



Europa im Nahen Osten
Der Nahe Osten in Europa

Venue:

Conference Hall
Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33

14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Participants are asked to register at the following address:

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The seminar is part of the activities of the Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) and of 'Cities Compared: Cosmopolitanism in the Mediterranean and Adjacent Regions', a research field within 'Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe' (EUME), a research program of the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung, and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.zmo.de>
<http://www.eume-berlin.de>
<http://www.h-net.org/mediter/>

 Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
FÜR WISSENSCHAFTSFÖRDERUNG

Invitation ZMO-EUME-Colloquium**Ottoman Urban Studies Seminar**

Chaired by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi

Annual Theme 2008-2009: Daily Life in Ottoman Towns

Monday, 26 January 2009, 5 pm

Daily Life in Ottoman Cairo: What Court Records Teach about Labour, Neighbourhood and Family Relations

Lecture by Dr. Mohsen Shuman

Mohsen Shuman's research focuses on daily life aspects of Jewish families in Egyptian cities, and specifically on the descendants of Ibn al-Ashqar Andalusī; (1524-1618). Between the arrival in Egypt in the 16th century and further developments in both Cairo and Alexandria, the object of the conference is an examination of issues like housing, social relations, communal relations and commercial networks. The paper also deals with the role of merchant associations, guilds and networks of sociability in the fashioning of daily life and with the relationship between this Jewish family and other spheres (other communities, power).

Dr. Mohsen Shuman is a researcher with Al-Zaqaziq University, Faculty of Arts (Egypt). After a Master Thesis on "The Urban Provinces in Egypt from the outset of the Ottoman Conquest to the beginning of 19th Century" (Zaqaziq University, 1990), his doctoral dissertation was on "The Jews in Egypt during the Ottoman Age" (published in Cairo as: al-Hay'ah al-Miṣriyyah al-ʿĀmmah le-l-Ketāb, Cairo, Two Volumes, 2000). Other publications:

- "Jews of Cairo and al-Quds according al-Mahākem al-Shar'iyyah", Faculty of Arts, Zaqaziq university, 2000.

He now works on a project on "The Guilds between Law and Society"

Presentation of the Seminar

What is the historical experience of cities in the former territories of the Ottoman Empire - in the Balkans, Anatolia, the Middle East, and North Africa - in dealing with the impact of global changes and the transformation from Empire to nation States? How did people of different cultural, social and religious backgrounds live together? How are such examples of conviviality, conflict, migration, and urban regimes of governance and stratification conceptualized? And how have urban traditions been reinterpreted, and what bearing does this have on modern conceptions of civil society, multicultural societies, migration, or cosmopolitanism. These and other questions will be addressed in this year's Seminar in Ottoman Urban Studies, with a specific focus on daily life issues. This seminar is supported by the research program 'Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe' EUME with funds of the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung.