## **Zentrum Moderner Orient • Centre for Modern Oriental Studies**

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## **EINLADUNG / AUSHANG**

## Linking East Africa and the Middle East -Networks of commerce and culture

Prof. Ulrike Freitag, Direktorin, ZMO

Ort: Zentrum Moderner Orient, Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin Zeit: Donnerstag, den 29. Juni 2006, 18 Uhr s.t.

The lecture discusses the relations between the East African Coast and the Middle East, notably the Peninsula. It takes a long historical perspective starting with Islamisation, and until the present. A main topic are the changing connections with the wider Muslim world, which encompassed scholarly as well as trade networks. This shaped population movements as well as the different forms of Islam present in coastal East Africa. More recently, colonial and postcolonial developments with new forms of border formation have considerably influenced and altered these translocal connections.

Prof. Ulrike Freitag (\*1962), professor of Islamic Studies, heads the ZMO in Berlin since 2002. She wrote numerous articles and books about migration in Arabic countries and in the Indian Ocean as well as on historiography in the Middle East. Her current field of research focuses upon Islamic networks in the Indian Ocean as well as urban and intellectual history of the modern Middle East. At present, she works on Migration and the constitution of urbanity in Jeddah in the 19th century.

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