Thimar research collective on agriculture, environment & labour in the Arab World

In collaboration with

Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

at the American University of Beirut

is pleased to announce a symposium on

Food, Farmers and Revolutions

22 January 2013 // 10:00 – 16:30

West Hall • Auditorium B

PROGRAM

Session 1 - Framing the region: terms for debate // 10:00 – 11:45
- Dr. Ali Kadri - "The region in the world economy, from crisis to crises"
- Dr. Rami Zurayk - “Food, farming and freedom revisited"
Discussion following the presentations

Coffee Break // 11:45 – 12:15

Session 2 – Beyond the squares: the rural in the revolution // 12:15 – 2:00
- Dr. Martha Mundy – “The food economy in Yemen”
- Dr. Habib Ayeb - "Rural origins of the revolution in Tunisia"
- Dr. Ray Bush - "Food security in Egypt"
Discussion following the presentations

Lunch // 2:00 – 3:00

Film Screening - Green Mirage // 3:30
A documentary by Nadia Kamel and Habib Ayeb
Discussion with Habib Ayeb after the film
**Dr. Habib Ayeb**, born in Tunisia, is a geographer, researcher at the SRC (Social Research Center) at the AUC (American University in Cairo) in Egypt, lecturer at Paris 8 University, and member of the GECKO CNRS laboratory at Paris 10 University. His research has concerned water issues, social change, access to resources, poverty and marginality. He is the author of *La crise de la société rurale en Égypte - La fin du fellah ?* (2010) and editor and co-author with Dr. Ray Bush of *Marginality and Exclusion in Egypt* (2012).


**Dr. Ali Kadri**, senior Research Fellow at the Middle East Institute National University of Singapore. Prior to joining MEI, Dr. Kadri was a visiting fellow at the Department of International Development, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and head of the Economic Analysis Section at the United Nations regional office for Western Asia. Dr. Kadri has published on issues of the labor process in the Arab world. His forthcoming book, entitled *Arab Development Denied*, looks at the obstacles facing development in the region.

**Dr. Martha Mundy**, professor Emerita of Anthropology at the London School of Economics. Her research has concerned anthropology of law and the state, the comparative sociology of agrarian systems, and the anthropology of kinship and family. Her work on agrarian systems can be seen in her *Domestic Government: Kinship, community and polity in North Yemen* (1995) and, with R. Saumarez Smith, *Governing Property, Making the Modern State: Law, administration and production in Ottoman Syria* (2007). The last is coming out in Turkish with Tarih Vakfi, Istanbul, and in Arabic with Dar al-Kitab al-Jadid, Beirut.

**Dr. Rami Zurayk**, author of *Food, Farming and Freedom: Sowing the Arab Spring*, and *War Diary: Lebanon 2006*, is a professor of Ecosystem Management in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and director of the Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program at the American University of Beirut and a longtime activist for political and social justice. Born in Beirut during the 1958 U.S. Marines’ landing in Lebanon, he has witnessed two Israeli-Arab wars, one protracted civil war, one major Israeli invasion, one Israeli retreat and one Israeli defeat. He studied at AUB and at Oxford University. He has published over a hundred articles, monographs and technical reports on agriculture, food, environment and education.