



The Near Eastern Saddle Period: The Formation of Modern Concepts in Arabic, Turkish, and Persian

International Conference,
University of Bern, June 12–14, 2019

Keynote speaker: Prof. Dr. Margrit Pernau

Keynote location (June 12, 6pm): F 023, Unitobler

Detailed programme: <http://www.islamwissenschaft.unibe.ch>

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Burggemeinde
Bern

Universität Bern
Institut for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
Center for Global Studies (CGS)
Center for the Study of Language and Society (CSLS)

SNF-Forschungsprojekt 163687
The Roots of Citizenship

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Faculty of Humanities
**Institute for Islamic and Middle
Eastern Studies**

Conference programme

„The Neareastern Saddle Period“, University of Bern June 12–14, 2019

Registration is open until May 31 – to register and concerning other organizational matters, please write to the organizer’s assistant, Andrea Birrer: andrea.birrer@islam.unibe.ch

For questions related to the idea, content, and aim of the conference, please get in touch with the conference organizer, Florian Zemmin: florian.zemmin@islam.unibe.ch

Wednesday, 12. 6. 2019, F 023, Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36

5–6pm Registration

6.15pm Words of welcome and introduction Stefan Rebenich, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities;
Florian Zemmin, conference organizer

6.30pm Keynote Margrit Pernau: *Koselleck traveling. How do we translate the history of concepts?*

8pm Dinner (on premises)

Thursday, 13. 6. 2019, F -121, Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36: morning

9.30–10am Introduction Florian Zemmin

10–11.30am Panel 1 *The Arabic Nahda*

Jens-Peter Hanssen (University of Toronto): *Nafir Suriyya (1860-61): Towards a conceptual history of the Nahda*

Stephan Guth (University of Oslo): *Introducing a new literary sensibility: Khalīl al-Khūrī reads Lamartine*

Wael Abu-'Uksa (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): *Diachronic perspective on the concept of Tamaddun*

Discussant: Florian Zemmin

11.30am–12pm *Coffee break*

12–1.30pm Panel 2 *The modern subject: education, politics, philosophy*

Susanna Ferguson (Columbia University): *Tracing tarbiya: educating children across the nineteenth-century divide*

Nina Studer (University of Bern): *Voicing dissent: women and the anti-mandate protests of 1925 and 1926 in Syria and Lebanon*

Sevinç Yasargil (University of Bern): *The concept of freedom in 'Abd al-Raḥmān Badawī's existentialist philosophy*

Discussant: Jens-Peter Hanssen

1.30–2.30pm *Lunch (on premises)*

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Thursday, 13. 6. 2019, F -121, Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36: afternoon

2.30–4pm Panel 3 *The Ottoman modern order*

Daniel Kolland (FU Berlin): *Ottoman concepts of global modernity: the global temporality of the Ottoman revolution*

Nikos Sigalas (Cetobac, Paris): *How millet became the nation*

Markus Dreßler (University of Leipzig): *Religionization of din and secularization of millet in late-Ottoman lexicographic discourse: a conceptual history approach*

Discussant: Alp Eren Topal

4–4.30pm Coffee break

4.30–6pm Panel 4 *Science and the social*

Alp Eren Topal (University of Oslo): *From Galenic humors to modern biology: transformation of Ottoman political metaphors*

Erdal Kaynar (University of Strasbourg): *Conceptualising the social in the late Ottoman Empire*

Kenan Tekin (Yalova University): *Transformations in the concept of science during the Ottoman Saddle Period*

Discussant: Markus Dreßler

7.30pm Dinner for invited participants (Casa d'Italia)

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Friday, 14. 6. 2019, F -121, Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36

9–10.30am Panel 5 *Classical concepts and novel ideas*

Ata Anzali (Middlebury College): *Continuity and change: the case of ‘irfan in modern Persian literature*

Christopher Pooya Razavian (University of Birmingham): *Social justice in Ā’īn-i Islām*

Soumaya Louhichi-Güzel (Goethe University, Frankfurt): *Khilāfa: an evolving concept of political authority in Sunnī thought*

Discussant: Andrea Birrer

10.30–11am *Coffee break*

11am–12.30pm Panel 6 *Despotism and humanity*

Ingrid Eskild (University of Oslo): *The Revival of the term istibdād: diagnostics of a society between the old world and the new*

Banu Turnaoğlu (University of Cambridge): *Despotism (İstibdad) in Ottoman political thought*

Ömer Faruk Köksal (EHESS, Paris and University of Heidelberg): *Uses of counter-concepts in the late Ottoman period: the case of humanity, 1908-1914*

Discussant: Daniel Kolland

12.30–1.15pm **Concluding discussion**

1.15–2pm *Lunch for invited participants (Grosse Schanze)*

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