



Nahoststudien

Special lecture by Prof. Liat Kozma

# Palestinian doctors in the mandate period: A social history of relationships

In the framework of the seminar *A history of Late Modern Palestine: before and beyond the conflict (1840-1948)*

7. May 2024, 15:45-17:00  
Kollegienhaus, room 117

Instructor: Falestin Naili  
Seats are limited. Please register by email:  
[falestin.naili@unibas.ch](mailto:falestin.naili@unibas.ch)



British Mandate's Public Information Office (PIO), Israel State Archives.

The Palestinian medical profession emerged during the late Ottoman and mandate periods as a result of social, economic, and educational dynamics within an imperial, colonial, and settler-colonial context. This lecture will explore how the profession evolved within a complex web of relationships: within the Palestinian elite and an emerging middle class, between urban Palestinian society and its hinterland, between this professional group and the British colonial administration, and between Palestinian medical practitioners and their Jewish counterparts. In the absence of a pre-state infrastructure, the profession's development depended on regional, national, and localized networks.

Liat Kozma is currently a visiting researcher at the Graduate Institute in Geneva. She is an associate professor at the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies and the Harry Friedenwald Chair in History of Medicine at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 2017-2023, she held an ERC consolidator grant for a project titled *A Regional History of Medicine in the Middle East*. Her book manuscript, co-authored with Yoni Furas of Haifa University, *Palestinian Doctors 1900-1948, Medical Practice and the Transformation of Palestine* is currently under review at Cambridge University Press.