



*The 28th Annual*

**Middle East History  
and Theory Conference**

Friday, May 3 - Sunday, May 5  
Ida Noyes Hall  
1212 E. 58th Street  
Chicago, IL

*Coordinated by:*  
Madeleine Elfenbein  
Carlos Grenier

# ***Conference Schedule***

## **Friday, May 3**

8:15 – 9:00 a.m. – Registration & Breakfast (Library Lounge)

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Panel Session 1

Coffee Break (Library Lounge)

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Panel Session 2

12:30 – 2:00 p.m – Lunch Roundtable (Library)

2 :00 – 3:30 p.m. – Panel Session 3

Coffee Break

3:45 – 5:15 p.m. – Panel Session 4

5:15 p.m. – Welcome Reception (LibraryLounge)

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Reading in Honor of Farouk Mustafa (Library)

## **Saturday, May 4**

8:15 – 9:00 a.m. – Breakfast (Library Lounge)

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Panel Session 5

Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Panel Session 6

12:15 – 1:15 p.m. – Lunch

1:15 – 2:45 p.m. – Panel Session 7

Coffee Break

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Panel Session 8

5:00 p.m. – Keynote Address by Professor Zachary Lockman (NYU): “Field Notes”

6:30 p.m. – MESSA Lamb Roast

8:00 p.m. – Concert: Middle East Music Ensemble

## **Sunday, May 5**

8:15 – 9:00 a.m. – Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Panel Session 9

10:45 – Noon – Coffee and Sandwiches (Library Lounge)

## Orientation

**Location.** All conference events will take place in Ida Noyes Hall, at 1212 East 59th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. The First-Floor Lounge, where you picked up this program, is where all meals, coffee breaks, and receptions will be held. Next door is the Library, which will host a panel during each session and serve as the site of our Friday roundtable and Saturday keynote address. Upstairs are the West Lounge and the East Lounge, located on either end of the corridor, which will host our other panels. Restrooms are available on the second floor and the lower level.

**Food and Entertainment.** Although we will attempt to meet most of your food and entertainment needs throughout the conference weekend by providing breakfast, lunch, and evening entertainments, we also invite you to seek out other options. For nearby places to eat, we recommend the cafeteria at the Booth School of Business, located directly north of Ida Noyes Hall, or any of the restaurants along 57th Street. More information and strong opinions about dining options in Hyde Park can be found at the MEHAT Guide to Chicago located on our website, or from any of our conference volunteers. These are also good sources to consult for details about nearby attractions, including campus museums, local bookstores, and the Regenstein Library, as well as information on public transit to help you get downtown.

**Internet Access.** Free wireless Internet access is available to conference participants through the **uchicago** wireless network. Join the network and then start up your browser, which will take you to the University of Chicago Wireless Access page. You can gain access by typing the following codes in both the CNetID and password fields:

Friday, May 5: *meeting-erzt*

Saturday, May 4: *meeting-ft2m*

Sunday, May 5: *meeting-ehkr*

You may also be able to get online via the **eduroam** wireless network. Visit **eduroam.org** to find out if your university is a participating institution; if it is, you can register for free at using your .edu account.

**Transportation.** The quickest way to get downtown from Hyde Park is to take the Metra Electric commuter rail or the #6 bus. Other useful bus routes to know about are the #171 and #172 buses, which loop through Hyde Park, and the #55 bus, which goes to the Red Line and Midway Airport. More detailed information and maps can be found in the MEHAT Guide to Chicago or at **transitchicago.com**.

## ***Friday, May 3***

### **Registration and Breakfast (8:15-9:00)**

#### **Session 1 (9:00-10:30)**

##### **Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Print Culture (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Prof. Holly Schissler, University of Chicago*

Annie Greene, University of Chicago: *Al-Zawra' and the East: Locating Baghdad Through the Pages of Its First Newspaper*

Kenan Tekin, Columbia University: *Encountering the Conflict Thesis: Ahmed Midhat Efendi's Translation of John Draper's History of the Conflict Between Religion and Science*

Tanya Lawrence: *Views from the Periphery: Akhtar and the Iranian Community in Istanbul in the Late Nineteenth Century*

Ayşe Polat, University of Chicago: *Religious Censorship in Istanbul During the Armistice Period, 1918-1922*

##### **Early Islamic History (WEST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Joshua Mabra, University of Chicago*

Jamal Abed-Rabbo, University of Chicago: *Conversion and Propaganda in the Muqtabis of Ibn Ḥayyān*

Mohammad Ballan, University of Chicago: *Righteous Rebellion and Unjust Governance During the Reign of 'Uthmān ibn 'Affān (d. 656): A Reassessment of the Risālah of 'Abd Allāh ibn Ibād*

Hasan Lachheb, Indiana University: *"Dear Prophet": The Invention of the Tradition of Sending Letters to the Prophet Muḥammad from the 9th to 16th CE in the Maghreb and Andalus*

Michael Ehrlich, Bar-Ilan University: *From Church and Forum to Mosque and Suq: Religious and Socio-Economic Transition in the Levant During the Umayyad Period*

##### **Education and Citizenship (EAST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Ekin Enacar, University of Chicago*

Madina Djuraeva, University of Wisconsin: *Internationalization of Higher Education in Post-colonial Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan: A Comparative Analysis*

Timothy Gutmann, University of Chicago: *Public Law and Education in Reformist Egypt*

Claire Roosien, University of Chicago: *The Pious Peasant: Chuvash Identity at the Crossroads of Orthodoxy and Islam, 1868-1917*

Murat Yıldız, University of California, Los Angeles: *Performing Late Ottoman Civic Culture: Modern Sporting and Physical Education*

## Coffee Break

### Session 2 (10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

#### **Politics, Press, and Perceptions of Egyptian Modernization (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Annie Greene, University of Chicago*

Mustafa İnce, Boğaziçi University: *The Sublime Porte and the Egyptian Press in the Aftermath of Occupation of 1882*

Patrick Scharfe, Ohio State University: *Islamic Politics and Modernity in Early Nineteenth Century Egypt: Mehmed 'Ali Pasha and the 'Ulamā' of Egypt*

Gülşah Torunoğlu, Ohio State University: *Women's Movements in Turkey and Egypt from the 1890s to 1940s*

#### **Britain in the Middle East (WEST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: TBA*

Nilüfer Hatemi, Princeton University: *The Establishment of the Crimean Church in Constantinople: A Mid-19th-Century Symbol for British Ascendancy in the Near East?*

Lorenzo Kamel, University of Bologna: *The Impact of "Biblical Orientalism" in Late 19th- and Early 20th-Century Palestine*

Nicholas Makinster, Tufts University: *Contextualizing British Involvement in Afghanistan, 1836-1842*

Doğa Öztürk, Ohio State University: *Great Britain's Reaction to the Abolition of the Caliphate: The Policy of Disinterestedness*

#### **Twentieth-Century Violence (EAST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Golriz Farshi, University of Chicago*

Russell Hopkins, University of Akron: *Reconsidering the Iraqi Massacre*

*of the Assyrians in 1933*

Fatemeh Masjedi, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin: *Beyond Empire: Violence and Foreigners in Qajar Tabriz, 1905-1918*

Carl Shook, University of Chicago: *Ba'athist Frontier Ideology: Analyzing the Deportation of Iranian Nationals from Iraq, 1971-72*

## **Lunch and Lunchtime Roundtable (12:30-2:00, LIBRARY):**

### **“Historicizing Radicalism in the Middle East”**

What do we mean when we talk about radicalism in Middle Eastern contexts? How has the meaning of radicalism shifted over the course of the twentieth century? What do Islamic and secular radical movements have in common? Our panelists will offer perspectives from across Arab and Ottoman contexts.

*Participants:* **Fadi Bardawil**, Collegiate Assistant Professor, Social Sciences, University of Chicago; **Orit Bashkin**, Associate Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, University of Chicago; **Zachary Lockman**, Professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies and History, New York University; **Holly Shissler**, Associate Professor of Ottoman and Modern Turkish History, University of Chicago; and **Lisa Wedeen**, Mary R. Morton Professor of Political Science and the College, University of Chicago.

## **Session 3 (2:00-3:30)**

### **Studies in City and Neighborhood (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Prof. Orit Bashkin, University of Chicago*

Arbella Bet-Shlimon, Harvard University: *“The City of Black Gold”:  
Memory, Modernity and Identities in Iraq’s Oil City Since the 1940s*

Madoka Morita, Tokyo University: *Between Hostility and Hospitality:  
Neighborhoods and the Dynamics of Urban Migration in Eighteenth-Century  
Istanbul*

Isaac Hand, University of Chicago: *Placemaking and Ottoman-inspired  
Visual Culture in Contemporary Istanbul*

## **Modern Literary Performances of Memory, Space, and Politics (WEST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Esra Taşdelen, University of Chicago**

Francesca Chubb-Confer, University of Chicago: *Memories of a Muslim Future: Muhammad Iqbal's Poetry of Andalusia*

Shay Hazkani, New York University: *Palestine as al-Andalus: Trajectories of Nostalgia in the Writing of Palestinian Poets Around the Time of the Nakba*

Sheida Dayani, New York University: *Nineteenth-Century Iranian Plays: From Comedy and Melodrama to Pedagogy and Resistance*

Meltem Türköz, Işık University: *Authenticity and Heritage Claims in Producing and Consuming Akşehir's Nasreddin Hoca Festival*

## **Sources for Premodern History (EAST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Prof. Franklin Lewis, University of Chicago**

Theo Beers, University of Chicago: *The Tuḥfa-yi Sāmī: A Rare Source on Poetry in Early Safavid Iran*

Andrew O'Connor, University of Chicago: *Hagiography in Dialogue with Polemics: The Copto-Arabic Sīra of Ruways 'the Naked Shaykh' in Mamlūk Egypt*

Nicholas Walsmsley, Indiana University: *'Who Is Anvarī Anyway?': The Depiction of 'Alī Shīr Navā'ī in Persian Biographical Dictionaries of the Fifteenth-Eighteenth Centuries*

Zafar Najmiddinov, Princeton University: *Fiqh and Fatawa Works as Historiographical Sources for Central Asia*

## **Coffee Break**

### **Session 4 (3:45-5:15)**

#### **Social Realities in Contemporary Iran and Bahrain (LIBRARY)**

**Moderator: Prof. Alireza Doostdar, University of Chicago**

Solmaz Kive Mohammadzadeh, University of Colorado, Denver: *Othering of the Self in the National Museum of Iran*

Marwa Koheji, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: *Diving for Pearls, Diving for History: Remembering the Pearl Diving Past in Bahrain*

Ariane Sadjed: *Consumption and the Iranian Middle Class: Mediating Demands of the State and the Market*

Bruno Jahn, Free University of Berlin: *The Islamic Republic of Iran as a Normalization Regime*

### **The Qur'an and Its Readers (WEST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Prof. Fred Donner, University of Chicago**

Vanessa De Gifis, Wayne State University : *Qur'an 13:11 and the Rhetoric of Change*

Süleyman Dost, University of Chicago: *Studying the Qur'an Under the 'Abbasids*

Atoor Lawandow, Cornell University: *Luqmān and Aḥiqār: Near Eastern Wisdom and the Emergence of a New Discourse Genre*

Kevin Blankinship, University of Chicago: *One Word, Two Meanings: The Form and Function of Concurrence (al-mushākala) in the Qur'an*

### **People and Poetry in Central Asia and Turkey (EAST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Prof. Kağan Arik, University of Chicago**

Jeffrey Paul Bristol, Boston University: *War of the Alphabets: Waging Battle for the Hearts and Minds*

Samuel Hodgkin, University of Chicago: *Revolutionary Springtimes: Reading Soviet Tajik Poetry, from Ghazal to Lyric*

Gizem Korg, Sabancı University: *The Bektashi Tahrirs*

Fatima Sartbay, University of Wisconsin: *Islam, Shamanism and Gender of Central Asia: Cultivation of Cultural Identity via Sufi and Shamanic Poetics*

### **Welcome Reception (5:15 p.m.)**

### **Reading in Honor of Prof. Farouk Mustafa (1942-2013)**

**(6:00-7:00 p.m., LIBRARY)**

## ***Saturday, May 4***

**Breakfast (8:15-9:00)**

**Session 5 (9:00-10:30)**

### **Civil Society in Contemporary Egypt (LIBRARY)**

**Moderator:** *Yasmeen Mekawy, University of Chicago*

Hassan Thuillard, Graduate School of International and Development Studies, Geneva: *Former Brothers: Disengagement from the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt*

Margot Dazey, École Normale Supérieure: *Mass-politics and Muslim Public Sphere: The Early Years of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt (1928-1945)*

Mohamed M. A. Mohamed, Northern Arizona University: *The Egyptian Revolution: Continuity and Change*

Mona Oraby, Northwestern University: *Hierarchies of Citizenship: The Bahá'ís in Egypt*

### **Between Doctrine and Practice: Shi'í and Sunni Political Formations in 10th-12th Century Iraq and Iran (WEST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator:** *Prof. Paul Walker, University of Chicago*

Shiraz Hajiani, University of Chicago: *Ismailis at Isfahan - a tale in three texts*

Mohammad Sagha, University of Chicago: *In the Shadow of the 12th Imam: Contestation in the Lesser Occultation; a network analysis approach*

Mohammed Allehbi, University of Chicago: *Maintenance of Public Order in Baghdad under Buyids and Seljuqs*

Edmund Hayes, University of Chicago: *Fluidity and Compromise: A Reassessment of the Offices of wakil and safir During the Earliest Stages of Twelver Factionalism*

### **Gender and Identity in the Middle East (EAST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator:** *Brian Keenan, University of Chicago*

Alexander Menrisky, University of Kentucky: *Overcoming Trauma in "Women without Men" Through Narrative Therapy: The Psychotherapeutic Principles of Magical Realism in Middle Eastern Literature*

Alex Shams, Harvard University: *Heterosexualizing Tehran*

Dena Afrasiabi, University of Texas, Austin: *Narrating Bodies in Motion: Gender and National Identity in Iranian Sports Periodicals*

## Coffee Break

### Session 6 (10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m.)

#### **The challenges of the Turkish Republic (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Isaac Hand, University of Chicago*

Arda Güçler and Unsal Doğan Başkır, Northwestern University: *Caught in-between Human Rights and Democratic Contestability: Rethinking the democratization of Kurdish Politics in Turkey since 1990s*

Zihni Özdil, Erasmus University Rotterdam: *Secularization and Non-Sunni Muslim Minorities During the 'First Turkish Republic'*

Zeynep Oğuz, City University of New York: *Empire, Mandate, Nation-State: Historiography, Self-Narrative and Colonial Subjectivity in the Sanjak of Alexandretta*

Murat Yılmaz, Graduate School of International and Development Studies, Geneva: *Student Demobilization in Turkey*

#### **Early Islamic Thought (WEST LOUNGE - will run until 12:30)**

*Moderator: Prof. James Robinson, University of Chicago*

Alexander Orwin, University of Chicago: *Two Types of Ummah: Ethnic and Religious. The Questionable Unity of the Islamic Ummah*

Ahmet Temel, University of California, Santa Barbara: *Formation of Sunni Paradigm: Early Attacks on the Validity of Qiyās and Ijmā', the Two Hallmarks of the Sunnī Paradigm*

George Warner, School of Oriental and African Studies: *The Essence of Shi'ism: Rethinking Authenticity in Early Shi'i Hadith*

Ayşe Betül Tekin, Marmara University: *Transmission of Metaphysical Knowledge in Post-Classical Islamic Thought: Commentaries on Tajrid al-Itiqad of al-Tusi*

Shatha Almutawa, University of Chicago: *The Afterlife in the Thought of*

*the Ikhwan al-Safa*

## **Minorities in the Middle East and United States (EAST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Prof. Zahra Jamal, University of Chicago**

Alda Benjamen, University of Maryland: *The role of Assyrians in Iraq's socio-ideological movements*

Erik Freas, City University of New York – Borough of Manhattan Community College: *The Exclusivity of Holiness: The Role of the Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif in the Formation of National Identities*

Sabith Khan, Virginia Institute of Technology: *Charitable Giving among American Muslims*

## **Lunch (12:15-1:15)**

## **Session 7 (1:15-2:45)**

### **Politics and Rhetoric Under the Ottoman Sultans (LIBRARY)**

**Moderator: Prof. Cornell Fleischer, University of Chicago**

Zahit Atçıl, University of Chicago: *Why Did Süleyman the Magnificent Execute His Son Şehzade Mustafa in 1553?*

Sanja Kadrić, Ohio State University: *The Devşirme and The Laws of the Janissaries: Muslims in the Bosnian Eyalet*

Bahattin Yaman, Süleyman Demirel University: *The Relation of Istanbul and Doomsday According to the Text and Illustrations of Tercüme-i Miftah-ı Jifr al-Cami*

Emin Lelić, University of Chicago: *İlm-i firâset and the Ottoman Weltanschauung: An Esoteric Science in the Service of Empire*

### **Iran and the Soviet Muslim Periphery (WEST LOUNGE)**

**Moderator: Prof. John Woods, University of Chicago**

Flora Roberts, University of Chicago: *A Time for Feasting? Conspicuous Consumption in Wartime Tajikistan, 1940-45*

August Samie, University of Chicago: *From Safavids to Soviets: How the Writing of One Reveals the Other*

Mary Yoshinari, University of Toronto: *Iranian Newspaper Imagery in the Interwar Era and Soviet Influences*

Clément Therme, Graduate School of International and Development Studies, Geneva: *The Religious Dimension of the Russian-Iranian Connection after the Fall the Soviet Union*

## **Merchants, Bureaucrats, and Slaves in the Medieval Islamic World (EAST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Jane Mikkelson, University of Chicago*

Munther Al-Sabbagh, University of California, Santa Barbara: *Transgressions and Privileging: Imagery of Merchants from the Mind of a Thirteenth-Century Adeni Port Administrator*

Mustafa Banister, University of Toronto: *Bureaucratic Pragmatism and the Cairo Caliphate: al-Qalqashandī and Abbasid Significance in the Mamluk Chancery*

José Haro, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid: *“From Bad to Worse”: Approaching the Living Standards of Eleventh-Century Baghdad*

Amin Azad Sadr, University of Chicago: *When the Subject Is the Object: A Comparison of the Treatment of Slavery by the Qābūs Nāmih and the Nasirean Ethics*

## **Coffee Break**

### **Session 8 (3:00-4:30)**

#### **Negotiating Shi'i Doctrine (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Edmund Hayes, University of Chicago*

Khalil Andani, Harvard University: *The Qur'an – Word of God or Word of Muhammad: Prophetic Revelation in the thought of Abdulkarim Soroush and Nāṣir-i Khusraw*

Mohammad Hadi Gerami, Institute of Imamite Studies, Tehran: *Ambiguity in the Lines of Demarcation Between Akhbārī and Uṣūlī in the Last Islamic Centuries*

Ari Schriber, Harvard University: *Bid'ah as an Image Problem: Reforming*

*the ‘Āshūrā’ Ritual in Mandatory Southern Lebanon*

Farhad Dokhani, Harvard University: *The Challenge to Taqlīd by Two Leading Modern Shī‘i Clerics: Shaykh Hadi Najmabadi and Shari‘at Sangalaji*

## **Gender and Empire in the Modern Middle East (WEST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Prof. Elyse Semerdjian, Whitman College*

Jeff Reger, Georgetown University: *Iraqi Women and Ba‘athist State Feminism: The General Federation of Iraqi Women in the 1970s*

Kate Dannies, Georgetown University: *Measuring Manhood: Reverend Henry Jessup, Evangelical Protestantism and Masculinity in Syria, 1856-1910*

Laura Goffman, Georgetown University: *A Zanzibari Princess Speaks to Imperial Europe: The Nineteenth-Century Memoirs of Emily Ruete*

Jose Najjar, Southern Illinois University: *Unscrupulous Muslim Husbands: Constructing White Christian Masculinity in Early 20th-Century Brazil and the Levant*

## **Ottoman Public Culture in the Early Modern Period (EAST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Ahmet Tunç Şen, University of Chicago*

Gwendolyn Collaço, University of Chicago: *(Ad)dressing Cultural Identities through Ottoman Fashion: The Costume Book Defining Selfhood in the Late Sixteenth and Early Seventeenth Centuries*

Matthew Gillman, University of Chicago: *‘In the Garden of Virility and Force’: Private Anxieties in Public Spaces at Ottoman Circumcision Festivals*

Nazlı İpek Hüner, University of Chicago: *What Is in a Man? What Is in a Woman? Conditions of Manhood and Womanhood in Bedāyü’l-Āsār*

## **Keynote Address (5:00-6:30, LIBRARY)**

**“Field Notes”**

**Professor Zachary Lockman, New York University**

**Zachary Lockman** is professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (MEIS) and History at New York University, where he has taught modern Middle Eastern history since 1995. He was chair of MEIS from 2004 to 2010 and has also served as director of NYU’s Hagop Kevork-

ian Center for Near Eastern Studies. He served as president of the Middle East Studies Association of North America in 2006-2007 and is a member of MESA's Committee on Academic Freedom; he is also a contributing editor of Middle East Report. His main research and teaching field is the social, cultural and political history of the modern Middle East, especially Palestine and Egypt. His most recent book is *Contending Visions of the Middle East: the History and Politics of Orientalism* (2004; 2nd edition, 2009). Other books include *Comrades and Enemies: Arab and Jewish Workers in Palestine, 1906-1948* (1996); *Intifada: the Palestinian Uprising against Israeli Occupation* (co-edited with Joel Beinin, 1989) and *Workers on the Nile: Nationalism, Communism, Islam, and the Egyptian Working Class, 1882-1954* (co-authored with Joel Beinin, 1987). He received his B.A. in Near Eastern Studies from Princeton in 1974 and his Ph.D. in History and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard in 1983.

### **The MESSA Lamb Roast Dinner (6:30-8:00, LIBRARY LOUNGE)**

The Middle Eastern Studies Students' Association (MESSA) at the University of Chicago consists of all students in the Masters Program at the Center of Middle Eastern Studies, as well as an extensive network of alumni and supporters. As part of their outreach service, they host a series of events throughout the academic year that aim to share Middle Eastern culture, language, history, and religion with the larger campus community, as well as offering workshops and service opportunities that focus on the academic and professional development of students interested in careers related to the Middle East.

### **Middle East Music Ensemble (8:00 p.m., LIBRARY)**

Directed by the composer, violinist and distinguished buzuq player Wanees Zarour, the Middle East Music Ensemble was established in 1997 by the Music Department at the University of Chicago and is composed of both students and community members. The ensemble is committed to the study and performance of a wide range of Middle Eastern music, with a certain emphasis on those underpinned by the theory and practice of *maqam*. It performs using traditional instruments such as the `ud, baglama, nay, qanun, clarinet, accordion sharqi, kaman, cello, and double bass, along with percussion instruments such as the darbukkah, riqq, and tar. More information and upcoming concerts are available on the Ensemble's website at [meme.uchicago.edu](http://meme.uchicago.edu).

# Sunday, May 5

**Breakfast (8:15-9:00)**

**Session 9 (9:00-10:30)**

## **Sufis in Their Settings (LIBRARY)**

*Moderator: Austin O'Malley, University of Chicago*

John Dechant, Indiana University: *Aḥmad-i Jām and the Purpose of Miracle Stories in Hagiographic Literature*

Talia Gangoo, University of Michigan: *Sufi Influence on Religious Patronage and Policy-Making in Kashmir, 1320-1470*

Leopold Eisenlohr, University of Chicago: *Indian Sufi Debates and Popular Creeds from the Pen of a Late Ming Confucian Convert*

Feryal Salem, University of Chicago: *The Genre of the Kutub al-Zuhd or Books of Islamic Piety*

## **Madhhab, Madrasa, Maṭbaʿ: The development and dissemination of Sunni legal thought throughout history (WEST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Prof. Ahmed El Shamsy, University of Chicago*

Justin Benavidez (University of Chicago): *Ibn Abī Zayd's Defense of the Mālīkī School of Law*

Jessica Mutter (University of Chicago): *Pedagogy and Practice in Ifrīqiyā: Ibn Abī Zayd and the Early Mālīkī School in Qayrawān*

Larry Pande (University of Chicago): *Publics, Print, and al-Manār*

Amir Toft (University of Chicago): *Tracing the Early Ḥanafī School: A Diagnostic*

## **The Last Century of the Ottoman Empire (EAST LOUNGE)**

*Moderator: Basil Salem, University of Chicago*

Ayşegün Soysal, Boğaziçi University: *A Story of Conversion and the Role of the Committee of Union and Progress*

Sinan Marufoğlu, Qatar University: *The Attempts of the Ottoman State to Settle the Nomadic Kurdish and Arab Tribes in Iraq During the 19th Century*

Toygun Altıntaş, University of Chicago: *The Yıldız Bombing: Revolutionary Violence and "Propaganda by the Deed" in the Hamidian Ottoman Empire*

**Farewell Coffee and Sandwiches (10:45 - noon, LIBRARY LOUNGE)**

## *About the Conference*

The Middle East History and Theory Conference and Workshop was founded by graduate students at the University of Chicago over twenty-five years ago with the aim of helping to bridge the gap between empirical and theoretical approaches to the study of the Middle East. Since its founding, the Workshop has hosted an annual conference that has grown into an international event showcasing the work of early-career scholars of the Middle East from Late Antiquity to the present. Over the years the conference has built a reputation for intellectual diversity, rigor, and social engagement that draws over 200 participants to Ida Noyes Hall each May to partake in a unique intellectual experience of collaboration and cross-pollination.

This year's conference features 27 panels and over 100 presentations on topics ranging from Qur'anic exegesis to consumption patterns in contemporary Iran. We are pleased to welcome Professor Zachary Lockman of New York University to deliver Saturday's keynote address, entitled "Field Notes." Other highlights include a Friday lunchtime roundtable with Professor Lockman and scholars at the University of Chicago, who will gather over sandwiches to discuss "Historicizing Radicalism in the Middle East"; a Friday evening reading of poetry and literary selections in honor of Farouk Mustafa (1942-2013); Saturday's famous lamb dinner, hosted by the Middle Eastern Studies Students' Association; and an after-dinner concert by the Middle East Music Ensemble.

This year's conference was organized by Madeleine Elfenbein and Carlos Grenier, with the help of our Conference Committee: Toygun Altıntaş, Michael Bechtel, Theo Beers, Andrew Derouin, Süleyman Dost, Annie Greene, Nazlı İpek Hüner, Maryam Sabbaghi, and August Samie. Special thanks go to MEHAT's faculty advisors, Orit Bashkin, Ahmed El Shamsy, and Na'ama Rokem; Tom Maguire, Traci Lombré, Alex Barna, and Fred Donner of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies; Golriz Farshi, Orry Klainman, and Manon Mcguigan of the Middle Eastern Studies Students' Association; and Wanees Zarour and the members of the Middle East Music Ensemble. Special thanks also go to Ed Hayes, Chastity Lovely, Shiraz Hajjani, and our moderators, volunteers, and hosts for out-of-town guests.

We would also like to thank our institutional sponsors for their support: the Franke Institute for the Humanities, the Norman Wait Harris Fund, the Middle Eastern Studies Students' Association, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Division of the Humanities, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the Council on Advanced Studies.

Our cover image is of the Katak Bridge in Baghdad, circa 1932. *Credit:* Matson Photograph Collection, Library of Congress.

## *Session Location Guide*

<b>Friday, May 3</b>			
	<b>Library</b>	<b>West Lounge</b>	<b>East Lounge</b>
<b>Session 1</b> (9:00 – 10:30 a.m.)	Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Print Culture	Early Islamic History	Education and Citizenship
<b>Session 2</b> (10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)	Politics, Press, and Perceptions of Egyptian Modernization	Britain in the Middle East	Twentieth-Century Violence
<b>Session 3</b> (2:00 – 3:30 p.m.)	Studies in City and Neighborhood	Modern Literary Performances of Memory, Space, and Politics	Sources for Premodern History
<b>Session 4</b> (3:45 – 5:15 p.m.)	Social Realities in Contemporary Iran and Bahrain	The Qur'an and Its Readers	People and Poetry in Central Asia and Turkey
<b>Saturday, May 4</b>			
<b>Session 5</b> (9:00 – 10:30 a.m.)	Civil Society in Contemporary Egypt	Between Doctrine and Practice: Shi'i and Sunni Political Formations in 10th- 12th Century Iraq and Iran	Gender and Identity in the Middle East
<b>Session 6</b> (10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)	The challenges of the Turkish Republic	Early Islamic Thought	Minorities in the Middle East and United States
<b>Session 7</b> (1:15 – 2:45 p.m.)	Politics and Rhetoric Under the Ottoman Sultans	Iran and the Soviet Muslim Periphery	Merchants, Bureaucrats, and Slaves in the Medieval Islamic World
<b>Session 8</b> (3:00 – 4:30 p.m.)	Negotiating Shi'i Doctrine	Gender and Empire in the Modern Middle East	Ottoman Public Culture in the Early Modern Period
<b>Sunday, May 5</b>			
<b>Session 9</b> (9:00 – 10:30 a.m.)	Sufis in Their Settings	Madhhab, Madrasa, Maṭbaʿ: The development and dissemination of Sunni legal thought throughout history	The Last Century of the Ottoman Empire