Violence, Trauma, and Displacement in the Middle East and Eurasia

January 29 – 30, 2010
Alice Campbell Alumni Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Friday, January 29

Lunch for Invited Guests (12:15 pm – 1:15 pm)

Opening Remarks (1:30 pm)
Richard Tempest, Director, Russian, East European and Eurasian Center

Panel I (1:45 pm – 3:30 pm)
Chair: Ed Kolodziej, Director, Center for Global Studies
Francis Boyle, Professor of Law, UIUC
“Prospects for Peace in the Middle East”
Michael Rothberg, Professor of English, UIUC
“Holocaust Memory and Israeli-Palestinian Crisis”
Roberto Mazza, Assistant Professor of History, Western Illinois University
“The Effects of the First World War upon the Identities of Jerusalem”

Break (3:30 pm – 3:45 pm)
Panel II (3:45 pm – 5:30 pm)
Chair: Kenneth Cuno, Associate Professor of History, UIUC
**Ari Barlabat**, Graduate Student, International Relations, UCLA
“Israel and Eurasia: The Rise of New Powers and Israeli Extra-Regional Foreign Policy”
**Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi**, Associate Professor of Sociology and History, UIUC
“The Sacred and the Mundane in the Tales of Iranian Veterans of Iran-Iraq War”
**Mohammad Khalil**, Assistant Professor of Religion, UIUC
“Jihad and Terrorism in Islamic Law: Evaluating Osama Bin Laden's Fatwa against the United States”

Dinner for Invited Guests (7:00 pm)

Saturday, January 30

Panel III (9:00 am – 10:45 am)
Chair: Marina Terkourafi, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, UIUC
**Victor Friedman**, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Balkan and Slavic Linguistics, UC
“Nineteenth-Century Representations of Violence in Bulgaria: The Tragi-Comedy of Bai Ganyo”
**Harriet Murav**, Professor of Comparative and World Literature, UIUC
“Bergelson, Benjamin, and Berlin: Justice Deferred”
**Russell Zanca**, Associate Professor of Anthropology, NEIU
“Uzbekistan’s Labor Migrants and Gross Inequality in the Non-Soviet Union”

Break (10:45 am – 11:00 am)
Thematic Roundtable I: Historical Studies (11:00 am – 12:30 pm)
Chair: Harriet Murav, Professor of Comparative and World Literature, UIUC
**Mick Polczynski**, Middle Eastern Studies, UC
“The 19th Century Polish Émigré Involvement in the Circassian Insurrections During the Caucasus Wars”
**Andrew Demshuk**, History, UIUC
“The Displacement of the German Population from Silesia after World War II: Coping with the Loss of Homeland in the Ruins of the Reich, 1945-1970”
**James Tallon**, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, UC
“Anti-Insurrectionary Operations in the Ottoman Balkans: The Albanian Revolutions of 1910-1912”
**Basil Salem**, Middle Eastern Studies, UC
“Forbidden Intellectual: The multiple identities of Khalil Ghanim, an Ottoman-Arab in Exile (1846-1903)”
Lunch for Invited Guests (12:30 pm – 1:30 pm)

Thematic Roundtable II: Syria and Lebanon (1:45 pm – 3:00 pm)
Chair: Fred Donner, Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UC

Nell Gabiam, Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, UC
“The Politics of Suffering in Syria’s Palestinian Refugee Camps”

Shayan Silverstein, Music, UC
“Relocating Turath: Cultural Heritage Practices and Displaced Persons in Syria”

Mandy Terc, Anthropology, University of Michigan
“Marriage and divorce in contemporary Syria: Trauma or Opportunity?”

Closing Session: A Panel Discussion (3:00 pm – 3:30 pm)
Chair: Hadi Salehi Esfahani, Director of CSAMES, UIUC

Ed Kolodziej, Center for Global Studies, UIUC

Victor Friedman, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Balkan and Slavic Linguistics, UC

Fred Donner, Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UC

A collaborative workshop between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
and the University of Chicago

Convened by:

UIUC Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES)
  • Hadi Salehi Esfahani, Director, Ritu Saksena, Assoc. Director

UIUC Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC)
  • Richard Tempest, Director

UC Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies (CEERES)
  • Victor A. Friedman, Director, Meredith Clason, Assoc. Director

UC Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES)
  • Fred Donner, Director, Rusty Rook, Assoc. Director

Co-sponsored by the Center for Global Studies and Department of History at UIUC