

For Immediate Release



Upcoming events at AUB

Beirut, Lebanon- 12/03/2014 - The following events will be taking place at AUB over the coming days:

- **Symposium on the Syrian refugee crisis**

A one-day symposium on the Syrian refugee crisis is being held at AUB on March 13, 2014 from 9 am to 6.30pm, in the auditorium of the new IFI building by the Green Oval.

The symposium is organized by the Refugee Research and Policy in the Arab World program at the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB).

The opening session will start at 9:00 am and will feature remarks by IFI Director Rami Khouri, Provost Ahmad Dallal, and Professor Vijay Prashad, Edward Said Chair, CASAR. The symposium will consist of five sessions. English/Arabic simultaneous translation will be available

- **Lecture on the early history of Beirut municipality**

The Anis Makdisi Program in Literature at AUB is organizing a lecture by Malek Sharif, entitled, “The State and the City: Uncovering the early history of the municipality of Beirut,” at 5pm on Thursday, March 13, 2014, in Building 37 (behind the Lee Observatory).

This talk will try to shed some light on the formative years of the municipality of Beirut prior to 1867—the date of the first municipal law for the provinces—and its ambivalent relationship with the central authorities in Istanbul.

Malek Sharid holds a PhD in Turkic Studies from the Free University of Berlin. From 2004 till 2007 he was affiliated to the German Orient Institute in Istanbul, as a post-doctoral fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Berlin and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation. He is the author of *Imperial Norms and Local Realities* (2014) and the coeditor of *The First Ottoman Experiment in Democracy* (2010). Currently he is lecturer at the Civilization Sequence Program and the Department of History and Archaeology.

- **Lecture on Memory and Invention in architecture**

The Department of Architecture and Design is holding the second of the Areen Architecture Series on March 14 from 6.30pm to 8pm, in Bechtel Engineering Building, Al-Qatami Engineering Lecture Hall.

Entitled “Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos: Memory and Invention,” the lecture will be given by prize-winning architects Enrique Sobejano and Fuensanta Nieto, the founders of Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos, an architectural firm founded in 1985.

Along with being widely published in international magazines and books, the firm’s work has been exhibited at the Biennale di Venezia in 2000, 2002, 2006, and 2012; at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, in 2006; and at the Kunsthaus in Graz in 2008.

- **Lecture on Turkish reaction to the Assassination of an Armenian journalist**

The Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES) is holding a lecture entitled “Chronicles of a Death Foretold: Public Affect in Turkey after the Assassination of an Armenian Journalist,” by Yael Navaro-Yashin, reader in social anthropology, University of Cambridge. The lecture will take place on March 17 from 12 noon to 2pm in West Hall, Auditorium B.

Dr. Yael Navaro Yashin was born Istanbul, Turkey where she graduated from Robert College (1987). She also holds a BA in sociology from Brandeis University (1991) and PhD in anthropology from Princeton University (1998). She has taught at the University of Edinburgh. She is the author of *Faces of the State: Secularism and Public Life in Turkey* (Princeton , 2002) and of *The Make - Believe Space : Affective Geography in a Postwar Polity* (Duke , 2012). Dr. Navaro - Yashin was recently awarded a European Research Council grant for a 5 - year project in Turkey as Principal Investigator. The title of her project is “Living with Remnants: Politics, Materiality and Subjectivity in the Aftermath of Past Atrocities in Turkey.

- **Discussion on America’s past, present, and future**

The Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR) is organizing “America Today,” a conversation with Professor Ruth Wilson Gilmore (CUNY), Professor Robin D.G. Kelley (UCLA), and Professor Vijay Prashad (AUB).

The discussion will take place on March 17 from 6pm to 8pm, in West Hall, Auditorium A.

In “America Today,” Dr. Vijay Prashad, the Edward Said Chair of American Studies at AUB will be in conversation with Dr. Ruth Wilson Gilmore (CUNY) and Dr. Robin D.G. Kelley (UCLA) to discuss a wide range of topics related to the American past, present, and future.

Ruth Wilson Gilmore is Professor of Earth & Environmental Sciences, and American Studies, and Director of the Center for Place, Culture, and Politics, at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Robin D. G. Kelley is the Gary B. Nash Professor of U.S. History. He has written many books on jazz and black American culture. His articles on Palestine have appeared in Counterpunch, Mondoweiss, Electronic Intifada, and Boston Review.

- **Lecture on American inter-war humanitarianism**

The Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES) is organizing a lecture entitled, "The Failures of American Humanitarian Exceptionalism: Stanley Kerr, Near East Relief and the Battle of Marash (1920-1922)," by Keith David Watenpaugh, Associate Professor & Director of the UC Davis Human Rights Initiative.

The lecture will be held on March 18 from 6pm to 8pm, in College Hall, B1.

It will explore the ideology and practice of American interwar humanitarianism at a moment of tremendous challenge and failure: the Battle of Marash in 1920 and the collapse of vast post-Genocide refugee resettlement project in South Central Anatolia.

Keith David Watenpaugh is a historian and director of the UC Davis Human Rights Initiative and most recently was an American Council of Learned Societies Fellow (2014). Currently, he is President of the Syrian Studies Association. He is the author of *Being Modern in the Middle East* (Princeton, 2006).

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Director of News and Information, ma110@aub.edu.lb,
01-75 96 85

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

Stay up to date on AUB news and events. Follow us on:

Website: www.aub.edu.lb
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aub.edu.lb>
Twitter: http://twitter.com/AUB_Lebanon