



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

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CALLS FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

CfP: Rethinking Social Movements in the Digital Age: Activism, Dissent and Rebellion in the Post-Arab Spring

International Conference, July 29, 2016

Venue: Orient-Institut Beirut

Deadline for abstracts: May 8, 2016

The pivotal and unprecedented role that digital technology has played in instigating, as well as documenting the Arab Spring has without a doubt renewed the interest in social movements beyond the traditional realm of the "physical". As the revolution in digital technology is slowly revolutionizing the way people communicate, debate existing norms and are exposed to other social and cultural practices and forms of governance worldwide, it is also providing new means for coordination and mobilization. In the advent of the Arab 'Spring' revolts throughout the region, digital technology has successfully pushed its way into politics: allowing people across borders, class, and formal venues of associations to debate, coordinate, and transform the 'digital' into the 'physical'.

Today, political leaders around the world utilize digital technology to communicate and debate their political agenda to and with the public. Twitter and Facebook have pushed their way to becoming pivotal venues of mediation in state-society relations worldwide. News sharing, debating, and critical collective views of governments across the world has given more 'power' and leverage to the 'people' in the framework of collective 'shaming and blaming' for exposing human rights violations, abuses and the denial of basic rights and freedoms. Employing satirical language in the critical reproduction of news, as well as developing cartoons and videos, digital activism has taken on a new face that bridges cultures and allows a wider public to engage in and relate to political, social, economic, and cultural debates. Examples from around the world can demonstrate how social media venues in particular are becoming a venue for dissent, activism, and campaigning for social, political and even economic causes.

Activism in social media has furthermore reflected existing social and political debates in societies around the world. During the Arab 'Spring' revolts across the region, it reflected not only the ideological, but also the political divides between people across various spectra. As the region witnessed the rise of political Islam, social media networks became flooded with debates on identity, religion, and politics and the rising polarities and peripheries of secularism and Islamism. This call for papers aims to bring in contributions from scholars across disciplines and social media activists to shed light on the increasing role of the digital in mediating state-society relations, particularly during and after the Arab Spring revolts. Contributions can be theoretical in nature aimed at examining the role of the digital in rethinking social movements and the changing nature of activism, (political) dissent, rebellion and revolutions. They can also be empirical and examine particular venues of the digital or case-studies across the Arab region.

Abstracts will be accepted until May 8, 2016 and applicants will be notified whether their abstract has been accepted on May 11, 2016. Accepted applicants will be required to submit a draft paper for their conference presentations by July 5, 2016, where they will be presenting their work in an

international conference organized by the Orient-Institut in Beirut (OIB) on July 29, 2016 in Beirut, Lebanon. After the event, articles will be peer-reviewed and edited accordingly by the authors to be submitted for publication either as a special issue in a peer-reviewed journal or as a book publication by a well-established university press.

Abstracts should not exceed 500 words and submissions should include a short bio of the author(s). All submissions should be sent directly to the conference organizer, Dr. Dina Mansour-Illie (dmansour@aucegypt.edu), who also welcomes any questions or inquiries on this call.

Timeline for Submission:

March 30 - May 8, 2016: Call open for abstract submissions

May 11, 2016: Applicants will be notified on the status of their abstract submission. Accepted applicants will be requested to submit their draft papers by maximum July 5, 2016.

July 29, 2016: Conference to be held at OIB in Beirut, Lebanon

October 15, 2016: Submission of final revised paper for peer-review

The Keynote Speaker: Laila Shereen Sakr (a.k.a. VJ Um Amel) is Assistant Professor of Film and Media Studies at UC Santa Barbara. Her creative and scholarly works use digital logic and technique to map global participation in virtual worlds and networked publics. She is the creator of R-Shief media system for archiving and analyzing social media content, and the cyborg conceptual art project and performance, VJ Um Amel. She has shown in solo and group exhibitions and performances at galleries and museums across the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East, and has published extensively. Prof. Sakr is a leading voice in the open source movement, in particular for Arabic localization.

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Towards a sociology of popular music in the Arab region

8 April 2016

University of Westminster

The compendium of research into Arab popular music and music in the Arab region, in general, remains very modest. While Arabic literature on the topic is skewed towards historiographical and micro-sociological studies of folkloric musical traditions, recent scholarship emerging from Western academia is more in synch with the present tense of Arab popular cultures, focusing largely on current, avant-garde and emerging musical trends in the region. The result is a polarised and fragmented field of research that lacks coherence and systematicity. There is as yet no sociology of Arab popular music, nor is there evidence of an overall critical framework that lends itself to a conjunctural critique.

Movements of people and tunes across areas of conflict within the Arab region and out to different diasporic locations have brought awareness of new musical and creative energies, which demand our attention as academics. Musicians in the Arab region and in the diaspora are making use of musical

and digital technologies to produce, collaborate, and distribute new sounds in response to a new era. They are generating new aesthetics by blending different genres, reconstructing old repertoires, and reclaiming minority music heritage. Furthermore, the over-commercialisation and lack of a legal framework to protect creativity raises important and key political economy questions about the Arab music industry, which have yet to be studied in a systematic way.

The Arab Media Centre's 11th annual international conference welcomes: academics musicians, music industry and non-commercial music organisations to engage in dialogue about the present concerns (cultural, aesthetic, economic, political) of music in the Arab region. Contributors will be invited to engage with one of the following themes:

- Theories of popular music: towards a critical analysis of Arab popular music
- The political economy of music in the Arab region
- Histories of popular music in the Arab region
- Performing and making music in the time of revolutions
- Music as ethnography
- Migration and music
- Arab diasporic music and new hybridised genres
- Music as resistance
- Music as politics
- Music and subcultures in the Arab region
- Music and celebrity cultures
- Music audiences in the Arab region
- Music as memory
- Transcendental and experimental music in the Arab region

This one-day conference, taking place on Friday 8 April 2016, will include a **keynote address (Thomas Burkhalter), plenary sessions and live music performances**. The fee for registration for all participants, including presenters, will be £120, with a concessionary rate of £60 for students, to cover all conference documentation, refreshments and administration costs.

More information [here](#)

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2016 Conference: AALIMS on Political Economy of Islam and Muslim Societies

April 15-16, 2016

Stanford University, Bechtel Conference Center Encina Hall 616 Serra Street

Organized jointly by Stanford University's Sohaib and Sara Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies and the Association for Analytic Learning about Islam and Muslim Societies (AALIMS), the event will be comprised of a half-day graduate student workshop and an academic conference. The event is co-sponsored by Stanford Center for International Development, and Stanford Graduate School of Business.

All sessions are free and open to the public.

Contact: Burcak Keskin- Kozat (Associate Director, Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies), abbasiprogram@stanford.edu

More information [here](#)

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TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

Reassembling the Spatial: Place-and-world making as social movement practice in Jordan and Palestine

Tuesday 26 April 2016, 5:15 pm

LSE, Room 9.04, Tower 2, Clement's Inn, LSE

Speakers: Dr Christopher Parker, Ghent University

Chair: Dr John Chalcraft, LSE

Rarely is geography itself considered a constitutive stake of political struggle. How do social movements inscribe their claims into the world? How do they inscribe the world into their claims? And how do they reassemble the elements of geography to create a world within which their claims might be made intelligible and effective?

Drawing on evidence from Jordan and Palestine, this paper situates social movements within place-and-world making (and deeply intertwined) projects of colonialism and commodification, suggesting how they mobilize elements of the material world to establish alternative relations of power, economy and significance, and counter-geographies of possibility. My concern is not so much with the constitution of relations within space, but with the constitutive relationality of space itself—the ways in which place and world are co-produced in ways that make some political claims intelligible and effective at the expense of others. *More information & registration* [here](#)

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Social Movements and the Future of Politics from Below in the Middle East

26 April 2016, 5:30 PM

SOAS, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Stephanie Cronin (Oxford) and Tara Povey (SOAS)

Panel discussion to mark the publication of Tara Povey's book *Social Movements in Egypt and Iran* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) which analyses the reform movement in Iran and the groups and organisations that form the basis of the Egyptian opposition movement in their historical contexts. It argues that contemporary movements have not arisen out of a vacuum but represent the culmination of over twenty years of mobilisation by social movements. The movements seen on the streets of the Middle East have their roots in a rich history of social and political struggle in the region. Since the 1990s, large-scale social movements have mobilised millions in opposition to authoritarian regimes often backed by the West. In Egypt, diverse movements opposed the Mubarak regime and its dependence on the US, and have gone on to fight for further transformative change. In Iran, an Islamic reform movement, women's movement and democracy movement has challenged the undemocratic and exclusivist nature of the Islamic state since the 1990s. This mobilisation is itself part of a history of struggle for democracy, social justice and freedom in the region that dates back over a century. *More information* [here](#)

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Book launch: Engineers of Jihad: The Curious Connection between Violent Extremism and Education

6 May 2016 - 5:00pm

Oxford University, St Antony's College

Auditorium, Investcorp Building

Speaker(s): Dr Steffen Hertog (Associate Professor of Comparative Politics, Department of Government, London School of Economics)

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The 2016 Edward W. Said London Lecture

04/05/2016, 7:30pm

Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre

Naomi Klein will be giving this year's lecture in memory of Edward Said. Naomi Klein is an award-winning journalist and author of the critically acclaimed international bestsellers *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*; *No Logo: Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies*; and *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate* which was one of the New York Times 100 Notable Books of the Year. *More information* [here](#)

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The Twitter Revolution in Iran: A Comparative Perspective on Gender Behaviour at Times of Normality and Upheavals

11 May 2016 - 2:00pm

Oxford University, St Antony's College

Fellows' Dining Room, Hilda Besse Building

Speaker(s): Mehri Zarifi-Kolyane (PhD student at Oxford Centre for Mission Studies in collaboration with Middlesex University, visiting lecturer at University of Westminster in Media Management)

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Against All Odds: Voices of Popular Struggle In Iraq

Ali Issa

2016 – Tadween Publishing

Collected from dozens of interviews with, and reports from, Iraqi feminists, labor organizers, environmentalists, and protest movement leaders, *Against All Odds* presents the unique voices of progressive Iraqi organizing on the ground. Dating back to 2003, with an emphasis on the 2011 upsurge in mobilization and hope as well as the subsequent embattled years, these voices belong to Iraqis asserting themselves as agents against multiple local, regional, and global forces of oppression. As Vijay Prashad notes in the foreword: "Other histories had been possible for Iraq, and indeed might yet be possible. The social basis for the Popular Movement to Save Iraq remains, even if in the shadows. It is the only force that could provide an alternative to the history of blood that stands before Iraq, the nest of bones, the sky of death."

Workers' justice, gender liberation, anti-imperialism, and global solidarity have been on the agendas of many Iraqi organizations, in contrast to almost all media and scholarly representations—even those that are sympathetic to popular Iraqi struggles. Media and scholarship instead focus on geopolitics, mass violence, and sectarianism to the exclusion of attempts at independent political action and imagination in Iraq. With the legacy of wars since 1980, followed by the brutal sanctions of the 1990s and the 2003 US invasion and occupation, not to mention the recent emergence of the threatening forces of the Islamic State, understanding and acting in solidarity with these struggles is more crucial than ever.

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Shattered Dreams of Revolution - From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire

Bedross Der Matossian

2014 – Stanford University Press

The Ottoman revolution of 1908 is a study in contradictions—a positive manifestation of modernity intended to reinstate constitutional rule, yet ultimately a negative event that shook the fundamental structures of the empire, opening up ethnic, religious, and political conflicts. *Shattered Dreams of Revolution* considers this revolutionary event to tell the stories of three important groups: Arabs, Armenians, and Jews. The revolution raised these groups' expectations for new opportunities of inclusion and citizenship. But as post-revolutionary festivities ended, these euphoric feelings soon turned to pessimism and a dramatic rise in ethnic tensions.

The undoing of the revolutionary dreams could be found in the very foundations of the revolution itself. Inherent ambiguities and contradictions in the revolution's goals and the reluctance of both the authors of the revolution and the empire's ethnic groups to come to a compromise regarding the new political framework of the empire ultimately proved untenable. The revolutionaries had never been wholeheartedly committed to constitutionalism, thus constitutionalism failed to create a new understanding of Ottoman citizenship, grant equal rights to all citizens, and bring them under one roof in a legislative assembly. Today as the Middle East experiences another set of revolutions, these early lessons of the Ottoman Empire, of unfulfilled expectations and ensuing discontent, still provide important insights into the contradictions of hope and disillusion seemingly inherent in revolution.

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The Journey to the Arab Spring: The Ideological Roots of the Middle East Upheaval in Arab Liberal Thought

David Govrin

2014 - Vallentine Mitchell

This book analyzes the roots of the ideological discourse among distinguished Arab intellectuals and liberals regarding political reforms and democratization processes in the Arab states during the three decades that preceded the 'Arab Spring.' It fills a void in the literature that examines the impact of the New Arab Liberals on the political status quo. The New Arab Liberals have drawn public criticism in demanding a change to the political status quo and the cultural and social molds. They have succeeded in presenting to the Arab public a rational alternative outlook, centered upon a civil, secular, and democratic state, as against an Arab nationalistic or Islamist state vision. Their demands for radical reform have led to aggressive and violent expression since December 2010 in the shake-up known as the 'Arab Spring' that shattered a large part of the Middle East. In order to understand the background, the range, and strength of the demands of the Arab public, it is necessary to investigate the ideological contribution of the Arab Liberals to the public discourse.

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On the Arab Revolts and the Iranian Revolution - Power and Resistance Today

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

2013 - Bloomsbury

On the Arab Revolts and the Iranian Revolution: Power and Resistance Today is the first comparative analysis of two central political events that have altered our world forever: the Arab uprisings which started in Tunisia, and the Iranian revolution in 1979. Adib-Moghaddam demonstrates how contemporary forms of protest are changing our understanding about the way power and resistance function. In a theoretical tour de force which is substantiated with a range of primary material, he argues that acts of protest in Tehran to Cairo can be entirely linked to the same act in New York, London, Madrid and Athens. Breaking through the east/west, north/south divide, Adib-Moghaddam shows how the Arab revolts promise to shift the discourse away from the idea that Arabs and Muslims are peculiar, that "Middle Eastern Studies" cannot be linked to political theory, that the dynamics of rebellion "there" are fundamentally different from the politics of revolt "here". Adib-Moghaddam argues that the dialectics of power and resistance are truly universal and that they are unfolding within a globalised political context that is increasingly interconnected. In order to illuminate this argument theoretically, the study is organised around conceptual terms that feed into forms of power and resistance, such as revolution, radicalism, dissent, knowledge, neighbour and reform. These terms and concepts are discussed and deconstructed via an empirical discussion of pivotal events beyond the non-western world, demonstrating that for a long time, and without realising it, we have been living in the end times of unitary categories such as "west" and "east".

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The Moroccan Women's Rights Movement

Amy Young Evrard

2014 - Syracuse University Press

Among various important efforts to address women's issues in Morocco, a particular set of individuals and associations have formed around two specific goals: reforming the Moroccan Family Code and raising awareness of women's rights. Evrard chronicles the history of the women's rights movement, exploring the organizational structure, activities, and motivations with specific attention to questions of legal reform and family law. Employing ethnographic scrutiny, Evrard presents the stories of the individual women behind the movement and the challenges they faced. Given the vast reform of the Moroccan Family Code in 2004, and the emphasis on the role of women across the Middle East and North Africa today, this book makes a timely argument for the analysis of women's rights as both global and local in origin, evolution, and application.

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Bread, Freedom, Social Justice - Workers and the Egyptian Revolution

Catherine Alexander and Mostafa Bassiouny

2014 – Zed Books

Accounts of the Arab Spring often focus on the role of youth coalitions, the use of social media, and the tactics of the Tahrir Square occupation. This authoritative and original book argues that collective action by organised workers played a fundamental role in the Egyptian revolution, which erupted after years of strikes and social protests. Drawing on the authors' decade-long experience of reporting on and researching the Egyptian labour movement, the book provides the first in-depth account of the emergence of independent trade unions and workers' militancy during Mubarak's last years in power, and their destabilising impact on the post-revolutionary regimes.

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Captive Revolution - Palestinian Women's Anti-Colonial Struggle within the Israeli Prison System

Nahla Abdo

2014 – Pluto Press

Women throughout the world have always played their part in struggles against colonialism, imperialism and other forms of oppression. However, there are few books on Arab political prisoners, fewer still on the Palestinians who have been detained in their thousands for their political activism and resistance. Nahla Abdo's *Captive Revolution* seeks to break the silence on Palestinian women political detainees, providing a vital contribution to research on women, revolutions, national liberation and anti-colonial resistance. Based on stories of the women themselves, as well as her own experiences as a former political prisoner, Abdo draws on a wealth of oral history and primary research in order to analyse their anti-colonial struggle, their agency and their appalling treatment as political detainees. Making crucial comparisons with the experiences of female political detainees in other conflicts, and emphasising the vital role Palestinian political culture and memorialisation of the 'Nakba' have had on their resilience and resistance, *Captive Revolution* is a rich and revealing addition to our knowledge of this little-studied phenomenon.

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OTHER PUBLICATIONS

POMEPS Studies 18: Reflections Five Years After the Uprisings

The early months of 2016 mark five years since the eruption of the Arab uprising. The region's wars, failed transitions, resurgent authoritarianism, and spiraling sectarianism and Islamist extremism make for a grim anniversary. To take stock of what went wrong and what might still go differently, POMEPS asked more than a dozen scholars to reflect on the experience of the last five years in a single country or a thematic issue. What has changed since the uprisings began half a decade ago? What has remained the same, or returned to pre-uprising forms? What do these developments mean for the political science of the Middle East? All these questions, and more, are pondered in the essays published in POMEPS Studies 18, *Reflections Five Years After the Uprisings*. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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The General Knows Best: Ridiculing Civilian Politics in Egypt

Amr Hamzawy

Jadaliyya, 28 March 2016

With the marked deterioration of economic conditions and the deepening of security challenges confronting the state, the current military-backed regime in Egypt has failed to deliver on its long-standing promises of economic prosperity and stability. As signs of social discontent have grown, even in the face of brutal repression, the regime of Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi has been blaming its own failures on conspiracies and plots, allegedly led by external forces in collaboration with opposition groups and human rights advocates. It has also sought to preempt the emergence of any alternative to the political status quo through its repressive strategies, coupled with the dehumanizing narrative it has employed to slander and discredit dissident voices, often labeling them as foreign agents. At the same time, the al-Sisi regime has resorted to another important strategy I describe as "ridiculing politics." The latter term denotes a conscious attempt by the regime to discredit civilian political life in its entirety, while promoting the belief that only the generals are capable of governing the country. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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VIDEO: Israeli soldier 'executes' injured Palestinian after stab attack

Sheren Khalel

Middle East Eye, 25 March 2016

Bethlehem, occupied West Bank - The Israeli human rights organisation B'Tselem on Thursday released video which it said showed an Israeli soldier "assassinating" an injured Palestinian as he lay in the road after an alleged stabbing attempt in the West Bank city of Hebron. The shooting on

Thursday morning of the injured man followed an attack by two Palestinians on an Israeli soldier. The Israeli was injured in the shoulder, and both Palestinians were shot, one of whom died. The video shows the injured Palestinian, named as Abed al-Fatah a-Sharif, lying on the ground for nearly two minutes as medics attend to the injured soldier. Then an Israeli soldier, surrounded by dozens of others, lifts his gun and shoots the 21-year-old Sharif in the head. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Anger at police builds up in Egypt, creates solidarity

Jihad Abaza

Aswat Masriya, 18 March 2016

The past months in Egypt have seen fluctuating moments of protest, and despite the varying backgrounds of those who dissent, all seem to have a common enemy: the police. “There is a case of defiance that exists,” Adel Ramadan, a researcher with the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, said as he explained that “the revolution created a new air of solidarity” between different groups of people whose professional and personal interests may not at first glance seem to connect. While there is no exact count of how many moments of anger police have triggered, “we have seen a wider streak of consecutive protests” throughout the past months. Several instances of police brutality – including the killing of a pickup driver and the assault of medical staff in their hospital – had a whole cross-section of various groups of Egyptians protesting against state violence, which many suggest continues to grow out of control. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Speaking of Palestine: Solidarity and Its Censors

Jasbir Puar

Jadaliyya, 16 March 2016

Since October 2015, clashes, protests, and shootings have intensified in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. As the Israeli occupation approaches its fiftieth year, many are calling the current wave of Palestinian resistance the third intifada. It is almost impossible to describe the complexity of Israeli territorial control that inhibits Palestinian movement, the scale of loss that families and villages have endured over decades of colonial rule, or the exhaustion and fear that dominate everyday existence. In the West Bank, basic quotidian routine is nothing short of energy draining, from which there is no respite. “Existence is Resistance” is an arduously lived and unrelenting truth. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Martyrology and conceptions of time in Hizbullah's writing practices

Bashir Saade

International Journal of Middle East Studies / Volume 47 / Issue 04 / November 2015, pp 723-744

Soon after its founding in the early 1980s, the Lebanese political organization Hizbullah developed a specific practice of remembering its dead. In this article, I argue that through this practice Hizbullah constructed an elaborate conception of time and history that gave ideological coherence to the movement's main political project, *al-muqāwama al-islāmiyya* (Islamic Resistance). Examining early writings in the Hizbullah weekly *al-'Ahd* published during the organization's formative period, I show how such writings were instrumental in producing ideological templates that have continued to be replicated until today. Through a set of ritualistic practices, Hizbullah-affiliated intellectuals have archived everything related to martyrs and other kinds of human legacies, a process that has fed into the notion of an ever-present, and at times anticipated, era (*'ahd*) of resistance. Moreover, the project of Islamic Resistance has gained salience each time the past is relived in the present, producing political action. Hizbullah's efforts at history writing have involved a transmission of ethics through martyrs' act of witnessing and their testimony to a way of life. Analyzing this phenomenon sheds light on the way political Islamic groups such as Hizbullah articulate national imaginaries through specific kinds of ideological production.

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Troubling the political: Women in the Jordanian day-waged labor movement

Sara Ababneh

International Journal of Middle East Studies / Volume 48 / Issue 01 / February 2016, pp 87-112

The Jordanian Day-Waged Labor Movement (DWLM) played a central role in the Jordanian Popular Movement (al-Hirak al-Sha'bi al-Urduni), commonly referred to as Hirak, from 2011 to the end of 2012. The large number of women who were active and took on leading roles in the DWLM contrasts with the absence of women's rights organizations in the Hirak. I argue that the DWLM was able to attract so many women because it developed a discourse and flexible structure that understood women to be embedded within communities and prioritized their economic needs. By studying this discourse and structure, it is possible to learn important lessons about gender-inclusive political and institutional reform.

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POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Professorship in Transnational Governance at the Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence, Italy

The Scuola Normale Superiore (SNS) invites expressions of interest from qualified scholars in the field of **Transnational Governance**, in view of the possible opening of a position at the Associate Professor level at the Istituto di Scienze Umane e Sociali in Florence, for the new curriculum on *Transnational politics, society and institutions* within the PhD in *Political Science and Sociology*.

In particular we seek candidates with specialization in Transnational Governance and Norms. We welcome candidates with a strong research experience on the interactions between domestic, supranational and transnational dynamics on issues such as norms, organizations and institutional development.

SNS looks for candidates with a proven record of achievements at an international level, a clear potential to promote and lead research activities and a specific interest in teaching at the graduate level to a small set of particularly skilled students. English is the working language.

As a result of this enquiry, SNS will decide whether or not to fill a position, on the contract to offer or procedure to activate.

Deadline for the receipt of applications: **May 31st, 2016**

Applications (in Italian or English) should include a CV, a description of current research interests and all relevant information about the applicant. Working knowledge of Italian is appreciated but not required. *More information* [here](#)

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Fixed-Term Researcher in "Political Sociology, Sociology of Law"

The Scuola Normale Superiore announces a selection for the recruitment of one fixed-term researcher, under art. 24, par. 3, lett. a) of the Law 240/2010, engaged on the basis of a full time appointment for a three-year term and by the stipulation of a private-law employment contract, at Istituto di Scienze Umane e Sociali, to carry out research activities, teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities and tutoring to students, in the academic field 14/C3 "Political Sociology, Sociology of Law" – academic discipline SPS/11 "Political Sociology".

Research programme: Cosmos – Mobilizing for Democracy. Supervisor: Prof.ssa Donatella Alessandra Della Porta.

Research activities: The selected candidate is expected to undertake research activities on topics included in the academic disciplines SPS/11, concerning the program described above, with special reference to the research on social movements and civil society organizations in multilevel

governance and particular attention to the transnational dimension and the use of qualitative and/or quantitative methods. The selected candidate will participate in the research activities of the Center on Social Movement Studies – Cosmos, thus he/she is expected to have research experience in the above-mentioned topics and strong methodological skills.

The researcher's teaching activities, integrative teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities and tutoring to students will consist in giving lectures, training sessions and, if needed, in support activities to teaching according to the annual planning approved by the competent bodies of the Scuola Normale and of the Istituto di Scienze Umane e Sociali.

Duration of the contract: 3 years.

Remuneration: the annual remuneration will be the same as the starting remuneration for confirmed researchers, corresponding to an annual gross compensation of € 34.898,06.

Application deadline: **the application must be received by 14th April, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. at the Scuola Normale Superiore.** *More information* [here](#)

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Research contracts as part of the research project ERC – AdG “Mobilizing for Democracy: Democratization processes and the mobilization of civil society”

Selection, based on work to date, for n. 3 research contracts named “*Mobilizing for democracy: social movements and the deepening of democracy*” as part of the research project ERC – AdG “*Mobilizing for Democracy: Democratization processes and the mobilization of civil society*”, Acronym “Mobilizing4democracy”, Grant Agreement Number 269136.

Application deadline: the application must be registered online by 23.59 (Italian time) of **April 5th 2016.** *More information* [here](#)

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Call for Proposals: Junior Scholars Book Development Workshop 2016

The Project on Middle East Political Science is pleased to call for proposals for its fifth annual Junior Scholars Book Development Workshop to be held at Princeton University on **November 10 – 11, 2016.** Applicants must be post-PhD and pre-tenure and must have a complete book manuscript ready for circulation and discussion by August 1, 2016. Only first book projects will be considered. Each manuscript will be discussed in depth by at least two senior colleagues. The goal of the discussion is to prepare the manuscript for submission to an appropriate press. Research can focus on any aspect of the contemporary politics of the broader Middle East.

To apply **please send by 5:00 pm April 15, 2016** to pomepsteam@gmail.com in one PDF document:

- CV and 2-3 page description of the project
- A chapter-length writing sample (preferably the introductory chapter of the dissertation/book manuscript)
- A list of 3 to 5 senior scholars from whom you most would like feedback (including at least 2 of whom are not primarily Middle East specialists)

Contact information for at least two academic references (including a dissertation chair)

Please contact Lauren Baker at pomepsteam@gmail.com or 202-994-6789 with questions.

More information [here](#)

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