

Podiumsdiskussion am 5. November 2004 um 19.00 Uhr im Zentrum Moderner Orient

ISLAM BELEAGUERED? PERSPECTIVES FROM THE SOUTH

mit

Dr. ZIBA MIR-HOSSEINI

(Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin / SOAS, London)

Dr. YOGINDER SIKAND

(Sozialwissenschaftler / Betreiber der Internetseite Qalandar)

Dr. FARISH AHMAD-NOOR

(Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin)

Dr. GILBERT ACHCAR

(Universität Paris-VIII / Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

Moderation: Prof. Dr. GUDRUN KRÄMER (Freie Universität Berlin)

Veranstaltungsort:

Zentrum Moderner Orient

Kirchweg 33

14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Termin

5. November 2004, 19.00 h

ISLAM BELEAGUERED? PERSPECTIVES FROM THE SOUTH

Four scholars and activists from different parts of the Muslim world will discuss the meaning of South-South communication, interaction and exchange between Muslims in Asia and Africa in the context of current developments. This public talk is being organised in conjunction with a conference at ZMO on the subject of “*South-South Linkages in Islam: Translocal Agents, Ideas, Lifeworlds (19th and 20th centuries)*”.

Socio-cultural, political and economic relations both within and between Islamic areas in Asia and Africa have attracted renewed academic attention since 2000. This welcome revision of established research interests has widened our view beyond a one-dimensional focus on relations between Islam and the mainly Christian West, previously dominated by theories of hegemony and dependency. At the same time, however, in the wake of September 11, the translocal dimension of Islam in Asia and Africa has tended to be monopolized by the discourse of ‘War on Terrorism’, and South-South contacts and exchanges have been viewed mainly from a security perspective.

The participants in the talk are expected to broaden such clichéd understandings of Islam as they have first-hand experience in engaging public opinion and are known to speak out clearly on burning issues concerning Muslim societies.

Chair:

Prof. Dr. GUDRUN KRÄMER (Islamic Studies, Free University of Berlin)

Participants:

Dr. ZIBA MIR-HOSSEINI is a fellow of Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (2004-5) and Research Associate of the London Middle East Institute at SOAS, University of London. She is an anthropologist and filmmaker; author of “Marriage on Trial: Study of Islamic of Law in Iran and Morocco”, and “Islam and Gender: the Religious Debate in Contemporary Iran”; and co-director of two award-winning documentaries, “Divorce Iranian Style” and “Runaway”.

Dr. YOGINDER SIKAND is a prominent Indian scholar and activist who has been writing extensively about religio-political developments in India and inter-religious dialogue. He runs the Qalandar website and is the author of numerous books and articles on religious, cultural and social issues in the Indian subcontinent.

Dr. FARISH AHMAD-NOOR is a Malaysian political scientist and human rights activist currently based at the ZMO, Berlin. He has studied the development of political-religious parties and movements in Southeast Asia and is also a human rights activist campaigning for democratic reform within Muslim societies.

Dr. GILBERT ACHCAR lived in Lebanon before moving to France where he teaches politics and international relations at the University of Paris-VIII. He is presently on a research fellowship in sociology at the Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin. Most of his writings deal with US foreign policy and strategy, as well as with Middle Eastern politics. His latest books are “The Clash of Barbarisms” (2002) and “Eastern Cauldron” (2004), both from Monthly Review Press, New York.