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
Conference programme

„The Near Eastern 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-ʿUksa (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 Badawi’s existentialist philosophy

Discussant: Jens-Peter Hanssen

1.30–2.30pm Lunch (on premises)
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)
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)