Invitation ZMO-EUME-Colloquium

Ottoman Urban Studies Seminar

Chaired by Prof. Ulrike Freitag and Dr. Nora Lafi
Annual Theme 2009 -2010: Post-Ottoman Cities

November 9, 2009: Introduction - Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi

November 16, 2009: Munir Kamal Fateh Eldin (Majdal Shams; Fellow of EUME 2009/10): The City, the Valley, and the Nation: on a post-Ottoman 'land settlement' in Mandate Palestine, 1921-1948

December 7, 2009: Mark Levine (University of California, Irvine / CMES Lund): Tel Aviv as a Colonial Post-Ottoman City

January 11, 2010: Ellinor Morack (FU Berlin, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies): The housing Question in Post-Ottoman Izmir and the Population exchange with Greece, 1924-30


February 8, 2010: Nabila Oulebsir (Université de Poitiers): French City or Ottoman? The Patrimonial Debate in 19th c. and early 20th c. Algiers

April 19, 2010: Kirsten Scheid (American University in Beirut; Fellow of EUME 2009/10): Erasure and Distortion: The Ottoman Memory in Contemporary Beirut Art Production

April 26, 2010: Kyle Evered (Michigan State University): Ankara: the Republican Urban Project and the Ottoman Heritage


June 28, 2010: Sait Ozervarli (Yildiz Technical University): Intellectual dimensions of continuity and transformation in post-Ottoman Istanbul

July 12, 2010: Conclusion - Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi

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 year’s Seminar in Ottoman Urban Studies. This seminar is supported with funds of the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung.