

# WEST ASIA WORKSHOP

University of Sussex, Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 Ashdown House Room 102



9:10 Welcome and Opening Remarks - Professor Magnus Marsden, Sussex Asia Centre

9:15 Keynote Address 1 - Professor Nile Green, University of California, Los Angeles  
"Worlds & Roads: The Mechanics and Semantics of Space-Making"

10:15 Panel 1: Religion Interactions and West Asian Dynamics

Chair: Dr Hillary Kalmbach, School of History/Middle East & North Africa Centre, UoS

Professor Oleg Yarosh, Oriental Philosophy, National Academy of Sciences Ukraine:

"Globalization of redemptive sociality: Al-Ahbash and Haqqaniyya transnational Sufi networks in West Asia and Central-Eastern Europe".

Dr Andreas Bandak, Copenhagen University: "Spiritual and Political Kinship: Preserving Christianity in the Levant amidst the Play of Geo-Politics".

Dr Simon Wolfgang Fuchs, University of Cambridge: "Potentials of Periphery: how Pakistan's Shi'is navigate the pull of West Asia".

Prof Sebnem Akcapar (Koç University Asia Centre): "'The Ties That Bind': Religious Conversions among Afghan Refugees in India, from Islam to Evangelism".

12:00 Panel 2: Re-aggregating West Asia: Intra-Asian Comparisons and Connections

Chair: Dr Kamran Matin, School of Global Studies, UoS

Dr Diana Ibañez Tirado, School of Global Studies, UoS: "Moscow 1990s and Yiwu 2000s – a comparative analysis of the life-trajectories of former students in West, Inner and East Asia".

Dr Paul Anderson, University of Cambridge: "Choosing China: contextualising Syrian and Yemeni eastward migration to Yiwu after 2011".

Dr Burak Gürel & Dr Erdem Yörük, Department of Sociology, Koç University: "The politics of social assistance in contemporary Asia: comparative analysis of China, India, and Turkey".

14:15 Keynote Address 2 Professor Francis Robinson, Royal Holloway, University of London  
"West Asia and South Asia through 1000 years"

15:00 Panel 3: West Asian Mobilities and Identities in the 'Era of Globalisation'

Chair: Dr Ka Kin Cheuk, Leiden University

Mr. Kourosh Kouchakpour, School of Education & Social Work, UoS: "Shifting Patterns of Student Mobility in West Asia: An Analysis of the 'University Students' Challenges and Opportunities for Participation in International Contexts".

Professor Magnus Marsden, School of Global Studies, UoS: "Partial Neighbourhoods: Central Asian Emigres across West Asian Cities"

Ms. Idil Akinci, School of Global Studies, UoS: "Politics of Belonging in the Cosmopolitan Persian Gulf- a study of national identity construction in the Emirates".

16:30 Panel 4: Whose West Asia? – Critical reflections on 'the region'

Chair: Dr Alice Wilson, School of Global Studies, UoS

Dr Till Mostowlansky, Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong: "Whose West Asia? Reflections from Hong Kong, Singapore and lesser known places".

Dr David Henig, Department of Anthropology, University of Kent at Canterbury: "A scent of the other shore".

17:30 Concluding Remarks - Dr Seteney Shami (Programme Director, Inter-Asia, Social Science Research Council; Founding Director, Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS), Beirut)

18:00 Drinks and Buffet dinner: Speakers, Panel Chairs and Invited Guests - The Dhaba

Organised by: University of Sussex Asia Centre

Collaborating Partners:

TRODITIES European Research Council Advanced Project

Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong

Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen



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