

# PARC

Fall 2007 | Volume Nine, Issue Two

*Promoting Palestinian Studies and  
Scholarly Exchange on Palestinian Issues*

## PALESTINIAN AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER

### PENELOPE MITCHELL | Letter from the U.S. Director

With two new grants received by PARC in hand, eight new awards made by PARC for research fellowships, and a host of other activities taking place, it has been a busy summer for PARC.

#### New Grants to PARC

PARC received a generous grant from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) that will fully fund all administrative activities in Palestine over the next four years. In addition, the grant will cover academic seminars at Palestinian universities, participation of one or two Palestinian scholars on PARC panels at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) annual meetings, stipends for PARC fellows to deliver papers at MESA annual meetings, and substantial improvements to our Website.

PARC also received a grant renewal from the Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State to support fully all of our research fellowships for U.S. citizens along with modest funding for U.S. administrative costs. PARC receives this grant via the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC).

With our Ramallah office and U.S. fellowships secure, PARC is now focusing its efforts on raising additional funds for Palestinian research fellowships and our U.S. office administration. With distressing economic conditions in Palestine, our small research fellowships make an enormous difference to scholars there. The limited funding we have available is simply not enough to meet the extensive need to promote scholarly research. I deeply appreciate the generous support from PARC members that has helped to fund our Palestinian fellowships this year and hope that your generosity will continue for the coming year.

#### 2007-8 PARC Fellows

This year, PARC received 20 applications from U.S. citizens, 39 from Palestinians, and three from other countries. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our review committees in the United States and Palestine that worked diligently and thought-

fully to assess all the applications.

PARC has awarded eight new research fellowships. The research we are funding this year is diverse and exciting: assessing reproductive health content in nursing education in Palestine; improving the use of recycled plastic

by combining it with olive solid waste; developing a systems understanding of community water resource management; documenting Ottoman paintings and murals in Palestinian homes; ethnographic research on memories of al-Nakba in second- and third-generation Palestinian refugees in Syria; investigating youth participation in nonviolent activism; examining ambient uncertainty as it affects resilience and coping strategies of Palestinian youth in refugee camps in Lebanon; and evaluating the coastal plain aquifer in Gaza. We have two special teams this year among our researchers: a husband-and-wife team and a professor and his Palestinian graduate student.

We have included five profiles of these new fellows in this newsletter; the three remaining 2007-8 fellows will be profiled in Spring 2008. Also in the Spring newsletter we hope to include synopses of fellows' final reports. I welcome short articles from alumni/ae fellows on their publications, academic appointments, grants and awards, and/or results of their PARC-funded research.



# Around the PARC

by Penelope Mitchell

## New Board Members Elected

Thanks to our new online election process and member participation, PARC welcomes Rochelle Davis and Rhoda Kanaaneh to the board of directors and bids farewell to departing board member Michael Suleiman. A short article introduces our new board members. Our board of directors' meeting will take place once again at MESA this year. In addition, I would like to extend my gratitude to the executive committee of the board that meets throughout the year in Washington, D.C., and helps to guide PARC's policies and activities.

In May, PARC held its annual board meeting followed by a fundraising dinner graciously hosted by Dina Rizk Khoury and Alfred Khoury. At the dinner, Kimberly Katz gave a lively presentation about her PARC-funded research on the diary of Sami 'Amr with the visual support of an immense art project done by her students at Towson University as part of a class assignment based on Sami's diary.

## Gerner Award

To commemorate the life of Deborah "Misty" Gerner, beloved PARC board member and scholar, PARC is working with Birzeit University to put in place the first Gerner award for student excellence in the master's degree program at the Ibrahim Abu Lughod Institute of International Studies. The award will be given annually and rotate among colleges and universities in Palestine.

## Membership Renewal

Please renew your PARC membership today using the form on the back of the newsletter. PARC values its members and appreciates your generous support to help fund research fellowships in Palestine.

## PARC in Palestine and the United States

PARC bids farewell and extends enormous gratitude to Ghada Almadbouh who has served as acting director in our Ramallah office since March. Ghada will return to the University of Maryland to finish her dissertation. PARC has been conducting a search for a new director and, hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter, we will have a director in place. We also welcome our two new administrative assistants: Mary Zarifeh in our Ramallah office and Layth Elmusa in our U.S. office. Layth and Mary both look forward to working with PARC fellows over the coming year. PARC continues to enjoy the support of Hiba Hussein, who provides PARC with office space and a host of other assistance with our daily operations.

## PARC Website

With funding support from our USEd grant, an updated bibliography of scholarship on Palestine should be available on the Website by the time you receive this newsletter. Before the end of the year, we hope to update the chronology on Palestine, which is also on the Website, and to add a new module on Palestinian arts, architecture, and crafts as well as an annotated list of cultural institutions in Palestine and the Diaspora. I hope that researchers and others interested in Palestine will find these resources useful.

## 2007 PARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Palestinian American Research Center Newsletter Fall 2007

### Editorial Committee:

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# PARC Donates Microfilm Collection to the Institute for Palestine Studies

by Eugene Rogan

Over the summer of 2007, PARC donated a major microfilm collection of documents from the U.K. National Archives (formerly known as the Public Records Office) to the Beirut-based Institute for Palestine Studies (IPS).

The microfilm collection, entitled “Arab-Israeli Relations, 1917–1970,” was edited by Eugene Rogan at the University of Oxford. The collection, which comes to over 250 reels of film, comprises more than 200,000 pages of text on the politics, administration and diplomacy of the Palestine Mandate and the Arab-Israeli conflict, from the Balfour Declaration to the Black September War of 1970.

The series was published by Thomson Learning, which has since digitized the collection and now markets the documents as a Web-based resource. The donation of the microfilm collection was made with the approval of Thomson, which was pleased to see this collection made available to a Palestinian research institute that would not otherwise have had the means to acquire the resource. Further information on Thomson’s Middle East Online Series and a free trial of their Web-based resources may be found at [www.galeuk.com/stormont](http://www.galeuk.com/stormont).

In compiling this collection, Rogan drew on original British government files from the Admiralty and the War Offices, the

Prime Ministry, Treasury and Cabinet Offices, as well as the Colonial and Foreign Offices—all held in the National Archive in Kew. The documents were chosen by topic and key events. Thus, readers will find: extensive documentation on the main government policies and reports, such as the Balfour Declaration or the 1937 Peel Commission’s report, recommending the partition of Palestine; and detailed files on the mandate-era uprisings and revolt and subsequent Arab-Israeli wars, the early diplomacy to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the emergence of the Palestinian national movement and armed struggle.

Rogan and the editors at Thomson worked closely with the archivists in Kew to compile the collection. They decided to reproduce complete files from the National Archive, rather than selecting individual documents, so that users would have the experience of reading all of the paperwork associated with a topic. This also means that users who wish to follow up with further work in Kew will know precisely which files they have consulted. For, however extensive this collection, the 200,000 pages reproduced here represents but a small fraction of the total holding of the National Archive on Arab-Israeli relations over the six decades covered by the larger collection.

## Welcome New PARC Board Members

PARC is delighted to welcome two new members to our board of directors: Rhoda Kanaaneh and Rochelle Davis. We appreciate all the members who took the time to vote in our first online voting experience. We hope you found the process a good one.

Rhoda Kanaaneh is a visiting scholar at New York University’s Department of Social and Cultural Analysis with a Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University. She has taught anthropology and gender and sexuality studies at New York University and American University in Washington, DC, and has held fellowships at Harvard, the European University Institute, and Columbia. She is the author of the award winning book “Birthing the Nation” (University of California Press 2002). Her books “On the Edge of Security: Palestinian Soldiers in the Israeli Military” (forthcoming from Stanford University Press) and “Palestinians in Israel Revisited” with Isis Nusair (forthcoming from SUNY

press) were both supported in part by PARC. She also serves on the Advisory Board of the Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies.

Rochelle Davis is an assistant professor at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University with a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in cultural anthropology and modern Arabic literature. She has studied and conducted research in the Arab world, mainly Palestine/Israel, Jordan and Egypt, for over ten years. Her research focuses on Palestinian local history and memory. She is working on a book manuscript on the village memorial books that Palestinians have written about their villages that were destroyed in 1948. Her collection of the books numbers over 100, gathered from Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, and inside Israel. In addition, she is working on scholarly articles based on oral histories she collected

## PARC Workshop at Columbia University

by Isis Nusair and Rhoda Kanaaneh



In June 2007, PARC cosponsored a workshop on “Palestinians in Israel Revisited” with Columbia University. Columbia’s Institute for Research on Women and Gender and the Middle East Institute provided support for the activity. Eleven participants explored the social, cultural, and political dimensions of Palestinian life in Israel based on papers they had delivered at the Middle East Studies Association conference in November 2006. With backgrounds in anthropology, comparative literature, history, political theory, sociology, and women’s studies, the presenters were part of an exciting young generation of women academics—all Palestinian citizens of Israel—who gathered to share their original research on fresh topics and to question major assumptions of the traditional literature on Palestinians.

Over the course of two days and with the help of three astute discussants—Professor Lila Abu Lughod, Professor Ella Shohat,

and Sherene Seikaly—a number of important interrelated conversations developed. A host of questions arose about language, silence, and representation, for both the people researched and for the scholars. These questions emerged in relation to the state and its surveillance, academic institutions and their influence on terminology and citations, and Palestinian nationalist frameworks and the anxieties of representation produced at this nexus. In particular, the problematics of religion, “hamula” (the largest unit of kinship), sexuality, community, and tradition emerged. Several discussions also unfolded related to methodologies and how best to manage the multiple positions of both the researcher and the researched relative to gender, sexuality, class, education, generation, and political affiliation. These discussions touched on issues of visibility, urgency, taboos, memory, forcing data, and links to other Palestinians, as well as to other cultures and contexts, globalization, and the significances of agency and resistance that take into consideration efforts to de-exceptionalize Palestinians.

The participants challenged each other and, as a group, raised important questions and forged new critiques. The conversations begun at this workshop will surely grow as the participants continue to revise their papers for a joint anthology to be published in 2008 by SUNY Press and as they continue to rethink Palestinians in Israel in relation to modernity, nationalism, and colonialism.

## PARC Sponsors MESA Panel: The Palestine Police and the End of the Mandate: British, Arab, and Jewish Perspectives

by Eugene Rogan

This panel brings together the research findings of three oral-history teams examining British, Arab, and Jewish servicemen’s experiences in the Palestine Police, with particular focus on the years 1944-1948. These years were particularly interesting, given the Jewish insurgency, the pressures of Holocaust survivors flooding Palestine in the aftermath of the Second World War, and the British decision to withdraw from Palestine.

PARC has sponsored Ramallah-based oral historian Adel Yahya to attend the MESA conference. Yahya will present a paper

based on interviews with Palestinian veterans in the West Bank area, entitled “Arab Policemen in Mandate Palestine: Conflict of Loyalties.”

The other papers are: John Knight (University of Eastern Michigan), “Securing Zion? Public Security in Mandate Palestine;” Eugene Rogan (Oxford), “The British in the Palestine Police: Narratives of Adversity;” and Yoav Alon (Tel Aviv), “Treading a Fine Line: The Jewish Segment of the Palestine Police.”



# Getty Workshop on Cultural Heritage: Research, Resources, and Methods

by Issam William Juha

The Center for Cultural Heritage Preservation (CCHP) was established in March 2001 with the mission of overseeing the preservation of old neighborhoods and buildings within the towns and villages of the Bethlehem District and enhancing public awareness of cultural heritage. In order to achieve its mission, CCHP is also involved in research related to: tangible and intangible heritage; skills development of its in-house team; training for architects and craftsmen; and participation in regional and international conferences related to cultural heritage preservation and development.

Juha has been working as an architect at the CCHP since 2002 and was appointed head of the rehabilitation unit in April 2007. He has been involved in the management, design, and supervision of urban rehabilitation projects, including the rehabilitation of buildings for adaptive reuse. He has also been involved in research and studies on the development of cultural heritage with a holistic approach that takes into consideration socio-economic and tourism development. Juha's work has involved preparing and giving presentations about the development of architectural and urban heritage within the framework of CCHP's approach. These presentations, which target conservationists, planners, decision-makers, tourism officials, and members of the community, are part of CCHP awareness-raising activities and community outreach.

Juha was selected by PARC to attend a four-day Getty Foundation funded workshop in September in Istanbul on cultural heritage research, resources, and methods. The workshop was held in partnership with the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) and was the first activity of the Middle East and Mediterranean Basin Research Exchange Fellowship Program.



This program will include further opportunities for Palestinians to conduct summer research activities at one of the American Overseas Research Centers in the region. At this workshop, Juha, in his role as conservationist and practitioner in the field of cultural heritage development, had the opportunity to share with other participants the rich cultural heritage of Palestine and the challenges it faces in preserving its heritage while planning for economic development. Participation in the workshop also afforded him the opportunity to learn about and listen to the experiences of colleagues from other countries, particularly those working in conflict situations.

The site visits made to Aya Sophia familiarized the group with Byzantine architecture and, through the layers of history associated with this monument, taught participants more about the concept of "heritage for all people." The visit to Miniturk and the exciting discussions it raised among the group revealed the value of hearing different opinions, oppositional though some may be, as part of a process of learning about other experiences and other cultures. As a person concerned with personal growth, Juha considers participation in this workshop to be a springboard for future opportunities. As a member of the staff at CCHP, Juha notes that his "experience will be reflected in my work as a conservationist and as an advocate for the development of cultural heritage for the betterment of communities and human populations."

*Issam Juha has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the Palestine Polytechnic University and can be reached at [ijuha@bethlehem2000.org](mailto:ijuha@bethlehem2000.org).*

## WELCOME NEW PARC BOARD MEMBERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

from Palestinians who lived in Jerusalem before 1948, and has also published an article on British Mandate education and the Arab College in Jerusalem.

PARC bids farewell and offers our thanks to board member Michael W. Suleiman. Michael is a University Distinguished Professor at Kansas State University, where he has taught in the department of political science since 1965. He has received numerous awards for research and teaching and has acted as a consultant, commentator, adviser and/or reviewer to many orga-

nizations. Noteworthy among his over 70 publications are: "U. S. Policy on Palestine from Wilson to Clinton" (editor and coauthor); "Arabs in America: Building a New Future" (editor and coauthor); "Arabs in the Mind of America;" "American Images of Middle East Peoples: Impact of the High School." He has served on the editorial board of five journals including the Arab Studies Quarterly and has been on the board of directors of a number of scholarly organizations in addition to PARC.

# Topics of Interest at the MESA 2007 Conference

NOVEMBER 17–20, 2007, AT THE PALAIS DE CONGRÈS DE MONTRÉAL AND THE HYATT REGENCY MONTRÉAL IN MONTRÉAL, CANADA.

*You're Invited*  
**PARC Annual Business Meeting**  
Saturday, November 17 from 4-5 PM  
Palais des Congrès, room 515C  
*Members and Prospective Members Welcome*

We have included two lists of highlights: one list with some of our current and past PARC fellows, board members of directors on topics not related to Palestinian studies; and a second list of conference sessions related to Palestinian studies. An asterisk by the name indicates a past or current PARC fellow, board member, or director.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17** 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

**(NP08) Identity and Nation in Contemporary Maghrebi Literature and Film**

\*Irene Siegel, University of California, Berkeley  
*Forgetting as a Path to Remembering: Intertextual Subjectivity and the Work of Edmond 'Amron El Maleh*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

**(NP30) Media and Education in the Middle East**

\*Mezna Qato, University of Oxford  
*On Reading a Jordanian Primer, c. 1952*

**(P098) Disposessions, Reparations, and Claims against Post-Independent North African States**

\*Michael R. Fischbach, Randolph-Macon College  
*The Complexities Surrounding Jewish Property Claims Against Libya*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**(NP22) Health Discourse I: General**

Chair: \*Angel M. Foster, Ibis Reproductive Health

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

**(TC006) Islamic Philosophy, Contours and Center**

Organized by and Session Leader: \*Charles E. Butterworth, University of Maryland

**(P142) Professional Development Workshop for Graduate Students**

*Marketing the Academic: Curricula Vitae, Job Applications, and the Interview Process*

Chair: \*Ellen Fleischmann, University of Dayton  
\*Dina Rizk Khoury, George Washington University  
*On the Interview Process*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

**(P045) Imagining the Couple in Middle Eastern and North African Literature and Film**

Organized by \*Michael R. Fischbach  
Chair/Discussant: \*Michael R. Fischbach, Randolph-Macon College

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**(P020) Gulf Security in Historical Perspective**

\*Fred H. Lawson, Mills College  
*Security Implications of Preferential Trading Arrangements in the Gulf*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

**(NP31) Colonial Policy**

\*Martin Bunton, University of Victoria  
*The Cadastral Survey of Egypt, 1892–1907*

**SPECIAL SESSION**

**(P136) Writing the Oral History of Modern Iraq**

Organized and chaired by \*Dina Rizk Khoury, George Washington University  
\*Dina Rizk Khoury, George Washington University  
*Telling War Stories, War and Remembrance in Iraq*

Please don't miss the  
PARC-sponsored panel  
on Sunday, November 18,  
from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## MESA Conference Sessions Related To Palestinian Studies

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17** 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

### (NP43) Security Concerns in the Middle East

Chair: **Kemal Silay**, Indiana University

**Haggai Ram**, Ben-Gurion University

*Constructing Palestine and Lebanon as Zones of Emergency: Israeli Images of the Iranian Threat*

**Oren Barak**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Assaf David, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*The Elephant in the Room: Why the Security Sector in the Middle East Is Understudied and What Can We Do About It?*

**Naomi Weinberger**, Colgate University

*International Contributions to Promoting Human Security in Palestine*

**Carolyn Smith**, The Ohio State University

*The Kurds, Turkey, and NATO: Did NATO Obligations Decrease Turkish Military Attacks Against the Kurds?*

Thomas W. O'Donnell, University of Michigan

*The Political Economy of Iranian Oil: U.S. Sanctions and Iran's Nuclear Gambit*

### (P074) Resistance and Compliance: Protestant Education and the Complexities of the Ottoman World

Organized by **Nancy L. Stockdale** and **Carolyn Goffman**

Chair/Discussant: **\*Ellen Fleischmann**, University of Dayton

**Emine O. Evered**, Michigan State University

*Local and Imperial Perceptions of and Responses to Missionary and Foreign Schools in Territories of the Late Ottoman Empire*

**Carolyn Goffman**, DePaul University

*Challenging the New and Noble Vocabulary: Student Resistance to Protestant Educators*

**Nancy L. Stockdale**, University of North Texas

*Contradiction and Control: Nazareth and the Arab-British Missionary Encounter, 1848–1918*

**Elizabeth Brownson**, University of California, Santa Barbara

*Protestant Missions, Education and Political Influence in Palestine from the Late Ottoman Period to the British Mandate*

### (P082) Christians of the Middle East: Interrogating Identities from Orientalism to the Diaspora

Organized by **Hakem Rustom**, London School of Economics

Chair: **Anthony Shenoda**, Harvard University

**Magi Abdul-Masih**, St. Mary's University

*Jesus, a Palestinian Jew? Christian Theology and the Palestine/Israel Conflict*

**Hakem Rustom**, London School of Economics

*The Armenian Church: From an Ottoman Millet to the Diaspora*

**Adel Iskandar**, University of Texas at Austin

*Indigenizing Orientalism? Reflections on the Mediated Self-Portrayal of Coptic Orthodox Christian Identity*

### SPECIAL SESSION

#### Debating the Arab Human Development Report 2005: Towards the Rise of Women in the Arab World

Organized by **\*Frances S. Hasso**

**Azza Karam**, United Nations Development Program

*The UNDP Arab Human Development Report: An Outcome or Process?*

**Hossneya M.H. Gad**, Birzeit University

*What is New in the Arab Human Development Report on Women?*

**Fida Adely**, Georgetown University

*Education as Crisis and Cure: Woman and Education in the Arab Human Development Report*

**\*Frances S. Hasso**, Oberlin College

*Empowering States and Neo-Liberal Transnational Governance Rather than Women: Comments on the Arab Human Development Report 2005*

**Heba R. Ezzat**, Cairo University

*Women, Islamism, and the Future of Democracy in the Arab World*

**Lila Abu-Lughod**, Columbia University

*The Dangers of the Circulation of a Transnational Dialect of Rights*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17** 7:15 p.m.–8:15 p.m.

Friends and colleagues gather to reflect on the life and work of

**Muhsin S. Mahdi**, MESA Founding Member and Honorary Fellow– Palais, Room 513E

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

### (NP36) Expressions of Arab Identities

Chair: **Joseph Zeidan**, Ohio State University

**Maysa About Youssef Hayward**, Ocean County College, NJ

*Negotiating and Deconstructing Dynamics in Arab American Literature*

**Galeet Dardashti**, University of Texas at Austin

*Arab Music and the Politics of Culture-Brokering in Israel*

**Carol Fadda-Conrey**, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia

*Writing Arab-American Identity Post 9/11*

**Bruce Fudge**, The Ohio State University

*A Handful of Saints: The Wise and the Weird in Modern Arabic Fiction*

**Muhamed Alkhalil**, School for International Training

*The Prince's Tale: European Imperialism and the Arab Conceptualization of America in 1912*

### (NP49) History of Elites in Palestine

Chair: **Maryanne A. Rhatt**, Washington State University

**Yeliz Baloglu-Cangay**, Brandeis University

*Ottoman–Zionist Diplomacy: The Repercussions of Abdülhamid–Herzl Correspondence*

**Liora Halperin**, University of California, Los Angeles

*Cross-Cultural Orientalism: The Palestine Oriental Society in Jerusalem (1920–1948)*

**Laura Robson**, Yale University

*Demanding a Voice: Christian Palestinians in the Greek Orthodox Church and the British Mandate*

**Itamar Radai**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*The Collapse of the Palestinian-Arab Middle Class in 1948: The Case of Qatamon*

**Noah Haiduc-Dale**, New York University

*The Influence of Foreign Clergy on Palestinian Christian Political Participation During the British Mandate*

### (NP60) Across Contested Territories: Discourse, Narrative, Configuration, Reevaluation

Chair: **\*Kimberly Katz**, Towson University

**Michael J. Reimer**, American University in Cairo  
*The Emir and the Mufti: A Comparative Study in Jordanian and Palestinian Nationalist Historiography*

**Clea Lutz Bunch**, University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
*Re-Evaluating the 1967 War: Hussein, Israel, and the Attack on Samu*

**Carol Bardenstein**, University of Michigan  
*Palestinian and Israeli Third Zones: Fantasies of Ethnicity and Nationalism*

**May Ahmar**, Columbia University  
*Discourse Analysis, Case Study: Lebanon–Israel War*

#### **(P084) Cities at Stake: Urban Life in Bilad al-Sham**

Organized by **James A. Reilly**

**Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association**

Chair: **Peter Sluglett**, University of Utah

Discussant: **Jens Hanssen**, University of Toronto

**James Grehan**, Portland State University  
*Public Ritual and Popular Culture in Syrian Towns, c. 1500–1800*

**Ruba Kana'an**, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
*From “City-Centre” to “Public Square”: Local Discourses on Modernity in Jaffa c. 1900*

**Ralph Bodenstein**, DAI/German Archaeological Institute Cairo  
*Building “New Saida” around 1900: Urban Expansion and Short Revival of a Stranded Port City*

**James A. Reilly**, University of Toronto  
*Recent Lebanese Histories of Ottoman Saida*

**Mafalda Ade Winter**, University of Tübingen  
*Waqf Tenancy and Consular Jurisprudence in Late Ottoman Aleppo*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

#### **(P035) Nationalism across the Waters: Exploring a Neglected Marker of Identity in the Lives of Arab and Muslim Immigrants in the U.S.**

Organized by **Hani Bawardi**

**Supported by the Center for Arab American Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn**

**Hani Bawardi**, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
*Syria for the Syrians: Nationalist Content in the Arabic-Language Press in the U.S. Before WW I*

**Eric Fritzler**, Wayne State University  
*Rethinking Arab-Zionist Debates on Palestine before 1948: A Discussion of Methods, Styles, and Identities*

**Tara Lannen-Stanton**, Wayne State University  
*Arab Nationalism at the Brooklyn Bridge: An Examination of the Nationalist Ideas of Ameen Rihani as an Arab-American*

**Alia Charara**, University of Michigan, Dearborn  
*Lebanese-American Responses to Israeli Militarism: A Construction of a New Lebanon?*

**Saeed Khan**, Wayne State University  
*The Iraq War and the Emergence of New Construction of Arab Nationalism Among Iraqi Americans in Metropolitan Detroit*

#### **(P083) The Palestine Police and the End of the Mandate: British, Arab, and Jewish Perspectives**

Organized by **Eugene Rogan**

**Sponsored by the Palestinian American Research Center**

Chair: **Eugene Rogan**, St. Antony's College, Oxford

**John L. Knight**, University of Oxford  
*Securing Zion? Public Security in Mandate Palestine*

**Yoav Alon**, Tel Aviv University  
*Treading a Fine Line: The Jewish Segment of the Palestine Police*

**Adel Yahya**, PACE, Ramallah  
*Arab Policemen in Mandate Palestine: Conflict of Loyalties*

**Eugene Rogan**, St. Antony's College, Oxford  
*The British in the Palestine Police: Narratives of Adversity*

#### **(RT001) Islamist Movements and Parliamentary Elections in the Arab World: Current Research**

Organized by **Nathan J. Brown**, George Washington University

Chair: **\*Jillian Schwedler**, University of Massachusetts

**Nathan J. Brown**, George Washington University  
**Amr Hamzawy**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Samer Shehata**, Georgetown University  
**Stacey Philbrick Yadav**, University of Pennsylvania

**Quinn Mecham**, Middlebury College

#### **(NP23) Health Discourse II: Reproductive Health**

Chair: **Alan Mikhail**, University of California, Berkeley

**Thomas Eich**, University of Bochum

*Abortion after Rape in Islamic Law: A Historical Perspective*

**\*Angel M. Foster**, Ibis Reproductive Health

*The Internet and Intra-Generational Exchange: Improving Sources of Sexual and Reproductive Health Information in Tunisia, Jordan, and Palestine*

**L. L. Wynn**, Macquarie University

*Reproductive Health Technologies and Cyber Fatwas*

**Shifra Kisch**, ASSR/University of Amsterdam

*Reproductive Encounters: Negev Bedouin Women's Experience of Childbirth in an Israeli Hospital.*

#### **(NP55) Living Under Occupation, Palestine**

Chair: **Nubar Hovsepian**, Chapman University

**Amy Wanounou**, York University

*Palestinian Women between the Two Intifadas*

**Neve Gordon**, Ben-Gurion University

*From Colonization to Separation: Exploring the Structure of Israel's Occupation*

**Zeynep Baser**, Middle East Technical University

*Israeli Security Discourses Reconsidered: The Closure System in the West Bank*

**Taroob R. Boulos**, University of Michigan

*While Waiting for The Dream: Palestinian Women Bear Witness to Their Detention Experiences*

#### **(P011) Creating a Paradoxical Political Class: Islamist Parties and Women's Activism**

Organized by **Stacey Philbrick Yadav**

Discussant: **\*Jillian Schwedler**, University of Massachusetts

**Janine Clark**, University of Guelph, Canada and Amy E. Young, Gettysburg College

*Islamists and Shifts in Family Law in Morocco and Jordan*



**Lisa Blaydes**, Stanford University and Safinaz El Tarouty, British University in Egypt  
*Women's Electoral Participation in Egyptian Parliamentary Elections*

**Marion Boulby**, Trent University  
*Islamist Women and Politics of Palestine*

**Stacey Philbrick Yadav**, University of Pennsylvania  
*Veiled Expectations: Islahi Women's Activisms in Yemen*

### **(P141) Using Middle Eastern Film in the Classroom**

Organized by **Nadia Hlibka**, MESA FilmFest Coordinator

Chair: **Thomas B. Stevenson**, Ohio University- Zanesville

**Thomas B. Stevenson**, Ohio University-Zanesville  
*Media Literacy: Creating Context and Developing Visual Perceptivity*

**Elizabeth Bishop**, University of North Carolina, Wilmington  
*Using Arab Film in the Classroom*

**John Sinno**, Arab Film Distribution  
*Marketing Middle Eastern Films in the U.S.: A Distributors Point of View*

**Nitin Sawhney**, Cytex and Salma Abu Ayyash  
*Bahlam fi Falistine: Dreaming in Palestine*  
*Digital Storytelling Workshops for Palestinian Youth: A Collaborative Project in Palestinian Refugee Camp*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

### **(P041) Displacing the Nation: Diaspora, (Im)mobility and Empire in the Modern Middle East**

Organized by **Omar Dewachi**

Chair: **Omar Dewachi**, Harvard University

**Omar Dewachi**, Harvard University  
*From Professional Hajj to Professional Refugee: Journeys of the Iraqi Doctor to Britain*

**Didem Danis**, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales  
*Limits of Transnational: Iraqi Christian Transit Migrants' Networks in Turkey*

\***Senay Ozden**, Duke University  
*Borders of Belonging: Palestinian Refugees and the Politics of Opposition in Syria*

**Stefanie Nanes**, Hofstra University  
*The Impact of Iraqi Refugees on Jordanian Perceptions of Citizenship and National Identity*

**Are Knudsen**, Chr. Michelsen Institute  
*From Guerrillas to Guests: Changing Political Relations of Palestinian Refugees in Post-War Lebanon*

### **(P044) The Wild Card of Memory, Challenging the Present: Egyptian, Palestinian, and Armenian Historical Consciousness**

Organized by **Carel Bertram** and **Mohammad Salama**

**Carel Bertram**, San Francisco State University  
*New Signposts on the Landscape of Memory: Armenian Pilgrims in Modern Turkey*

**Mohammad Salama**, San Francisco State University  
*Re-Membering Nasser: Egyptian Nationalism between Memory and History*

\***Rochelle Davis**, Georgetown University  
*Turning Memory Into History: Palestinian Narratives of Village Life Before 1948*

**Salim Tamari**, University of California, Berkeley/Bir Zeit University  
*Soldiers' Diaries and the Reconstruction of WWI in Popular Memory: Palestine and Anatolia*

**Issam Nassar**, Illinois State University  
*Palestinian Articulation of the Past: The Role of al-Nakba as a Collective Memory*

### **(P134) Deciphering UN Security Council Resolution 242 after 40 Years**

Organized by **George E. Bisharat**

*Supported by the Institute for Palestine Studies*

Chair/Discussant: **George E. Bisharat**, Hastings College of the Law

**Richard Falk**, University of California, Santa Barbara  
*UNSCR 242: A Benchmark for Peace or a Geopolitical Gambit?*

**John Quigley**, The Ohio State University  
*Security Council Resolution 242 and the Right of Repatriation*

**Jamil Dakwar**  
*People Without Borders for Borders Without People: Demography and Peacemaking Under UNSCR 242*

**Omar Dajani**, University of the Pacific  
*The Resolution that Lacked Resolve: Tracing the Influence of 242 on Arab-Israeli Peace Talks*

**Michael Lynk**, University of Western Ontario  
*Conceived in Law: The Legal Foundations of Resolution 242*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

### **(NP63) Water and Land**

Chair: **Hoda Baraka**, American University in Cairo

**Leena Dallashah**, New York University  
*Land Rights and Citizenship in the Naqab (Negev)*

\***Stephen Gasteyer**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and

\***Tahreer Abed Araj**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
*Layering Access: Palestinian Community Management of Water Resources in Context*

**Zeynep Kadirbeyoğlu**, McGill University  
*Decentralization and Democratization: The Case of Water User Associations in Turkey*

**DOUBLE SESSION—CONTINUES UNTIL 1:00 p.m.**

### **(P062) Before Nationalism: Land and Loyalty in the Middle East**

Organized by **Steve Tamari**

*Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association*

This double session will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Chairs: \***Dina Rizk Khoury**, George Washington University and **Thabit Abdullah**, York University

Discussants: **Karl Barbir**, Siena College and **Thabit Abdullah**, York University

**Ulrika Martensson**, Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
*The Promised Land: The Material and Analytical Significance of the Sawad in al-Tabari's (d. 923 CE) History of the Messengers and the Kings*

**Nabil Al-Tikriti**, University of Mary Washington/USIP  
*Was There an Iraq Before There Was an Iraq?*

**Zayde Antrim**, Trinity College  
*Watan before Wataniyya: Love for Land in Ayyubid and Mamluk Syria*

**Dana Sajdi**, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin  
*The City Possessed: Narrations of Damascus in the 12th and 18th Centuries*

**Steve Tamari**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
*Bilad al-Shamism or Territorial Consciousness in Ottoman Syria*

**Boris James**, French Institute for the Near East, University of Paris  
*The Tribal Territory of the Kurds Through Arabic Medieval  
Historiography: Territorial Categories, Spatial Dynamics, and Sense  
of Belonging*

**Dyala Hamzah**, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin  
*Misir, Kinanatu-Allah fi ardihi or: Early 19th Century  
Egypt (Re)Invented*

**Sahar Bazzaz**, College of the Holy Cross  
*Salwat al-Anfas and the Topography of 'Baraka' in 19th Century Fez*

**Anne Troadec**, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (Paris)  
*Creating an Islamic Space: Baybars' Politics in Bilad al-Sham  
(658/1260-676/1277)*

### **(P079) From the Outside Looking In: Foreign Policy Perceptions of the Middle East**

Organized by **Noa Schonmann**  
Chair: **Marc Lynch**, George Washington University

**Noa Schonmann**, Oxford University  
*Israel's Periphery Pact: Constructing a New Middle East*

**Michael J. Willis**, Oxford University  
*Balancing Act: Moroccan Foreign Policy and the Middle East*

**Joshua Walker**, Princeton University/Council on Foreign Relations  
*The Shadow of the "Strategic Alliance" on Turkey's Middle East Policy*

**Seth E. Anziska**, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford  
*Forging a Two-State Solution: U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Israel and  
the Palestinians, 1976–1980*

### **(RT005) Orientalism, Racialization, and the Politics of Knowledge Production About the Middle East**

Organized by **\*Thomas P. Abowd** and **Amira Jarmakani**

Chair: **\*Thomas P. Abowd**, Wayne State University

**Amira Jarmakani**, Georgia State University

**Evelyn Alsultany**, University of Michigan

**Sunaina Maira**, University of California, Davis

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

#### **(P052) Revisiting Political Participation in the Arab World**

Organized by **\*Manal Jamal**

Chair: **Tarik Yousef**, Dubai School of Government

**Ellen Lust-Okar**, Yale University  
*Competitive Clientelism: Understanding Electoral Politics in the MENA*

**Mona El-Ghobashy**, Barnard College  
*Why Do Opposition Parties Participate in Limited Elections?*

**Amaney A. Jamal**, Princeton University  
*The Crisis of State Legitimacy and its Effects on Political Engagement  
in the Arab World*

**\*Manal Jamal**, Dubai School of Government  
*Civil Society Participation and the Primacy of Political Institutions*

#### **(P097) Rethinking Modernity in Late Ottoman Palestine**

Organized by **\*Awad Halabi**

Chair: **Issa J. Boullata**, McGill University

Discussant: **Gudrun Kraemer**, Free University of Berlin

**Johann Büssow**, Free University of Berlin  
*Class and Experiences of Modernity in the District of Jerusalem,  
1872–1918*

**\*Michelle Campos**, University of Florida  
*Making Citizens, Contesting Citizenship in Late Ottoman Palestine*

**\*Awad Halabi**, Wright State University  
*The Prophet Moses Festival: A Modern Celebration in Late  
Ottoman Jerusalem, 1850–1914*

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **(P023) Israeli Domestic Politics and Foreign Policy in the Aftermath of the Israel-Hizbollah War**

Organized by **Robert O. Freedman**

*Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies*

Chair: **Robert O. Freedman**, Baltimore Hebrew University/Johns  
Hopkins University

**Oded Haklai**, Queen's University  
*The Refocusing of Israeli Domestic Politics After the Second  
Lebanon War*

**Eyal Zisser**, Tel Aviv University  
*Israel and the Arab World after the Israel-Hizbollah War*

**Robert O. Freedman**, Baltimore Hebrew University/Johns  
Hopkins University

*Israel and the United States After the Israel-Hizbollah War*

**Pierre Atlas**, Marian College  
*Conflict Management and Conflict Resolution After the Israel-  
Hizbollah War*

**Laurie Zittrain Eisenberg**, Carnegie Mellon University  
*Gaming for Peace in the Aftermath of the Israel-Hizbollah War*

#### **(P090) States of Representation, States of Discourse in Contemporary Syria**

Organized by **Alexa Firat**

*Sponsored by the Syrian Studies Association*

Discussant: **Annie C. Higgins**, Wayne State University

**\*Faedah M. Totah**, Virginia Commonwealth University  
*Remembering and Forgetting: Urban Development in Damascus*

**Nell Gabiam**, University of California, Berkeley  
*Palestine Before the Golan: The Politics of Development in Syria's  
Refugee Camps*

**Edith Szanto Ali-Dib**, University of Toronto  
*Shi'i Children's Books: The Formation of Twelver Shi'i Identity,  
Community, and Practice*

**R. Shareah Taleghani**, New York University  
*On the Question of "Truth Claims": Contemporary Syrian Prison  
Literature and Human Rights Discourse*

**Alexa Firat**, University of Pennsylvania  
*Looking In, Looking Out: Formations of a Literary Discourse in Syria  
after 1967*

#### **(RT007) Rethinking Nationalism and Inter-Communal Relations in Late Ottoman Palestine**

Organized by **\*Abigail Jacobson**

Chair: **Salim Tamari**, University of California,  
Berkeley/Bir Zeit University

**Louis Fishman**, Carleton College

**Yuval Ben-Bassat**, University of Chicago

**\*Abigail Jacobson**, Interdisciplinary Center & Tel Aviv University  
**Roberto Mazza**, SOAS

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19** 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

#### **(NP53) Forms of Palestinian Resistance: Past and Present**

Chair: **Yong-Bin Lee**, Seoul National University

**Polly Pallister-Wilkins**, SOAS, University of London

*Ruptures in Palestinian Nationalism and Resistance: The Beit Sahour  
Tax Strike*

**Nadia G. Yaqub**, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

*Reading Gender and Modernity in Palestinian Political Cartoons*

Omar Tesdell, University of Minnesota

*Cartographic Confrontation: Maps As Palestinian Resistance and Knowledge Production*

\*Rena Barakat, University of Chicago

*A Different Kind of Arab Jerusalem: The Hebron Jerusalemite and the Buraq Revolt, August 1929*

Jane Power, Simon Fraser University

*Settlers vs. the State: Making British Labour Policy in Palestine and Northern Rhodesia, 1941–1947*

## (P112) Gender and Empire

Organized by Martina Rieker and Shahrzad Mojab

*Supported by the Cynthia Nelson Institute for Gender and Women's Studies, American University in Cairo and the Women and Gender Studies Institute at the University of Toronto*

Chair: Shahrzad Mojab, University of Toronto

Discussant: Martina Rieker, American University in Cairo

Haifa Zangana, London, United Kingdom

*Women Living Under Military Occupation in Iraq*

Nadeen Z. El-Kassem, University of Toronto

*The Pitfalls of a "Democracy Promotion" Project for Women of Iraq*

Nahla Abdo, Carleton University

*Imperialism, "Culture Talk," and Palestinian Women Resistance*

Sedef Arat-Koc, Ryerson University

*Turkish Feminism, Civil Society and the European Union: Empowered Voices, Silenced Issues*

\*Penny Johnson, Birzeit University

*Rights at Last?: Dilemmas of Global and Local Agendas Addressing Violence Against Palestinian Women*

Mariz Fikry Tadros, American University in Cairo

*The Elusive and the Illusionary: Donors' Empowerment Agenda in Perspective*

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

### (P093) Identity Politics and the Boundaries of Israel and Palestine

Organized by \*Maia Carter Hallward

\*Maia Carter Hallward, Kennesaw State University

*Negotiating Boundaries, Narrating Checkpoints: The Case of Machsom Watch*

Ned Lazarus, American University

*The War Within: Identity Mobilization, Self-Determination, and North American Peace Education for Israeli and Palestinian Youth*

Rebecca Kook, Ben Gurion University

*Between Right and Left: The Shoah in Israeli Identity*

Wafaa Hasan, McMaster University

*The Politics of Feminist Alliances in Israeli and Palestinian Women's Activism*

Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta, Independent Scholar, Burnaby, BC

*The Potential for Joint Struggle: An Examination of Present and Future Participation by Israelis in Palestinian Nonviolent Resistance to the Occupation*

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

### (NP50) Literature and Poetics in the Palestinian Imagination

Kevin W. Martin, Indiana University Bloomington

*Adnan al-Malki, the Martyr of Arabism: Murder, Masculinity, and Secular Sacrifice in Post-WWII Syria*

Nathalie Khankan, University of California, Berkeley

*Kam Tar Taram Tar: Reading Ghada Shafi'i and New Palestinian Poetry*

Noémie Crépeau, Université de Montréal

*About Otherness: From Violence to Conscience*

Montserrat Rabadan, Independent Scholar, Chicago, IL

*Female Ogres and Genies in Palestinian Fairytales*

### P069) Narrating Home and Homelands: Space, Place, and Displacement in Comparative Arab Diasporas

Organized by \*Rabab Abdulhadi and Rachad Antonius

Chair: Rachad Antonius, University of Quebec in Montréal

Discussant: \*Rabab Abdulhadi, San Francisco State University

Christoph Schumann, University of Bern

*Bilingualism and Political Communication in the Diaspora: Arab-American Publications in the USA and Turkish-German Magazines in Germany*

Samia Shoman, San Mateo Unified High School District

*Diasporic Activism: Arab-American Organizations and the Question of Palestine*

Nadje Al-Ali, Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies, University of Exeter

*Memory and "Truth" in the Diaspora: Constructing a Modern History of Iraqi Women*

Fadwa Allabadi, Al-Quds Arab University

*Home, Identity and Dispossession of Palestinian Refugee Women*

Akram Khater, North Carolina State University

*Becoming Syrian in America: A Global Geography of Ethnicity and Nation*

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

### (NP47) Political Parties in Transformation

Chair: Tamir Moustafa, Simon Fraser University

Khaled Helmy, Dartmouth College

*The Crescent, the Cross & the Ballot Box: The Inclusion-Moderation Hypothesis between Political Islam & Christian Democracy*

Emily Regan Wills, New School for Social Research

*Democracy, Citizenship and Women's Rights: Kuwait, 1999 and 2005*

\*Ghada Al Madbouh, University of Maryland

*Radicalism of Moderation?: Hamas's Transformation and the Prospects of a New Democratic Government*

Ashraf Elsherif, Boston University

*Transformation: Islamists Responses to Political Liberalization in Turkey and Egypt*

Gunes Murat Tezcur, Loyola University Chicago

*The Evolution of the Justice and Development Party: A Tale of Two Elections*

### (NP54) Palestinian Activism in Media and Arts

Chair: Nadia G. Yaqub, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

\*Julie Norman, American University

*Creative Activism: Youth Media in Palestine*

Sama R. Alshaibi, University of Arizona

*Without Papers*

Chiara De Cesari, Stanford University

*Cultural Heritage Beyond the State: The Healing Values of Palestinian Heritage Practices*

Lena Jayyusi, Zayed University

*Palestinian Broadcasting During the Oslo Years: Representation and Nation-Building in a Non-Sovereign Space*



## ANGEL M. FOSTER | Assessing the Reproductive Health Content of Nursing Education in Palestine



The political and economic situation in Palestine has had a dramatic impact on reproductive health services in the West Bank and Gaza. Restrictions on freedom of movement, including frequent curfews and closures, limit women's consistent access to family planning, prenatal, postpartum, and routine primary health services. Further, there is growing evidence that the worsening political, social, and economic conditions in Palestine are contributing to an

increase in the unintended pregnancy rate, the number of women

who self-induce abortions, risk behaviors that influence the transmission of STDs/HIV, and the number of women giving birth at home. A variety of linked interventions are needed to meet the reproductive health needs of Palestinian women. The Palestinian national development plans have repeatedly identified a number of priority areas for improving the health system and increasing the number of qualified health service professionals.

In Palestine, nurses and midwives represent 33 percent of all healthcare personnel and constitute the backbone of the primary health system. From contraceptive and intimate-partner violence counseling to IUD insertion and miscarriage management, nurses

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## JULIE NORMAN | Beyond the Battikh: Youth Participation in Nonviolent Activism in Palestine



Julie Norman is conducting dissertation research in Palestine on "Nonviolent Resistance in the West Bank," with a specific emphasis on the role of youth in popular struggle. The study aims to describe how popular resistance has shifted from the first intifada to the present, critically analyze the dynamics of the current nonviolent campaign, and

investigate the potential for the emergence of a more widespread popular movement. Despite notable local actions, Norman posits that, in contrast to the first intifada, current widespread popular participation is limited largely by the lack of significant youth engagement in the nonviolent struggle.

Norman uses a mixed methodology approach, incorporating narrative research, survey analysis, and participant action research. In-depth, semi-structured interviews will increase the understanding of current activism and how popular resistance has changed over the past 20 years. The interviews complement her participation and observation at various training sessions, events, and conferences related to nonviolence to inform her critical analysis of the current movement. Finally, she is

administering a survey to Palestinian youth to gauge their perceptions and attitudes toward nonviolent resistance to determine if there is a space for the current resistance efforts to take root in the new generation.

Norman hopes that her study fills a gap in the existing literature on Israel-Palestine by bringing the attention of both international scholars and policymakers to the emergence of a Palestinian nonviolent movement in the post second intifada context. She also hopes her research will be useful to nonviolent activists and community leaders in Palestine and Israel for critically analyzing the current movement and examining its potential viability. Finally, she expects the conclusions from the study will be useful to activists and scholars outside of Israel-Palestine who are interested in nonviolent activism and the role of youth in popular resistance.

Julie Norman is a Ph.D. candidate in International Relations at American University, with concentrations in peace and conflict resolution and human rights. She has worked with human rights organizations, youth groups, and documentary media projects in Palestine and Egypt.

*Ms. Norman can be reached at [norman.julie@gmail.com](mailto:norman.julie@gmail.com).*



# SHADI SAWALHA AND AMER EL-HAMOUCZ | Improvements of Recycled Plastic Properties by the Use of Olive Solid Waste

Though the daily consumption of plastic in Palestine has increased tremendously, there are no environmental regulations in the Palestinian territories for disposing of used plastic. Most, if not all, used plastic is disposed of along with the municipal solid waste and burned. With their research, Sawalha and El-Hamouz hope to reduce the environmental impact of used plastic while simultaneously investigating the possibility of improving recycled plastic's properties by adding olive solid waste particles using a simple extruder machine. This new methodology for recycling will guarantee that olive solid waste can be used to encourage the reuse of used plastic waste and thus contribute to the creation and maintenance of a green environment. Because of the low density and rigidity of olive solid waste, it can be used as subsidiary filler in plastic production instead of other additives, such as wood fibers. These additives affect mechanical properties, such as flexural strength and resilience. This project will offer a new method to address scientifically and practically the pressing need to preserve environmental health in Palestine.

To improve the properties of discarded plastic by employing olive solid waste as filler, a three-phase methodology will be used.

## Phase 1: Materials

### Used Plastic

High density polyethylene (HDPE), which is very popular in the Palestinian market, will be collected according to its recycling type.



Used plastic bottles of detergents and containers will be ground into flakes using plastic mills or crushers.

### Olive Solid Waste

Olive solid waste will be collected and sieved according to international standards.

Accumulated particle size under 100µm will be dried and cleaned from the residual oil using the Soxhlet method.

## Phase 2: Processing

Crushed, used plastic will be blended with fine particles of olive solid waste in different weight fractions by using a simple tumbling machine.

The mixture will be fed into a simple, single-screw extruder that will be operated at constant screw speed (20–40 rpm) and temperature of all zones (200°C). Several parameters, such as screw speed and temperatures, will be tested.

## Phase 3: Testing

Mechanical and physical properties (tensile strength and modulus of elasticity) will be examined from the prepared samples mentioned above. Effects of olive solid waste on the properties of the recycled plastics will be examined. In addition, the morphology of processed samples will be examined under an optical microscope.

Sawalha and el-Hamouz expect their research project will achieve the following outcomes:

- Enhancement of the utilization of olive solid waste in improving the mechanical and physical properties of recycled used plastic.
- Optimization of the operating condition of a simple, single-screw extruder, thereby supplying a practical apparatus with widespread availability and application.
- Recommendations on how to use the modified recycled plastic according to its properties.
- Encouraging Palestinian plastic producers and consumers to adopt this method of creating environmentally friendly recycled plastic.

*Shadi Sawalha is an engineer and a project supervisor at An-Najah University in Nablus, as well as a consultant for the Olive Chemical Detergents Company. He can be reached at sawalhashadi@yahoo.com. Dr. Amer El-Hamouz has a Ph.D. in chemical engineering and is an associate professor in the Chemical Engineering Department at An-Najah University in Nablus. He can be reached at elhamouz@yahoo.com.*



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## SAMIR KHALIL SHAATH | Evaluation of Physical Parameters of the Coastal Plain Aquifer in the Gaza Strip



The Gaza Strip, like many other parts of the Middle East, has a distinct and serious deficit of water that has created the current water-shortage problem for most of its residents. The quality of consumed water suffers from bacteriological contamination, as well as increases in nitrates and chlorides to levels that are already above the safety limit. Furthermore, it is forecasted that the quantity of available water, which is already scarce, may drop to levels incompatible with an acceptable standard of

living, public health, and social and economic development in the region. In short, Gaza's water quantity is decreasing year after year, and the quality of water is continuously deteriorating. Some suggestions to address these problems include increasing the water quantity in the reservoir and decreasing the usage of water through conservation.

Samir Shaath aims to calculate physical characteristics that

control the passage of fluids through the coastal plain aquifer in the Gaza Strip. He will analyze transmissivity, storage coefficients, porosity, and permeability. The Gaza Strip is divided into five locations according to the availability of pumping water wells in addition to observation wells. These locations are Beit Lahia, Beit Hanoun, Gaza City, Khan Younis, and Rafah. All the wells to be tested in these five localities supply water for domestic consumption, with most of them pumping water about 24 hours daily. The pumping tests will be carried out continuously for periods of 18–36 hours. To study and calculate the aquifer's physical characteristics, Shaath will execute some pumping tests to find the transmissivity and storage coefficients and dig open pits to decipher the permeability and porosity of the coastal plain aquifer in the Gaza Strip.

The investigation of the physical properties for the subsurface aquifer will enable the calculation of reservoir parameters, the amount of water stored in the aquifer, and the groundwater extent and thickness.

*With a Ph.D. in geology from Al-Neelain University in Khartoum, Dr. Samir Shaath is president of the Green Plains Group. He can be reached at [thegreenplains2004@yahoo.com](mailto:thegreenplains2004@yahoo.com).*

### ASSESSING THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CONTENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

are critical to the provision of comprehensive reproductive health care in both the West Bank and Gaza. Foster's project aims to assess the reproductive health content of nursing education in Palestine. Through a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, this study will document and analyze didactic and clinical curricula at 12 baccalaureate nursing postgraduate and certified-nurse midwifery programs in the West Bank and Gaza. Further, by surveying both faculty and a subset of nursing students, this research will identify gaps in the implementation of existing curricula and priority areas for reproductive health curriculum reform.

The findings will contribute to a better understanding of the experiences, exposures, training, and opinions of future nurses in Palestine. In addition to academic publications, the results from this research will be offered to nurse educators, universities, and nongovernmental organizations in the hope of improving reproductive health training at both the individual institution and country levels. Finally, it is anticipated that successful

completion of the study in Palestine will seed a larger regional initiative that will include both nursing and medical schools in the Levant, North Africa, and the Gulf.

Foster will carry out this project in close collaboration with two colleagues at the faculty of nursing, Bethlehem University; Ms. Françoise Daoud and Ms. Etaf Maqboul.

An Associate with Ibis Reproductive Health, Dr. Angel Foster leads a program dedicated to sexual and reproductive health in the Middle East and North Africa. Her work includes social science and health policy research on emergency contraception, abortion, young women's sexual behaviors and practices, and health professional education in the Arab world, as well as the development of Arabic-language health education materials for both patients and health service providers. A 1996 Rhodes Scholar from Oregon, she received a D.Phil. in Middle Eastern studies from Oxford University and an M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School.

*Dr. Foster can be reached at [afoster@ibisreproductivehealth.org](mailto:afoster@ibisreproductivehealth.org).*

## STEPHEN GASTEYER | A Systems Approach to Understanding Community Capacity to Manage Water Resources in Palestine

The international literature on water management argues increasingly for community and local management of water resources. Community management, however, is frequently depicted in case studies that describe individual community agency—*islands of success* without consideration of the broader political, social, and biophysical context. Stephen Gasteyer's research focuses on the role of different stakeholders in the Palestinian context by examining efforts to build capacity for community-based water management and disaster recovery in rural communities. Gasteyer uses a combination of content analysis of project documents and field research involving interviews with key stakeholders in selected communities, Palestinian government agencies, and Palestinian and international nongovernmental agencies. His approach situates Palestinian rural community water management in the context of regional water scarcity, which has been exacerbated by the political realities of Israeli control of water resources and a tradition of non-participatory, top-down water management. Gasteyer's research aims to describe the roles of multiple actors: grassroots organizations, nongovernmental organizations, government, and donors in efforts to facilitate water resources for rural communities in this context.

Gasteyer feels that to act as if the context of regional water scarcity and inequities of water access as a result of occupation do not exist in considering community water management in the Palestinian context would be absurd and that it would be equally absurd to ignore the role and capacity of the Palestinian Authority government. Gasteyer will consider how all of these factors, along with the roles of other nongovernmental actors and donors, interact with community members and representatives at the local level by comparing the



impact of water initiatives in different communities in the northern West Bank. In describing these impacts, Gasteyer aims to broaden the discourse on water in Palestine beyond both technical issues, on the one hand, and national water rights, on the other.

This research project will be conducted by Dr. Stephen Gasteyer, assistant professor, Department of Human and Community Development, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Tahreer Abed Araj, a Ph.D. student in the department of Human and Community Development. The project will result in presentations at professional meetings, including The Rural Sociological Society annual conference in Santa Clara, California, in August 2007, and the Middle East Studies Association annual conference in Montréal, Canada, in November 2007, and a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

*Dr. Gasteyer can be reached at [gasteyer@uiuc.edu](mailto:gasteyer@uiuc.edu). Ms. Araj can be reached at [araj1@uiuc.edu](mailto:araj1@uiuc.edu).*

### 2008-09 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

PARC announces its 9th annual competition for post-doctoral and doctoral research fellowships in Palestinian studies for the academic year 2008-09.

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 the research commences. Fellowships do not cover tuition costs.
- Senior researchers without doctorates but with a record of academic publication are also 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.
- Research may take place over a maximum of one year.
- Individual and joint research projects are eligible.
- Women applicants are especially encouraged.

**The deadline for full proposals is March 1, 2008.**

Fellowship awards range from \$2,500 – \$6,500.

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## PALESTINIAN AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER

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## PARC Membership Renewal

PARC appreciates the many institutional and individual members that have taken the time to renew their memberships. If your membership has lapsed, you are receiving this newsletter as a courtesy. Please fill out the membership coupon and send it in with your payment. All memberships run from June to the

following June. Any donations above the membership cost help to fund much needed research fellowships in Palestine. PARC is grateful for your continuing support.

*Return this form with your check in a stamped envelope.*



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TO PARC AND MAIL TO:

**PARC** c/o Penelope Mitchell

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*Membership contributions are tax deductible.*

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Palestine Individual Member \$10

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*(PARC publishes the names of all individual  
and institutional members and donors in our  
Spring newsletter.)*

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