# Zentrum Moderner Orient



# **Book Presentation**

Wednesday, 10 September 2014, 5 pm

# Islam, Colonialism and the Modern Age in the Netherlands East Indies: A Biography of Sayyid <sup>(</sup>Uthman (1822 – 1914)

## by Dr. Nico J.G. Kaptein (Leiden University)

In this biography Nico J.G. Kaptein studies the life and times of Sayyid 'Uthman (1822-1914), the most prominent Muslim scholar of his era in the Netherlands East Indies. During his long career, he provided guidance to the Muslim community and from 1889 onwards, after the famous C. Snouck Hurgronje had engaged him, simultaneously served the colonial government as advisor for Muslim affairs. Based on an analysis of his writings, Kaptein focuses on the question of how Sayyid 'Uthman viewed the place of Islam in the colonial state and the many reactions this provoked, both nationally and internationally, e.g. from the Cairo-based reformist scholar Rashid Rida.

**Nico J.G. Kaptein Ph.D.** (1989) teaches Islamic Studies at Leiden University. He has held research fellowships at the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore; the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin, and the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies. He has published extensively among which several books and edited volumes, including *Muhammad's Birthday Festival*, Leiden: Brill, 1993; *The Muhimmât al-nafâ'is: a bilingual Meccan fatwa collection for Indonesian Muslims from the end of the nineteenth century*, Jakarta: INIS, 1997; *Transcending borders: Arabs, politics, trade and Islam in Southeast Asia*, eds. with Huub de Jonge, Leiden: KITLV Press, 2002, and *Islam. Politics and Change: The Indonesian Experience 1998-2013*, eds. with Kees van Dijk, Leiden: University Press, forthcoming.

The event is open to the public, with advance registration requested. Please register at: yasser.mehanna@zmo.de

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Islam, Colonialism and the Modern Age in the Netherlands East Indies

A Biography of Sayyid 'Uthman (1822–1914)



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