



University
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NAHOSTSTUDIEN
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

دراسات الشرق الأوسط

The Inter-University Doctoral Cooperation in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
(MUBIT)
invites you to a doctoral workshop with:

Dr. Kamel Dorai
University of Poitiers (currently based at IFPO, Amman)

From the Middle East to Northern Europe: Forced Migration, Asylum and Transnational Networks

Wednesday, 16 March 2016, 9.00-12.30
Kollegienhaus, Universität Basel
Seminarraum 103, Petersplatz 1, 4051 Basel

Forced migrations are usually described as "spontaneous" and analysed in terms of political and security constraints. If *push* factors as well as international politics are key issues for the understanding of refugee movements, little attention has so far been paid to dynamics generated by the refugees themselves. Refugee movements resulting from conflicts are often fashioned by previous migration flows and correlated network structures that are re-mobilized during the humanitarian crisis. Therefore, tracing a genealogy of mobilities in the Middle East will help better understand current forced migration processes and their connections with other forms of social organization built over time in a regional area (commercial mobility, family strategies, etc.). Based on two case studies, Palestinian and Iraqi refugees, this workshop proposes to analyse the role of networks in the migration process in the Middle East and towards Northern Europe and the way it contributes to the current theoretical debate in the field of forced migration studies.

Dr. Kamel Dorai is a researcher at the CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research) currently based at IFPO (Amman, Jordan) and research associate at MIGRINTER, University of Poitiers (France). He was based at the Ifpo in Damascus (Syria) from 2006 to 2010. He coordinates a research program (2015-2018) entitled Time of conflicts/ time of migration: Reflectionson the categories and genealogy of migration in the Middle East, funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR). His work focuses mainly on asylum and refugees in the Middle East and migration and transnational practices within the Palestinian diaspora. He is currently conducting research on Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria in Jordan and Lebanon as well as on the urbanization process of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. The comparative study between refugees residing in and out of camps as well as the analysis of their migratory experience and spatial practices provide an account of the refugees' socio-spatial dynamics in exile and of relationships between the camp refugees and their urban environment.



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The workshop is organised by the Seminar of Middle Eastern Studies, the Department of Social Sciences and the Graduate School of Social Sciences (G3S), University of Basel, and funded by *the Inter-university Doctoral Programme in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies (MUBIT) (Basel / Zurich)*. Active participation in the workshop (including obligatory reading) is a requirement to receive 2 ECTS credit point (MOnA, under course no. 44879) for masters and doctoral students. Please note that the places are limited. For (binding) registration please contact Dr Selen Etingü at g.etingue@unibas.ch by 13 March 2016.