

Lecture

Thursday, 7 November 2019, 5 pm

The Legacy of Slavery, Race and Racism in Morocco

Lecture by **Prof. Dr. Chouki El Hamel** (Arizona State University)

Moderation: **Dr. Sonja Hegasy**

Venue

Room 308–310 (right stairway, third floor)

Leibniz-Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung

Schützenstraße 18, 10117 Berlin

In recent decades, a number of scholars have revised existing historical constructions of African societies by focusing on the agency of subaltern groups. As yet, there are only quite a few comprehensive and analytic published monographs on the history of slavery or trans-Saharan slave trade or their abolitions in the Maghreb. A serious academic endeavour to restore the forgotten role of blacks in North Africa has just started. The objective is not only to fill the gap but to challenge the conventional readings of slavery in Islam. I tell the story of the silenced underrepresented and reveal the system of inequality, feelings of superiority and nationalistic narration as a system of social control that has reduced Moroccan minorities to a marginalized social status.

Chouki El Hamel is professor of history in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies at Arizona State University, specializing in West and Northwest Africa. His research interests focus on the spread and the growth of Islamic culture and the evolution of Islamic institutions in Africa. He is particularly interested in the subaltern relationship of servile and marginalized communities to Islamic ruling institutions. His research into these relationships revolves around issues of power/class, slavery, race/ethnicity, gender and social justice.

