

“ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE”

Workshop and Lecture • Friday, February 3, 2017

Scholars in Middle Eastern Studies often describe the region’s ethnic and religious diversity through the concept of “minorities,” but where does this idea come from? What is the history of the “Ottoman minority,” and how does the idea contribute to new research on Armenians, Kurds, Sephardic Jews, Assyrians, and Arab Christians in the Middle East? On February 3, four scholars of Ottoman minorities will host and open discussion of these questions. Both campus and community are welcome!

ROUNDTABLE ON OTTOMAN MINORITIES

February 3, 9:30–11:45 am, Peters Business Building, Rm. 390

Discussants: **Laura Robson** (Portland State University) and **Sergio La Porta** (Fresno State)

Janet Klein (University of Akron) researches Ottoman Kurds and the construction of minorities in Republican Turkey.

Devin Naar (University of Washington) researches Sephardic Jews in the Ottoman Empire and the Sephardic diaspora in Europe and the Americas.

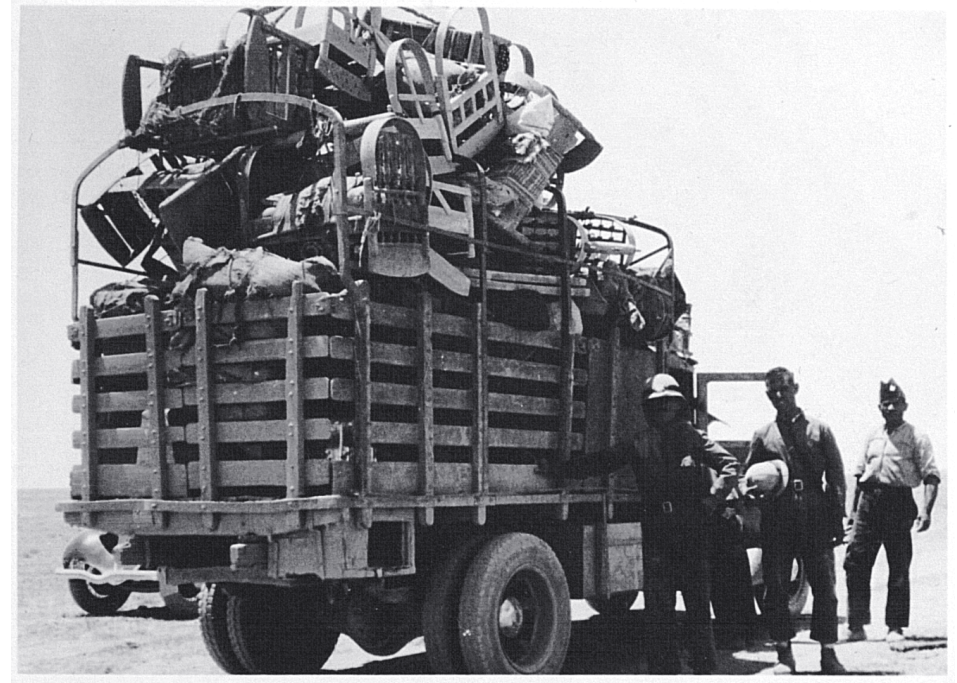
Bedross Der Matossian (University of Nebraska) researches inter-ethnic politics and the 1915 Armenian Genocide.

Stacy Fahrenthold (Fresno State) researches Syrian and Lebanese emigrants in the Americas during the First World War.

THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM, THE LEON S. PETERS FOUNDATION, THE ISLAMIC STUDIES SPEAKER SERIES, THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT, AND THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: LAURA ROBSON “WAR, PEACE, & THE MAKING OF MINORITIES IN THE POST-OTTOMAN MIDDLE EAST, 1919-1923”

February 3, 7:30–9:00 pm, Smitcamp Alumni House



In this talk, **Laura Robson** illustrates how the League of Nations created a new Middle Eastern politics of minority & majority through peace agreements, through refugee resettlement efforts, and through partition of territories after the Ottoman Empire’s dissolution.