**ZMO-Colloquium**

**Ottoman Urban Studies Seminar**

Organised by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi

**Twice a Month,**
**Mondays 17:00-19:00**
**Starting October 30, 2006**

**Venue:**
Conference Hall
Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33
14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Participants are asked to register at the following address:
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**I - The roots of urban governance in the Ottoman Empire**

Oct 30: Dr. Nora Lafi (ZMO), Introduction: New Stakes in the Urban History of the Ottoman Empire

Nov 13: Prof. Peter Schreiner (Universität zu Köln and Centro tedesco di Studi Veneziani): “Urban Governance in Byzantine Cities and Questions on the Passage to Ottoman rule”

Nov 27: Prof. Ahmed Akgündüz (Islamic University of Rotterdam), “The Islamic Hisba and the roots of Urban Government Principles in the Ottoman Empire”

**II - Aspects of the Ottoman Urban Old Regime: Government, Economy, Society**

Dec 11: Dr. Magdi Guirguis (Cairo University, Georg Graf Fellow of the Katholischer Akademischer Ausländerdienst), “Coptic Community and Urban Society in Ottoman Cairo”

Jan 8: Dr. Hannes Grandits (University of Graz): “Power and Loyalty in Herzegovinian Cities before 1876”

Jan 22: Dr. Dana Sajdi (Fellow of ‘Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe’ 2006/7), “Damascus in the 18th Century: What Kind of Civic Sphere?”

Feb 5: Prof. Nelly Hanna (American University Cairo), “Guild Waqfs in 18th century Cairo”

**III - New Trends in the Social History of Ottoman Towns**

Feb 19: Dr. Florian Riedler (ZMO), “Seasonal Workers in Istanbul”

Mar 5: Pr. Bruce Masters (Wesleyan University, Connecticut), “The rule of the ayan in 18th century Aleppo”

Mar 19: Dr. Malte Fuhrmann (ZMO), “Lower Class Austro-Hungarian and German Immigrants in Ottoman Cities”

**IV - New Perspectives on the Ottoman Urban Reforms and the rise of nationalism**

April 2: Dr. Zerrin Biner (Fellow of ‘Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe’ 2006/7), “Cosmopolitanism and changes in the civic identity in Mardin”

April 16: Canay Sahin-Fuhrmann (ZMO) “Urban notables in Ottoman Anatolia”

April 30: Johann Büssow (FU Berlin), “The Ottoman Reforms in Urban Palestine”

May 14: Sawsan Agha Kassab (University of Tripoli): “Questions on the Urban Society: Saida and Beirut at the beginning of the XIX century”

June 4: Prof. Ilber Ortayli (Topkapı Palace, Istanbul), “The Ottoman Urban Reforms and the role of the State”

June 18: Dr. Zafer Yenal (Fellow of ‘Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe’ 2006/7), “Urban sociability in Istanbul in the time of the reforms”

**Presentation of the Seminar**

What is the historical experience of cities in the former territories of the Ottoman Empire - in the Balkans, Anatolia, the Middle East, and North Africa - in dealing with the impact of global changes and the transformation from Empire to nation States? How did people of different cultural, social and religious backgrounds live together? How are such examples of conviviality, conflict, migration, and urban regimes of governance and stratification conceptualized? And how have urban traditions been reinterpreted, and what bearing does this have on modern conceptions of civil society, multicultural societies, migration, or cosmopolitanism. These and other questions will be addressed in this Seminar in Ottoman Urban Studies.