



Europa im Nahen Osten  
Der Nahe Osten in Europa

## 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, June 8, 2009, 5 pm

#### 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/>

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## Trivia of Late Ottoman Daily Life

### Lecture by Prof. Christoph Herzog

While the opportunities and treasures offered by the Başbakanlık Arşivi in Istanbul since it has been made accessible to a wider academic public have led to a sometimes exaggerated enthusiasm for archival material as the only reliable source for Ottoman history, late Ottoman memoirs are a source that is still not sufficiently used and evaluated.

The paper tries to discuss some memoirs as a source for Late Ottoman Daily Life especially looking at scattered pieces of seemingly unimportant information and anecdotes that are not part of the main narrative framework and may therefore be overlooked easily.

**Prof. Christoph Herzog** studied Middle Eastern and European history in Freiburg, Germany and in Istanbul. In 1995 he completed his PhD thesis on "Geschichte und Ideologie. Mehmed Murad und Celal Nuri über die historischen Ursachen des osmanischen Niedergangs." In 2005 his Habilitation thesis "Osmanische Herrschaft und Modernisierung im Irak. Die Provinz Bagdad, 1817-1917" was accepted by the Faculty of Philosophy at Heidelberg University. Since 2008 he is professor of Turcology at the University of Bamberg, Germany.

### 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.