



CEMAT NEWSLETTER

CEMAT is the American Research Center in Tunis, the Centre d'Etudes Maghrébines à Tunis

CEMAT is the Overseas Research Center of the American Institute of Maghribi Studies, AIMS

CEMAT is a member of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, CAORC

Vol. XVI, No. 1 Winter 2004

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CEMAT was authorized by the Ministry of Higher Education & Research of the Republic of Tunisia, March 1985.

CEMAT is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

July & Ramadan hours: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

CEMAT is closed the month of August.

Message from the Director

Thirty-five years later finds me back in Tunis. When Lyndon Johnson was president, when Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy were shot, I was a student in Tunis one year back in the 1960s. Tunisia was in the throes of the years of socialism and Ariana was an agricultural

village outside Tunis. How times have changed! It is my pleasure to return to these shores of Carthage, where I was a student at the University of Tunis, now known as Faculté du 9 Avril, through a program of the Experiment in International Living. Looking back, that year, 1967-1968, was the beginning of my career, in many ways, as I immersed myself in geography classes at the University and began what has become a life-long attachment to the Maghrib and studies of the Islamic World in general. My life as a geographer truly began here. While my professional career has mostly been engaged with research on land and life in Morocco, I am now rewarded by the professional responsibilities that come as part of the intellectual life of Tunisia. And that is where CEMAT lives, among the thriving sense of inquiry and research that prevails in Tunis.

My university life in America – a geographer in a history department at Clemson University in South Carolina – is on hold while I manage the affairs of CEMAT. CEMAT's reputation as a center for scholarly research and as a meeting point for scholars of all stripes and nationalities is strong. CEMAT lives through its sponsored scholars, and there is growing interest in America in Tunisian studies. This we must encourage. Likewise, CEMAT seeks to foster relations among scholars of all the Maghrib countries, and through its scholarships and conferences attempts to build bridges from the Atlantic to the Gulf of Gabès. CEMAT and its affiliated center in Morocco, TALM, the Tangier American Legation Museum, will continue to serve the interests of North African and American scholars directly through the linkages we now forge together in the 21st century. To do this, though, CEMAT needs your help. I need to get to know you. Please let me know your interests and concerns as we work for a sound future together.

CEMAT Researchers 2003-2004

Thomas DeGeorges, Department of History, Harvard University. "Fighting Side by Side: Cooperation and Conflict Between France and Tunisia during the World Wars." September 2003 – May 2004.

Karen Stern, Department of Religious Studies, Brown University. "Jewish Culture of Roman North Africa." August – November, 2003.

Michael Suleyman, Department of Political Science, Kansas State University. Senior Fulbright Researcher. "Attitudes Toward the Other in Tunisian Textbooks." January – July, 2004.

CEMAT and TALM Fellows 2003-2004 (Maghribi Grantees)

● Moroccan Scholars to Tunisia:

Ali Abidar, Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture, Meknès. "Informal Agricultural Trade in the Maghreb Arab Union." September 2-20, 2003.

● Algerian Scholars to Tunisia:

Zakia Zahra, Université d'Alger. "A Study of the Waqf of Subul al-Khayrat in the Ottoman Period." July 6-August 5, 2003.

● **Tunisian Scholars to Morocco:**

Salah Baizig, Université de Tunis. “Dépouillement des manuscrits inédits au Maroc concernant l’histoire médiévale du Maghreb.”

Fadhel Blibech, Université de Tunis. “Le Patrimoine historique et archéologique et le droit.”

Faiçal Cherif, Institut Supérieur de l’Histoire du Mouvement National, La Manouba, Tunis. “La Propagande arabe de l’axe et des alliés pendant la Seconde Guerre Mondiale et son impact sur les Populations nord africaines.”

Mohsen Hamli, Université de la Manouba, Tunis. “A Companion to North African Literature in English.”

● **Maghribi Scholars outside the Maghrib to the Maghrib:**

Nabil Boudraa, Purdue University, Indiana. “Collective Memory, Identity and Resistance in the Poetry and Song of Fatima Tabaammrant.” (to Morocco)

Hakim Boulharès, European University Institute, Florence Italy. “Facing Liberalisation: the Political Economy of State-Business Relations in Morocco & Algeria.” (to Morocco)

Ratiba Hadj-Moussa, York University, Ontario Canada. “Encountering New Media: Public Space & Identity in Morocco.” (to Morocco)

Naima Omar, University of Kansas. “To Switch or Not to Switch: A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Political Discourse.” (to Tunisia)

Lotfi Sayahi, SUNY-Albany. “Spanish in Northern Morocco: The Case of Tetouan.” (to Morocco)

AIMS CONFERENCES

2003. The 2003 AIMS Conference, ‘*New Media Public Debates in the Maghreb*’ (‘*Nouveaux moyens d’information et les débats aux pays du Maghreb*’) was held at the University of Oran, May 15-18. Mark Tessler, President of Aims, and Mohammed Benziane of the University of Oran led the conference.

2004. AIMS will host its 2004 Conference in Tangier at TALM June 22-25. The theme for the conference, “*Rethinking Jewish Culture & Society in the Maghrib*” (“*Nouvelles perspectives sur la culture et la société juive au Maghreb*”) takes as its point of departure the fact that Maghrebi Jewish studies have become a subdiscipline of Jewish studies generally and embrace a large number of scholars from associated disciplines in the human and social sciences. The conference seeks papers from the following areas: historiography and ethnography; urban and rural communities; Muslim-Jewish relations; linguistic literary, and artistic expressions.

● The conference organizers are Daniel Schroeter (History, University of California at Irvine; djschroe@uci.edu) and Emily Gottreich (Vice-Chair, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of California at Berkeley; emilyrg@uclink.berkeley.edu). Deadline for submission of papers is February 1, 2004.

2005. AIMS will host its 2005 conference in Tunis through the auspices of CEMAT. Tentative dates are May 26 (Thursday) through May 29 (Sunday). The topic will be “*The Expansion of the North African City*” (“*L’Agrandissement des villes maghrebines*”). Themes will include geographic and demographic expansion, human and physical impacts, and cultural and environmental changes inherent in the growth of cities in the Maghreb. The conference organizer is James Miller, Director of CEMAT, cemat@planet.tn

Other Conferences in Tunis

“*Literary Theory & Its Limits*,” Department of Arabic, Institut Supérieur des Sciences Humaines (Ibn Charif), December 2-3-4, 2003. CEMAT supported the participation of two Maghribi scholars at the conference, Professor Mohamed Kharmech of the Faculty of Letters & Human Sciences at the University of Fez, and Professor Taher Rouaniyyaa of the Faculty of Letters at University Beji Mokhtar in Annaba.

“*Espace et Identité au Maghreb*,” a conference organized by the Institut Supérieur du Mouvement National, will take place in Sfax at the Faculté des Lettres on March 6 and 7th 2004. For further details, please contact Fayçal Cherif at cherif@moumen.com

“*Of Memory & Maps*,” Department of English, Institut Supérieur des Langues de Tunis (ISLT), April 8, 9, 10, 2004. The conference will “explore theories, representations, and performances of memory and their role in the production of history, culture, and space. Conference organizers are Nouredine Fgaier (n.fgaier@rock.com) and Lamia Ben Youssef (lamiaby@yahoo.com) or by regular mail to:

Nouredine Fgaier /Lamia Ben Youssef
L’Institut Supérieur des Langues de Tunis
14 Rue Ibn Maja

Cité al Khadra, 1003 Tunis -- Tunisia

CEMAT is among the conference sponsors.

“*Le Sud Tunisien: Espace de Rencontre et de Lutte*,” a conference organized by the Institut Supérieur du Mouvement National, will take place in Sfax at the Faculté des Lettres May 6, 7, and 8 2004. For further details, please contact Fayçal Cherif at cherif@moumen.com

“*Out of Place: Text, Memory, and Exile*,” a conference commemorating Edward Said and the themes developed in his work, will take place at the Institut Supérieur des Sciences Humaines (Ibn Charif), December 1, 2, and 3, 2004. Organized by the Department of English, participants are urged to present abstracts of their proposals by May 31 to Samira Mechri (samiramechri@yahoo.com) or Rached Khalifa (rachedkhalifa@yahoo.co.uk) or by regular mail to:

Samira Mechri, Institut Supérieur Des Sciences Humaines, 26, Avenue Darghouth Pasha 1007 Tunis -- Tunisia CEMAT is among the conference sponsors.

Conferences at CEMAT, Spring 2004

- 1) Dr. Ken Brown, founder and editor of the journal “Mediterranéenes/Mediterraneans” (Paris) and formerly professor of anthropology at the University of Manchester, gave a talk entitled “Tunisia Revisited” on Monday, January 26, 2004. Brown spoke about the conflicting nature of cosmopolitanism and nationalism and argued that both could be seen through the optic of the small Sahelian community of Ksibet el Mediouni. Questions emerged on the nature of Tunisian identity and comments were made about the broad appeal of such local studies.

- 2) Professor John Entelis from Fordham University in New York will speak on "American Foreign Policy and the Maghrib" on Monday, March 8, 2004 at 17:00. Professor Entelis, who is director of the Middle East Studies Program at Fordham and co-editor (with George Joffe) of the Journal of North African Studies, will be ready to answer questions about the directions and trends of American foreign policy in the region.
- 3) Mr. Tom DeGeorges, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Harvard University and an AIMS researcher in residence at CEMAT this academic year, will speak on his research and findings on "Tunisian Veterans of the World Wars" on Monday, May 24th at 16:00. Mr. DeGeorges has produced several reviews of Tunisian books while in residence. More information about his talk will be available as the time approaches.

New Books at CEMAT

The following books have been received recently at CEMAT:

- Fatima Agnaou. Gender, Literacy, and Empowerment in Morocco. Routledge, 2004.
- Zaid Ahmad. The Epistemology of Ibn Khaldun. Routledge Curzon, 2003.
- Roger Allen. An Introduction to Arabic Literature. Cambridge, 2000.
- Afif Bahnassi. A Dictionary of Architecture & Arts. Librairie du Liban, 1995.
- Raymond William Baker. Islam Without Fear: Egypt and the New Islamists. Harvard, 2003.
- Asma Barlas. "Believing Women" in Islam: Understanding Patriarchal Interpretations of the Qur'an. Texas, 2002.
- Badra Bchir. Elements du fait théâtral en Tunisie. Al Asria, 1993.
- Moustafa Bayoumi, ed. The Edward Said Reader. Vintage, 2003.
- Abdesslem Ben Hamida. Capitalisme et Syndicalisme en Tunisie de 1924 à 1956. SOGIM, 2003.
- Amira K. Bennison. Jihad & Its Interpretations in Pre-Colonial Morocco. Routledge Curzon, 2002.
- Kathleen Benson, ed. A Community of Many Worlds: Arab Americans in New York City. Syracuse, 2002.
- Mohamed Berrada, The Game of Forgetting. Texas, 1996
- Jonathan Bloom. Islam: A Thousand Years of Faith & Power. Yale, 2002.
- Herbert L. Bodman, ed. Women in Muslim Societies: Diversity within Unity. Lynne Rienner, 1998.
- Camille Bonora-Waisman. France & the Algerian Conflict. Ashgate, 2003.
- Elizabeth Boosahda. Arab-American Faces & Voices: The Origins of an Immigrant Community. Texas, 2003.
- L. Carl Brown. Religion & State: the Muslim Approach to Politics. Columbia, 2000.
- Driss Chraïbi, The Simple Past. Three Continents Press, 1990
- Driss Chraïbi, Birth at Dawn. Three Continents Press, 1990
- Driss Chraïbi, The Butts. Three Continents Press, 1983
- Julia Clancy-Smith, ed. North Africa, Islam and the Mediterranean World: From the Almoravids to the Algerian War. Frank Cass, 2001.
- Meriam Cooke. Women Claim Islam: Creating Islamic Feminism Through Literature. Routledge, 2001.
- Hein de Haas. Migration & Development in Southern Morocco. Leiden, 2003.
- Eleanor Abdella Doumato, ed. Women & Globalization in the Arab Middle East: Gender, Economy, & Society. Lynne Rienner, 2003.
- Dale F. Eickelman, ed. New Media in the Muslim World: The Emergence of the Public Sphere. Indiana, 2003.

Youssef Amine Elalamy, Un Marocain à New York. Editions Eddif, 1998

John L. Esposito, ed. Political Islam: Revolution, Radicalism, or Reform? Lynne Rienner, 1997.

Leila Tarazi Fawaz, ed. Modernity and Culture: From the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean. Columbia, 2002.

Michael M. J. Fischer. Debating Muslims: Cultural Dialogues in Postmodernity & Tradition. Wisconsin, 1990.

Jean Fontaine, Itinéraire dans le pays de l'autre. L'Or du Temps, 1998

Harvey E. Goldberg., ed. Sephardi & Middle Eastern Jewries: History & Culture in the Modern Era. Indiana, 1996.

Mohammed M. Hafez. Why Muslims Rebel: Repression & Resistance in the Islamic World. Lynne Rienner, 2003.

Fred Halliday. Nation & Religion in the Middle East. Lynne Rienner, 2002.

Raymond Hinnebusch, ed. The Foreign Policies of Middle East State. Lynne Rienner, 2002.

Dilip Hiro. War Without End: The Rise of Islamist Terrorism & Global Response. Routledge, 2002.

Paula Holmes-Eber. Daughters of Tunis: Women, Family, and Networks in a Muslim City. Westview, 2003.

Derek Hopwood. Sexual Encounters in the Middle East: The British, the French and the Arabs. Ithaca, 1999.

Stephen O. Hughes. Morocco Under King Hassan. Ithaca, 2001.

Institut Supérieur du Mouvement National, Tunis. Actes du Colloque International sur Les Années Vingt au Maghreb (Tunis, 5-6 mai 2000). Université de la Manouba, 2001.

Abdelkebir Khatibi. Triptyque de Rabat. Noël Blandin, 1993

Abdelkebir Khatibi. Chemins de Traverse: Essais de sociologie. Okad, 2002.

David Lamb. The Arabs: Journeys Beyond the Mirage. Vintage, 2002.

Bruce B. Lawrence. New Faiths, Old Fears: Muslims & Other Asian Immigrants in American Religious Life. Columbia, 2002.

Avigdor Levi, ed. Jews, Turks, Ottomans: A Shared History; Fifteenth through the Twentieth Century. Syracuse, 2002.

Bernard Lewis. The Multiple Identities of the Middle East. Schocken, 1998.

Fred Majdalany. The Battle of El Alamein: Fortress in the Sand. Pennsylvania, 2003.

Valentine M. Moghadam. Women, Work, and Economic Reform in the Middle East & North Africa. Lynne Rienner, 1998.

Valentine M. Moghadam. Modernizing Women: Gender & Social Change in the Middle East. Lynne Rienner, 2003.

Ali Mohammadi, ed. Islam Encountering Globalization. RoutledgeCurzon, 2002.

Michael Moran. Younger than that Now: A Peace Corps Volunteer Remembers Morocco. Full Court Press, 1994

Mildred Mortimer. Maghrebian Mosaic: A Literature in Transition. Lynne Rienner, 2001.

Guity Nashat. Women in the Middle East & North Africa. Indiana, 1999.

James J. Natsis. Learning to Revolt: The Role of Students in the National Movement in Colonial Tunisia. University Press of America, 2002.

Brick Oussaïd. Mountains Forgotten by God: The Story of a Moroccan Berber Family. Three Continents Press, 1989

F.E. Peters. The Monotheists: Jews, Christians, & Muslims in Conflict & Competition. Vols. 1 & 2. Princeton, 2003.

Attilio Petruccioli. Understanding Islamic Architecture. RoutledgeCurzon, 2002.

Samir Radwan. Tunisia: Rural & Structural Transformation. Routledge, 1991.

Anne Sofie Road. Women in Islam: The Western Experience. Routledge, 2001.

Fatima Sadiqi. Women, Gender and Language in Morocco. Brill, 2003.
 Edward W. Said. The End of the Peace Process: Oslo & After. Vintage, 2003.
 Edward W. Said. Out of Place. Vintage, 1999.
 Abdelhak Serhane. Les enfants des rue étroites. Editions du Seuil, 1986
 Heather J. Sharkey. Living with Orientalism. California, 2003.
 Naveed S. Sheikh. The New Politics of Islam: Pan-Islamic Foreign Policy in a World of States. RoutledgeCurzon, 2003.
 Reeva Spector Simon, ed. The Jews of the Middle East & North Africa. Columbia, 2003.
 Jane I. Smith. Islam in America. Columbia, 1999.
 Robert Spencer. Islam Unveiled: Disturbing Questions about the World's Fastest-Growing Faith. Encounter, 2002.
 John Victor Tolans. Saracens. Columbia, 2002.
 Daniel J. Vitkus, ed. Piracy, Slavery, and Redemption: Barbary Captivity; Narratives from Early Modern England. Columbia, 2001.

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CEMAT Book Review

Bruce B. Lawrence. New Faiths, Old Fears; Muslims and Other Immigrants in American Religious Life.
 New York: Columbia U.P., 2002. ISBN 0-231-115200-2 197 pp. Notes, Bibliography, Index.

The debate between culture and religion may never be settled, but from the rapidly changing American context, here is a new entry. New Faiths, Old Fears wrestles with the question of how Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism fit into the pattern of American life. Essentially a contribution coming from the sociology of religion, Bruce Lawrence's discussion takes us into the variegated world of Americans new – by virtue of both culture and religion – to the established picture of an America dominated by white Protestant society. Race fits into Lawrence's equation, too, as he takes on all the facets of what he terms the emergent "kaleidoculture." In five short chapters, focusing on "American Religion as Commodity Culture," "Civil Society and Immigrants," "New Immigrants as Pariahs," "Religious Options for Urban Immigrants," and "Reimagining Religious Pluralism," Lawrence touches on all the significant bases that affect cultural change in the United States. He concludes that the "constant tug-of-war between religion and culture" is "unresolvable yet productive" and asks "can cultural difference survive societal change" as the faiths new to America elicit old fears that lurk deep in American conceptions of race and cultural superiority and inferiority.

Effectively Lawrence answers his question by saying "yes," but the clarity of the questions posed and the descriptions of the answers offered leaves much to be desired here in what should be an important contribution on religion, race, immigration, and culture. Topics are unsteadily held in his grasp; we move around much here. Lawrence surveys an impressive quantity of literature, and anyone interested in knowing the names and topics participating in these areas can glean much from this work. The book is cluttered by an attempt to place what were originally five lectures into a theoretical framework; the language is jargonistic and sentences are marred by neologisms and repetitive descriptions. How many times American society can be identified as "piebald" becomes sport in these pages. On one page, one reads "A detailed semiotic examination of Sikh history reveals how inherently polysemic is the notion of civil society" (p. 60). On the next page one reads, "What the immigrants confront no less than the citizens of the state where they hope to relocate is technicalism." This is very

hard going. Too bad. Clear writing, an unclouded statement of purpose, and a logical and factual presentation of the various subjects under analysis here would make this a much better – and useful -- book.
– Jim Miller, CEMAT Director.

Websites to Discover

Here are three websites that highlight the role of Tunisia and Morocco in the interconnected world in which we live:

<http://www.tunisiancommunity.org/> "The Tunisian Community Center." Developed for the Tunisian community in the USA, this is an attractive and informative site. Very cool music, lovely front page where Tunisian and American flags combine. Mission statement, membership link. Contact via email at: info@tunisiancommunity.org

http://www.tunisie-canada.com/index_ie.html A Tunisian-Canadian site, run by a Tunisian in New Brunswick. Seems to be directed toward emigration to Canada and Tunisian students in Canada. Interesting, compared to the US Tunisian site, in that its geography and culture revolve around the Province of Quebec almost entirely.

<http://friendsofmorocco.org/> "Friends of Morocco" (FOM) site, run by the organization of the same name, which is the returned Peace Corps (RPCV) Association of Morocco. A wealth of web-based information on Morocco, with links to the FOM newsletter and many useful areas. Moroccan weekly news; resources for teaching about Islam and the Arab World, news & views. Links to the RPCV group for Tunisia, Friends of Tunisia (FOT) at <http://friendsofmorocco.org/Newsletters.htm>

.....A Tunisian proverb or two.....

armih men estah iji waqef "Throw him from the roof, he falls standing on his feet" ... (---he's a lucky man!)

âyn leh sud fiha ûd "A log in the eye of the envious" (--said to ward off jealousy or covetousness; often used to avoid the evil eye)

These are taken from one of favorite books at CEMAT, Isaac Yetiv's 1001 Proverbs from Tunisia (Three Continents Press, 1987).