



AROUND THE PARC

PARC is at a celebratory moment in our history. After nearly 20 years, we are still here! Working on Palestine is never easy, and finding support and funding to sustain our efforts is even harder. Despite these obstacles, our collective endeavors to shed light on Palestine persist, thanks to our generous donors, our committed leadership, our resolute PARC research and travel fellows, and our steadfast members.

We are grateful for our U.S. Department of Education American Overseas Research Center grant that enables PARC to bring back our newsletters once again. The newsletters offer profiles of the remarkable work of our U.S. and Palestinian research fellows, highlight the experiences of travel to Palestine of the U.S. professors on our Faculty and Media Development Seminars, present PARC activities at MESA, and provide information on other significant PARC endeavors.

We appreciate the dedicated leadership of the PARC U.S. Board of Directors and our Palestine Advisory Board. Their tireless efforts to preserve PARC when opportunity was bleak and their thoughtful guidance in fostering growth, has allowed PARC to prosper. Our leadership

remains firmly committed to our mission of improving scholarship on Palestinian affairs, expanding the pool of experts knowledgeable about the Palestinians, and strengthening linkages among Palestinian, American, and foreign research institutions and scholars.

We applaud our U.S. and Palestinian research fellows who pursue their projects with a steady dedication to scholarship as well as a sense of responsibility to bring light to sometimes tangled and buried knowledge on Palestine. Their collective body of work is remarkably impressive, and often groundbreaking. We share pride in their achievements as we follow them through their careers and delight in their significant contributions to advancing the study of Palestine.

The U.S. professors who participate in our two-week Faculty and Media Development Seminars are, for the most part, making their very first trip to Palestine. Many participants take away from our program a sense of urgency about Palestine and a strong desire to give back. They dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to bringing Palestine to their U.S. campuses and the larger communities in which they work. Their commitment and their accomplishments inspire us.

Finally, we are exceptionally grateful for the PARC community. Our faithful members and generous donors not only take a keen and deep interest in our work, but also help sustain us financially. Their continuing support invigorates us both materially and, as importantly, in intangible ways through the steadfastness of their commitment to PARC.

In short, thanks to YOU, our donors, leadership, research and travel fellows, and members, PARC can persist in the pursuit of our mission of advancing scholarship on Palestine.

Penelope Mitchell

PARC Executive Director

PARC IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE...

PARC announces its sixth **National Endowment for the Humanities** competition for scholars conducting field-based research in Palestine in the humanities or research with a humanistic approach. Applicants must be scholars who have earned their PhD or completed their professional training. The program is open to U.S. scholars and scholars who have lived in the United States for a minimum of three years immediately preceding the application deadline. (U.S. citizens living outside the U.S. are also eligible.) Application deadline: January 15, 2018

PARC announces its 19th annual **U.S. Research Fellowship** competition for doctoral students and scholars who have earned their PhD. Field-based research may take place in Palestine, Israel, Jordan, or Lebanon. Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Application deadline: January 8, 2018

PARC announces its ninth annual **Faculty Development Seminar** on Palestine. This two-week travel seminar is for U.S. faculty members from any field of study who have a demonstrated interest in, but little travel experience to, Palestine. The program will host 10 to 12 U.S. faculty members to participate in Jerusalem-based activities that will include roundtable discussions; visits to Palestinian universities, research institutes, and cultural and civil society organizations; tours of historic cities; as well as meetings with Palestinian colleagues. Application deadline: January 17, 2018

PARC announces its third **Media Development Seminar** on Palestine. This two-week travel seminar is for U.S. faculty members with a demonstrated interest in, but little travel experience to, Palestine. The program will host 10 to 12 U.S. journalism/film/communications/media faculty members to participate in Jerusalem-based activities that will include roundtable discussions; visits to university media departments, local media outlets, and cultural and civil society organizations; tours of historic cities; as well as meetings with Palestinian scholars and members of the Palestinian media community and civil society. Application deadline: January 12, 2018

For more information, please visit
<http://parc-us-pal.org>.

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PARC PANEL ON HEBRON AT MESA 2017

Hebron in the Modern Period: Social, Political, and Economic Dynamics in Southern Palestine

This panel focuses on the city of Hebron and the greater surrounding region of Mount Hebron as a dynamic social, political, and economic ecosystem during the Ottoman, British Mandate, post-1948, and post-1967 periods. Within the historical literature on modern Palestine, Hebron has been and remains relatively marginal in comparison to the coastal cities of Gaza, Jaffa, and Haifa; the more northerly highland cities of Jerusalem and Nablus; and other religiously significant cities like Nazareth and Bethlehem. Home to al-Haram al-Ibrahimi/the Tomb of the Patriarchs, one of the most significant sites of shared religious meaning to the three major Abrahamic faiths, Hebron's historical significance has often been reduced to that of violent religious and communal confrontation, a characterization that has retained currency in recent decades by the provocations perpetrated by Israeli settlers inside Hebron's Old City and the ascendance of Islamic politics in the city. This focus on conflict has often come at the expense of analysis of Hebron's social, cultural, political, and economic dynamics—as a city, on a regional level, and in relation to other Palestinian (and, especially after 1948, Jordanian) cities and regions.

Organizer: Alex Winder

Chair/Discussant: Issam Nassar: History, Illinois State University.

Panelists:

Susynne McElrone: History, Independent Scholar.
"Rethinking the paradigm of Ottoman land-tenure reforms in Palestine in light of new evidence"

Alex Winder: History, Post-doc at Brown University.
"Family, Social, and Professional Networks in Mount Hebron Before and After 1948"

Kimberly Katz: History, Towson University. *"The Law and Society: Hebron under Jordanian Rule, 1951-1953"*

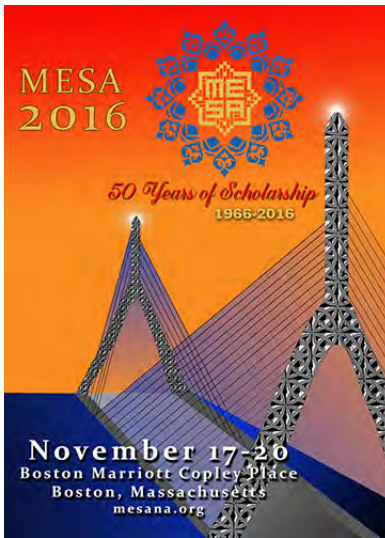
Belal Shobaki: Political Science, Hebron University.
"Hebron in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Settlement Without Peace"

PARC@MESA

Join us for a **PARC informational session** on **"Organizing Student Trips to Palestine"** on **Sat., Nov 18, 4:30-5:30PM** in Park Tower Suite 8281 (L).

If you've ever thought about organizing a trip for your students to Palestine, please join us to discuss ideas, challenges and possibilities.

PARC Executive Director Penelope Mitchell and Joshua Stacher from Kent State University will lead the session.



PARC PANEL ON EDUCATION AT MESA 2016

By Mezna Qato

In the aftermath of the longest sustained teacher's strike in Palestine, Mai Abu-Moghli and Mezna Qato organized a panel

at MESA 2016 in Boston, titled "Success as Subjugation: Palestinian Education Under Settler Colonialism." From nationalist political discourse to World Bank reports, education is

often touted as one of the most significant successes of post-1948 Palestinian life. Education has entered into the very core of Palestinian sense of self and society. This panel pushed through this trope, and considered the ways in which education has come to be both shaped by the contexts under which it is sought, and contour

possibilities for Palestinian futures. By locating education in the everyday lives of Palestinians, these papers attended to education as a site not just of achievement, but of subjugation, denial, thwarted hope, negotiation, ambivalence and freedom. In so doing, they unpacked the stakes of thinking about Palestine through education, for teachers, students, education scholars, parents and broader society. Mai Moghli (Institute of Education, based



The first UNRWA schools were set up in tents in Jericho. UNRWA started out with 93 schools and more than 35,000 pupils in 1950, 1954. © Photographer unknown / UNRWA Archives

<https://www.slideshare.net/UNICJakarta/the-long-journey-english-captions>

on years of ethnographic work in the West Bank, gave a nuanced portrait of violence in boys schools in the West Bank, and in particular its social reverberations and political causes and consequences. Joshua Stacher (Kent State University), returning from a PARC-sponsored Faculty Development Seminar in Palestine, offered a deep investigation into the settler colonial manifestations of subjugation on higher education capacities. Yamila Hussein (Boston Public Schools) and Mezna Qato (University of Cambridge), the

former an education scholar, and the latter a historian of education, presided over a lively conversation and debate with audience members on the origins and consequences of education mythologies, the benefits and perils of alternative education, and chal-

lenges facing teachers under conditions of containment, and some of the ways they can be supported. Given the enthusiasm for the topic, and with PARC support, Qato, Abu-Moghli and Hussein, will be preparing a special issue on Palestinian education for a leading education journal, as well as a set of essays for general readerships on the history of, and contemporary issues in, education, in Palestine and its diaspora.

MARY AND ADIB BAMIA PALESTINIAN RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

By Aida Bamia

The Mary and Adib Bamia Palestinian Research Fellowship is a statement of love and gratitude to my parents. Their unfailing encouragements and support throughout my academic journey emanated from their deep belief in the power of education. They considered a woman's education a guarantee of her dignity and a valuable inheritance that would benefit her and her society.

It is with this concept in mind that I offer this research fellowship in my parent's name, to benefit a Palestinian female student and provide her with an opportunity to acquire the highest possible level of education to benefit her and her society.



HUMANS OF HEBRON



During her research, PARC Fellow Susynne McElrone created an online English/Arabic blog about Palestinian daily life in Hebron, complimented by her captivating photography. To visit the blog, please click here:

<http://humansofhebron.weebly.com>

STANFORD BOOK DONATIONS

PARC would like to thank Stanford University Press for their generous donation of books to PARC's Ramallah Library.

If you are a PARC Fellow and are interested in contributing your publication to PARC's research library in Ramallah, please contact PARC at usoffice@parc-us-pal.org.

PARC ELECTION RESULTS

We would like to congratulate Heidi Morrison who will be the new PARC Faculty Development Seminar (FDS) representative to the PARC Board of Directors. Heidi's experience on both the FDS and as a PARC fellow will bring an important perspective to PARC leadership.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program

(Research at PARC included in this program)

Applications due January 31, 2018

Approximately eight awards of up to \$10,500 each

The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program supports advanced regional or trans-regional research in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences for U.S. citizens who are doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their Ph.D. Preference will be given to candidates examining comparative and/or cross-regional research. Scholars must carry out research for a minimum of 90 days in two or more countries outside the United States, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center.

For further information and to apply, please go to <https://orc fellowships.fluidreview.com>

Responsive Preservation Initiative for Cultural Heritage Resources

(Research at PARC included in this program)

Supported by the J.M. Kaplan Fund, CAORC announces the new Responsive Preservation Initiative (RPI) for Cultural Heritage Resources. The RPI program will fund projects for urgent, emergent, or priority issues that need to be addressed quickly. Small grants are available for rapid emergency projects in Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, The Palestinian Territories, Tunisia, Turkey, and Yemen.

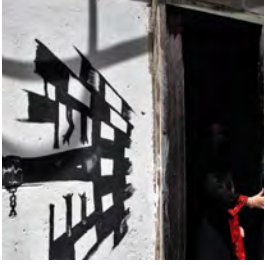
Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. To learn more, visit <https://www.jotform.com/CAORC/jm-kaplan-fund>

Why Support PARC?

- **Support** excellence in scholarship on Palestine. Make a difference in the lives of Palestinians by empowering scholars and enriching scholarship in and on Palestine.
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PARC 2016-2017 FELLOW PROFILES



SORAYA ABUELHIGA

Vanished Bodies as Nationalized Spaces: Palestinian Street Art Portraiture and the Aesthetics of Disembodiment



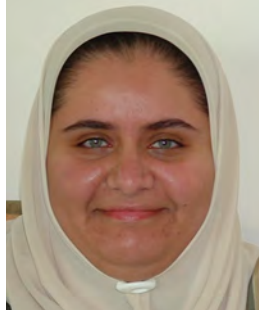
FREDRIK MEITON

Electrical Palestine: Arab and Jewish Technopolitics Under British Rule



NISA ARI

Cultural Mandates: Art and Political Parity in Early Twentieth Century Palestine



MEZNA QATO

Education in Exile: Palestinians and the Hashemite Regime (1948-67)



NADEEM KARKABI

Conquered Fears and Constructive Pains: Body, Affect and Sovereignty among Palestinian Parkour Practitioners in the Old City of Jerusalem



AHMAD AMARA

Governing Property in Beersheba between the Ottoman Imperial and the British Colonial Policies (1917-1928)



NOURA ERAKAT

Justice for Some: Law as Politics in Question of Palestine



SUSYNNE MCELDRONE

The 1858 Land Code and Rural Property Tenure in late-Ottoman Hebron



MUNA DAJANI

Land Politics in the Batouf Valley: Farming as Politics



BASIM AYESH

Evaluation of interleukin 28-B polymorphism in chronic HCV patients and its potential association with treatment outcome in Gaza Strip-Palestine

PARC 2016-2017 FELLOW PROFILES



RANIA YOUSEF ABU SEIR

EBV Infection and the Risk of Hodgkin Lymphoma among Palestinians



MOHAMMED ALROZZI

Children's Work and Education in the Context of Second Intifada in Gaza Strip



LENA ELMUTI

The Industrial Nakba: A Public Health Study of Industrial Dumping in Palestinian Cities



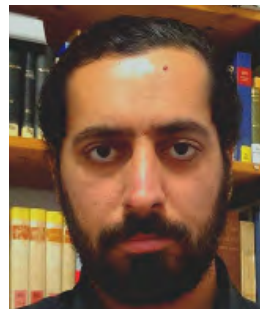
DUAA ABUAMSHA

Historical linguistic change in the verbal inflection system of Palestinian Arabic: Jaffa and Gaza dialects in contact



MARWAN GHANEM

Gender Empowerment and Treated Wastewater Reuse in Ein Qinia Village, Ramallah - Palestine



IBRAHIM MARAZKA

Heterotopias: Spaces for the Practice of Freedom. Philosophical Investigations into a Spatial Category



WAHIBA ABU RAS & MAHASIN SALEH

Challenges and Determination: The Case of Palestinian Parents of Children with Disabilities



SAID SHEHADEH & LENA MEARI

Reconceptualizing Resilience from a Palestinian Perspective: A Preliminary Investigation



SUHAD DAHER-NASHIF

Femicide's hidden victims: Examining the lives of mothers, sisters, and daughters of murdered Palestinian women



FELLOW PROFILES



SORAYA ABUELHIGA

Vanished Bodies as Nationalized Spaces: Palestinian "Street Art" Memorial Portraiture and the Aesthetics of Disembodiment

Soraya Abuelhiga is a doctoral student at the University of California, San Diego. She can be reached at sabuelhi@ucsd.edu.

My project attempts to examine how Palestinians visualize and incorporate into public space the absent bodies of the dead and missing as a means of nationalizing occupied landscapes, undermining dominant origin histories produced by the imperial imaginary of Israeli statehood, and resisting the spatial demands of Israeli colonization. I aim to present how the aesthetic disembodiment of the dead in two-dimensional murals, graffiti, and makeshift memorials consisting of stenciled, animated, or photographic portraits promotes a flattening of individual identity in the interest of illustrating national identity across the imperial landscapes of Israeli statehood. These elaborately decorated martyr memorials and public imagery redefine "street art," and call attention to the strategic role of visual aesthetics within a specifically Palestinian project of national expansion. In their nationalizing of seized landscapes through the visualization of bodies dismembered and disappeared by ongoing Israeli military and extrajudicial violence, Palestinians creatively appropriate the colonial trope of the anthropomorphized nation, and simultane-

ously transform the process of mourning into a performance of nationalism.

My methodology is largely observational, and will incorporate both personal interviews with various subjects and photography as a critical research tool to supplement formal analyses of the artwork. Research

will be conducted primarily in Haifa, Jaffa, Jenin, Nablus, and Ramallah.

The significance of my work centers on my interdisciplinary engagement with Palestinian street art. Neither strictly ethnographic analyses of resistance and martyrdom nor strictly aesthetic analyses of graffiti have been able to do justice to the phenomenon of Palestinian street art memorials. Moreover, these memorials remain largely undertheorized, as more recent interests in urban Arab art continue to center on post-Arab Spring Egypt and typically subscribe to mainstream conceptions of street art, which cannot accommodate and thus exclude the popular creation of martyr memorials

"MY STUDY NECESSARILY REDEFINES STREETART TO BETTER SUIT A SPECIFICALLY PALESTINIAN CONTEXT AND ENVIRONMENT, AND WILL PROMOTE AN INTELLECTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF PALESTINIAN 'ART IN THE STREETS' AS A PRACTICE OF COMMUNAL SOVEREIGNTY IN IMPERIAL CONDITIONS"

als that are ubiquitous throughout Palestine. Thus, my study necessarily redefines street art to better suit a specifically Palestinian context and environment, and will promote an intellectual understanding of Palestinian "art in the streets" as a practice of communal

sovereignty in imperial conditions, while advancing preexisting scholarship on the role of mourning in the development of aesthetic modes of anti-imperial resistance.

FELLOW PROFILES



NISA ARI

Cultural Mandates: Art and Political Parity in Early Twentieth Century Palestine

Nisa Ari is a PhD Candidate in History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture and Art at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She can be reached at nisa@mit.edu.

My dissertation investigates how the complex set of political forces impacting Palestine in the early twentieth century played a determining role in the formation of the field of Palestinian art. The rise of an inter-related system of art practices and exhibition spaces from the final decades of the Ottoman Empire to the *nakba* (1876-1948) occurred against a political landscape marked by the dissolution of a ruling Muslim majority, the rise of Zionism, the First World War, British military and colonial occupation, and the regional growth of Arab nationalism. My dissertation explores how a nascent art world in Palestine formed within and in response to these forces, and was coproduced by local artists, immigrant practitioners, and international agents. Revealing previously overlooked connections among their practices, I examine in this context the work of Palestinian artists including Nicola Saig, Sophie Halaby, Zulfa al-Sa'di, and Tawfiq Jawharriyeh, in addition to the work of early Zionists and other foreign artists in Palestine including Ephraim Moses Lilien, Zeev Ben-Zvi, the American Colony Photo Department, and William Hol-

man Hunt. While “Palestinian art” describes a concept largely unspoken prior to 1948, my dissertation studies how early twentieth century art production in Palestine formulated many of the historically distinctive preoccupations, practices, and modes of circulation that marked this later artistic field.

While oriented to the field of Palestinian studies, the dissertation equally engages debates from the discipline of art history. The majority of historians of early twentieth century art in Palestine have focused on the pilgrimages of European and American artists to the “Holy Land.” Scholars who have investigated local artistic production have segmented their discussions between the art histories of Arabs (primarily Muslims and Christians) and Jews, reflecting ground-level conditions in Palestine, such as the socio-cultural separation of the *yishuv* (the Jewish settlement in “pre-State Palestine”) and operative political divisions. My dissertation both revises and augments these histories in order to analyze the effects of Palestine’s tumultuous administrative shifts on local artistic production.

“WHILE ‘PALESTINIAN ART’ DESCRIBES A CONCEPT LARGELY UNSPOKEN PRIOR TO 1948, MY DISSERTATION STUDIES HOW EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY ART PRODUCTION IN PALESTINE FORMULATED MANY OF THE HISTORICALLY DISTINCTIVE PREOCCUPATIONS, PRACTICES, AND MODES OF CIRCULATION THAT MARKED THIS LATER ARTISTIC FIELD.”

The study examines the ways in which European Zionist, British governmental, and Arab Palestinian organizations contributed to a nascent “cultural sector” in Palestine as part of the volatile struggle for political parity between Jews and Arabs. As

Palestinian art thrives today, substantially aided by NGOs created to support Palestine in the wake of the Oslo Accords, this study draws a compelling lineage between pre-1948 Palestinian history and contemporary cultural politics in Palestine.

FELLOW PROFILES



NADEEM KARKABI

Conquered Fears and Constructive Pains: Body, Affect and Sovereignty among Palestinian Parkour Practitioners in the Old City of Jerusalem

Nadeem Karkabi is a Buber Fellow at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Hebrew University. He can be reached at nkarkabi@gmail.com.

Parkour is a combination of sportive practice, aesthetic performance, and a form of play that includes jumping over fences, climbing on walls, vaulting over concrete structures, and rolling over sand dunes or cement ruins. Parkour started in France two decades ago and soon became a global phenomenon that reached Palestine through social media. Amidst restrictions of movement throughout Palestine, the practice became popular among young adolescents who looked for new ways to cope with their lives through hyper-movement in confined spaces.

Their unusual movement in space brings parkour practitioners the ability to expand their physical and emotional capacities into new experiences of being in the world. Emotions of joy, freedom, and courage, as well as 'negative' emotions of fear and pain, play a role in parkour in stimulating constructive perceptions about the self and the lived environment. In this sense, I intend to investigate how parkour in Palestine, and specifically in Jerusalem, could be understood as a joyful resilience

around which defiant-playful subjectivities are constituted by playing with fear and pain. More specifically, I aim to explore how play is practiced to reclaim moments of embodied sovereignty through the excitement of risk-taking and illicit sensations.

The Jerusalem Parkour team consists of about 20 practitioners, between 16 and 24 years old, who

play mainly in the Old City. The leading practitioners also train four groups of about 80 beginners at a small sports hall in the area. For the purpose of my ethnographic research, I intend to actively join one training group, conduct observations with other groups (espe-

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cially with the group training children), and accompany the practitioners when they play outdoors. In addition, I will conduct open-ended interviews with some of the participants to gain insight about lives of young Jerusalemites beyond parkour.

The examination of parkour results in valuable realizations in theories of affect, play, performance, and space. It tells us about what can be done with our body in an array of social and political interpretations that shed light on our engagement with the world through the senses and embodied emotions. Considering these aspects in the Palestinian context, this research aims to understand the attempts of subordinate subjects to radically claim self-authority through playful experiences. Furthermore, it would expand our knowledge of the workings of power in occupied Jerusalem and the strategies of youth in coping with social marginalization in a politically divided city.

FELLOW PROFILES



NOURA ERAKAT

Justice for Some: Law as Politics in Question of Palestine

Noura Erakat is an Assistant Professor at George Mason University. She can be reached at nerakat@gmu.edu.

Justice for Some: Law as Politics in Question of Palestine is a book project that intends to show how the imbrication of law and politics has formatively impacted the Question of Palestine and to consider the relevant implications for the ongoing Palestinian struggle for freedom. The text will highlight how relations of power have shaped the content and application of international law both to advance and blunt Israeli as well as Palestinian interests. In so doing, my work will show how the law is both a site of oppression and resistance for Palestinians. The project will help demonstrate how the relationship between law and politics has shaped the present-day status quo on the question of Palestine as well as what Palestine, as a case study, tells us about the relationship between law and politics. In particular, the PARC fellowship will enable me to reconstruct the PLO's legal advocacy within the United Nations during the 1970s.

I am combining legal analytical and scholarly approaches to examine the history of law, its application, and its manipulation in regard to the PLO's activity within the UN during the 1970s. I will use archival research to under-

stand the national interests that informed states' positions on United Nations General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. I will conduct legal research to study the laws of war in order to demonstrate their plausible interpretation and application. Finally, I plan on conducting interviews with stakeholders in order to fill in the gaps and reconstruct untold narratives, about the PLO's calculations that informed its strategy at the UN.

The book will answer salient questions including, why did Occupation Law fail to regulate or cease the occupation? How has the distribution of power in the UN Security Council incapacitated international legal mechanisms aimed at state accountability? How did the dynamic malleability of the laws of armed conflict expand Israel's right to use force and diminish protections for Palestinian civilians? As a sub-text, the book will also explain how international law is entwined with politics and thus indeterminate and subject to change, reverence, or disregard depending on the political intervention of states and people.

"THE PARC FELLOWSHIP WILL ENABLE ME TO RECONSTRUCT THE PLO'S LEGAL ADVOCACY WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS DURING THE 1970S."

ALUMNI UPDATES

All PARC fellows are invited to submit their latest news for one of our upcoming newsletters. Please send information on post-docs, promotions, new positions, publications, conferences, etc. We look forward to hearing from you! Please send your information to usoffice@parc-us-pal.org with the subject "Alumni Updates."

FELLOW PROFILES



MUNA DAJANI

Land Politics in the Batouf Valley: Farming as Politics

Muna Dajani is a researcher at the Transboundary Climate Security in the Jordan River Basin at The London School of Economics. She can be reached at m.d.dajani@lse.ac.uk.

Agricultural and farming livelihoods in the Palestinian context of resource control and exclusion have been shown to acquire political subjectivity, where farmers' collective action for reclamation of resource rights plays a pivotal role in strengthening communities' belonging to the land. My research aims to examine the distinctive livelihood practices by which farming acquires political subjectivity in the Batouf Valley by investigating the role of Sumoud ('steadfastness' or 'staying on the land') as a form of cultural resistance. The Galilee has always been a central focus of Jewish/Israeli land-acquisition efforts from the 1940s until this day. Since the creation of the Israeli state, several regulatory policies have been devised and implemented by the Israeli government to tighten the control on land use and ownership, while facilitating the Jewish encroachment on and expropriation of Palestinian land.

Rather than focusing on past oral and documented histories of what agriculture used to look like, the Batouf Valley allows us an opportunity to learn from experiences, testimonies, and the lived experiences of Palestinian farmers who have remained on their land. This research will adopt a largely qualitative and ethnographic approach, drawing on theoretical and methodological tools from critical political ecology, social movements theory, and land politics. It will utilise qualitative tools such as in-depth interviews, participant observation, and working closely with the community in a participatory manner, as well as audio and visual tools.

"RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON PAST ORAL AND DOCUMENTED HISTORIES OF WHAT AGRICULTURE USED TO LOOK LIKE, THE BATOUF VALLEY ALLOWS US AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM EXPERIENCES, TESTIMONIES, AND THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF PALESTINIAN FARMERS WHO HAVE REMAINED ON THEIR LAND."

Studying social movements in Palestine using a multidisciplinary lens of critical political ecology will allow for a more comprehensive and deeper analysis of the dynamics of everyday environmentalism and active citizenship of the marginalised, namely farmers under Israeli occupation. The multi-scalar approach—institutional, temporal, and spatial—of political ecology will allow critical contributions that bridge the knowledge of anthropology, environmental history, and place-identity politics. Critical engagement with literature and theorisations of social sciences to produce critical knowledge on Palestinians inside Israel is paramount in overcoming theoretical and epistemological limitations of studying Palestine. This will be achieved by making use of comparative literature on land politics and studying colonial land dynamics in subaltern studies.

FELLOW PROFILES



FREDRIK MEITON

***Electrical Palestine:
Arab and Jewish
Technopolitics Under
British Rule***

Fredrik Meiton is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Northwestern University. He can be reached at fredrik.meiton@northwestern.com.

My research project, *Electrical Palestine*, charts the construction of Palestine's electric grid, designed and built in the mandatory period, as it co-evolved with the increasingly divided economy, politics, and society of the area. My work shows how, over course of the mandatory period, Palestine evolved in tandem with its power system both conceptually and materially. Materially, I show, the borders of the mandate were mapped onto the power system and structured an ethno-national division of capital, land, and labor that carried over into Jewish statehood and Palestinian statelessness. Conceptually, conceiving of and building the system also produced Palestine as a bounded entity with a distinct political, social, and economic character. Electrification thus participated in producing Palestine as a national space, an economy, and an object of nationalist contention. The precise properties of the technology itself had a fundamental and lasting impact on the territory that emerged affecting the economic and political relations of

its inhabitants, as well as the strategies of both Zionism and Palestinian nationalism.

My study starts from the assumption that political power, like electrical power, is channeled through material structures and technologies, whose properties structure its flow. As such, it departs from the conventional understanding of power by shifting the focus from overt political manifestations to attend to the subtler ways that power circulated and accumulated in Mandate Palestine. The study draws on the holdings of the Israel Electric Corporation and a range of other state and municipal archives in Palestine, Israel, and the United Kingdom.

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"ELECTRICAL PALESTINE LINKS UP WITH A BURGEONING TREND—SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS 'NEW MATERIALISM'—OF GROWING INTEREST TO MIDDLE EASTERN SCHOLARS, FOCUSING IN PARTICULAR ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL ORIGINS OF STATES."

Electrical Palestine links up with a burgeoning trend—sometimes referred to as “new materialism”—of growing interest to Middle Eastern scholars, focusing in particular on the environmental and infrastruc-

tural origins of states. These studies emphasize the significant and context-specific impact of the technologies themselves on the process of state-building. My study adds to this conversation by recovering the powerful influence of the “free market” logic that drove the vision for British Palestine, and also by showing the intimate linkage between capitalism and technology in the emergence of modern Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict.



MEZNA QATO

*Education in Exile:
Palestinians and the
Hashemite Regime
(1948-1967)*

Mezna Qato is a Junior Research Fellow at the University of Cambridge. She can be reached at mq212@cam.ac.uk.

In the aftermath of the 1948 war and the dispossession of the majority of Palestinian refugees into Jordanian territory, a massive educational infrastructure was developed to accommodate the needs of refugee students. This educational system provided the newly-expanded Hashemite regime with a tool by which they hoped to reproduce and consolidate a state narrative that could de-nationalize Palestinian youth and implicate them into Hashemite legitimacy. Through curricular and instructional alterations and interventions, an impenetrable school inspection and surveillance system, and the cooperation of international donors and organizations, the Jordanian regime endeavored to contain the potency of pedagogical space for its own needs. Concomitantly, however, Palestinians too came to regard education as a vehicle for mobility and security in precarious times.

With this fellowship, I hope to write a social history of schooling in the West Bank (and Jordan more broadly) at a moment of particu-

larly heightened popular mobilization, while considering education's role in transforming the political-economic and social capital of those under Hashemite rule. In order to strengthen this on-going project, I will examine the archives of several schools to understand the history of the development of schooling infrastructures, especially looking at the archives of Khaduri College to deepen my understanding of its role in the expansion of teachers in the aftermath of the 1948 war. Finally, I will conduct more extensive interviews with women teachers who taught in the northern West Bank, in order to incorporate fully their stories of simultaneously educating (and being educated) into (and against) Hashemite subjecthood and a project for liberation and return.

"WITH THIS FELLOWSHIP, I HOPE TO WRITE A SOCIAL HISTORY OF SCHOOLING IN THE WEST BANK (AND JORDAN MORE BROADLY) AT A MOMENT OF PARTICULARLY HEIGHTENED POPULAR MOBILIZATION."

This project will unpack how education came to be understood, framed, and enacted as a potentially liberatory exercise by both the state and its subjects. In doing so, it attends to interior debates on curriculum, pedagogical practices, educational built environ-

ments, all coming to embody the high stakes of representational power and decolonial possibility. Weaving these debates and practices by students and teachers with those of United Nations and government bureaucrats, development interlocutors, and intelligence officials, however, aims against nationalist teleology and triumphalism by grounding Palestinian educational history in the sometimes contradictory stakes of emancipatory potential, social aspiration, and class mobility.

FELLOW PROFILES



AHMAD AMARA

Governing Property in Beersheba between the Ottoman Imperial and the British Colonial Policies (1917-1928)

Ahmad Amara is a PhD candidate in History and Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University. He can be reached at ahmadamara@gmail.com.

My dissertation research examines the processes of modern state-making in the Beersheba Ottoman frontier region of southern Palestine, known today as the “Negev,” between 1850 and 1917. The research seeks to write a social and legal history of the Beersheba region by studying the development of landed property administration and governance in this period. During my PARC fellowship, I plan to extend my dissertation research by focusing on the first decade of the British Mandate (1917- 1928). This decade was formative in constructing Palestine’s land system. With their occupation of Palestine, the British declared their intention to maintain the status quo, hence the Ottoman land law system. At the same time, through a number of amendments, the British were able to transform the Ottoman land law in the first three years of their rule, reaching a major reform in 1928 with the enactment of the Land (Settlement of Title) Ordinance. This Ordinance continues to apply with minor amendment until the present in Israel and together with other Ottoman and British legislation structures exacerbates ongoing land conflict between the Israeli government and the Beersheba Palestinians.

“ALTHOUGH THE BEERSHEBA SUB-DISTRICT COMPRISED MORE THAN HALF THE AREA OF PALESTINE AND ITS INHABITANTS COMPRISED ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF PALESTINE’S INHABITANTS IN 1948, THE REGION AND ITS PEOPLE REMAINS MARGINALIZED IN THE STUDY OF MODERN PALESTINE.”

My research is a social-legal history research that utilizes archival resources and oral interviews. I plan to collect archival material concerning the formation and discussions of the land policy in the Beersheba sub- district, primarily from the Israel State Archive and the Central Zionist Archive. I will also make use of personal papers and oral history accounts. At the

theoretical level, the research engages with the burgeoning scholarly literature seeking to bring together insights from history, law, and space to develop sharper theoretical devices for the study of historical legal geography.

Although the Beersheba sub- district comprised more than half the area of Palestine and its inhabitants comprised about 10 percent of Palestine’s inhabitants in 1948, the region remains marginalized in the study of Modern Palestine. Beersheba,

Gaza, and Hebron have not attracted sufficient attention in Palestine’s studies as well as cities such as al- Majdal, al- Faluja, or Khan- Yunis. These rare studies on the region have been predominantly ethnographic or with focus on the Zionist colonization. The Bedouin usually appear in the historical narratives as an exotic or savage other, associated with raids and attacks on settlements

and trade convoys. In foregrounding the legal encounter between the state and Bedouins, my research seeks to challenge a number of hegemonic research categories, including “Bedouin,” “savagery,” “tribalism,” “autonomy,” and “nomadism.” The research challenges the neat distinctions often drawn between imperial, colonial, and post-colonial political orders and the tendency to treat the legal history of modern Palestine as if each regime brought with it an entirely distinct legal system.

FELLOW PROFILES

SUSYNNE MCELDRONE



The 1858 Land Code and Rural Property Tenure in Late-Ottoman Hebron

Susynne McElrone recently graduated with her PhD from New York University. She can be reached at susynne@nyu.edu.

The implementation in Palestine of the package of property-tenure reforms inaugurated by the 1858 Land Code is not well understood. Research on historical state and individual land tenure in Palestine has focused mainly on Mandate-era sources and the post-Ottoman interpretation of Ottoman laws. Despite the absence of empirical evidence, it has long been widely asserted that fallahin naively evaded individual land registration and titling en masse in the late-nineteenth century, fearing additional taxation and conscription. This is seen as a main factor leading to rural landlessness and the development of a real estate market that facilitated Zionists' land acquisition, as wealthy merchants and notables registered and then sold villagers' lands.

My doctoral dissertation demonstrated the untenable simplicity of this long-dominant narrative and began to construct its revision. First, a rural properties survey conducted village-by-village in the Hebron district in 1876-77 evidences an orderly process of property registration with broad cooperation from villages and villagers. This survey recorded close to half a million dunams of villagers' individual and communal agricultural properties and assessed their values in order to calculate a new, value-based property tax. This 0.004 percent tax quickly became one of the largest sources of government revenue in both

the Jerusalem district and the empire. Property-tax payments were legally unquestionable proof of ownership, and property transactions through official channels were legally forbidden if property-tax payments were in arrears. Up-to-date tax records and payments clearly were important to both the administration and landowners.

Secondly, my research in Hebron's shari'a-court records has demonstrated that at least through the end of the nineteenth century the shari'a court continued to hear cases related to land matters. It also worked in conjunction with the tapu office, continuing its traditional role as a forum for land transactions alongside the new, specialized institutions of the reform era. These findings raise the question of the relative importance

of the tapu title-deed on a practical level in Ottoman society, a question I will address in my postdoctoral research.

During my fellowship tenure, I will research available Ottoman land records for other regions of historical Palestine and the work of şemsiye commissions which sought out and recommended for auction

under-utilized agricultural lands in northern Palestine, northern Jordan and southern Syria in the 1860s-70s. I will also conduct research and fieldwork in Hebron's villages. My approach is social-historical. This project is important because Ottoman land laws formed the basis of land law under the Mandate and in Israel today, according to the principle of status quo, yet our dominant understanding of these laws has been based on legal formalism. This project is a study of law-in-practice and will re-script the narrative that Palestinians were averse to modernizing land-tenure reforms with an empirical investigation that shows how and why villagers and villages accommodated and adopted them.

"THE END GOALS ARE NOT ONLY TO QUANTIFY PATTERNS OF LAND TENURE IN THIS TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, BUT ALSO TO EXPLAIN HOW PALESTINIANS ASSERTED THEIR HISTORICAL RELATION TO THE LAND, HOW THEY ADAPTED MODERNIZING REFORMS IN THE LATE-OTTOMAN PERIOD, AND HOW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REFORMS WAS ACTUALLY CARRIED OUT IN PALESTINE."

FELLOW PROFILES



BASIM AYESH

Evaluation of Interleukin 28-B Polymorphism in Chronic HCV Patients and Its Potential Association with Treatment Outcome in Gaza Strip-Palestine

Basim Ayesah is an Associate Professor at Al-Aqsa University. He can be reached at bm.ayesh@alaqsa.edu.ps.

My study will evaluate 3 interleukin 28-B polymorphisms (rs12979860 C>T, rs8099917 T>G, and rs12980275 A>G) in chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) patients in the Gaza Strip, and aims to investigate their potential association with the treatment outcome. In particular, the study focuses on two important questions: To what degree are the relevant IL28B SNPs common among the Palestinian HCV chronically infected patients? And how may these polymorphisms affect the treatment outcome of chronically infected HCV patients?

To begin my study, I will first collect blood samples from well-characterized chronic HCV-infected patients who are being managed with a combination of Pegylated IFN- α (Peg- INF- α) and Ribavirin (RBV). Viral RNA will be then be extracted and used to confirm the infection and determine the virus genotype. Genomic DNA will be purified and used to determine the presence of the 3 SNPs. Finally, data will be collected from the patients' records and analyzed in conjunction with the

experimental results.

Management of HCV infections with Peg- INF- α /RBV depends on a number of viral related and host related variables. The strongest host-related predictor for achieving a Sustained Viral Response is single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the interleukin 28B gene (IL28B). In a country with minimal resources

such as Palestine, effective hepatitis C infection management will only be possible if a priority list of infected patients is constructed. The results of the study will provide decision makers with a vital tool for prioritizing patients for treatment and saving costs accordingly.

Such an approach is highly recommended by the latest international guidelines for management of HCV.

"THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY WILL PROVIDE DECISION MAKERS WITH A VITAL TOOL FOR PRIORITIZING PATIENTS FOR TREATMENT AND SAVING COSTS ACCORDINGLY."

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RANIA YOUSEF ABU SEIR

EBV Infection and the Risk of Hodgkin Lymphoma among Palestinians

Rania Yousef Abu Seir is an Assistant Professor at Al-Quds University. She can be reached at abuseir.rania@gmail.com.

Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) is a common hematological malignancy among children and young adults, yet this disease has never been assessed among Palestinians. Worldwide research efforts have reported several environmental and genetic risk factors of HL. One candidate putative virus is Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV), which contributes to 40 to 50 percent of HL cases worldwide. The prevalence of EBV+HL is higher in developing countries.

EBV viral proteins and genomic load in HL tumor samples indicate EBV's pathological contribution to HL. Thus, this study aims to mount a platform to examine HL in Palestine including the disease characteristics, and demographic, clinical, and pathological aspects. In addition, the study will explore different risk factors of the disease including medical history, familial history, exposures through life style and daily habits, and the history of several infectious agents. Furthermore, the study will examine the association between HL and EBV infection as an environmental exposure and a prominent risk factor for HL.

"THE STUDY HOPES TO IDENTIFY AND SUBSEQUENTLY TREAT HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS, THEREBY IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF PALESTINIANS."

With these aims in mind, I plan a case-control study of HL among Palestinians. The study has two parts:

Part A: An epidemiological study in which 80 HL patients will complete a questionnaire focusing on childhood and lifetime infections, medical and family history, occupational history, and other exposures.

Part B: A molecular assessment of the EBV Latent Membrane Protein-1 (LMP-1) levels in paraffin-embedded tumor samples of HL patients using immuno-histochemistry.

In Palestine, Hodgkin Lymphoma (HL) ranks as the fifth most common type of cancer and is most prevalent in children and young adults. HL is associated with a favorable prognosis

following treatment with chemo or chemo-radiotherapy. The disease and its treatment however, are associated with significant short and long-term effects as well as a

substantial risk of secondary malignancies. By establishing a platform to study HL in Palestine and identifying risk factors for HL, in particular Epstein-Barr Virus infection, the study hopes to identify and subsequently treat high-risk individuals, thereby improving the health of Palestinians. My research aims to be the first study to explore HL in the Palestinian population, highlight the frequencies of various histologic subtypes of HL in this population, determine disease characteristics, and investigate different environmental and epidemiologic risk factors in Palestine.

FELLOW PROFILES



LENA ELMUTI

The Industrial Nakba: A Public Health Study of Industrial Dumping in Palestinian Cities

Lena Elmuti is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine and Center for Global Health. She is currently a resident at the University of Chicago and can be reached at lenaelmuti26@gmail.com.

Toxic dumping by Israeli industrial zones into Palestinian waterways has been a detrimental public health concern. As a result of adverse health effects in Israeli cities, seven industrial zones have been relocated to Palestinian cities throughout the West Bank. This study focuses on two Palestinian cities, Salfit and Tulkarm, which house the Israeli Barkan Industrial Zone and Geshuri Industries, respectively. Organizations like Friends of the Earth Middle East have documented unregulated dumping of agrochemical pesticides, batteries, gasoline byproducts, and heavy metals into drinking and groundwater of various West Bank cities. However, there are few previous studies with qualitative or quantitative evidence of these toxins. This study focuses on a crucial public health concern: to determine which pollutants exist in groundwater in these regions and their impact on human health.

Preliminary data was obtained in 2014 to de-

termine existing contaminants in industrial runoff and if they were also present in groundwater. Methods used included attaining two samples from groundwater and industrial runoff from both cities. The samples were collected in one-liter mason jars, covered with aluminum foil and placed on ice to prevent contamination and chemical degradation. Samples were analyzed for organic pollutants using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) at the Environmental Health and Toxicology Unit at Birzeit University. Several of the chemicals found in the water samples in the preliminary data are considered neurotoxins, teratogens, endocrine disruptors, and even carcinogens.

"AS A RESULT OF ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS IN ISRAELI CITIES, SEVEN INDUSTRIAL ZONES HAVE BEEN RELOCATED TO PALESTINIAN CITIES THROUGHOUT THE WEST BANK. THIS STUDY FOCUSES ON TWO PALESTINIAN CITIES, SALFIT AND TULKARM, WHICH HOUSE THE ISRAELI BARKAN INDUSTRIAL ZONE AND GESHURI INDUSTRIES, RESPECTIVELY."

Future methods will include reanalyzing the same locations, but on a larger scale. Ten samples from each source will be collected and analyzed to attain a larger data set and allow for more consistent results, confirming the chemicals most frequently present in the groundwater and industrial runoff. To determine the extent of damage a toxin will have on human health, quantification is crucial. The level of each toxin will be compared to its respective minimal risk level, which is an estimate defined by the Agency for Toxic

Substances and Disease Registry and determines a specific "safe" level of daily exposure one can have to a particular toxin. Since there are few studies documenting toxic contamination of water near industrial complexes, this study will raise awareness on an important environmental and public health concern. The results of this research project may also be used to advocate for families and workers affected by these industrial complexes.

FELLOW PROFILES



MARWAN GHANEM

Gender Empowerment and Treated Wastewater Reuse in Ein Qinia Village, Ramallah - Palestine

Marwan Ghanem is an Assistant Professor at Birzeit University. He can be reached at mghanem@birzeit.edu.

Wastewater reuse is increasingly important in Palestinian urban and pre-urban areas where wastewater can serve as a new source of water in otherwise water-poor areas. In order to maintain a sustainable wastewater reuse program, it is essential that Palestinian women's roles are clearly identified, recognized, and supported as beneficiaries and users of treated wastewater. The objectives of the study will be to improve the empowerment of Palestinian urban and pre-urban communities and individuals, particularly women, to make informed decisions about the reuse of the treated wastewater. The investigation will focus on the effect of women's training on their reuse of treated wastewater.

An increased awareness of wastewater reuse, even for communities that have water networks, is a strategic need for the Palestinian public. This research will be conducted in the Ramallah Al-Tireh quarter and Ein Qinya village in the western part of Ramallah. The farmers of Ein Qinya, especially women, have

been using local, village spring water for their agricultural activities. More recently, some of them are using the treated wastewater, which is flowing from Al-Tireh wastewater plant in the wadi of the spring along five kilometres of the flow path.

My methodology will include a review of the national and international literature regarding women's empowerment within the Palestinian areas. A questionnaire will be designed to assess socio-economic and environmental impact on the reuse of treated wastewater in the study area, and the data will be analysed using SPSS software. Spring and treated wastewater sampling will be carried out for hydro-chemical analysis and then

"AN INCREASED AWARENESS OF WASTEWATER REUSE IN URBAN AREAS, EVEN FOR COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE WATER NETWORKS, IS A STRATEGIC NEED FOR THE PALESTINIAN PUBLIC."

plotted on a map using GIS. Training will be conducted for women on the reuse of wastewater for agricultural activities. Women's pre- and post-training acceptance of reusing treated wastewater will be analyzed to ascertain the effectiveness of the training program.

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WAHIBA ABU RAS & MAHASIN SALEH

Wahiba Abu-Ras is an Associate Professor at Adelphi University. She can be reached at abu-ras@adelphi.edu.

Mahasin Saleh is an Associate Professor at University of North Texas. She can be reached at Mahasin.saleh@unt.edu.

Parents of children with mental, psychological, physical, and or intellectual disabilities are at high risk for various family life problems, emotional and psychological distress, and experiencing difficulties in everyday life. The topic of children with disabilities and the impact on their parents' psychological well-being has been well researched with majority populations in the United States. Few psychiatric epidemiological studies, however, have addressed psychological distress among Arab parents with children with disabilities in Arab countries and very few, if any, studies about Palestinian parents with children with disabilities have been undertaken. Our study represents an attempt to fill this large gap.

The concern for the mental health of parents of children with disabilities is consistent with the goals of social work research to generate knowledge and provide better services to minority and other underserved populations.

Challenges and Determination:

The Case of Palestinian Parents of Children with Disabilities

Identifying and addressing the mental health needs, support, and coping strategies, as well as resiliency and growth of Palestinian parents, will improve the quality of care they and their children receive, build resiliency, and strengthen their problem-focused coping strategies. Because their own psychological distress will impact their children with disabilities and may lead to an increased risk of violence, by attending to the entire family's mental health, our study can increase each family member's health and effectiveness while reducing this potential for violence.

The study findings will inform social workers, mental health professionals, and policymakers about the types of stress these particular parents face, ethnic/race-based discrimination, coping strategies, stigma, and barriers to care. These findings will lay the groundwork for social and clinical intervention trials that will help mental health providers develop more effective services for parents with children with disabilities. Helpful and supportive parents and environments are crucial in helping children with disabilities learn new skills to further facilitate their inclusion.

"VERY FEW, IF ANY, STUDIES ABOUT PALESTINIAN PARENTS WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN. OUR STUDY REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT TO FILL THIS LARGE GAP."

FELLOW PROFILES



SUHAD DAHER-NASHIF

***Femicide's Hidden Victims:
Examining the Lives of
Mothers, Sisters, and
Daughters of Murdered
Palestinian Women***

Suhad Daher-Nashif is a lecturer at Al-Qasimi College of Education. She can be reached at suhadh@hotmail.com.

My research documents and analyzes the lives of Palestinian women, mothers, sisters, and daughters before, through, and after femicide occurs in their families. The term femicide refers to the murder of women and girls by a family member or members by virtue of their gender. Femicide is a worldwide social practice that also exists within Palestinian society. Several research articles have attempted to analyze the socio-economic, legal, and political contexts of femicide, and suggested solutions within the society or the law. These scholars have also noted the participation of mothers or sisters in perpetuating the crime while statistics have shown that in many cases sisters or mothers of femicide victims are killed soon afterwards. This study is the first to delve deeply and holistically into the lives of the hidden voices of femicide, and aims to reveal the psychological, behavioral, social, and economic effects of femicide on women survivors' lives. My research will take a structural and comparative

approach, examining femicide in four Palestinian geo-political contexts: West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israel, and Jordan.

The main question that the research will answer is: How are the lives of women in the family of a murdered Palestinian woman re-constructed?

This study will employ both quantitative and qualitative research methods. The quantitative approach will include a questionnaire distributed to women's rights NGOs for their administration. In addition, the questionnaire will be distributed to women known to have experienced femicide in their immediate or extended families. The qualitative work will include open-ended interviews with surviving women, interviews with women's rights organization leaders, and women's rights activists and official policy makers. Archival work and textual analyses will also be conducted on relevant documents such as laws, fatwas, media reports, NGO reports, and official published statistics.

"THIS STUDY WILL BE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION AND A TOOL FOR ACTIVISTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE INVISIBLE VICTIMS OF FEMICIDE WHILE SPURRING CHANGES IN LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO WOMEN AND DOMESTIC

My study will provide activists and policy makers with position papers based on the point of view of these women. This study will be a valuable contribution and a tool for activists and human

rights organizations to take into consideration the invisible victims of femicide while spurring changes in legislation and regulations related to women and domestic violence.

FELLOW PROFILES



MOHAMMED AL ROZZI

Children's Work and Education in the Context of Second Intifada in Gaza Strip

Mohammed Al Rozzi is a doctoral student at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. He can be reached at mohammed.alrozzi@outlook.com.

The context of the second Intifada, characterized by mass impoverishment and unemployed, has pushed increasing numbers of children to dropout of schools and to join the labour market. The present available research on child labour in Gaza lacks the qualitative understanding of children's work as seen by children themselves. The intended research aims at understanding the multi-faceted aspects of the phenomenon driving child labour through an anthropological lens examining the day-to-day realities of working children. In particular, my research examines an inter-generational perspective of work and education, how ideals of children and childhood have evolved in the last three generations, and how these ideals have contributed to the current social construction of child labour. Moreover, my study attempts to understand the relational aspects of children's work, and how their work contributes to their everyday negotiation of social order and space.

To answer the research questions, I use a variety of ethnographic methods including focus

groups, face-to-face interviews, participant observation, and diaries. This methodology will be applied in two areas in Gaza Strip including Alshati' camp and Beitlahia, to ensure the diversity of case studies collected and to reflect the wider reality of children ages 10 to 18 across Gaza.

The importance of the research lies in its potential to reveal many aspects of children's lives in the Palestinian context. Besides its main focus (i.e. work of the children), the research seeks to explore one of the many root causes of child labour including the state of the education system in the Palestinian territories. More specifically this work examines how the education system's failure in supporting at-risk youth facilitated an increasing number of school dropouts into the child labour workforce. My research critically surveys the transformation of the motives of

"MORE SPECIFICALLY THIS WORK EXAMINES HOW THE EDUCATION SYSTEM'S FAILURE IN SUPPORTING AT-RISK YOUTH FACILITATED AN INCREASING NUMBER OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS INTO THE CHILD LABOUR WORKFORCE."

the education system and subsequent consequences of its failure resulting in mass unemployment. The planned research responds

to an urgent need to inform public policy decision makers with a comprehensive understanding of the pushes and pulls of Palestinian children driven to the child labour market.

FELLOW PROFILES



DUAA ABUAMSHA

Historical Linguistic Change in the Verbal Inflection System of Palestinian Arabic: Jaffa and Gaza Dialects In Contact

Dua AbuAmsha is a doctoral student at Calgary University. She can be reached at noorduuaa2010@hotmail.com.

My research aims to explore the effects of the Palestinian- Israeli political conflict on language age change in Palestinian Arabic (PA). More specifically, I am studying contact-induced historical changes in the verbal inflectional system, mainly changes in tense/aspect markers on the PA verb, which the Jaffan urban dialect has undergone because of contact with Gazan urban dialect. Jaffan dialect is a dialect originally spoken in the city of Jaffa and introduced to Gaza by Palestinian refugees who arrived in Gaza following the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Dialect contact refers to the long-term linguistic consequences that result when speakers of different languages or dialects come into contact through migration and mobility. My study aims to establish where Palestinian refugees' spoken dialects stand today after 68 years of displacement, and the linguistic consequences this mobility has had on their dialects. My hypothesis is that older speakers of the Jaffan dialect, who are refugees in Gaza, maintain their original dialect, as they have strong social network ties and positive attitudes towards their identity and original dialect community. However, speech of young refugee speakers of the Jaf-

"THE RESULTS OF THE PROPOSED STUDY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LINGUISTIC THEORY OF LANGUAGE CHANGE IN AREAS OF POLITICAL CONFLICT"

fan dialect will be undergoing changes due to contact with Gazan speakers.

Methodology & Data Collection: To investigate verbal system changes in the Jaffan dialect, I have examined and compared samples of the natural speech of the Gazan and Jaffan dialects. I collected data by interviewing both Gazan and

Jaffan male and female speakers from four different age groups who live in Gaza. Also, male and female speakers who still live in Jaffa were interviewed, and they served as the control group against which the speech of the speakers living in Gaza is compared. To get speakers to speak using the different tenses of past, present, and future, participants were asked questions about their earlier lives, things they do now, and things they would like to do in the future. The participants' answers

were audio-recorded, and then transcribed and coded for analysis.

Significance: Most, if not all, of the research done on Gaza is focused on political and humanitarian issues; no research has been done on the linguistic consequences of

the Palestinian- Israeli conflict, and the Gaza context has not been investigated from a linguistic perspective. The results of the proposed study can contribute to a more comprehensive linguistic theory of language change in areas of political conflict and social mobility by providing a perspective on the processes and factors responsible for this language change. The findings of this study will fill a gap in the literature on Palestinian Arabic in light of the fact that reference grammar books are available for most of the spoken Arabic dialects, but not Palestinian Arabic.

FELLOW PROFILES



IBRAHIM MARAZKA

Heterotopias: Spaces for the Practice of Freedom. Philosophical Investigations into a Spatial Category

Ibrahim Marazka is a PhD candidate at Purdue University. He can be reached at imarazka@purdue.edu.

The purpose of my current research lies in investigating conceptually the relation between space, power and human agency, in order to develop an account of human freedom within a space dominated by surveillance and total administration. I approach this relation by critically examining Foucault's analysis of modern political rationality and technologies of power. In my dissertation, entitled "The Logical Status of Heterotopia", I investigate Foucault's concept of heterotopia, which I localize within the domain of his analysis of political rationality. Heterotopia is the name for a place defined within borders and circumscribed by a space under certain rules, norms and power relations. The place is finite and the experience of human bodies in it has a finite duration. Heterotopia is not an irrational intervention within the hegemonic political rationality; human subjects create through their interaction with this space other rules, norms and political rationality. Heterotopos, a compound word meaning "other place," enables human agency, because it allows the freedom to create other rationalities and to follow them.

My investigation is devoted to the question of how to conceptualize or to logically determine the suspension of—or the intervention into—the hegemonic political rationality and its power technology. Within this nexus of interests lies my field research in Jerusalem's urban space. The purpose of this research is to use the conceptual apparatus of heterotopia to depict specific urban spaces

in Jerusalem, and to analyze the efficacies of these spaces on the possibilities and freedoms of Palestinians. The study aims to develop a topology of these places and their analytical description as fields in which power relations, subjectivity, and the body intersect.

"THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESEARCH IS TO USE THE CONCEPTUAL APPARATUS OF HETEROTOPIA TO DEPICT SPECIFIC URBAN SPACES IN JERUSALEM, AND TO ANALYZE THE EFFICACIES OF THESE SPACES ON THE POSSIBILITIES AND FREEDOMS OF PALESTINIANS."

The urban space of Jerusalem has attracted a number of theoretically and empirically significant studies. Although my research is informed by studies utilizing Foucault's elaborations on power, it approaches the question with a different set of concepts. Rather than in terms of exception, e.g. Agamben's state of exception and spatial exception, I view the practices of occupation as part and parcel of the political rationality governing these practices. Furthermore, most of these studies are primarily interested in analyzing the exercise of power; others do not allow for Palestinian agency and resistance. For my purposes, this is insufficient, because resistance and the exercise of power are equally primordial. For these reasons, I posit at the center of my analysis heterotopia as a space in which agency and resistance can possibly materialize.

FELLOW PROFILES



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Much of the psychological theory and practice of mental health services in Palestine is adopted from the Western discourse of trauma, which tends to pathologize social suffering caused by colonial violence. We believe this approach is problematic and morally compromising, as it misrepresents Palestinians as passive victims of trauma, rather than recognizing them as resilient survivors, enduring and actively resisting colonization. The disease model of Western humanitarian psychiatry tends not to acknowledge the collective dimension underlying political suffering, but rather seeks to frame all suffering as “trauma” based on individual deficits and impairments. Moreover, such an approach directs actions towards medications and therapies, and obscures the fundamental problem of injustice.

The objectives of this research project are two-fold: First, it aims to provide a critical analysis of the literature on the psychological

Reconceptualizing Resilience from a Palestinian Perspective: A Preliminary Investigation

“THE STUDY HAS TREMENDOUS THEORETICAL, PRACTICAL, AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH FIELD IN PALESTINE.”

concepts of trauma, resilience and sumud, and explore the emerging body of research on trauma and resilience conducted in Palestine. Second, the study seeks to identify coping strategies among Palestinians, elucidate the mechanisms underlying Palestinians’ native capacity for resilience and sumud—the capacity to resist, and how Palestinians endure the toxic effects of colonial violence.

To answer these questions, we will conduct focused interviews with two groups of Palestinians who face various modes of colonial repression in the occupied West Bank. We will supplement group interviews with semi-structured, in-depth individual interviews with members of both groups. The first group will be comprised of villagers in Nabi Saleh, who, for the past nine years, have been continuously subjected to violent repression by the Israeli colonial army and have been actively resisting colonial occupation of their land. The second group will be comprised of former Palestinian political prisoners who were tortured in Israeli colonial prisons.

The study has tremendous theoretical, practical, and political implications for the mental health field in Palestine. Notably, the study would contribute to the development of positive strength-based interventions that cultivate community resilience and fortify communities from within through harm reduction (prevention). Furthermore, the project seeks to make a significant contribution toward the establishment of a local knowledge base in psychological health that is indigenous to Palestinian society and operates in accordance with its aspirations for liberation.