



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

Editor: Iman Dawood (i.s.dawood@lse.ac.uk)

12.10.2018

CONTENT

Call for Papers & Conferences	4
Human Rights Work and Transnational Legal Activism: Limits and Potential Workshop	4
Call for Papers...Special Issue of Genre & Histoire: “Women, Gender and Politics in Muslim Societies: A New Historiography?”	5
Tokyo Symposium on Women and Transgression in Arab World	6
Talks & Other Events	7
The Revolution Revisited	7
Europe in the Middle East, The Middle East in Europe (EUME): “Narratives of Citizenship: Past Imperfect, Future Tense” Seminar Programme	8
Disruption and Continuity in Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's Authoritarianism	8
Fictions of Women in the Public Sphere	9
St. Antony’s College Middle East Centre Friday Seminar Series	9
Recent & Forthcoming Books	10
Women and Gender in Iraq	10
Islam and World History: The Ventures of Marshall Hodgson	10
Peshmerga: On the Frontline in the Middle East	11
Online Activism in the Middle East: Political Power and Authoritarian Governments from Egypt to Kuwait	12
Women and Social Change in North Africa: What Counts as Revolutionary?	12
Contesting Authoritarianism: Labor Challenges to the State in Egypt	13
Journal Articles & other Academic Publications	13
Essential Readings: Uprisings, Resistance, And Popular Mobilization In The Middle East	13
Understating the Logic of Regime Survival? Conceptualizing State–Society Relations and Parliamentary Liberation in Post-2011 Jordan	14
From a Whisper to a Scream: The Politicization of The Ethiopian Community in Israel	14
Decolonial Queering: The Politics of Being Queer in Palestine	15
News Pieces & Commentary	15
Algeria: NGOs call for more freedom, end to restrictive associations law	15
Lawyer: At least 21 Ultras Ahlawy members arrested following controversial chants during match	16
City of exiles: Khashoggi case leaves Istanbul's dissidents fearing for their safety	16
Positions and Opportunities	17
Research Assistant at the Middle East Directions Programme/ Syria	17
Lecturer Position in Middle Eastern Studies.	17

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Politics and/or International Relations	18
The Mary Fox Whittlesey Visiting Professorship	20
Assistant Professor in Middle Eastern History	20
Arabic Teaching Fellow, University of Edinburgh.....	21
Assistant Professor of Arab Studies (Working Title: Jordan Family Fellow in International Studies)	22

CALL FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

Human Rights Work and Transnational Legal Activism: Limits and Potential Workshop

February 8 and 9, 2019, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.

Deadline for Abstracts: October 20, 2018

International human rights laws and bodies have been one of the key sites of the struggle against state crimes and human rights abuses in the post-World War II era. Yet, the discrepancy between the promises of international human rights laws and what they actually do has not gone unquestioned. While in some contexts numerous international treaties, conventions and regulations have served as a means of pressuring governments to improve human rights, in certain other contexts international human rights laws and movements have become a part of the problem. The constituents of international human rights movements have frequently been criticized for being complicit with neoliberal and neocolonial projects and policies.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together anthropologists, critical legal scholars, and transnational human rights activists to discuss the limits and potential of international human rights regimes and transnational legal activism. We ask: What kinds of spaces do international courts and systems of human rights protection create as a means of strengthening the weak in the face of state crimes? How and under what circumstances is state sovereignty challenged or reinforced by international human rights laws and regimes? How does transnational legal activism contribute to the enhancing of justice? How do transnational legal activism and human rights language and institutions set the stage for co-optation and de-radicalization? What does the presence or absence of human rights interventions in the context of state crimes against stateless people reveal about international human rights regimes?

Key Note Speaker: Dr. Ayça Çubukçu, Associate Professor in Human Rights and Co-Director of LSE Human Rights at London School of Economics and Political Science.

Organizers: Dr. Deniz Yonucu & Dr. Martin Sökefeld

Interested participants are invited to send abstracts of no more than 600 words and a short bio to humanrights@ethnologie.lmu.de by October 20, 2018. Authors will be notified of the decision by November 5, 2018. Full papers are due for circulation by January 25, 2019. Accommodation expenses of the participants will be fully covered by the organizers. Travel expenses up to 200 Euros will be reimbursed

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Call for Papers...Special Issue of *Genre & Histoire*: “Women, Gender and Politics in Muslim Societies: A New Historiography?”

Deadline: November 15th, 2018

Since the 1980s, the position of women in Islam and in Muslim societies has been a constant topic of concern, and often alarm, in the media and broader public sphere, in Muslim majority countries as much as Europe and North America. In the academic sphere, the disciplines of history, anthropology and sociology have seen a spate of groundbreaking works analysing the societies of the Middle East and North Africa through the prism of gender. Specifically, the intersections and interweavings between Islam, gender and modernity, the interpenetration of different religious and secular spaces for women and men, the reform of family and “personal status” laws, women’s education, the relationship between feminism and activism, and women within anticolonial, nationalist and contemporary movements—all these have been the subject of cutting-edge and path-breaking research. In the spirit of the thematic and methodological developments within this rich literature, a leading group of researchers in the fields of sociology and history in particular, have come to focus on the imaginary and the practices of the harem and the veil in a manner that goes beyond the image of the “Muslim woman” as a subordinate and invisible subject, and instead helps to elaborate the understanding of women as active agents of historical processes in the national space and especially in the postcolonial national state.

The call for this special issue on Women, Gender and Politics in Muslim Societies seeks to gather contributions around these topics in a manner that focuses particular attention on transnational perspectives, transcending the boundaries of national histories through the prism of women active in predominantly Muslim societies in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. For example, the historical literature on gender and Islam has focused primarily on the link between Islam, gender and nationalism, through the Egyptian case and especially with the highlighting of leading female actors like Huda Sharawi (1879-1947) and Nabawiyya Musa (1886-1951). These pioneers of the Egyptian women’s movement committed to the political and civic rights of women, to ending early marriages and advocating for their right to education, did so as part of a nation-building process. The study of these gender activism pioneers was made possible by the existence of a rich autobiographical literary production of these and other women during this seminal period in gender advocacy. Such works remain an essential and, above all, precursory contribution to the history of women in the region. Admittedly, this cohort of early feminist intellectuals represented only a small segment of Egyptian society, largely derived from the families of the Turkish-Egyptian aristocracy and the bourgeoisie, and who saw Europe as an emancipatory model for Egypt to follow. On the other hand, with the partial exception of Egypt, there is a problem with the nature and lack of available historical documents, in which women’s voices are rare and highly fragmented. This scarcity creates not only methodological problems but epistemological ones too: we must ask ourselves about its causes, and especially about the position taken during the constitution of the archives, in a context where the social and political authority of Muslim women was often ignored by the colonial power, and then by the nation-states themselves.

This thematic issue of *Genre et histoire* aims to gather studies that shed historical light on the issues raised by the sociological and anthropological literature, by going beyond the reductive construction of Muslim women as a homogeneous group. To do this, we want to explore the heterogeneity of women's stories in the Muslim world from the end of the First World War to the present day, in order to deconstruct the social and symbolic meanings associated with this category. In particular, we hope that the authors will illuminate their methodologies to respond to the challenges related to the silence of institutional archives, by exploring and discussing their experiences with and lessons from family archives, iconographic and audiovisual materials, oral sources, and other non-traditional archival material and texts.

Among the themes contributions can address:

- Normative systems and social change (legal and practical issues related to Muslim personal status, civil and political rights, family recomposition, migration and forced displacement).
- The physical and social visibility of Muslim women (in relation to power, intimate and/or political spaces).
- Individual trajectories and subjective experiences (through self-writing, in personal diaries and family records).
- Representations, imaginaries and the performative dimension (in the media, fashion, visual arts).

The writing of history as a history of women in Islam

Proposals of up to 3.000 characters, in English or French should be sent together with a CV to Silvia Bruzzi (silviabruzzo@yahoo.it) and Lucia Sorbera (lucia.sorbera@sydney.edu.au) before 15 November 2018. Selection of proposals will be made no later than 15 December 2018.

The selected papers, in English or French, must be submitted by 30 May 2019. All papers will be peer reviewed before final acceptance.

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Tokyo Symposium on Women and Transgression in Arab World

Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, 14 October 2018

Women's transgressive behaviors and perspectives are challenging societal norms in the Arab world, giving rise to anxiety and public debate. How do both intentional and unintentional transgressions illuminate the social and cultural constructs that define proper and improper behavior? How do they expose the social and political policing of gender, racial, and class divisions?

The new book *Bad Girls of the Arab World* (University of Texas Press) engages these questions by examining the experiences of women from a range of ages, classes, and educational backgrounds who live in the Arab world and beyond. The book demonstrates that women's transgression is both an agent and a symptom of change, a site of both

resistance and repression. At their presentations to the International Gender Studies Institute Symposium *Bad Girls of the Arab World* co-editor Nadia Yaqub and contributor Diya Abdo continue this discussion, exploring the politics of women's transgression, identity, and belonging in the Arab world and beyond.

Speakers

NADIA YAQUB (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

Topic: Bad Girls of the Arab World

DIYA ABDO (Guilford College)

Topic: Navigating Love and Badness in America and the Arab World: The Dilemma of the Cultural Transgressor

Discussant

YOKO TOTANI (Ochanomizu University)

Coordinator/Moderator: Jan Bardsley, International Gender Studies Institute, Ochanomizu University / University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

The Revolution Revisited

Manchester, October 12-13th, 2018

Four highly acclaimed films portray different perspectives on the Egyptian Revolution and its aftermath. Q&A sessions with some of the Egyptian directors and panel discussions with experts from the universities of Manchester, Warwick, Reading and LSE will provide context and explain the significance of the films.

This programme is funded by the University of Warwick and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and is based on research funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Europe in the Middle East, The Middle East in Europe (EUME): “Narratives of Citizenship: Past Imperfect, Future Tense” Seminar Programme

Venue: Forum Transregionale Studien, Wallotstraße 14, 14193 Berlin

Date: October 17, 2018

The series will be opened on October 17, 2018 with a lecture by **Pascale Ghazaleh** (American University in Cairo / EUME Fellow der Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung 2017-19) on the theme »**Past Imperfect, Future Tense: Writing People's Histories in the Middle East Today**«. **Georges Khalil** (EUME / Forum Transregionale Studien) will be chairing this session. The seminar will continue with lectures by **Mohammed Bamyeh** (University of Pittsburgh / EUME Fellow 2018/19) on »**Anarchy as Order: Civil Society, Responsibility and the Meaning of Freedom after the Arab Revolutions**« on October 24, 2018 and by **Amr Hamzawy** (Stanford University / Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin 2018/19) on the theme »**The Meaning of Justice and the Rule of Law in Post-2013 Egypt**« on October 31, 2018.

Other lectures will focus on the negotiation of societal narratives in the Middle East, as well as on the fragmentation of history and the present.

Furthermore, we kindly invite you to the EUME Lecture of **Hassan Jabareen** (Adalah, Haifa) at the Forum Transregionale Studien on October 12, 2018, 3 pm. He will address »**The Jewish Nation State Law and its Constitutional Implications on the Future of the Two-State Solution**«.

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Disruption and Continuity in Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's Authoritarianism

Venue: MBI Al Jaber Building, 21 Russell Square, SOAS

Date: October 19, 2018

Ahmet Insel, Sorbonne University - Paris 1 and Galatasaray University, retired

Date: 19 October 2018 Time: 12:00 PM

Finishes: 19 October 2018 Time: 2:00 PM

Venue: MBI Al Jaber Building, 21 Russell Square Room: MBI Al Jaber Seminar Room

Type of Event: Seminar

Organiser: SOAS Modern Turkish Studies Programme (London Middle East Institute)

Contact email: gd5@soas.ac.uk / gm29@soas.ac.uk

Sponsor: Nurol Bank

More information [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Fictions of Women in the Public Sphere

Venue: Russell Square: College Buildings, SOAS

Date: October 23rd, 2018

In the wake of the 1979 revolution and the establishment of the Islamic Republic, Iranian women's public presence was drastically curtailed. And yet the systematic attempts to constrain women's role in public life have failed to prevent women from pursuing professional lives and, even more importantly, overcoming economic dependence on men. Drawing on contemporary short stories and novels by Iranian women writers, this presentation will focus on the literary representation of the paradoxes and ambiguities faced by women in professional and public life.

Nasrin Rahimieh is Howard Baskerville Professor of Humanities and Professor and Chair of the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine. Her teaching and research are focused on modern Persian literature, the literature of Iranian exile and diaspora and contemporary Iranian women's writing. Among her publications are *Missing Persians: Discovering Voices in Iranian Cultural History* and *Forugh Farrokhzad, Poet Of Modern Iran: Iconic Woman and Feminine Pioneer Of New Persian Poetry*, co-edited with Dominic Parviz Brookshaw. Her monograph, *Iranian Culture: Representation and Identity*, was published by Routledge in September 2015.

More information [here](#)

[**Back to top**](#)

St. Antony's College Middle East Centre Friday Seminar Series

Venue: Investcorp Lecture Theatre, St Antony's College

Time: 5pm

Dates: October 19, 2018 and October 26th, 2018

Week 2: 19 October

Lords of the Desert: Britain's struggle with America to dominate the Middle East

James Barr (King's College London)

Week 3: 26 October

Preventing Palestine: A political history from Camp David to Oslo

Seth Anziska (University College London)

More information [here](#)

[**Back to top**](#)

RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Women and Gender in Iraq

Zahra Ali
Cambridge University Press, 2018

Since the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003, the challenges of sectarianism and militarism have weighed heavily on the women of Iraq. In this book, Zahra Ali foregrounds a wide-range of interviews with a variety of women involved in women's rights activism, showing how everyday life and intellectual life has developed since the US-led invasion. In addition to this, Ali offers detailed historical research of social, economic and political contexts since the formation of the Iraqi state in the 1920s. Through a transnational and postcolonial feminist approach, this book also considers the ways in which gender norms and practices, Iraqi feminist discourses, and activism are shaped and developed through state politics, competing nationalisms, religious, tribal and sectarian dynamics, wars, and economic sanctions. The result is a vivid account of the everyday life in today's Iraq and an exceptional analysis of the future of Iraqi feminisms.

[Back to top](#)

Islam and World History: The Ventures of Marshall Hodgson

Edmund Burke and Robert J. Mankin (Eds)
University of Chicago Press, 2018

Published in 1974, Marshall Hodgson's *The Venture of Islam* was a watershed moment in the study of Islam. By locating the history of Islamic societies in a global perspective, Hodgson challenged the orientalist paradigms that had stunted the development of Islamic studies and provided an alternative approach to world history. Edited by Edmund Burke III and Robert Mankin, *Islam and World History* explores the complexity of Hodgson's thought, the daring of his ideas, and the global context of his world historical insights into, among other themes, Islam and world history, gender in Islam, and the problem of Muslim universality.

In our post-9/11 world, Hodgson's historical vision and moral engagement have never been more relevant. A towering achievement, *Islam and World History* will prove to be the definitive statement on Hodgson's relevance in the twenty-first century and will introduce his influential work to a new generation of readers.

Contents:

1. The Ventures of Marshall G. S. Hodgson
Edmund Burke III and Robert J. Mankin
2. Islamic History and World History: The Double Enterprise of Marshall G. S. Hodgson
Abdesselam Cheddadi
Hodgson's Ghosts

3. From Gibbon to Hodgson and Back

Robert J. Mankin

4. Hodgson, Islam, and World History in the Modern Age

Christopher A. Bayly

Hodgson and the New World History

5. The Invention of World History from the Spirit of Nonviolent Resistance

Michael Geyer

6. Decentering World History: Marshall Hodgson and the UNESCO Project

Katja Naumann

7. Military Patronage and Hodgson's Genealogy of State Centralization in Early Modern Eurasia

Pamela Kyle Crossley

Hodgson and the New Islamic Studies

8. Harems and Cathedrals: The Question of Gender and Sexuality in the Work of Marshall Hodgson

Jocelyne Dakhli

9. The Problem of Muslim Universality

Faisal Devji

[Back to top](#)

Peshmerga: On the Frontline in the Middle East

Fazel Hawramy

I.B. Taurus, 2018

In the year since Islamic State tore through Iraq and proclaimed a caliphate straddling the border with Syria, the Kurds have emerged as a lead actor in the global war against the extremist group and an important partner in the campaign to "degrade and destroy" it. However, the story of the Kurdish fighters known as peshmerga -- literally "those who confront death" -- is yet to be told. This book seeks to establish who these men are, and what has motivated them to lay down their lives in one abortive revolt after another over the past century. It will trace the peshmerga's ongoing and far from complete evolution from a rag-tag guerrilla force into a regular army. From their early beginnings in the short-lived Kurdish Republic of Mahabad to the current standoff with Islamic State, the peshmerga have come to embody the Kurdish nationalist struggle in Iraq and beyond.

[Back to top](#)

Online Activism in the Middle East: Political Power and Authoritarian Governments from Egypt to Kuwait

Jon Nordenson
I.B. Taurus, 2018

Does the internet facilitate social and political change, or even democratization, in the Middle East? Despite existing research on this subject, there is still no consensus on the importance of social media and online platforms, or on how we are to understand their influence. This book provides empirical analysis of the day-to-day use of online platforms by activists in Egypt and Kuwait. The research evaluates the importance of online platforms for effecting change and establishes a specific framework for doing so. Egypt and Kuwait were chosen because, since the mid-2000s, they have been the most prominent Arab countries in terms of online and offline activism. In the context of Kuwait, Jon Nordenson examines the oppositional youth groups who fought for a constitutional, democratic monarchy in the emirate. In Egypt, focus surrounds the groups and organizations working against sexual violence and sexual harassment. Online Activism in the Middle East shows how and why online platforms are used by activists and identifies the crucial features of successful online campaigns. Egypt and Kuwait are revealed to be authoritarian contexts but where the challenges and possibilities faced by activists are quite different. The comparative nature of this research therefore exposes the context-specific usage of online platforms, separating this from the more general features of online activism. Nordenson demonstrates the power of online activism to create an essential 'counterpublic' that can challenge an authoritarian state and enable excluded groups to fight in ways that are far more difficult to suppress than a demonstration.

[Back to top](#)

Women and Social Change in North Africa: What Counts as Revolutionary?

Doris H. Gray and Nadia Sonneveld (Eds)
Cambridge University Press, 2018

Women's voices are brought to the fore in this comprehensive analysis of women and social change in North Africa. Focusing on grass-roots perspectives, readers will gain a rare glimpse into how both the intentional and unintentional actions of men and women contribute to societal transformation. Most chapters are based on extensive field work that illuminates the real-life experiences, advocacy, and agency of women in the region. The book considers frequently less studied issues including migration, legal changes, oral and written law, Islamic feminism, and grass-roots activism. It also looks at the effectiveness of shelters for abused women and the changes that occurred in the wake of the 2011 Arab uprisings, as well as challenging conventional notions of feminist agency by examining Salafi women's life choices. Recommended for students and scholars, as well as international development professionals with an interest in the MENA region.

[Back to top](#)

Contesting Authoritarianism: Labor Challenges to the State in Egypt

Dina Bishara

Cambridge University Press, October 2018

Successive authoritarian regimes have maintained tight control over organized labor in Egypt since the 1950s. And yet in 2009, a group of civil servants decided to exit the state-controlled Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF), thereby setting a precedent for other groups and threatening the ETUF's monopoly. Dina Bishara examines this relationship between labour organizations and the state to shed light on how political change occurs within an authoritarian government, and to show how ordinary Egyptians perceive the government's rule. In particular, Bishara highlights the agency of dissident unionists in challenging the state even when trade union leaders remain loyal. She reveals that militant sectors are more vulnerable to greater scrutiny and repression and that financial benefits tied to membership in state-backed unions can provide significant disincentives against the exit option. Moving beyond conventional accounts of top-down control, this book explores when and how institutions designed for political control become contested from below.

[Back to top](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES & OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Essential Readings: Uprisings, Resistance, And Popular Mobilization In The Middle East

John Chalcraft

Middle East Studies Pedagogy Initiative (MESPI)- Oct 2nd, 2018

There is a growing literature on uprisings, resistance and popular mobilisation in the Middle East and North Africa. While much of the conventional wisdom on the region is top-down, researchers are slowly building up a more developed and diverse understanding of how oppressed and excluded groups of all kinds have struggled to change their conditions, and what this has meant.

This short annotated list of Essential Readings in English offers some highlights from this multi- and inter-disciplinary literature, sorting contributions into various categories: (1) overviews and introductions, (2) major cases and episodes, (3) particular states, (4) interpretive frameworks and approaches, and (5) major themes. The categories inevitably overlap, and certain works can be placed in more than one of them. The major issues of both labour and revolution have been left out as these themes are covered in other Jadaliyya Essential Readings. The list closes with some concluding remarks intended to give my own steer as to the qualities that mark the best of contemporary work.

Continue reading [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Understating the Logic of Regime Survival? Conceptualizing State-Society Relations and Parliamentary Liberation in Post-2011 Jordan

Paul Esber

British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies

Volume 45, 2018 - Issue 3

Both reform and revolutionary movements in the Arab world have called on institutions of state to follow through on the cries for dignity, bread and social justice emanating from the street. These movements are not necessarily mutually exclusive, and may demonstrate overlapping commonalities of practice. Asef Bayat has designated this phenomenon an example of 'refo-lution', the amalgamation of a revolutionary agenda with a reform process. This paper will argue that 2011/2012 demonstrations in Jordan fall into this category, and that they elucidate that the relationship between the Hashemite monarchy and Jordanian society needs to be reframed for political stability. The theoretical frame of this article, grounded in the selectorate theory of Bruce Bueno de Mesquita in conjunction with insights from Nazih Ayubi, suggests that this stability requires a more defined separation of powers and functions of the monarchy and the parliament, making the latter an autonomous legislative body.

[Back to top](#)

From a Whisper to a Scream: The Politicization of The Ethiopian Community in Israel

Alon Burstein, Liora Norwich

Israel Studies

Vol. 23, No. 2 (Summer 2018), pp. 25-50

Abstract: The article explores the political mobilization of the Ethiopian minority of Israel. Utilizing the 2015 Ethiopian protests as illustrative of larger political trends undergone by the minority, we utilize the tools of social movement theory to unpack the two-month long protest wave. Specifically, we address why the protests occurred, how they developed, and where and when they emerged, by exploring the grievances framing the protests, the collective's mobilizing infrastructure, and processes of local and international diffusion and emulation. The results highlight the ongoing and emerging trends and developments within the Ethiopian minority, situating the events within a larger process of politicization

[Back to top](#)

Decolonial Queering: The Politics of Being Queer in Palestine

By: Walaa Alqaisiya

Journal of Palestine Studies (Volume 47, Issue 3), 2018

This article analyzes the work of Palestine's most established queer rights organization, alQaws for Sexual and Gender Diversity in Palestinian Society, to reveal the political power of being queer in Palestine. It argues that an open, feminist, queer space such as alQaws is a productive site to think and practice decolonization. Relying on the author's direct involvement with the group, the article traces the development of queer Palestinian thought to provide a critique of queer politics in Palestine: it recounts how since the establishment of the organization in 2001, alQaws activists have increasingly transcended exclusivist gay identifications and rejected singling out sexuality as a discrete site of oppression disconnected from Zionist settler colonialism. The discussion covers Israeli pinkwashing and its counter, Palestinian pinkwatching; it deconstructs pinkwashing narratives, rejects the myth of the colonial savior, and reveals how discourses of sexual progress reproduce Zionist colonialism. It also documents alQaws's challenge to normalizing development discourse.

[Back to top](#)

NEWS PIECES & COMMENTARY

Algeria: NGOs call for more freedom, end to restrictive associations law

Middle East Eye, October 5th, 2018

Several Algerian human rights groups have called for the cancellation of a law they say violates their ability to work freely in the North African country, proposing instead new legislation to guarantee their rights.

The law, which deals with the work of Algerian associations and has been in force since 2012, was described as "villainous" by Abdelouahab Fersaoui, president of youth group Rassemblement Action Jeunesse.

At a news conference on Friday in Algiers, the country's capital, Fersaoui said the law forces NGOs to obtain state approval to operate, and the government has the ability to investigate a group's activities and financing.

Continue reading [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Lawyer: At least 21 Ultras Ahlawy members arrested following controversial chants during match

Mada Masr, September 27, 2018

At least 21 members of Al-Ahly FC's hardcore fan base, Ultras Ahlawy, have been arrested by security forces nationwide in relation to controversial chants that took place during a match between Egypt's Al-Ahly and Guinea's Horoya AC on Saturday, Association of Freedom of Thought and Expression lawyer Mohamed Hafez told Mada Masr on Wednesday.

Hafez received reports from relatives and friends of 21 Ultras Ahlawy members detailing their arrests over the past several days. A number of fans were allegedly arrested from their homes by security personnel in civilian clothing, according to the reports, while others were apprehended from public places, including cafés.

The whereabouts of the 21 fans remain unknown as of yet, according to Hafez, who added that formal interrogations have not been conducted with any of the detainees, nor have charges been leveled against them.

Continue reading [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

City of exiles: Khashoggi case leaves Istanbul's dissidents fearing for their safety

Middle East Eye, October 11, 2018

ISTANBUL, Turkey - For years a haven for exiles from across the Middle East and North Africa, the suspected murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in his country's consulate has left many in Istanbul's dissident communities wondering about their own safety in the city.

Turkey's long border touching several countries makes it an inviting location for many fleeing from neighbouring countries, including millions of refugees from Syria's war. But Turkey is a favoured destination for those at risk in countries further afield, too.

Hundreds of Iraqi, Iranian, Syrian, Yemeni, Egyptian and Libyan dissidents now call Turkey their home and many choose to live in Istanbul, the country's largest and most international city.

Continue reading [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Research Assistant at the Middle East Directions Programme/ Syria

Deadline: October 22nd, 2018
European University Institute

The EUI has a vacancy for a Research Assistant in the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, in the frame of the project “Prospects, challenges and policy options in wartime and for post-conflict in Syria”.

The Research Assistant will help in the coordination and implementation of the project activities. S/he will support the Director of the Project in monitoring developments in Syria, in coordinating the network of partners and contacts in Syria and neighbouring countries, as well as in producing reports and analysis relevant to the Programme’s activities.

Expected tasks:

- 1) Contributing to the project’s research activities through coordination of the project’s network of partners in Syria and neighbouring countries and drafting of short analytical pieces on selected topics;
- 2) Supporting and contributing to the organisation of workshops, conferences and policy dialogues in Italy, Brussels, Lebanon and Turkey: coordination with the research team; contacts and communication around the events; organisational support; contribution to drafting reports on the project’s activities.
- 3) Assist the director of the project and the project manager in administrative and project management procedures.

Reference number: V/RA/RSC/17/2018.

More information and application [here](#)

[**Back to top**](#)

Lecturer Position in Middle Eastern Studies.

Deadline: October 25th, 2018
Bard College Berlin, Germany

Bard College Berlin: A Liberal Arts University invites applications for a **“Wissenschaftliche/r Mitarbeiter/in” (Lecturer) position in Middle Eastern Studies.**

The disciplinary field is open, and early career scholars from politics, history, law, sociology, anthropology, literature, cultural studies, media studies, and related fields are invited to apply. Applicants should have a research and teaching interest in migration, refugee studies,

and/or exchanges between the Middle East and Europe. The teaching load will be nine LVS or five seminar courses annually, with at least one course in Bard College Berlin's core curriculum. A course release may be possible to account for administrative responsibilities relating to a migration studies program for study abroad students.

The initial contract will be for two years, with the possibility of extension pending review. Annual compensation will be in the low €40,000 range. The ideal applicant would be able to begin teaching in late January 2019.

Applications including a motivation letter, CV, reference list, and 1–2 sample publications (chapter or essay length) should be sent as a single PDF by email to jobs@berlin.bard.edu, with "Middle Eastern Studies" in the subject line.

Applications must be received by **October 25, 2018** to receive full consideration.

More information and application [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Politics and/or International Relations

Deadline: October 31st, 2018

University of Birmingham - School of Government and Society

Following significant investment from the University, we invite applications from outstanding individuals for **five** Lecturer/Senior Lecturer positions.

The Department has an ambitious teaching and research agenda for the coming decade. We seek colleagues who will undertake pioneering and outstanding research in any specialist area within politics and international relations, design and teach exciting and intellectually stimulating modules that will inspire our students, and contribute positively to the development of the Department.

POLSI is committed to supporting and promoting equality and diversity and welcomes applications from all sections of the academic community. We particularly welcome applications from female and black minority ethnic candidates who are under-represented in POLSI and in the School of Government and Society more widely. We are happy to discuss flexible working.

Job Purpose

Successful applicants will contribute across the whole range of research, teaching and administration. We are looking for colleagues who will undertake pioneering and outstanding research in any specialist area within politics and international relations, design and teach exciting and intellectually stimulating modules and will inspire our students and contribute positively to the development of the Department. Senior Lecturers will contribute at a senior level across the range of duties.

Skills required

Lecturer

- Normally, a higher degree (usually a PhD) relevant to the research/teaching area
- Extensive experience of research and teaching within subject specialism
- A proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning and research

Senior Lecturer

An excellent teaching and research profile evident in:

- an international reputation for research and scholarship with a track record of publications, grants and PhD supervision;
- a high national reputation for the development of teaching and learning excellence within the discipline;
- the successful and sustained use of a range of appropriate teaching methods, and assessment strategies that promote high quality learning, including learning that is flexible, distinctive and current and that stimulates learners' natural curiosity;
- a significant and sustained contribution to one or more of the following: strategic development of new programmes; approaches to learning; the development of learning resources;
- a track record of substantial and sustained high value impact on the enhancement of the student experience, and/or employability;
- experience of mentoring academic colleagues

Informal enquiries are welcomed – please contact one of the following:

- Professor Mark Webber (Head of the School of Government and Society) m.a.webber.1@bham.ac.uk
- Dr Richard North (Head of POLSIS) r.north.2@bham.ac.uk
- Dr Julie Gilson (Reader in the Department) j.a.gilson@bham.ac.uk

Salary £40,792 - £75,744 (Lecturer salary from £40,792 - £48,677 a year with potential progression (to £54,765 a year)). (Senior Lecturer/Reader salary from £50,132 - £58,089 a year with potential progression (to £75,744 a year)).

It is anticipated that interviews will be held in the second week of December.

More information and application [here](#)

[Back to top](#)

The Mary Fox Whittlesey Visiting Professorship

Deadline: November 30th, 2018
The American University of Beirut

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Beirut is inviting applications for appointment as Mary Fox Whittlesey visiting professor in the field of archaeology specializing, in particular, in either Prehistory, Environmental Archaeology, or the archaeology of the Islamic or Ottoman Period to begin August 15, 2019. Applicants can be individuals already established in their area of specialization or ones who are at the outset of their academic careers. Applicants who have, besides their field of specialization, experience in teaching archaeological theory and methodology are encouraged to apply.

The successful candidate is expected to teach two undergraduate or graduate courses per semester. The period of the visiting appointment is for one year.

Interested applicants should send a letter of application and a CV, with the names of three references to as_dean@aub.edu.lb

All application materials should be received by November 30, 2018.

More information and application [here](#)
[Back to top](#)

Assistant Professor in Middle Eastern History

Deadline: November 1st, 2018
Boise State University

About Us

Boise State University, powered by creativity and innovation, stands uniquely positioned in the Northwest as a metropolitan research university of distinction. Learn more about Boise State and the City of Boise at <https://go.boisestate.edu/join-our-team/>. Boise State University is committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty, staff, students, and academic program offerings and to strengthening sensitivity to diversity throughout the institution. Boise State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and applications from members of historically underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply. We are a welcoming campus that supports diversity and inclusion.

Position Overview

The Department of History at Boise State University invites applications for a tenure-track position beginning August 2019. We seek to appoint a faculty member with expertise in Middle Eastern History. All research specializations, geographic areas, and secondary fields will be considered. A strong commitment to teaching and evidence of scholarly potential are expected.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful applicant will be expected to teach a lower-level Islamic Civilization course, teach upper division courses in the candidate's field, and work with graduate students in Master of Arts and Master of Applied Historical Research programs. The successful applicant will also be expected to engage in research and service activities commensurate with the Department's work load policies.

Minimum Qualifications: An earned Ph.D. in History or Middle Eastern Studies is required by the beginning of the appointment on August 14, 2019. Candidates must demonstrate interest, ability, and/or experience promoting cultural competency and/or diversity.

Preferred Qualifications: Candidates who can contribute to one or more of the department's current strengths in environmental, gender, military, public, and religious history are strongly encouraged to apply. Candidates who have a demonstrated record of teaching and research excellence are also encouraged to apply.

Salary and benefits: \$52,000 per year, plus an excellent benefits package is available for eligible employees. For more information visit: <http://hrs.boisestate.edu/careers/benefits/>.

Required Application Materials: Please complete the online application and in the attachments section, applicants will submit: 1) a letter of application including research and teaching statements; 2) a current C.V.; 3) one recent representative publication or paper; 4) sample syllabi; and 5) three letters of reference. The letters of reference may be submitted as attachments or by having them sent to Joanne Klein, Chair, Search Committee, Department of History, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725.

Final date for receipt of applications is November 1, 2018. The search committee expects to do preliminary interviews via Skype or another online video service in January 2019.

*More information and application [here](#)
[Back to top](#)*

Arabic Teaching Fellow, University of Edinburgh

Deadline: October 22nd, 2018

Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies seeks to appoint a Teaching Fellow in Arabic to teach within the framework of the School's courses in undergraduate and postgraduate Arabic. This fixed-term post is available from January to May 2019 and is offered on a full-time basis (35 hours per week). A MSc or PhD is required.

*More information and application [here](#)
[Back to top](#)*

Assistant Professor of Arab Studies (Working Title: Jordan Family Fellow in International Studies)

Deadline: November 5th, 2018
The University of North Carolina

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Asian Studies invites applications for a tenure-track position: Assistant Professor of Arab Studies (Working Title: Jordan Family Fellow in International Studies), to begin July 1, 2019. The Department seeks a promising scholar and teacher who will actively contribute to the intellectual mission of a research institution. Duties will include teaching, research, and service. Participation in the continued development of the Department's program in Arab studies is expected.

More information and application [here](#)
[Back to top](#)