



THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY OF KURDS AND KURDISTAN

April 4 – 5, 2024

Organizers:

Nilay Özok-Gündoğan (Florida State University)
Mashuq Kurt (Royal Holloway University of London)
Jonathan Wyrzten (Yale University)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

SESSION 1: THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY OF KURDS

9:15-10:45 / Luce 203

Moderator: Jonathan Wyrzten

- **Sabri Ateş** (Southern Methodist University)
"We, the Nation: On Five Letters of Shaykh Ubeidullah Nehrî"
- **Naif Bezwan** (University of Vienna)
"Grasping the Kurdish Self-determination Conflict through the Treaty of Lausanne"
- **Janet Klein** (The University of Akron)
"Violence in Kurdistan: A Historiography of the Long Twentieth Century"

SESSION 2: WORLD WAR I, SELF-DETERMINATION, AND MINORITIZATION

11:00-12:30 / Luce 203

Moderator: Sabri Ateş

- **Veysel Şimşek** (McGill University)
"Military Mobilization and Mass Violence: Kurds and Kurdistan during the First World War, 1914-1918"
- **Cevat Dargın** (University of Michigan)
"Race, Rhetoric, and Rebellion: Afterlives of Ottoman Collapse in the Making of Dersim Thirty-Eight"
- **Loqman Radpey** (University of Edinburgh)
"Decoding the Contemporary Middle East: Kurdistan's Quest for Self-Determination"
- **Veli Yadirgi** (LSE)
"Fluxes in the Socio-economic Structures in Kurdistan in the Long Twentieth Century: From Development to De-development"

SESSION 3: KURDISH POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

1:30-3:00 / Luce 203

Moderator: Nilay Özok-Gündoğan

- **Metin Atmaca** (Social Sciences University of Ankara)
"Sheikhs, Merchants and Notables: Troubled times of Sulaymaniyah in the early 20th Century"
- **Kamal Soleimani** (El Colegio de Mexico)
"The Treaty of Lausanne and Its Impact on the Caliphate's Role Among the Kurds"
- **Dmitrii Asinovskii** (Central European University)
"Barzani Kurds in the Soviet Union: Fugitives, Separatists, Aliens"
- **Jihan Mohammed** (Vanderbilt University)
"Iraqi Kurds: The Dream of Nation State"

SESSION 4: CULTURE, DISCOURSE, AND IDENTITY

3:15-4:45 / Luce 203

Moderator: Mashuq Kurt

- **Rüstem Ertuğ Altınay** (University of Milan)
"Dark Utopias: Militarism and Turkification in Late Ottoman Youth Theatre"
- **Jon Bullock** (University of Notre Dame)
"They Did It for the Culture': Kurdish Music Broadcasting as a Site of Resistance"
- **Loghman HamehMorad** (University College Dublin)
"The Historical Contexts of the Hegemonizing Kurdish Nationalism Discourse in Iranian Kurdistan"
- **Vera Eccarius-Kelly** (Siena College)
"Decolonial Aesthetics and Diasporic Kurdish Discernment"

FRIDAY APRIL 5

SESSION 5: GENDER, YOUTH, AND POLITICAL CONFLICT

9:00-10:30 / Luce 203

Moderator: Nadje Al-Ali

- **Shilan Fuad Hussain** (Middlesex University)
"From the Margins to the Main Stage: Centering the Impact of the Lausanne Treaty on the Lives of Women"
- **Barış Öktem** (Royal Holloway University of London)
"Identity Formation and Political Engagement: Understanding Contemporary Kurdish Youth in Historical Context"
- **Clara Rasouli** (University of Oslo)
"'Women Who Face Death': Understanding Motivational Factors for Female Peshmergas in the PDKI"
- **Katia Zagoritou** (University of Peloponnese)
"The impact of the Lausanne Treaty on the Kurds in Syria"

SESSION 6: ENERGY/RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENT/SPACE

10:45-12:15 / Luce 203

Moderator: Veli Yadirgi

- **Fidan Mirhanoglu** (Paris Business School)
"Kurdish Statehood and Colonial Oil: The French Policy of Petroleum in Kurdistan a Century Apart"
- **Rebecca Irvine** (CUNY)
"Tracing Malaria in 1950 and 60s Iraqi Kurdistan: Environment, War and Disease"
- **Turan Keles** (University of Central Florida)
"Public Investment as a Counterinsurgency Strategy: A Quantitative Analysis of Turkish State Policies in Kurdish Regions (1960-2020)"
- **Avin Haris & Mohammad Shareef** (University of Kurdistan Hewlêr)
"Climate Change Challenge of a Stateless Nation: Implications of Geopolitically Induced Water Scarcity on the Kurdistan Region of Iraq"

SESSION 7: INTERCOMMUNAL RELATIONS

1:30-2:45 / Luce 203

Moderator: Janet Klein

- **Diana Yayloyan** (Georgetown University)
"Exploring Armenian-Kurdish Relations in the late Ottoman East: Testimony of Yervant Kureghian"
- **Hasmik Grigoryan** (Clark University)
"1914 Kurdish Uprising in Bitlis: The Response in the Armenian Press"
- **Stan Thangaraj** (Stonehill College)
"Constantinople Cafe and Copper Binds: Kurds, Lebanese, and the Emergence of Butte, Montana"
- **Kerem Can Uşşaklı** (Stanford University)
"The Social Fingerprint: Personal Identification and the Sovereignty of Incorporation at the Kurdish-Iraqi Borderlands"

CLOSING REMARKS AND ROUND-TABLE: FUTURE OF THE KURDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Moderator: Aslı Ü. Bâli

3:00-4:30 / Luce 203

Mashuq Kurt, Nilay Özok-Gündoğan, Jonathan Wyrzten, Nadje Al-Ali, Metin Serbest and all participants

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