

**International Conference
The Kurds and Kurdistan: Identity, Politics, History
2nd and 3rd April, 2009
Centre for Kurdish Studies
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies
University of Exeter**

WEDNESDAY, 1st APRIL

17:00 -17:45

**Conference participants arrive
Registration**

IAIS Lecture Theatre

17:45 Welcome Address

Professor Tim Dunne
Head, School of Humanities and Social Science
University of Exeter

18:00-19:00 Keynote Address

Dr. Amir Hassanpour, University of Toronto

On the changing social bases of Kurdish Studies: From Sharaf Khan to the Dominican Fathers to the unruly world of the internet

19:00

Buffet dinner

19:30 Film Screening

To be followed by Q&A with director Bahman Ghobadi

THURSDAY, 2nd APRIL

9:00-10:30 Simultaneous Panels, Session 1

IAIS Lecture Room 1

Turkey's 'Kurdish Question': Development and Conflict

Panel Chair, Hamit Bozarslan (Paris)

Robert Olson, University of Kentucky

Kurdish-Turkish Relations from the 22 July general elections to the 29 March local elections: solutions or stalemate?

Ramazan Aras, University of Western Ontario

The State Sovereignty and the Politics of Fear:

Ethnography of Political Violence and the Kurdish Struggle in Turkey

Michael Gunter, Tennessee Technological University
Turkey's EU Accession: The Rise and Fall of the AK Party's Attempt to Solve the Kurdish Problem?

Welat Zeydanlioglu, Anglia Ruskin University
Turkification and torture in Diyarbakır

IAIS Lecture Room 2
Expressions of Religiosity
Panel Chair, Christine Allison (Exeter)

Estelle Amy de la Bretèque, Laboratoire d'ethnomusicologie, Paris
Duduk lament and zurna dance: a musical typology of emotion in Armenia's Yezidi communities

Khanna Omarkhali, Georg –August University, Goettingen
Current Concerns with a Canon in the Nowadays Yezidi Society

Philip Kreyenbroek, Georg –August University, Goettingen
Popular Zoroastrianism and the Religion of Western Iran

Geoffrey Haig, University of Kiel
Documenting endangered languages and cultures of the Kurds: The case of Gorani and the Ahl-e Haqq communities of Iran

10:30-11:00
Coffee break

11:00-12:30 Simultaneous Panels, Session 2

IAIS Lecture Room 1
Encounters with Diversity: Kurds and Others
Panel Chair, Philip Kreyenbroek (Goettingen)

David Gaunt and Jan Betsawoce, Soedertoern University College, Stockholm
Assyrian-Kurdish relationships ca 1850-1920

Vahe Boyajian, Yerevan State University
Notes on the Balochi Tribes of Kurdish Origin

Iran Mohammadi, EHESS Paris
Family and school crossing: the question of Kurdish youth identity

Azat Zana Gündoğan, SUNY - Binghamton University

“They Have Villas, We Have Caves“. Eastern Demonstrations at the Conjunction of Social Change: 1968 Movement in Turkey and Kurdish Political Movement

IAIS Lecture Room 2

Representation, History and the Development of Kurdish Identity

Panel Chair, Robert Olson (Kentucky)

Janet Klein, University of Akron

Nationalism, Statelessness, and Kurdish Studies Today

Nilay Ozok, SUNY- Binghamton

There is no Justice, Liberty and Equality for us: Commoners' Perception of the 1908 Revolution in Diyarbakir.

Deniz Ekici, University of Exeter

Dissolution of the Ottoman Empire and the Emergence of Kurdish Nationalism

Yavuz Aykan, EHESS, Paris

Legal Pluralism and Gendered Discourse of Divorce in the 17th Century Ottoman Amid (Diyarbakir)

12:30-13:30

Lunch

13:30- 15:00 Simultaneous Panels, Session 3

IAIS Lecture Room 1

Kurdish Political Spaces in Transition

Panel Chair, Michael Gunter (Tennessee)

Said Shams, independent researcher

Historicising Kurdish national identity: who imagines what, how and when

Cengiz Gunes, University of Essex

Promoting Kurdish rights and democracy in a delimited space: the pro-Kurdish political parties in Turkey

Robert Lowe, Chatham House

Kurds in Syria: five years since the serhildan

Gilles Dorrnsoro, Carnegie Foundation and Nicole Watts, San Francisco State University

How social coalitions shape political parties: Associational Networks and Pro-Kurdish Parties in Diyarbakir (Turkey)

IAIS Lecture Room 2
The Politics of Cultural Production
Panel Chair, Clemence Scalbert Yucel (Exeter)

Delal Aydin, Boğaziçi University
Mobilizing the Kurds in Turkey through Newroz myth

Ozlem Galip, University of Exeter
A comparative analysis of novelistic discourse between Turkish Kurdistan and its diaspora with regard to the idea of home, belonging and identity

Metin Yuksel, University of Chicago
Dengbej, Mullah, Intellectual: Continuity and Change in Kurdish Culture in the Modern Middle East

15:00-15:30
Coffee break

15:30-17:00 Simultaneous Panels, Session 4

IAIS Lecture Room 1
Gender, Violence and the Nation
Panel Chair, Sarah Keeler (Exeter)

Mino Alinia, Mid-Sweden University
Borders, identities and violence

Rojda Alac, EHESS, Paris
Women as Translators: On the speakability of the village guardianship (Koruculuk) among the Kurdish women of Van

Sungun Ebru, University of Paris
War rape as a gender-based violence in Kurdish society

David Romano, Rhodes College
Kurdish women in arms

IAIS Lecture Room 2
Contemporary Kurdish Politics
Panel Chair, Gareth Stansfield (Exeter)

Francis Owtram, University of Kurdistan – Hawler
The foreign policies of quasi-states in comparative analysis: the case of the Kurdish Regional Government

Marie Leray, IREMAM, Aix – IEP, Lille

Highlighting Kurdist Mobilizations through their Margins: conversions and concurrent identity mobilizations in Tunceli

Gulcan Kolay, EHESS, Paris

Habur border gate: the impact of border commerce in southeast Turkey

19:00 – 22:00 Conference Dinner

Reed Hall

With concert by of Ahl-e-Haqq music by Ali Akbar Moradi

FRIDAY, 3rd APRIL

9:00-10:30 Simultaneous Panels, Session 1

IAIS Lecture Room 1

Exile, Displacement and Transnational Political Mobilisations

Panel Chair, Janet Klein (Akron)

Liza Nell, Leiden University

Kurdish Diaspora Politics in the Netherlands, 1990s-2005

Marlies Casier, University of Ghent

Human Rights defenders, 'the Kurdish question', and the Turkish state after OHAL: Continuity or change?

Diane King, University of Kentucky

Narrations, crossings, enforcements: Kurdistan as borderland

Olivier Grojean, EHESS, Paris

The "Return Effect" of Transnational Kurdish Mobilizations

IAIS Lecture Room 2

The Kurdish Subject, Language and Literature

Panel Chair, Hashem Ahmadzadeh (Exeter)

Hassan Ghazi, independent researcher

Language standardisation and the question of the Kurdish dialects: the language debate in Iraqi Kurdistan

Bakhtiar Sajjadi, University of Exeter

The Identity of the Kurdish Subject: coherent, fragmented, or ideological?

Farangis Ghaderi, independent researcher

The (magnificence of) language in Sherko Bekes' poetries

10:30 – 11:00
Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Simultaneous Panels, Session 2

IAIS Lecture Room 1
Virtual Identities and New Media Discourses
Panel Chair, Amir Hassanpour (Toronto)

Christian Sinclair, University of Arizona
Re-framing Kurdish identity: Language, Politics and New Media

Jaffer Sheyholislami, Carleton University
Kurdish Identities, Discursive Constructions, and the New Media

Gevorg Avetikyan, Central European University/Yerevan State University
The use of web resources by the Kurdish nationalist movement in contemporary Iran

Andrea Fischer-Tahir, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin
Enforced Neighbourhood: imaginations of “the Arab” in Iraqi Kurdish print media since 2003

IAIS Lecture Room 2
Ideologies of Nationalism in Iraqi Kurdistan
Panel Chair, Tim Dunne (Exeter)

Omar Sheikmous, independent researcher
The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Iraq : Origins, Ideologies, Visions and Realities

Michael Eppel, University of Haifa
Kurdish leadership in Iraq: facing the challenges, the dangers, and the chances of post-Saddam Iraq

Shorsh Hajji, University of Exeter
The Resurgence of Kurdish Nationalism (1975 – 1985) – A journey From Denial to Recognition

Mahir Aziz, University of Exeter
The three phases of Kurdish nationalism: Kurdawari, Kurdayati, and Kurdistanyati

12:30-13:30
Lunch

13:30-14:30 Keynote Address

Dr. Hamit Bozarslan, EHESS, Paris

The “State of the art” and the future of Kurdish studies

14:30-14:50

Closing Remarks

Hashem Ahmadzadeh, Director of Centre for Kurdish Studies
University of Exeter