

DAY 1 THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2022

9h

INTRODUCTION

- Jordi Tejel (University of Neuchâtel)
- Aline Schlaepfer (University of Basel)

9h30-10h45

PANEL 1 (State and Tribe Relations)

Chair Aline Schlaepfer (University of Basel)

- Barakat Nora (Stanford University)
Maintaining Space in the Nation State : Bedouin and "Tribes" in the Post-Ottoman Eastern Mediterranean
- Stocker Laura (Ruhr-University Bochum)
Networks of (Un)Ordinary Ottomans : Bedouin and Merchants in the Syrian Desert, c. 1918-1926

10h45

Coffee break (20 minutes)

11h05-12h20

PANEL 2 (Ottomans in Exile)

Chair Jordi Tejel (University of Neuchâtel)

- Khayati Sarah (University of Basel)
Migration of Ottoman Jews to the Swiss Alps : the Making of a "Turkino" Community in Geneva during World War I
- Maksudyan Nazan (Centre Marc Bloch)
Ottoman Exodus after World War I : Production of Lives and Knowledge in Exile

12h20

Lunch break (1h10)

13h30-14h45

PANEL 3 (Family and Households after WWI)

Chair Ulrich Brandenburg

(University of Zürich)

- Kuehn Thomas (Simon Fraser University)
Nobody is Leaving ! Ottoman Officials, their Families, and the Struggle over Ottoman Imperial Sovereignty in Yemen after the Mudros Armistice, 1918-1924
- Hamzah Dyala (Montreal University)
Nazlı Taufik al-Miqdadi (1907-1942). Ottoman Turkish Bride of a Palestinian Pan-Arab

14h45

Coffee break (20 minutes)

15h05-17h05

PANEL 4 (Cosmopolitan Aleppo)

Chair Cyrus Schayegh

(Graduate Institute, Geneva)

- Abrahamyan Victoria (University of Neuchâtel)
The Beirut and Aleppo Incidents and the Syrian-Armenian Relations in the Post-War Aleppo, 1918-1920
- Veldkamp Joel (The Graduate Institute, Geneva)
"So that We Can Safeguard Your Lives" : The Jews of Aleppo between Colonialism, Nationalism and Zionism, 1918-1946
- Öztan Ramazan Hakkı (Boğaziçi University)
Peasants of Kilis, Merchants of Aleppo : Ottoman Mobilities and their Afterlives circa 1920

DAY 2 FRIDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2022

9h-10h15

PANEL 5 (Modern Culture in Transition)

Chair Alexander Balistreri (University of Basel)

- Massot Anaïs (EHESS/University of Leiden)
Embroideries of Empire : Dress and Distinction in the Transition from Ottoman Rule to the Syrian Nation-state
- Abbani Diana (Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin)
Imagined Borders, Nations and Heroes in Beirut's Songs during the Mandate Period, 1920s-1930s

10h15

Coffee break (15 minutes)

10h30-11h45

PANEL 6 (Memory Production)

Chair Juan Carlos Castillo Quiñones

(University of Neuchâtel)

- Morack Ellinor (Otto-Friedrich Universität Bamberg)
"Avcıdan Ava : " (Temporary) Marginalization in Muslim Men's Memories of the Occupation Period
- Funda Soysal (Boğaziçi University) & Yenen Alp (Leiden University)
A Salonican Family during the Post-Ottoman Transition : Initial Observations Based on Recently-Discovered Family Papers

11h45

Lunch break (1h15)

13h-14h15

PANEL 7 (Mobilities and Borders)

Chair Maurus Reinkowski (University of Basel)

- Jaquier César (University of Neuchâtel / Université Lumière Lyon 2)
Garages, Hotels and Cafes along the Trans-Desert Routes Linking Iraq and Syria, 1923-1939
- Fahrenthold Stacy (University of California, Davis)
Paper Syrians : Migrant Smuggling and the Textile Trade in the US-Mexico Borderlands

14h15

Coffee break (15 minutes)

14h30-15h45

PANEL 8 (Political Identities in Transition)

Chair Falestin Naïli (University of Basel)

- Pursley Sara (New York University)
From Jihad to Thawra and the Fitna in Between : Ottoman Military Deserters and Najafi Insurgency, 1914-1920
- Wien Peter (University of Maryland)
Fitna ! Grassroots Mobilization and Working-Class Sufism in Post-Ottoman Damascus

15h45-17h15

FINAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

ORDINARY OTTOMANS: POST-WWI SETTLEMENTS AND EXPERIENCES OF THE END OF EMPIRE

This workshop examines the lives and experiences of a generation of “ordinary” Ottomans, whose voices, paths, and personal trajectories are often left out in existing top-down historical narratives on political transition. Focusing on the realms of culture, religion, law, and economy, the workshop seeks to explore how these “ordinary” individuals and groups experienced the collapse of the empire in which they lived. How did peasants, townspeople, merchants, families, communities, companies, or markets, respond to the fluid futures and uncertain contexts brought about by the end of the First World War and the establishment of new states in the Middle East? What were the ways in which they relinquished their imperial practices and attachments, and came to terms with the national and colonial present? By attempting to find answers to these questions, this workshop will provide opportunities for scholars to overcome methodological problems associated with the persistence of nationalist narratives in historical scholarship, as well as incorporate the insights of social history into re-thinking the dynamics of transition from empire to nation-states.

Convened by
Professor Jordi Tejel
Professor Aline Schlaepfer
Dr. Juan Carlos Castillo Quiñones
Youssef Bessourour
Joris Stächeli

For more information, please contact
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Participation is free, but please register via
aline.schlaepfer@unibas.ch

The conference is supported by the Universities of Neuchâtel and Basel, the Fondation Pierre du Bois pour l'histoire du temps présent, the Swiss National Science Foundation (Scientific Exchanges, and Eccellenza), and the National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) for migration and mobility studies.

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Ordinary Ottomans

Post-WWI Settlements and Experiences of the End of Empire

10-11 November 2022

University of Neuchâtel - Espace Tilo-Frey 1 - 2000 Neuchâtel
Room RS.38

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