



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:
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 Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
FÜR WISSENSCHAFTSFÖRDERUNG

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

Chaired by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi
Annual Theme 2009 -2010: Post-Ottoman Cities

Monday, April 26, 2010, 5 pm

Ankara: the Republican Urban Project and the Ottoman Heritage**Lecture by Dr. Kyle Evered**

As the forward capital of Turkey, Ankara was erected not just physically; it was a state-authored text written spatially that would form a cornerstone in nationalist constructs of Turkish identity, tradition, and territory. Though the city itself predated the republic by millennia, its conceptualization, designation, and construction as a cultural and political center imbued the location with new meanings intertwined with the parallel rise of the Kemalist nation-state. As Turkey sought to forge a homeland for peoples both Anatolian and modern, Ankara itself and its internal landscapes provided the spatial and symbolic contexts for unifying Anatolia's cultural pasts and the Turkish nation-states present and future. Reflecting upon this early experience of designating and designing Ankara as Turkey's geo-cultural/-political center, this study examines English- and Turkish-language primary, secondary, and literary sources in order to analyze the foundational writing of the initial, state-centered tradition as it was imposed in the cities socio-cultural and built landscapes during the formative years of the Kemalist republic. Just as this combination of idealism and state authority can be read in layers of the cities early-republican landscapes, later strata reflect the alternative perspectives and dynamics of contestation and resistance that have arisen during and since this era.

Dr. Kyle Evered studied Anthropology, History and Geography in Madison, Wisconsin and made her PhD at the University of Oregon in Geography. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor at the Michigan State University, Department of Geography.

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.

This seminar is supported with funds of the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung.