Chair: **Dilyara Agisheva**, University of Toronto
Selim Karahasanoglu, Istanbul Medeniyet University and
Cihan Osmanağaoğlu, Istanbul University *A Contribution to Ottoman Ego-Documents: A Recently Discovered 17th-Century Captivity Narrative by Janissary Mustafa*

Jonathan E. Brockopp, Pennsylvania State University *Manuscripts and Trade Routes to Kairouan*

Omar Omar, KU Leuven *Erudite Egyptians in Europe: A Study of Egyptian Travelogues to Europe in the Late Nineteenth Century*

Barbara Henning, University of Hamburg *Ottoman Family Libraries as Sites of Genealogical Knowledge: The Example of the Hafiz Ahmed Ağa Library in Rhodes*

Ahmad Agbaria, University of Texas at Austin *Lost in the Archive: Reclaiming Palestinian-Citizens' Agency in Israel*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

VI-22: Secret Histories (and Possible Futures) of Middle Eastern and Islamic Media

Organized under the auspices of the Substantial Motion Research Network (SMRN)

Organized by **J.R. Osborn**, Georgetown University

Chair: **J.R. Osborn**, Georgetown University

J.R. Osborn, Georgetown University *The Strange Case of the Medial Letter: The Four-Form Table of Arabic Script in Moveable (and Digital) Type*

Radek Przedpelski, Trinity College Dublin *Muhir Media. Talismanic Remediations for a Future to Come*

Laura U. Marks, Simon Fraser University *Jinn Media*
Juan Castrillón, Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design *From a Dog's Ear: Sonic Afterlives of a Ney Flute Collection*

Niusha Hatefinia, Simon Fraser University *Mirrors, Screens, and the Imaginal Realm: A Persian-Islamic Perspective on Cinematic Ontology*

REDBUD (Second Level)

VI-23: Arab Gulf Futurism: Mapping the Terrain

Organized by **Bader Mousa Al-Saif**, Kuwait University,
Masha Kirasirova, New York University Abu Dhabi, and
Mohammed Alsudairi, Australian National University

Chair: **Bader Mousa Al-Saif**, Kuwait University

Mohammed Alsudairi Australian National University and
Bader Mousa Al-Saif, Kuwait University *Visions of Power and Ruin: The Futurescapes of the Arab Gulf Elites*

Mohammad Abu Hawash, Middle East Council on Global Affairs *Futurescapes and Sociocultural Critiques in Gulf Science Fiction*

Masha Kirasirova, New York University Abu Dhabi *Gulf Urbanism in Egypt: Cultural Histories and Futures*

Nada Ammagui, Sharjah Art Foundation *Gulf Futurism in the Visual Arts: A New Optimism?*

Tahmina Inoyatova, Simon Fraser University *"Dubai of Central Asia": Urban Transformation and Discourses of Modernity in Dushanbe, Tajikistan*



MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

VI-24: Translating Palestinian ThoughtOrganized by **Suleiman Hodali**, UCLAChair: **Suleiman Hodali**, UCLA**Suleiman Hodali**, UCLA *The Palestinian Language of Exile*
Esmat Elhalaby, University of Toronto *Gaza's Poets and History's Limit***Kaleem Hawa**, Columbia University *Palestinian Literature and Genre Criticism*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

VI-25: Maghreb Literature as World LiteratureOrganized by **Tristan Leperlier**, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)Chair/Discussant: **Tristan Leperlier**, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)**Hanan Natour**, Freie Universität Berlin *Transnational Networks of Literature across Maghrebi Periodicals***Satoshi Udo**, Meiji University *Plural Maghreb in Japan: Background of Translation***Ghazouane Arslane**, Larbi Tebessi University - Tebessa *Maghreb Literatures and the Reinvention of Tradition: Reimagining Geographies and Connecting Worlds***Ye Ram (Esther) Kim**, University of Chicago *Worlding Maghrebi Literature: Korean Translation as a Site of Postcolonial Dialogue***Chakib Ararou**, Aix-Marseille Université *Moroccan Literature and The Mashriq in the 20th Century: An Overview***Ryan Milov-Cordoba**, Scripps College *The Ḥalqa's Library***FIE: Foundation for International Education****Global Issues in Local Context – Summer Study Abroad for Your Students***In partnership with Amideast***Borders, Mobility, & Migration***Seville & Rabat - Summer 2026*

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ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)



SPECIAL SESSION

VII-01: Academic Freedom: Political Instability and Conflict

Across the Middle East and North Africa, academic freedom has been and remains under threat and to varying degrees. For countries where there is ongoing (armed) conflict and political instability, it has been especially challenging to gain an informed understanding of the circumstances of scholarship, academic life and the education sector, more generally. In this panel, we focus our attention on five countries—Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen—that have recently emerged from, or continue to experience political violence, and remain relatively unstable. While many of us are familiar with aspects of conflicts in these countries, we lack precise information about how these conflicts have impacted scholarship and the academy. Indeed, compared with other countries in the region—Egypt, Turkey, Morocco, for example—we know little about the status, and the constraints on academic freedom in these countries today. Hence, we bring together on this panel scholars whose research and writing focuses on contemporary politics and society in these countries and who have close familiarity with the academic community and the challenges they face as scholars, students, pedagogues and researchers.

Coordinated by MESA's Committee on Academic Freedom

Chair: **Laurie Brand**, University of Southern California
 Discussant: **Miriam R. Lowi**, College of New Jersey
Keith D. Watenpaugh, UC Davis
Marsin Alshamary, Boston College
Nada Ali, University of Massachusetts Boston
Stacey Philbrick Yadav, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VII-02: Rethinking Militarism and Militarized Policy in and with the Middle East

Organized by **Emma Soubrier**, Côte d'Azur University

Chair: **Emma Soubrier**, Côte d'Azur University
Sean Yom, Temple University
Waleed Hazbun, University of Alabama
Toby C. Jones, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Negar S. Razavi, Princeton University
Shana Marshall, George Washington University
Emma Soubrier, Côte d'Azur University

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VII-03: Foreign Aid in the MENA: Past and Future

Organized by **Margaret Peacock**, University of Alabama

Chair: **Margaret Peacock**, University of Alabama
Margaret Peacock, University of Alabama
Steven Heydemann, Smith College
Beáta Paragi, Corvinus University of Budapest
Lisa Bhungalia, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Hilton Root, George Mason University

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VII-04: Interdisciplinary Graduate Topics in Amazigh Studies

Organized under the auspices of the *Tamazgha Studies Journal*

Organized by **Brahim El Guabli**, Johns Hopkins University

Chair: **Brahim El Guabli**, Johns Hopkins University
Ye Ram (Esther) Kim, University of Chicago
Ella Williams, University of Oxford
Maha Bouhnin, University of Florida



Adeli Block, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Airy Domínguez, University of Salamanca

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)
ROUNDTABLE

VII-05: Critical Perspectives on Environmental Justice in the Middle East

Organized by **Owain Lawson**, Lehigh University

Chair: **Owain Lawson**, Lehigh University
Owain Lawson, Lehigh University
Rebecca Gruskin, Hamilton College
Joanne Nucho, University of Southern California
Lauren Baker, Northwestern University
Muna Dajani, London School of Economics and Political Science
Zozan Pehlivan, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

HICKORY (Meeting Level)
ROUNDTABLE

VII-06: Using Games and Simulations in the MES Classroom

Coordinated by MESA's Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Organized by **Victoria Hightower**, University of North Georgia

Chair: **Victoria Hightower**, University of North Georgia
Levi Thompson, University of Texas at Austin
Sean Foley, Middle Tennessee State University
Sara Ababneh, The University of Sheffield
Sotirios Dimitriadis, Franklin & Marshall College
Cynthia Metcalf, Dominican University
Heather N. Keaney, Westmont College

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)
VII-07: Anticolonial Politics in Egypt

Organized by **Kyle Anderson**, State University of New York Old Westbury and **Nada Khalifa**, Independent Scholar

Chair: **Kyle Anderson**, SUNY Old Westbury
Discussant: **Angela Giordani**, Columbia University
Amr Leheta, Cornell University *Territory & Egyptian Anti-Colonialism during the 1906 Taba Crisis*
Kyle Anderson, SUNY Old Westbury *Transnational and Diasporic Anti-Colonial Activists at the 1910 Egyptian National Congress*
Nada Khalifa, Independent Scholar *Rethinking the 'Wilsonian Moment' in Egypt of 1919*
Elizabeth Thompson, American University *The Muslim Brotherhood as an Anti-Colonial Movement*
Dina Fergani, University of Toronto *Work Camps and the Evolution of Anti-Colonial Education in 1960s Egypt*

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)
VII-08: Lebanon as a Site of Internationalist Solidarity

Organized by **Amy Fallas**, UC Davis and **Jeremy Randall**, Graduate Center, CUNY

Chair: **Jeremy Randall**, Graduate Center, CUNY
Jeremy Randall, Graduate Center, CUNY *Palestine as the Beating Heart of Global Revolution*
Amy Fallas, UC Davis *Hermanos fi al-Muqawama (Brothers in the Resistance): Schafik Handal and Forging Solidarity from Palestine to El Salvador in the 1980s*
Laila Ballout, Wichita State University *American Leftists in Lebanon: Developing International Solidarities and Broadening Anti-Zionism in the 1980s*
Tiziano Girardi, University of Turin *Transnational Solidarity in Lebanon: Monica Maurer's Internationalist Lens on the Palestinian Struggle (1977-1982)*
Marco Spagnoletti, European University Institute *Al Sharara: a Marxist Magazine between Beirut and Milan (1971-1978)*



ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

VII-09: Empire, Capital, and Rurality: The Commodification of Tribal Property in the Modern Middle East

Funded by the European Research Council

Organized by **M. Talha Cicek**, University College Dublin

Chair: **M. Talha Cicek** University College Dublin

M. Talha Cicek, University College Dublin *The Empire of Camels: How Camel Trade Reshaped Empire-Tribe Relations in the Late Ottoman Middle East*

Sevde Bolat, University College Dublin *Turning Crisis into Opportunity: Transformation of the Iraqi Date Trade During World War I*

Laura Stocker, University of Neuchatel *The Iraqi-Syrian Border and the Transformation of the Tribal Sheep Economy in Post-Ottoman Mosul*

Abdulhamit Kirmizi, Marmara University *Bureaucratic Expansion and Capitalist Integration in the Ottoman Countryside*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

VII-10: Translating Cultures: Legal, Linguistic, and Literary Intersections in Ottoman-European Exchanges

Organized by **Mehmet Kuru**, Sabanci University

Chair: **A. Tunç Sen**, Columbia University

Discussant: **Tommaso Stefini**, Sabanci University

Mehmet Kuru, Sabanci University *AESOP Alla Turca: Turkish Translations of Aesop Stories in the Early Modern Ottoman World*

Marloes Cornelissen Aydemir, Sabanci University *"Lettres Muettes": A 17th-Century French-Ottoman Oriental "Love-Code"*

Berkay Uluç, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Translating Ottoman Modernity*

Meric Tanik, Columbia University *From Anarchy to Order: Scientific Terminology in the Late Ottoman Empire and Early Turkish Republic*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

VII-11: Sufi Shrines to AI: Contemporary Islamic Piety

Chair: **Bitá Takrimi**, Northwestern University

Mohammed Mehdi Ali, University of Chicago *The Centrality of Love in Islamic Thought*

Fouad Gehad Marei, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient *VR Islam? Systems of Sensory Perception in Virtual Reality and the Prospects of Virtual Devotion in Islam*

Samuel Dinger, New York University *The Tale of Two Ramadans: Rupture and Religious Practice among Syrians in Lebanon*

Zohreh K.M. Shirazi, Auckland University of Technology *Bridging Ancestral Light and Modern Insight: A Transdisciplinary Approach to Iranian Mystical Narratives*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

VII-12: Borders, Bodies, and Becoming in Transnational Kurdish Literatures

Organized by **Jason Rodriguez Vivrette**, UC Berkeley

Chair: **Jeannette E. Okur**, University of Texas at Austin

Jason Rodriguez Vivrette UC Berkeley *Drowning Out the Border: Rewriting Migrant Kurdish Bodies into (Fantastic) Being(s)*

Jeannette E. Okur, UT Austin *Kurdish Women's Pain in Firat Cewerî's Lehî and Balsam Karam's Singulariteten*

Elmira Louie, UC Davis *Affective Expressions in the Interplay Between Hegemonic and Minority Languages in Literature from Turkey*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

VII-13: Purposes of Arabic Eloquence: Building the State and Understanding the World

Organized by **Jennifer Tobkin**, George Washington University

Chair: **Jennifer Tobkin**, George Washington University

Pamela Klasova, University of Chicago *Language and the World in the Luzūmiyyāt of Abū al-'Alā' al-Ma'arrī*

Ghassan Osmat, University of Toronto *Demons, Sages, and Monks: Narrative Culture in the Monasteries of the Early Modern Levant*



Lubna Alshanquitiy, King Abdulaziz University *The Micro-Structure of Language and the Macro-Structure of Society: Discourse Analysis of Banū Tamīm's Debate with the Prophet During the Year of Delegations*

Mustafa Binmayaba, King Abdulaziz University *Between Legitimacy and Diplomacy: The Poetic Praise of King Abdulaziz*

Rachel Schine, University of Maryland, College Park *Performing Racial Knowledge and the Art of the Arabic Anthology*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

VII-14: The Politics, Lives and Afterlives of Infrastructure in West Asia - Interdisciplinary Approaches

Organized by **Annika Schmeding**, University of Amsterdam

Chair: **Marya Hannun**, University of Exeter

Annika Schmeding, University of Amsterdam *The Political Lives of Afghan Roads*

Kendra Kintzi, Cornell University *From Rooftop Oases to Desert Plantations: Theorizing Just Power through the Multi-scalar Tensions of Jordan's Energy Transition*

Javier Guirado, Kennesaw State University *From Wells to Wheels: Citizenship, Labor, and (Sub)Urban Infrastructure in Doha, 1970s*

Ezgican Özdemir Kelly, Ozyegin University *Entangled Histories of Waterscapes: A Genealogy of Water Infrastructure in Cyprus at the Turn of the 20th Century*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

VII-15: Gender in Iran: Digital and Social Media

Chair: **Ghayda Al Ali**, Georgetown University

Tahmina Sobat, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and **Fatemeh Nasresfahani**, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *Creative Defiance: Art, Digital Activism, and Transnational Feminist Solidarity in Afghanistan and Iran*

Mahbubeh Moqadam, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Between Screens and Streets: Iranian Gen Z's Lives, Imaginaries, and Pursuit of Normalcy*

Farzad Karimzad, Salisbury University *Singing Across Divides: Spatiotemporal Imaginaries, Materialities, and Affects of Togetherness*

Delaram Hosseinioun, Utrecht University *Anachronistic Resilience: How Contemporary Iranian Women Artists Confront Generational Trauma and Self-Exoticism*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

VII-16: Rupturing Loss: The Poetics of Ruination, Remembrance, and Resistance in North Africa and the Middle East

Organized by **Nizar F. Hermes**, University of Virginia

Chair: **Nouri Gana**, UCLA

Nizar F. Hermes, University of Virginia *'The Dey's Doomed Éventail!' Ibn al-Shāhid's (d. 1844) Classical and Vernacular Cries over La Prise d'Alger*

Muhsin J. Al-Musawi, Columbia University *From the "Lament for Ur" to 'Visions of Baghdad': Seven Types of Redemptive Poetics*

Boutheina Khaldi, American University of Sharjah *Sailing Against the Wind: Bedouin Poetry in Tunisia as an Act of Resistance*

Suzanne Stetkevych, Georgetown University *Usāmah ibn Munqidh's Al-Manāzil wa al-Diyār: Rumination or Consolation?*

Kawthar Abdulwahid Ali, Independent *The Politics of Heritage in Conflict: A Case Study of Aden Post-2015*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

VII-17: Shifting Political Landscapes in Iran: Elite Configurations, Institutional Conflicts, and Grassroots Contestations

Organized by **Amirhossein Mahdavi**, University of Connecticut

Chair: **Alireza Eshraghi**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Discussant: **Negar S. Razavi**, Princeton University

Alireza Eshraghi, UNC Chapel Hill *Beyond Speculation: Succession and the Contingency of Power in the Islamic Republic*

Maryam Alemzadeh, University of Oxford *Lingering Habits: What the IRGC's Past Tells us about its Present*

Amirhossein Mahdavi, University of Connecticut *Institutional Chaos: A Source of Dysfunctionality or a Contributor to Authoritarian Durability?*



Alireza Raisi, Northeastern University *Economic Hardship and Factional Politics in Iran's Post-COVID19 Pandemic Era*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

VII-18: Exploring Empire in "Low" Places

Organized by **Dylan Baun**, University of Alabama in Huntsville and **Hilary Falb Kalisman**, University of Colorado at Boulder

Chair/Discussant: **Elizabeth Williams**, University of Massachusetts Lowell

Dylan Baun, University of Alabama in Huntsville "A Quaker Outpost on the Slopes of the Lebanon": *The Oliver Orphanage and American Empire*

Idun Hauge, Georgetown University A "Remarkable Instrument of Cultural Propaganda": *Neo-Colonial Rivalries in Lebanon through Culture and Tourism, 1950-1975*

Pouya Nekouei Rizi, University of Texas at Austin *Political History of Sound in Modern Iran: Between Nationhood and Empire (1921 – 1953)*

Hilary Falb Kalisman, University of Colorado at Boulder *Imperialism, Decolonization and Standardized Testing: The British Council in the Modern Middle East*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

VII-19: Arab-American Hybridity and Shifts Across Borders

Chair: **Kristin Shamas**, Miami University Ohio

Gökhan Yüksel, Ataturk University *Different Muslim Characters and Hybridity in Amy Waldman's The Submission: A Postcolonial Approach*

Syrine Hout, American University of Beirut *Towards Discursive Code-Switching: Language Matters in Arab Australian Fiction*

Emma Grace Bryans, University of Arkansas *Queer Heterosexuality in Sarah Cypher's The Skin and Its Girl*

Kristin Shamas, Miami University Ohio "Gems of the Heart": *20th Century Syrian Lebanese American Life Through the Poetry of Eva Kouri Solomon*

Reem Tasyakan, UC San Diego *Pushing the Limits of Genre in the Contemporary Arab American Bildungsroman*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

VII-20: Narrating the Nation: Media and Memory in Middle Eastern Histories

Chair: **Sarah D. Shields**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Mary Tezak, Georgetown University *Illicit and Aleppine: Banned Publications in the Early Republic*

Michael Battalia, Princeton University *The Istiqlālī Activists, Palestine, and the Hijaz War, 1924–26*

Guldeniz Kibris Atabay, Ibn Haldun University 'Myths and Nationhood:' *1974 in Turkish Cinema*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

VII-21: Performance and Resistance

Chair: **Faedah Totah**, Virginia Commonwealth University
Nahid Ahmadian, University of Maryland *From Protest to Performance: The Reverberations of the Women, Life, Freedom Movement in Iranian Theater*

Alessandra Amin, Johns Hopkins University *Indisposed: Trash as a Palestinian Feminist Aesthetic*

Kira Nygren, Georgetown University *The Presentation of the Palestinian Struggle in Northern Ireland's Graffiti: Artwork Towards a Renewed Understanding of Connected Identities Across Crisis Landscapes*

Marina Johnson, Stanford University *Radical Imagination and Imaginative Ruptures: Future Worlds and Alternate Futures*

Faedah Totah, Virginia Commonwealth University *When Entertainment and Displacement Meet: The Story of the Syrian TV Series Al-Taghreba Al-Falastinya*

Khadidja Bouchellia, University of Arkansas "Arabs Don't Walk": *Walking and the Ecologies of Resistance in Raja Shehade's Palestinian Walks (2007) and Susan Abulhawa's Against the Loveless World (2021)*

Nahed Habiballah, Arab American University Palestine, The New School, New York *Art and Social Change: Palestinian Artists in Israel*



MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

VII-22: Displacement, Disenchantment, and Contemporary FictionChair: **Şeyma Kök**, Ataturk University**Şeyma Kök**, Ataturk University *A Sense of 'Monachopsis': Cross-Cultural Challenges in Leila Aboulela's The Translator***Ali Almajnooni**, Binghamton University, SUNY *Narrativizing the Şu'lūk Figure in Modern Arabic Fiction***Caroline Seymour-Jorn**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee *Cancer as Dispossession, Cancer as Alienation: Diagnosis and Treatment in the Novels of Laila al-Atrash and Nemat el-Behairy***Wijdan Alsayegh**, University of Michigan *Sexual Abuse in Arabic Fiction: An Examination of Social, Political, and Religious Taboos***Aya Labanieh**, Columbia University *Arabopessimism in Arabic Science Fiction*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

VII-23: Political Thought in Transnational PerspectiveChair: **Merisa Sahin**, Sewanee: The University of the South**Sussan Siavoshi**, Trinity University *Mesbah Yazdi and Leo Strauss: Brothers in Arms?***Kian Hosseini**, Florida International University *Russian Eurasianism and the Middle East: Competing Narratives from Turkey and Iran***Enes Ateş**, Mardin Artuklu University *Civilization, Colonialism and the West: Applying Decoloniality for Intellectual Islamism in Turkey through a Comparative Analysis of Sezai Karakoç and İsmet Özel***Ayşe Ayten Bakacak**, Ankara Yildirim Beyazıt University *Intellectual Pluralism and Rationalism in Contemporary Islamic Political Thought in Turkey: Ercüment Özkan*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

VII-24: Histories of the Margins in the Eastern MediterraneanChair: **Ceren Uçan**, Dokuz Eylül University**John David Ragan**, Independent Scholar *Marginalized French Travelers in Egypt: Suzanne Voilquin, Thomas Ismayl Urbain, Jehan d'Ivray and the Saint-Simonians: Voices of Women, Afro-French, Working, Immigrant and Low-Budget Travelers***Nefertiti Takla**, Georgetown University *The Racialization of Criminality: Drug Trafficking and the Expulsion of North Africans from Interwar Alexandria, Egypt***Erdem Idil**, University of Toronto *Intimate Histories and Material Worlds: Venetians in Early Modern Istanbul***Seçil Yilmaz**, University of Pennsylvania *The Rule of Sexperts: Ottomans, Medicine, and the Transimperial Diplomacy of Sex Work (1878-1918)***Salma Shash**, UC Santa Barbara *Landed Sheikhs, Settled Tribes: The Tahāwiyya Family and the Making of an Egyptian Bedouin Elite (1830-1914)***William C. Young**, Independent Researcher *Family Circles: Non-Linear Representations of Tribal Bonds and Kinship Ties by Arab Genealogists*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

VII-25: Matrilineal Legacies, Feminist Solidarities, and Non-Traditional Kinship in New Arab Documentary PracticesOrganized by **Raed El Rafei**, University of PittsburghChair/Discussant: **Samirah Alkassim**, George Mason University**Raed El Rafei**, University of Pittsburgh *Lingering War Memories and Queer Trauma in New Lebanese Documentaries***Drew Paul**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville *Mothers, Children, and Sumud: Contesting Expulsion in the Palestinian Documentary No Other Land***Nicole Wallenbrock**, City University of New York *Maghrebian Motherhood Reenacted: 2023 Documentaries that Recast the Mother***Peter Limbrick**, UC Santa Cruz *Cine-filia in the Archives Bouanani*



MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

VII-27: From Taḥqīq to Javanmardi: Sufism, Shi'ism, and Religious Entanglements in Mongol and post-Mongol Iran

Organized by **Christian Pye**, University of Texas at Austin

Chair: **Matthew Melvin-Koushki**, University of South Carolina

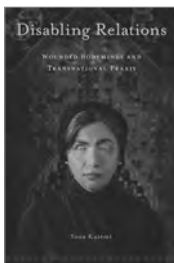
Christian Pye, UT Austin "*Nothing Which Exists is Other than You*": Anti-Sectarianism among the People of Realization from Ibn 'Arabi (d. 1240) to the Mira't al-Muhaqqiqin (ca. 15th c.)

Jonathan Brack, Northwestern University *Interfaith Taḥqīq? The Verifiers and Religious Disputations in Mongol-ruled Iran*

Amanda Leong, The Courtauld Institute of Art *Non-Royal Female Javanmardi in the Samak-i Ayyar Illustrated Manuscript*

Mohammad Amin Mansouri, University of Toronto *Reinterpreting Shi'i-Sunni Relations in the Persianate Mongol World through Ṣadr al-Dīn Ḥammūya's Farā'id al-simṭayn*

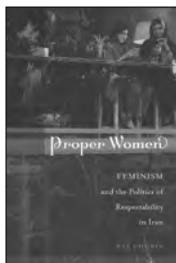
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ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)



SPECIAL SESSION

VIII-01: A Multifaceted Defense of Academic Freedom in Times of Genocide

MESA has redoubled its efforts over the last year to advance our membership's interests, defend knowledge production in our field of study, and protect the rights of students and scholars in North America, and particularly in the U.S. at a time of unprecedented threat. This panel will provide an overview of the work that the MESA Task Force on Civil and Human Rights has undertaken since November 2024, and critically offer opportunities for the membership to ask about our work and provide suggestions about additional actions we might take. Additional MESA committees that have been active this year in overlapping ways are the North America wing of CAF and our new Committee on Academic Autonomy. Panelists drawn from all three initiatives will address the work MESA has done in terms of data collection, defense of academic freedom in individual cases, broader policy-oriented legal strategies, and public-facing interventions affirming the academic importance and integrity of our field. Ample time will be allotted for discussion and questions from the audience.

Coordinated by MESA's Task Force on Civil and Human Rights

Chair/Discussant: **Lara Deeb**, Scripps College
Lara Deeb, Scripps College
Darryl Li, University of Chicago
Zachary Lockman, New York University
Ussama Makdisi, UC Berkeley
Maryam Jamshidi, University of Colorado, Boulder
Aslı Bâli, Yale Law School

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VIII-02: Ecology and Infrastructure: New Approaches to Racial Capitalism

Organized by **Hengameh Ziai**, SOAS, University of London and **Sarah El-Kazaz**, SOAS, University of London

Chairs: **Hengameh Ziai**, SOAS and **Sarah El-Kazaz**, SOAS, University of London
Arang Keshavarzian, New York University
Sharri Plonski, Queen Mary, University of London
Muna Dajani, London School of Economics and Political Science

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VIII-03: Expanding and Developing the Field of International Relations Within Middle East Studies – A Roundtable Honoring the Work of F. Gregory Gause III

Organized by **Curtis R. Ryan**, Appalachian State University

Chair: **Curtis R. Ryan**, Appalachian State University
Curtis R. Ryan, Appalachian State University
Jillian M. Schwedler, Hunter College, CUNY
Matteo Legrenzi, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Marc Lynch, George Washington University
Fred H. Lawson, Northeastern University

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VIII-04: Queer Turkish and Ottoman Literature

Organized by **Ipek Sahinler**, University of Texas at Austin

Chair: **Cemal Kafadar**, Harvard University
Discussant: **Ipek Sahinler**, UT Austin
Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr, Columbia University
Rustem Ertug Altinay, University of Milan
Emre Keser, UC Santa Cruz
Kutay Onayli, Princeton University



MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VIII-05: Genocide and the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Sherene Seikaly**, UC Santa Barbara

Chair: **Sherene Seikaly**, UC Santa Barbara
Adel Iskandar, Simon Fraser University
Hesham Sallam, Stanford University
Sinan Antoon, New York University
Khalid Mustafa Medani, McGill University
Noura Erakat, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Maya Mikdashi, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Bassam Haddad, George Mason University

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

VIII-06: Writing Syrian History in the Time of Upheaval

Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association (SSA)

Organized by **Matthieu Rey**, National Center for Scientific Research and **Seda Altug**, Koc University

Chair: **Matthieu Rey**, National Center for Scientific Research
Matthieu Rey, National Center for Scientific Research
Loubna Kheir, University of Neuchatel
Max Weiss, Princeton University
Seda Altug, Koc University
Ammar Alsamar, French Institute for the Near East (IFPO)

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

VIII-07: Cosmic Jazz: Weirding the World Through Textual-Visual Play in a Messianic Age

Organized by **Matthew Melvin-Koushki**, University of South Carolina

Chair: **Jonathan Brack**, Northwestern University
 Discussant: **Mohammad Amin Mansouri**, University of Toronto

Cyril Uy II, James Madison University *Weird Texts, Weird(er) Methods: Hearing Ḥamūya as Sufi Free Jazz*
Elizabeth R. Alexandrin, University of Manitoba *Water, Sea, and the Messianic Flood: Freeform Diagrammatic Oddities in Ḥamūyeh's Short Messianic Treatises*
Matthew Melvin-Koushki, University of South Carolina *Jazz Astro-Lettrist Imperialism: Iskandar Sultan's Illuminated Horoscope (1411) as Hermetic World-Riddle*

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

VIII-08: Learning and Knowledge Transmission in Morocco

Organized by **Rosemary Admiral**, University of Texas at Dallas

Chair: **Asma Sayeed**, UCLA
Andrea Castonguay, Western New England University *In This Knowledge Economy? The Appearance and Locations of Moroccan Juridical Networks in the Medieval Mediterranean*
Jocelyn Hendrickson, University of Alberta *Al-Tāzī's Fifteenth-Century Call to Jihād*
Rosemary Admiral, UT Dallas *The Study of Moroccan Women's Biography through Muhammad al-Kannuni's Shahirat al-Maghrib*
Armaan Siddiqi, Harvard University *Transmitting Devotion: The Mawlid as a Medium of Knowledge and Piety in Morocco*
Ghizlane Bentaouzer, Muhammadiyah League of Scholars *The Place of Religious Law in Moroccan Higher Education*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

VIII-09: Transnational Histories of Early Arab Cinema

Organized by **Deborah Starr**, Cornell University and **Ifdal Elsaket**, Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo

Chair: **Deborah Starr**, Cornell University
 Discussant: **Joel Gordon**, University of Arkansas
Michael Allan, University of Oregon *Crossing the Tracks: The Lumière Cinematograph Between La Ciotat and Jerusalem*



Karim Elhaies, New York University *When Cinema was New: Virtual Flanerie, Nahdawi Mechanomania, and the Local Routes of Early Cinema in Cairo*

Deborah Starr, Cornell University *"Chinese Magic" by way of Hollywood: Transnational Flow in Amina Muhammad's "Tita Wong" (1937)*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

VIII-10: Rethinking Financial Control: The Material Life of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration

Organized by **Daniel Stolz**, University of Wisconsin-Madison and **Emre Can Daglioglu**, Stanford University

Chair/Discussant: **Aaron G. Jakes**, University of Chicago
Emre Can Daglioglu, Stanford University *From Tax Collector to Market Gatekeeper: The OPDA in the Ottoman Sericulture*

Joan Chaker, Harvard University *Bankers and Muleteers: The Ottoman Public Debt Administration and the Struggle over Tobacco*

Daniel Stolz, UW Madison *The Salt Depot and Late Ottoman Economic Governance*

Nora Barakat, Stanford University *Beyond "Integration into the Global Economy": The OPDA and Revenue Extraction Infrastructures in Homs and Gaza*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

VIII-11: Contestation and Place-Making in Palestine/Israel

Chair: **A.R. Joyce**, Middle East Policy Council
Thayer Hastings, Graduate Center, CUNY *Improper Inhabitation of Palestinian Jerusalem: Evidence and Objects, Suspicion and the Senses*

Yair Agmon, UCLA *Playing Ancient: Racialization and Jewish Settlers' Search for Origins*

Samee Sulaiman, Yale University *Disability and the Reconstruction of Life in Gaza: Present Realities and Future Speculations*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

VIII-12: Occidentalism Reconsidered: The West Through the Eyes of Its Other

Organized by **Varol Kahveci**, Columbia University

Chair: **Varol Kahveci**, Columbia University

Varol Kahveci, Columbia University *"My Dear Lord, in the Name of the Secrets of Turkish Life, Who Knows What We Are to See!": (Ottoman) Turkish Occidentalism and the Question of Affect*

Phoebe Carter, Kenyon College *Colonial Mirrors: Muhammad Ali Tawfiq's American Travelogue and the Limits of Occidentalism*

Sheyda Aisha Khaymaz, The University of Texas at Austin *Morocco Strikes Back a Pose: The Art of Undaunted Disregard in Mohamed Cherradi's Studio Photography*
Sena El Banna, University of Warwick *Rethinking Islamist Occidentalism: Cross-Ideological Encounters of Exiled Egyptian Islamist Women*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

VIII-13: Fluid Archives: Tracing Memory Through Sludge, Stains, and the Sea

Organized by **Bridge McWaid**, UC Santa Barbara and **Camilla Falanesca**, UC Santa Barbara

Chair/Discussant: **Naor Ben-Yehoyada**, Columbia University

Camilla Falanesca, UC Santa Barbara *Toxic Archives: Memory and Political Economy in El Borma*

Bridge McWaid, UC Santa Barbara *The Future of Fish and Fisheries: British Management and Indigenous Resistance in Palestine, 1930s*

Yasmine Benabdallah, UC Santa Cruz *With and Against the Archive: Decolonial Conjuring and Ritual Time*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

VIII-14: Shifting Racial Categories on the Arabian Peninsula

Organized by **Magdalena Moorthy Kloss**, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient

Chair: **Kristina Richardson**, University of Virginia



Magdalena Moorthy Kloss Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient *Freed Slaves, British Officials and the Question of Origins: Contested Racial Categories in 20th-Century South Yemen*

Nathaniel Mathews, Binghamton University *Marxist Radicals in Zanzibar and Omani family ties*

Mandana E. Limbert, Queens College, CUNY *Citizenship, Marriage, and Nation-Building in Southern Arabia*

Matthew MacLean, Independent Scholar *Migration, State Formation, and Arabism in the Making of the United Arab Emirates, 1950-1975*

Gokh Amin, UC Santa Cruz *The Street Sweepers: Rumors, Labor, and the Racialization of Sanitation Workers in Southern Arabia*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

VIII-15: Ottoman Archaeology in the Long 19th Century: Archives, Networks, Museums, Laws, and Practices

Organized by **Artemis Papatheodorou**, Metropolitan Museum of Art and **Ceren Abi**, MESA Global Academy

Chair: **Ceren Abi**, MESA Global Academy

Ceren Abi, MESA Global Academy *The Unique Case of World War I Ottoman Restitution Negotiations*

Nilay Ozlu, Istanbul Technical University *Promises and Shortcomings of the Newly Opened Archives of the Ottoman Imperial Museum*

Chloe Rosner, Centre de recherche français à Jérusalem *Reevaluating Ottoman and French Archaeological Relations in Palestine through Diplomatic Archives*

Artemis Papatheodorou, Metropolitan Museum of Art *Between Constantinople and Athens: The archaeological policy of the autonomous Ottoman Principality of Samos*

Anna Vangelatou, University of Cambridge & the British Museum *Histories of People and Objects: Antiquities Trading Networks in the Ottoman Aegean, circa 1860-1890*

Leticia R. Rodriguez, University of Houston *Anti-Colonial Sediments: Migrant and Indigenous Archaeologies in 19th-Century Ottoman Writings from the Gulf of Antalya*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

VIII-16: New Directions in Researching Gender in Authoritarian Egypt: Securitizing Reform, Policing Bodies, and Co-opting Sexualities

Sponsored by the Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)

Organized by **Hind Ahmed Zaki**, University of Connecticut

Chair/Discussant: **Sherine Hafez**, UC Riverside

Vickie Langohr, College of the Holy Cross *Policing Public Sexual Harassment in Egypt: The Changing Role of Survivors and the Police, 2005-2019*

Nermin Allam, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *Why Do Macho Regimes Selectively Adopt Gender Reforms?*

Omnia Khalil, City College of New York, CUNY *Gendered Relatedness and Security in Cairo's Urban Geography*

Hind Ahmed Zaki, University of Connecticut *Reinstating Sovereignty: Public Spectacles of Sexual Violence in Egypt*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

VIII-17: Women and Gender in Iran/Persia: The Long View

Organized by **Mary Elaine Hegland**, Santa Clara University

Chair: **Mary Elaine Hegland**, Santa Clara University *Before, During, and After the Iranian Revolution: A Story from Shiraz*

Janet L. Bauer, Trinity College *Unfinished Ethnography of Iran/Iranian Diasporas: The Pleasures and Discontents of Slow Anthropology*

Amina Tawasil, Teachers College, Columbia University *Muslimness, Empire, and Difficult Fieldwork Situations in the Islamic Republic of Iran*

Julia Clancy-Smith, University of Arizona *1978 & Futures to the Past: Women and Gender Studies as Mobilities*



MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

VIII-18: Rethinking Civilizationism, Identitarianism, and Political Governance in New Turkey

Organized by **Deniz Kilincoglu**, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient and **Gizem Zencirci**, Providence College

Chair: **Gizem Zencirci**, Providence College
 Discussant: **Timur Hammond**, Syracuse University
Gizem Zencirci *Civilizational Heritage, Islamic Decoloniality, and Külliye as a Site of "Organic" Governance*

Deniz Kilincoglu, Leibniz-Zentrum *Heritage to Horizon: Civilizationism in Turkey's New Education Model*

Asli Z. Igsiz, New York University *From Pan-Europeanism to Pan-Islamism: Hagia Sophia, Identitarianism, and Civilizationism*

Bilge Yesil, Graduate Center, CUNY *Tabii: Turkey's Counterpoint to Global Streaming and the Quest for Civilizational Superiority*

Sarp Kurgan, Yeditepe University *Progressive Intellectuals in Turkish Politics: A Comparative Historical Survey, 1920-2000*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

VIII-19: Political Parties: Formation, Tactics, Impact

Chair: **Marsin Alshamary**, Boston College

Elif Sari Genc, Portland State University *The Electoral Impact of (Non)Veiled Women Candidates on Party Vote Share in Turkey*

Mehtap Anaz, Université Laval *Authoritarian Repression and the Organizational Weakness of Arab Leftist Parties: The Case of Tunisia*

Selin Gumrukcu, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *Beyond the Ballot: Opposition Party Tactics under Competitive Authoritarian Regimes*

Toygar Sinan Baykan, Kırklareli University *Patrons, Brokers, Activists: Practice of Political Parties in Contemporary Turkey*

Quinn Mecham, Brigham Young University *Political Party Systems in North Africa: Patronage, Identity, and Policy*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

VIII-20: Trajectories and Afterlives of Revolution: Between Hope and Disappointment

Organized by **Ola Galal**, New York University

Chair: **Abdel Razzaq Takriti**, Rice University
 Discussant: **Sami Hermez**, Northwestern University in Qatar

Ola Galal, NYU *"That's it! I'm Fed up!": Feminist Activists, the State, and the Politics of Disappointment After the Revolution in Tunisia*

Razan Ghazzawi, Oregon State University *Popular Sovereignty and Trans Mothering of Anti-War Syrian Soldiers*

Charlotte Al-Khalili, University of Sussex *Hopes and Doubts in the Aftermaths of the Assad regime downfall*

Stephanie Victoria Love, University of Pittsburgh *Martyrs and Men: Negotiating Masculinities Between Two Algerian Revolutions*

Samer Abboud, Villanova University *The Politics of Uncertain Futures: Syrian Lifeworlds in Canada Before/ After the Fall of the Regime*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

VIII-21: Modern Islam, State Power, and Society

Organized by **Aaron Rock-Singer**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Chair: **Aaron Rock-Singer**, UM Ann Arbor

Aaron Rock-Singer, UM Ann Arbor *Sacralizing the Nation: The Adoption of Takfir in Mandate Palestine, 1929-1935*

Arthur Zárata, San Jose State University *Secular Religion and Religious Science: Transformations of the Islamic Tradition in Egypt During the Nasser Years (1954-1970)*

Laura Thompson, Harvard University *Sabb al-Jalala, or Insulting the Majesty of God, 150 years apart: the case of Batto Sfez and an Unnamed Bar Patron*

Ian VanderMeulen, The Crown Center for Middle East Studies *The Auditory Committee: Listening and Bureaucratic Authority in Islamic Media Production*



MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

VIII-22: Minorities at Home and Abroad

Chair: **Roger A. Deal**, University of South Carolina Aiken
Michael Ferguson, Concordia University Valley of Saints, *Fields of Tomatoes: A History of the Lebanese Community of Leamington, Ontario – Family, Work, Baladi (1956-1986)*
Hani Bawardi, University of Michigan, Dearborn “We were all Syrians”: *Negotiating Patriotism and Acculturation in shaping Arab American Identity (1925-1945)*
Gözde Emen Gökatalay, Independent Scholar *Framing and Gendering the Attacks on Turkish/Muslim Minorities in the Balkans: The Kesarevo Incident (1932)*
Charalampos Gappas, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Fragile Loyalties: The Circassians during the Greco-Turkish War of 1919-1922*
Joseph Kotinsky, Saint Edward’s University *Enshrining Division: The Origins of Ethno-Sectarian Power-sharing in post-2003 Iraq*
Safa Asaf Yorulmaz, Yeditepe University *Revolution and Emancipation: Circassian Agricultural Slavery in the Ottoman Empire After 1908*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

VIII-23: Mechanisms of Repression

Chair: **Sarah Parkinson**, Johns Hopkins University
Nadine Sika, American University in Cairo *Migration and Repression: The Interplay between Political Grievances and Migration from the South to the North*
Omar Sadr, University of Pittsburgh *Ulama Totalitarianism: Power, Authority and Legitimacy under the Taliban Regime*
Smadar Ben-Natan, University of Oregon *Repression and Silencing in Israeli Universities after October 7*
Sarah Parkinson, Johns Hopkins University *Mahsa Amini in the Stadium: Fan Activism and Public Safety at the Qatar World Cup*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

VIII-24: Ecocriticism and Middle Eastern Literatures

Organized by **Amir Moosavi**, Rutgers University-Newark and **Yasmeen Hanoosh**, Portland State University

Chair: **Amir Moosavi**, Rutgers University-Newark
Discussant: **Yasmeen Hanoosh**, Portland State University
Amir Moosavi, Rutgers University-Newark *Dirty Marshes and Headless Palms: Reading the Ghosts of War in Contemporary Arabic and Persian fiction*
Yasmeen Hanoosh, Portland State University *Arabic Fiction and the Oil Encounter: Three Iraqi Novels*
Anna Ziajka Stanton, Pennsylvania State University *Life and Death in the Cedar Forest: Human-Tree Relations in Hoda Barakat’s “Kingdom of This Earth”*
Yasmine Khayyat, Rutgers University-New Brunswick *Ecocide, War, and Resistance in Contemporary Lebanese Fiction*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

VIII-25: Law, Leisure, and Politics: Children and Youth as Historical Actors in the MENA Region

Sponsored by the Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)

Organized by **Kimberly B. Katz**, Towson University

Chair: **Rochelle Anne Davis**, Georgetown University
Kimberly B. Katz, Towson University *Arrested Children: Between Criminal and Juvenile Law in Jordan, 1951-1953*
Asaf Levy, Pennsylvania State University *The Ramallah Festivals: Youth as the Face of Harmonious Jordanization, 1962-1966*
Orit Bashkin, University of Chicago “We, The Children of the Transit Camp”: *Young Arab Jewish Adults in the Israeli State, 1949-1967*
Salmah Elmasry, Georgetown University *Student Protests in Egypt and Tunisia, Transnational Feminism, and the Politics of Corporeality during the 2011 Arab Uprising*
Joonhwan Choi, University of Arizona *The Strategic Innocence: Child Perspective as a Narrative Device in Majid Majidi’s Iranian Cinema*
Keren Zdafee, Tel Aviv University *Feminism for Children? On Girls, Women and Femininity in the Egyptian Comics al-Awlād (1923-1932)*



MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

VIII-26: Print, Prison, and Homeland: Shaping Identities in the Late Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Busra Elif Ozelik**, Florida State University and **Mete Ulutas**, Pennsylvania State University

Chair/Discussant: **Annie Greene**, University of Utah
Mete Ulutas, Penn State *Prisons, Counterpublics, and Political Subjectivities: The Memoirs of Ottoman Armenian Political Prisoners*

H. Hüma Yardım, City University of New York *Prisons, Reforms, and Identity: Incarceration and Governance in the Late Ottoman Empire*

Busra Elif Ozelik, Florida State University *Print, Power, and Identity: State-Sponsored Publications in the Late Ottoman Levant*

Ozlem Elif Isler, Pennsylvania State University *Sacred Vatan: The Perception of Homeland in the Late Ottoman Era*

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

VIII-27: North African Narratives: The Works of Berrada, Choukri, Mosteghanemi, and Zafzaf

Organized by **Jonas M. Elbousty**, Yale University

Chair: **Jonas M. Elbousty**, Yale University
Jonas M. Elbousty, Yale University *Trauma and Identity in Mohamed Choukri's Autobiographical Works*

Doaa Omran, University of New Mexico *The Biopolitics of Dismemberment in Ahlam Mosteghanemi's Memory in the Flesh*

Touria Khannous, Louisiana State University *Vulnerable Bodies: State Violence against Hippies in Muhammad Zafzaf's novel The Elusive Fox*

Anouar El Younssi, Emory University *Mohamed Berrada's Lu'bat al-nisyān (1987): Expanding the Horizons of Contemporary Arabic literature*



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ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

**SPECIAL SESSION****IX-01: Celebrating 40 Years of AMEWS and 20 Years of JMEWS: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future of Middle East Women's and Gender Studies**

2025 marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Association of Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS) and the 20th anniversary of its journal, the Journal of Middle East Women's Studies (JMEWS). Bringing together AMEWS members (and past and current presidents) and JMEWS editors from multiple generations who will reflect on AMEWS and JMEWS's pivotal roles in shaping and advancing the field of Middle East women's and gender studies, the session will explore key moments in the history of AMEWS and JMEWS and share insights on our challenges and achievements.

Sponsored by the Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)

Organized by **Soha Bayoumi**, Johns Hopkins University

Chair: **Soha Bayoumi**, Johns Hopkins University

Suad Joseph, UC Davis

Nadje Al-Ali, Brown University

Sherine Hafez, UC Riverside

Zeina Zaatari, University of Illinois at Chicago

Dana El-Sammak, Lebanese American University

Hind Ahmed Zaki, University of Connecticut

Lucia Sorbera, University of Sydney

Sertaç Sehlükoglu, University College London

Natalie El-Eid, Georgetown University

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

**SPECIAL SESSION****IX-02: Israel-US War on Iran and its Consequences**

The June 2025 Israel-US war against Iran took place amidst Iran's negotiations with the US, as well as the ongoing genocide in Palestine. The military confrontation lasted twelve days, but it may well be reignited. What is certain is that the war has had significant and lasting impact on the tattered credibility of international law, the balance of geopolitical power in the region, and on Iran's conflicted domestic politics. Complicit western governments and conservative Middle Eastern states are suddenly confronted with the potentially catastrophic consequences of a political vacuum in one of the largest countries of the Middle East, should the latest Israeli-US plans to re-engineer the region through military violence led to an actual collapse of the Iranian regime. Some segments of the Iranian diaspora welcomed the Israel-US attacks, while hoping for a quick overthrow of the Islamic Republic. But within Iran, most grassroots organizations and dissident activists have taken a public stand against the illusion that military intervention by foreign powers can bring about a favorable and democratic solution to theocratic authoritarianism and political repression.

Organized by **Kaveh Ehsani**, DePaul University and **Shirin Saeidi**, University of Arkansas

Chair: **Kaveh Ehsani**, DePaul University

Shirin Saeidi, University of Arkansas

Leila Sadegh Beigi, University of Arkansas

Peyman Jafari, College of William and Mary

Setareh Shohadaei, New York University

Arang Keshavarzian, New York University

Aghil Daghighaleh, University of Northern Colorado

Homa Hoodfar, Concordia University



ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

WORKSHOP

IX-03: Professional Development in Active Learning: Introducing Reacting to the Past

Workshop participants will play a *Reacting to the Past* (RTTP) micro-game in development: "Identity and Destiny in the 1920 Syrian National Congress." The best way to understand the impact on students of the role-play and game-based pedagogy is to experience it as a student. This micro-game is designed for a single class setting and has no threshold for entry. There will be time for debriefing the game and the pedagogy at the end of the workshop. RTTP was launched over 25 years ago out of Barnard College and has grown into a large and lively consortium of faculty across the country and across disciplines.

Coordinated by MESA's Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Organized by **Heather N. Keaney**, Westmont College

Chair: **Heather N. Keaney**, Westmont College
Sanket Desai, Montgomery County Community College
Cynthia Metcalf, Dominican University

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IX-04: New Edited Book Roundtable on Decolonizing Afghanistan

Organized by **Morwari Zafar**, Georgetown University

Chairs/Discussants: **Bilge Yesil**, Graduate Center, CUNY
Hatim El-Hibri, George Mason University
Morwari Zafar, Georgetown University
Wazhmah Osman, Temple University
Sabauon Nasser, Beloit College
Hosai Qasmi, Hosa Counselling & Research
Dawood Azami, University of Westminster
Zohra Saed, The City University of New York

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IX-05: The Anthropologist as Reader: Remembering and Thinking with Brinkley Messick

Organized by **Hengameh Ziai**, SOAS, University of London and **Yosra Hussein**, Columbia University

Chair: **Timothy Mitchell**, Columbia University
Yosra Hussein, Columbia University
Hengameh Ziai, SOAS, University of London
Lorenzo Bondioli, Harvard University
Nada Moutaz, University of Toronto

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IX-06: Art in Academia: Integrating the Study of Art into Middle East Studies

Organized by **Nada Ammagui**, Sharjah Art Foundation and **Shifaa Alsairafi**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Kristin Smith Diwan**, Arab Gulf States Institute
Bader Mousa Al-Saif, Kuwait University
Shifaa Alsairafi, Georgetown University
Kristin Smith Diwan, Arab Gulf States Institute
Nada Ammagui, Sharjah Art Foundation
Sean Foley, Middle Tennessee State University

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

IX-07: Research and Scholarship in the New Syria: Possibilities and Ethical Responsibilities

Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association (SSA)

Organized by **Andrea L. Stanton**, University of Denver

Chair: **Andrea L. Stanton**, University of Denver
Elyse Semerdjian, Clark University
Rebecca Joubin, Davidson College



Reem Bailony, Agnes Scott College
Stephennie Mulder, The University of Texas at Austin
Keith D. Watenpaugh, UC Davis
Faedah Totah, Virginia Commonwealth University

ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)

IX-08: Insurgent Performances: Solidarity Aesthetics and Bodily Production Within Middle Eastern/SWANA and Diasporic Expressive Cultures

Organized by **Melissa Melpignano**, University of Texas at El Paso

Chair: **Heather Rastovac Akbarzadeh**, UC Riverside
Melissa Melpignano, University of Texas at El Paso
Keyword: Ambiguity
Shayna Silverstein, Northwestern University *Shock*
Meiver De La Cruz, Whitman College *Archive*
Hannah Schwadron, Florida State University *Stay Fearful, Stay Safe: Festiwalla Youth and Resistance Performance Culture in Berlin*

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

IX-09: Mystical Webs: Sufi Networks and Multilayered Spaces

Organized by **Fatma Deniz**, New York University and **Gianfranco Bria**, Roma Tre University

Chair/Discussant: **Gianfranco Bria**, Roma Tre University
Gianfranco Bria, Roma Tre University *Translocal Sufism: The Networks and Legacy of the Melâm ya in Late Ottoman Empire*
Hasan Karatas, Istanbul Technical University *Of Lice and Dervishes: Urban Pests and Sufis in the Ottoman Empire*
Antonio Musto, University of Minnesota *Expanding Networks: Prosopography, Digital Tools, and New Histories of Sufism's Formative Period (3rd/9th-6th/12th c.)*
Fatma Deniz, NYU *Sufis in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul: Networks of Connectivity and Disconnection in the Ottoman Empire*
Seyed Amir Asghari, Indiana University *The Sufi School of Najaf: Reassessing the Intersection of Sufism, Space, and Networks in the Shii Seminary*
Shabbir Agha Abbas, University of Arizona *All Sufis Welcome: Except Jami and the Naqshbandis*

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

IX-10: Mothering and Un-mothering in Palestine

Organized by **Asma Al-Naser**, Vanier College

Chair: **Asma Al-Naser**, Vanier College
Asma Al-Naser, Vanier College *Motherhood and the Gaza Genocide*
Nahla Khalil, University of Massachusetts Amherst *Mother and Nation: Voices of Women in Contemporary Palestinian Resistance Literature*
Elizabeth Wehbe, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *Humanitarianism, Care, and the Silencing of Palestinian Mothers' Labor*
Cindy Sousa, University of Washington, Tacoma *Threats to and Reclamation of Palestinian Maternal Power Within the Israeli Settler Colonial Project*
Amal Elsana-Alhjooj, McGill University *De-De-Mothering Under Colonialism: Palestinian Motherhood, Resistance, and the Struggle to Protect*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

IX-11: Nationalism, Public Health, and Medical Institutions in North Africa and the Middle East: Colonial and Postcolonial Encounters (19th-20th Centuries)

Sponsored by The Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TARII)

Organized by **Martina Biondi**, University of Maryland, College Park and **Peter Wien**, University of Maryland, College Park

Chair: **Peter Wien**, University of Maryland, College Park
Benan Grams, Loyola University New Orleans *Water Supply and Hygienic Modernity Imperialism in Nineteenth Century's Damascus*
Karim Malak, Wagner College *Who is an Egyptian? Race-Making in Early Twentieth-Century Colonial Egypt*
Martina Biondi, University of Maryland, College Park *At the Origins of Moroccan and Tunisian Healthcare Infrastructures. The Place of the Struggle Against Infectious Diseases (1956-1986)*
Amelia Burke, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Impacts of Health Insurance Enrollment on Mutual Assistance Institutions in Rural Morocco*



FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

IX-12: Elite Politics: Capitalists, Presidents, and Monarchs

Chair: **Zep Kalb**, Princeton University

Nur Arafeh, Carnegie Middle East Center *Capital Concentration by Hebron's Industrial Elite in the post-Oslo period: The role of "Dependent Privilege" and the triple alliance*

Pietro Marzo, Teluq University *The International Dynamics of Tunisian Democratic regression*

Zep Kalb, Princeton University and **Kevan Harris**, UCLA *The Evolution of State-Business Relations in Iran: Findings from the Iran Business Group Database*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

IX-13: Moral Epistemes Between Philosophy, Language, and Law

Organized by **Felicitas Opwis**, Georgetown University

Chair: **Felicitas Opwis**, Georgetown University

Felicitas Opwis, Georgetown University *Legal Analogy (qiyas) and the Goodness of God's Law in the Thought of 4th/11th Century Muslim Scholars*

Sara Omar, Georgetown University *Analogical Reasoning (Qiyās) and the Logic of Regulating Sex between Men (Liwāt)*

Feriel Bouhafa, University of Wurzburg *The Moral Episteme of Qiyās in Islamic Philosophy: The Ethics of the Particulars*

Johannes Stephan, Freie Universitat Berlin *Qiyās as a Cognitive Basis for Writing Literature: The Case of Ibn al-Muqaffa' and Kalila and Dimna*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

IX-14: Borrowed Sovereignty: Longue Durée Perspectives on Capital and Justice in Egypt (ca. 1800-ca. 2000)

Organized by **Hedayat Heikal**, American University in Cairo

Chair/Discussant: **Aslı Bâli**, Yale Law School

Zoe Griffith, Baruch College, CUNY *Unsettling Debts: Commercial Networks and Ottoman-French Rivalries in Egypt, 1780-1810*

Omar Cheta, Syracuse University *Certain Debt, Uncertain Enforcement: Egypt in the 1800s*

Ibrahim Elhodaiby, Brandeis University *"Indebted, Therefore I Am": Governmental Debt and Sovereignty in Nineteenth-Century Egypt*

Hedayat Heikal, AUC *The Sovereign Guarantees: Foreign Investor Protections from and by the State in Contemporary Egypt*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

IX-15: Literary Criticism and Affect Across Forms and Concepts

Chair: **Matthew Brauer**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Farshad Sonboldel, UC San Diego *The Worst Persian Poems: Tondar Kia and the Aesthetics of Failure*

Mahmood Al-Fkaiki, University of Texas at Austin *On Novels and Novelists Slips: Arab Authors and Social Criticism*

Monica Katiboğlu, Istanbul Bilgi University *Edebiyat-ı Cedide on Uncanny Language*

Emily Drumsta, University of Texas at Austin *Practical Criticism, Translation, and Arab Nationalism in Nazik al-Mala'ikah's "Issues in Contemporary Poetry" (1962)*

Helen D. Aloskan, Georgetown University *Echoes of the Classical Maqāmah between Dramatization and Narrative Storytelling*

Dana Aicha Shaaban, Texas Tech University *The Influence of The Arabian Nights on Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

IX-16: Ousting and Inclusion of the In/Visible Arab Americans: The Works of Eman Quotah, Aya Khalil, Hala Alyan, Amal Kassir and Seif-Eldein

Organized by **Doaa Omran**, University of New Mexico and **Najlaa Aldeeb**, Effat University

Chair: **Jonas M. Elbousty**, Yale University

Discussant: **Doaa Omran**, University of New Mexico

Najlaa Aldeeb, Effat University *The Representation of Arab-American Identity in Eman Quotah's Bride of the Sea*

Jehan Farouk Fouad, Ain Shams University, Egypt *A Bond of Wound: Tracing Transnational Connections between Syrians and Syrian-Americans in some Poetic Testimonies of the Syrian Civil War*

A Bond of Wound: Tracing Transnational Connections between Syrians and Syrian-Americans in some Poetic Testimonies of the Syrian Civil War



Aliyah Alsaber, Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud University
Un-Be-Longing: Diasporic Identity and Multiple Displacements in The Arsonists' City by Hala Alyan
Hasnul Djohar, Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta
Islamic Perspectives: Media and Conflict Resolution in Tamimi's They Called Me A Lioness
Majda Atieh, Sultan Qaboos University
Toward a Transparent American Classroom: Mobilizing Arab American Textile Pedagogy in Aya Khalil's The Arabic Quilt: An Immigrant Story and The Great Banned-Books Bake Sale

Ceyda Karamursel, SOAS, University of London
Eunuchs' Mutual Aid Society: Race, Kinlessness, and the Politics of Care at the End of the Ottoman Empire
Matthew Ghazarian, Amherst College
The Hunger and the Terror: Famine, Debt, and Violence in the Late Ottoman East
Ella Fratantuono, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Children Bereft of Family and Education: Hamidian-Era Schools as Sites of Muhacir Survival
Baris Tasyakan, UC San Diego
"If the Tanzimat was a dead letter at Bursa, what must it be in other parts?": Ottoman Reform in the Provinces

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

IX-17: Modernity Framed: The Politics of Art Through the Lens of Economy and Class Struggle in Iran Between Revolutions

Organized by **Siamack Hajimohammad**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Chair/Discussant: **Norma Claire Moruzzi**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Discussant: **Siamack Hajimohammad**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Siamack Hajimohammad, University of Illinois at Chicago
Photography and the Romantic Narrative of Iran's Constitutional Revolution

Brian Plungis, New York University
Oiling "The Machine": The Spectre of Petro-Modernity in Iranian New Wave Cinema

Reza Etemadinia, University of Pittsburgh
Sonic Anxieties: The Resurrection of Tehran Thrillers in Late-70s Iran

Leili Adibfar, University of Illinois at Chicago
Existence and Oil: Art of Behjat Sadr in Late Pahlavi Iran

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

IX-18: Surviving the Late Ottoman Empire

Organized by **Kate Dannies**, Miami University

Chair/Discussant: **Chris Gratien**, University of Virginia
Kate Dannies, Miami University
Surviving Militarization: Desertion, Masculinity, and the Gender Politics of Mobilization for World War I

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

IX-19: Education, Curricular Innovations, and New Classroom Strategies

Chair: **Kristin Tassin**, University of Texas at Austin
Peter Valenti, New York University
The Neglected Arena: Pedagogy and Curriculum on the Middle East and Islam in K-12 Textbooks and Classrooms: Teaching the So-Called Arab-Israeli Conflict in High School

Elsa Belmont Flores, Brown University
Identity, Power, and Representation in the Arabic Language Curriculum: Thinking through and with Arab Cinema

Iman Saad El Din Nahla, American University in Cairo
Building Cultural Bridges: Strategies for Developing Intercultural Competence in Arabic Language Learners

Noha Ghali, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Virtual Exchange in Language and Culture

Shahira Yacout, American University in Cairo
Exploring the Virtual Global Classroom: Perspectives of Arabic Heritage Learners

Dalal Aboel Seoud, American University in Cairo
Bridging Cultures Through Dialogue: Enhancing Intercultural Competence and Critical Thinking in Arabic Literature Education – A Pedagogical Framework

Gareth Smail, College of Charleston
Holding Class in French and Tamazight: Language Ideologies and Classroom Interaction in Provincial Morocco



MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

IX-20: Engaging Zionism: History, Theory, and the Politics of Knowledge Production

Organized by **Jehad Abusalim**, New York University

Chair:

Discussant: **Esmat Elhalaby**, University of Toronto

Jehad Abusalim, New York University *Beyond Reaction: Arab and Palestinian Thought on Zionism and the Politics of Exclusion*

Max Weiss, Princeton University *Toward a Critique of Anti-Anti-Zionism*

Hanna Alshaikh, Harvard University *Confronting Zionism from the Debate Stage to Refugee Camps: Fayez Sayegh and the Hammar skjold Plan*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

IX-21: Love in Translation: Identity and Censorship in Novels

Chair: **Michelle Quay**, Brown University

Mehdy Sedaghat Payam, University of Maryland, College Park *Revolution and Literary Style: Tracking Changes in Persian Popular Novels Through Computational Analysis*

Hossame Boudaghia, Abdelmalek Essaadi University *Divorcing the Past: Tangier and Collective Trauma in Anouar Majid's Si Yussef*

Aaron Brown, University of Texas at Dallas *A River Runs Between It: Thirst and Excess in Tayeb Salih's Season of Migration to the North and Ibrahim Al-Koni's The Bleeding of the Stone*

Mohammed Hirchi, Colorado State University *Exile and Loss: The Rise and the Fall of Ghali in Fatiha Morchid's novel Nuktat al inhidar (The Falling Point)*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

IX-22: Franklin Books and the Cultural Cold War in Comparative Contexts

Organized by **Levi Thompson**, University of Texas at Austin

Chair: **Levi Thompson**, UT Austin

Levi Thompson, UT Austin *Franklin Books in Baghdad*

Hosna Sheikholeslami, UC Irvine *Reimagining Foreign Influence: The Franklin Book Program's Mythical Legacy in Iranian Publishing*

Sarah Hussain, Tufts University *Nation in Translation: The Franklin Book Program in Pakistan*

Nadeem Omar, University of Texas at Austin *Publishing as Politics: The Franklin Book Program and Language Movement in East Pakistan (1950–60)*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

IX-23: Contemporary Islamic Thought

Chair: **Samaneh Oladi**, Virginia Commonwealth University

Ahmed Elbenni, Princeton University *"The Poet of Islam": The Reception of Muhammad Iqbal in Egypt*

Nareman Amin, Michigan State University *Conceptualizing an Islamic Liberation Theology on Social Media: Suhaib Webb and #BLM*

Rezart Beka, College of Islamic Studies, Hammad Bin Khalifah University *Theorizing Reality in Contemporary Islamic Thought: The Case of Scholars of Fiqh al-Wāqī'*

Mohannad Abusarah, University of Toronto *Palestinian Ulama in the Late Ottoman Empire: Traditionalist Networks and Intellectual Debates*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

IX-24: From Intimate Space to the Cosmos in Classical Islamic Thought

Chair: **Elias G. Saba**, Grinnell College

Kamran Karimullah, University of Manchester *Ptolemaic Astronomy in the Thought of Abu Hamid al-Ghazali*

Hasan Tauha, Harvard Divinity School *Reimagining the Ghayb in the Early Modern Islamic East: Epistemic Transformations in Mullā Ṣadrā (d. 1640), Aḥmad Sirhindī (d. 1624), and Nūr al-Dīn al-Rānīrī (d. 1658).*

Saad Shaukat, UCLA *Infinity and Beyond: Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī (d. 1210) on the Mapping Argument*

Pouyan Shahidi Marnani, Indiana University Bloomington *Building a Digital Bridge Over an Interdisciplinary Gap: Scaffolding the Mathematics of Premodern Astronomical Texts for Humanistic Research and Pedagogy*



MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

IX-25: International Relations and Diplomacy

Chair: **Shameer Modongal**, American University
Sebnem Gumuscu, Middlebury College and **Beken Saatcioglu**, MEF University, Istanbul *Empowering Autocrats: The EU's Migration Partnerships with Turkey, Tunisia, and Egypt*
Mona Saleh, German Institute of Global and Area Studies *Rebuilding Bridges: Trust, Diplomacy and Co-operation Between the European Union and Arab League*
Yehya Abuzaid, Georgetown University *The Evolution of Ansar Allah's Diplomacy*
Anissa Ozbek, Independent *Diplomacy in the Crossfire: Exploring Tehran's Internal Obstacles to Negotiating Iran's Nuclear Program*
Ahmed H. Megahed, Newgiza University Egypt's Ministry of Foreign Affairs *Between Revolution and Restoration: Political Evolutions and Institutional Adaptation (2011–Present)*
Cengiz Gunay, Austrian Institute for International Affairs and **Johannes Späth**, Austrian Institute for International Affairs *Authoritarian Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Al-Sisi's Strategic Calculus*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

IX-26: Popular Mobilization, Subaltern Histories, and Revolutionary Politics: Drawing on Gramsci to Renew the Study of Resistance

Organized by **John T. Chalcraft**, London School of Economics and Political Science

Chair: **John T. Chalcraft**, LSE
John T. Chalcraft, LSE *Translatability in Gramscian Languages of Popular Mobilization*
Marral Shamshiri, University of Exeter *Iranian-Arab Militant Cultural Production in 1960s Baghdad and Beirut: Transnational Civil Society Beyond Statist Constraints*
Nour Almazidi, London School of Economics and Political Science *Insistent Wujud: on Stateless Subaltern Struggles in Kuwait*
Mehdi Shakarchi, London School of Economics and Political Science *The Possibility and Potential of Subaltern Autonomy: Popular Self-Activity in Iraq's Tishreen Uprising*
Maryam Mehrabadi, Louisiana State University *Graphic Design as Cultural Battleground: Colonialism, Modernity, and Resistance in Pahlavi Iran*

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

IX-27: Commodity Histories of Lebanon

Organized by **Jan Altaner**, University of Cambridge

Chair: **Zachary Cuyler**, University of Illinois at Chicago
Discussant: **Kristen Alff**, North Carolina State University
Jan Altaner, University of Cambridge *Exploring the Transformation of Beirut's Real Estate into a Global Commodity*
Nour Hachem, UC San Diego *Cannabis, Prohibition, and State Formation in Lebanon: A View from the Bekaa Valley*
Rea Vogt, University of Bern *A Returnee's Commodity: Trading and Consuming Yerba Mate between Argentina, Brazil, and Lebanon in the Late Interwar Period*
John Tofik Karam, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Putting the Arab Back into Coffea Arabica By Way of Brazil: A Global South Prelude?*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

IX-28: Matter Out of Place: Dirt, Waste, and Marginality in the Modern Middle East

Organized by **Maya Aghasi**, American University of Sharjah and **Tylor Brand**, Trinity College Dublin

Chair/Discussant: **Stacy Fahrenthold**, UC Davis
Tylor Brand, Trinity College Dublin *Ruins, Rats, and Rabies: Abandoned Properties and Threats to Health and Order in the Post-Famine World of Mandate Lebanon*
Maya Aghasi, American University of Sharjah *Itineraries of Matter: Modernity, Progress, and the Question of Waste*
Daniel Williford, University of Wisconsin-Madison *Making and Mining Lead in Morocco: Between Aesthetic and Technoscientific Practice*



ROCK CREEK A (Ballroom Level)



SPECIAL SESSION

X-01: New Directions in MENA Dance

This session launches a multidisciplinary artistic and scholarly conversation between SWANA artists and dance scholars. The session features several dance performances by such dance artists, followed by a discussion of the state of dance studies and MENA studies by leading scholars in these fields. The dance performances raise questions that are parallel to those in academia, while embodying questions of identity, geography, citizenship, and belonging. The panel explores why MENA studies has marginalized dance in our field and what new directions might be generated from the session performances. Together, this uniquely hybrid session brings together embodied live art and dialogue to stage a conversation that has to date remained behind the curtain.

Chair: **Charles Kurzman**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Discussant: **Melissa Melpignano**, University of Texas at El Paso

Performance Program:

Tanin Torabi, Dance Artist, Filmmaker: *The Dérive, In Plain Sight, and Until*

Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre, *Noah*, excerpt from *The Store*, **Mohammed Smahneh**

Jonah Bokaer Choreography, Noor

Presenters:

Jonah Bokaer, Jonah Bokaer Choreography

Karima Borni, Middlebury College

Shayna Silverstein, Northwestern University

Heather Rastovac Akbarzadeh, UC Riverside

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

X-02: Toward Tamazight-Conscious Approaches in Tamazgha Studies

Organized under the auspices of the *Tamazgha Studies Journal*

Organized by **Aomar Boum**, UCLA and **Brahim El Guabli**, Johns Hopkins University

Chair: **Brahim El Guabli** Johns Hopkins University

Aomar Boum, UCLA

Matthew Brauer, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Eric Calderwood, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Mariam Taher, Georgetown University

Samia Errazzouki, Stanford University

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

X-03: After Liberation: Imagining the Future of the Levant

Organized under the auspices of the Project for Levantine Futures

Organized by **Sami Hermez**, Northwestern University in Qatar

Chair: **Sami Hermez**, Northwestern University in Qatar

Sami Hermez, Northwestern University in Qatar

Sulafa Zidani, Northwestern University

Nadim Bawalsa, Institute for Palestine Studies

Eman Abdelhadi, University of Chicago

Mona Damluji, UC Santa Barbara



MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

X-04: Wise Women and New Approaches: Honoring Those Who Study Iranian and ME (SWANA) Gender and Women Issues

Organized by **Mary Elaine Hegland**, Santa Clara University

Chair: **Mary Elaine Hegland**, Santa Clara University
Lubab Al Kayed, Independent Scholar
Marjan Heidari, The University of Texas at Dallas
Nada Ali, UCLA
Homa Hoodfar, Concordia University
Munazza Ebtikar, University of Oxford

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

X-05: The Middle East and its Revolutions

Organized by **Mona El-Ghobashy**, New York University

Chair: **Mona El-Ghobashy**, New York University
Mona El-Ghobashy, New York University
Elizabeth Thompson, American University
Rima Majed, American University of Beirut
Atef Said, University of Illinois at Chicago
Khalid Mustafa Medani, McGill University
Lisa Wedeen, University of Chicago

HICKORY (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

X-06: Middle East Migrations: Minority Perspectives and the Transnational Politics of Pluralism

Organized by **Candace Lukasik**, Mississippi State University

Chair: **Candace Lukasik**, Mississippi State University
Candace Lukasik, Mississippi State University
Aaron Eldridge, University of Toronto
Charles Hirschkind, UC Berkeley

Sarah Bakker, San Francisco State University
Christopher Sheklian, Mississippi State University
Tala Jarjour, King's College London

ROCK CREEK B (Ballroom Level)

X-07: Late Ottoman Readers and Writers

Organized by **Meltem Toksoz**, Brown University and **Yeliz Cavus**, Miami University

Chair: **Meltem Toksoz**, Brown University
Yeliz Cavus, Miami University *Books and Beyond: The Library of the Ottoman Historical Society and the Reading Practices of Late Ottoman Historians*
Meltem Toksoz, Brown University *Writing and Reading Ottoman Turkish Narratives of world history*
Ziad Dallal, Bard College *Reading Arabic Allegories At The Turn of the Twentieth Century*
Kutay Onayli, Princeton University *"Love thy Neighbour": The Uneasy Intimacies of Sultan Abdülhamid II and the Satirical Poet Georgios Souris*
Efe Balıkcıoğlu, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia and **Irvin Cemil Schick**, Independent Scholar *Thoughts on Two Popular Late-Ottoman Erotic Novellas*

ROCK CREEK C (Ballroom Level)

X-08: Student Circuits in the Global Middle East

Organized by **Sara Hussein**, UCLA

Chair: **Lily Hindy**, UCLA
Sara Hussein, UCLA *The "Nile Route" to Revolution: East African Students and Azhar University*
Soheila Ghaziri, Université de Montréal *Borderline Medicine: Student Mobility and the Making of Pan-Arab Networks in the Interwar Levant*
Will Teague, Angelo State University *Resistance, Rise, and Removal: Iranian Student Activism during the Presidency of Jimmy Carter*
Lily Hindy, UCLA *Stateless Diplomats: Kurdish Students as Anticolonial Elites at European Universities in the 20th Century*
Julia Gettle, Brown University *Catastrophe as Crucible: The Regeneration of Palestinian Politics through Nakba-Era Student Political Life*



ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

**X-09: Paradoxes of Humanitarianism:
Anthropological Inquiry in Times of Crisis**

Sponsored by the Association of Middle East
Anthropology (AMEA)

Organized by **Ezgi Guner**, Haverford College and **Sa'ed
Atshan**, Swarthmore College

Chair/Discussant: **Sa'ed Atshan**, Swarthmore College
Ezgi Guner, Haverford College *African Statecraft as an
Object of Turkish Humanitarianism*
Rania Sweis, University of Richmond *Doctors Challenging
Borders: The Making of Syrian-American Medical
Humanitarians*
Christopher T. Dole, Amherst College *Genealogies of the
Psychosocial: Post-Disaster Psychiatry in Turkey*
Peter Habib, Emory University *Humanitarianism for All:
Lebanon's Crises and the Widening of the Humanitarian
Subject*
Yasemin Ipek, George Mason University *The 2024 Israeli
War on Lebanon and Diverse Grassroots Humanitarianisms*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

**X-10: Sense-Making and Making Sense during
Environmental Crises: Consumers, Peasants, and
Intellectuals in the 19th and 20th Centuries**

Organized by **Wilson Chacko Jacob**, Concordia
University

Chair: **Zozan Pehlivan**, University of Minnesota, Twin
Cities
Discussant: **Michael Christopher Low**, University of Utah
Wilson Chacko Jacob, Concordia University *When Nature
Calls: The Nahda, Empire, and the Environment from Egypt
to India and Beyond*
Conor Kilroy, Concordia University *Producing
Petroculture: Ads, Automobility, and the "American Way of
Life", 1929-1939*
Zozan Pehlivan, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Reading Ottoman Peasants in Times of Crisis

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

X-11: Sufism and Sufi Sites in MENA Literature

Organized by **Nisrine Slitine El Mghari**, University of
Kentucky

Chair: **Mohammed Hirchi**, Colorado State University
Nisrine Slitine El Mghari, University of Kentucky
*Rediscovering The Sufi Site and Literature with Edmond
Amran El Maleh*
Ahmed Idrissi Alami, Purdue University *The Sufi Text:
Autobiography, Diary and Chronicle*
Hanan Elsayed, The Pennsylvania State University
Tangier's 'Issawas beyond Eugène Delacroix's Brush
Latifa Zoulagh, Bowie State University *Exploring the
Sacred: Sufism in the Novelistic Works of Rajae Benchemsi*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

**X-12: The Question of Race in Middle East
Studies: Land, Language, and Violence in Cultural
Production on Palestine and Afghanistan**

Organized by **Paniz Musawi Natanzi**, University of
Pennsylvania

Chair: **Isabel Käser**, University of Bern
Paniz Musawi Natanzi, University of Pennsylvania
*Imperial Rewritings of Exile: Afghan Artists, Cultural
Infrastructure, and the Question of Palestine in the US and
Germany*
Mursal Sidiqi, University of Pennsylvania *Inheriting
Afghan Epistemologies: Strategies of Race-Making in
Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Travelogues*
Ahmad Rashid Salim, UC Berkeley *The Manifesto of the
Inheritors of the Earth*
Zeena Fuleihan, Duke University *Make the Desert Bloom:
Colonial Fantasy and the Rape of the Land in Palestine*



RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

X-13: Economic Sovereignty in Thought and Praxis in the Middle East and North Africa, c. 1880–1958

Organized by **Zachary Cuyler**, University of Illinois at Chicago

Chair: **Zachary Cuyler**, University of Illinois at Chicago
Zachary Cuyler, University of Illinois at Chicago *The Trans-Arabian Pipeline and the Lebanese Brotherhood of Labor*

Nader Atassi, UC Berkeley *Between Anticolonialism and Antifeudalism: Economic Sovereignty in Syrian Nationalist Thought, 1920–1958*

Camille Cole, Illinois State University *Monopoly, Development, and Protest in Late Ottoman Concessions*

Andrew Arsan, University of Cambridge *“Spoliation” and its Discontents: Economic Sovereignty and Anti-colonialism in the Thought of the Young Tunisians, c.1895-1912*

Fatemeh Masjedi, Georg-August University Goettingen
The Transnational/Global Political Economy of Qajar State

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

X-14: State, Society, and Art in the Medieval World

Chair: **Abigail Balbale**, New York University
Minsoo Jeon, Columbia University *Rūm and ‘Acem in Transition: Place-making in Fifteenth- and Sixteenth-century Ottoman Prose Literature*

Amin Mahini Khodavirdinia, UC Santa Barbara *From Tribal Legacy to Dynastic Power: Seljuq Women and the Emergence of Atabeg States in the Eastern Islamic Lands*

Mona Hafiz, American University in Cairo *Local and Transregional Networks of Women in Late Medieval Mecca and the Mamluk Empire*

James Weaver, University of Zurich *“I am Considerably Humbler than Thou”: Striving for Humility in the Mamlūk Sultanate*

Lutz Gerhard Richter-Bernburg, University of Tuebingen *Counter-Crusade, Realpolitik and Creature Comforts: Saladin, al-Qāḍī al-Fāḍil, al-Kātib al-Iṣfahānī*

Renata Fontanillas, University of Lisbon *Medieval Portugal: Part of the Islamic World, Apart from the World of Islamic Art*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

X-15: Alternative Futures for Iran

Organized by **Paul S. Rowe**, Trinity Western University

Chair: **Paul S. Rowe**, Trinity Western University
Paul S. Rowe, Trinity Western University *The “Axis of Resistance” and the Future of Iranian Foreign Policy*

Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta *“Opposition Against the Movement”? The Woman, Life, Freedom*

Movement and the Dynamics of Diaspora Opposition

Masoud Zamani, University of British Columbia *The Future of Political Islam in Iran: Between Post-Islamism and Re-Secularization*

Rachael Barden, Trinity Western University *Underground Currents of Disillusionment: Assessing the Narrative of Christian Conversions in Iran*

Annie Tracy Samuel, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga *Regime Loyalty Among Iran’s Security Services*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

X-16: The Erasure of Palestine and the Unraveling of the Neoliberal University Since October 7, 2023: The Canadian Case

Organized by **Dyala Hamzah**, University of Montréal

Chair: **Manal A. Jamal**, James Madison University
Dyala Hamzah, University of Montréal *“Enlightening Palestinians” vs “Adopting a Conflict not Ours.” How Assaulting History Became Managerial at Université de Montréal*

Leïla Benabdelouhab, University of Quebec in Montreal
The Limits of Intersectionality: Feminist Academia, Palestine, and the Politics of Erasure

Abir Samih, HEC Montréal *Walls Within Walls: Colonial Logics, Academic Freedom, and the Repression of Pro-Palestine Student Activism in Canada*



MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

X-17: The Diversity and Resilience of Bektashi Heritage: Historical and Contemporary Ethnographic Perspectives

Organized by **Yeliz Teber**, University of Oxford

Chair: **Ayfer Karakaya-Stump**, College of William and Mary

Discussant: **Ahmet T. Karamustafa**, University of Maryland, College Park

Yeliz Teber, University of Oxford *Writing Cultural History from the Margins: Objects and Authority at the Haci Bektas Shrine*

Nicolas Elias, Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales *For the Love of Abdal Musa: Religious Institutions of a Bektashi Congregation in the 20th and 21st Centuries*

Alex Kreger, Habib University *Unfinished Business: On the (Partial) Un-Conversion of Alevi-Bektashi Villages*

Ozkan Karabulut, Harvard University *Resilience in Print: The Bektashi Publication Activities in the Ottoman Empire*

Ayfer Karakaya-Stump, College of William and Mary *A Newly Discovered 16th-Century Bektashi İcazetname from Amasya and Its Implications for the Development of the Bektashi Silsile Tradition*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

X-18: Hauntings and Longings in Palestinian Literature

Chair: **Nadya Sbaiti**, Georgetown University

Sinan Antoon, New York University *Mahmoud Darwish's Ghost(s): Haunting the Present*

Cora Enterline, Trinity College Dublin *Embodied Cartography in Adania Shibli's Minor Detail*

Andrea Pizzinato, Geneva Graduate Institute *Getting lost and finding oneself again? Narratives of identity in Palestinian Hebrew fiction*

Taylor Roberts, Clemson University *Performing the Border Zone in Isabella Hammad's Enter Ghost*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

X-19: Technologies of Occupation

Chair: **Dale Stahl**, University of Colorado at Denver

Shai Gortler, UC Santa Cruz *Subject Formation in Israeli AI and Surveillance*

İbrahim Öker, Union College *Dried Out: Water Governance and the Entrenchment of Israel's One-State Reality*

Michael Samuel, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga *The Extralegality of Palestinian Dispossession: The Special Night Squads, the Israel Defense Forces, and Unchecked Violence*

Ghadi Awad, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *The Facade of Connectivity: Epistemic Violence, Orientalism, and Telecommunication Infrastructure in Gaza*

Stephen P. Gasteyer, Michigan State University *Securitization and New Water: Israel's Weaponization of Legitimacy through Water Technology*

MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

X-20: American Orientalisms: Speaking Back Through Islamic Art History

Organized by **Christiane J. Gruber**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and **Emily Neumeier**, Temple University

Chair/Discussant: **Holly Edwards**, Williams College

Emily Neumeier, Temple University *Making Florida Great: Orientalism and the Architecture of Mar-a-Lago*

Alex Dika Seggerman, Rutgers University-Newark *Michigan's Minarets: Midwest Muslims and Midcentury Modernism*

Christiane J. Gruber, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *"A Grand Spectacular Parade with All Sheiks in Full Regalia": The Moorish Science Temple of America and Black-Muslim Orientalism*

Ünver Rüstem, Johns Hopkins University *Shining, Shimmering, Splendid: Middle Eastern Architecture and the Disney Theme Parks*



MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

X-21: International Aid and Humanitarian Assistance

Chairs: **Altea Pericoli**, Princeton University and **Sima Ghaddar**, UCLA

Altea Pericoli, Princeton University *Autocratic Institution-Building in the International Aid Ecosystem: The Case of Qatar and Jordan*

Sima Ghaddar, UCLA *Localized Aid, Global Logics: How Community-Led NGOs Reshape Humanitarian Aid Interventions in Lebanon's Slum Neighborhoods*

Daniel Kryger, University of Washington, Seattle *STS and Humanitarianism as a Research Object in the Middle East*

Joshua Snider, UAE National Defense College *Gulf-Based Development and Economic Assistance in Pakistan: Comparing UAE, Qatari, and Saudi Funded Initiatives*

Bedirhan Kir, American University *Interfaith Organizations and the Gaza War: Responses, Silences, and Political Constraints*

Nasema Zeerak, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *Imperial Mode of Engagement: (Non)Reciprocity and Potential Dialogue*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

X-22: Political Narratives, Discourses, and Myths

Chair: **Susanne Dahlgren**, Finnish Institute in the Middle East

Sefa Secen, Nazareth College of Rochester *Constructing the "Muslim World": Discourse, Myth, and Geopolitics in International Relations Theory*

Hania Abou Al-Shamat, University of North Carolina at Charlotte and **Amna Noyal**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte *Countering Orientalist Narratives: Analysis of American Muslim and Arab Organizations' Campaign Initiatives in the Twenty-First Century*

Zahra Mansoursharifloo, University of Kansas *Verses and Lies: Rhetorical Analysis of Ayatollah Khomeini's Speeches During the Islamic Revolution*

Fatma Murat, Bilkent University *Family, Faith, and Feminism: The Disruption of Traditional Narratives by Muslim Intellectual Women in Turkey*

Roodabeh Dehghani, University of Ottawa *Blending Psychology and Faith: Governmentality and Sexual Discourses in Iran*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

X-23: Discursive Constructions of Turkey in Geopolitical Context: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Organized by **Mehmet Eroglu**, Michigan State University

Chair: **Mehmet Eroglu**, Michigan State University *Welcome (or Not) to İncirlik: The U.S. Military's Quest for Local Consent in İncirlik, Turkey*

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University *Envisioning an Impending Cold War and Turkey's Situation Therein: Adana in the Geopolitical Imagination of the West*

Ayla Deniz, Ankara University *The Geopolitics of Citizenship by Investment in Türkiye*

Lisel Hintz, Johns Hopkins University *Rally 'Round the Screen: Foreign Threat Production in Regime Videos*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

X-24: Emotions in the Medieval Islamic Intellectual Tradition

Sponsored by the Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Organized by **Han Hsien Liew**, Arizona State University

Chair: **Han Hsien Liew**, Arizona State University
Lauren Osborne, Whitman College *"The Heart Did Not Fabricate What He Saw": Tracing the Medieval Life of the Fu'ād*

Kathryn Kueny, Fordham University *How Not to Grow Old: Shame, Discipline, and the Ethics of Geriatric Care in Premodern Muslim Sources*

Joseph Vignone, Gonzaga University *Emotional Geography in al-Muqaddasī's "Aḥsan al-taqāsīm"*

Raissa von Doetinchem de Rande, University of Chicago Divinity School *Feeling like a (Philosopher) King: Emotions and Ideal Rulers in al-Farabi (d. 339/950)*

Han Hsien Liew, Arizona State University *Managing Royal Anger in Medieval Muslim Mirrors for Princes*



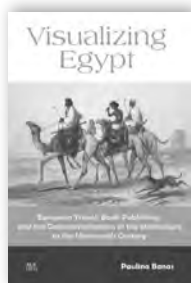
MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

X-25: New Directions in SWANA Queer StudiesChair: **Simona Sharoni**, Merrimack College**Cemile Gizem Dincer**, Boston University and **Elif Sari**, University of British Columbia *Feminist and Queer Perspectives on Deportation: Iranian Women and LGBTQ+ Refugee Experiences in Turkey***Hanane Idihoum**, Georgetown University *Queer Moroccan Experiences Between Theory and Activism: Rethinking Class, Colonial Legacies, and Neoliberalism***Johnathan Norris**, Boston University *'Exploring' Amman in a Taxi: Strategies in Queering the City***Lamia Bouqentar**, University of Toronto *Resisting Heteropatriarchal and Homonationalist Forces through an Arab Queer Joy***Tess Waggoner**, New York University *You Will Never Walk Alone*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

X-26: Music and Soundscapes: Gender, Activism, and Communal ExpressionsChair: **Kenneth Habib**, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo**Ali Atabey**, University of Texas at San Antonio *Noises of the Neighborhood: Sound and Intercommunal Interactions in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul***Benjamin Jones**, Georgetown University *Indigenous Activism in the Folk Music of Mohamed Rouicha***Nour MJ Hodeib**, Graduate Center, CUNY *Grooving on the Barricades: the Leftist "NewSong" and the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990)*

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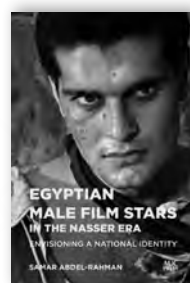
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Paulina Banas
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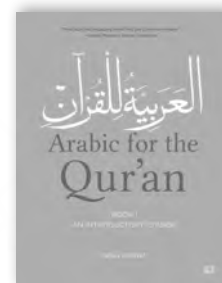
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MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XI-01: Security, Development, and Political Participation in the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Shana Marshall**, George Washington University

Chair: **Shana Marshall**, George Washington University
 Discussant: **Karim Makdisi**, American University of Beirut
Fouad Gehad Marei, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient
Shana Marshall, George Washington University
Omnia Khalil, City College of New York, CUNY
Firat Demir, University of Oklahoma

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XI-02: Methods and Ethics in the Study of Minorities in the Middle East: The Case of Assyrians/Syriacs

Chair: **Candace Lukasik**, Mississippi State University
Sargon Donabed, Roger Williams University
Candace Lukasik, Mississippi State University
Andreas Onver Cetrez, Uppsala University
Tala Jarjour, King's College London
Sarah Bakker, San Francisco State University
Joseph Hermiz, University of Chicago

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XI-03: The Present Day: Peacemaking Alternatives for Israeli Policy

Organized by **Lior B. Sternfeld**, Pennsylvania State University

Chair: **Smadar Ben-Natan**, University of Oregon
Smadar Ben-Natan, University of Oregon
Lior B. Sternfeld, Pennsylvania State University
Noa Balf, Indiana University Bloomington
Menachem Klein, Bar-Ilan University

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

WORKSHOP

XI-04: Current Debates in Middle East Studies with Global Academy Fellows and Arab Political Science Network

Coordinated by the MESA Global Academy

Chair: **Ceren Abi**, MESA Global Academy
Razan Ghazzawi, Oregon State University
Samer S. Shehata, University of Oklahoma
Sultan Alamer, Harvard University
Bashir Mobasher, American University

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

XI-05: Capital and Social History in the Middle East

Organized by **Xiaoyue Li**, Tulane University

Chair/Discussant: **Daniel Stolz**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Juan Ramirez, Georgetown University *Gendered Labor, Epistemic Encounter, and Imperial Pressure: Bin Diyaf on the Status of Women in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Tunisia*
Silvia Marsans-Sakly, Fairfield University *Capital, Law, and the Colonial Origins of Debt: The 1860 Renovation of the Roman Aqueduct at Zaghuan, Tunisia*
Xiaoyue Li, Tulane University *Debt, Dysfunction, and Delinquency in the Egyptian State Railways*
Sean Lawrence, West Virginia University *The Worth of Water: Reconsidering Deutsche Bank's 1907 Konya Plain Irrigation Project*
Masato Tanaka, Heidelberg University *"In Search of a National Economy": Post-WWI Autarkism and Power Politics in French Mandate Lebanon, 1916–1936*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

XI-06: Embodied Politics: Masculinity, Sexuality, and Intimacy

Chair: **Johnathan Norris**, Boston University
Ali Tohamy, Yale University *Researching Masculine Sexuality, Deviance and Demographic Futurism in Nasserist Egypt*



Sean Tomlinson, University of Arizona *Friendship in the Ottoman Army during World War I as Portrayed in Memoirs by Ottoman Officers from the Mashreq*

Ipek Bozkaya, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz *Echoes of Intimacy: Same-Sex Dynamics in 19th Century Janissary Records*

Mathilde Montpetit, New York University *The Caliph and his Boys: Modeling a Eunuchate between Byzantium and Baghdad*

Tanite Chahwan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Reimagining Post-Colonial Masculinities: Abdel Halim Hafez, Ahmed Ramzy, and the Politics of National Identity in Nasser's Egypt*

Asli Zengin, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey *Feminist Approaches to Sexual Morality in Turkey*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

XI-07: Generative Ruptures: Religious Transformation in and beyond the Middle East

Organized by **Houman Oliaei**, Babson College

Chair/Discussant: **Houman Oliaei**, Babson College
Houman Oliaei, Babson College *Reclaiming the Sacred Past: Zoroastrian Revival and the Politics of Religious Autochthony in Iraqi Kurdistan*

Erfan Saidi Moqadam, Wayne State University *Collision of Discourses: The Politics of Sacred Spaces, State, and Society in Iran*

Navid Fozi, Bridgewater State University *Iranian Christian Converts in Transit: Navigating Faith, Asylum, and Transnational Practices in Türkiye*

Ali Papoliyazdi, UC Santa Barbara *Genealogies of Reform: Ahmad Kasravi and Taghi Arani's Competing Visions of Religious Critique in Modern Iran*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

XI-08: Innovations in Academic and Professional Reading in Middle Eastern Languages

Organized by **Pounesh Shabani-Jadidi**, University of Chicago

Chair: **Noha Aboulmagd-Forster**, University of Chicago
Discussant: **Catherine Baumann**, University of Chicago

Catherine Baumann, University of Chicago *Getting Buy-In: How Assessment Literacy Became Key to Convince Graduate Programs to Accept a New Test – and Understand Its Design*

Pounesh Shabani-Jadidi, University of Chicago *Reading Persian for Academic Purposes*

Noha Aboulmagd-Forster, University of Chicago *Teaching Students of Arabic to Read Academic Texts: Notes from the field*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

XI-09: Palestinian Alternative Media in a Time of Genocide

Chair: **Josh Ruebner**, Georgetown University
Fatima Bahja, University of Texas at Austin *"Palestinian Cooking is Resistance": Gaza's Food Vloggers and Transgressive Digital Foodscapes*

Nourhane Kazak, Georgetown University *Instagram, "Digital Activism," and the Visual Economy of War in Gaza*

Michaëlle L. Browsers, Wake Forest University *The Resistance of Palestinian Women: Between Fact & Affect, Affect & Abjection*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

XI-10: Perspectives in Visual Studies of the Maghrib

Sponsored by the American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)

Organized by **Susan Slyomovics**, UCLA

Chair: **Marcia C. Inhorn**, Yale University
Discussant: **Heghnar Watenpaugh**, UC Davis
Susan Slyomovics, UCLA *New Public Art in Algeria's Urban Spaces*

Ava Hess, UCLA *Arts of Reversal: Prints and Under-Glass Paintings in Tunisia and Algeria*

Katarzyna Pieprzak, Williams College *When Plants Speak - Visual Arts and Trauma*

Yubai Shi, UCLA *Reframing Baya's 1948 Ceramics in Vallauris: Craft and Modernism in the Maghrib*

Aomar Boum, UCLA *Mapping Recollections: An Illustrated Historical Ethnography of Colonial Morocco*



MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

XI-11: Politics and Poetics of Social Reproduction

Organized by **Lana Salman**, University of Toronto and **Sumayya Kassamali**, University of Toronto

Chair: **Lana Salman**, University of Toronto
Sumayya Kassamali, University of Toronto *Who is the Lebanese Woman for the Ethiopian Domestic Worker?*
Lana Salman, University of Toronto *Intimate Textures*
Max Ajl, Ghent University *Social Reproduction and Dependency in Studies of the Arab Region*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

XI-12: Pathways of Contagion: The Politics of Disease and Mobility in Nineteenth Century's Middle East

Organized by **Benan Grams**, Loyola University New Orleans

Chair: **Benan Grams**, Loyola University New Orleans
Stephanie Boyle, New York City College of Technology, CUNY *Blaming the Victims: Tanta in the Age of Medical Orientalism*
Zeinab Azarbadegan, Yale University *Grave Matters: Corpse Traffic and Regulating Burials in Ottoman Iraq*
Selvihan Kurt, Istanbul Technical University *Burial Spaces and Public Health Discourse in 19th and 20th Century Izmir*
Hande Yalnizoglu, University of Oxford *A Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Laboratory of Plague: Baghdad and the mid-Euphrates*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

XI-13: Transregional Migrant Labor and Racial Formations in the Gulf

Organized by **Nidhi Mahajan**, UC Santa Cruz and **Thomas Serres**, UC Santa Cruz

Chair/Discussant: **Thomas Serres**, UC Santa Cruz
Salman Hussain, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Surveillance, Suspicion, and Social Control among Pakistani Migrants in the Gulf*

Nidhi Mahajan, UC Santa Cruz *A Burning Sea: Geopolitical Arbitrage and Maritime Labor in the Persian Gulf*

Thabiti Willis, Grinnell College *Performing Diaspora: The Hidden Narratives in the Songs of Pearl Divers in Bahrain*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

XI-14: Re/Considering and Re/Imagining Community in the Middle East

Organized by **Matthew DeMaio**, Lafayette College and **Michael Kaplan**, George Washington University

Chair: **Matthew DeMaio**, Lafayette College
Discussant: **A. George Bajalia**, Wesleyan University
Michael Kaplan, George Washington University *Belonging Across Difference in Transnational Islamic Communities in Istanbul*
Alize Arican, City College of New York, CUNY *Im/Possible Communities: Migrant and/or Trans Futures in Tarlabasi, Istanbul*
Feroogh Farhang, University of Vermont *Strangers at the Margins: Displacement, Poverty, and the Struggle for Belonging in Lebanon*
Mariam Taher, Georgetown University *Desirable In/Visibilities Amid Securitization: Siwan, Amazigh, and Egyptian Community Formations in Egypt's Siwa Oasis*
Matthew DeMaio, Lafayette College *Community as Critique: Narratives of Mutual Assistance amid Iterations of Palestinian Displacement*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

XI-15: State, Society, and Governance

Chair: **Lydia Shanklin Roll**, Southern New Hampshire University
Mehmet İhsan Özdemir, Mardin Artuklu University *Mapping the Political and Social Role of Local Councils (Majlis) in North Part of Syria: An Empirical Research*
Zohre Akrami, Florida International University *Contested Legitimacy: Iranian Society, Government, and the Struggle Over International Law*
Abdelmounaim Fanidi, School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (Paris, France) *Empire of Letters: The Epistolary Government in the Sharifian Sultanate (1873-1894)*



MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

XI-17: State Making in the Ancient and Medieval World

Chair: **Aya Mohamed**, Independent Scholar

Aya Mohamed, Independent Scholar *The Route of Xenophon's Anabasis of Cyrus*

Armen Abkarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Het'um's Homecoming: ReForging Armenian Kingship in Mongol Eurasia*

Brian J. Ulrich, Shippensburg University *The Uyunids of Eastern Arabia and Bahrain: What Makes a Dynasty?*

Onur Birkan, Mardin Artuklu University *An Islamic Perspective on International Relations: A Meaning-Based Theoretical Approach*

Nassima Neggaz, New College of Florida *The Barāthā Mosque of Baghdad under the Buyids: A Microhistory (329AH/941CE - 450AH/1059 CE)*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

XI-18: New Explorations in Classical Islamic Philosophy

Chair: **Sayed Hassan Akhlaq**, Coppin State University

John Walbridge, Indiana University Bloomington *Chinese Characters and Farabi's Theory of Language*

Hakan Genc, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich *Metaphysics Δ.6 on Unity in al-Kindī's On First Philosophy*

Ibrahim Najjar, Dhofar University *The Ultimate Purpose of Human Existence for Ibn Bajja*

Ahmet Celik, Syracuse University *The Philosopher-Lawgiver vs. the Prophet Lawgiver: Multiple Conceptions of Sovereignty in the Islamic Tradition*

Abdelrahman Abuabed, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies *Wisdom and Ethics in al-Jāḥiẓ's Kitāb al-Ḥayawān: Rethinking Human-Animal Relations*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

XI-19: Knowledge and the Self in Classical Arabic Literature

Chair: **Jonny Lawrence**, Cornell University

Emre Benoit-Savci, The American University in Cairo *Risālat al-Kindī and Early Christian Understandings of the Sunnī-Shī'ī Rift: Bridging Historical-Critical Scholarship and Literature on Early Christian-Muslim Relations*

Berenike Metzler, Orient-Institut Beirut *Know your ABCs! Letter semiotics as a touchstone for true scholarship: The Ḥilyat ahl al-kamāl by Abū Bakr al-Shanawānī (d. 1610)*

Saleem Abu Jaber, Achva Academic College *Qur'anic Exegetes at the Ottoman Sultan's Court: The Case of Yūsuf Efendi Zāda*

Pei-Chen Tsung, Penn State University *Revisiting Al-Jāḥiẓ and Al-Jurjānī: Classical Arabic Rhetoric in Light of Contemporary Linguistic Theories*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

XI-20: Women Writing Women

Chair: **Sarah Fahmy**, Florida State University

Amira Farhani, University of Buckingham *The Body as an Unhomely Space in Samar Yazbek's Planet of Clay*

Sara Madandar Arani, University of Arizona *Women as Literary Outsiders: Rethinking Iranian Women's Periodicals in the 20th-Century*

Sarah Fahmy, Florida State University *Egyptian Women's Playwrighting as an act of Playful, Decolonial Feminist Reconstruction*

Heba Ghannam, American University *Digital Pathways for Exiled Voices: Transnational Critical Research for an Authoritarian Setting*

Merve Aydin, Ataturk University and **Meryem Odabaşı**, Ataturk University *Docile Bodies: Women in Disguise in The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

XI-21: Mediascapes, Stardom, and Popular Music Consumption Within, Across, and Beyond National Boundaries in the Contemporary Arab World

Organized by **George Murer**, Hunter College, CUNY

Chair/Discussant: **Mejgan Massoumi**, Carnegie Mellon University

George Murer, Hunter College, CUNY *Unpacking the 'Atwani Industry: (Trans)Local Affiliations and Degrees of Context and Ideological Investment in Digital Media Representations of Wedding-Based Youth Cultures in Iraq*

Richard Nedjat-Haiem, UC Santa Barbara *Pluri-Arabism: Shifting from Cairo to the Gulf in Popular Arab Cultural Production*



Pierre France, Aix-Marseille Université *The Rotana Stage of Arab Pop*

Insia Malik, Independent Scholar *The Trans-Arab Production of Arab Idol: At the Juncture of Lebanon, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia*

Emilie Pons, University of Oregon *Ruby, Samira Said, and Ahlam: Three Pan-Arab Examples of Contrasting Popularity and Visibility Between Home and Outside/Abroad*

MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

XI-22: Imperial Echoes: Continuity and Rupture in the Ottoman Legacy of Modern Turkey

Organized by **Basak Yagmur Karaca**, University of Southern California

Chair: **Nilay Özok-Gündoğan**, Florida State University

Discussant: **Kent F. Schull**, Binghamton University, SUNY
Erdem Ilter, UCLA *Reforming the Periphery: The Anatolian General Inspectorate and Ottoman Statecraft in the Eastern Provinces*

Arda Akıncı, Autonomous University of Madrid *In Defense of History: Ottoman Intelligence Activities during the Reign of Abdulhamid II (1876-1909) and its Legacy in the Turkish Collective Memory*

Burcu Bugu, UCLA *Heritage and Museums in Ottoman and Republican Turkey: Institutions of Governance*

Fawaz Abdul Salam, McGill University *Recovering the Ottoman Waqf: The Reconfiguration of Ottoman-Islamic Intellectual Culture in Twentieth-Century Turkey*

Cevat Dargin, Norwich University *Legacies of Command: Ottoman Epistemologies and Post-Ottoman State Formation in Dersim*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

XI-23: On Anti-Palestinian Racism

Chair: **Fadi Kafeety**, University of Houston

Louise A. Cainkar, Marquette University *Silencing and Anti-Palestinian Racism*

Lama Rimawi, Institute for the Understanding of Anti-Palestinian Racism *Anti-Palestinian Racism: A Groundbreaking Study on Prevalence and Impact in the United States*

Ahmad Diab, UC Berkeley *Translating After the Last Sky in the Time of Genocide: Mourning, Remembering, and the Ethics of Translation*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

XI-24: Transregional Entanglements: European Narratives and Local Agency in Mediterranean Migration Governance

Organized under the auspices of the Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM)

Organized by **Clara-Auguste Süß**, German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and **Julius Dihstelhoff**, Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb

Chair/Discussant: **Julius Dihstelhoff**, Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb

Riadh Ben Khalifa, University of Tunis *Transfer of European Anti-Migrant Ideas and Human Rights Violations to Tunisia*

Clara-Auguste Süß, German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) *"Great Replacement" Discourse in Tunisia's Re-Autocratization: Identity Politics, Tunisianité, and the Traveling of (Conspiracy) Theory*

Heidrun Bohnet, University of Continuing Education Krems, Austria *Inter-Migrant Group Relations: Between Rivalries and Solidarities*

Andrew Fallone, University of Cambridge *Less Space, Less Services, Less Trust: How Shrinking Civil Society Space in Tunisia Reduces Migrants' Trust in Humanitarian Actors*

Esther Moeller, Humboldt University Berlin *Mediterranean Migrations the Other Way Round: Narratives and Agency of and Towards European Refugees in North Africa During World War Two*



ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XII-01: From Apartheid to Democracy: Mapping Policy Pathways in Israel-Palestine

Organized by **Michael Omer-Man**, DAWN and **Sarah Leah Whitson**, DAWN

Chair: **Marc Lynch**, George Washington University
Sarah Leah Whitson, DAWN
Aslı Bâli, Yale Law School
Marc Lynch, George Washington University
Michael Omer-Man, DAWN
Shibley Telhami, University of Maryland, College Park

MEETING ROOM 7 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XII-02: Science and Technology Studies in the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Tariq Adely**, George Washington University and **Timothy Y. Loh**, Princeton University

Chair: **Timothy Y. Loh**, Princeton University
Timothy Y. Loh, Princeton University
Tariq Adely, George Washington University
Soha Saghaadeh, UC Santa Barbara
Ian VanderMeulen, The Crown Center for Middle East Studies
Daniel Kryger, University of Washington, Seattle
Xiaoyue Li, Tulane University
Kendra Kintzi, Cornell University

MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XII-03: Recognizing and Counteracting Intellectual Extractivism in MENA: Decolonizing and Dismantling the Exploitative Structures of Academia

Organized by **Rola El-Husseini**, Lund University

Chair: **Rola El-Husseini**, Lund University
 Discussant: **Lisa Anderson**, Columbia University
Rola El-Husseini, Lund University
Sarah Anne Rennick, Arab Reform Initiative
Saloua Zerhouni, Mohammed V University in Rabat
Driss Maghraoui, Al Akhawayn University
Nadine Sika, American University in Cairo

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XII-04: Tied Up In Tehran: Women, Social Change, and the Politics of Daily Life in Postrevolutionary Iran

Organized by **Nazanin Shahrokni**, Simon Fraser University

Chair: **Nazanin Shahrokni**, Simon Fraser University
Norma Claire Moruzzi, University of Illinois at Chicago
Homa Hoodfar, Concordia University
Arash Davari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Nahid Siamdoust, University of Texas at Austin
Asef Bayat, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE

XII-05: Somatization of Disasters: Rethinking Event and Embodied Temporalities in the Middle East

Organized by **Begüm Ergün**, Boston University and **Elif Irem Az**, Harvard University

Chair: **Begüm Ergün**, Boston University
Begüm Ergün, Boston University
Asli Zengin, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Kerem Ussakli, The Crown Center for Middle East Studies
Elif Irem Az, Harvard University
Christopher T. Dole, Amherst College
Salih Aciksoz, UCLA
Ali Murat Gali, Northwestern University



HICKORY (Ballroom Level)

XII-06: The State in Islamic Law and Thought

Chair: **Muhammad Eissa**, Chicago Institute of Contemporary Islamic Thought

Mohamed Sayed, Indiana University Bloomington *A Muslim State Between Utopia and Submission: Taḥqīq al-Manāṭ as a Realistic Mechanism for Its Realization*

Thomas Messick, Melbourne School of Theology *The Continuity and Discontinuity of Said Nursi's Influence upon Fethullah Gülen's Understanding of and Response to Tyranny*

Micah Hughes, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Philology and the Mirror of Orientalism: Republican Turkish Critiques of Late Ottoman Islam*

Aseel Azab, Brown University *Muslim Agency Rethought: Egyptian Islamism from tamkīn (empowerment) to istid'āf (disempowerment)*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

XII-07: Arabic Speculative Literature Amidst Destruction, Repression, and Trauma

Organized by **Hanan Natour**, Freie Universität Berlin

Discussant: **Nadia G. Yaqub**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chair/Discussant: **Hanan Natour**, Freie Universität Berlin
Nourhan M. Alaa El-Nagdy, Assiut University, Egypt
Beyond the Revolution: Trauma and the Politics of Memory in Mohamed Kheir's Slipping (2021)

Alexandra Chreiteh, Tufts University *Circulating Curses: Mummy Fiction, Rumor, and the Poetics of Contagion in Modern Arabic Literature*

Sharidan Russell, University of Chicago *Scattered Flesh and Haunted Landscapes: Iraqi and Palestinian Horror in Response to Necropower*

Suja Sawafta, University of Miami *The Day After: Narrating Dystopia in Emile Habibi's The Secret Life of Saeed and Ahmed Saadawi's Frankenstein in Baghdad*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

XII-09: Beyond Modern Categories: Rethinking Theory in Medieval Islamic Studies

Organized by **Mohammad Sadegh Ansari**, SUNY Geneseo

Chair: **Kaveh Hemmat**, Benedictine University
Mohammad Sadegh Ansari, SUNY Geneseo *What Happened to Scientific Expertise? Or Jim Inhofe Could Learn a Thing or Two about Science from Medieval Baghdad*

Grace Bickers, Columbia University *Testimony and Truth-Making in Early Hanafi Fiqh*

Catherine Ambler, University of Colorado at Boulder
Beyond "Emic-Etic:" Approaches to Reading the Poetics of Tāza-Gū'ī

Aseel Najib, Dartmouth College *Taxation and Conquest in Early Islamic Law*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

XII-10: Forms of Ottoman Patronage: New Approaches and Directions of Research

Organized by **Tugrul Acar**, Harvard University

Chair: **Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano**, University of Pennsylvania

Tugrul Acar, Harvard University *On Repair and Redecoration: The Shifting Patronage Networks of the Earliest Mevlevi Lodges in Anatolia*

Samet Budak, Princeton University *Ottoman Patronage of Cosmopolitan Languages in the Age of Mehmed II*

Günay Kayarlar, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Against Patronage: The Case of a Romani Poet in Eighteenth-Century Istanbul

Gunseli Gurel, University of Oxford *Beyond Histories: Tales of Love, Wonder, and Manuscript Patronage in the late 16th Century Ottoman Court*



RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

XII-11: Legal Pluralism, Colonial Rule, and State Policies: Governing Religious Diversity in Arab States

Organized by **Dörthe Engelcke**, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law

Chair: **Mohammad Fadel**, University of Toronto

Discussant: **Rachel M. Scott**, Virginia Tech

Dörthe Engelcke, Max Planck Institute *Inheritance Rights in Pluri-legal Societies: Intersectionality and the Struggle for Legal Autonomy of Christian Communities in Jordan*

Ari Schriber, Max Weber Centre, University of Erfurt *Justice by 'Their Own Shari'a': Jewish Claims to Islamic Law in Colonial-Era Moroccan Courts*

Gianluca Parolin, Aga Khan University *Dismissing 'Minorities'? Al-Azhar, Citizenship, and the Struggle for Inclusion*

Johannes A.P. Makar, Kluge Center, Library of Congress, *What Constitutes a Public? Copts, Maṣlaḥa, and Communal Governance in Khedival Egypt*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

XII-12: Voice, Music, and the Production of Belonging

Chair: **Lydia Shanklin Roll**, Southern New Hampshire University

Ayhan Erol, Dokuz Eylül University *Multiple Authenticities in the Alevi Musical Revival*

Kajwan Ziaoddini, University of Maryland, College Park *The Voice of Kurdistan: Collective Identity and the Interpretations of Hasan Zîrak's Voice in Iran*

Andrea Shaheen Espinosa, Arizona State University *Intergenerational Trauma, Musicking, and Syrian Diasporic Communities of the U.S. Southwest*

Kira Gaillard, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *In My Defense and Struggle for the Country: "Nashîd al-Quds" in the Twentieth-Century Pan-Arab Imaginary*

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

XII-13: Contemporary Political Contestation in Iran

Chair: **Zia Khoshsirat**, UCLA

Iqan Shahidi, University of Cambridge *Beyond Description: Political Thought as Historiography in Javad Tabatabai's Theory of Decline*

Nastaran Saremy, Simon Fraser University *Memory Regimes and Conflicting Social Imaginaries in Iran: Afterlives of a Revolution*

Alyeh Mehin-Goldbaum, University of Arizona *Spatial Contestation: Navigating English Education in Iran*

Shirin Hejazi, Newcastle University *Visual Control and Urban Space: Large-Scale Billboards as Tools of Power in Contemporary Iran*

Zia Khoshsirat, UCLA *Contested Signs: Reconfiguring National Symbols, Ownership and the Struggle for Meaning in Iranian Digital Spaces*

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

XII-14: Worldbuilding Classical Arabic Literature

Organized by **Ebtissam Oraby**, George Washington University

Chair: **Naglaa Hussein**, George Mason University

Ebtissam Oraby, George Washington University *More Than a Thousand and One Nights: Building Otherwise Worlds through Arabic Classical Fantasies*

Jennifer Tobkin, George Washington University *The Matter of 'Abdallāh: Minor Characters in Akhbār Speak Volumes*

Jeson Ng, University of Chicago *Complaint (shakwā) and Its Moral Universe*

Clarissa C. Burt, US Naval Academy *al-Mutanabbi and Parallel Worlds: Perspective on Creative Pastiche in Adonis' al-Kitaab Ams, al-Makaan al-'Aan*

Jonny Lawrence, Cornell University *Love Between Life and Literature*



MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

XII-15: Women, Gender, and Freedom

Chair: **Hibba Abugideiri**, Villanova University
Sara Molaie, University of Toronto *Reading Zandukht Shirazi: Gender and Literary Modernity in 20th Century Iran*
Elif Genc, University of Toronto *Hevalî: Revolutionary Love in Kurdish Women's Freedom Movement*
Rebecca Turkington, Georgetown University *"La Tunisie n'est pas la France": Localizing the WILPF's Anti-Imperialism in 1930s Tunisia*
Elizabeth Perego, Appalachian State University *Algerian Women's International Activism, 1962-1990: Third World Feminism, Decolonization, and Unraveling the Myth of Post-Revolution Disengagement*
Rahil Asgari, University of Houston *Traditional Modernizers: Iranian Constitutionalist Women's Encounter with Religious Authority and How It Shaped Women's Movement in Iran*

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

XII-16: Armeno-Turkish Culture in the Late Ottoman Empire

Chair: **Fatma Müge Göçek**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Zeki Furkan Sarilican, Rutgers University-New Brunswick *Constructing the 'Redeemable Other': American Missionaries and 19th-Century Aintab Armenians*
Sesil Artuc, Graduate Center, CUNY *Vanishing Lands: Dispossession in the 19th-Century Armenian Provinces*
Melis Hafez, Virginia Commonwealth University *Moral Reform as Imperial Engagement? Reading Late Ottoman Armeno-Turkish Morality Books*
Cagdas Acar, University of Chicago *Müflis Olmuş: Literary Expressions of the 19th Century Ottoman Monetary History*
Hakan Karpuzcu, Princeton University *When Marriage Became Trouble: Mixed Marriages in the Early 20th Century Ottoman Empire*

MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

XII-17: Piety and Religious Articulations

Chair: **Weston Bland**, University of Oxford
Weston Bland, University of Oxford *Sawt al-Sha'b, Sawt Allah: the Copts' Liberal Experiment*

Humza Azam Gondal, Princeton University

Conceptualizing ittihâd-ı İslâm in Turkey and India in the Early Twentieth Century

Huseyin Kurt, Northeastern University *Popular Piety and Subaltern Publicity of Islamic Revival in Early Republican Turkey, 1925-1960*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

XII-18: Jewish Living, Writing, and Dissenting from the Middle East to Europe

Chair: **Lisa Hajjar**, UC Santa Barbara

Eirik Kvindesland, University of Oxford *Jews of the Persian Gulf: The Making of an Oceanic Network and its Meaning for Middle Eastern History*

Yael Mizrahi-Arnaud, New York University *History Begins at Home: Mizrahi Settlers in Maaleh Adumim*

Maytal Mark, New York University *Translating "The Jewish Question": MENA Jewish Writing on European Crises, 1900-1948*

Alyssa Kristeller, Georgetown University *Listening Between the Seas: Finding Jewish Music in Bahrain*

Aziza Khazzoom, Indiana University Bloomington *The Price for Speaking About Israel/Palestine*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

XII-19: Aesthetics of Power: Spectacles and Performances

Chair: **Saghar Bozorgi**, Princeton University

Elizabeth Matsushita, Reed College *Reflections of Colonial Academia: Making the Fez Congress of Moroccan Music*

Morgan Jennings, Simon Fraser University *The Egyptian Spectacle: Understanding Egypt's Role at the Great Exhibition of 1851*

Semih Gokatalay, Virginia Military Institute *Rituals of Diplomacy: Hamidian-Era Islamic Feasts and Their Western Reception*

Samin Rashidbeigi, Rice University *"Freak" Bodies and Fictive Kinships in Modern Iran*



MEETING ROOM 9 (Meeting Level)

XII-20: Psychoanalysis in the Times of War and Death

Organized by **Aaron Eldridge**, University of Toronto and **Henry Clements**, University of Warwick

Chair: **Joan Copjec**, Brown University

Henry Clements, University of Warwick *Orient-ations: Psychoanalysis and the Islamic "Legacy"*

Aaron Eldridge, University of Toronto *The Counterfeit and the Drive: A Topography of Devastation in a Contemporary Arab Orthodox Text*

Stefania Pandolfo, UC Berkeley *The Unconscious Otherwise: Engaging with a Quranic Imagination of the nafs (soul/psyche) in a Time of War, Between Islam and Psychoanalysis*

Omnia El Shakry, Yale University *Psychoanalysis, Islam, and the Poetics of Invention in a Time of Surpassing Disaster*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

XII-21: Lebanon: Violence, Multimodality, and Knowledge Production

Chair: **Ghassan E. El-Eid**, Central Connecticut State University

Tatiana Haddad, American University of Beirut *From the Field to the Screen: Ethnographic Knowledge Production in Crisis*

Lidia Helou, New York University *Conflicting Opacities - From White Phosphorus to Burning Tires*

Mohamed Soufan, University of Waterloo *War and the Researcher: How Violent Contexts Shape Ethnographic Work and Identity*

Ghida Anouti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology *Between City and Self: Reading Beirut in Mohamed Soueid's 'Tango of Yearning'*

Nour El Rayes, Johns Hopkins University *"If You Dare Expose Them, They Threaten You with the Past": Sound, Architecture, and Futurity in Mayssa Jallad's 'Marjaa'*

MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

XII-22: Protest Politics in the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by **Daniel Tavana**, Penn State University

Chair: **Daniel Tavana**, Penn State University

Discussants: **Sarah El-Kazaz**, SOAS, University of London and **Sarah Parkinson**, Johns Hopkins University

Daniel Tavana, Penn State University *From Protest to Parliament: Anti-Government Mobilization and Lebanon's New Opposition*

Killian Clarke, Georgetown University *The Dust Does Not Settle: Protest in the Aftermath of Democratic Revolutions*

Elizabeth R. Nugent, Princeton University *Protest Performance: From Exile to Egypt*

Chantal Berman, Georgetown University *Protesting Extraction in Resource-Poor States: Evidence from Tunisia*

Myriam Ahmed, Free University of Berlin *The Ecology of the Khartoum Sit-in: Spatial Negotiations of Power*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

XII-23: Reframing Islamic Historiography and Epistemologies: Chronologies and Intellectual Traditions

Chair: **Berenike Metzler**, Orient-Institut Beirut

W. Matt Malczyk, Auburn University *The Lawāta, Barqa, and Ibn 'Abd al-Ḥakam*

Zachary Wright, Northwestern University in Qatar *Secrets from the Sahara: Shaykh Mā' Aynayn and the Scholars of Morocco*

Arooj Alam, Tufts University *Recentering the Islamic "Occult" within the Islamic Tradition: Engaging with Ahmad al-Buni's Shams al-Ma'arif and a Contemporary Urdu Translation*

Tobias Scheunchen, University of Chicago *Periodization and Early Islamic History: Beyond the Dynastic Model*

Logan J. Sherrill, University of Arizona *Narrating 'Abbāsīd Decline, Constructing Būyīd Power: Ḥamza al-Iṣfahānī and the Politics of Memory* *ikh sinī mulūk al-'arḍ wa-l-anbīyā'*



MAGNOLIA A (Lobby Level)

XII-24: Voter Mobilization and Electoral OutcomesChair: **Luai Allarakia**, University of Richmond**Lindsay J. Benstead**, Portland State University and **Mark A. Tessler**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Does the Clientelistic Context Help or Harm Female Candidates? Evidence from an Experiment in Algeria's Local Elections***Heyam Alhameedyeen**, Kennesaw State University *The Structural and Cultural Causes of Electoral Violence Against Women in Jordan***Ekrem Karakoc**, Binghamton University, SUNY *Political Secularization of Religious Citizens under AKP Rule: Choosing Secular Democracy over Islamic Democracy***Mohamed Shedeed**, The Ohio State University *Tribes All the Way Down: Kinship Ties and Electoral Returns in Jordan***Yasmine Haiti**, University of Illinois at Chicago *Reversed Voting Patterns? The Urban-Rural Electoral Rift for Islamists in Morocco*

MAGNOLIA B (Lobby Level)

XII-25: Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and the Environment: Contested PoliticsChair: **Martin Hvidt**, University of Southern Denmark**Martin Hvidt**, University of Southern Denmark *Green Ambitions in the Gulf: The Political Dimensions of State-Led Transition Strategies***Youssef Chouhoud**, Christopher Newport University *Religiosity and Public Opinion on Climate Change in the MENA***Erin Snider**, George Washington University/CIP *Authoritarian Currents: Energy Democracy and the Political Economy of Renewable Energy in Egypt***Jeannie Sowers**, University of New Hampshire *The Political Economy of Energy Transitions in the Middle East*

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MEETING ROOM 12 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**XIII-01: Conducting Fieldwork on Sex, Sexuality, and Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Middle East and North Africa: Part III**

Organized by **Angel M. Foster**, University of Ottawa and **Lisa L. Wynn**, Macquarie University

Chair: **Angel M. Foster**, University of Ottawa
 Discussant: **Lisa L. Wynn**, Macquarie University
Yafa Shanneik, Lund University
Mariam Omar, University of Ottawa
Manizha Ashna, University of Ottawa
Mina Ibrahim, University of Marburg/Shubra's Archive/
 MENA Prison Forum
Yasmin T. Ismail, UC Santa Barbara/Shubra's Archive
Sabrina Chengane, University of Ottawa
Roodabeh Dehghani, University of Ottawa

MEETING ROOM 13 (Meeting Level)

WORKSHOP**XIII-02: New Directions in the Study of the Persianate World: Research from the Global Academy Fellows**

Coordinated by the MESA Global Academy

Organized by **Ceren Abi**, MESA Global Academy

Chair: **Kevan Harris**, UCLA
Fateh Saeidi, MESA Global Academy
Bahman Khodadadi, MESA Global Academy
Lutforahman Saeed, Brigham Young University Law
 School
Azima Majeed, MESA Global Academy

MEETING ROOM 15 (Meeting Level)

ROUNDTABLE**XIII-03: New Ethnographies of Islam: A Roundtable**

Organized by **Emrah Yildiz**, Northwestern University and **Secil Dagtas**, University of Waterloo

Chair: **Emrah Yildiz**, Northwestern University
Secil Dagtas, University of Waterloo
Nada Moumtaz, University of Toronto
Emrah Yildiz, Northwestern University
Seema Golestaneh, Cornell University
Yasmin Moll, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
J. Andrew Bush, Bard College

ANACOSTIA SALON D (Ballroom Level)

XIII-04: Gendered Contestations: Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia

Chair: **Nancy El Gendy**, James Madison University
Heba M Khalil, Nebraska Wesleyan University *"The Law isn't Feminist:" The Struggle over Gender in the Lawyers' and Judicial Professions in Egypt*
Reem Awmy Abuzaid, University of Warwick *Policing Women in the Securitised Virtual Sphere: Moral Outrage and Panic in the TikTok Arrests*
Hessa ALMohannadi, Rutgers University-New Brunswick *Affective Counterpublics and Digital Resistance: Saudi Women's Asylum and the Politics of Visibility*
Noor Ghazal Aswad, University of Alabama *From Captivity to Liberation: Surrealist Feminism in the Syrian Revolution*

ANACOSTIA SALON E (Ballroom Level)

XIII-05: Ottoman Empire: Urban Development, Design, and Bureaucracies

Chair: **Vefa Erginbas**, Providence College
Eric Taylor, University of Arizona *Fault Lines and Fire: Adaptations and Other Responses to Earthquakes in the Ottoman Empire*



Zeynep Ece Sahin Korkan, Technical University of Munich *Pavilion Hospitals in Fin de Siècle Istanbul: Global Networks, Marginal Contexts, and the Ottoman Encounter with Modern Hospital Design*

Kelly Hannavi, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *'I Have No Master but Your Holiness: Widowhood, Households, and the Syriac Orthodox Church in Late Ottoman Mardin*
Egemen YILGÜR, Yeditepe University *Examining Ottoman Economic Centralization through the Perspective of Non-Pastoral Nomads*

ANACOSTIA SALON F (Ballroom Level)

XIII-06: Refugees and Displacement

Chair: **Jowel Choufani**, George Washington University
Ingie Gohar, Georgetown University *War, Displacement, and Motherhood: How Sudanese Refugee Women in Egypt Navigate Changing Roles*

Hiba Irmak Kir, American University *Survival and Stigma: Syrian Refugees and Wildlife Trafficking Across Turkey-Syria Border*

Fulya Pinar, Middlebury College *Forced "Voluntary" Returns: Refugee Deportability in Turkey*

Jowel Choufani, George Washington University *Wajeb as Selective Provisioning at a Community Kitchen in Beirut, Lebanon*

FOUNDRY BRANCH (Ballroom Level)

XIII-07: Time, the State, and the End of the World in Arabic Fiction

Chair: **Nathaniel Greenberg**, George Mason University
Suha Kudsieh, Independent Scholar *Rentier Capitalism in al-Muwaylihi's Hadith Issa bin Hisham and Ibrahim's Layali Satih*

Indran Fernando, University of Chicago *State Coherence and Magic Realism in Two Salim Barakat Novels*

Yasmine Ramadan, University of Iowa *Humor and the Abject in Contemporary Egyptian Fiction*

DUMBARON OAKS (Ballroom Level)

XIII-08: Social Inequalities: Unrest, Redistribution, Austerity, and the Law

Chair: **Nada Matta**, Drexel University

Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, Virginia Polytechnic Institute *Revolution and Redistribution: Poverty and Inequality in Iran Before and After 1979*

Bassam Yousif, Indiana State University *Crisis in Social Contract, Poverty, and a Basic Income in Iraq*

Lama Karame, University of Oxford *The Judicialization of Welfare in Times of Crisis: Insights from Juvenile Courts in Lebanon*

Nada Matta, Drexel University *Labor Unrest, Labor Power*

RIVER BIRCH A (Meeting Level)

XIII-09: Civilizations and Their Others

Chair: **Mohammad Magout**, Freie Universität Berlin
Burak Bulkan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *Universalizing the Standards of Civilization?: Ottoman Legalism and the Struggle for Sovereignty*

Ismail Noyan, Simon Fraser University *The Concept of Civilization as a Tool to Imagine the Past and Prescribe the Future: A Comparative Study of 19th-Century Non-European Intellectual History*

Deena Al-Halabieh, UC Santa Barbara *Literary Taqiyya and the Translation of Faith: Decoding Omar Ibn Said's Slave Narrative*

Ceren Verbowski, York University *The Specter of Indigeneity: Revisiting the Decolonial Turn on Futurity in the Middle East*

Roy Marom, Polonsky Academy *Al-Lajjun, Palestine: A Rural History of the Ottoman Levant*

RIVER BIRCH B (Meeting Level)

XIII-10: Body and Voice in Modern Türkiye

Chair: **Serpil Atamaz**, California State University, Sacramento

Ararat Sekeryan, Columbia University *Russia as Woman: Fetishization of the Slavic Female Body in Turkish Imagination*

Rojda Idil Arslan, University of Connecticut *Refusing Empathy: Narrative Violence and the Politics of Voice in On the Way to School*



Serpil Atamaz, California State University, Sacramento
Early Marriage as a Solution to Abductions in the Early Turkish Republic

MEETING ROOM 2 (Meeting Level)

XIII-11: Redefining the Boundaries of Political Islam: Hybridization and Change

Organized by **Ester Sigillò**, University of Bologna

Chairs: **Massimo Ramaoli**, Al-Akhawayn University and
Ester Sigillò, University of Bologna

Ester Sigillò, University of Bologna *Hybridization of Tunisian and Algerian Islamic activism between local repression and global Constraints*

Massimo Ramaoli, Al-Akhawayn University *Hybrid Trajectories of Salafi Governance: From Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham to National Government*

Paride Turlione, Université Laval *An Outlier of the So-Called "Shi'a Politics": The Evolution of the Sadrist Movement between Shi'ism, Populism and Nationalism*

Théo Blanc, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies *The "Post" Paradigm of Islamic Activism in Tunisia Since 2011*

Alessandra Bonci, University of Quebec in Montreal
Islamist Hybridization Outside Tunisia? Insights from the French Canadian Context

MEETING ROOM 3 (Meeting Level)

XIII-12: Framing Violence in the Late Ottoman World

Organized by **Pinar Odabasi Tasci**, New York University

Chair/Discussant: **Laura Robson**, Yale University

Pinar Odabasi Tasci, New York University *Borders, Belonging and Violence in Ottoman Edirne during the Long World War I*

Önder Eren Akgül, Northwestern University *Crisis and the Violence of Global Capital in Late Ottoman Greater Izmir*

Ezgi Cakmak, Towson University *Layers of Silence: Blackness and the Lost Legacy of African Slavery in the Late Ottoman and Early Republican Period*

Hazal Özdemir, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Legally Abandoned: Denaturalization and Expatriation as State Violence*

MEETING ROOM 4 (Meeting Level)

XIII-13: The Middle East and Korea: Historical and Cultural Intersections

Organized by **Hyunhee Park**, CUNY, John Jay College and the Graduate Center

Chair: **Hyunhee Park**, CUNY

Discussant: **Mohammed Alsudairi**, Australian National University

Hyunhee Park, CUNY *Arak and Soju: Cultural Relations of Distilled Liquors*

Jung Min Seo, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
Motivations, Development, and the Current State of Teaching Arabic in Korea: In the Context of Emerging Sociocultural Realities

Seunghoon Paik, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
Modern Political and Cultural Relations between the Middle East and Korea

Kaveh Hemmat, Benedictine University Korea and
Itineraries of Information in Premodern Islamicate Culture

MEETING ROOM 5 (Meeting Level)

XIII-14: Captivity, Control, and the Shaping of Order in Medieval Islam

Organized by **Mustafa Banister**, Utah State University

Chair: **Mustafa Banister**, Utah State University

Taryn Marashi, Augsburg College *Hospitalization or Imprisonment? Abbasid Polices on the Treatment of "Mad" Criminals*

Tara Stephan, Hampden-Sydney College *Violence and Social Disorder in Medieval Bid'a Literature*

Büşra Sıdıka Kaya, Ibn Haldun University *From Captivity to Imprisonment, Political Power and Intellectual Reputation: Contextual Analysis of Socio-Political Order in Late Medieval Cairo: The Reign of Muayyed Sheikh*

Mustafa Banister, Utah State University *Statecraft and Social Order: Jaqmaq's Coercive Measures and the Politics of Public Humiliation in the Fifteenth-Century Cairo Sultanate*



MEETING ROOM 6 (Meeting Level)

XIII-15: Mediterranean Crossings: Borderscapes, Colonialism, and Migrations (19th–21st Centuries)

Organized by **Gabriele Montalbano**, University of Bologna

Chair: **William Lawrence**, National Council on US-Arab Relations

Discussant: **Gabriele Montalbano**, University of Bologna

Gabriele Montalbano, University of Bologna

European Marginals in Mediterranean Africa: Southern

European migrants in the colonial Maghreb

Houda Mzioudet, independent Researcher *Between Exile and (Permanent) Settlement: Anatomy of the Libyan Diaspora in Tunisia After 2011*

Bilal Kotil, Marmara University *Saving African Slaves: Race and Belonging in the Nineteenth-Century Mediterranean*

MEETING ROOM 8 (Meeting Level)

XIII-16: Gender Roles, Economic Structures, and the Legal System in the Ottoman Context

Organized by **Reda Rafei**, Texas Tech University

Chair: **Reda Rafei**, Texas Tech University

Reda Rafei, Texas Tech University *Property, Capital, and Credit: Understanding Gender Roles in the Urban Agricultural Economy of Ottoman Tarāblus al-Shām in the Second Half of the Eighteenth Century*

Dilyara Agisheva, University of Toronto *Navigating Legal Pluralism: Muslim Women's Wealth and Economic Strategies in the 18th- and 19th-Century Russian Crimea*

Madonna Aoun Ghazal, UCLA *Women and Landed Property in Late Ottoman Beirut*

Sultan Toprak Oker, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities *Vineyards, Alcoholic Beverages, and Marriages: Uncovering Women's Agency in the Ottoman World of Alcohol*

MEETING ROOM9 (Meeting Level)

XIII-17: Religion and Politics in Persianate Literature

Chair: **Daryoush Mohammad Poor**, Institute of Ismaili Studies

Daryoush Mohammad Poor, Institute of Ismaili Studies *Ithnā 'asharī-Isma'ilis: A Forgotten Community*

Pouye Khoshkhoosani, Cincinnati Country Day School *Epic, Mysticism, and Power: Constructing Sacred Kingship in the Shāhnāme of Qāsimī Gunābādī and Hātifi*

Guanyu Shao, Harvard University *The Dialogue Between Lion and Dragon: Persian Correspondence between Shāhrukh Bahādur and Zhu Di*

Shaharyar Zia, Harvard University *Textual Pedagogy in 18th-Century India: Shāh Walī Allāh's Risāla-i Dānishmandī and the Art of Learning*

MEETING ROOM 10 (Meeting Level)

XIII-18: Doing, Decoding, and Critiquing Poetry

Shahla Farghadani, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Color and Chaos: Othering Holi in Ashraf-i Māzandarānī's Poem*

Paul E. Losensky, Indiana University Bloomington *What Flows from the Decanter: Object, Trope, and Concept in a Ghazal by Sā'eb Tabrizi*

Anwar Alsaad, Kuwait University *Al-musābaqāt al-shi'rīyah in the Gulf: The Influence of Culture, Audience and Social Media on Poets' Performative Utterances*

MEETING ROOM 11 (Meeting Level)

XIII-19: Insurgency, Militarism, and Urban Violence

Chair: **Silvana Toska**, Davidson College

Haley Bobseine, King's College London *How do Iraqi Subnational Dynamics Challenge the Establishment of the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF) as a National Security Force?*

Nawara Alaboud, University of Oxford *The Anatomy of a Syrian Checkpoint: The Dynamics of Violence, Power and Subjection During the Syrian Civil War*

Silvana Toska, Davidson College *Military Origins and Military Actions During Mass Uprisings*



MEETING ROOM 14 (Meeting Level)

XIII-20: Empire and Extraction: Land, Labor, and Environmental Control

Chair: **Choon Hwee Koh**, UCLA

Yuxuan Cai, University of Cambridge *Watermills in the Countryside: Small-Scale Agricultural Investments in Early Ottoman Thessaly and Central Greece (Livâ-i Tirhala), 1438–1521*

Saghar Sadeghian, Willamette University *Imperial Landscapes: Anglo-Russian Rivalry and Its Environmental Impact on Port Anzali by the Caspian Sea, 19th–20th Centuries*

Shira Pinhas, Princeton University *Environments of Expectation: Oil and Temporality in Mandate Palestine*

Furkan Taşpınar, Binghamton University, SUNY *Tax Farming Networks and Imperial Sanctions: The Mukâta‘a System and Economic Control in Fifteenth-Century Ottoman Empire*

Olivier Bouquet, Université Paris Cité *Firewood Consumption and Provisioning in the 17th-Century Ottoman State*

MAGNOLIA A (Ballroom Level)

XIII-22: Women’s (Dis)Empowerment in Historical Perspective and Contemporary Activism

Chair: **Shilan Fuad Hussain**, Institute of Domestic Violence, Religion & Migration

Atiyeh Taghiei, UCLA *Women and Ziyāra Liturgy across Sectarian Boundary Lines*

Dina Najjar, International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas *“She Inherits, She Sells”: Community-based Theater to Strengthen Women’s Land Rights and Entrepreneurship*

Ella Williams, University of Oxford *Education, Empowerment and Changing Marriage Dynamics in Rural Morocco*

Shilan Fuad Hussain, Institute of Domestic Violence, Religion and Migration *Tradition or Confinement: Investigating the Dynamics of Forced and Arranged Marriages in Iraq*

MEETING ROOM 16 (Meeting Level)

XIII-21: Palestinian Citizens of Israel

Chair: **Beverly Tsacoyianis**, University of Memphis

Abed El Qadir Kanaaneh, Tel Aviv University *Bridging the Divide: Emile Tuma’s Synthesis of Marxist Thought and Islamic Heritage as a Model for Rebuilding Palestinian Society in Israel*

Menachem Klein, Bar-Ilan University *Post-1948 War and Pre-1967 War – A Formative Period in Divided Jerusalem History*

Mohamad Kadan, Rice University *The Baqa Factory under Israeli Military Rule (1948–1966): When Integration Was Never an Option*

Alamia Biro, SOAS, University of London *Higher Education as a Mechanism for Liberation for Palestinian Women Citizens of Israel*



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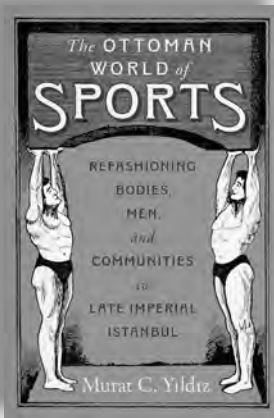
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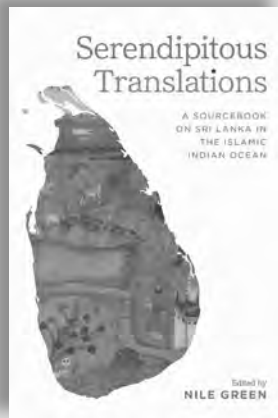
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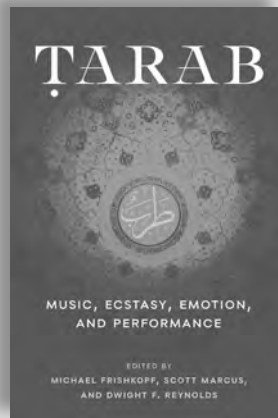
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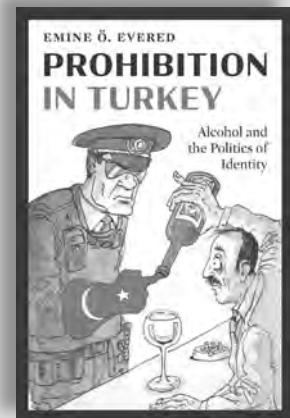
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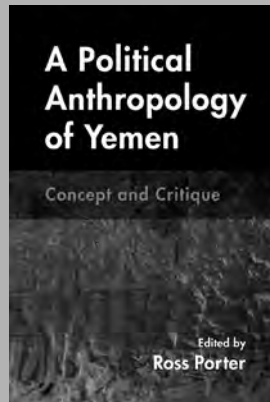
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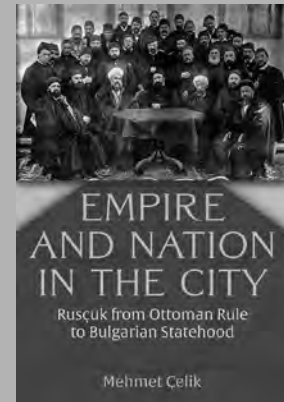
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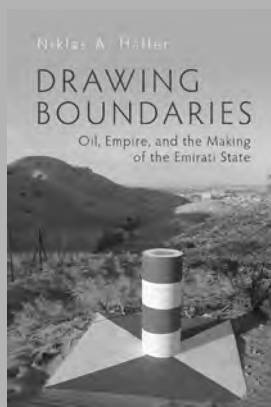
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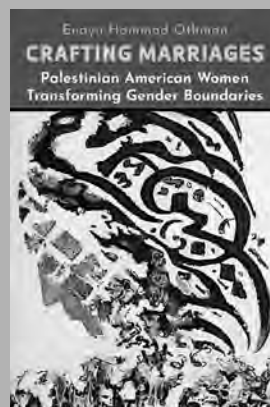
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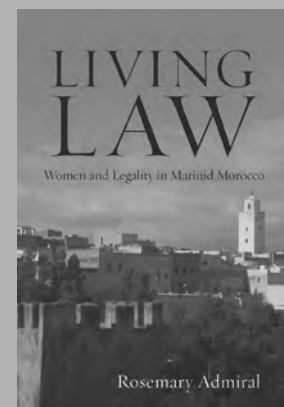
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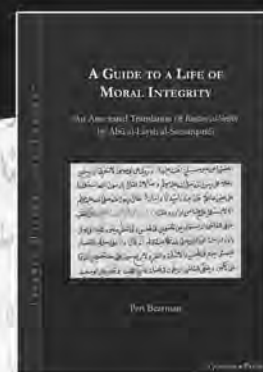
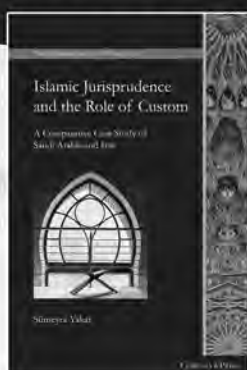
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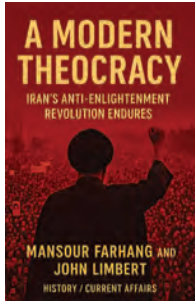
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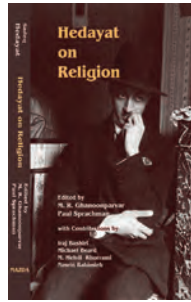
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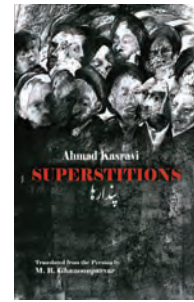
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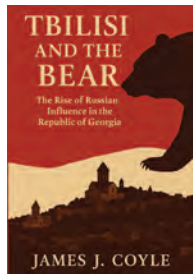
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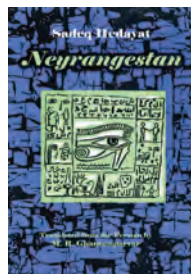
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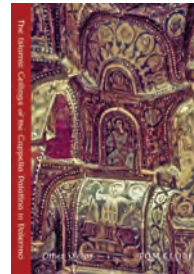
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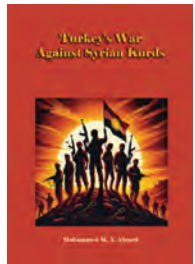
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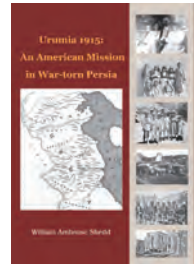
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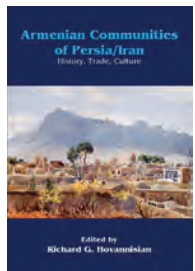
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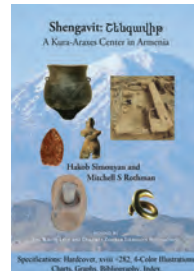
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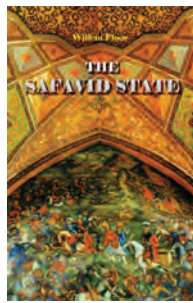
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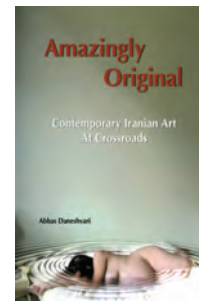
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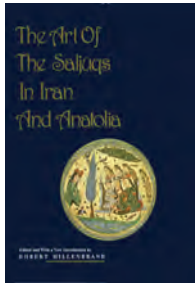
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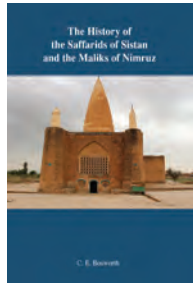
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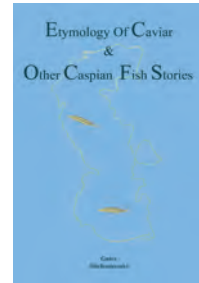
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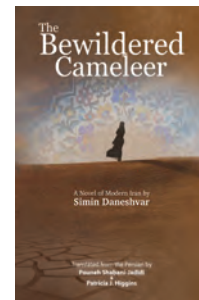
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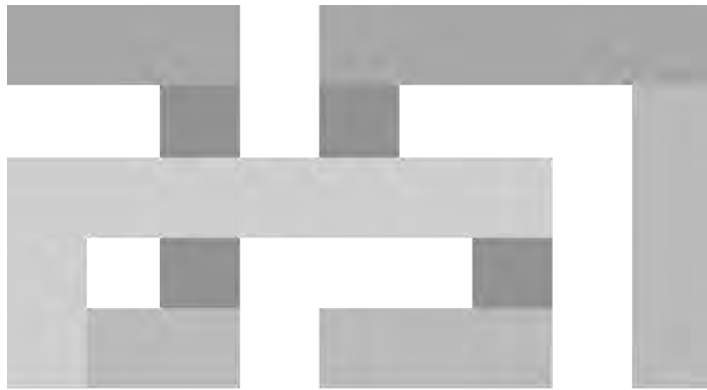


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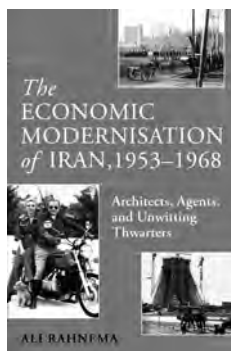
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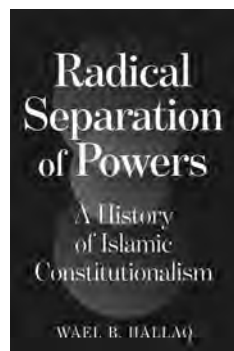
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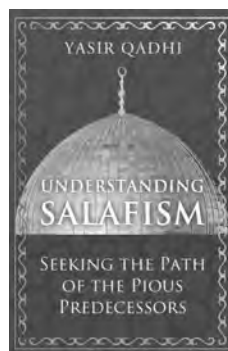
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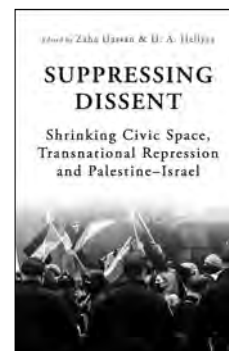
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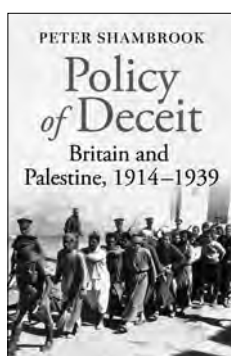
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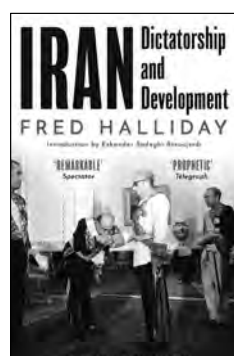
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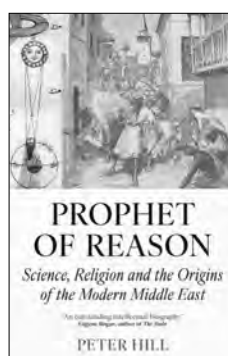
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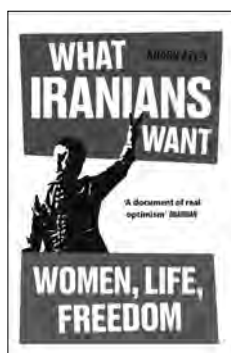
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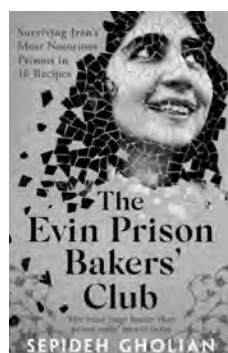
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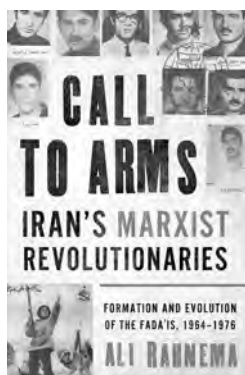
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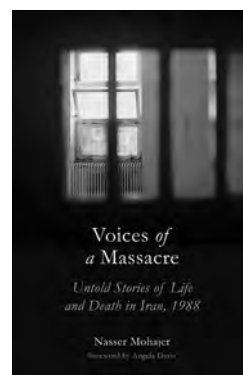
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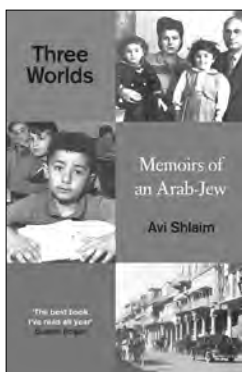
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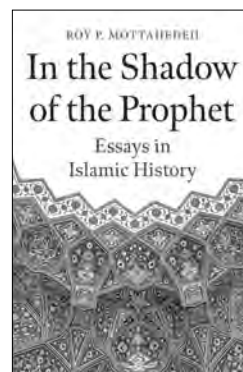
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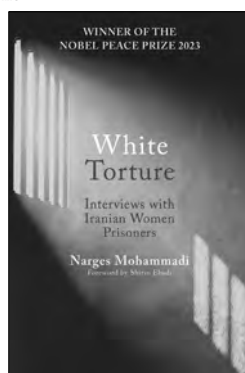
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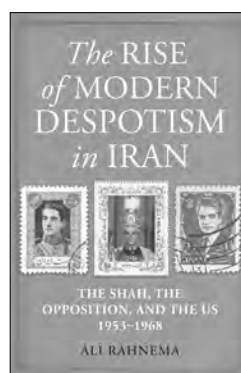
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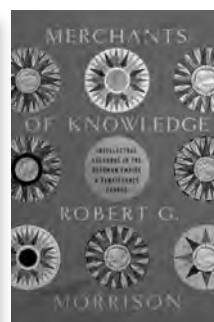
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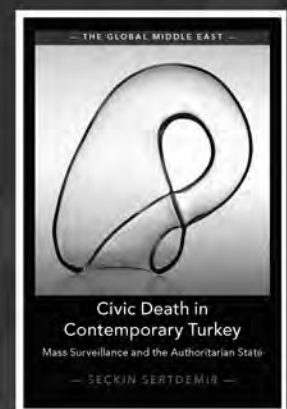
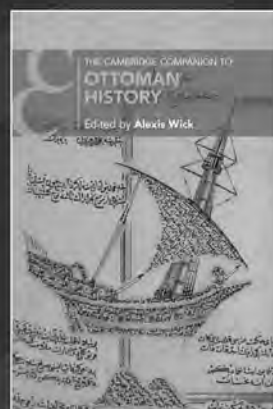
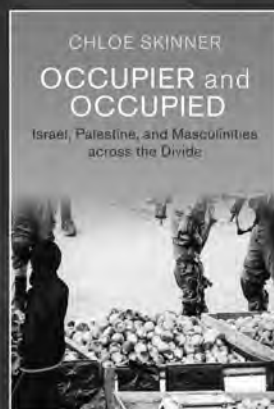
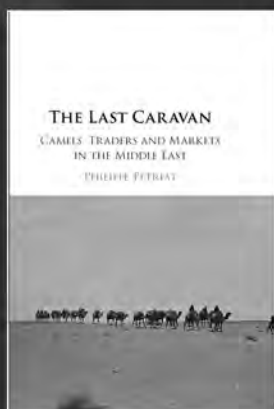
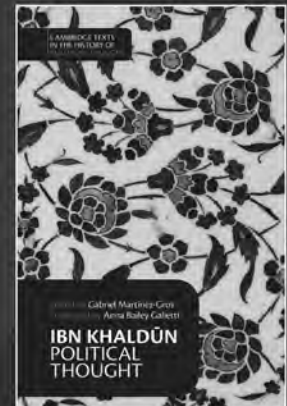
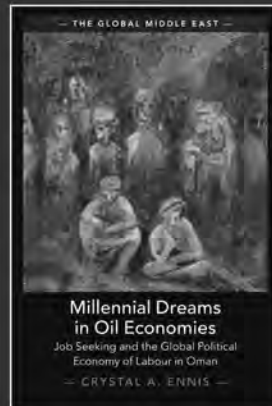
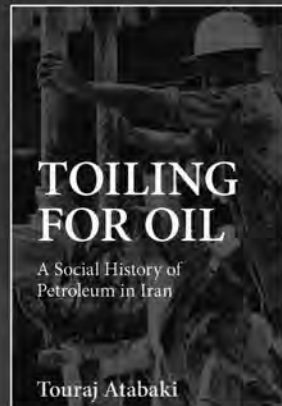
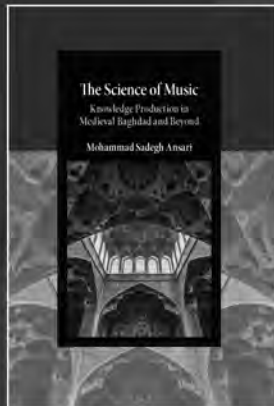
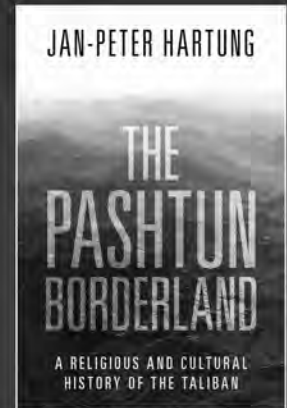
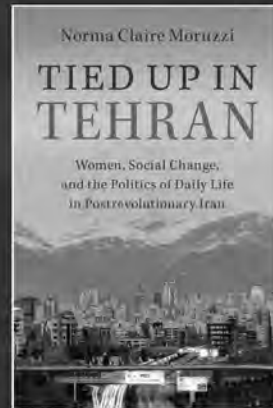
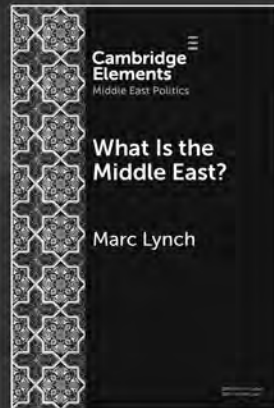
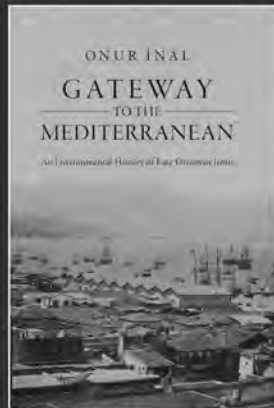
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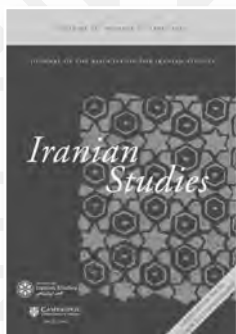


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Film Descriptions

5th Paragraph - Invalids. (Israel, Russia) 2024, 52. In Russian and Hebrew with English subtitles. Director: Boris Maftsir. Producer: Zvi Sheffy Productions. **Ruth Films.** In the Soviet Union all citizens were equal – in theory at least. In reality, Jews were suspected, across the board, of being disloyal towards the USSR. To have “jewrej” entered in field 5 of your ID card meant automatic stigmatisation. Those affected remember.

A Mental Health Crisis in the West Bank. (Palestine) 2024, 13:54. In English. Director: Kern Hendricks. Producer: Kern Hendricks. **Kern Hendricks.** This film examines the short and long-term mental health impacts of Israeli occupation and violence in the West Bank through the eyes of several groups: Young Palestinian students in Ramallah, a young family facing settler violence in the South Hebron Hills, and Palestinian mental health professionals working to support their fellow countrymen.

A Thousand and One Berber Nights. (Morocco and USA) 2024, 52. In English, Darija and Tamazight with English subtitles. Director: Hisham Aidi. Producer: Sophie Schrago. **Harlem Kasbah Productions (Aidi).** In the late 1950s Hassan Ouakrim was a young dancer and actor in Morocco. Little did he know that he would soon become the protégé of La Mama Theatre founder Ellen Stewart, performing across America, forming friendships with the likes of jazz virtuosos Ornette Coleman and Randy Weston, and becoming a pioneer. In 1961, the late African American theatre pioneer Ellen Stewart was visiting the old city of Tangier, Morocco when she had a vision - she had to have her own “pushcart” to help others. Soon thereafter she founded La Mama, the legendary experimental

theatre club located in Manhattan’s East Village. On the same trip to Morocco, Stewart would come upon a young Berber actor and choreographer named Hassan Ouakrim, whom she would embrace as a son and invite to work with her at La Mama in New York. A Thousand and One Berber Nights tells the story of this mentorship, looking at the life of Ouakrim from his childhood in 1940s French-ruled Morocco, to his involvement in anti-colonial theatre to his rise to becoming a “master teacher” who taught North African dance across America, to the cabaret scene and high society alike. Through the life of one immigrant, A Thousand and One Berber Nights looks at art and cultural integration, New York City’s “Oriental” cabaret subculture, the East Village music scene and the cultural synergy between African Americans and North African immigrants.

Academic Freedom. (Canada) 2025, 11:52. In English, French, Arabic and Farsi with English subtitles. Director: Nat Nesvaderani. Producer: Nat Nesvaderani.

Nat Nesvaderani. In the winter calm of Quebec, this sound work captures the resonance of stones falling on ice and political mourning, listening carefully to the haunting rhythm of a resistance that crosses seasons and continents. This sound work is about experiences of academic freedom on college campuses today. From my smartphone in Winter 2023, I grappled with feelings of dislocation, anger and sadness and feeling deep dissonance in the relative quietness, tranquility, and even beauty in Quebec, Canada, while solidarity encampments unfold across North America, eventually extending into Europe. In winter 2023 I recorded the sound of rock falling on ice in snowy winter Quebec with the intent of drawing attention to the length of

the genocide, stretching from Fall into Winter. But then Winter became Spring, and Spring became Summer. The ice breaking from these rocks melted away. When editing these sounds together, coming back to this one over and over again produced a feeling of repetition. The concept of repetition is prominent in the scholarship of Palestinian and non-Palestinian authors writing about the Nakba ongoing genocide. When editing the sounds of rock falling on ice, it stopped being specific to Winter 2023 but instead a reflection of the dissonance and disillusion of repetition.

Alborz, We Climb Mountains. (Iran, USA) 2024, 84 min. In Persian and English with English subtitles. Director: Maryam Sepehri. Producer: Maryam Sepehri and Payman Fotovat Ahmadi. **Maryam Sepehri.** Alborz, We Climb Mountains tells the story of the famous Iranian school during many tumultuous years in Iran’s modern history, from the perspectives of its graduates, teachers, and even its principal, Dr. Mojtahedi’s voice from archival recordings. The school’s story is told with humor, fondness, and nostalgia for a bygone era. Alborz School was first founded by American Missionaries in Iran in 1924, and later, under the watchful eyes of Dr. Mohammad Mojtahedi, the famed Iranian educator, the school sent its bright graduates to top universities around the world. Alborz graduates are now important businessmen, renowned physicians, scientists and academics in the best university centers in Iran, the U.S. and Europe.

And, Towards Happy Alleys. (Iran) 2023, 75. In Farsi and English with English subtitles. Director: Sreemoyee Singh. Producer: Sreemoyee Singh. **Collective Eye Films.** Fascinated by Iran’s film culture



and the poetic works of the feminist poet Forough Farrokhzad, Indian filmmaker Sreemoyee Singh sets out in search of the protagonists of Iranian cinema. The numerous interviews she conducts over a period of six years with filmmakers Jafar Panahi, Mohammad Shirvani and human rights activist Nasrin Sotudeh, among others, show the precarious situation in which critics of the regime find themselves, including the constant threat of imprisonment and being banned from practising their profession. With a keen eye for unusual situations, she documents the effect of the Islamic Republic's strict and omnipresent censorship on the daily lives of Iranian women whose uncompromising struggle has put them at the forefront of the protests that are currently rocking the country. And, *Towards Happy Alleys* is a passionate declaration of love for the cinema and poetry of Iran which also provides a frank view of daily life, and bears witness to a fearless generation raising its voice and implacably demanding its civil liberties.

Cairo Cats: A Dystopic Glance. (Egypt) 2024, 58:45. In Arabic and English with English subtitles. Director: Tania Kamal-Eldin. Producer: Edward Zeilony. **Herway Productions.** *Cairo Cats* is a compelling documentary in which street cats are both the heart of the story and a metaphor for Egypt's disenfranchised. Filmmaker Kamal-Eldin invites us into her world as she cares for stray cats and reflects on the sweeping changes she has witnessed in her homeland over the decades. Through personal narration and vivid, observational footage, Kamal-Eldin paints a poignant portrait of a once-glorious nation in decline. The film explores the aftermath of the Arab Spring, a revolution that raised hopes but ultimately led to deeper authoritarianism and impoverishment. Today, Egypt remains under the grip of a military regime, while most citizens struggle with poverty and disillusionment. Yet against this bleak backdrop, Kamal-Eldin captures moments of resilience, humor, and humanity—qualities that endure, like the cats of Cairo. *Cairo Cats* is both

a farewell and a lament—an intimate meditation on loss and survival, seen through the eyes of a woman and the cats she must leave behind.

Death Without Mercy. (Turkey, Syria), 84. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Waad Al-Kateab. Producer: Sophie Daniel, Ben de Pear. **Grasshopper Film.** Over the course of 10 days after the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that left 50,000 people dead in Southern Turkey, *Death Without Mercy*, follows two Syrian families as they piece together the tragedy and uncover revelations about the corruption, lies and government incompetence that exacerbated the disaster and its response.

Decryption. (Israel) 2024, 12:26. In Hebrew with English subtitles. Director: Maya Zack. Producer: Maya Zack. **Ruth Films.** When memories of her mother begin to fade, artist Maya Zack returns to the morbid poem her mother used to recite to her as a child to lull her to sleep. In the mesmerizing cinematic poem *Decryption*, Zack deconstructs, weaves, and reassembles the poem and attempts, through it, to revive the memory of the body of her mother, who died prematurely.

Demsala Nan (The Bread Season). (Turkey) 2025, 92. In Kurdish with English subtitles. Director: Emeer Hassanpour, Anvar Hassanpour. Producer: Emeer Hassanpour, Anvar Hassanpour. **Emeer Hassanpour, Anvar Hassanpour.** In a Kurdish Town in southern Turkey, financial tensions within a working-class family bubble and spill into personal resentment. The father, Mahmud, blames his family for the pressures he faces as a manual laborer while his teenage son, Azad, rebels by shoplifting books. Between them, wife and mother Fatma suffers in silent anger as both a domestic worker and rug weaver.

Dharamshala: The Little Lhasa. (India) 2024, 12:38. In English. Director: Sashreek Garg. Producer: Sashreek Garg. **Northwestern University in Qatar.** Amidst the awe-inspiring landscape of

Dharamshala, a vibrant town nestled among majestic hills and lush forests, a captivating tale of sanctuary and exile unfolds. Once a spiritual haven for Hindus, Dharamshala has metamorphosed into a refuge for Tibetan refugees, who fiercely safeguard their cultural heritage and sense of self despite the trials of displacement. In 1959, the Dalai Lama sought solace in Dharamshala after being exiled from Tibet. His establishment of a government-in-exile transformed the town into a powerful symbol of Tibetan resilience. While Tibetan activism and advocacy pulse through its streets, a poignant undercurrent persists. As the younger generation seeks opportunities abroad, the venerable custodians of Tibetan traditions grapple with the specter of cultural erosion and the fading echoes of their struggle for autonomy. Dharamshala, both a beacon of Tibetan identity and a poignant emblem of exile, stands at a crossroads where past and present intersect, and the delicate fate of Tibetan culture hangs in the balance.

East wind. (Argentina, Palestina) 2023, 75. In Spanish with English subtitles. Director: Maia Gattás Vargas. Producer: Marcelo Burd. **Maia Gattás Vargas.** A glass, a sweater and a fishing trophy are the objects Maia inherited from her father. With fragmented spaces and times, the film crosses Patagonian landscapes with the banks of the Río de la Plata, where the wind brings messages from Palestine. Maia travels to the West Bank and among the ruins of the houses demolished by the Israeli occupation and the waters of the Jordan River, she finds a sign of destiny in the name of her family.

En Route to Europe, We Burn or Die. (Tunisia) 2024, 74. In English. Director: Nouredine Jebnoun. Producer: Jakob Plaschke. **Nouredine Jebnoun, Jakob Plaschk.** In the port city of Zarzis in southern Tunisia, the sea has always been a space of mobility. However, Fortress Europe continues to entrench its sea walls and extend proxy borders into North and West Africa, sponsoring local coercive apparatuses. Such measures have turned



journeys of hope into deadly crossings, forcing illegalized and irregularized travelers seeking to overcome political, economic and social marginalization in search of better opportunities into increasing violence and risk. The film weaves together the stories of individuals who are navigating precarity amid deadly border control mechanisms across Africa and the Mediterranean Sea. Through interviews in and around Zarzis, the film explores the journeys, motivations and opinions of African migrants - Tunisian and nationals of other countries - while exposing the neoliberal dispossessive structures

Following The Jäger Report. (Israel, Lithuania) 2025, 60. In Lithuanian, English, Yiddish and Hebrew with English subtitles. Director: Boris Maftsir. Producer: Ron Katzenelson, Stasys Baltakis. **Ruth Films.** Between July and October 1941, nearly 100,000 Jews—half of Lithuania's Holocaust victims—were murdered in shtetls. How did such atrocities occur in a land with a history of coexistence? Lithuanians and Jews confront their painful shared past. Through six chapters, the film traces events from the Soviet occupation and Nazi invasion to modern commemoration. It examines pivotal moments, including mass deportations, the impact of Karl Jäger's report detailing mass executions, and survivor testimonies. Archival footage and stories reveal the dramatic shift in Jewish status—from citizens to victims—and the complicity of local populations. It raises questions about memory, reconciliation, and the responsibilities of future generations.

Fragmentation. (Kuwait) 2024, 20:19. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Maryam Alabbad. Producer: Abullah Almuhanha. **Saadoun Film.** This short film portrays a woman's struggle with her painful past and memories, highlighting how social constraints lead to the disintegration of her identity. The film follows Atheba as she revisits a past love that was destroyed by societal pressures. Through memories triggered

by a mysterious box, the film explores how rigid cultural norms fractured her identity, forcing her to sacrifice personal happiness and love for tradition's sake.

An Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Spotlight Film

From Ground Zero: Stories from Gaza. (Gaza) 2025, 113. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Rashīd Mashharāwī. Producer: Laura Nikolov, Rashīd Mashharāwī. **Docuseek.** From Ground Zero is a collection of short films initiated by Palestinian film-maker Rashid Masharawi, in response to the events following the attacks of October 7, 2023. The project brings together 22 Palestinian filmmakers from Gaza, offering a cinematic perspective on the daily lives, hopes and realities of the inhabitants amidst war. Drom Ground Zero uses a blend of animation, documentary, and fiction, creating a powerful testament to the steadfastness of the human spirit. This film serves as a remarkable reflection of how art can thrive even in the darkest times, showcasing the enduring spirit and creativity that emerge amid ongoing devastation. Each film, ranging in length from three to six minutes, presents a unique perspective on the current reality in Gaza. Despite harsh filming conditions, Gaza's vibrant artistic scene shines through this stunning anthology film.

Gate 3 to 14. (Lebanon) 2025, 7. In Arabic and English with English subtitles. Director: Karen Abou Jaoudeh. Producer: Eiman Mirghani. **Karen Abou Jaoudeh.** Just a few days before an explosion shook their home country on the 8th of August 2020, two filmmaker friends, Karen and Yasmina, make their way into the heart of Beirut Port. Their mission – to assist the Civil Defense team with the search and rescue efforts using cinema lighting equipment. Gate 3 to 14, which is the only way in and out of the disastrous scene, follows Karen and Yasmina as they exit Beirut Port from this experience. After three harrowing and mind-numbing days of fruitless efforts, the young filmmakers ponder on their uncertain future within this lost city.

Guardian of the Well (Biir Gardi). (Chad) 2025, 6. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Bentley Brown, Tahir Ben Mahamat Zene. Producer: Bentley Brown, Tahir Ben Mahamat Zene. **Aboudigin Films.** Residents, both nomadic and sedentary, of Chad's central Batha region congregate at a well on the southern edge of the Sahara desert. In a historic and brutal drought, the vast majority of livestock have died. The nearest village used to be spotted with grass huts along the horizon, but even these homes have been taken apart in an attempt to feed cattle and camels and keep them alive. Our narrator, Youssif, contemplates a change of livelihood.

Hafreiat. (Jordan) 2022, 79. In Arabic and Spanish with English subtitles. Director: Alex Sarda. Producer: Alex Sarda. **Collective Eye Films.** Under the heat of the sun at a Spanish archeological mission in northern Jordan, Abu Dya, a Palestinian Jordanian, digs the land for long hours. Salaries are low and the cost of living is rising. Abu Dya wants to provide a different life for his family, but a criminal record stymies his efforts. Hafreiat shows one man's relationship with his family, the land and its laws, and questions the possibility of banishing the past in a society that seems opposed to reintegration.

If the Sky is Kind on Us. (Egypt) 2025, 30. In Egyptian Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Asmaa Noor. Producer: Marie Vannetzel. **Marie Vannetzel.** What happens when young Egyptians cross social boundaries and try to live the life they desire despite class constraints? Kashef, a poet-photographer, and Asmaa, a filmmaker, were "born" with the Revolution. Coming from modest backgrounds, they face the harshness of the world and struggle with humor and tenderness. The film is Asmaa's mirrored gaze on Kashef, torn between his native village, where he lives with his mother, and Cairo's artistic scene, where he strives to exist.



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In Praise of the Artisan. (Spain, Turkiye, Egypt, Uzbekistan, India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia) 2025, 76. Various with English subtitles. Director: Yasin Salazar. Producer: Yasin Salazar. **Matmedia Productions.** A celebration of skill, heritage, and devotion, *In Praise of the Artisan* explores the lives and craft of master artisans across the Islamic world. From the rhythmic clatter of looms weaving intricate Songket in Malaysia to the delicate carving of geometric patterns in Cairene woodwork, the film immerses viewers in the enduring traditions of Islamic craftsmanship across seven different countries. Through intimate storytelling, the documentary captures not only the techniques passed down through generations but also the philosophy that elevates these crafts beyond mere labor—transforming them into acts of faith, cultural memory, and artistic excellence. At a time when mass production threatens these ancient skills, *In Praise of the Artisan* offers a poignant reflection on the artisans' resilience and their vital role in preserving beauty and meaning in a rapidly changing world.

In the Shadow of Beirut. (Lebanon) 2024, 92. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Stephen Gerard Kelly, Garry Keane. Producer: Brendan J Byrne, Myriam Sassine, Christian Beetz. **Grasshopper Film.** This documentary penetrates deep below the surface of Beirut, a still beautiful, yet deeply troubled city on the brink of financial collapse. Through intimate, character driven storytelling, the stark reality of life for the protagonists of the film is symbolic of the hundreds of thousands of others who fight for survival in the most diverse country in the Middle East.

Infiltrators. (Palestine) 2012, 70. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Khaled Jarrar. **Third World Newsreel.** A visceral road movie that chronicles the daily travails of Palestinians of all backgrounds as they seek routes through, under, around, and over a bewildering matrix of barriers and border walls in the highly militarized West Bank. Alternating

between cigarette breaks, detours, waiting, and moving, *Infiltrators* depicts the cunning, unnerving, and constant struggle to defy captivity and occupation.

Intentions. (USA) 2022, 20. In Turkish with English subtitles. Director: Tanju Ozdemir. Producer: Mehmet Gungore. **ZeroPoint MK.** Gathering of three Turkish couples (one settled in the U.S.) at a dinner table discussing the notion of “claustrophobic” hospitality and racism within the framework of the current Syrian refugee crisis and Afro-Turks in Turkey.

ISIS, The Ghost Children. (Syria) 2023, 70. In French and English with English subtitles. Director: Hélène Lam Trong. Producer: Fabienne Servan-Schreiber, Estelle Mauriac. **Docuseek.** Never before have the children of criminals been punished for the crime of their parents: the children of French jihadists are a textbook case. More than a hundred French children are still condemned to grow up in Syrian prison camps. In France, their families are waging a fierce battle against the government to repatriate them.

Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989. (Israel, Palestine, Sweden) 2024, 206. In Swedish, English, Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles. Director: Göran Hugo Olsson. Producer: Tobias Janson. **Icarus Films.** Television broadcasting debuted in Sweden in 1957. And Swedish public broadcaster SVT began covering Israel and Palestine almost from day one. In *Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989*, filmmaker Göran Hugo Olsson masterfully weaves together some of this footage, telling the story of the rise of the Israeli state and the Palestinian struggle for independence — as seen by Swedish media.

Israelism. (US, Israel) 2023, 84. In English. Director: Erin Axelman, Sam Eilertsen. Producer: Erin Axelman, Daniel J. Chalfen, Nadia Saah. **Docuseek.** Two young American Jews - Simone Zimmerman and Eitan - are raised to defend the state

of Israel at all costs. Eitan joins the Israeli military. Simone supports Israel on ‘the other battlefield:’ America’s college campuses. When they witness Israel’s mistreatment of the Palestinian people with their own eyes, they are horrified and heartbroken. They join the movement of young American Jews battling the old guard over Israel’s centrality in American Judaism, and demanding freedom for the Palestinian people. Their stories reveal a generational divide in the American Jewish community as more young Jews question the narratives their synagogues and Hebrew school teachers taught them as children. *Israelism* uniquely explores how Jewish attitudes towards Israel are changing dramatically, with massive consequences for the region and for Judaism itself.

It's Winter. (Iran) 2019, 85. In Persian and English with English subtitles. Director: Mehrdad Zahedian. Producer: Mehrdad Zahedian. **Golistan Inc.** In the heart of a bustling capital, a street emerged that was a comprehensive mirror of a nation’s hopes and failures: Lalehzar, a street that began in the Qajar royal gardens and became the beating pulse of Iranian modernity. *It's Winter* is a historical, analytical, and poetic narrative of the rise and fall of a street that was once the center of art, culture, intellectualism, and political and social movements in Iran. By retracing the story of Lalehzar from the reign of Naser al-Din Shah Qajar to the 1979 Iranian Islamic revolution, the film tells the story of the formation of modern Iranian identity in an urban context; where the first theaters, cinemas, newspapers, cafes, and even assassinations and ideological confrontations took place.

Life is Beautiful: A Letter to Gaza. (Gaza) 2023, 97. In Arabic, English and Norwegian with English subtitles. Director: Mohamed Jabaly. Producer: Kristine Ann Skaret. **Docuseek.** Stuck in the arctic of Norway and refusing to accept the boundaries imposed by international politics and rigid bureaucracy, filmmaker Mohamed Jabaly insists on telling heartfelt stories from his hometown Gaza. Despite having



only limited connection to his family abroad and support from his friends, he manages to channel his own creativity, adhering to his motto, “Life is Beautiful.”

Long Distance Swimmer: Sara Mardini. (Syria, Germany) 2023, 89. In English, Arabic, Greek and German with English subtitles. Director: Charly Wai Feldman. Producer: Antje Beohmert. **Docuseek.** At 20, Sara was already famous. She fled Syria in 2015 with her younger sister Yusra. When their boat broke down as they were crossing the sea to Greece, Sara and Yusra and two others jumped into the waves and swam for three and a half hours in open water to stop their dinghy from capsizing, saving the lives of everyone on board. Their journey made headlines around the world, and is dramatized in a Netflix film called *The Swimmers*. Our story begins when the fictionalized drama ends. Sara has spent three years rescuing refugees on the same journey that made her famous, but she was suddenly arrested in August 2018. Sara was accused by Greek authorities of running a criminal enterprise and charged with “international espionage and people smuggling”. If convicted, she faces up to 25 years in prison and the end of her humanitarian career. Banned from Lesbos and waiting for news of the trial, she lives a surreal existence in Berlin.

Monir. (Iran) 2015, 54. In Farsi and English with English subtitles. Director: Bahman Giarostami. Producer: Leyla Fakhr. **Documentary Educational Resources (DER).** This documentary looks at the life and work of Iranian artist Monir Shahrudy Farmanfarman, who first garnered attention in the 1970s when she pioneered contemporary forms of geometric mirror works. Monir created an artistic language that was informed by traditional Iranian craft and architecture; formative years spent in New York in the 1940s and 50s and ongoing conversations with some of the 20th century’s most experimental artists were also part of Monir’s artistic universe. The film takes an intimate look at the artist’s life and her practice, and explores how she has

become one of the most innovative and influential artists working in the Middle East today.

My Stolen Planet. (Germany, Iran) 2024, 82. In Persian with English subtitles. Director: Farahnaz Sharifi. Producer: Anke Petersen, Lilian Tietjen & Farzad Pak. **Women Make Movies.** *My Stolen Planet* traces how the Islamic Revolution changed life for women in Iran. Born in 1979 shortly after the fall of the Pahlavi dynasty, Farah draws on personal archives and found 8mm recordings of strangers’ lives to show moments of private joy and public defiance under the regimented oppression in Tehran. Throughout, she portrays Iranian women with humanity and complexity, sharing her love for her country’s textures while refusing to be diminished by repressive religious and government structures. A collective representation of women’s lives in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the film is also characterized by personal intimacy. The filmmaker’s connection with Leyla, an Iranian professor who left the country during the revolution, adds a name and story to one of the faces in the archives. And watching her mother suffer with Alzheimer’s, Farah sees first-hand how quickly stories – personal and societal – can be forgotten, motivating her to document her unique history and perspective.

My Worst Enemy. (France) 2023, 82. In Farsi with English subtitles. Director: Mehran Tamadon. Producer: Raphaël Pilloso. **Icarus Films.** Filmmaker Mehran Tamadonis an Iranian in exile, living in France. For years, he was able to travel back and forth between the two countries. Then, in 2012, he was warned that coming back would mean prison, torture — or worse. Seeking to understand the mindset of the torturers, and the experience of fellow emigrés who have suffered at their hands, Mehran comes up with a plan: He’ll ask one of them to interrogate him, pushing him to the limit. Ultimately, Mehran hopes to return to Iran with his film, and show it to real torturers as a way to spark recognition of how far they

have drifted from their basic humanity. Celebrated actress Zar Amir Ebrahimi takes up the offer. She interrogates Mehran over two intense days — stripping him almost naked, subjecting him to freezing showers, haranguing him about his beliefs. But as it progresses, it raises uncomfortable questions for everyone involved. What long-term effects will Zar suffer from taking on the vile persona of those who once tortured her? How much of Zar’s interrogation is a performance? A role like so many others she has played? Is Mehran being tortured, or is he the torturer for putting her through this? And how complicit are we, by watching?

Palestine Vaincra (Palestine Will Win). (France) 1969, 28. In English. Director: Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan. **Third World Newsreel.** *Palestine Vaincra* is regarded as the first French documentary film made in support of the Palestinian liberation movement. Shot in 1969 by Jean-Pierre Olivier de Saardan in a student dorm, the film blends historical testimonies by Palestinians, photographs, stock footage, maps, and music. The documentary centers on the 1968 Battle of Karameh, while also tracing the complex story of the past five decades of Palestinian resistance against oppression and colonialism. *Palestine Vaincra* offers an introduction to Palestine’s history from the Turkish and British empires, WWII, the rise of Zionism, to the enduring struggle of the Palestinian people, emphasizing their quest for self-determination and the urgent need to end the cycle of foreign occupation. It frames their struggle as part of the broader Third World movement occurring at the time in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Postcard from Tora Bora. (Afghanistan) 2007, 87. In English. Director: Wazmah Osman, Kelly Dolak. Producer: Wazmah Osman, Kelly Dolak. **Documentary Educational Resources (DER).** At the height of the Cold War, the Osman family frantically escapes from Afghanistan while leaving almost everything behind. In the ensuing chaos, their only suitcase filled with family photos is stolen. Now after two



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decades of living in America, Wazmah Osman, a young Afghan-American woman returns to her childhood home. Armed only with rapidly fading memories, she recruits some unlikely and reluctant guides to put together the pieces of her past. On an alternately sad and humorous quest, she encounters confused cabbies, the enthusiastic former minister of the tourism bureau, a museum director that archives land mines, and a group of angry street vendors. As Wazmah desperately searches for any tangible evidence of her former life, the journey leads her to many unexpected places. Amidst the rubble and destruction, she finds her estranged father who in the aftermath of war chooses his country over his family. On the road, Wazmah frequently finds herself at a strange intersection where cultures clash, identities are mistaken, and the past violently collides with the present.

Returning To Zarnouqa. (Palestine) 2024, 14. In English. Director: Zelda Edmunds. Producer: Haidar Eid, Neta Golan. **Anemoia Projects LLC.** A Palestinian story of generational displacement, genocide and the inevitability of Return. Haidar Eid was raised in Gaza City after his parents were violently expelled from their home village of Zarnouqa in 1948. In 2019 a conversation emerges between Haidar and Neta Golan, an Israeli anti-Zionist comrade, as she shares with him footage from his hometown which he is denied access to. In 2023, Haidar, his wife, and their daughters become the second and third generation to be forced from their home as Israel continues its genocidal war in Palestine. Returning to Zarnouqa depicts a vision that remains as relevant as ever: The time for Return is now.

Sh'hili (Sirocco). (Tunisia, Morocco, France, Italy) 2024, 76 minutes. In French, Italian, English and Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Habib Ayeb. Producer: Layoun Prod. **Layoun Prod.** For several decades now, people have been talking everywhere about the processes of climate change and global warming underway. Conferences, forums and

publications are multiplying. The famous COPs (Conferences of the Parties) held each year in a different country bring together hundreds of delegations from all over the world. And yet there are few results, even though CC phenomena continue to worsen: accelerated rises in average temperatures, extreme weather events, not to mention frightening and devastating pandemics such as Covid 19, which has already claimed the lives of millions of people in barely 3 years. Filmed between France, Italy, Tunisia and Morocco, Sh'hili attempts to address all the issues and dimensions of the CC from a political position committed to climate justice, the protection of the most vulnerable populations, the protection of life and resistance to all forms of colonial and neo-colonial domination and policies. Sh'hili is therefore intended as a contribution, albeit a modest one, to collective resistance to CC and its ecological, human and political consequences.

The 1957 Transcripts. (Israel, Palestine) 2024, 74. In Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Ayelet Heler. Producer: Osnat Trabelsi. **Docuseek.** Recently exposed classified trial transcripts of the 1956 massacre by Israeli soldiers in the Palestinian village of Kafr Qasim interwoven with survivors' testimonies shed new light on unknown facts and troubling truths on the societal relations in Israel and Palestine. A cinematic montage allows a glimpse into a history of divided narratives. On the morning of the 29th of October 1956, when the villagers set out to work on the fields, they were not told that later that day the curfew would begin earlier than usual. Breaking the curfew carried a death sentence, and upon its earlier start, Israeli border patrol soldiers murdered 47 innocent Palestinian citizens of Israel. The case was exposed by an Israeli journalist and heavy public pressure led to the soldiers being put on trial the following year. The film reenacts selected dialogues from the original trial transcripts that were only recently exposed. Three narrative lines are intertwined like a

tense legal drama, revealing the complex historical, political, and psychological reality that shaped and enabled the tragic event. The cinematic mosaic highlights the differences and conflicting narratives that exist until today between Jews and Arabs in this place.

The Dawn is Too Far: Stories of Iranian-American Life. (USA) 2024, 55. In English. Director: Persis Karim, Soumyaa Behrens. Producer: Persis Karim. **Persis Karim.** This compelling documentary highlights the untold stories of eight Iranian Americans in the San Francisco Bay Area, weaving together personal narratives that highlight histories of Iran and the United States. The film offers a poetic and multifaceted perspective that challenges the predominance of negative media portrayals about Iranians. The documentary delves into the experiences of the Bay Area's unique Iranian diaspora, exploring how their lives and work were shaped by this region while also showcasing their profound contributions to its cultural and social fabric. Featuring rare archival footage, the film presents a rich and layered narrative that brings new depth to our understanding of this Iranian diaspora community and the longer arc of Iranian-American history.

The Shoshani Riddle. (Israel, France, USA, Uruguay) 2024, 88. In Hebrew, English and French, with English subtitles. Director: Michael Grynszpan. Producer: Michael Grynszpan. **Ruth Films.** The Wanderer Who Knew it All. He was one of the greatest geniuses that ever lived; a teacher, a scholar, a mathematician - he had a brilliant mind...and yet he slept on a park bench, had no real home, travelled the world, looked like a bum and ate like a slob. No one knows his real name; he is only known as Mr. Shoshani. Mr. Shoshani is one of the unsolved riddles and one of the ten most mysterious men ever.

The Tentmakers of Cairo (Egypt) 2015, 94. In Arabic and English with English subtitles. Director: Kim Beamish. Producer: Kim Beamish. **Documentary Educational Resources (DER).** The



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Tentmakers of Cairo offers unprecedented access to a small community of talented craftsmen, known as tentmakers, who practice the uniquely Egyptian art of Khayamiya, or hand stitched appliqué. In a small covered market, in the heart of Old Islamic Cairo, four tentmakers expertly stitch ornate Islamic designs, as their centuries-old craft collides with a 21st-century revolution. Historically, Khayamiya was used to decorate the interiors of tents, and is an important part of Egypt's living heritage that dates back to the time of the Pharaohs. However, in a more modern, tourist-friendly incarnation, today's artisans create wall-hangings and cushion covers. The film provides access to the techniques and practices surrounding this traditional art, as well as its changing audience as the tentmakers travel to the USA and France to showcase their work in quilting exhibitions. Abroad, the tentmakers find new attention and customers, and bemoan the lack of respect for their work in their own country.

The Water That Asked for a Fish.

(Bahrain) 2025, 25:43. In No spoken words with Arabic and English subtitles. Director: Mariam M. Alnoaimi. **Mariam M. Alnoaimi.** The Water that Asked for a Fish, examines and contextualises the Gulf region's historical and contemporary relationships with water bodies, bringing to focus the precarious nature of their continuing role in sustaining human and ecological life. For this piece, Alnoaimi involved a diverse group of participants—including fishermen, biologists, ecologists, writers and community members—who engaged with Bahrain's water bodies. The ensuing conversations yielded moving insights into local rituals, animistic practices and stories, proposing a conception of water bodies as living, breathing entities.

An Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Spotlight Film

This Dissonance. (United States) 2024, 5:30. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Christophe Katrib. Producer:

Christophe Katrib. **Christophe Katrib.** Through poetic fragmentation and layered testimony, This Dissonance navigates the emotional terrain of exile, complicity, and resistance. Filmmaker Christophe Katrib weaves Palestinian and Lebanese voices with sweeping American landscapes, capturing the aching dissonance of witnessing U.S.-backed atrocities from a distance. The result is a searing reflection on belonging, solidarity, and the generational toll of empire.

Three. (United Arab Emirates) 2024, 93. In English and Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Nayla Al Khaja. Producer: Nayla Al Khaja. **Nayla Al Khaja Films.** A young boy's mental health crisis prompts his desperate mother to seek help from an unexpected source—a man who must abandon his Western mindset and embrace a powerful, ancient ritual to save her son.

An Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Spotlight Film

Tripoli / A Tale of Three Cities. (Lebanon) 2024, 88. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Raed Rafei. Producer: Rania Rafei. **Filmotor (Michaela Cajkova)/ Good Docs.** While living abroad, a filmmaker returns to Tripoli, Lebanon to confront a hometown that once rejected him as a queer child. With a microphone in hand, he walks around coffee shops, public squares and a park to ask the city's inhabitants about their cultural and social beliefs and their embrace of new ideas. Gradually, he meets a group of marginalized individuals whose eccentric life choices contradict the general lifestyle in this religiously and socially conservative city. Through intimate conversations with a communist activist, a queer music producer and other unconventional characters, he explores the complicated relations one forms with a hometown in crisis. This contemplative urban symphony paints a picture of a city trapped in a self-spun web, paralyzed by a deep economic crisis, a faltering revolution, and a looming doomsday.

Valley of Exile. (Lebanon) 2023, 107. In Arabic with English subtitles. Director: Anna Fahr. Producer: Anna Fahr, Lara Abou Saifan. **Morning Bird Pictures.** Set in the early years of the Syrian war, Valley of Exile chronicles the journey of Rima and Nour, two sisters who find unexpected refuge in a makeshift settlement in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley after fleeing war-torn Damascus. Older sister Rima, who is eight months pregnant, is set on reuniting with her husband and rebuilding their lives in Lebanon while younger sister Nour is determined to find their missing brother and eventually return home to Syria. In the camp, the sisters forge alliances with other women who are similarly forced to live without the support of family they've lost to the war. This propels them onto separate paths: Rima finds work as a housekeeper, hoping to earn money to rent an apartment before her baby is born, while Nour sets out to investigate their brother's whereabouts, risking her own safety in the process. As days in the camp turn to weeks, Rima and Nour begin to realize that their journey into exile is not only a struggle for survival, but ultimately a test of loyalty to their country, their family and each other.

Visions of a dreamt sunset. (Morocco) 2024, 12:36. In Moroccan Darija and English with English subtitles. Director: Yasmine Benabdallah. Producer: Yasmine Benabdallah. **Yasmine Benabdallah.** The sun setting behind the ocean haunted me, and I kept looking for it in Tangier, meant never to find it. I felt foreign in a city with a different colonial past. And a film emerged. A travelogue on loss and healing. Facing the ocean, the eye gazes as far beyond as it can. The sounds of water and my voice permeate the worlds, slowly blurring them, the ocean leaking through the archives.

War is Over. (Iraq) 2023, 49. In Kurdish with English subtitles. Director: Stefano Obino. Producer: Tania Masi, Stefano Obino. **Docuseek.** Iraqi Kurdistan. What happens to war zones after the spotlights go off? One year after the harsh conflict



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against ISIS, the scars of war remain. Yet life persists, gradually returning to a semblance of normality. This reality serves as a vivid and painful reminder while also representing a collective act of liberation. War is Over stands as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

What Men Want. (Germany) 2025, 85. In Arabic with English and German subtitles. Director: Rodi Hameh. Producer: Rodi Hameh. **Show Do Not Tell.** Sarah and Miriam are drawn into the orbit of Ibrahim—a man whose charisma masks darker intentions. As both women place their trust in him, admiration gives way to disillusionment when they uncover his calculated deceit. What begins as a search for companionship spirals into betrayal, financial manipulation, and emotional harm. Forced to confront their trauma, the two women set out to expose the truth and reclaim their agency. Their journey

becomes not only a pursuit of justice, but a fierce act of resistance against silence and erasure.

Where the Wind Blows. (Palestine) 2024, 15. In Arabic and English with English subtitles. Director: Hana Elias. Producer: Anakha Arikara, Asmahani Bkerat. **Hana Elias.** After building a life in New York City, Nassib returns to his Palestinian hometown of Shefa-'Amr after 50 years to revive an ancestral garden. Filmmaker Hana captures her whole family's search for belonging as she intimately films the rituals and practices around their first olive harvest.

Writing Hawa. (Afghanistan, France) 2024, 84. In Farsi with English subtitles. Director: Najiba Noori, Rasul Noori. Producer: Christian Popp, Hasse van Nunen, Renko Douze. **Icarus Films.** Filmed over five years, Writing Hawa follows three generations of Hazara

women from the same family in Afghanistan. Forced into marriage at the age of 13 to a much older man, the now 52-year-old Hawa spends her time confined to the home to care for her ailing husband. Fed up with the drudgery and isolation of her daily life, Hawa sets out to open a small textile business. We follow her as she searches for traditional embroideries and turns them into modern dresses to sell in Kabul. She is eventually reunited with her granddaughter Zahra, having escaped an abusive father in the countryside. Both denied access to an education as children, Hawa takes Zahra under her wing as the two study together. But the looming takeover of the Taliban hovers in the background on TV screens and news reports, threatening to turn their lives upside down.

Film Distributors

Aboudigin Films

Guardian of the Well (Biir Gardi)
<https://aboudigin.com/biir>

Anemoia Projects LLC

Returning To Zarnouqa
<http://www.returningtozarnouqa.com/>

Christophe Katrib

This Dissonance
christok@ucr.edu

Collective Eye Films

And Towards Happy Alleys
Hafreiat
<https://www.collectiveeye.org>

Documentary Educational Resources (DER)

Monir
Postcards from Tora Bora
The Tentmakers of Cairo
<https://der.org>

Docuseek

From Ground Zero: Stories from Gaza
ISIS, The Ghost Children
Israelism
Life is Beautiful: A Letter to Gaza
Long Distance Swimmer: Sara Mardini
The 1957 Transcripts
War is Over
<https://docuseek2.com>

Emeer Hassanpour & Anvar Hassanpour

Demsala Nan (The Bread Season)
<https://www.demsalanfilm.com>

Filmotor (Michaela Cajkova)/Good Docs

Tripoli / A Tale of Three Cities
<https://www.raedrafei.com>
<https://gooddocs.net/products/tripoli>

Grasshopper Film

Death Without Mercy
In the Shadow of Beirut
<https://grasshopperfilm.com/>



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**Golistan Inc**

It's Winter

<https://www.golistan.org>

Hana Elias

Where the Wind Blows

<https://hana-elias.com/www>

Harlem Kasbah Productions (Aidi)

A Thousand and One Berber Nights

<https://filmfreeway.com/AThousandandOneBerberNights>

Herway Productions

Cairo Cats: A Dystopic Glance

<https://herwayproductions.com>

Icarus Films

Israel Palestine on Swedish TV 1958-1989

My Worst Enemy

Writing Hawa

<https://icarusfilms.com/>

Karen Abou Jaoudeh

Gate 3 to 14

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

Kern Hendricks

A Mental Health Crisis in the West Bank

<https://www.kernhendricks.com>

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Sh'hili (Sirocco)

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