Beyond Orient and Occident – Israel and the Middle East
Young Researchers Workshop
Center for Jewish Studies (Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg)

Co-organized by
Ben Gurion Chair for Israel and Middle East Studies, Heidelberg
Center for Israel Studies, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich
DAVO Working Group ‘Israel and the Middle East’
German Association for Middle East Studies

Sponsored by
Fritz Thyssen Stiftung

Program

Day 1 (Sunday, October 18)
13:30 - 14:00 Registration
14:00 – 14:20 Welcome
Panel 1: Strategies of (Dis-) Association: Palestinian Voices
Chairperson: Susanne Enderwitz (University of Heidelberg)
14:20 – 14:40 Rami Zeedan (Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin): The Arab Palestinian Citizens and Israel’s 2015 Elections
14:40 - 15:00 David Landau (School of Oriental and African Studies, London): Nationalism and the (re)production of Minority: Minor Literature in Hebrew and Hindi
15:00 - 15:30 Discussion
15:30 – 15:50 Coffee Break

Panel 2: Shared Spaces and Hybrid Identities
Chairperson: Achim Rohde (Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Marburg)
15:50 – 16:10 Maria Gloria Polimeno (City University London): On the Price for Egypt’s Stability to Side with Israel’s Policies - Securitization and Gas Resources Management in the Mediterranean
16:10 – 16:30 Ilanit Derimian (Charles de Gaulle University, Lille): The Construction of a Hybrid Oriental-Occidental Identity of the Negev Desert
16:30 – 16:50 Dani Kranz (Rhein-Waal University of Applied Sciences): De-Westernization, Israelization, Hybridization: Israel as a Part of the Middle East?
16:50 - 17:20 Discussion
17:20 – 18:00 Coffee Break
18:00 – 19:00 Round Table: Israel Studies and Middle East Studies in Germany: Separate fields for a common space?

Participants:
Achim Rohde (Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Marburg)
Daniel Mahla (Center for Israel Studies, Munich)
Shelley Harten (DAVO Working Group ‘Israel and the Middle East’)
Johannes Becke (Center for Jewish Studies, Heidelberg)

19:30 Dinner

Day 2 (Monday, October 19)

Panel 3: “Mizrahim”: The Jewish Orient and the State of Israel

Chairperson: Amnon Aran (City University London)

09:00 – 09:20 Janine Tornow (Center for Jewish Studies, Basel): Israel – Medinat Aschkenas? The Third Generation of Mizrahim and the Relevance of their Cultural Roots

09:20 – 09:40 Josef Herbasch (Center for Jewish Studies, Heidelberg): Yoel Teitelbaum and Ovadia Yosef: Concepts of Exile in Ashkenazi and Sephardic Ultra-Orthodoxy

09:40 – 10:00 Julie Grimmeisen (Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich): The Jewish Beauty of the Orient. The Yemenite Miss Israel of 1952

10:00 – 10:30 Discussion

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Panel 4: Memories of Yesterday: The Nostalgia for an Open Middle East

Chairperson: Ihab Saloul (University of Amsterdam and University of Marburg)

11:00 – 11:20 Walid Abd El Gawad (Simon Dubnow Institute, Leipzig): The Forgotten Voice of a Jewish Orientalist: Israel Wolfensohn between Colonialism, Orientalism and Nationalism

11:20 – 11:40 Judith Müller (Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva): Between Orient and Occident: In Search of Levantine Identity in the Novels of A.B. Yehoshua

11:40 – 12:10 Discussion

12:10 – 14:00 Lunch

Panel 5: (Post-) Colonialism and the Legacy of the Mandate period

Chairperson: Johann Büßow (University of Tübingen)

14:00 – 14:20 Omer Aloni (Tel Aviv University): Orientalist Reflections in Early Israeli Law: (New) Perspectives on the Issue of Polygamy

14:20 – 14:40 Carl-Leo von Hohenthal (University of Freiburg): Why stay? And how to rule? British goals and strategies for Mandatory Palestine in the final years of Mandate rule

14:40 – 15:00 Dominik Peters (Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich): The Dream of the Wilderness: Israeli Occupation of the Sinai Peninsula

15:00 – 15:30 Discussion

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