

# CMES

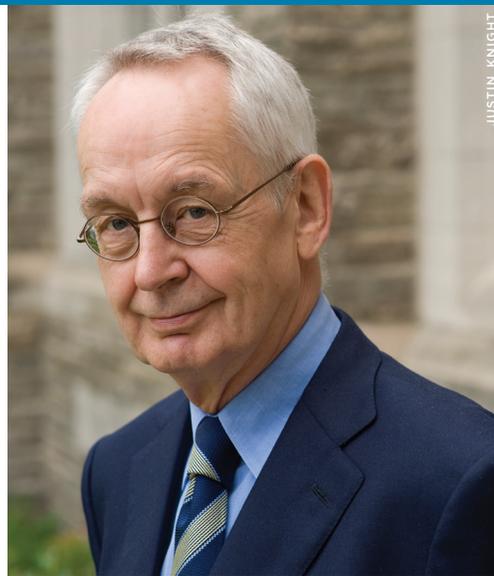
## NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FALL 2010



MARTHA STEWART



JUSTIN KNIGHT

### CMES WELCOMES PROFESSOR BABER JOHANSEN AS DIRECTOR

The Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) is pleased to welcome Professor Baber Johansen (*left*) as its new director. Baber Johansen is Professor of Islamic Religious Studies at Harvard Divinity School and has taught in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations since 2007. From 2006 to 2010 he was acting director of the Islamic Legal Studies Program (ILSP) at Harvard Law School, and an Affiliated Professor at the Law School. Prior to his appointment at Harvard, Professor Johansen served as Directeur d'études at the Ecole des hautes études en



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA

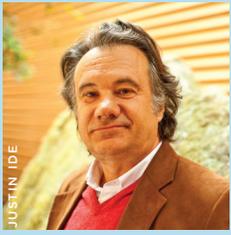


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JON CHASE

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Greetings CMES community & friends.

Over the past year CMES has undertaken a number of projects aimed at better communicating our diverse research and teaching activities. First came the redesign of our website. The new version, launched in April 2010, has event announcements;

video content; profiles on faculty, students, and alumni; and current Center news. Now it is time to revive the newsletter, which features highlights of our activities over the last year. I'm pleased to be introducing the first (new) issue, and welcome your comments about its form and content.

In 2009-10, when I had the privilege to serve this remarkable community as interim director, there were times when we felt it was not possible to keep up with all the activity at and around CMES. Nonetheless, to say that it was life as usual at Harvard would be deceptive, as budget cuts were palpable all across the University. That Middle Eastern studies continued to flourish—as

this newsletter bears witness—was thanks to the imagination, resourcefulness, and discipline of our faculty, staff, students, and visitors. Harvard's new Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, which has already yielded an appointment in Contemporary Islamic Thought and Practice and triggered a search in Modern Central Asian History, is a blessing, yet instruction in the languages to support MES-related fields remains on insecure footing. We were very pleased to receive news of our continued status as a Title VI National Resource Center for the 2010-2014 funding cycle, and we will continue to develop additional partnerships and funding sources in order to serve important and evolving research agendas and meet the needs of our talented students.

CMES is poised for great things under the leadership of our new director Baber Johansen (introduced in the article on page 1). I look forward to the coming years under his directorship.

*Cemal Kafadar, outgoing Interim Director*

sciences sociales (Centre d'étude des normes juridiques), Paris (1995-2005), and was Professor of Islamic Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin (1972-1995). He received his PhD and Habilitation from the Freie Universität Berlin in 1965 and 1972, respectively.

Professor Johansen is a leading scholar of Islamic law. He has published on a wide range of topics and has focused more recently on intersections between legal theory, legal practice, and culture. He is the sole author of four books, the co-writer of one collective work, and the co-editor of one volume. Exceptionally well known among these works are his *Contingency in a Sacred Law: Legal and Ethical Norms in the Muslim Fiqh* (Brill, 1999) and *The Islamic Law on Land Tax and Rent: The Peasants' Loss of Property Rights as Interpreted in the Hanafite Legal Literature of the Mamluk and Ottoman Periods* (Croom Helm, 1988). He is currently composing two new monographs: an examination of the eleventh-century Transoxanian jurist Al-Sarakhsi,

and a volume entitled *Property in Islamic law*. Professor Johansen is also the author of over 60 articles and book chapters. He is one of three executive editors of *Islamic Law and Society*, and served as area editor for Islamic Law in the *Oxford International Encyclopedia of Legal History* (Oxford University Press, 2009) and as adviser for the *Encyclopedia of Law and Society* (Sage, 2009).

Since his arrival at Harvard in 2005, Professor Johansen's contributions to the University and the field of Islamic studies have been manifold; only a select few can be noted here. As acting director of ILSP, he founded the Abd al-Razzaq al-Sanhuri Lecture Series on Legal Interpretation in the Muslim World. He hosted major events—the first on the *salam* contract, the second convening leading judges of Arab high courts—as well as a number of smaller workshops. He has brought eminent scholars, practitioners, and renowned figures from around the world to lecture, teach, research, and write at Harvard. Courses

taught at Harvard by Professor Johansen include “Introduction to Islamic Law,” “Islamic Rules on Women: Muslim Feminists’ Critique of Classical Legal Norms,” “Constitutional Courts of the Arab World,” and “The Islamic Ritual on Purity and Impurity: Belief, Humanity, Genders, and Procreation.”

As director of CMES, Professor Johansen will continue to advance the Center's mission of promoting the study of the Middle East at Harvard. As in the past, the Center will support the creation of new courses, convene seminars and lectures, invite guest speakers, host visiting researchers and faculty, and provide a hospitable home base for graduate and undergraduate students. Professor Johansen is also committed to ensuring that CMES persists in its broad and important mission of public outreach, connecting the public to the Center's research and resources.

In the realm of new activities at CMES, Professor Johansen

will chair a project entitled “The Protocol of the Gaze,” supported in part by the Center's US Department of Education Title VI grant and co-sponsored by Harvard's Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality. Building on his previous work on the subject, the project will focus on the role that the ritual of purity and “protocol of the gaze” have played in Muslim religion and culture in the development of gendered concepts, rules applying to free women and slaves, and distinctions between the private and the public spheres.

Professor Johansen will serve as director of CMES for three years. All of us at CMES look forward to working with Professor Johansen to further enhance and expand Middle Eastern studies at Harvard.

PREVIOUS PAGE: TOP ROW, LEFT CMES AM graduate Hillary Downs. RIGHT Professor Baber Johansen. MIDDLE ROW CMES Outreach Nowruz 2010. BOTTOM ROW, LEFT Professors Engin Akarli (Spring 2010 Gibb lecturer) and Cemal Kafadar. RIGHT CMES's Silverman Memorial Lecture.

# CMES EVENTS

In the 2009-10 academic year, CMES sponsored over 100 seminars, lectures, workshops, and other events, attended by over 3,000 members of the Harvard community and the general public. For a list of ongoing CMES seminars and lecture series, see page 11. A calendar of upcoming events can be found at: <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/events/calendar>.

## SPRING 2010 H.A.R. GIBB LECTURE SERIES

Engin Deniz Akarli, Joukowsky Family Distinguished Professor of Modern Middle East History and Professor of History at Brown University, delivered the H.A.R. Gibb Lectures on May 11, 12, and 13, 2010. Named for Hamilton A.R. Gibb, Harvard's Jewett Professor of Arabic and director of CMES from 1957 to 1966, the Gibb lecture series was established in 1964 through a generous donation by Mr. John Goelet, himself a student of Professor Gibb. Professor Akarli's topic was Ottoman legal history, its uses, its dilemmas, and its future as a field of research. In his first lecture, entitled "What Good is Ottoman Legal History For?" Professor Akarli reviewed research on Ottoman legal history and highlighted the issues that have occupied scholars. The second lecture, "Custom as Signifier of Consensus, Commonality, and Right," addressed the place of custom in Ottoman legal practice and theory. Professor Akarli's third lecture, "Religious Differences and Trans-religious Commonalities in the Arcades of 18th-Century Istanbul," examined the manner in which courts handled non-Muslim subjects, adherents of divergent forms of Islam, and Sufis.

## "UNDER THE SKIN: THE FILMS OF RAKHSHAN BANI-ETEMAD"

One of Iran's most celebrated film directors, Rakhshan Bani-Etemad, was honored with a retrospective of her work at the Harvard Film Archive in April 2010. Held over three evenings, April 23, 25, and 26, the series offered an innovative mix of Bani-Etemad's internationally award-winning fiction and documentary films, including *Nargess* (1992), *The May Lady* (1998), *Our Times* (2002), *Mainline* (2006), and her most recent film on the 2009 Iranian presidential election, *We Are Half of Iran's Population* (2009). The director was present for two nights of screenings and participated in lively discussions with students, faculty, and HFA patrons about her films and contemporary events in Iran. The event was presented with support from CMES's Title VI grant funding as well as from the Film Study Center at Harvard, Harvard College Women's Center, the Crown Center for Middle East Studies at Brandeis, the ILEX Foundation, and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

**TOP ROW** Professor Engin Akarli and 2009-10 CMES Director Cemal Kafadar. **SECOND ROW, LEFT** Professor Akarli talks to guests at a reception before the second Gibb lecture. **RIGHT** Professor Baber Johansen talks to Professor Akarli at the reception. **THIRD ROW, LEFT** Professor Akarli delivers a lecture for the spring 2010 H.A.R. Gibb lecture series. **RIGHT** Rakhshan Bani-Etemad discusses her work at a screening of her films. **BOTTOM ROW** Syrian-American Hip Hop artist Omar Offendum performs in Arabic and English at an Outreach workshop.



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TARA JONES

## “THE LANGUAGE OF GLOBAL HIP HOP CULTURE IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST REGION”

On April 30 and May 1, 2010 the CMES Outreach Center hosted a workshop for K-12 teachers and the general public on Hip Hop in Africa and the Middle East. Friday’s session included an overview of the global Hip Hop phenomenon; ways to introduce the topic in the classroom; case studies from West, East, and South Africa; and live performances in Creole (Cape Verde), Wolof (Senegal), and Arabic (Syria). Saturday featured in-depth looks at major trends and artists in Egypt, Israel-Palestine, Syria, and Jordan. The workshop attracted new audiences to the Outreach Center’s offerings and forged new working relationships with a variety of organizations nationally (UCLA and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and on campus (Committee on African Studies, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, Pluralism Project, Club Medina, Society of Arab Students, and Alliance for Justice in the Middle East). Video of selected discussions and performances is available at: <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/outreach/news/hiphopworkshop>.

## THE INAUGURAL HILDA B. SILVERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE ON ISRAEL/PALESTINE

On May 14, 2010, Dr. Susan Akram, Clinical Professor at the Boston University School of Law, delivered the inaugural lecture of the Hilda B. Silverman Memorial Lecture on Israel/Palestine, a new lectureship established at CMES in 2009. (More information about the Silverman lectureship is available on our website: <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/events/sle/silverman>.) Dr. Akram’s lecture, “Hilda’s Unanswered Question: What about the Palestinian Refugees?” was attended by approximately 75 people. Situating the Palestinian refugee problem within an international legal framework, Professor Akram challenged several critical arguments commonly made that seek to negate the rights of the refugee community. In her intellectually rich and substantive presentation, Dr. Akram made a powerful and compelling case for the importance of, and method for, addressing this persistent and complex issue.

**BELOW, LEFT** Audience members at the inaugural spring 2010 Hilda B. Silverman Memorial Lecture on Israel/Palestine. **RIGHT** Dr. Susan Akram answers questions from the audience.



## PHD STUDENT NEWS



CMES PhD student **Sa’ed Adel Atshan** was awarded a National Science Foundation Research Fellowship, a highly competitive fellowship providing tuition support and a \$30,000 per year stipend. The funding will allow him to spend a year in the West Bank conducting research for his doctoral dissertation on Palestinian mental health. Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations awarded CMES PhD student **Ekin Tusalp** a Junior Residential Fellowship for the 2010-11 academic year to research her dissertation. CMES PhD student **Emrah Yildiz** organized, with Professor Cemal Kafadar, a two-day workshop held April 30–May 1, 2010 on “Gender,

Sexuality, and the Question of the Islamicate across Turkish-Persian Landscapes.” The workshop brought together prominent scholars and advanced graduate students in history, history of art, literature, sociology, and anthropology. Four CMES PhD students were invited to present papers at conferences in the 2009-10 academic year: **Kathryn Schwartz**—Cryptologic History Symposium (October 2009, Johns Hopkins, Laurel, MD); **James Esdaile**—Conference on Imperial Territoriality (January 2010, Freie Universität Berlin); **Asher Orkaby**—GWU-LSE-UCSB International Graduate Student Conference on the Cold War (April 2010, GWU, Washington, DC); and **Abigail Krasner Balbale**—International Congress on Medieval Studies (May 2010, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo). Five CMES PhD students were awarded Certificates of Distinction in Teaching for Spring 2010 from Harvard’s Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning: **John William Day**, **James Esdaile**, **Abigail Krasner Balbale**, **Leonard Wood**, and **Alireza Doostdar**.

## AM STUDENT NEWS

Master’s student **Hillary Downs** (’10) served as one of eight Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) commencement marshals in the May 2010 commencement ceremony. Hillary was selected based on her contributions to the GSAS community, which included serving as president of the Harvard Middle East Cultural Association. Three 2010 graduates from the CMES AM program have been admitted to Harvard PhD programs this fall: **Allison Blecker** (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations); **Henry Bowles** (Comparative Literature); and **Thomas Wide** (Inner Asian and Altaic Studies).

## CMES 2010 GRADUATES



MARTHA STEWART

ABOVE Graduates from Harvard's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Congratulations to the following CMES students, who graduated in 2009-10.

### Joint PhD Programs

#### Chotirat Komaradat

(History & MES)

*Dissertation:* "Friends Fall Apart: Relations between Egypt and India from 1952-1970"

#### Aaron Shakow

(History & MES)

*Dissertation:* "Marks of Contagion: the Plague, the Bourse, the Word and the Law in the Early Modern Mediterranean, 1720-1762"

#### Anthony Shenoda

(Anthropology & MES)

*Dissertation:* "Cultivating Mystery: Miracles and the Coptic Moral Imaginary"

### AM Program

#### Sara Berger

#### Allison Blecker

*Thesis:* "Communities Like Your Own: The Question of the Animal

in Ibrahim al-Koni's 'The Bleeding of the Stone' and 'Gold Dust'"

#### Henry Bowles

*Thesis:* "Boudoir of Spirit: The Rhetoric of Form in the Medieval Near East"

#### Erin Bys

*Thesis:* "Piracy on the High Sands: The Failure of Regulatory Reform After the 2006 Kuwait Stock Exchange Correction"

#### Marielle Costanza

*Thesis:* "Dabkeh in Contemporary Lebanon: Dancing Through the House of Many Mansions"

#### Hillary Downs

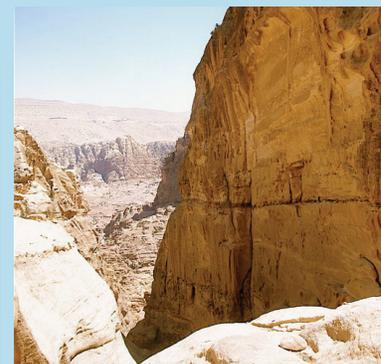
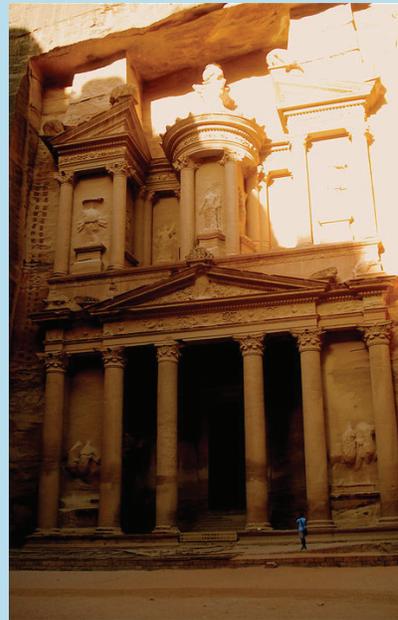
*Thesis:* "Kissinger and the King: Reevaluating the Jordanian Option in the 1970's Peace Process"

#### Meagan Froemming

#### Chloe Safier

#### Thomas Wide

CMES AM student **Marshall Nannes** spent the summer of 2010 in Amman, Jordan. He took the photos below on a visit to Petra. **TOP ROW** Marshall on his faithful steed, a donkey named "Michael Jackson." **SECOND ROW, LEFT** Sunrise at the Treasury. **RIGHT** A glimpse of the Treasury from the Siq. **BOTTOM ROW** The mountains surrounding the Monastery (al-Deir).



BELOW 2010 AM graduate Hillary Downs.



MARTHA STEWART



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA

LEFT CMES PhD students Aleksandar Sopov and Sükrü İlicak. BELOW CMES PhD student Abigail Krasner Balbale at a CMES reception.



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA

## PUBLICATIONS

Alumna **Sahar Bazzaz** (PhD '02), Assistant Professor of History at the College of the Holy Cross, published *Forgotten Saints: History, Power, and Politics in the Making of Modern Morocco*, part of CMES's Harvard Middle Eastern Monograph Series (see page 9 for details). Alumnus **Giancarlo Casale** (PhD '04) published *The Ottoman Age of Exploration*, (Oxford University Press, 2010). Giancarlo Casale is Assistant Professor of the History of the Islamic World and the 2009-11 McKnight Land Grant Professor at the University of Minnesota.

## TALKS & AWARDS

Alumnus **Cemil Aydin** (PhD '02) gave a talk entitled "The Ottoman Empire in/and Modern Islamic Thought" at CMES on April 16, 2010. Video of the event is available at <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/node/2052>. Cemil Aydin is Associate Professor of History and Director of the Ali Vural Ak Center for Islamic Studies at George Mason University. At the 2009 annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), alumnus **Ahmed El Shamsy** (PhD '09) was honored with the Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Award for Humanities for his dissertation "From Tradition to Law: The Origins and Early Development of the Shafi'i School of Law in Ninth-Century Egypt."

## ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Alumnus **Timothy Fitzgerald** (PhD '09) is Lecturer in History at Rice University. Alumnus **Martin Nguyen** (PhD '09) is Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies in the Religious Studies Department at Fairfield University. Alumna **Thanavon Pamaranon** (AM '09) accepted a position at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Thailand as a specialist in Middle Eastern affairs. Alumnus **Ahmed El Shamsy** (PhD '09) is Assistant Professor in History at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. 2010 PhD graduate **Anthony Shenoda** accepted a teaching position as Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Scripps College (Claremont, CA) for the 2010-11 academic year.

## ATTENTION CMES ALUMNAE/I

We want to hear from you! Send your news and updated contact information to [jbodynk@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:jbodynk@fas.harvard.edu) so we can include you in our next newsletter.

Arabic Preceptor **Khaled Al-Masri** completed his PhD in spring 2010 (Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) and is editor and co-translator of a forthcoming anthology of Arabic short stories, published by Penguin. Arabic preceptor **Mostafa Atamnia** taught intensive elementary Arabic at the Harvard Summer School this summer. CMES Associate **Don Babai** gave a series of lectures on international financial institutions at Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (UADE), Buenos Aires, and made presentations on the changing face of family firms in Saudi Arabia at the Family Business Summit in Bahrain and at the American University in Cairo's (AUC) Seventh Annual Forum on the Economic and Business History of Egypt and the Middle East. In fall 2010 he will be teaching a course on globalization at the Dubai School of Government. **Steven Caton**, Professor of Contemporary Arab Studies, co-authored an article with Bernardo Zacka entitled "Abu Ghraib, the security apparatus, and the performativity of power," *American Ethnologist*, 37.2 (May 2010): 203-211. CMES Associate and Islam in the West Program Director **Jocelyne Cesari** edited *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law* (Routledge, 2009). The Islam in the West Program was recently awarded funding from the Social Science Research Council for a redesign of its Islamopedia Online website (<http://islamopediaonline.org>). Professor of the Practice of Arabic **William Granara** spoke at several venues in the spring and summer of 2010 including the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO) in Paris, the June 2010 conference of the European Association for Modern Arabic Literature (EURAMAL) in Rome, Université Paris 3, and Middlebury Arabic School, Oakland, CA. In March, Professor Granara met with faculty from Sciences Po to discuss a joint Harvard-Sciences Po summer program to begin next summer. **Baber Johansen**, Professor Islamic Religious Studies, Harvard Divinity School, and CMES director as of July 2010, was one of three panelists in a discussion at The Graduate Center, CUNY, entitled "The Rise of Intellectual Reform in Islam" on April 20, 2010 (available online at [http://fora.tv/2010/04/20/The\\_Rise\\_of\\_Intellectual\\_Reform\\_in\\_Islam](http://fora.tv/2010/04/20/The_Rise_of_Intellectual_Reform_in_Islam)) and lectured in Berlin and Istanbul over the summer. Vehbi Koç Professor of Turkish Studies **Cemal Kafadar** published a collection of essays in Turkish entitled *Kim var imiş biz burada yoğ iken* (Metis, 2009). Professor Kafadar gave a talk in Istanbul in January 2010 on Turkish coffeehouse culture (available online at <http://www.turkishculturalfoundation.org/pages.php?ID=60>), and delivered a lecture at the Turkish Historical Society's conference on Byzantine history held at the historic Hagia Eirene. **Susan Kahn**, Associate Director of CMES, has three forthcoming publications: "Are Genes Jewish: Conceptual Ambiguities in the New Genetic Age" in *The Boundaries of Jewish Identity*, Susan Glenn and Naomi Sokoloff, eds., University of Washington Press; "The Mirth of the Clinic: Fieldnotes from an Israeli Fertility Center" in *Reproductive Technologies in Israel*, Dapha and Yoram Carmeli, eds., Berghahn Books; and "Canines in Canaan: The Invention of Israel's National Breed" in *A Jew's Best Friend: the Image of the Dog*

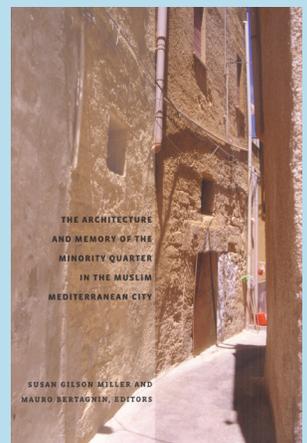
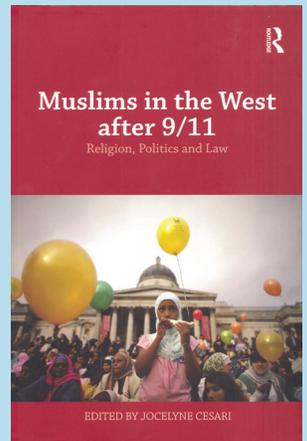
*Throughout Jewish History*, Rakefet Zalashik and Philip Ackerman Lieberman, eds., Sussex Academic Press. In the summer of 2010, she was an invited speaker at two academic seminars: “Dogs, Humans and Other Animals” at UC Berkeley and the Posen Summer Seminar on Judaism and Secularization at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. CMES Associate **Lenore Martin** co-authored a policy statement published in March 2010 by the Boston Study Group on Middle East Peace entitled “Israel and Palestine—Two States for Two Peoples: If Not Now, When?” CMES Associate **Susan G. Miller** is co-editor of a new book entitled *The Architecture and Memory of the Minority Quarter in the Muslim Mediterranean City* (2010) published by the Aga Khan Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Susan Miller is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Davis. Contributors to the volume include CMES faculty member **William Granara** and CMES alumnae **Ilham Khuri-Makdisi** (PhD '04), **Karen Leal** (PhD '03), and **Emily Gottreich** (PhD '99). **Roy Mottahedeh**, Gurney Professor of History and Chair of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, published “Faith and Practice: Muslims in Historic Cairo” in *Living in Historic Cairo: Past and Present in an Islamic City*, edited by Farhad Daftary, Elizabeth Fernea, and Azim Nanji (Institute of Ismaili Studies and University of Washington Press, 2010). Professor Mottahedeh gave twelve invited lectures in the 2009–10 academic year, including two in April at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, and the Middle East Institute, Columbia University. **Gülru Necipoğlu**, Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Art and Director of the Aga Khan Program of Islamic Architecture, delivered lectures in spring 2010 for MIT’s Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture and Stanford’s Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, and was the distinguished speaker in the 2010 Mary C. Stoddard Seminar in the History of Art at UC Berkeley. **Roger Owen**, A.J. Meyer Professor of Middle Eastern History, was one of two people honored with the prestigious “WOCMES Award for Outstanding Contributions to Middle Eastern Studies 2010” at the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies in Barcelona in July. Professor Owen’s *Lord Cromer: Victorian Imperialist, Edwardian Proconsul* (Oxford University Press, 2004) was the subject of a Translation Salon held on May 23rd during the AUC’s forum on the Economic and Business History of Egypt and the Middle East. **David Roxburgh**, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Professor of Islamic Art History, helped organize a fall 2009 symposium at the University of Pennsylvania in honor of his doctoral advisor Renata Holod, and participated in a panel discussion at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with museum curators and Sir Salman Rushdie about Rushdie’s novel *The Enchantress of Florence* (Random House, 2008). Based on a 2009 lecture tour in Japan, a book of CMES associate **Sara Roy’s** lectures and articles was published in Japan in fall 2009.

RIGHT Professor Roger Owen, recipient, with Josef Van Ess, of the “WOCMES Award for Outstanding Contributions to Middle Eastern Studies.”

## DEPARTURES & ARRIVALS

Arabic Preceptor **Sayed Elsi** is leaving Harvard for a position as assistant professor of modern Arabic literature at the University of Maryland. This fall two new preceptors join the Arabic program: **Nevenka Korica-Sullivan**, former CASA Executive Director at American University in Cairo; and **Paul Wulfsberg**, former Assistant Director, C.V. Starr-Middlebury School in the Middle East.

CMES warmly welcomes **Malika Zhegal**, former associate professor of the anthropology and sociology of religion at the University of Chicago’s Divinity School, who has been appointed Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Professor in Contemporary Islamic Thought and Life at Harvard University in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and the Committee on the Study of Religion, effective July 1, 2010.



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA



# VISITING RESEARCHER NEWS



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA

**TOP** Visiting Fellow Nahid Afrose Kabir (left) and 2009-10 Post-Doctoral Fellow Karam Dana. **BOTTOM** 2009-10 Visiting Scholar Asli Niyazioglu (right) talks to Cemal Kafadar.

Each year CMES hosts visiting researchers who contribute to the intellectual life of the Center while pursuing their own research projects with the help of Center and University resources. The following are some of the accomplishments of our 2009-10 visiting researchers: **Karam Dana** (Post-Doctoral Fellow) received the Best Paper Award from the American Political Science Association and a \$50,000 grant (with Matt Barreto) from the Social Science Research Council to organize a conference related to research on Muslim Political participation in the US. **Yusri Hazran** (Post-Doctoral Fellow) published an article in *The Muslim World*, Vol. 100, No. 1, and is working on two research projects on intermarriage among Arab elites and the social origins of sectarianism in the Middle East. **Nahid Afrose Kabir** (Visiting Fellow) published articles in three refereed journals: *Continuum: Journal of Media and Cultural Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 6; *Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 3; and *Illumina*, Issue 3. **Rajani Kanth** (Visiting Fellow) published *The Challenges of Eurocentrism* (Macmillan, 2009) and gave several talks including the keynote address at the World Peace Conference in Thailand in July. **Erez Naaman** (Post-Doctoral Fellow) has accepted a job offer as Assistant Professor of Arabic at the American University in Washington, DC. **Asli Niyazioglu** (Visiting Scholar) has made extensive use of Harvard Library's resources for her book project "Dreams, The Dead, and Sufi Sheikhs: A Study on a Seventeenth Century Ottoman Biography Project." **Coskun Tastan** (Visiting Fellow) finished his doctoral dissertation and wrote a forthcoming three-volume work on "Freudism in Turkey." **Mark Tomass** (Visiting Fellow) wrote the initial chapters of his book project "The Unmaking of Nation States." **Umut Uzer** (Post-Doctoral Fellow) published three articles and one book review, spoke at the Levin Institute (SUNY), and moderated a symposium held at the UN entitled "Atatürk's Legacy: Transformation Of A Nation's Conscience."

For more information about the visiting researcher program including application procedures and deadlines, please visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/about/visiting-researchers>.

## 2010-11 VISITING RESEARCHERS

### Visiting Fellows:

Butrus Abu-Manneh  
Nader Ardalan  
Nahid Afrose Kabir  
Elaheh Kheirandish  
Habib Ladjevardi  
Frode Saugestad  
Omayra Herrero Soto  
Mark Tomass  
Michael Winter  
Husam Zomlot

### Post-Doctoral Fellows:

Mustafa Beyazit  
Yasemin Beyazit  
Dogan Gurpinar

Fariba Parsa  
Ozlem Sert  
Masayuki Ueno  
Richard Wittmann

### Visiting Scholars:

Mesut Aydinler  
Mehmet Bulut  
Mahdi Farhani Monfared  
Osman Caner Taslaman

### Koç Visiting Scholars (Summer 2010):

Kaan Guven  
Metin Sezgin



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA

# CMES AT MESA 2009

# MIDDLE EASTERN MONOGRAPHS



CMES graduate students, faculty, alumni, visiting researchers, and affiliates participated in over 40 panels during the MESA Annual Meeting in Boston, November 21-24, 2009. **LEFT** William Granara (second from left), Eve Troutt Powell (CMES PhD '95), Don Babai, and Susan Kahn. **TOP ROW** Afsaneh Najmabadi (Francis Lee Higginson Professor of History and Professor of the Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality) talks to Susan Miller. **MIDDLE ROW, LEFT** Roy Mottahedeh and Richard Frye (Aga Khan Professor of Iranian, Emeritus). **RIGHT** Feryal Hijazi (Arabic Preceptor) and Kathryn Schwartz (CMES PhD student). **BOTTOM ROW** Former CMES student Ramyar Rossoukh and Zahra Jamal (CMES PhD '08).

CMES recently published two new monographs in its Middle Eastern Monograph series, which currently numbers over 40 titles. For a full list of Middle Eastern Monographs, visit <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/research/mems>. The series is distributed by Harvard University Press. To order, please visit <http://www.hup.harvard.edu>.

***Forgotten Saints: History, Power, and Politics in the Making of Modern Morocco*** — Sahar Bazzaz

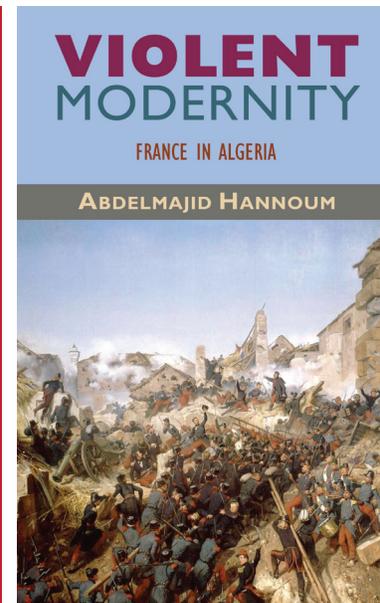
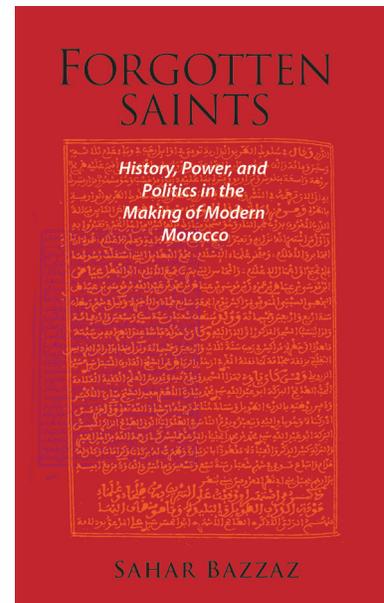
*Forgotten Saints* tells the story of Muhammad al-Kattani, a Muslim mystic who abandoned his life of asceticism in 1894 to preach Islamic revival and jihad against the French, and was later murdered by his fellow anti-colonialists. Sahar Bazzaz uses a diverse collection of previously unknown primary sources to narrate the vivid story of al-Kattani and his virtual disappearance from accounts of modern Moroccan history.

*Sahar Bazzaz (CMES PhD '02) is Associate Professor of History at the College of the Holy Cross; an Associate in Comparative Cultural Studies, Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University; and founding member of the Harvard-Olympia Summer Program in Comparative Cultural Studies.*

***Violent Modernity: France in Algeria*** — Abdelmajid Hannoum

In *Violent Modernity*, Abdelmajid Hannoum examines the advent of political modernity in Algeria and shows how colonial modernity was not only a project imposed by violence, but also a violent project in and of itself, involving massive destruction and significant transformation of the population of Algeria.

*Abdelmajid Hannoum teaches anthropology and African Studies at the University of Kansas. He is the author of Colonial Histories, Postcolonial Memories.*



# THE OUTREACH CENTER

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTREACH CENTER

Paul Beran, Director, Outreach Center

The Outreach Center (CMESOC) at CMES assists K-16 educators around the country in their teaching on topics related to the Middle East region and Islam/Muslim communities. Increasingly, we are leveraging our work online, as new technology allows us to reach a larger audience and engage with educators around the world. Our active Facebook presence is growing on a daily basis (<http://bit.ly/Outreachcenter>), expanding our direct outreach in New England and beyond. In May 2010, a webcast of our Hip Hop workshop drew web traffic from dozens of countries, a success that will serve as a model for future programs. Our resource-rich website includes videotaped seminars, interviews, downloadable maps, lesson plans, and two brand-new multimedia offerings: a narrated digital slideshow on Muslim communities in northern India entitled "Sacred Spaces," and an in-depth feature on Hip Hop in the Middle East. As we continue reaching out to broader audiences online, collaboration with other Title VI National Resource Centers both on campus and around the country will be another important focus for CMESOC, building on momentum gained from our Hip Hop workshop, which brought together a dynamic mix of partners (see page 4). We hope you will access our website resources at <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/outreach> and be in touch with us to partner on a program.

**BELOW** Teachers from an Outreach Center co-led Fulbright Hayes Group Project Abroad learn about the Aga Khan Development Network's (AKDN) work in the Darb Al-Ahmar section of Cairo with Dina Bakhoun, (center, pointing). The program, held July and August 2010, was on teaching about contemporary Muslim communities in Egypt and Tanzania using the cultural studies method of religious studies. **TOP ROW** K-12 teachers from the 2010 Egypt Forum, on Muiz Street in Islamic Cairo. The Egypt Forum is a one-year teacher training program that combines Harvard-based study, travel to Egypt, and classroom implementation: <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/outreach/news/2010egyptforumfollowup>. **SECOND ROW, LEFT** Maestro Mohsen Abtahi and his son perform at the Outreach Center's Nowruz celebration. **RIGHT** A guest examines the Haft-Seen table at the Nowruz celebration. **THIRD ROW, LEFT** Tarek Masoud, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, JFK School of Government, responds to a lecture on the Muslim Brotherhood by Yoram Meital, Chairman, Chaim Herzog Center, Ben Gurion University. **RIGHT** An audience member captures Omar Offendum's Hip Hop performance during an April concert at Harvard. **BOTTOM ROW** Participants at "Global Education, Human Rights and the Middle East Region," an Outreach workshop.



PAUL BERAN



ANNA KRESLAVSKAYA



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TARA JONES



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# CMES SEMINAR SERIES

CMES sponsors a variety of regular, ongoing lecture series and occasional seminars, with an average of four to six events per week during the fall and spring semesters. Our regular and occasional series include:

**Arabic Language Lecture Series**—an occasional series that seeks to connect students with authentic culture while providing them with opportunities to listen to and communicate in Arabic.

**CMES Director's Series**—an occasional series showcasing the work of Harvard scholars from different disciplines working on the Middle East.

**Middle East Forum**—three to four lectures each semester inviting prominent western and non-western scholars to lecture on topics in the modern history of the Middle East.

**H.A.R. Gibb Lecture Series**—an annual series of lectures focusing on Islamic studies and medieval history, given by a distinguished scholar invited once a year as the Gibb lecturer.

**Hilda B. Silverman Memorial Lecture on Israel/Palestine**—an annual lectureship on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israeli studies, Palestinian and Arab studies, and Holocaust studies.

**The Harvard Initiative on Contemporary Islamic Societies**—an occasional series providing a venue for substantive discussion at the intersection of human rights, Islamic studies, and broader Muslim societal issues.

**Islam in the West Seminar**—several lectures each semester, focused on the study of Islam in western cultures.

**Israeli Law, Literature, and Society**—a monthly series designed to stimulate academic debate about the multifaceted nature of Israeli society.

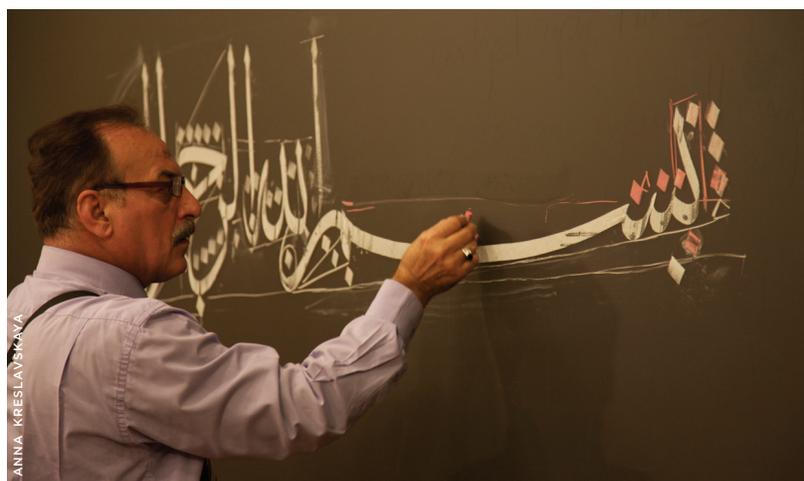
**Morocco Forum**—an occasional speaker series concentrating on contemporary topics including economic development, regional cooperation, and Maghribi leadership in Arab and African politics.

**Seminar on Turkey in the Modern World**—several lectures each semester focused on modern Turkey; cosponsored with the Harvard Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFA).

**Sohbet-i Osmaniye**—a weekly seminar presenting the work of historians of Ottoman history.

**WCFA/CMES Joint Seminar**—two to three lectures per month bringing ambassadors, dignitaries, journalists, and scholars to lecture on topics in modern Middle East politics; held jointly with the WCFA.

A monthly calendar of events including the above plus our ad hoc events can be found at <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu/events/calendar>.



**TOP ROW** On March 5, 2010, Elly Teman, Postdoctoral Researcher, Penn Center for the Integration of Genetic Healthcare Technologies, delivered a talk titled "Birthing a Mother: The Surrogate Body and the Pregnant Self in Israel." The event was part of the Israeli Law, Literature, and Society Seminar, a joint endeavor of CMES and the Center for Jewish Studies funded in part by the Center's Title VI grant. **BOTTOM ROW** Abbas Al-Baghdadi, renowned Iraqi calligrapher, delivered a lecture on November 19, 2009, as part of the Arabic Language Seminar series.

## CREDITS & CONTRIBUTORS

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## CMES AWARDED DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TITLE VI GRANT

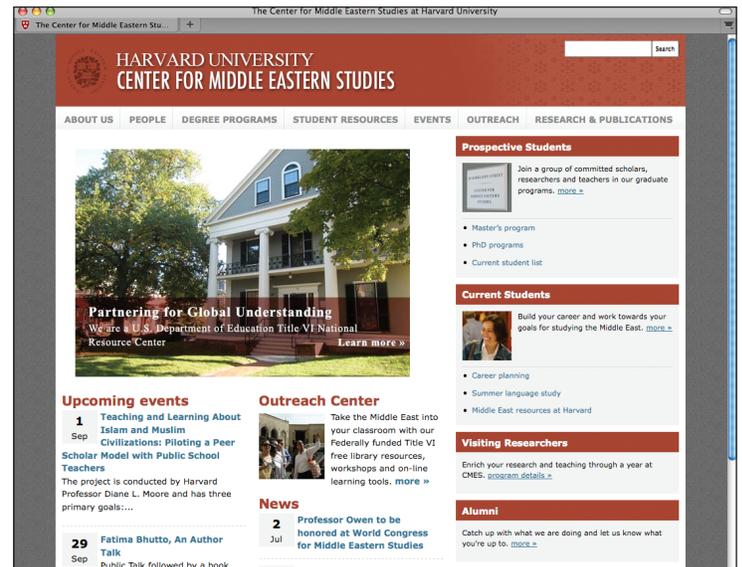
CMES has been awarded a new four-year US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) and Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant for 2010-2014. Totalling over \$500,000 per year, these funds support language and area studies instruction; research, conferences, and seminars; development of the Middle East collection in Harvard's libraries; outreach to K-16 educators and the general public; and fellowships for students engaged in foreign language and area studies.

## NEW STAFF JOIN CMES

In the fall of 2009 CMES welcomed two new employees: **Johanna Bodnyk** is our new Web Editor & Communications Coordinator, and **Sarah Stoll** joined us as Administrative & Visiting Researcher Programs Coordinator. Johanna and Sarah joined CMES's already strong administrative team: **Susan Kahn**, Associate Director; **Alison Howe**, CMES Administrator; **Paul Beran**, Director, Outreach Center; **Kristin Brown**, Coordinator of Events & Alumni Relations; and **Anna Kreslavskaya**, Finance Associate. In August, **Anna Mudd** was hired as the new Outreach Assistant, replacing **Ben Williams**, who starts a PhD program in Sanskrit and Indian Studies at Harvard this fall.

## CMES LAUNCHES REDESIGNED WEBSITE

CMES launched an upgrade to its website in April, featuring an updated design, a new homepage feature to promote Center activities, and improved video and audio functionality. The project was funded in part by Title VI funds from the Department of Education. Check out our new look at <http://cmes.hmdc.harvard.edu>.



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