

Digest of Current Publications and Ever

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CALL FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

Palestinian Anthropology: Thinking Without a State

Birzeit, Palestine, January 2019

Deadline: 15 October 2018

Insaniyyat, the recently formed Society of Palestinian Anthropologists, invites participants to submit abstracts, attend roundtables, and participate in the society's annual gathering. Papers and roundtables should address the subject of Palestine and Palestinian communities anywhere as topics of anthropological inquiry. The conference is in collaboration with the PhD program in interdisciplinary social sciences at Birzeit University. For its three-day conference, Palestinian Anthropology: Thinking Without a State, Insaniyyat invites participants to explore the following questions: How can we cultivate and enrich a Palestinian anthropology? What are the theoretical and/or political, ethnographic contributions of anthropological research on Palestine to the discipline? What are the thematic intersections that do or should command ethnographic attention in a sovereignless Palestine? In what ways might Palestine as an episteme offer critical reflections on the modern enterprise of studying the Other that is arguably anthropology? What are the challenges of conducting fieldwork in Palestine and among Palestinian communities in diaspora?

The lives and deaths of Palestinians have been documented, researched, debated, and contested in academic research for over a century. Early anthropological writings about Arab communities in general were shaped by variegated Orientalist portrayals of the region. Writings on Palestine and Palestinian communities have not been an exception. However, in the past three decades, critical anthropological writings have started to document and analyze the experiences of Palestinians and their communities. This conference is a gathering of Palestinian anthropologists from home and exile to discuss the ways they study, explore and document the range of Palestinian experiences. As an epistemic space, Palestine in this conference, will offer anthropology a critique of the parochialism of Western scholarship: its concealments, confusions and aporias.

Anthropology of Palestine is moving towards diversified fields that are not exhausted by binaries of occupation/liberation, resistance/adaptation, 1948/1967 or NGOs/Armed Struggle and so on. The reality of colonization dwells in an ontological complexity. Insaniyyat was birthed through these critiques and concerns.

About Insaniyyat:

Insaniyyat is an initiative of Palestinian anthropologists that began in 2015, and it is devoted to promoting anthropological inquiry among Palestinians and about Palestine, and the rest of the world. It advocates for the development of anthropological knowledge in diverse subfields and related ethnographic research, while always being attuned to social and political justice. Insaniyyat aims to offer anthropological s (a)-3.2(7IDo)-6.6(7.9(o)-63ID 11 >>BDC -9.37 -uti3(irt)-4)10.5(o)-6. 4.3(t)-5.ybrothro

is committed to spreading knowledge about anthropology among Palestinian university students and to introducing anthropology to the wider public.

Abstracts can be submitted in either Arabic or English, and should be no longer than 500 words. Send your abstract to: conference2019@insaniyyat.org

More information [here](#)

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Paths of Resistance in the Middle East and North Africa - 14th Conference of the Italian Society for Middle Eastern Studies (SeSaMO)

31 January-2 February 2019, Turin, Italy

Department of Culture, Politics and Society, University of Turin, Campus Luigi Einaudi

Deadline for panels: 5 September 2018

Recent reports on the Middle East and North Africa have spotlighted episodes of individual rebellion and collective protest that, escalating into revolution (thawra), disclosed effervescence, dynamism, desire for redress and assertiveness on the part of the populations of the area. Resistance represents historically a constitutive element of religious community (the Islamic umma was born from the Prophet's conflict with the rulers of Mecca), nation-states, coalesced around the myth of national liberation struggles or anti-imperialism, and remarkable literary phenomena such as the "Palestinian literature of resistance" (adab al-muqawwama).

Nonetheless, the imaginary of the Orient dominating in Europe throughout the centuries had downplayed the capacity of the so-called "Oriental" populations to generate democratic institutions and, more broadly, change. Particularly resilient was the category of Oriental despotism that depicted the Middle East and North Africa as immovable and immutable spaces and societies, regions trapped by their inhabitants' allegedly natural predisposition, strengthened by Islam, to submission in the face of tyrannical rulers. Though not exempt from criticisms, Edward Said's work strongly questioned such an Orientalist approach and, along with it, the label of despotism. In the wake of Orientalism, Postcolonial Studies and Subaltern Studies have attempted to restore dignity to the historical-political trajectories of a region and its peoples and legitimise the autochthonous paths of resistance within those societies.

Based on these assumptions, the 14th SeSaMO Conference aims at bringing the debate on the paths and forms of resistance, which developed in the Middle Eastern and North African region over the centuries, and soliciting different theoretical and disciplinary approaches.

The paths of resistance can be understood as reaction to external agents or in relation to internal 'enemies'. In this way, anti-colonial opposition movements can be included (from 'primary resistance' to modern mass nationalism, according to the classic definition of Terence Ranger), as well as.

of power or phenomena of self-immolation and martyrdom. Finally the focus may be on everyday practices of resistance from below (Bayat, Life as politics) or on activism fostered from above by political elites and intellectual vanguards.

Panels with the following focus are particularly welcome:

Theoretical and analytical lenses used over the years to study the paths of resistance in the Middle East and North Africa.

Methodologies and sources (archives, militant sources, etc.) used over the years to investigate the paths of resistance and their impact on resistance trajectories.

We invite submissions engaging with any of these angles:

(Imperial fiqh) Is there space to argue that imperial jurists devised fiqh as a stronghold able to resist pressures from political authorities and their laws?

(Legal History) What evidence can we conjure to support the counterintuitive statement that during colonial times law was also used to resist the coloniser?

(Law&Colonialism) Some have started to deconstruct the calls for sharia in contemporary contexts as direct challenges to current illiberal regimes. A form of 'protected' resistance?

(Law&Lit) If literature is an avenue to explore forms of resistance of and to the law, how can we read () CE Æ u % o š Z } μlv š c μ() CE Á š Z -detective in 'detective' stories?

(Law&Language) The language of the 'modern', positive law has largely become the hegemonic

- x Solidarity in public spaces of protest
- x Memories, legacies and futures
- x Leftist internationalism, transnationalism, cosmopolitanism from below

Conference keynote speakers:

Vijay Prashad Tricontinental Institute for Social Research.

Cynthia Young Pennsylvania State University.

Submission Guidelines

Please send proposals for individual papers or panels by 28 September

2018 to: Radical60s@brighton.ac.uk

Individual paper proposals should include: name of presenter and contact information; proposed paper title; abstract (250 words); short biography (50 words).

Panel proposals should be pre-formed and include title and short rationale for the panel (100 words) with 3-4 corresponding individual paper proposals (as per above guidelines).

Accepted proposals will be notified by November.

There is limited bursary support available for applicants: if you wish to apply, please send a paragraph explaining your need for support, together with your abstract. Decisions will be made on the basis of both abstract and need.

-

This conference focuses on the idea of home as a place and a concept. It also engages with what has become an important topic in the recent history of the Middle East and Islamic World, displacement, dispossession, and refugees. The recent massive ~~dislo~~ of people as a result of the wars in Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, and Libya are a potential topic, but papers regarding historical movements and dislocations in the Ottoman Empire, Iran, Greater Syria, Israel, Armenia, North Africa, and South and Southeast Asia are welcome.

Please submit a ~~one~~ page prospectus along with your name, title, and affiliation by January 19, 2019 to: James N. Tallon, tallon1453@gmail.com

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BRISMES Conference 2019 Joining the Dots: Interdisciplinarity in Middle East Studies

24- 27 June 2019, University of Leeds, UK

Deadline: 8 November 2018

- x Contribution of traditional media and social media to contentious politics and social movements, in the past and today
- x Populist rhetoric employed across media platforms newspapers, television, the web, and others
- x Religious dimensions in media environments
- x Tension between populist figures and media and the question of “illegitimate” or “fake” media.

Bread, Dignity, and Social Justice: The Economics of Populism

- x Divergent framings of welfare and who is mobilized around such claims
- x Role of global and local financial crises in rise of populist movements
- x Negotiation of Islamist economic ideas and global political economy
- x Economic precariousness and inaccessibility of resources correlated with changing views of what constitutes legitimate use of authority in MENA

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Abstracts should be 250 words maximum in length. They should be titled and have all requisite bibliographic citations. Along with the abstract, please include a detailed, recent Curriculum Vitae/resume (no longer than 3 pages).

Abstracts will be evaluated according to the following categories: originality of theme, clear data and methodology, clarity and relevance of the proposal to the conference. ~~then~~ To submit your abstract, please send them to ircpl.populism@gmail.com with the subject line of the email titled “Populism Middle East Abstract” ~~by~~ Monday, October 22, 2018.

More information [here](#)

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TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

Prospects for Islamist Politics after the Arab Uprisings

03 October 2018, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Venue: LSE, Research Centres meeting Suite 9 Tower 1, Clement’s Inn, London WC2A 2AZ

Speakers: Hendrik Kraetzschmar, Paola Rivetti, Courtney Freer, Craig Larkin

Chair: Katerina Dalacoura

What are the consequences of the Arab uprisings for Islamist actors and organisations across the region? Have regime change, revolution, counter-revolution and reform worked to strengthen the power and influence of Islamists, or have they weakened them? ~~See~~ ~~the~~ ~~recently~~ ~~published~~ ~~volume~~ Islamists and the Politics of the Arab Uprisings: Governance, Pluralisation and Contention

(EUP, 2018), panellists will critically discuss the impact of the uprisings looking at how Islamists' political and ideological stances have shifted as a result of a dramatically changing social and political environment. Cross-regional dynamics will be explored and assessed, alongside discussions of the national specificities of Islamist trajectories in those countries of the Middle East and North Africa

Rentier Islamism: The Influence of the Muslim Brotherhood in the Gulf Monarchies

16 October 2018, 6:00 to 7:30pm

Venue: LSE, Wolfson Theatre, 54 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LJ

Speakers: Courtney Freer, Sir John Jenkins, Stéphane Lacroix

Chair: Toby Dodge

Scholars of Middle Eastern politics have long overlooked the role played by political Islam in domestic politics of the wealthy monarchical states of the Arabian Gulf, called 'rentier states'. While rentier state theory assumes that citizens of such states will form opposition blocs only when their stake in rent income is threatened, this book demonstrates that ideology, rather than rent, has motivated the formation of independent Islamist movements in the wealthiest states of the region, especially

The Meaning of Justice and the Rule of Law in Post-2013 Egypt

31 October 2018 5 - 6.30 pm

Venue: Forum Transregionale Studien Wallotstraße 14, 14193 Berlin, Germany

Speaker: Amr Hamzawy (Stanford University / Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin 2018/19)

Chair: Georges Khawajeh (EUME / Forum Transregionale Studien)

More information [here](#)

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Decolonial Transformations: Imagining, Practicing, Collaborating

31 October to 2 November 2018, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

This workshop provides a space for conversations and collaborations around the theme of 'Decolonial Transformations'. The world we currently inhabit has been structured significantly by imperial and colonial rule. While colonization was resisted over the longer durée, the decolonization movements of the last seventy years consolidated and institutionalised these efforts. This has led to the beginning of a fracturing of the colonial world order. This fracturing remains incomplete. Coloniality continues to be pervasive as a structuring force in the world, often manifesting as the modernist control of nature and civil society, racialised divisions of labour, Eurocentric social theories, global governance regimes that institutionalise asymmetric relations (in trade, natural resources and capital), racialised migration regimes, disqualification of 'Western' modes of

Speakers and facilitators will be from the UK, Europe, Canada, South Africa, India, and Palestine: GN Devy, Meera Sabaratnam, Olivette Otele, Kalwant Bhopal, Iyiola Solanke, Andrea Cornwall, Rosalba Icaza, Ronaldo Vasquez, Kerem Nisancioglu, Gurubra, Dalia Gebrial, the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, the Racial Justice Unit, Bail for Immigration Detention, SOAS Solidarity with Refugees and Displaced Peoples, and more.

Interactive Sessions will be run by: Brighton QTIPOC Network Collective, Karen Salt, Sharlene Khan, Fouad Asfour, Akanksha Mehta, Althea Maria Rivas, Malcolm James, Sam Solomon, Nisha Ramayya, Radical Residency, I2AmSussex, Sindi Gordon, Sara Cane, Mama D, Toyin Agbetu, Saurabh Arora, Divya Sharma, HipEdUK, The Verbatim Theatre, etc...

The Workshop will take place at the University of Sussex, Brighton, UK. There is a 10.00 registration fee. Concessions are available.

For enquiries please email colonialtransformations@gmail.com

More information [here](#)

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The Arab revolutions as an object of history: Moral economy, archives re reoniatT.6(

RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Oral History in Times of Change: Gender, Documentation, and the Making of Archives

Hoda Elsadda & Hanan Sabea

Clientelism and Patronage in the Middle East and North Africa: Networks of Dependency

Laura Ruiz de Elvira, Christoph H. Schwarz, Irene Weipert (Eds)
Routledge, 2018

The book takes the phenomenon of the 2011 uprisings as a point of departure for reassessing clientelism and patronage across the MENA region. Using case studies covering Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and the Gulf monarchies, it looks at how the relationships within and between clientelist and patronage networks changed before 2011. The book assesses how these changes contributed to the destabilization of the established political and social order, and how they affected less visible political processes. It then turns to look at how the political transformations since 2011 have in turn reconfigured these networks in terms of strategies and dynamics, and concomitantly, what implications this has had for the inclusion or exclusion of new actors. Are specific networks expanding or shrinking in the post-2011 contexts? Do these networks reproduce established forms of patron-client relations or do they translate into new modes and mechanisms?

Contents:

Introduction- Networks of Dependency, A Research Perspective, Laura Ruiz de Elvira, Christoph H. Schwarz, Irene Weipert
Part I: Conceptualising Privilege and Dependency in the MENA Region

Religious Statecraft - The Politics of Islam in Iran

Mohammad Ayatollahi Tabaar
Columbia University Press, 2018

Since the 1979 revolution, scholars and policy makers alike have tended to see Iranian political actors as religiously driven—dedicated to overturning the international order in line with a theologically prescribed outlook. This provocative book argues that such views have the link between religious ideology and political order in Iran backwards. *Religious Statecraft* examines the politics of Islam, rather than political Islam, to achieve a new understanding of Iranian politics and its ideological contradictions. Mohammad Ayatollahi Tabaar traces half a century of shifting Islamist doctrines against the backdrop of Iran's factional and international politics, demonstrating that religious narratives in Iran can change rapidly, frequently, and dramatically in accordance with elites' threat perceptions. He argues that the Islamists' gambit to capture the state depended on attaining a monopoly over the use of religious narratives. Tabaar explains how competing political actors strategically develop and deploy Shia-inspired ideologies to gain credibility, constrain political rivals, and raise mass support. He also challenges readers to rethink conventional wisdom regarding the revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, the U.S. embassy hostage crisis, the Iran-Iraq War, the Green Movement, nuclear politics, and U.S.-Iran relations. Based on a middle-level analysis of postrevolutionary Iranian media and recently declassified documents as well as theological journals and political memoirs, *Religious Statecraft* constructs a new picture of Iranian politics in which power drives Islamist ideology.

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Wartime Nonviolent Mass Protests and Post -Conflict Politics

Reyko Huang

POMEPS Studies 30, The Politics of Post-Conflict Resolution

In violent conflicts, civilians are often depicted as mere victims of violence whose choices consist of fleeing, staying silent, or actively supporting one warring side or another, all in the pursuit of their primary objective, survival. The basic drive for self-preservation seems so intuitive as to be an unassailable assumption in these contexts. And yet, reality easily defies such depictions. My research shows war often has the effect of galvanizing individuals toward nonviolent mass activism that mass activism can outlast the war to critically shape postwar politics. In this essay I study wartime dynamics to explore how the social legacies of war may affect post-conflict politics. The ongoing war in Yemen has caused immense human suffering, with tens of thousands killed, mass displacement, and a near collapse of state institutions. Despite this trauma, ordinary Yemenis have filled the streets by the hundreds, thousands, and even tens of thousands in an unrelenting series of nonviolent mass protests since the onset of the war in March 2015. According to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data, Yemen experienced 162 popular protests and riots between January 1, 2017, and May 1, 2018, alone. Continue reading [here](#)

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Repression, Cooptation, and Movement Fragmentation in Authoritarian Regimes: Evidence from the Youth Movement in Egypt

Nadine Sika

Political Studies, 3

The Disenchantment of the Left: Two Memories of the Palestinian Struggle

Jihane Sfir

TRAFQ-Blog for Transregional Research, 05 June 2018

Islamist leaders are often former liberationist or nationalist ideologues who after being disappointed by the failure of nationalism or Marxism, turn to Islam as a mobilizing force. More than a few sympathizers and members of the Lebanese Hezbollah were also former communists or belonged to Palestinian parties. One cannot ignore the ideological shift that happened in 1979, from leftist parties to groups motivated by political Islam. In order to consider this ideological transformation, in the following pages, I examine how the Lebanese Civil War impacted the transformation of two former Shiite Lebanese, Palestinian fighters, Bassel and Nizar, and the nature of their political and military commitment to the Palestinian cause. Continue reading [here](#)

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The Making and Unmaking of the Moments: From the 1979 Revolution to the Arab Spring

Behrooz Moazami

TRAFQ-Blog for Transregional Research, 08 May 2018

The 1979 revolution in Iran is often identified as a pivotal moment in the Islamization of political and social movements in the Middle East, representing the forceful return of politicized religion. Yet this moment, because of how it was conceived and its inherent sectarian nature, bred oppression and resistance; it sowed the seeds of its own destruction. I argue that, despite their failures, the Arab Spring and the opposition to Islamic rule in Iran since 1979 represent the kernels of the unraveling of this Islamic moment. Religious discourse in its illiberal form is in retreat in the region. Historical moments are made and unmade through long and complex national, regional, and global processes. Every moment holds the ingredient of its own transformation if not destruction. Studies of moments are studies of change. Continue reading [here](#)

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Trauma as counter-revolutionary colonization: Narratives from (post)revolutionary Egypt

strategically employed by the Egyptian counterrevolutionary forces—primarily the army and the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood—to maintain their political and economic power over and

Abadi's government to step down. "We demand the government apologise to the people and resign immediately," alSadr's spokesman, said Hassan Akhbari, said. Ahmed Al-Sadi, spokesperson for the second largest Fateh Alliance list, also denounced "the government's failure to resolve the crisis in Basra". Continue reading [here](#)

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Iraq: Deadly Basra clashes as protesters torch government office

Arwa Ibrahim
Al-Jazeera, 4 September 2018

Deadly clashes continued in Iraq's southern oil hub of Basra after hundreds gathered to mourn the death of a protester killed a day earlier. At least six people were killed and 12 injured in violent demonstrations near a provincial government building on Tuesday when protesters stormed the office and set it alight, sources on the ground (Al-Jazeera) 13 (x) 285 (a) 8473 (e) 70 1e) 13 d) 9 b) 17: 12 v 37

Applications must be made online at: www.bucknell.edu/jobs Online applications require a cover letter, CV, statements on the candidate's teaching philosophy as well as his/her scholarly agenda, sample syllabi, and three letters of reference. Questions regarding the position should be addressed to Dr. Zhiquan Zhu zhiquan.zhu@bucknell.edu Full consideration will be given to applications received by October 1, 2018

The Department of International Relations offers a multidisciplinary major where students take courses from the International Relations faculty who have backgrounds in different disciplines, as well as courses offered in other departments.

About Bucknell

Founded in 1846 and located along the banks of the Susquehanna River in historic Lewisburg, Pa., Bucknell University is an undergraduate focused institution that stands uniquely at the intersection of top-ranked liberal arts, engineering and management programs. Our students choose from more than 50 majors and 60 minors in the arts, engineering, humanities, management, and natural and social sciences, as well as extensive global study, learning and research opportunities. Bucknell's 3,600 undergraduate and 100 graduate students enjoy a low 9:1 student/faculty ratio and exceptional opportunities to collaborate with faculty mentors. Bucknell's beautiful 450-acre campus includes first-rate facilities and is home to more than 90 percent of its students. Residential life is vibrant with about 150 student organizations, 27 NCAA Division I athletic teams, a robust arts culture, and a strong student commitment to community and global service work

More information and application [here](#)

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Projects Assistant, LSE Middle East Centre

Deadline: 26 September 2018

Salary from £25,865 to £28,871 pa inclusive with potential to progress to £31,060 pa inclusive of London Allowance

This is a fixed term appointment until September 2019

The LSE Middle East Centre drives LSE's engagement with the Middle East and North Africa and provides a central hub for the wide range of research on the region carried out at LSE.

We are looking to hire a Projects Assistant to provide administration and research support for a number of the Centre's projects on subjects including heritage and identity in the UAE and resilience among Syrian refugees in the region. This is a ~~renewable~~ ~~part-time~~ post with funding available until September 2019.

Candidates should have:

- x Project administration experience

- x Relevant academic study
- x Interest in Middle East studies

We offer an occupational pension scheme, generous annual leave and excellent training and development opportunities.

Please note that this role is not eligible for Tier 2 sponsorship from the School. Therefore all candidates will need to have the right to work in the UK.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant Professor in Arab Middle Eastern Studies, University of Minnesota

Deadline: 1 November 2018

The Department of Asian Languages and Literatures in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities invites applications for a full time, ~~tenure~~ ^{tenure} track position in Arab Middle

should be sent directly to Dr. Patricia Pelley, Chair, Modern Middle East Search Committee, Department of History, Texas Tech University, Box 41013, Lubbock, TX 79409. Review of applications will begin October 15.

We actively encourage applications from all those who can contribute, through their research, teaching, and service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic community at Texas Tech

Assistant Professor in Modern Middle East History , Smith College, MA

Review of applications from: 1 October 2018

The Program in Middle East Studies at Smith College invites applications for a full-time tenure track position in modern Middle East History at the rank of Assistant Professor, to begin July 1, 2019. A successful candidate will teach four courses per year on the modern history of the Middle East and North Africa, including regular offerings of an introductory course on The Making of the Modern Middle East and a course on Women and Gender in the Middle East. A Ph.D. in History is expected by the time of appointment.

We seek a colleague engaged in learning, developing, and maintaining a dynamic, interdisciplinary curriculum that is responsive to the needs of Smith's diverse and talented student body. Candidates engaged in research that challenges existing periodizations of modern Middle East history, contributes to rethinking the geographies and the transregional flows that shaped territorial spaces within the Middle East over time, and/or engages creatively with underrepresented subjects and themes are especially welcome to apply.