NEW DIRECTIONS IN PALESTINIAN STUDIES
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year’s symposium is organized and largely funded by Middle East Studies at Brown University. The senior scholars in the program have kindly agreed to pay their own expenses, thus freeing resources for younger scholars.

The following institutions also contributed, in a variety of ways, to the realization of this gathering:

- The Watson Institute, Brown University
- The Center for Palestine Studies, Columbia University
- The Hagob Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, New York University
- Birzeit University
- The Institute for Palestine Studies
- Muwatin: Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy
- Masarat: the Palestinian Center for Policy Research and Strategic Studies
- Mada al-Carmel: The Arab Institute for Applied Social Research
MISSION STATEMENT

There is now a critical mass of innovative scholars in the U.S., Europe, and the Middle East who work on Palestine and the Palestinians. The field has grown quantitatively and qualitatively, with new lines of inquiry pushing in several new directions simultaneously.

New Directions in Palestinian Studies, a series of annual and thematically organized symposia supported by Middle East Studies at Brown University in cooperation with other universities and institutes, provides a space for systematic reflection on the fast-paced academic knowledge production surrounding Palestine and the Palestinians.

The symposia bring together established and emerging scholars in a low-pressure workshop environment to take stock of research trends, to identify promising new questions and sources, to exchange experiences and insights, and to encourage networking across disciplinary and field boundaries. New Directions in Palestinian Studies is founded and led by Beshara Doumani.

2014 THEME:
POLITICAL ECONOMY AND ECONOMY OF THE POLITICAL

Palestinian studies has long been shaped by a hot and ongoing conflict and by the special place of the “Holy Land” in the global imaginary. This has resulted in a hyper focus on some areas of research, such as politics and identity; and a general neglect of others, such as political economy and social history.

The theme of political economy, broadly construed to include a range of approaches from social history to discursive constructions of “economy,” has been chosen as a focus for the first symposium, because it constitutes an enduring perspective that has recently gained significant traction. Sa’ed Atshan is the coordinator for the 2014 symposium, Molly Ratner is the research assistant, and Barbara Oberkoetter is the program manager.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
joukowsky forum, watson institute
111 thayer street, providence, ri

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.
REGISTRATION

9:00-9:30 a.m.
WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS
Beshara Doumani, Director, Middle East Studies, Brown University

9:30-11:30 a.m.
CRITICAL REFLECTIONS ON
THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF PALESTINE
Discussant: Sherene Seikaly
Jamil Hilal: Palestinian Class Formulation under Settler Colonialism
Leila Farsakh: The Meaning of Palestinian Economic Development
Raja Khalidi: Is There a Palestinian Economy?

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
INFRASTRUCTURE
Discussant: Mayssun Succarie
Sophia Stamatopoulou-Robbins: Infrastructure and Materiality
Omar Jabary Salamanca: Hooked on Electricity: The Charged Political Economy of Electrification in the Palestinian West Bank

1:00-2:30 p.m.
LUNCH
For hosts and panelists

2:30-4:30 p.m.
LAND
Discussant: Jo Guldi
Martin Bunton: Frames of Reference for the Study of Land in Palestine
Munir Fakher el-Din: The Legacy of Late Ottoman and British-Mandate Land Reforms in Palestine, 1858-1948
Ahmad Amara: Echoes of Legal Pasts: Landed Property Relations in the Negeb, 1858-1948

4:30-5:00 p.m.
COFFEE BREAK

5:00-7:00 p.m.
CLASS
Discussant: Zachary Lockman
Mezna Qato: Archives and Class in Exile
Susynne McElrone: Qadā al-Khalil: Commerce, Business, and Livelihoods in the late-Ottoman Rural Sphere
Leena Dallasheh: Working for Palestine: Nazareth Labor Mobilization in the 1940s

7:15 p.m.
DINNER
For hosts and panelists
SATURDAY, MARCH 1
joukowsky forum, watson institute
111 thayer street, providence, ri

9:00-9:30 a.m.
REGISTRATION

9:30-11:30 a.m.
THE POLITICS OF ECONOMY
Discussant: Beshara Doumani
Sherene Seikaly: Social Man: Palestinian Capitalists and Economy
Sreemati Mitter: A History of Money in Palestine: The Case of the Frozen Bank Accounts of 1948
Samia Botmehi: The Political Economy of Palestinian Women’s Labour Supply: 1920-2010

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF OCCUPATION
Discussant: Manal Jamal
Shir Hever: Privatization of the Occupation: The Core Masked as the Periphery
Omar Tesdell: Land and the Question of Palestinian Cultivation

1:00-2:30 p.m.
LUNCH
For hosts and panelists

2:30-4:30 p.m.
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF PEACE
Discussant: Sa’ed Atshan
Kareem Rabie: Housing, the Production of the State, and the Day After
Alaa Tartir: Failing Aid: Towards a Viable Resistance Economy Model
Mtanes Shihadeh: The Israel Policy Towards the “Arab Economy”

4:30-5:00 p.m.
COFFEE BREAK

5:00 p.m.
END OF FORMAL PROGRAM

5:00-6:30 p.m.
NEXT STEPS
Concluding Remarks by Rashid Khalidi, Ilan Pappe, and Beshara Doumani

7:00 p.m.
DINNER
For hosts and panelists

SPECIAL GUESTS
NADIA ABU EL-HAJ | LILA ABU-LUGHOD | LAMA ABU-ODEH
JOEL BEININ | BASSAM HADDAD | ELIAS KHOURY
BRINKLEY MESSICK | NADIM ROUHANA