

### From the U.S. Director's Desk | BY DENIS J. SULLIVAN

It is a great pleasure to welcome Mira Rizek as our new director of PARC's Palestine office. I look forward to working closely with Mira as we expand PARC's operations as well as our programs—in Palestine and in the US. Mira and I first met in 2000, when I evaluated the World Bank's NGO Project, in which Mira had a leadership position. This is how I first came to know of her talents, her vision for development in Palestine, and her commitment to research for both practical and theoretical purposes.

Mira received her B.A. in business and economics from Birzeit University. She pursued graduate studies in business administration in 1981-82 at Northeastern University in Boston and then received her master's degree in development studies, with emphasis on economic development and poverty alleviation strategies from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands in 2002.

I asked Mira to teach with me in Spain in 2002 and 2003 in the Institute for Good Governance, Public Policy, and Civil Society. Mira's teaching and her training approach were just what was

needed for our participants, who came to us from Palestine, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan, and beyond.

Before joining PARC in August, Mira was the deputy director/director of operations with the World Bank NGO Trust Fund Project managed by the Welfare Association Consortium, 1997-2004.

Mira's scholarship includes: *The Challenge For Partnership Between the World Bank and the NGO Sector in Palestine: the Case of the PNGO Project*. (Unpublished thesis for the master's degree); and *An Overview of the Credit Organizations in Jordan: A Gender Perspective*. A study sponsored by OXFAM.

It is a great pleasure to be working once again with Mira.



*Mira Rizek and  
Denis Sullivan*

## A Special Thanks

PARC is grateful to Penny Johnson, a highly respected scholar and administrator, for her dedication and productivity as Palestine director during the last three years. Although these were years marked by the worst conditions for research and life in Palestine in recent times, her accomplishments were many. Here it is fitting to mention just a few.

Penny's most outstanding contribution is her success, with much effort and toil, in publicizing the PARC grants. These efforts resulted in PARC attracting more than sixty pre-proposals each year for three years, with almost one-third of them coming from Gaza. Penny helped promising candidates develop strong proposals, even to the point of having some of them translated into English.

Penny also organized and coordinated a Palestine Advisory Committee, chaired by the distinguished Ibrahim Dakkak, that brought together some of the finest academics, practitioners, and intellectuals in the West Bank and Gaza. These advisors have offered substantial support in selecting a fourth of the developed proposals for consideration by the grants committee in the United States.

In addition, Penny and Hiba Hussein, a lawyer and an Advisory Committee member, registered PARC with the Ministry of Interior of the Palestinian Authority. She also coordinated the Jerusalem Archive Workshop to study the conditions, priorities, and goals for the Ottoman *Shari'a* archives, pilgrim diary and church records archives, family archives, and the UNRWA (United Nations Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) archives.

Penny resigned in the summer of 2005 to devote more time to the Institute of Women's Studies and her own research projects. PARC is fortunate to have had her lead its efforts in Palestine and appreciates the many contributions she made.

Bravo, Penny, and *Alf Shukran*, Philip Mattar, President, PARC

## Welcome Back Michael Suleiman

It is a great honor to have Michael W. Suleiman, University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Political Science at Kansas State University as an elected member of the Board of Directors once again. He was elected to the PARC board once before and graciously agreed to limit his tenure to one year (2002-2003) as part of staggering terms of office. All of us at PARC look forward to working again with Michael as well as to his counsel and positive contributions in the coming months.

After earning his B.A. from Bradley University, Michael Suleiman took his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin and then joined the faculty at Kansas State University about four decades ago. In addition to being recognized as University Distinguished Professor at KSU, he served as chair of the department for several years and has also had visiting research appointments at the Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton and the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies. A scholar widely recognized for his studies of Arabs in America, Michael Suleiman specializes in comparative and Middle East politics and has won a number of important awards to further his research from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Fulbright Association, the Smithsonian Institution, the American Institute of Maghribi Studies, the American Research Center in Egypt, and the Ford Foundation.

In addition, he has long been active in Arab American outreach activities and is widely known as well as respected for his 1999 *Arabs in America: Building a New Future* and 1995 *US Policy on Palestine from Wilson to Clinton*.

Welcome back, Michael! We are all delighted to have you with us on the board once again.

—Charles Butterworth

## Najwa Al-Qattan Joins PARC Board

Najwa al-Qattan, associate professor of history at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles joined the PARC board of directors earlier this year. Al-Qattan has an abiding interest in Palestinian issues on which she has frequently spoken in and outside the academic community. She brings to the board knowledge of the cultural and political scene in Palestine. Her work on Jewish and Christian communities in Greater Syria during the Ottoman period has familiarized her with literature in the fields of Israeli and Palestinian studies. She has published on minorities in the Ottoman Empire and on memories and history of the Great War in Lebanon. Her dissertation, *"Dhimmi in the Muslim Court: Documenting Justice in Ottoman Damascus, 1775-1860"* has won the Malcolm Kerr Dissertation Award granted by the Middle East Studies Association.

Al-Qattan is currently associate editor for pre-modern history for the MESA Bulletin.

## Special Thanks to Joe Desiderio

Joe showed up in my Middle East International Relations class at Villanova one fall, admitting that he had joined it because he worked to support his studies and my class fell conveniently during his lunch hour. Luckily for all of us, he became hooked on the Middle East, studied Arabic, and headed off to Egypt on a post-B.A. Fulbright. Egypt hooked him and he remained in Cairo to work for AMIDEAST, teaching English and immersing himself in Egyptian society.

When Joe returned to Philadelphia, I quickly convinced him to work with me on PARC. He rapidly mastered the database and the systems for managing the research awards

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## Palestinian American Research Center Newsletter Spring 2005

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## Around (the) PARC

**Ann Lesch** continues to be Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at the American University in Cairo. She co-edited with Ian S. Lustick, *Exile and Return: Predicaments of Palestinians and Jews*, published by University of Pennsylvania Press in 2005. It is a collection of 15 essays that reexamine the concept of return in the context of a reconceptualization of exile, rights and return, based on multiple Jewish/Zionist and Palestinian discourses. Contributors include former PARC U.S. director Michael Fischbach, grantees Laleh Khalili and Amal Jamal, and a member of the Palestinian advisory committee, Nadim Rouhana.

Special thanks also go to **Kimberly Jones**, who has been helping the new U.S. director, Denis Sullivan as he gets up to speed in his new role. Jones has been the primary contact for the grantees during these few transition months.

### Alumni/ae News:

**Frank Affitto** will be contributing a chapter on the gunfire deaths of Palestinian children in the Intifada in a forthcoming book by an Illinois anthropologist on firearms.

**Yousef Daoud's** article, *Gender gap in returns to schooling in Palestine*, was published in the *Economics of Education Review* (vol. 24, no. 6, Dec. 2005).

Note Our New (Web) Address:  
[www.parc-us.org](http://www.parc-us.org) &  
[www.parc-palestine.org](http://www.parc-palestine.org)

## DR. ADNAN AL-HINDI | The Prevalence and Diagnosis of *Cryptosporidium Parvum* among Children in Gaza City

Diarrheal diseases in children often go undiagnosed and, depending on the health of the child, can vary in severity from mild to life threatening. Among the causes of diarrheal disease is *Cryptosporidium parvum*, a spore-forming protozoa that can infect the gastrointestinal tract of livestock and humans. Dr. Adnan Al-Hindi is working on a study of the prevalence and diagnosis of *Cryptosporidium parvum* among children in Gaza to help health care authorities implement changes in existing conditions.

According to Dr. Al-Hindi, the *Cryptosporidium parvum* parasite is the third leading cause of diarrheal disease worldwide in children and adults. The disease occurs in people of all ages but is more prevalent among children. Clinical signs include self-limiting diarrhea to severe life-threatening disease in immunocompromised individuals, such as those with AIDS.

The disease is spread through the fecal-oral route and can be contracted from contact with infected farm animals or people. Among those at high risk for the disease are veterinary students handling ill animals and children visiting farms and petting zoos. Dr. Al-Hindi points out that 50 percent of dairy cows shed *Cryptosporidium* oocysts, and that the parasite is present on more than 90 percent of U.S. dairy farms.

"Contaminated water is known to be a significant source of infection," says Dr. Al-Hindi, pointing to the more than 400,000 illnesses and over 100 deaths from Cryptosporidiosis in Milwaukee in 1993. Food and drink can also be contaminated.

Yet, despite the impact of the disease and the conditions in which it thrives, Dr. Al-Hindi asserts that "data on the prevalence of this parasite in Gaza or the Palestinian Territory is scarce due to the absence of

necessary techniques for the demonstration of the parasite in clinical and environmental samples." The only data available, he adds, comes from a 1990 survey of children admitted with gastroenteritis at Al-Nasser Hospital for Pediatrics, Gaza. This survey found that 19 percent were excreting the *Cryptosporidium* parasite.

Dr. Al-Hindi notes that no techniques are currently available in the region to test for the parasite in clinical and environmental samples. His study will utilize different diagnostic techniques to determine the prevalence of the disease in children and in cattle in order to recommend a simple diagnostic method.

For his research, Dr. Al-Hindi will study children ages 3 to 16 years admitted to Al-Nasser Hospital and cows from Gaza farms, collecting and analyzing 200 stool samples. Each sample will be direct smear tested, using Sheather's flotation techniques, and analyzed by microscope. In addition to clinical research, he will utilize questionnaires and statistical software for data gathering and analysis.

Dr. Al-Hindi believes that his work will lead to a greater understanding of the prevalence of *Cryptosporidium parvum* infections in Gaza. He intends to present his study's findings to public health authorities for potential use in correcting the existing conditions that lead to the spread of the parasite.

Dr. Al-Hindi received his Ph.D. in medical parasitology from the Ain Shamas University in Cairo, Egypt in 2004. He is currently an assistant professor of biology and lecturer in parasitology at the Islamic University of Gaza and an active member of the Palestinian Public Health Association, Gaza Branch, and the British Society for Parasitology.

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## KIMBERLY KATZ, PH.D. | Preserving History, Preserving Family through the Diary of Sami 'Amr



Dr. Kimberly Katz will analyze and bring to publication a rare diary written by a young Palestinian man, Sami 'Amr, who worked for the British Mandate government in Palestine during the World War II years. Scholarly work exists on the British Mandate period in Palestine that contributes to our understanding of the extent of British rule in Palestine over both the Arab and Jewish communities, Palestinian women, nationalism, and religious matters, as well as of Zionism, and British-Jewish relations in Palestine. While offering

insight into this unusual period in Palestine's history, these studies limit understanding of the non-elite segments of society.

Diaries, a literary form of individual remembering, allow readers a unique perspective on the life of an individual who may share personal stories and perspectives on a particular historical time period through their writing. Previously unseen, the diary of Sami 'Amr is significant, as it highlights a perspective rarely available to researchers and the general public on this particular historical period. According to Dr. Katz, "while diaries are often found among the elites of society, with the education level, resources and time available to put their thoughts to paper, working people, peasants, and other subalterns frequently leave us nothing from which to understand how they lived their lives and viewed the world around them."

The 'Amr family originally hails from the Hebron area, with many family members living in the nearby villages of Dura, Halhul and Bani Na'im. The current head of the family with whom Katz met, Samir, has kept the World War II era diary of his father, Sami 'Amr. The diary reveals, in unparalleled frankness, the life of a young man from Hebron who, at age 17, found work in Jerusalem with the British government and thus moved to the city to be closer to his job, leaving his family behind.

Sami's diary reflects both urban and village life. The reader learns of the young man's experiences in Jerusalem, at the same time as he speaks of his brother, Asad, who was sent by the government to teach in some of the villages near Hebron, including those in which the 'Amr extended family members lived. The question of "home" was clearly important to him, as in one diary entry when he writes of "the great difference between home life and work life." The

diary is rich in family history, as Sami puts his thoughts

and feelings on paper about the family relations he maintained and the relationships he observed between others.

Sami writes as eloquently and carefully about his emotions as he does about the ways in which the war shaped life in Palestine during the Mandate period, says Dr. Katz. In a meeting with Samir, Sami's son, during the summer of 2004, Dr. Katz inquired about the family's position on publishing the diary. All members agreed it would be a dramatic gesture of honor toward their father. It would also be a way to bring to light aspects of Palestinian history during the period, through the diary of a young Palestinian man who lived through the period that culminated with the *Nakba* (Catastrophe) in Palestine and led to his family's expulsion from their homeland.

Before his death, Sami showed his son the diary and elaborated to him about what he had written, while also expressing his hope to update it before he died; he did not do so. Katz plans a thorough reading of the text, which she will annotate for publication, to clarify for both the English and Arabic reader terminology that may be specific to the chronological time and historical space of the British mandate. She will also conduct interviews with Palestinians of the same generation, who worked for the government and lived through this period of history, in order to further contextualize the diary. In addition, Dr. Katz will interview other members of Sami 'Amr's family in Hebron and Amman to understand better various entries on his family's relations.

Other personal memoirs and works have been published that add to our understanding of life during this era. "While a part of this exciting body of autobiographical work is coming to light and reaching publication, this memoir differs in that the author had no more than a seventh grade education," Dr. Katz reports. She says, Sami 'Amr "intersperses his narrative with poetry to illustrate his feelings." Considering his educational level, she notes, the writing is eloquent and filled with passion. Dr. Katz believes that the publication of the diary of Sami 'Amr will be an important contribution to the existing works.

Dr. Katz received her Ph.D. in history and Middle Eastern studies from New York University and currently serves as assistant professor of history at Towson University. She is author of the book, *Jordanian Jerusalem: Holy Places and National Spaces*, published in July 2005 by the University Press of Florida.

You can reach Kimberly Katz by e-mail at [KKatz@towson.edu](mailto:KKatz@towson.edu).



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## SYLVAIN PERDIGON | Is There a “Refugee Kinship”?

A doctoral student in anthropology at Johns Hopkins University, Sylvain Perdigon is conducting ethnographic research on kinship among Palestinian refugees in southern Lebanon. His work examines whether the uncertainty institutionalized by the refugee regime for Palestinians in Lebanon has led over the years to the emergence and fixation of “interim structures of kinship,” manifested in ideas, practices and affects through which life is apprehended in refugee camps.

The Lebanese state, Perdigon remarks, has interpreted international refugee law as authorizing measures designed to treat Palestinians as temporary residents of the country. A series of laws or decrees severely restrict or bar their access to housing, labor markets, healthcare and education, while limiting their rights of ownership and inheritance. Such an environment of “continued impermanence,” Perdigon argues, bears upon the refugee’s ability to form and maintain significant relationships of cooperation and care: “securing relations with relatives has become both more essential and more difficult to achieve.”

Perdigon’s exploration centers on three questions:

1. What is the actual role of kinship in arrangements of social support and economic patterns of coping with the uncertainty of the refugee environment?
2. How do refugees view the inscription of kinship ties in time, and how do they comprehend what governs the permanency, vulnerability or finitude of their relations?
3. How are normative expectations regarding family roles and relationships reevaluated in the face of prolonged refugee experience, and what are the processes through which family norms come to be embodied, desired or devalued?

In order to address these three concerns, Perdigon will conduct fieldwork in Sour in southern Lebanon. He chose this location for the variety of refugee social environments it exemplifies in a small area, and for the significant number of Palestinian Bedouins—who have distinctive residence and family patterns—that reside there. During his fieldwork, Perdigon will conduct a survey of household configurations, perform in-depth interviews, and observe and participate in day-to-day activities where kinship is practiced and reflected upon.

Perdigon believes that past research on refugee families has been framed around a temporality of momentary crisis and inevitable transition toward a non-refugee status that, in the case of second- and third-generation Palestinian refugees, does not hold true: “My project will complicate this temporal frame by focusing on second- and third-generation refugees whose experience cannot be simply thought of either as the traumatic prolongation of a moment of disruption or as a matter-of-course transition towards a non-refugee status.” His work will provide a way to view multigenerational changes in Palestinian families within a broader context of current refugee studies and other recent studies focused on Arab families and gender issues. “I intend to complicate the picture of the refugee as solely embodying the horrors of political violence, forced displacement and cultural alienation, by being attentive to ordinary patterns of sociality that emerge over time in such environments of prolonged uncertainty and instability.”

Perdigon’s study will draw on and build upon recent studies on gender dynamics, families and support networks in various segments of the Palestinian society, including works by Peteet, Rosenfeld, Moors, Jean-Klein, Kanaaneh and Dorai. His research will contribute to these works through its emphasis on the refugees’ ideas on relatedness and the vulnerability of relationships, and on the unique state of permanent temporariness that characterizes their current experience.

A citizen of France, Perdigon received his *Diploma d’Etudes Approfondies* (equivalent M.A.) in anthropology from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and his *Diplome d’Etudes Approfondies* (equivalent M.A.) in Greek studies from the Ecole Normale Supérieure. He began his fieldwork interviews in Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon and Beirut in 2003.

You can reach Sylvain Perdigon by e-mail at [sylvain@jhu.edu](mailto:sylvain@jhu.edu).



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### SPECIAL THANKS TO JOE DESIDERIO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

program. He enjoyed communicating with PARC members, grantees, and board members, and he especially engaged in long conversations with Donna Geisler, who was ever-helpful to us in keeping things running smoothly. When I took off for Lebanon in the fall of 2003, Joe managed the office on his own. And then, during last year’s long transition between U.S. directors, he ensured that PARC’s operations,

research competition, and newsletter kept going without a hitch.

I’ll always be grateful to Joe for his good-humor under stress, his quietly efficient way of ensuring that we didn’t descend into chaos, and his friendship.

—Ann Lesch  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Topics of Interest at the MESA 2005 Conference

NOVEMBER 19-25 WARDMAN PARK MARRIOTT HOTEL WASHINGTON, DC

Please join us at this year's MESA conference. In addition to the following discussions and presentations, PARC will be sponsoring a panel discussion on Monday, November 21st at 5 pm. on **The Multiple Economies of Palestine: Survival or Development?**

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

#### Palestinian American Research Center

12 Noon - 3 pm Board Meeting: Thurgood Marshall Room

3:30 - 4:30 pm Business Meeting: Delaware B

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 8:30 a.m.

#### (NP40) Security and Violence in Palestine

Chair: **Abid A. Al-Marayati**, University of Toledo

**Nasser Abu-Farha**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

*The Making of a Human Bomb: State Expansion and Modes of Resistance in Palestine*

**Naomi Weinberger**, Fairleigh Dickinson University

*Security Sector Reform in Palestine*

**Maya Rosenfeld**, The Truman Research Inst., The Hebrew University

*From Emergency Relief Assistance to Welfare Services and Back: UNRWA and the Palestinian Refugees*

**Lori Allen**, Brown University

*Martyr Bodies: Aesthetics and the Politics of Suffering in the Palestinian Intifada*

**Rachael M. Rudolph**, West Virginia University

*Palestinian Identity, Culture and Martyrdom*

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 11:00 a.m.

#### (P063) Palestine and South Africa: A Fruitful or Futile Comparison?

\*\*\*Joint session of MESA and the African Studies Association\*\*\*

**Gershon Shafir**, University of California, San Diego

*Social Boundaries and Settler Privilege in South Africa and Israel/Palestine*

**Laetitia Bucaille**, Bordeaux 2 University

*Palestinian and South African Activists: The Meaning of the Struggle*

**Raif Zreik**, Harvard Law School

*Palestine, Apartheid and the Rights Discourse*

#### (P074) Transnational Paradoxes: The Production and Reproduction of Elite Power

Organized by **Najib B. Hourani**

Chair/Discussant: **Michael Gasper**, Yale University

**Joshua Schreier**, Vassar College

*Religion Reform and Revolution in Algeria: Indigenous Jews in 1848*

**Ozlem Altan**, New York University

*Apolitics of Power: Mapping Elite Capitals in Egypt, Lebanon, and Turkey*

**Munir Fakher Eldin**, New York University

*Undoing Empire: International Social Sciences and the Making of Colonial Palestine in the 1930s and 1940s*

**Najib B. Hourani**, Fordham University

*Landscape of Competition: Globalization and the Malling of Beir*

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 2:00 p.m.

#### (P047) Middle Eastern Refugees: Global and Local Perspectives (Double Session)

Organized by **Kimberly Katz** and **Rochelle Davis**

Chair: **Kimberly Katz**, Towson University

Discussant: **Rochelle Davis**, Stanford University

**Traci L. Lombré**, University of Chicago

*The 1991 Persian Gulf War and the Global Integration of Arab Migration*

**Zinaida Miller**, Harvard Law School

*Settling with History: Considering a Commission of Historical Inquiry for Israel/Palestine*

**Diana Allan**, Harvard University

*Strained Forms of Life: Political Practice among Palestinian Youth in Shateela Camp*

**David M. DeBartolo**, Georgetown University

*The Role of Institutions in Political Representation of the Palestinian Diaspora*

**Isabelle Humphries**, St. Mary's College, University of Surrey, UK

*Neither Here Nor There: Palestinian Internal Refugees Seek a Space in the Narrative*

**Brendan Furey**, UC Berkeley

*Artistic Representation among Afghan Refugees in Northern California*

#### (P066) Palestinian National Identity and Resistance in the 20th Century: Textual Approaches

Organized by **Maha Nassar** and **Mezna Qato**

**Rena Barakat**, University of Chicago

*Seeing the Trees through the Forest: Mass Politics and Thawrat al-Buraq in Palestine*

**Mezna Qato**, St. Antony's College, Oxford University

*National Erasers: Palestine and History in a Jordanian Classroom, c. 1950-1958*

**Maha Nassar**, University of Chicago

*On the Front Lines: The Arab "Discovery" of Palestinian Citizens of Israel, 1967-1970*

**Lynne Rogers**, University of Connecticut at Avery Point

*Palestinian History through the Contemporary Novel*

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 4:30 P.M.

#### (NP32) Palestine and Israel: Post-Partition Issues

Chair: **Miriam Joyce**, Purdue University (Calumet)

**Haggai Ram**, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

*Neither East Nor West; Neither Destruction Nor Redemption: Zionism and the Jews of Iran*

**Jeremy Forman**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*Military Rule, Political Manipulation, and Jewish Settlement: Israeli Mechanisms for Controlling Nazareth in the 1950s*



**Michael R. Fischbach**, Randolph-Macon College  
*Palestinian and Mizrahi Jewish Property Claims in Discourse and Diplomacy*

**Leanne Piggott**, The University of Sydney  
*An Ideal Betrayed: Australia, Britain and the Palestine Question, 1947-1949*

**(P047) Middle Eastern Refugees: Global and Local Perspectives (Double Session-continued)**

Organized by **Kimberly Katz** and **Rochelle Davis**

Chair: **Kimberly Katz**, Towson University

Discussant: **Rochelle Davis**, Stanford University

**Traci L. Lombré**, University of Chicago  
*The 1991 Persian Gulf War and the Global Integration of Arab Migration*

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**Isabelle Humphries**, St. Mary's College, University of Surrey, UK  
*Neither Here Nor There: Palestinian Internal Refugees Seek a Space in the Narrative*

**Brendan Furey**, UC Berkeley  
*Artistic Representation among Afghan Refugees in Northern California*

**(NP46) Economic Development, Property Rights, and Trade in the Middle East**

**Nadya Hajj**, Emory University  
*Against All Odds: Informal Property Rights and Economic Development in Refugee Camps*

**Sema Kalaycioglu**, Isik University  
*Is the Outcome Worth the Effort?: Free Trade Agreements and Turkey*

**Hania Maraqa**, MIT  
*The Role of the United Nations and the World Bank in the Economic Development Process in Palestinians Refugee Camps in Jordan*

**Nora Ann Colton**, Drew University  
*Can Trade Substitute for Factor Mobility or Does Factor Mobility Substitute for Trade: The Case of North Africa and Europe*

**Ali Burak Guven**, University of Toronto  
*International Integration, Social Compromises, and the Institutional Impasse in Turkey's Market Reforms*

**Megan Reif**, University of Michigan and **Lindsay Benstead**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
*The Politics of Consumption in the Islamic World: A Survey of Algerian Youth*

**(P014) Christian Missions and Palestine**

Organized by **Heather J. Sharkey**

Chair/Discussant: **Thomas M. Ricks**, University of Pennsylvania

**Nancy L. Stockdale**, University of Central Florida  
*"They Are Just Like Children": Palestinian Women through the British Missionary Lens, 1840-1914*

**Charlotte van der Leest**, Universiteit Leiden  
*Protestant Missionary Activities in Palestine (1846-1879): A Source of Rivalry between Protestants and Roman Catholics*

**Inger Marie Okkenhaug**, University of Bergen  
*"We Are Needed Among the Arabs": Signe Ekblad and the Swedish School in Jerusalem, 1922-1948*

**Heather J. Sharkey**, University of Pennsylvania  
*The American Mission in Egypt and the Palestinian Refugee Problem: A Study of Church Politics in the Middle East, 1948-2005*

**(P089) Mapping Arab Diasporas: Gender, Race, and Citizenship**

Organized under the auspices of the Center for Arab American Studies-University of Michigan, Dearborn

Chair/Discussant: **Laleh Khalili**, SOAS

**Hani Bawardi**, Wayne State University  
*National Consciousness: The Bedrock of Arab American Identity*

**Moulouk Berry**, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
*Muslim Lebanese American Women Negotiating Gender, Law, and Religion in Dearborn, Michigan*

**Randa Serhan**, Columbia University  
*Suspended Community: Second-Generation West Bank Palestinian Immigrants*

**Fadwa Al Labadi**, Al-Quds University  
*Memory in Diaspora, Remembering, Disremembering, and Healing*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21** 8:30 a.m.

**(NP37) Contested Space and Identities in Israel and Palestine**

**Rhoda Kanaaneh**, American University  
*Bargaining Soldiers: Palestinians in the Israeli Military*

**Nathan C. Funk**, Conrad Grebel University College, U of Waterloo  
*Renegotiating the Sacred: Religious Peacebuilding, Contested Sacred Space, and the Transformation of Symbolic Conflict*

**Stephen Gasteyer**, RCAP/American University  
*Landscapes of Conflict: Ideology and Historical Perceptions of Landscape Change in Southern West Bank, Palestine*

**Suheir Abu Oksa Daoud**, Georgetown University  
*Gender, Nationalism and Citizenship: The Case of Palestinian Women in Israel*

**(NP44) Defining American Interests in the Middle East**

**Patrick Conge**, University of Arkansas  
*Interests as Illusions: The Energy of Ideas in the Relationship of the United States with Saudi Arabia*

**Ahmad Soltani Nejad**, Tarbiat Modares University  
*The U.S. Role in the Arab-Israeli Peace Process and Its Implications for Iran*

**Annita Lazar**, Nanyang Technological University  
*American Neo-Liberal Internationalism and the Middle East*

**May Farah**, University of Colorado at Boulder  
*"Terror'tories": 9/11, Media Discourse, and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*

**Younus Mirza**, Georgetown University  
*Evaluating Al Qaeda's Frame of Collective Action: The Implications of Al Qaeda's Injustice Frame, Frame Transformation, and Counterframe on American Policy*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21** 11:00 a.m.

**(NP30) Peoples on the Margins**

Chair: **Mirna Lattouf**, Arizona State University

**Nicola Migliorino**, University of Exeter

*Minority Cultures and the State: The Experience of the Armenian Communities in Lebanon and Syria*

**Asher Kaufman**, University of Notre Dame

*Between Palestine and Lebanon: Seven Shi'i Villages as a Case Study of Border Dynamics and Identities in the Middle East*

**Marya T. Green-Mercado**, University of Chicago

*Demetrio, the "Greek Morisco": Religious Identity and the Ottoman-Habsburg Frontier in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*

**Will Hanley**, Princeton University

*Second-Rate Foreigners: Algerians and Maltese in Alexandria, 1880-1914*

**Aomar Boum**, University of Arizona

*Jews and Muslim Judges: Sources for the Socio-Economic Study of a Saharan Oasis Jewry*

**ROUNDTABLE**

**(RT003) Israeli Foreign Policy Since Arafat**

Organized by **Robert O. Freedman**

*Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies*

Chair: **Robert O. Freedman**, Baltimore Hebrew University

**Efraim Inbar**, Bar-Ilan University

*Israeli-Palestinian Relations Since Arafat*

**Eyal Zisser**, Tel Aviv University

*Israel and the Arab World Since Arafat*

**Robert O. Freedman**, Baltimore Hebrew University

*Israel and the United States Since Arafat*

**Raphael Danziger**, AIPAC

*AIPAC and Israel*

**THEMATIC CONVERSATION**

**(TC008) Bi-national or Federal Option in Palestine-Israel: Prospects and Feasibility**

Organized by **Christa Bruhn**

Moderator: **Christa Bruhn**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Nasser Abu-Farha**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21** 2:30 p.m.

**(P017) Martyrdom, Sacrifice and Collective Identities**

Organized by **Lucia Volk**

Discussant: **Gregory Starrett**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Chair: **Tamir Sorek**, Cornell University

**Tamir Sorek**, Cornell University

*Cautious Commemoration of a National Minority: Monuments for Palestinian Martyrs in Israel*

**Laleh Khalili**, SOAS

*Palestinian and Iranian Discourses of Martyrdom at the Interstices of the Local and the Global*

**Umut Azak**, Leiden University

*Turkish Secularism and Its Myths: Commemorations of the Martyr Kubilay Day*

**Lucia Volk**, San Francisco State University

*Foreign Martyrs for National Sacrifice: The Changing Images of Lebanon's Heroes*

**(P036) Police, Politics, and the State**

Organized by **Ilana Feldman**

Chair: **Ilana Feldman**, New York University

Discussant: **Lisa Hajjar**, University of California, Santa Barbara

**Samera Esmeir**, New York University

*Security and the Constitution of the General Juridical Order: The Case of Colonial Egypt (1882-1936)*

**Ilana Feldman**, New York University

*Observing the Everyday: Policing and Citizenship in Gaza (1948-67)*

**Shira Robinson**, University of Iowa

*Police, Paper Work, and Palestinian Citizenship in Early Israel*

**(P049) How Palestinians and Israelis Negotiate: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Oslo Peace Process**

Organized by **Tamara Cofman Wittes**

Chair/Discussant: **Scott Lasensky**, United States Institute of Peace

**William B. Quandt**, University of Virginia

*From Oslo to Camp David II*

**Omar M. Dajani**, University of the Pacific

*Surviving Opportunities: Palestinian Negotiating Patterns in Peace Talks with Israel*

**Aharon Klieman**, Tel Aviv University

*Israeli Negotiating Culture*

**Tamara Cofman Wittes**, The Brookings Institution

*Talking about a Resolution: Culture as an Intervening Variable in the Oslo Process*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21** 5:00 p.m.

**(P058) The Multiple Economies of Palestine: Survival or Development?**

Organized by **Sara Roy**

*Sponsored by the Palestinian American Research Center*

Chair: **Sara Roy**, Harvard University

**Jennifer Olmsted**, Drew University

*Examining the Palestinian (and Israeli) Economies within the Framework of Sanctions*

**Claude Bruderlein**, HPCR, Harvard School of Public Health

*Gaza 2010: A Prospective Assessment of Palestinians' Livelihood in the Gaza Strip*

**Leila Farsakh**, University of Massachusetts, Boston

*The Multiple Economies of Palestine: Survival or Development?*

**Denis J. Sullivan**, Northeastern University & PARC

*Prospects for Egypt-Palestine Free Trade and Economic Cooperation: A Policy Analysis*

**Nubar Hovsepian**, Chapman University

*Neoliberalism & Palestinian Economic Development Strategies (1993-2003)*

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22** 8:30 a.m.

**(P075) Palestinian and Israeli Narratives of Nonviolent Resistance**



Organized by **Kathy Kamphoefner**

**Maia Carter Hallward**, American University  
*Perspectives of "Peace": Words and Actions of Israeli and Palestinian Peace and Justice Groups*

**Gay Young**, American University  
*Feminist Peace Activism Challenging Israeli Society*

**Kathy Kamphoefner**, Quaker Service-Jerusalem (ASFC)  
*Narratives of Nonviolent Resistance from Palestinian Villages*

**Virginia Keller**, DePaul University  
*Reframing Images and Narratives of Palestinian Resistance*

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 11:00 a.m.**

**(NP31) Perspectives on Ottoman and Mandate Palestine**

**Andrea L. Stanton**, Columbia University  
*Mixing Media: Mandate Palestinian Newspapers and the Palestine Broadcasting Service, 1933-1949*

**Nicholas Roberts**, New York University  
*Working with Sites: The Use of Holy Places in Mandate Palestine*

**Maryanne Rhet**, Washington State University  
*The Threat of the Khilafat Movement: How Indian Nationalism Influenced the Creation of a Jewish National Home*

**Yuval Ben-Bassat**, University of Chicago  
*Local Feuds or Premonitions of a Bi-National Conflict?: A Re-examination of the Encounter between Jews and Arabs in Palestine during Early Zionist Colonization (1882-1903)*

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 1:30 P.M.**

**(NP15) Women in Between**

Chair: **Gamze Cavdar Yasar**, Michigan State University

**Sonia Gaha**, University of Paris X  
*Alma and Lila or the Face of the French "Racial Harmony"*

**Hebat-Allah El Attar**, Cleveland State University  
*Intertwined Identities: Women In/Between Latin America and the Arab World*

**Camelia Suleiman**, Independent Scholar  
*Peace Talking: Israeli and Palestinian Women Activists Talk*

**Edith Szanto**, Duke University  
*Fulla: An Arab Muslim Doll for Arab Muslim Girls*

**Keith Walters**, University of Texas at Austin  
*The Role of Education for Girls in the Spread of French in Colonial Tunisia*

**(NP38) Education in the Middle East and Central Asia**

Chair: **Gary Garrison**, Council for the International Exchange of Scholars

**Imad K. Harb**, United States Institute of Peace  
*Higher Education and Democracy in the Future Iraq*

**Marlene Laruelle**, French Institute of Central Asian Studies  
*The Politicization of Science: Ethnology in the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan*

**Betty Anderson**, Boston University  
*The Oral History Project of the American University of Beirut (AUB)*

**Eileen T. Lundy**, University of Jordan at Amman  
*American Studies in Arab Universities in the Middle East: A Growing Phenomenon*

**Edward Lundy**, University of Jordan at Amman  
*American Studies in Arab Universities in the Middle East: A Growing Phenomenon*

**Christa Bruhn**, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
*Palestinian Universities and the Persistence of Palestine*

**Mark Farha**, Harvard University  
*Stumbling Blocks to the Secularization of the Lebanese Personal Status Laws and Educational System 1920-2004*

**(P067) Rebuilding War-Torn Economies**

Organized by **Miriam R. Lowi**

Chair: **Miriam R. Lowi**, The College of New Jersey

**Samir Makdisi**, American University of Beirut  
*Rebuilding Devastated Economies: The Case of Lebanon*

**Miriam R. Lowi**, The College of New Jersey  
*War-Torn or Systematically Distorted?: Rebuilding the Algerian Economy*

**Karen Pfeifer**, Smith College/MERIP  
*Rebuilding Small Devastated Economies: Palestine in Comparative Perspective*

**Marvin G. Weinbaum**, Middle East Institute  
*Rebuilding a Small Devastated Economy: Afghanistan*

**Bassam Yousif**, Indiana State University  
*Shock Therapy in Iraq: Coalition Economics Policies*

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## PARC 2006-07 Research Fellowships

The Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) announces its 6<sup>th</sup> annual competition for post-doctoral and doctoral research fellowships in Palestinian studies for the academic year 2006-07.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must be post-doctoral scholars, established researchers, or full-time doctoral students enrolled in a recognized degree program.
- Doctoral students must have fulfilled all preliminary requirements for the doctorate degree except the dissertation by the time research commences.
- Senior researchers without doctorates but with a record of academic publication are also eligible. Students in master's programs are not eligible.
- Any area of Palestinian studies will be considered, including the humanities, social sciences, economics, law, health and science. The research must contribute to Palestinian studies.
- Individual and joint research projects are eligible.
- Women applicants are especially encouraged.

**The deadline for full proposals is 15 February 2006.** Fellowship awards range from \$4,500 - \$6,000, with up to \$1,000 for travel expenses.

For more information and to acquire full proposal package, visit us at [www.parc-usa.org](http://www.parc-usa.org) or [www.parc-palestine.org](http://www.parc-palestine.org) or contact:

**In Palestine:**

Mira D. Rizek, Director  
Tel./Fax (02) 2974240  
E-mail: [parcpal@palnet.com](mailto:parcpal@palnet.com)

**In the U.S.**

Denis Sullivan, Director  
Tel. (617) 373-5472  
E-mail: [parc@neu.edu](mailto:parc@neu.edu)

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## IRENE R. SIEGEL | Levantine Geographies of Power and Narration

Irene Siegel is performing dissertation research that “interrogates the ways that narrative shapes conceptions of space and identity as constituted through religious, gendered and trans/national affiliations.” In her research, Siegel will analyze selected texts and films, and conduct fieldwork that explores “the uneven distributions of power” reflected in these narratives, and “their concrete effects on the spaces they narrate.”

Using the intersection of literature and film with more personal narratives, Siegel points out that there is a constant shift between public and private spaces. “These zones are constantly intersecting and undoing each other, as the domestic sphere is rendered ‘public’ through the pressures of curfew, or the literal destruction of walls dividing the ‘inner’ from ‘outer’ sphere.” Her work in this manner is a combination of literary studies, ethnography and historiography that will expose the interpenetrating nature of the two zones.

In her field work, Siegel intends to revisit Nablus and Ramallah, where she was previously involved in community activism and human rights monitoring. “I want to examine narrations of place as they reflect the radically shifting political and physical landscape in relation to select examples of Palestinian cultural production which both correspond to this historical moment and predate (or preface) it.” Through her analysis she will demonstrate the overlap and codependence of the personal vis-à-vis the literary and demonstrate the “vastly unequal reception of these narrations, in terms of their [attributed] ‘fact-value.’” This interrogation finds inspiration from Edward Said’s essay “Permission to Narrate,” in which he analyzes the way that, in Siegel’s words, “one’s story gets to be told, or how it will find voice is a function of available vocabularies through which to enunciate it, and the differential values assigned to conflicting narrative positions.” Denied what Richard Poirier has identified as an “enabling vocabulary” that situates Palestinian narratives within the sphere of recognizable, “reasonable,” discourse, Siegel observes that Palestinian narrations

find themselves systematically “relegated to the sphere of the ‘unreasonable’” within the reigning political and social universe.

The link between the narrative and “the real” is that much more fraught in this context. As she elaborates, “In the context of Israel and the Palestinian Occupied Territories, many of the narratives that I recorded recounted traumatic abuses, and were often physically situated either in or near the space (or its ruins) in which these events took place.” In this way, “the narrative status of the ‘real’ takes on an added urgency.” Siegel suggests that these places, many of which were either previously or later destroyed, are the physical embodiments of the narrative shift. “These were spaces turned, often literally, inside out, as the walls that delineated interiors from exteriors were reduced to rubble.... On the other hand, collective siege, curfew, roadblocks, checkpoints and the notorious separation barrier invoke more sinister notions of space, such that the porousness of inside and outside are replaced by the hermetic delineations of enforced closure, stasis and immobility.”

Considered in the context of the literary landscape that limits the ability of Palestinians to narrate their identity, says Siegel, the “Palestinian narrative dilemma is starkly illustrated via the spatial contingencies of movement as a function of identity.” The limits placed on travel and the constant redrawing of political lines are the physical embodiments that mirror the discursive barriers to Palestinian narration and identity formation. In the case of the Palestinians, their lack of passports and the requirement of papers and permits further constrains their movements even within their own lands. “The contingent ‘permission to narrate’ a legible national identity is thus also reflected in the realm of regulatory documents that award or deny permission to move through space,” claims Siegel. “In this way, Palestinian identity is constituted through a simultaneously radical spatial instability, over determining constraint, and rooted continuity.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



“These were spaces turned, often literally, inside out, as the walls that delineated interiors from exteriors were reduced to rubble....”



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Donna Geisler and  
Joe Desiderio

### SPECIAL THANKS TO JOE DESIDERIO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

It is my great honor to give this special thanks to Joe Desiderio for all his hard work as assistant to PARC’s former U.S. director, Ann Lesch. Joe and I worked together for the past few years and even had the rare opportunity to meet when he and his sister visited Idaho not too long

ago. It had been a number of years since I had a personal visit with a fellow PARC-er, and the fact that he drove all the way here from Pennsylvania made it even more delightful.

Having had Joe’s job under PARC’s first U.S. director, I know firsthand how challenging his duties were—coordinating the fellowship grant process, keeping up with memberships, maintaining multiple mailing lists and an onerous database (I know, I wrote it), and working with a diverse board of directors scattered around the world. Joe did them all with style, grace and an enviable good-



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## LUAY ABDUL-HAFIZ SHABANEH | Palestinian Unemployment in the International Context

The objective of Luay Shabaneh's research is to "promote the measurement of Palestinian labor force indicators and upgrade the relevance of international comparisons based on the International Labor Organization (ILO) statistical labor force framework." Currently the President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Shabaneh will focus his study on the impact of developmental and organizational gaps caused by the unique Palestinian employment situation in which its people are separated from each other and from the surrounding countries. He will also provide empirical evidence of the misleading nature of the international comparisons that do not consider these special circumstances.

According to Shabaneh, the ILO set standards for categorizing individuals into labor market states (employed, unemployed, or out of the labor force) that have been largely accepted by the international community. What seems on its face relatively plain is, according to Shabaneh, actually very difficult to assess. The ILO-provided guidelines that attempt to define those unemployed are also difficult to implement. Specifically, while employed persons are relatively easily classified in most countries, the issue of classifying non-employed persons as either unemployed or out of the labor force... is not uncontroversial," Shabaneh asserts. For example, the ILO guidelines define someone as unemployed if that person is (a) not working, (b) currently available for work and (c) seeking work. Attempting to define someone under category (c) in the environment faced by most Palestinians living in the territories poses problems due to the unique situation of a state that suffers from structural as well as social closure.

Shabaneh asserts that the unemployment rate is "the most widely used indicator of the well-being of a labor market and an important measure of the state of an economy in general." It is for that reason that the ILO created guidelines with which to measure unemployment data that are internationally recognized. However, due to the nature of the Palestinian situation and the difficulty in classifying them, Shabaneh believes that determining the status of workers should take a back seat to their "flow" between the various states of employment. In particular, "the requirement of active job search may be more meaningful in industrialized countries where the bulk of the population engages in paid employment and there are clear channels of the exchange of labor market information. This may not be the case in developing countries where search

may be more costly and job search behavior is less meaningful, especially in large rural sectors," claims Shabaneh, noting the unique situation of those Palestinian workers who worked in Israel prior to various "closures."

Closure, here defined as the restrictions placed by Israeli military on the movement of Palestinians and labor across borders and with the West Bank and Gaza, has allowed some contact between the territories and Israel, but not necessarily between each other. This inability to freely move across borders has resulted in Palestinians who are unable to sustain employment in Israel and are limited in job opportunities. "Searching for a job is meaningless for Palestinian workers who used to work in Israel and are on temporary layoff due to closure," reports Shabaneh, who emphasizes that those affected "do not know when and how the closure will be lifted or if they will be able to resume their previous jobs." These workers also face a dramatic wage gap between positions in the territories and those in Israel, which creates additional dilemmas in attempting to classify and analyze the Palestinian labor market.

In his analysis, Shabaneh will focus on the changing states of the labor force to determine the flows between the states, which, he asserts, depend on a number of factors about the individuals, the environment and their labor history. His work will provide a better understanding of the dynamics of the Palestinian labor market, upgrade its relevance at the international level, and provide data for comparison against the ILO system that considers the special conditions of occupation and conflict that currently exist.

Shabaneh is a Ph.D. candidate in applied statistics at Lancaster University (UK). He received his B.S. in mathematics from the University of Baghdad and his M.S. in statistics from the University of Jordan. He holds memberships in the International Association of Official Statistics and the International Statistical Institute.

*Luay Shabanah can be reached by e-mail at [loay@pcbs.gov.ps](mailto:loay@pcbs.gov.ps).*



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SPECIAL THANKS TO JOE DESIDERIO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

nature. Joe always brought a smile to my face when he called, and I know that he will do the same wherever he goes and whoever he

meets. Thanks again, Joe, and good luck to you! Stay in touch.

—Donna Geisler

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## DR. IBRAHIM A. MAKKAWI | Hegemonic Educational Curriculum and National Identity among the Palestinians in Israel



Dr. Ibrahim Makkawi, assistant professor of education and psychology at Birzeit University, argues that the formal educational system for Palestinians in Israel actively undermines the Palestinian sense of national identity. According to Makkawi, this is achieved in three ways: by “shaping the students’ sense of collective national identity consistently with Israel’s definition as a Jewish state,” by using the educational system and its institutions to maintain and reproduce the socioeconomic class structure, and by co-opting educated Palestinians through employment as

teachers while limiting other employment options.

From an educational perspective, Dr. Makkawi sees this approach as counterproductive. Current theories suggest that “recognizing and nurturing the students’ cultural and ethnic background” creates opportunities for success and renders individuals more confident about their ethnic identity and, therefore, less likely to be prejudiced against other ethnic groups. Dr. Makkawi will research the current practice and evaluate the extent to which it suppresses students’ sense of national identity. He will use a critical theory approach to study the existing formal curricula and textbooks used in the schools to determine “whether education within such a conflictive situation is a tool of domination and hegemony or a process of liberation.” He believes that by studying this unique situation, i.e., “the experience of a nonassimilating, nonvoluntary national minority group within the context of a prolonged conflict,” he will make a substantial contribution to the understanding of critical multicultural education.

As Dr. Makkawi points out, historically the Palestinian-Arab population in Israel has not controlled its own education. Furthermore, despite being dominated by both the British and the Ottomans and having their educational systems imposed on them, Dr. Makkawi

believes the current situation to be the most polarized, particularly given the Palestinian desire to preserve their identity and Israel’s attempts to repress it. Citing a 2001 Human Rights Watch report, Dr. Makkawi finds support for his position, stating that “Palestinian schools in Israel suffer from systematic discrimination in budget, school building, support services, teacher qualifications, and much more.”

His own studies and others conducted in the last ten years further bolster his assertion that “Israel’s approach [is one of] cultural colonization to Palestinian education.” He believes his study will corroborate the findings thus far that “reinforce the importance and legitimacy of the quest for ethnic identity development among minority students in general and Palestinian students in particular.” Dr. Makkawi believes that a rigorous study of current curricula and textbooks such as he is conducting will provide long-needed scholarship and insights into group ethnic identity issues in inter-group conflict situations.

Dr. Makkawi’s project will focus on the element of self-identity—the collective self—that derives from membership in a larger group, in this case the Palestinian people. He will explore the formal curricula’s relevance to Palestinian students’ sense of national identity using a data-driven coding system to identify common themes in current textbooks used in grades 7-12. The analysis of this information will be guided by current theory, review of contemporary literature and consultation with teachers and academic experts. Subjects of the study include the teaching of Arabic, history and Hebrew as taught in Palestinian schools. Dr. Makkawi feels that his study will provide a base for future research that may include in-depth interviews with the Palestinian teachers and students who must teach and learn using the curriculum.

Dr. Makkawi received his Ph.D. in educational psychology from Kent State University. He is the author of numerous articles on the impact of education on Palestinian national identity and is a frequent speaker on this and related topics.

*You can contact Ibrahim Makkawi by e-mail at [IMakkawi@birzeit.edu](mailto:IMakkawi@birzeit.edu).*

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### IRENE R. SIEGEL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Siegel believes her research and analysis will “extend these interventions from the domain of geography through the sphere of oral narrative encounter, into the sphere of cultural productions that attempt to reframe Palestinian narrative voice.” As she suggests, the resistance to the boundaries imposed on the Palestinians take a public and domestic form that in itself redefines Palestinian national identity through the lens of the nationalist struggle, “wherein a host of sub-identities finds their narration muted or effaced.”

Therefore Siegel will focus on those writers and filmmakers

representing a range of identities, including Daoud, Suleiman, Khleifi, Abu Wael and Khalifeh.

Siegel is a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literature at the University of California, Berkeley, whose interests include the literature of North and West Africa and the diasporas. She has worked as a volunteer translator for the Refugee Center for Human Rights in Cairo, and a volunteer fieldworker at Al-Haq in the West Bank, where she participated in investigations of Israeli human rights violations in the Occupied Territories.

*You can contact Irene Siegel by e-mail at [isiegel@berkeley.edu](mailto:isiegel@berkeley.edu).*



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## DR. LORI H. RUDOLPH | Gender Dimensions of Conflict and Political Violence among Palestinian Refugee Women

Identifying the psychological and social impact of armed conflict on Palestinian women in refugee camps and rural villages of the West Bank is the focus of Dr. Lori H. Rudolph's project. "The purpose of this study is to grant voice and visibility to Palestinian refugee women by examining the gender dimensions of conflict and political violence among women," explains Dr. Rudolph. She will utilize her fieldwork to augment her previous research, which entailed interviews of ten women during a four-week period in December 2004 and January 2005.

Pointing to the events of the second *Intifada* in which the political, economic and social state in Palestine crumbled in the face of increased Israeli occupation, Dr. Rudolph acknowledges the findings of earlier researchers that "the capacity of Palestinian women to cope with this new situation has been declining, and the number of women dependent on emergency assistance, particularly food assistance, has risen." Other research, she notes, finds that "women have not only been subject to increasing violence, but their responsibilities within households have expanded due to the death, imprisonment or unemployment of male members of household."

Dr. Rudolph believes that existing scholarly studies since 1991 are "sparse" and limiting in the context of "ordinary" women's struggles aside military occupation and nationalism, as they draw primarily from those who are politically active, middle-upper, and upper-middle class women who reside in urban settings rather than detailing the lives of Palestinian refugee women living in camps or rural settings. She also suggests that feminist writings that explore women's experiences in conflict have become more common. Despite this fact, however, Dr. Rudolph suggests that researches have "left many assumptions about the relationship between gender and political conflict largely unchallenged."

Dr. Rudolph believes her study will address how factors like extended families, spouses, and community leaders, religious and

secular, are gendered, and whether these factors hinder or promote equality between men and women. The narratives derived from her research will help to create strategies to assuage the forces that diminish the social and psychological consequences of conflict. "This holds particular significance for the administrators of a cultural center located in the camp," states Dr. Randolph, "as one of their primary aims is to seek ways to further empower women in their community." She also feels that her study will fill a gap in current research and complement existing scholarship on Palestinian women.

In addition to her earlier interviews, Dr. Rudolph's investigation will include interviews of twenty individual female participants chosen according to specific criteria, including age, presence of children, economic background, and, most importantly, their specific experience of violation (i.e., relationship with martyrs, personal injury, imprisonment, mental illness, loss of employment, or loss or damage to their homes from shelling or demolition). She will also interview a focus group of five community leaders to provide their perceptions of women's experience in the camps.

Dr. Rudolph received her Ph.D. in counseling from the University of New Mexico with a focus on women's issues. She is a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC), and an adjunct professor in women's studies at the University of New Mexico and at the New Mexico Highland University. She has more than 20 years of experience as an advocate for Palestinian human rights.

*Lori Rudolph can be reached by e-mail at [lorir@unm.edu](mailto:lorir@unm.edu).*



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## RANA BARAKAT | The Politics of Revolution in Mandate Era Palestine

According to Rana Barakat, a comprehensive history has yet to be written of the revolt that began in 1929 with the Wailing Wall disturbances and ended with the Palestinian uprising of 1936-1939. The period, with its mass popular element, was a time where politics was being redefined in the framework of active resistance. Barakat points out that, "although Jerusalem is often written about as a center for the traditional elite leadership of Arabs in Palestine personified by Haij Amin al-Husayni, it is also the location of mass resistance and contested space. The city's relationship with its

surrounding areas ... dramatically changed the nature of the city and its location as a center of resistance in the national struggle."

Barakat, a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Chicago, believes that retracing events through the lives of ignored peoples from the areas encompassing the Jerusalem and Hebron districts may lead to a new kind of history of Palestine and resistance. "A discourse of community and mass involvement develops by reading the sources with a focus on the fighters

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## DR. HASSAN ALI ARAFAT | Research Methods for Recovery and Reuse of Hazardous Textile Wastewater



The textile industry in Palestine currently uses large amounts of potable water to wash fabrics in order to fix the dyes prior to sale to the consumer. Wastewater from the process is then disposed of into the public sewers or the open ground. This wastewater is known to pose environmental and health risks. Dr. Hassan Ali Arafat, an assistant professor of chemical engineering at An-Najah National University in Nablus, West Bank, is conducting research to develop wastewater treatment methods that would lessen the toxicity of the

wastewater and/or allow it to be reused, either in the same or another industry. According to Dr. Arafat, “treatment of the wastewater for alternate purposes or reuse would reduce environmental and health risks and preserve the supply of potable water.”

Dr. Arafat points out that, in Nablus city alone, the total fresh water used by textile companies—52,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year—is the equivalent to the annual water consumption of approximately 240 Palestinian households. That water, which becomes unavailable to the drinking supply, is returned as wastewater containing high quantities of enzymes, acetic acid, soda, bleaching agents and dyes. The dyes, which include hydrocarbons (benzene, toluene, naphthalene, anthracene, pyrene, phenol, pyridine, carbazole), are known carcinogens and pose environmental and public health concerns.

Due to the present situation in Palestine, environmental issues lie lower on the priority list and are not sufficient in and of themselves to motivate the industry toward an effective treatment plan, particularly in light of the impact the industry has on the economy. For example, in 1994, revenue from the textile industry was more than \$126 million and contributed approximately 18 percent of the gross domestic product. The industry is considered the second largest area of employment in the West Bank and Gaza, with more than 65,000 workers.

For these reasons, economic incentives, such as savings to the industry, provide a more appealing alternative to strict enforcement of environmental laws. Finding an affordable treatment option that enables reuse of the wastewater may, therefore, ensure industry cooperation in the implementation of the technology. “There are several incentives for industry to commit itself to serious environmental protection practices,” Arafat believes. “These include strict

environmental laws, better public image, genuine environmental consciousness, and the desire for revenue by recycling and re-using waste materials.” In Palestine, Dr. Arafat believes “a special situation exists in which environmental protections laws are unenforced due to the political conditions. Moreover, the environment comes low on the ordinary Palestinian citizen’s priority list compared with all other daily hardships.”

Dr. Arafat’s research into methods that include the removal of suspended solids and most of the dissolved organics using chemical coagulation followed by precipitation (sedimentation) has shown some promising results.

Dr. Arafat’s research is multifaceted: In order to develop appropriate methods of wastewater treatment, Palestinian textile wastewater must be surveyed and quantified. Chemical coagulants would then be chosen and tested. “In theory the type of best lab coagulant should be the same for all textile wastewater,” admits Arafat, “but because the characteristics of the textile wastewater might change from one site to another or even in the same site, there might be a set of different coagulants that can be used.” To determine the appropriate coagulant, the optimum dose will be sought and a schedule for optimal coagulant dosages for different coagulant types will be created. The development of a coagulation/sedimentation tank for performing the tests that can ultimately perform on a larger, commercial scale, will also be a part of Arafat’s research.

Dr. Arafat has a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Cincinnati (Ohio) and nine years of research experience in the fields of separation, water and wastewater treatment, pollution prevention, and nuclear waste management. He has authored/co-authored more than 40 refereed papers, conference papers and official government reports. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses and supervises M.Sc. students. Currently he is the principal investigator on a UNESCO-funded project on the critical improvements of the drinking water disinfection system within the Nablus municipality.

*Hassan Ali Arafat can be reached by e-mail at [nabulsi444@yahoo.com](mailto:nabulsi444@yahoo.com).*



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## DR. ANTHONY WANIS-ST. JOHN | Back Channel Negotiations in the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Process

Secret negotiations between the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organization have been ongoing since the late 1980s. Dr. Anthony Wanis-St. John has been studying these back channel negotiations with a particular interest in why these clandestine efforts were undertaken and what affect they have had on the peace process.

According to Dr. Wanis-St. John, “the way that peacemaking efforts are conducted can contribute to the breakdown of such peacemaking.” Through his study of back channel negotiations, he seeks to shed light on how this method “has the potential for being one of its most destabilizing and critical defects.”

Many countries throughout history have employed back-channel negotiations—secret negotiations that are conducted simultaneously with normal diplomatic efforts. In the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Dr. Wanis-St. John points out that during the course

of a dozen years of negotiations there have been numerous official agreements between the PLO and Israel that have not led to peace between the parties. “The failure of their peace process, despite so many agreements, is one of the tragic ironies facing us today.”

Using heretofore unpublished information on the rationale for secrecy, Dr. Wanis-St. John will explore how the negotiation outcome was affected by the process itself. The failure of the Palestinian and Israeli peace negotiations to bring about a united front in peacemaking, he asserts, is



CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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### RANA BARAKAT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

who acted the resistance out in the cities, towns, and villages of the region,” says Barakat. “Given this perspective a new understanding of Revolutionary involvement allows us to read the already rich political atmosphere of Arab society more accurately.”

Through her research, Barakat will examine Palestinian society during the Mandate period by de-constructing the role of those who engaged in violent resistance, “thereby contributing to our understanding of violence and resistance in the larger history of Palestine.” For Barakat, the events at the prison in Acre, where Muhammad Jamjoun, Faud Hijazi and ‘Ata Zayr were put to death in 1930 following months of mass government arrests and “quick emergency trials” stemming from what the British described as the “Wailing Wall disturbances,” mark a shift in life under British rule and led to biased historical accounts of the period.

By focusing on this “moment of change,” Barakat hopes to open a discussion about the role of violence as a means of resistance. Her research will be focused on the Jerusalem and Hebron districts and explore the correlation between “people writing and people acting” to determine how society has dealt with and incorporated resistance into its historical narrative. She will examine the period with an eye toward remapping the social histories of the participants in the Revolt: “Rather than incorporating the fighters into the national history, I will read the history through the actions of rebels.”

Barakat sees the project through a “lens of loss” characterized by disappearances and unsatisfactory results. She will argue that, “although the lens of loss necessarily dominates contemporary views of resistance in the Mandate period, superimposing the notion of defeat onto the Revolt or the years preceding it cannot

fully narrate its history. Reconstructing the lives of those who directly participated in the fighting, however, can further complicate our current understanding of nation, loss and resistance.”

Barakat intends to use a number of archival sources and rely heavily on newspaper records, which she believes will provide a closer construction of the period and deeper understanding of the political and practical debates at that time. She is aware that many obstacles to research exist, including past seizures and destruction of papers by occupiers or by the rebels themselves in order to avoid incrimination. The amount of time elapsed since the events also means fewer survivors are available for interviewing. Additional sources include the audio library at the Palestinian Diaspora and Refugee Center (Shaml) in Ramallah, and interview collections from the Center for Prisoner Studies at al-Quds University. Barakat believes there is ample archival material for her study. “Given the mammoth presence of the colonial authority, in particular the vast numbers of police stationed in the area and the paperwork this produced—the material available between criminal identity reports, arrest reports, and the material produced by the judicial machine of the criminal court system is enormous.” In addition, Barakat will conduct some in-person interviews, primarily in Hebron, with people she has already identified who witnessed the violence firsthand.

Barakat is currently a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Chicago. She was the program director of the Chicago Palestine Film Festival from 2002 to 2004.

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### DR. ANTHONY WANIS-ST. JOHN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

due, in part, to the nature of the back channel process employed. In this scenario, he adds, "negotiations often take place at several tables simultaneously, some of which are kept secret from all but the top decision makers." Therefore, the existing literature on international negotiations is based on a flawed assumption: "Negotiations are assumed to take place between unified parties who sit at a single table and most analyses flow from that assumption." In his work, Dr. Wanis-St. John will provide explanations as to what back channels are, how they work, and why political leaders use them. He will also consider the differences in what is being negotiated in each channel, the level of secrecy, the roles of those involved and those excluded, and what happens when both front and back channels are used simultaneously.

Through his analysis he will show the political and psychological motivations that instigate back-channel negotiations by decision makers and how the process can lead to political instability, fear and armed confrontation. Other unintended effects of secret negotiations include an increasing need for more secrecy, says Dr. Wanis-St. John. He believes that, "by the time the Al-Aqsa Intifada began in September 2000, back channels had become a severe obstacle to peace in the Middle East."

Dr. Wanis-St. John hopes to fill the gap in existing narrative

accounts of peace negotiations by illuminating this widely practiced but, due to its very secrecy, poorly understood negotiation process. "Major fields of research largely ignore this reality and so their theories, observations and policy advice overlook its dramatic implications," says Dr. Wanis-St. John. His study will fill a gap in the current scholarship, where analysis of these negotiations is rare and give a voice to the Palestinian viewpoint on the issues it presents.

Through his analysis, Dr. Wanis-St. John will present a new area of research that may provide insight into other regional conflicts. In addition, his work might be used to fill gaps in negotiation theory, suggesting that "negotiators and policy makers will come under new scrutiny as they make decisions about how to conduct critical peace negotiations."

Dr. Wanis-St. John received his Ph.D. in international relations from Tufts University. He is currently a research associate with the Center on International Conflict Resolution at Columbia University. In addition, he works as a consultant to various international organizations, including the World Health Organization and the World Bank. He has created executive negotiation courses for business people based on the international political research he has done.

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