Z ZMO

Zentrum Moderner Orient

orient bulletin

No. 12, June 2007



History and Cultures in Asia, the Middle East and Africa

Editorial

Muslim Worlds - World of Islam? is the title of ZMO's new research programme. Does this mean that we are following the "religious turn" so noticeable in academia and, arguably, in society? Quite on the contrary: ZMO aims to question whether, and if so, to what extent, the sharing of a religion actually forms a joint frame of reference which overrides all other considerations. This is what Islamists and their adversaries in the West would like us to believe, it is, however, a highly controversial issue. It seems worthwhile to ask again how Asians and Africans conceptualise the world. Even if religious idioms seem on

the advance, does this necessarily affect how people act or are other factors coming into play more decisive? Have we not learnt from the debates about entanglement that notions of closed communities, religious or otherwise, are of little help in analysing specific developments, i.e., that we need a profound understanding of more than just one particular line of thought? It is on these research traditions of ZMO that the future programme is based.

As ZMO is now starting to plan its next phase with the generous aid of the Ministry of Education and Research, we hope to attract old as well as new fellows, and to continue engaging in new debates and activities.

Ullrike Freitag

ing escapes the attention of the colleagues. At the ZMO it is different in so far as one gets a daily anthropological feedback concerning the selection and arrangement of one's meals, personal habitus and scientific occupations... It cheers me up to be informed over lunch about the extraordinary household work engagement of men in puritan Islamic circles in Burkina Faso."

The ever changing composition of the group offers a forum for spontaneous reports on field work, interspersed with discussions of the latest opera performances in Berlin or comparative insights into the gendered division of labour in various societies. Many of the more serious impulses of ZMO's academic work emerge from informal rounds, unplanned meetings between researchers, from surprising similarities and contrasts between the societies we work on. Thus, the central element is the composition of our group of colleagues, a group that shows an encouraging trend at internationalisation.

A 'place of ideas' ought to reach beyond its immediate audience. Therefore we do not limit our activities and publications to academic circles but offer a variety of events, among them meetings with members of parliament as well as high school students, joint national and international events with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Goethe-Institute or the German political foundations as well as public screenings of films or exhibitions in Berlin. The feedback for these events shows that research at the ZMO, which requires historical depth, language skills and intensive field research brings back new ideas to Berlin and Germany. Ulrike Freitag

Zentrum Moderner Orient - A Place of Ideas?



L. Müller (Deutsche Bank), Prof. U. Freitag (ZMO)

A Place of Ideas – this is how the initiative 'Germany, Land of Ideas', under the chairmanship of President Horst Köhler views the ZMO. While we felt honoured to have been awarded this title on April 19, the event prompted us to become

more explicit than usual about some basic questions: What exactly makes a research centre to be a place of ideas? What is particularly innovative about what we are doing, what might be of relevance to a larger audience? After all, we do not develop new patents, nor do we produce easily accessible results. Rather, our topics are foreign societies and cultures, often reconstructed like puzzles from a variety of mostly poorly kept and well-hidden sources. In addition, our public events often take place in the idyllic location of Nikolassee, far from the hustle and bustle of the centre of Berlin's political and cultural life.

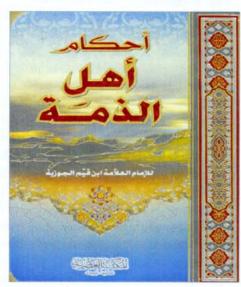
An enquiry among our researchers yielded some interesting results: "As in many other working places, noth-



The Construction of Authentic Heritage

The still remarkably high per-L centage of religious-legal monographs and pamphlets in modern Arab bookstores and book fairs in Islamic countries cannot be overlooked. Only a minor portion of such publications presents totally new contributions. The vast majority recycles findings taken in one way or another from the pre-modern so-called Koranic sciences. The latter include, for instance, compendia of Islamic law (fiqh) dealing with ritual regulations and daily practice (ibadat) as well as interaction with others (mu'amalat), manuals of the principles of legal reasoning and legal methodology (usul al-fiqh), the fundamental tenets of faith (usul al-din) including eschatology, further Koran commentary (tafsir), epistles of ethics and practical advice for pious self-control and a spiritually correct performance of everyday life. Although already generated much earlier, such genres flourished especially in the religio-legal schools, the madrasas, of the Fertile Crescent and beyond. Starting in Iraq from the 11th century C.E. onwards, these forums of higher learning promoted for ages the core of what was regarded as al-'ilm, "the knowledge", i.e. the relevant religious and legal knowledge that guides the Muslim umma from this world to the Hereafter. Muslim scholars ('ulama') undertook it as a kind of collective duty as teachers, judges, preachers or muftis to cultivate this Sharia knowledge and transmit it to the believers. This accumulated treasure of knowledge fell somewhat into oblivion after the advent of the Ottomans in Greater Syria and Egypt at the beginning of the 16th century.

However, with the rise of the Wahhabis in what was to become Saudi Arabia, one strand, namely the Hanbali school of law and Hanbali theologians, gained new currency and succeeded for the first time in obtaining the official, long-term protection of the rulers. In the forefront of the late 'Medieval' scholars who were co-opted by the Wahhabis for the sake of self-legitimization stand the theologian and legal scholar Ibn Taymiyya (d. 1328) and his most famous pupil Ibn Qayyim al-Jawziyya (d. 1350). Both polygraphs were incorporated as spearheads of Wahhabi legitimacy. In the West, they are very much associated with repression of non-Muslims, Muslim women and unbelieving Muslims.



Ibn al-Qayyim: Sharia regulations for Jews and Christians

Beyond Saudi Arabia, an even greater 'back to Islamic roots' wave spread powerfully throughout the Muslim world, and the different movements gained prominence under the umbrella term 'Salafism'. Broadly speaking, for the Salafis in general, these two Hanbali teachers represent an important, although differently interpreted point of reference as the principle pre-modern advocates of a pristine Islam in the spirit of the earliest community in the 7th century.

Birgit Krawietz's project traces the multiple re-invention of Islamic traditions against the background of Ibn al-Qayyim's writings. The latter are edited from dispersed manuscripts of the late 19th through 21st centuries. Whereas the figure of Ibn Taymiyya

is highly politicized in the eyes of a broader Western public and even blamed as the spiritual 'father of Islamic fundamentalism' and militancy, Ibn al-Qayyim acquired a much more diverse modern following. This can be traced especially through the various forewords that accompany the presentation of his works to a broader Arabic-speaking audience and the various editions they witness. The modern adepts, though, are far from carefully preserving what has been transmitted. Instead, they quite often deliberately shorten Ibn al-Qayyim's monographs, pick out what they regard as significant parts and publish them separately, invent new titles, thereby giving a new twist to the content of a writing, or even blend him with other premodern authors. In other cases, they publish his ideas on a certain topic together with the utterances of some modern writers, thereby claiming a sort of more or less unanimous coauthorship. They proceed in such a manner also in regard to their own writings. Such patterns can be taken as a case study of what happens with alleged guarantors of the so-called authentic Islamic heritage in (post)modern times. The highly constructed character of such publications by Ibn Qayyim al-Jawziyya and others and various fusions with secular knowledge and contemporary concerns will be made transparent. Birgit Krawietz

Guest Scholars from January to June 2007

Dr. Rita Aouad, Lycée Descartes Rabat • Dr. Benjamin Soares, African Studies Centre Leiden • Prof. Muhammed Qasim Zaman, Princeton University • Prof. Abdul Sheriff, Open University of Tanzania • Prof. Ahmed Ibrahim Abu Shouk, International Islamic University Malaysia • Nezam al-Abbasi, An Najah National University Nablus

The Emergence of New Translocal Labour Markets in Algeria



Migrants in the desert (Photo: Dalila Nadi)

Algeria, the second largest country in Africa, is now recording very positive macroeconomic data due to the high price of oil. Profits accumulated during the period of political crises are being used to reconstruct and modernise the country's infrastructure, with Chinese companies playing an ever more important role. Algeria's building sector is increasingly dominated by Chinese companies that are recruiting Africans en route to Europe to work on their construction sites.

For her DFG project Dalila Nadi is investigating the employment of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa in the Algerian-Chinese building sector, as well as the interactions of these immigrants, the Algerian State, the Chinese construction companies and the Algerian population. The recent emergence of Algeria as a final destination for migrants and the resulting spaces of interaction will also be addressed. Nadi focuses on sub-Saharan migrants who abandon their journeys to Europe and attempt to establish themselves in Algeria, as well as on Chinese workers who have chosen to settle in the country at the end of their governmental job contracts. Chinese investors' interest in Algeria and the consequences of their political and economic influence in the country will be investigated, and she will also shed light on how the Algerian government deals with the phenomena of migration and the changes it causes (political pressure from the European Union in the fight against illegal immigration and from the United States in

the battle against international terrorism).

Dalila Nadi made two research trips: From February to April 2006, she went to the desert and to the transit city of Tamanrasset (the staging area for migrants from sub-Saharan Africa) and the border cities, Tin-Zawatine and In-Guezzam. Algeria's geographical position between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa makes it a natural route for international migration. Many migrants, forced to abandon Europe as their final destination, have begun to recognize that Algeria's economic expansion offers an alternative and are trying to establish themselves there. Over a third of the inhabitants of the city of Tamanrasset are immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa. Using group and individual conversations (according to the stage of research, the research possibilities, interview partners and security situation), Dalila Nadi studied new developments in the stream of migrants who find Algeria to be both attractive and a potential des-

businessmen and Algerian government ministries more closely. China has established itself as an influential political and economic actor in Algeria; unlike many Western economic actors, China treats Algeria seriously as an economic partner, taking it into account in the exchange of interests and aiming for a 'win-win' situation - not distinguishing, as is usually the case, between resource and development policies. Chinese companies often invest in areas and regions that Western firms have abandoned or decided are not very attractive, and build streets, dams, airports and new housing projects - to name only some examples. On signing a trade contract, Chinese businesses ensure that they will realize most of the infrastructure Algeria needs - as a way of insuring that investments will not go bad. That way, streets and airports really get financed and constructed, and local staff gets schooled - faster and cheaper than would have been possible with Western partners. At least in economic respects, and for



Chinese building site in Algiers (Photo: Dalila Nadi)

tination, along with the resulting spaces of interaction, conflicts of interest, access to resources, survival possibilities and forms of settlement of the migrants in these cities.

The second research trip (October to December 2006) took her to the capital, Algiers. There she concentrated on investigating Chinese the moment, Chinese pragmatism is prevailing over Western 'sustainability'.

During her last field-research trip, Dalila Nadi conducted many interviews with Chinese who – at the end of a job contract or because of personal financial reasons (not related to government contracts) – are increasingly settling and establishing themselves in Algeria. The clash of different practises and regulations within Algeria's politically and economically insecure situation results in an ongoing, institutionalised state of transition that lacks formal statutory requirements, contracts and standardised norms. Such a condition is characterised by partial illegality, as well as highly adaptable and changeable informal rules, relationships and procedures. On one hand, migrants in Algeria benefit from chances to work, and on the other, they suffer considerable dependencies. This leads to the question: How much longer will the Algerian State be able to maintain these conditions?



ZMO Workshop

New Trends in Egyptian Historiography of the Ottoman Period: A German-Egyptian Encounter



Participants in the workshop

Last March, a German-Egyptian workshop on current trends in contemporary Egyptian historiography was organized at ZMO. This activity was part of the "Cities Compared: Cosmopolitanism in the Mediterranean and Adjacent Regions" research field that is directed by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi (ZMO) and that is part of the research programme "Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe" (EUME). Dr. Magdi Guirguis (EUME Fellow) and Georges Khalil (EUME Coordinator, Wissenschafts-

kolleg zu Berlin), with the help of Dr. Dana Sajdi and Dr. Shaden Tageldin (EUME Fellows) also contributed to the organisation of the workshop.

Egyptian historiography has changed profoundly in recent years. A new generation of historians is revisiting the heritage of the nationalist and Marxist schools of historical writing in Egypt with a new set of questions and methods. Younger Egyptian historians are refocussing their research to question the relationship between state and society, religion and society, elites and ordinary people, the local and the global. While in the past, Egyptian history was often written using local institutional and colonial archives, young Egyptian historians are researching new local archival material and exploring the central Ottoman archives in Istanbul. Egypt's pre-Napoleonic and pre-Muhammed Ali Ottoman periods are being investigated, suggesting different interpretations of the confrontation with the 19th century's ambiguous modernity.

The ZMO workshop introduced and illustrated the new methods and stakes in writing Egyptian history, focussing on archival resources, investigative practises and heuristic paradigms. Conceived as an occasion for scholars based in Egypt and Germany to present and discuss ongoing research on the Ottoman period, this approach stimulated dialogue and the exchange of ideas, methods and results.

In her introduction, Dr. Nora Lafi presented the general historiographic panorama of Egyptian research over the past few decades and proposed themes to be explored in the wake of the renewal. Dr. Magdi Guirguis presented the panel of Egyptian historians invited for the event. During the first session, with Dr. Shaden Tageldin as discussant, Prof. Elsayed Mohammad Achmawi (Cairo University) addressed Egyptian approaches to the Ottoman era. Dr. Malte Fuhrmann (ZMO) proposed a comparative view of Turkish and German Ottoman historiographies. Dr. Mohammad Sabri ad-Dali (Hilwan University, Cairo) spoke on the role of Sufi narratives in the building of a political sphere in 16th and 17th century Egypt and Nasser Abd Allah Osman Abo Zead (Azhar University) spoke on the relationship between the Egyptian ulema and society of that period.

The second session, with Dr. Dana Sajdi as discussant, featured Karima Thabet El Sayed Ghoneem (Mansoura University: Law and Politics in Ottoman Cairo), Dr. Florian Riedler (ZMO: "'History from Below' in an Ottoman Context"), Dr. Hossam Mohammad Abd Almity (Bani-Sueif University: "Merchants and State in 18th century Egypt"), Dr. Nasser Ahmed Ibrahim Soliman (Cairo University: "The Copts and the French Occupation of Egypt"), Rizq Hassan Ahmed Noury (Cairo University: "Corruption and Administration in Egypt at the Time of Muhammed Ali") and Nasra Abd Elmotagaly Ibrahim Aly (Banha University: "Society and State in 18th and 19th century Rural Egypt"). The discussion included the sharing of various methods and approaches, with focus on the historical analysis of society and powers from below and what the history of the elites can teach us about how urban institutions function. In conjunction with this workshop, Silke Nagel (ZMO) organised a visit to the archives of the German Foreign Office, an outing that drew attention to the participants' search for innovative uses of archival materials. Nora Lafi

ZMO Colloquium

Dr. Katharina Schramm: 'Welcome to the Slave Market.' Signboards and the Recreation of a Historical Landscape in Ghana

On February 21, 2007 Dr. Katharina Schramm, fellow at the "Asia and Africa in World Reference Systems" School of Graduate Studies (GSAA) at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle, Germany spoke about African-American 'heritage tourism' to West Africa. Since Alex Haley's 'Roots', international attention to the history of the slave trade has



Dr Schramn

grown. Under the title "'Welcome to the Slave Market:' Signboards and the Recreation of a Historical Landscape in Ghana", Dr. Schramm

showed how the Ghanaian state and local entrepreneurs alike have identified more and more landmarks of the former slave route network. Natural features such as rivers, trees or rocks which cannot be clearly distinguished by the uninitiated, now become explicitly associated with the memory of campsites, slave markets or places of refuge. Throughout the country, roadside signboards indicate such places that were formerly hidden or even forbidden to potential tourists. They form part of a pilgrimage circuit that imbues the contemporary landscape with deep historical significance. At the sites themselves, other signboards have been erected which serve to interpret the landscape along the lines of a dominant tourism narrative. This narrative is mainly aimed at African American visitors. It is presented in such a way that the more recent experiences of inner-continental slave-raiding and -trading appear as part of the transatlantic slave system and therefore as relevant to Diasporans. Dr. Schramm examined the processes through which meaning is created and mediated through signboards and oral narratives for both visitors and local communities at former slave sites. Sonja Hegasy

ZMO Lecture Series: Ways of Thinking About the World in Africa and Asia

On 26th April, a perfect summer day, Dr. Jens Heise (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin) inaugurated our lecture series, "Ways of thinking about the world in Africa and Asia". A decent-sized audience braved the heat to attend his lecture, "Sprach-

ansichten – Weltansichten: Zur 'philosophischen Grammatik' des Japanischen" and engage in deep discussions of the structure of the Japanese language and its relation to the Japanese worldview.

This ZMO lecture series seeks to provide a platform for the presentation and discussion of African and Asian ways of thinking about 'the world'. It assumes that all societies formulate visions of the global and negotiate claims to the universal, and that neither theorizing nor universalizing are Western prerogatives. The series facilitates engagement with thinkers, forms of knowledge and intellectual traditions from Asia and Africa as significant contributions to current global debates. This will be pursued from various disciplinary and regional perspectives, also taking into account ethics and politics.

We have requested that speakers explore these dynamics in theoretically challenging, while also empirically grounded lectures. They will address big yet regionally specific issues of knowledge production and intellectual practice, with a view to trans-regional settings and general human interest. We anticipate hearing wide-ranging arguments based on analysis of the particular, and are very pleased to present a variety of outstanding lectures. (For further information see http://www.zmo.de/veranstaltungen/index.html).

The series is organised by Dr. Kai Kresse

(ZMO) and Dr. Jens Heise (HU-Berlin) in cooperation with the online journal for intercultural philosophy, polylog (www.polylog.



. PD Dr. Jens Heise

org). Since 2000, polylog has provided a platform for philosophers and critical intellectuals from around the world who seek to redress the Eurocentric bias of philosophical discussion worldwide. We envisage to publish versions of the lectures in a joint

project of the ZMO and polylog. We hope our lecture series will engender lots of intellectual stimulation and exchange with Berlin-based groups and individuals throughout the year – enriching the ways we think about the world at the ZMO and beyond!

Kai Kresse

ZMO Colloquium from January to June 2007

Prof. Brigitte Reinwald, University of Hannover • Dr. Katharina Schramm, University of Halle • Prof. Talal Asad, City University New York • PD Dr. Jens Heise Humboldt University Berlin • Prof. Muhammed Qasim Zaman, Princeton University • Prof. Mohammed Sani Umar, Arizona State University

Other Activities

Foundation of the "Society to Promote the ZMO"

The idea of founding an association of friends and supporters of the ZMO emerged on the occasion of the 10th anniversary and the Centre's excellent evaluation by the Wissenschaftsrat/Council of Scholars in 2006. On Friday 26th January 2007, former ZMO-directors, -fellows and staff wor kers as well as former members of the advisory board met to discuss the idea, vote on the association's statutes, elect a managing committee, and talk about possible projects.

After an in-depth and fruitful discussion of the proposed statutes, 16 founding members approved the statutes of the "Society to Promote the ZMO" (Gesellschaft zur Förderung des ZMO). Prof. Dietmar Rothermund, former Director of the Institute of South Asian Studies Heidelberg, and former member of ZMO advisory board was elected Chairman. His two deputies are Dr. Henner Fürtig of the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg and Dr. Heike Liebau of the ZMO, who is also the Society's Treasurer.

Prof. Ulrike Freitag, the Centre's director, and Margret Liepach who was in charge of the ZMO publications from 1996 to 2005, were elected to the managing committee.

The main purpose of the "Society to Promote the ZMO" is to actively support its non-material and material concerns. The Society will co-operate with representatives of research organisations and political as well as cultural institutions and support ZMO research projects and cultural events. Another major concern will be to support the young generation of academic fellows working at the Centre in carrying out their research. The Society will advise and encour-

age the ZMO in establishing new institutional structures and creating new fields of academic research.

All persons interested in learning more about the "Society to Promote the ZMO" are invited to contact Dr Heike Liebau at the ZMO (zmo-fre-unde@gmx.de); phone: +49 30 80307 226).

Founder-members: Helmut Bley, Heidemarie Dengel, Bettina Dennerlein, Ulrike Freitag, Annemarie Hafner, Peter Heine, Wolfgang Kreher, Heike Liebau, Margret Liepach, Joachim Oesterheld, Achim von Oppen, Brigitte Reinwald, Dietmar Rothermund, Sylvia Schmidt, Katja Füllberg-Stolberg, Steffen Wippel.

Award Ceremony: A Place of Ideas, 19th April 2007

The ZMO has been named 'A Special Place in the Country of Ideas of 2007' (Ausgewählter Ort 2007 im Land der Ideen). This initiative of the German Government and Deutsche Bank was conceived as a way of

Deutschland Land der Ideen



Ausgewählter Ort 2007

promoting Germany's economic, cultural and social resources during the World Soccer Championship that was held here last year. In 2007, 365 places were selected out of more than 1500 submissions. Each day of the year another institution, association, museum or initiative presents its activities in the fields of art and culture, the economy, education and youth, science, sports, social work and religion. In 2006, the Berliner Philharmonie received this award as well as the Humboldt University

Berlin – and 363 other places. The award ceremony was held on

Opening Ceremony: "Muslims in Europe – Prospects and Limits of Religiosity in the Public Sphere" on 24th January 2007



Paricipants of the panel discussing issues of Muslims in Germany

The research group 'Muslims in Europe and their societies of origin in Asia and Africa', sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, started the research work with a panel discussion at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW). On the panel were Dr. Ehrhart Körting (Senator for the Interior, Berlin), Prof. Dr. Werner Schiffauer (Professor of Cultural Anthropology, Frankfurt/ Oder), Burhan Kesici (Vice President of the Islamic Federation of Berlin), Nadeem Elyas (Central Council of Muslims in Germany) and Omid Nouripour (The Green Party bloc). PD Dr. Dietrich Reetz (ZMO), speaker of the research group, moderated. Among topics discussed were the German Islamic Conference as the first political step towards the 'naturalisation of Islam' and other actions that could enable a public religious lifestyle for European Muslims and help avoid the development of parallel societies. The research group deals with six complementary case studies that investigate the role of religious Muslim groups, movements and institutions in Europe, consider their links to their countries and cultures of origin, and study the transfer of religious knowledge and its influence on local and translocal social milieus. The project hopes to elucidate whether consolidation of Islamic norms will promote integration.

Thomas K. Gugler



Guests at the award ceremony

19th April at the ZMO. Lars Müller, representative of the Deutsche Bank, presented the ZMO's Director, Prof. Dr. Ulrike Freitag, with the award, citing the ZMO's interdisciplinary and comparative history work and its unique sociopolitical role. Prof. Freitag's acceptance speech described aspects of the ZMO that community members especially appreciate (see p. 1). The awards ceremony was followed by a presentation of the Centre's latest study, "Changing Values

among Youth. Examples from the Arab World and Germany". Enzio Wetzel (Goethe Institut), Dr. Sonja Hegasy (ZMO) and Prof. Münchmeier (Free University Berlin) gave insights into the making of the study

conducted after an international conference on youth in Egypt, and the challenges of researching youth. Dr. Katharina Lange's lecture on a case study of youth in a Syrian village rounded out the evening.

Regina Sarreiter

ZMO in the media

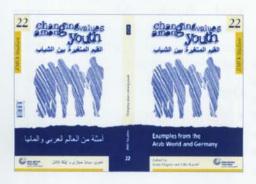
qantara.de, 03.05.2007: "Young Arabs are to a great extent a blank space on the academic map" – "The anthology ('Changing Values among Youth'), which is published in English and Arabic, provide[s] a precise and diverse view of the reality of social sciences". It "bridges the gap between Western academics and their colleagues in the Arab world."

Welt am Sonntag, 21.04.2007: "Am Zentrum Moderner Orient in Zehlendorf wird derzeit untersucht, welche Ziele Muslime in Europa verfolgen" "Euro-Islam" lautet das Schlagwort, das diesen Trend beschreibt und am Zentrum für Modernen Orient in seinen gesellschaftlichen Auswirkungen analysiert wird."

Handelsblatt, 11.04.2007: "Die einzige Forschungseinrichtung Deutschlands, die sich interdisziplinär und in historischvergleichender Perspektive mit dem Nahen Osten und Afrika sowie Südund Südostasien befasst" und "aktuelle soziale und politische Probleme durch historische und kulturwissenschaftliche Grundlagenforschung unterfüttert."

publications

ZMO Publication Series



Sonja Hegasy, Elke Kaschl (eds.): Changing Values Among Youth. Examples from the Arab World and Germany (Engl./Arab.), ZMO-Studien 22, Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 2006, 310 p.

This volume takes examples from Morocco, Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, Syria and Germany to demonstrate the potential and the limitations of youth research in the Arab world and

beyond. The study of young adults is still underdeveloped as an area of research. Despite growing awareness of its vital significance since September 11th, not a single comprehensive youth study exists for an Arab country. Current research is often scattered, partly inaccessible, and to a great extent concentrates on specialized topics. It is crucial, not merely for Arab societies, to know more about the attitude of almost two-thirds of the Arab population to social and political issues. Apart from one qualitative contribution on young men in Iraq, the volume focuses less on data analysis than on data collection and methodology in very difficult surroundings. The majority of Arab states do not allow opinion surveys to be conducted in their countries. Both major international research centres and individual researchers have had severe problems.

Other Publications

- Ahmed, Chanfi: Islam in Ostafrika: Tansania, Kenia, Uganda. In: Islam verstehen, Sympathie Magazin, No. 26, Jan. 2007, 63.
- Freitag, Ulrike: Al-Aḥmadī al-Yāfitī, Salāḥ. In: Gaborieau, Krämer, Nawas, Rowsan (eds.), The Encyclopaedia of Islam Three, Leiden/Boston, 2007, 79-80.
- 'Aydīd 'Abdallāh b. Abī Bakr. In: Gaborieau, Krämer, Nawas, Rowsan (eds.), The Encyclopaedia of Islam Three, Leiden/Boston, 2007, 178.
- Fuhrmann, Malte: Das koloniale Erbe im deutsch-griechischen Verhältnis. Ein Plädoyer für die "postcolonial studies" in der südosteuropäischen Geschichte. In: Jahrbücher für Geschichte und Kulturen Südosteuropas 7/2005, 177-205.
- Blonder Bosporus". In Zenith 1/2007, p. 42-43.
- Hegasy, Sonja: Die Mär von der arabischen Stagnation. In: Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik 2/07, 205-211.
- Young Authority: Quantitative and Qualitative Insights into Youth, Youth Culture, and State Power in Contemporary Morocco. In: The Journal of North African Studies Vol. 12, No.1 March 2007, 19-36.
- Lange, Katharina: Economic Change and Income-Generating Practices of Rural Youth in Northern Syria. In: Sonja Hegasy, Elke Kaschl (ed.), Changing Values Among Youth. Examples from the Arab World and Germany, Studien 22, Berlin, 2007, 65-81.
- Noor, Farish A.: How 'Big Brother' America Became the 'Great Satan': Changing Perceptions of the United States among the Muslim Communities of Southeast Asia. In: Ivan Krastev and Alan McPherson (eds.), The Anti-American Century, Budapest and New York, 2007, 109-127.
- Ankunft in der (Post-)Moderne. Das globalisierte Protestverhalten der Muslime. In: Lydia Haustein, Bernd M. Scherer, Martin Hager (eds.), Feindbilder: Ideologien und visuelle Strategien der Kulturen, Göttingen, 2007, 96-102.

- Pernau, Margrit (ed.): The Delhi College. Traditional Elites, the Colonial State and Education before 1857, Oxford, 2007.
- Reetz Dietrich: Indien. Das zweitgrößte islamische Land der Erde. In: Online-Dossier Indien. Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung, 2007.

news

Te would like to use this opportunity to congratulate a number of colleagues who have received calls to take up professorships at different universities. In April, Dr. Bettina Dennerlein, researcher in the ZMO-HU Collaborative Research Programme 'Representations of Changing Social Orders. Intercultural and Intertemporal Comparisons', accepted the professorship for Culture and History of the Modern Arab World at the University of Hamburg. We are also proud to announce that Dr. Ravi Ahuja, member of the project group 'World Wars and World Views' will be leaving in September 2007 to become Professor of Modern South Asian History at the SOAS in London. Dr. Roman Loimeier, who has been working at the ZMO on 'Local and Translocal Times in East Africa' has been named Assistant Professor to the University of Florida's Department of Religious Studies and Centre for African Studies. PD Dr. Achim von Oppen, ZMO Deputy Director, has been offered a professorship for African History at Bayreuth University.

PD Dr. Dietrich Reetz, speaker and coordinator of the BMBF (German Federal Ministry of Education and Research) project 'Muslims in Europe and their societies of origin in Asia and Africa' is a Visiting Professor of Modern History and Society of South Asia at the Asia-Africa Institute of Humboldt University from April through September 2007.

During his absence Christoph Sprung, who studied Political Sciences at the Free University Berlin, is working as research assistant in the BMBF project on missionary groups from South Asia. After his studies he worked as a teacher in India and with the Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ). He is very active in the organisational and conceptual design of the Südasien-Informationsnetz e.V (www.suedasien.info).

Faizan Ahmed has joined the research group on the secularisation of Islamic institutions from 1st April until the end of the year. He graduated from the Department of Sociology, at Aligarh Muslim University, and the School of Economics of the University of Delhi. His previous work includes research on partition violence in the Indian subcontinent, masculinities in India, the ethnography of cinema halls in Delhi, the student movement at Aligarh Muslim University, Dialogue(s) with Islam(s) in Europe, and Education among Indian Muslims. At ZMO he is working on 'Negotiating Epistemologies and Their Challenging Forces. A Study of Modernization of madrasas in India'. Sophie Wagenhofer and Dr. Andrea Fischer-Tahir have joined the ZMO-HU Collaborative Research Programme in April and May. Sophie Wagenhofer studied History, Jewish and Islamic studies in Vienna as well as Berlin. She wrote her master thesis on"Arabs and the Arabic world in the calculations of the National Socialists" (in German) and is now working on representations of the Jewish minority in contemporary Morocco. Dr. Fischer-Tahir studied Arabic, Oriental Philology, Social Anthropology and the History of Religion at Leipzig University. She wrote her PhD thesis "'We gave many martyrs.' Resistance and creation of collective identity in Sulaimaniya, Iraqi Kurdestan, 1975-2000" (in German) at the Institute of Oriental Studies of Leipzig University. The title of her project is "Inside, Outside: Gender and Representation in Urban Society of Iraqi Kurdistan". Samir el-Moussati, currently preparing an International Master's degree in Human Rights and Democratization at the University of Malta, was associated with the ZMO from April

to June 2007 to write his thesis on,

"Women's Rights in Morocco".

Institutionally the ZMO participated in submitting a proposal for the graduate school 'Unity and Diversity. Muslim Cultures and Societies' within the framework of the German Government's 'Initiative for Excellency'.

ZMO announced its new research programme starting in 2008 "Muslim Worlds – World of Islam? Concepts, Practices and Crises of the Global"

for further information: http://www.zmo.de.forschung



ZMO-Colloquium

- 28th June 2007, 6 pm, ZMO
 Prof. Mohammed Sani Umar (Arizona State University), Islamic discourses on European Visitors to West Africa in the Mid Ninteenth Century
- 19th July 2007, 6 pm, Humboldt University, Raum HS 1072
 Prof. Elmar Holenstein (Emeritus ETH Zürich), Als europäischer Philosoph auf die Welt kommen: Zur Entstehungsgeschichte eines Philosophieatlasses

Other events

- Exhibition: Philipp Schaeffer, 1894-1943. Orientalist, Bibliothekar, Widerstandskämpfer, 6th June - 21st September 2007, Library, ZMO
- 7th July 2007, 14 19 h Open Day ZMO

For further information see: www.zmo.de.veranstaltungen

Impressum:

Orient Bulletin, History and Cultures in Asia, the Middle East and Africa Published by Zentrum Moderner Orient, Geisteswissenschaftliche Zentren Berlin e.V. Editorial board: A. v. Oppen, S. Hegasy, M. Pernau, S. Becherer Photos without reference: ZMO Contact: svenja.becherer@rz.hu-berlin.de