



2015 MESAAS Graduate Conference

5-6 March, 2015

Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies
Columbia University in the City of New York

Keynote by Ann Stoler

5-6 March 2015

MESAAS
Graduate Conference 2015

Program

Keynote by Ann Stoler

"Raw Cuts / Other Folds:
Palestine, Israel and Colonial Studies"

DEPARTMENT OF MIDDLE EASTERN, SOUTH
ASIAN, AND AFRICAN STUDIES

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

REGISTRATION IS BETWEEN 10 - 12 ON BOTH DAYS
KNOX HALL, LOBBY

Thursday, 5th of March
11:00 - 1:00

Session 1 / Sites of the Political

[Knox 207]

Malay Firoz

Urbanising Camps and Encamped Urbans: Tracing the Borders of the Political inside the Za'atari Refugee Camp

Marthe Hesselmanns

Apart We Pray? The Struggle of South Africa's Reformed Churches to Reconcile a Divided Nation

Shoaib Ghias

Defining Shari'a: Stoning and the Politics of Islamic Judicial Review

Candace Lukasik

A "Coptic Liberation Theology": Christian-Muslim Relations and the National Unity Paradigm in post-2011 Egypt

Discussant: Kai Kresse

Moderator: Selim Karlitekin

Thursday, 5th of March
1:30 - 3:30

Session 2 / Historiography and Knowledge Formations

[Knox 207]

Sara Swetzoff

Perceptions of Arabia and the Horn of Africa Among Medieval Muslim Scholars

Abhilash Medhi

Clio on the Margins: Memory and Identity in Early Twentieth-Century Assam

Larissa Schmid

Objects of knowledge: North African prisoners of war in Germany during the First World War

Discussant: Sudipta Kaviraj

Moderator: Vivek Yadav

Session 3 / Identities in Circulation: Archeologies of Media and Becoming

[Knox 208]

Eran Hakim

When the Christians killed Jesus: Uses of Arabness in a mixed primary school located in a lower-class neighborhood in Jaffa

Viktoria Ruth Luisa Metschl

Archival Figurations of Cinematographic Solidarity

Re'ee Hagai

On The Riverbank of Exile: Sound as a Medium of Arab-Jewish Experience

Discussant: Jennifer Wenzel

Moderator: Mohammad Sadegh Ansari

Thursday, 5th of March

4:00 - 6:00

Session 4 / Modernity and the Reconfiguration of Islamic Knowledges

[Knox 207]

Caitlyn Bolton

Colonizing Curriculum: Modernity, Morality and Islamic Education in Colonial Zanzibar

Hasan Azad

Ebrahim College and the Idea of Virtue in Islam

Kenan Tekin

Out of Many, One: Unity of Science in the Islamic-Ottoman Discursive Tradition

Sophia Helen Golvach

Islamic Law of Armed Conflict and Las Siete Partidas -The Lost and Found Heartwood of Modern International Humanitarian Law

Discussant: Wael Hallaq

Moderator: Omar Farahat

Thursday, 5th of March

6:00 - 8:00

Keynote Session

[Knox 509]

Introduction: Allison Busch

Ann Stoler

Willy Brandt Distinguished University Professor of
Anthropology and Historical Studies

**"Raw Cuts / Other Folds:
Palestine, Israel and Colonial Studies"**

Friday, 6th of March
11:00 - 1:00

Session 1 / Debt and Colonial Rule

[Knox 207]

Casey Primel

Capital and its others in colonial Egypt, 1894-1912

Hollian Wint

From Slaves to Debtors? Emancipated and manumitted Africans in the credit economy of Zanzibar, 1895-1915

Henny Ziai

The political technology of debt in Liberian settler colonialism

Discussant: Debjani Bhattacharyya (Drexel University)

Moderator: Casey Primel

Session 2 / The Normativity of Language in Uṣūl al-fiqh and Mīmāṃsā

[Knox 208]

A Roundtable Conversation:

Andrew Ollett

Omar Farahat

Discussant: Akeel Bilgrami

Friday, 6th of March
1:30 - 3:30

Session 3 / Troubling Literary History

[Knox 207]

Taimoor Shahid

Textures of Continuity: Time-Space-Language in the Many Lives of a Poem and Lessons in Literary History

Ilan Benattar

Towards A Reinvigorated Intellectual Genealogy of Zionism and Middle Eastern Jewry: Bialik's "Revival of the Sephardim"

Aviv Becher

When Memorial Poems Don't Mourn

Elvan Julia Sayarer

The Politics of the Author: The Case of Orhan Pamuk and Turkey

Discussant: Gil Anidjar

Moderator: Max Shmookler

Session 4 / Gender in the Making

[Knox 208]

Robert Joseph Bell

Luti Masculinity in Iranian Modernity, 1785-1911: Gender, Nationalism, and the Anxieties of Proper Masculine Comportment

Jeremy Nicholas Randall

Affective Genders in Maroun Baghdadi's Documentaries

Rasha Moumneh

Producing the Nation: Sex Panics and Racialization in Lebanon

Daniel Behar

In her Likeness: Salih Diab and the "undue influence" of women poets

Discussant: TBA

Moderator: Henny Ziai

Friday, 6th of March

4:00 - 6:00

Session 5 / Islamic Authority and the Construction of National Identity

[Knox 207]

Ari Schriber

The Iconoclast 'Ālim: 'Allal al-Fasi and the Construction of Salafi Nationalism in Morocco

Youssef Ben Ismail

'Good 'ulama'' and 'Bad 'ulama'': Rethinking Post-Colonial Narratives of Religious Authority in Tunisia

Laura Thompson

Insulting the Sacred: Punishing Blasphemy in Post-Arab Spring Tunisia

Mary Elston

Shaykh al-Tayeb's Threat of I'tikāf: Al-Azhar after the Revolution

Discussant: Muhsin al-Musawi

Chair: Ari Schriber

Session 6 / Moral Economy

[Knox 208]

Zachary Davis Cuyler

"The Invasion of the Desert": Expertise, Nationalism, and the Development of Egypt's Western Desert, 1954-1961

Sacha Robehmed

'Mindset,' 'Mentality' and 'Culture': The Frictional Encounters of ICT Entrepreneurship Development in Jordan

Cristina Violante

Valve World: Crane Co. Valves in Saudi Arabia and Yemen

Marcus Barrow Walton

Between the Lines: Bread, Moral Economy, and the Discourse of Welfare in Egypt

Discussant: Timothy Mitchell

Moderator: Matthew Ghazarian

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Organizing Committee

Selim Karlitekin
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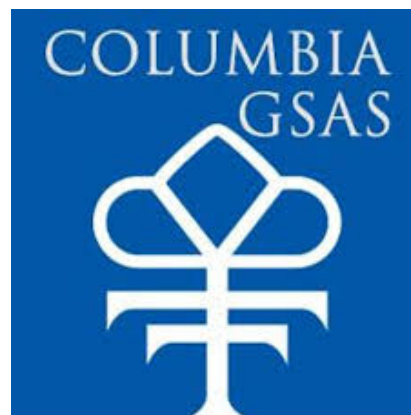
Our Supporting Faculty

Prof. Timothy Mitchell, MESAAS
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Prof. Jennifer Ann Wenzel,
MESAAS
Prof. Sudipta Kaviraj, MESAAS
Prof. Gil Anidjar, MESAAS
Prof. Akeel Bilgrami, Philosophy
Prof. Kai Kresse, MESAAS
Prof. Lila Abu-Lughod,
Anthropology

And Our Keynote Speaker

Prof. Ann Stoler, New School for
Social Research

We also thank the moderators and all other volunteers and supporters.



Institute of African Studies

