MESA 2020 ANNUAL MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS ON PALESTINE

#MESA2020

(An * by the name indicates PARC fellows and board members. PARC has more than 50 fellows and board members participating on panels at MESA this year.)

PARC-Sponsored MESA Panel and Double Panel

TUESDAY, 06 OCT 11:00 AM

[P5969] Strategizing from Below: New Palestinian Social Histories of the Twentieth Century
Sponsor: Palestinian American Research Center (PARC)
Organizer: Alex Winder* (Brown U)
Discussant: Sherene Seikaly* (UC Santa Barbara)
Sreemati Mitter (Brown U) *The pensioners fight the banks: Financial aspects of the transition from Ottoman to British Mandate rule*
Charles Anderson (Western Washington U) *Society in Revolt: Civil Resistance and Rebel Organization in the Great Revolt (1936-39)*
Alex Winder* (Brown U) *Extralegal Justice within Palestinian Uprisings: The 1936–39 Revolt and the First Intifada*
Haneen Naamneh* (London School of Economics) *Arab Jerusalem and the struggle for centrality after the Nakba*
THURSDAY, 08 OCT 11:00 AM

[P5883] Unchilding in the Middle East and North Africa, Part 1

Sponsor: Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) & Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)
Organizer/Chair: Heidi Morrison* (U Wisconsin La Crosse)
Discussant: Lara Sheehi (The George Washington U)
Bella Kovner (The Hebrew U of Jerusalem) Unaccompanied asylum-seeking youth in Greece: Protection, liberation and securitization
Leyla Neyzi (U of Glasgow) “Unchilding” and Agency: Memories of War and Displacement among Kurdish Youth
Abeer Otman (The Hebrew U of Jerusalem) Interrupting Unfathering: Palestinian Fathers Challenging Unchilding
Julia Shatz (California State U, Fresno) Childing and Unchilding: Juvenile Offenders in Mandate Palestine

THURSDAY, 08 OCT 1:30 PM

[P5884] Unchilding in the Middle East and North Africa, Part 2

Sponsor: Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) & Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)
Organizer/Chair: Heidi Morrison* (U Wisconsin La Crosse)
Discussant: Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian (Hebrew U)
Diana Chiara (Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium) Practicing political agency and activism against unchilding in Tunisia
Nazan Maksudyan (Freie Universität Berlin) Armenian Children Who Survived the Genocide
Rami Salameh* (Birzeit U) The Dialectics of Oppression: Resisting the Negation of Childhood through Violence
Cindy Sousa (Bryn Mawr College) “They Don’t See Anything But this Kind of Treatment;” Mothers Speak about the Loss and Reclamation of Palestinian Childhood within Settler-Colonialism

MESA Panels, Papers, Special Sessions, Thematic Conversations, and Roundtables Related to Palestine

MONDAY, 05 OCT 11:00 AM

[P5926] Reframing Childhood in the Modern Middle East

Organizer: Sivan Balslev (Hebrew U of Jerusalem) and Maayan Hilel (Northwestern U)
Chair/Discussant: Dylan Baun (U of Alabama Huntsville)
Maayan Hilel (Northwestern U) *Childhood, Leisure and Nationalism in British Mandate Palestine*

**MONDAY, 05 OCT 1:30 PM**

[P5912] **Unsettling Racial Geographies in Middle Eastern Diasporas**
Organizer: Randa Tawil (Texas Christian U)
Chair: Nadine C. Naber (U of Illinois) and Stanley Thangaraj (City College of New York)
Discussant: Stanley Thangaraj (City College of New York)
Lucy El-Sherif (U of Toronto) *Dancing Dabke on Turtle Island: Unpacking the Entanglements of Racialization and Colonization*

[P5946] **Democratic Empires and the Limits on Expression**
Organizer: Amahl Bishara* (Tufts U) and Alejandro I. Paz (U of T Scarborough)
Amahl Bishara* (Tufts U) Defining “Palestine”: Borders, News Websites, and Categorizing the Domestic
Alejandro I. Paz (U of T Scarborough) *Imperial Publics and US Presidential Elections: The Case of the Israeli English Online Press*
Sultan Doughan (Boston U) *Narrating the Holocaust with the Nakba? On the Limits of Liberal Democracy in Germany*

[P6135] **Futures and Futurism: Time Across the Middle East**
Chair: Alize Arican (U of Illinois Chicago)
Drew Paul (U of Tennesse,Knoxville) Palestians without Palestine/Palestine without Palestians: *Time and the Nation-State*

[P6144] **Contemporary American Orientalism**
Chair: Mirna Lattouf (Arizona State U)
Benjamin Schreier (Penn State U) *Beyond Zionism: Palestinian American Literature and Institutional Possibility*

**TUESDAY, 06 OCT 11:00 AM**

[P5817] **"I Have a Dream": Political Imagination and Utopian Writings in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries**
Organizer: Sami Sweis (Centre College)
Discussant: James L. Gelvin (UCLA)
Eli Osheroff (Hebrew U) *Paradise Not Lost: Palestinian Utopian Thinking in the British Mandate Period*
[P5924] Transnational Technoscience and Political Power in Palestine, Turkey, and the Gulf
Organizer: Joakim Parslow (U of Oslo)
Chair: Tarek El-Ariss (Dartmouth College)
Discussant: Joanne Nucho (Pomona College)
Fredrik Meiton* (U of New Hampshire) How Big is Palestine? Economic Absorptive Capacity at the Dawn of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

[P5969] Strategizing from Below: New Palestinian Social Histories of the Twentieth Century
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Sreemati Mitter (Brown U) The pensioners fight the banks: Financial aspects of the transition from Ottoman to British Mandate rule
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Alex Winder* (Brown U) Extralegal Justice within Palestinian Uprisings: The 1936–39 Revolt and the First Intifada
Haneen Naamneh* (London School of Economics) Arab Jerusalem and the struggle for centrality after the Nakba

[P5988] Rethinking 'contentious politics' in the Middle East and North Africa: Analysis of social networks beyond protests
Sponsor: Organized under the auspices of the Arab Political Science Network
Organizer/Chair: Ester Sigillo’ (EUI)
Discussant: Francesco Cavatorta (Laval U)
Caitlin Procter (EUI) After the Great March of Return: everyday activism among Palestinian youth in the Gaza Strip

[P6003] Political Aesthetics of Modernity in the Contemporary Arab Cinemascape
Organizer/Chair: Terri Ginsberg (American U in Cairo)
Discussant: Viviane Saglier (McGill U)
Alkassim (George Mason U) “Gaza and the Found Footage Film: Expanding Temporalities and Aesthetics”

TUESDAY, 06 OCT 1:30 PM

[P5803] Arabic Radio Broadcasting in the Early Mid-20th Century
Organizer: Andrea L. Stanton (U of Denver)
Discussant: Marwan M. Kraidy (U of Pennsylvania)
Sahar Bostock (Columbia U) Speaking Back: Arab Palestinian Listeners’ Discourse on Radio in Mandate Palestine

[R5850] ROUNDTABLE
Crisis and Change: An Interdisciplinary Roundtable on Climate
Organizer: Owain Lawson (Columbia U)
Elizabeth Holt (Brad College)
Arbella Bet-Shlimon (U of Washington)
Zozan Pehlivan (U of Minnesota Twin Cities)
Sophia Stamatopoulou-Robbins* (Bard College)

[P6197] War/Violence: Literature and Film
Chair: Ghenwa Hayek (U of Chicago)
Youssef Yacoubi (Seton Hall U) Arab-American Women Writers on War: Memory, Trauma and the Afflicted Text

WEDNESDAY, 07 OCT 11:00 AM
[P5944] Rivalry, Energy, and Insecurity in the Middle East
Organizer/Chair: Jeannie Sowers* (U of New Hampshire)
Jeannie Sowers* (U of New Hampshire) War and the Energy-Health Nexus in the Middle East

[P6005] Architecture and Urban Space Under Settler Colonialism in the Coastal Cities of Palestine
Organizer: Fatina Abreek-Zuiedat (Swiss Federal Inst of Technology, Zurich)
Fatina Abreek-Zuiedat (Swiss Federal Inst of Technology, Zurich) Gaza: The Right to Urban History in Conflict
Ronen Ben-Arie (Technion-Israel Inst of Technology) Urban transformation in Downtown Haifa: from a ‘state of emergency’ to urban destruction
Muhammad Jabali (Berlin) Leisure, Memory, Ownership, Longing and Belonging in Contemporary Jaffa
Hemmat Zoubi* (Zu‘bi) (EUME) Hayfa 1948, spatial transformation and reshaping identities – the Palestinians in Haifa following the Nakba

[R6069] ROUNDTABLE
Art as Method and Lens for Middle East Studies
Organizer/Chair: Kristen Scheid* (American U of Beirut)
Susan Slyomovics* (UCLA)
Ulrike Freitag (ZMO Berlin)
Ussama Makdisi (Rice U)
Aseel Sawalha (Fordham U, New York)
Nadia von Maltzahn (Orient-Institut Beirut)
Elizabeth Derderian (College of Wooster)
J. Andrew Bush (Harvard Law School)

WEDNESDAY, 07 OCT 1:30 PM

[P6138] Contentions and Hopes of Religious Life
Chair: Noha Fikry (American U in Cairo)
Kenny Schmitt* (Al-Quds Bard College) Disruption, Improvisation, and Resonance: A
Comparative Frame for Analyzing Religious Traditions?

[P5853] Countering Gender Stereotypes in the Middle East
Organizer: Najwa Adra (Institute for Social Anthropology)
Chair: Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh (Northeastern Illinois U)
Rasmieyh Abdelnabi* (George Mason U) Embroidery & Palestine: Quiet Resistance in Women-
only Spaces

[P5973] Sex in the Middle East and North Africa
Organizer/Discussant: Angel M. Foster* (U of Ottawa)
Laura Ferrero (U of Turin, Italy) Zawjat al-abtal [the wives of the heroes]: Palestinian women
building families by their own

[P6214] Social Movements and Solidarities
Chair: Anca Munteanu (CNRS, U Paris 1 Sorbonne)
Padraigin O’Flynn (London, UK) “Blessed are those who hunger for justice...”:
Transnationalism, hunger strikes, and Irish-Palestinian solidarity

THURSDAY, 08 OCT 11:00 AM

[R5852] ROUNDTABLE
The Power of Bodies and Bones: Revisiting Death and Dying in the Middle East
Organizer/Chair: Elyse Semerdjian (Whitman College)
Frances S. Hasso* (Duke U)
Meriam Belli (U of Iowa)
Shana E. Minkin (U of the South)
Asli Zengin (Brown U)
Organizer/chair: Betty S. Anderson (Boston U)
Discussant: Kimberly B. Katz* (Towson U)

[P5883] Unchilding in the Middle East and North Africa, Part 1
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Organizer/Chair: Heidi Morrison* (U Wisconsin La Crosse)
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Julia Shatz (California State U, Fresno) *Childing and Unchilding: Juvenile Offenders in Mandate Palestine*

[R5970] ROUNTABLE
Projects of Modernity in Twentieth-Century Arabic Poetry
Organizer/Chair: Adey Almohsen* (U of Minnesota)
Tamir Sorek* (U of Florida)
Michael Peddycoart (U of Chicago)
Daniel Behar (Dartmouth College)
Wijdan Alsayegh (U of Michigan)
Khalid Lyamlahy (U of Chicago)

Organizer: Manar Makhoul (Tel-Aviv U)
Chair/Discussant: Amal Eqeiq* (Williams College)
Sadia Agsous (CRFJ) *Palestinian culture between past and present: a Nahdawi dynamic process in the making of modern Palestinian culture*
Kfir Cohen (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute) *Palestinian Literature in the Time of Neoliberal...*
Globalization
Maurice Ebileeni (U of Haifa) *Palestinian Writings in the World*
Elbaz Elbaz (Stanford U) *Translatability versus Localism: A Digital Humanities Approach*
Manar Makhoul (Tel-Aviv U) *The Unbearable Lightness of Being in the 1960s: Palestinian vis-a-vis World Literature after 1967*

**THURSDAY, 08 OCT 1:30 PM**

**[P5884] Unchilding in the Middle East and North Africa, Part 2**
Sponsor: Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) & Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)
Organizer/Chair: Heidi Morrison* (U Wisconsin La Crosse)
Diana Chiara (Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium) *Practicing political agency and activism against unchilding in Tunisia*
Nazan Maksudyan (Freie Universität Berlin) *Armenian Children Who Survived the Genocide*
Rami Salameh* (Birzeit U) *The Dialectics of Oppression: Resisting the Negation of Childhood through Violence*
Cindy Sousa (Bryn Mawr College) “They Don’t See Anything But this Kind of Treatment:” Mothers Speak about the Loss and Reclamation of Palestinian Childhood within Settler-Colonialism

**[P5943] "I Am From There, I Am From Here": Indigenous Studies, "Placing" Palestine, and Epistemological Possibilities**
Organizer: Amanda Batarseh (UC San Diego)
Amanda Batarseh (UC San Diego) *Palestinian “Place-Making” and the Land Narrative Genre*
Eman Ghanayem (U of Illinois at Urban-Champaign) *Palestinian “Place-Making” and the Land Narrative Genre*
Maryam Griffin* (University of Washington Bothell) *Route Maps and Rival Geographies: Collective Palestinian Mobility through Colonized Space*
Lila Sharif (U of Illinois at Urban-Champaign) *Olive Insurrections: Palestinian Decolonial Struggles Over Foodways, Land, and Tree*

**[P6089] Culture, Revolution and Memorializing Violence in the Middle East**
Organizer/Chair: Chandni Desai (U of Toronto)
Chandni Desai (U of Toronto) *The Art of Liberation: Culture, Revolution and Palestine*

**[P6231] Revisiting Missions and Modernity in the MENA Region**
Chair: Weston Bland (U of Pennsylvania)
C. Carter Barnett (U of Texas Austin) *Medical Missionaries in Gaza: The History of Ahli Arab Hospital*
WEDNESDAY, 14 OCT 11:00 AM

[P5828] Social, Economic, and Political Histories of Recreational Drugs in the Middle East and North Africa (19th and 20th Centuries)
Organizer: Stefano Taglia (Oriental Institute, CAS) and Ranin Kazemi (San Diego State U)
Chair/Discussant: Rudi Matthee (U of Bern, Switzerland)
Haggai Ram (Ben Gurion U of the Negev) Unintended Consequences: Hashish Culture in Interwar Palestine

[P5966] "Oh There You Go, Bringing Class Into It Again!": Deprovincializing the Agrarian Question in the Middle East
Organizer: China Sajadian (CUNY Graduate Center)
Chair/Discussant: Elizabeth Williams (University of Massachusetts Lowell)
Kristen Alff* (North Carolina State U) The Agrarian Question in Palestine: Rethinking Labor, Capital, and Conflict
Paul Kohlbry* (Brown U) Agrarian Questions and Settler Inflections: Possession, Productivity, and the Land Struggle in Palestine

[P5997] Dissecting Development: Discourses and Disparate Priorities Across the Middle East
Organizer: Jowel Choufani (The George Washington U)
Organizer: Alyssa Bivins (The George Washington U)
Discussant: Becky Schulthis (Rutgers U)

Sponsor: Organized under the auspices of the Journal of Middle East Law and Governance (MELG)
Organizer: Diana Greenwald (City College of New York, CUNY)
Discussant: Karam Dana* (U of Washington Bothell)
Dana El Kurd (Doha Institute for Graduate Studies) Support for Violent versus Non-Violent Strategies in the Palestinian Territories
Alexei Abrahams (U of Toronto) Measuring (in)security of Palestinian civil society websites
Diana Greenwald (City College of New York, CUNY) and Mark A. Tessler (U of Michigan, Ann Arbor) The Evolution of Resistance: Generational Views of Palestinian Institutions
Catherine Herrold* (Indiana U) Negotiating Western Intervention: Social Change Actors, Foreign Aid, and Civil Society in Palestine
[P6145] Women’s Agency in Music and Literature
Magda Hasabelnaby (Ain Shams U) “Behind Lock and Key”: Arab Women Writers Unlocking the History of the Nakba

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCT 1:30 PM

[P5812] Decolonizing Arabic Studies I: Foreign Theory and the Crisis of Authenticity
Organizer/Chair: Mohammad Salama (San Francisco State U)
Hanadi Al-Samman (U of Virginia) Decolonizing Queer Bodies

[P5854] Unintended Consequences of International Actors on Jordan’s Refugee Policies
Organizer: Lilian Frost (George Washington U)
Chair: Curtis R. Ryan (Appalachian State U)
Discussant: Laurie Brand* (U of Southern California)
Lilian Frost (George Washington U) Intentional Ambiguity: Refugee Policies under Pressure in Jordan

[R5820] ROUNDTABLE
MERIP’s Impact on Middle East Studies
Organizer/Chair: Waleed Hazbun (U of Alabama)
Zachary Lockman* (New York U)
Judith E. Tucker* (Georgetown U)
Joe Stork (Human Rights Watch (ret.))
Norman Claire Moruzzi (University of Illinois at Chicago)
Stacey Philbrick Yadav (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)
Tes Swedenburg (U of Arkansas)
Jacob A. Mundy (Colgate U)

[R5927] ROUNDTABLE
Spirit of ’36: Arab Revolt(s) Beyond the Nation-State
Organizer: Pascal Abidor (Independent Scholar) and Dylan Baun (U of Alabama Huntsville)
Discussant: Pascal Abidor (Independent Scholar)
Andrea L. Stanton (U of Denver)
Pascal Abidor (Independent Scholar)
Adrien Zakar (Standford U)
Dylan Baun (U of Alabama Huntsville)

[P5933] Challenging the Mainstream: Contested Histories, Archives, and Alternative Mizrahi Voices
Organizer: Noa Hazan (CUNY)
Chair: Shirly Bahar (Columbia U)
Noa Hazan (CUNY) *Cleaning up the Archive: Highlighting the Zionist American Organization of Hadassah from A New Mizrahi Perspective*

[P5998] *Education and State in the Modern Middle East*
Organizer: Hilary Falb Kalisman* (U of Colorado Boulder)
Hilary Falb Kalisman* (U of Colorado Boulder) *Standardized Futures: A political history of Jordan’s Tawjihi*
Mezna Qato* (U of Cambridge) *A Working Class: Manpower, Anxiety and Education in Palestinian Exile, 1948 - 1993*

[P6131] *Memory and Residues of the Past*
Chair: Razi Ahmad (U of Kansas)
Jamila Ghaddar (U of Toronto) *al-Nakba: Genealogies, Third World Archives & the Dr. Constantine Zurayk Collection*

THURSDAY, 15 OCT 11:00 AM

[P6040] *Between the Imagined and the Real: Spaces of Tensions in Iraq, Lebanon, and Palestine*
Organizer: Diala Lteif (U of Toronot) and Faiq Mari (ETH Zürich)
Nadia Abusaada (U of Cambridge) *Against the Rule of Experts: The Arab Development Society in the Jordan Valley, 1945-67*
Faiq Mari (ETH Zürich) *The arrow points left: visions of the Palestinian revolution in its first two decades*

[P6203] *Ottoman and Iranian Jews*
Rachel Smith (UCLA) *Sephardic Hilula Narratives in Nineteenth-Century Palestine*

THURSDAY, 15 OCT 1:30 PM

[P6044] *Petroleum and Socio-Ecologies in the Middle East*
Organizer: Ciruce Movahedi-Lankarani (U of Southern Califronia)
Natasha Pesaran (Columbia U) *Tracing a Political Ecology of Iraqi Oil Flows in the Interwar Levant*

[P6238] *Pedagogy, Identity, and Power in Israel and Palestine*
Chair: Alyssa Bivins (The George Washington U)
Sanket Desai* (Montgomery County Community College) *Preserving a Jewish State with a lot*
Emily Schneider (Northern Arizona U) *Conflicting Mobilities: The Case of Encounter*

Ranjit Singh (U of Mary Washington) *Teaching BDS to Undergraduates*

Guy Yadin Evron (New York U) "*This, Our Cousin Does Not Understand*: Kinship Metaphors in the Early Arab-Zionist Encounter"

**FRIDAY, 16 OCT 11:00 AM**

**[P5819] Women (Re)Writing the Nation: A Comparative Study of Arab Feminist Writing**

Organizer: Camelia Suleiman (Michigan State U)

Camelia Suleiman (Michigan State U) *Women Rewriting the Nation: A Comparative Study of Jordanian and Palestinian Feminist Writing*

**[R5855] ROUNDTABLE**

**The Ultimate Silenced Speak: Women Activists and Scholars**

Organizer/Chair: Maro Youssef (U of Texas Austin)

Discussant: Catherine Batruni (Independent Scholar)

Amal Amireh (George Mason U)

Nicole Khoury (U of California, Irvine)

Michela Cerruti (Graduate Institute)

**[P5900] Ottoman Zionism and Its Discontents: Natives, Nationals, and Settlers in Early-Twentieth Century Palestine**

Organizer: Yari Wallach (SOAS, U of London)

Chair: Michelle U. Campos* (Penn State)

Louis Fishman (Brooklyn College CUNY) *That was then and this is now: Jewish and Palestinian Narratives from the Ottoman Period*

Liora R. Halperin (U of Washington, Seattle) “*Hierarchical Coexistence”: Relational History on the Zionist Center-Right*

Roberto Mazza (U of Limerick) *A Deal to Forget: Cemal Pasha and the sale of the Western Wall*

Yair Wallach (SOAS, U of London) *Hebrew and coloniality in early twentieth century Jerusalem*

**[P6128] Territoriality and Contested Borders**

Chair: Kyle T. Evered (Michigan State U)

Caroline Kahlenberg* (Harvard U) *Women’s Bodies on the Border: Modesty, Gossip, and National Subject Formation in Early 20th Century Palestine*

Connie Gagliardi (U of Toronto) *Defacing the Graffiti on the Israeli Separation Wall as an*
FRIDAY, 16 OCT 1:30 PM

[P6104] Black September in Jordan: Fifty Years On
Organizer: Fadi Kafeety (U of Houston/ Center for Arab Studies)
Chair: Maha Nassar (U of Arizona)
Patrick Higgins (The U of Houston) In the Shadow of Dual Authority: Palestinian Revolutionary Perceptions of US Power from the Karamah Battle to Black September
Derek Ide (U of Houston) The Internationalist and the Informant: Robert F. Williams and Richard Gibson from Beijing to Black September
Fadi Kafeety (U of Houston/ Center for Arab Studies) The Jordanian Communist Party and Black September: Between Moderation and Revolution
Samar Saeed (Georgetown U) Actors not Observers: Women and the Palestinian Revolution During Black September

[P6209] Futures and Temporalities in Fiction
Chair: Katie Logan* (Virginia Commonwealth U)
Noa Shaindlinger (College of the Holy Cross) The Palestine of Tomorrow: Imagining Futures and Derrida's "Living Well Together"
Adam Spanos (U of Chicago) Bequeathing Futures in Post-Oslo Palestine

SATURDAY, 17 OCT 11:00 AM

[P5865] The Stories They Tell: Building Archives of Arab America
Organizer: Matthew Stiffler (Arab American National Museum)
Rosemarie M. Esber (Arabicus Media) Urban Palestinian-American Refugees of the Nakba

[R6002] ROUNDTABLE
Imperial Decline? The Shifting Contours of U.S. Power in the Middle East
Organizer: Lisa Bhungalia* (Kent State U) and Danya Al-Saleh (U of Wisconsin, Madison)
Chair: Danya Al-Saleh (U of Wisconsin, Madison)
Omar Dahi (Hampshire College)
Abdullah Al-Arian (Georgetown U Qatar)
Katty Alhayek (U of Massachusetts Amherst)
Basileus Zeno (U of Massachusetts Amherst)
Madiha Tahir (Columbia U)
Lisa Bhungalia* (Kent State U)
[P6127] Returning Home: Palestinian Identity Dynamics
Chair: Adey Almohsen* (U of Minnesota)
Molly Courtney (UCLA) "The Trees Know Me": Rootedness and the Right to Remain in Mahmoud Darwish's Poetry
Suzy Halajjan (U of California, Santa Cruz) Under the Influence: The Experimental Moving Image Works of Basma Alsharif
Kristen Scheid* (American U of Beirut) The Burden of At-homeness for Palestinian Artists and Art History Generally
Garrett Shuffield (The U of Texas at Austin) Disorientation and Fracture: Lina Meruane and Rabai al-Madhoun "Return" to Palestine
Nadine Sinno (Virginia Tech) Riding out Familial Drama and National Trauma in Tragicomic Palestinian Road Films

Chair: Margaret Morley (Indiana U)
Loab Hammud (U of Haifa) Coping with the trauma of exile: two cases of Palestinian composers making music in the diaspora

Mekarem Eljamal (U of Michigan) Alienations and Articulations: Tracing Israeli Land Policies Through History
Stephen P. Gasteyer* (Michigan State U) The Colonization of Palestinian Land and Resources and Resistances
Amos Nadan (Tel Aviv U) Myths and Reality: Revisiting Peasant Communes and Land Policies in the Levant

SATURDAY, 17 OCT 1:30 PM

[P6048] Food, Culture, and Politics in the Middle East
Organizer: Jessica E. Barnes (U of South Carolina)
Discussant: Anny Gaul (Tufts U)
Nancy Hawker (Independent Scholar) Cultivating communication: Palestinian olive growers in two villages south of Jerusalem

[P6054] Negotiating International Development Norms in post-2011 Arab World
Organizer: Afaf Jabiri (U of East London) and Elena Aoun (Catholic U Louvain)
Discussant: Elena Aoun (Catholic U Louvain)
Afaf Jabiri (U of East London) Palestinian refugees of Syria and the gendered politics of aid: Local resistance to international and state’s aid selectivity approach
**[P6140] Communicating to Peace**
Renee Spellman (The U of Arizona) *Online Palestinian Women’s Activism: Reimagining the Public and Private Sphere*

**[P6148] Policing and Surveillance in Israel**
Chair: Hassaan Shahawy (Harvard Law School)
Smadar Ben-Natan (UC Berkeley) *Self-Proclaimed Human rights Heroes: The Counter-Narrative of Israeli Military Judges*
Noura Erakat* (Rutgers U) *Planning for Settler-Colonial Removal in Hizma and the Production of Racialized Subjects*
Sophia Goodfriend (Duke U) *Google Ayosh AnyVision and Big Data’s Shadow Archive*
Michael Samuel* (Emory U) *From British Colonialism to Zionist Settler-Colonialism: The Evolution of the Legal Regime in Israel-Palestine, 1920-1966*

**[P6232] Defining Identities, Norms, and Boundaries in Contemporary Tunisia**
Chair: James H. Sunday (Johns Hopkins U)
Silvia Marsans-Sakly (Fairfield U) *Arab in the Maghreb: The Question of Palestine in Tunisia*

*Conference Sessions Not Related to Palestinian Studies with PARC Fellows or Board Members Presenting Papers*

**MONDAY, 05 OCT 11:00 AM**

**[R5843] ROUNDTABLE**
*Critical Security and Anthropology from the Middle East*
Organizer: Sami Hermez (Northwestern U in Qatar) and Giulia El Dardiry (McGill U)
Discussant: Sami Hermez (Northwestern U in Qatar)
Kali Rubaii* (Purdue U)

**TUESDAY, 06 OCT 11:00 AM**

**[R5916] ROUNDTABLE**
*Citizenship and Belonging in the Arabian Peninsula*
Organizer/Chair: Gwenn Okruhlik (Independent Scholar)
Neha Vora* (Lafayette College)

**[S6122] SPECIAL SESSION**
*Writing beyond the Academy: Commercial Publishing and the Middle East Scholar*
Organizer: John Ghazvinian (U of Pennsylvania)
Wendy Pearlman* (Northwestern U)
[P6215] Women's Activism and Disenfranchisement
Chair: Nermin Allam (Rutgers U)
Maia Carter Hallward* (Kennesaw State U) Does Gendered Militarism Result in Gendered Activism in Israel?

WEDNESDAY, 07 OCT 11:00 AM
[P5810] Beyond Blueprints: Technology in Middle East History
Organizer: Andrew Simon (Dartmouth College)
Discussant: On Barak (Tel Aviv U)
Rebecca L. Stein* (Duke U) Drone Dreaming: Israeli Military Visuality in the Digital Age

WEDNESDAY, 07 OCT 1:30 PM
[P5951] Pluralism and Representation in the Late Ottoman Empire
Chair/Discussant: Julia Phillips Cohen (Vanderbilt U)
Michelle U. Campos* (Penn State) Representatives of the Imperial Nation?

[P6184] Reflecting Differences and Loss in Diasporas
Chair: Parin Somani (Saurashtra U)
Kim Shively* (Kutztown U of Pennsylvania) Gurbet Cemetery: Contemplating Death in Exile

THURSDAY, 08 OCT 11:00 AM
Organizer/chair: Betty S. Anderson (Boston U)
Discussant: Kimberly B. Katz* (Towson U)
Jennifer Olmsted* (Drew U) Mainstreaming Gender in the Syria Response

[P6042] Ethnographies of Migration, Displacement, and Belonging
Organizer/Chair: Osman Balkan (Swarthmore College)
Discussant: Lisa Wedeen
Paul Silverstein (Reed College)
Lama Mourad (Carleton U)
Michelle Weitzel* (New School for Social Research)

[P6047] Affect after the Arab Spring
Organizer: Elizabeth R. Nugent (Yale U)
Nermin Allam (Rutgers U)
Discussant: Daniel Tavana (Princeton U)
Wendy Pearlman* (Northwestern U) *Identity as a Feeling of Belonging: Displaced Syrians and the Search for Meaning*

**FRIDAY, 10 OCT 10:00 AM**

[S6272] SPECIAL SESSION
*The Political Economy and Ethics of Social Science Research in the Arab World*
Organizer/Chair: Lisa Anderson (Columbia U)
Saloua Zerhouni (Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco)
Sarah Parkinson* (Johns Hopkins U)

**SUNDAY, 11 OCT 12:00 PM**

[S6260] SPECIAL SESSION
*MESA Presidential Panel: Middle East Studies and the Academy in the Time of Covid-19*
Organizer/Chair: Dina Rizk Khoury* (George Washington U)
Zackary Lockman* (New York U)

**THURSDAY, 15 OCT 1:30 PM**

[R5881] ROUNDTABLE
*Can Revolutions be Written? Theoretical and Empirical Implications*
Organizer: Naghmeh Sohrabi (Brandeis U) and Youssef El Chazli (Crown Center for Middle East Studies)
Chair/Discussant: Charles Kurzman (U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
Wendy Pearlman* (Northwestern U)

**FRIDAY, 16 OCT 11:00 AM**

[P5824] Living Precariously in Illiberal Times
Organizer: Tessa Farmer (U of Virginia)
Chair: Kali Rubaii* (Purdue U)
Neha Vora* (Lafayette College) Illiberal gains: *The American branch campus and the kafala system*