

Brock University, Department of History

**HIST 3P85**  
**Minorities of the Middle East**  
**Fall 2009**

**Instructor:** Dr. Behnaz A. Mirzai  
**Office:** 253 (573 Glenridge)  
**Office Hours:** M 16:00-17:00 and by appointment  
**Class:** WH204  
**Class Hours:** Mondays 1700-1900  
**Office Tel:** (905) 688-5550 ext. 5283  
**Email:** bmirzai@brocku.ca

**Seminar Hours:**

<b>1</b>	M	1100-1200	MCD303
<b>2</b>	M	1200-1300	MCG310

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course offers an ethnographic approach to the study of Middle Eastern peoples and cultures. It begins with a brief overview of the history of the Middle East, and concentrates on the diverse religious and ethnic groups. The course examines the politics of modern Middle Eastern states, the formation of national identity, the changes in the position of ethnic and religious minorities, Christians, Jews and Muslim relation, sectarians, and slavery.

Monday meetings are assigned for lectures. Seminars will be devoted to the reading and analysis of primary and secondary sources, and the discussion of issues raised in lectures.

**II. REQUIRED TEXTS:**

The following books have been placed on a three-hour reserve in the James A. Gibson Library, Brock University:

Khoury, Philip S. and Kostiner, Joseph (eds). *Tribes and State Formation in the Middle East*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1990.

Nisan, Mordechai. *Minorities in the Middle East: a history of struggle and self-expression*. Jefferson: McFarland, 2002.

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

#### 1. Class Participation (Attendance and Discussions) - 25%

Students are required to attend both lectures and discussion sections regularly prepared to discuss the readings assigned for each week. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Each absence will result in the grade of 0 for missed seminars. If there are exceptional circumstances, you should contact me.

#### 2. Seminar Presentation and Leadership- 25%

Each student will be required to give a brief presentation to the class (10-15 minutes) outlining major themes, and discussions pertaining to the readings, and to facilitate the seminar discussions.

#### 3. Two Research Essays (7-9 pages each: 25%) ..... Due Oct. 26/ Dec. 3

Essay topics can be related to the student's seminar presentation or any other topics included in the course syllabus. Essays should accompany by an annotated bibliography indicating primary and secondary sources. Style-sheet guidelines for the papers will be passed out to students. For proper citations and footnotes see: the Chicago Manual of Style, or Making Sense in the Humanities: a student's guide to writing and Style by Margot Northey and Maurice Legris. Late essay submission will result in the reduction of 5% for each day past the due date. Papers received a week later than the due date will not receive any comments. Papers submitted electronically will not be graded.

**All class work you submit must be your own. Cheating and plagiarism are forbidden.**

Link to Brock's Medical Exemption Policy:  
<http://www.brocku.ca/healthservices/exemption.php>

### IV. LECTURE THEMES:

- |   |          |   |             |
|---|----------|---|-------------|
| 1 | Sep. 14  | Introduction to the course                    |             |
| 2 | Sept. 21 | Change of Frontiers<br>& Video: New Frontiers | Nisan, 3-30 |

Iliya F. Harik  
The Ethnic Revolution and Political Integration in the Middle East  
*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 3, No. 3 (Jul., 1972), pp. 303-323  
Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28197207%293%3A3%3C303%3ATERAPI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E>

#### Optional Readings:

Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet  
Fragile Frontiers: The Diminishing Domains of Qajar Iran  
*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 29, No. 2 (May, 1997), pp. 205-234  
Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28199705%2929%3A2%3C205%3AFFTDDO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8>

Sandra Halperin

The Post-Cold War Political Topography of the Middle East: Prospects for Democracy  
*Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 26, No. 7 (2005), pp. 1135-1156

<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.library.brocku.ca/stable/pdfplus/4017808.pdf>

Erik Cohen

Recent Anthropological Studies of Middle Eastern Communities and Ethnic Groups  
*Annual Review of Anthropology*, Vol. 6, (1977), pp. 315-347

<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.library.brocku.ca/stable/pdfplus/2949335.pdf>

Michael Humphrey

Migrants, Workers and Refugees: The Political Economy of Population Movements in the Middle East

*Middle East Report* > No. 181, Radical Movements: Migrants, Workers and Refugees (Mar., 1993), pp. 2-7

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199303%2F04%290%3A181%3C2%3AMWARTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N)

[2851%28199303%2F04%290%3A181%3C2%3AMWARTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199303%2F04%290%3A181%3C2%3AMWARTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N)

Lucette Valensi

Inter-Communal Relations and Changes in Religious Affiliation in the Middle East (Seventeenth to Nineteenth Centuries)

*Comparative Studies in Society and History* > Vol. 39, No. 2 (Apr., 1997), pp. 251-269

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28199704%2939%3A2%3C251%3AIRACIR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-7)

[4175%28199704%2939%3A2%3C251%3AIRACIR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-7](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28199704%2939%3A2%3C251%3AIRACIR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-7)

Joane Nagel

Constructing Ethnicity: Creating and Recreating Ethnic Identity and Culture

*Social Problems* > Vol. 41, No. 1, Special Issue on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in America (Feb., 1994), pp. 152-176

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0037-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0037-7791%28199402%2941%3A1%3C152%3ACECARE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-U)

[7791%28199402%2941%3A1%3C152%3ACECARE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-U](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0037-7791%28199402%2941%3A1%3C152%3ACECARE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-U)

**3 Sept. 28 Tribalism and State in the Middle East** Khoury, 48-70; 109-149.  
**& Video: The Middlemen**

Philip Carl Salzman

Tribal Chiefs as Middlemen: The Politics of Encapsulation in the Middle East

*Anthropological Quarterly* > Vol. 47, No. 2 (Apr., 1974), pp. 203-210

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-5491%28197404%2947%3A2%3C203%3ATCAMTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

[5491%28197404%2947%3A2%3C203%3ATCAMTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-5491%28197404%2947%3A2%3C203%3ATCAMTP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

**Optional Readings:**

Faleh A. Jabar

Shaykhs and Ideologues: Detribalization and Retribalization in Iraq, 1968-1998

*Middle East Report* > No. 215 (Summer, 2000), pp. 28-31+48

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28200022%290%3A215%3C28%3ASAI DAR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G>

Amatzia Baram

Neo-Tribalism in Iraq: Saddam Hussein's Tribal Policies 1991-96

*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 29, No. 1 (Feb., 1997), pp. 1-31

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28199702%2929%3A1%3C1%3ANIISHT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

[7438%28199702%2929%3A1%3C1%3ANIISHT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28199702%2929%3A1%3C1%3ANIISHT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

- 4 Oct. 5 Tribalism in Iran and Arabia** Khoury, 185-218; 226-248.  
**& Video: The Harvest of the Seasons (PROPOSAL DUE)**

Lois Beck

Revolutionary Iran and Its Tribal Peoples

*MERIP Reports* > No. 87, Iran's Revolution: The Rural Dimension (May, 1980), pp. 14-20

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0047-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0047-7265%28198005%290%3A87%3C14%3ARIAITP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

[7265%28198005%290%3A87%3C14%3ARIAITP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0047-7265%28198005%290%3A87%3C14%3ARIAITP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

Madawi Al Rasheed

Durable and Non-Durable Dynasties: The Rashidis and Sa'udis in Central Arabia

*British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* > Vol. 19, No. 2 (1992), pp. 144-158

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1353-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1353-0194%281992%2919%3A2%3C144%3ADANDTR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H)

[0194%281992%2919%3A2%3C144%3ADANDTR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1353-0194%281992%2919%3A2%3C144%3ADANDTR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H)

**Optional Readings:**

Charles F. Swagman

Tribe and Politics: An Example from Highland Yemen

*Journal of Anthropological Research* > Vol. 44, No. 3 (Autumn, 1988), pp. 251-261

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0091-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0091-7710%28198823%2944%3A3%3C251%3ATAPAEF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1)

[7710%28198823%2944%3A3%3C251%3ATAPAEF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0091-7710%28198823%2944%3A3%3C251%3ATAPAEF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1)

G. Reza Fazel

Social and Political Status of Women among Pastoral Nomads: The Boyr Ahmad of Southwest Iran

*Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. 50, No. 2 (Apr., 1977), pp. 77-89

<http://www.jstor.org.proxy.library.brocku.ca/stable/pdfplus/3317168.pdf>

V. Minorsky

The Tribes of Western Iran

*The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland* > Vol. 75, No. 1/2 (1945), pp. 73-80

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0307-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0307-3114%281945%2975%3A1%2F2%3C73%3ATTOWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

[3114%281945%2975%3A1%2F2%3C73%3ATTOWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0307-3114%281945%2975%3A1%2F2%3C73%3ATTOWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

Akbar Aghajanian

Ethnic Inequality in Iran: An Overview

*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 15, No. 2 (May, 1983), pp. 211-224

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198305%2915%3A2%3C211%3AEIIIAO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

[7438%28198305%2915%3A2%3C211%3AEIIIAO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198305%2915%3A2%3C211%3AEIIIAO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

W. Ivanov

Notes on the Ethnology of Khurasan

*The Geographical Journal* > Vol. 67, No. 2 (Feb., 1926), pp. 143-158

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0016-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0016-7398%28192602%2967%3A2%3C143%3ANOTEOK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B)

[7398%28192602%2967%3A2%3C143%3ANOTEOK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0016-7398%28192602%2967%3A2%3C143%3ANOTEOK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B)

Touvia Ashkenazi

The 'Anazah Tribes

*Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* > Vol. 4, No. 2 (Summer, 1948), pp. 222-239

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0038-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0038-4801%28194822%294%3A2%3C222%3AT%27T%3E2.0.CO%3B2-2)

[4801%28194822%294%3A2%3C222%3AT%27T%3E2.0.CO%3B2-2](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0038-4801%28194822%294%3A2%3C222%3AT%27T%3E2.0.CO%3B2-2)

Roger Webster

Notes on the Dialect and Way of Life of the Āl Wahība Bedouin of Oman

*Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London* > Vol. 54, No. 3 (1991), pp. 473-485

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0041-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0041-977X%281991%2954%3A3%3C473%3ANOTDAW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

[977X%281991%2954%3A3%3C473%3ANOTDAW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0041-977X%281991%2954%3A3%3C473%3ANOTDAW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

5

**Oct. 19**

**Kurds and Turks**

Nisan, 33-53

**& Video: the Forgotten People: The Kurds**

Martin van Bruinessen

The Kurds between Iran and Iraq

*MERIP Middle East Report* > No. 141, Hidden Wars (Jul., 1986), pp. 14-27

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198607%29141%3A141%3C14%3ATKBIAI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F)

[0328%28198607%29141%3A141%3C14%3ATKBIAI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198607%29141%3A141%3C14%3ATKBIAI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F)

H. E. Chehabi

Ardabil Becomes a Province: Center-Periphery Relations in Iran

*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 29, No. 2 (May, 1997), pp. 235-253

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28199705%2929%3A2%3C235%3AABAPCR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

[7438%28199705%2929%3A2%3C235%3AABAPCR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28199705%2929%3A2%3C235%3AABAPCR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

### **Optional Readings:**

George S. Harris

Ethnic Conflict and the Kurds

*Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* > Vol. 433, Ethnic Conflict in the World Today (Sep., 1977), pp. 112-124

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-7162%28197709%29433%3C112%3AECATK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H)

[7162%28197709%29433%3C112%3AECATK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-7162%28197709%29433%3C112%3AECATK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-H)

Robert Olson

The Turkoman Rebellion in Eastern Iran, 1924-5: Its Consequences and the Soviet Reaction  
*Die Welt des Islams* > New Ser., Bd. 31, Nr. 2 (1991), pp. 216-227

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-2539%281991%292%3A31%3A2%3C216%3ATTRIEI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

[2539%281991%292%3A31%3A2%3C216%3ATTRIEI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-2539%281991%292%3A31%3A2%3C216%3ATTRIEI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

**6      Oct. 26                      Berbers and Ibadis                      Nisan, 54-75**  
**& Video: Nomad and City (PAPER DUE)**

Geo. Babington Michell

The Berbers

*Journal of the Royal African Society* > Vol. 2, No. 6 (Jan., 1903), pp. 161-194

Stable

URL:<http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=03684016%28190301%292%3A6%3C161%3ATB%3E2.0.CO%3B2-L>

Thomas Bierschenk

Religion and Political Structure: Remarks on Ibadism in Oman and the Mzab (Algeria)

*Studia Islamica* > No. 68 (1988), pp. 107-127

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0585-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0585-5292%281988%290%3A68%3C107%3ARAPSRO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

[5292%281988%290%3A68%3C107%3ARAPSRO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0585-5292%281988%290%3A68%3C107%3ARAPSRO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

**Optional Readings:**

E. Savage

Berbers and Blacks: Ibadi Slave Traffic in Eighth-Century North Africa

*The Journal of African History* > Vol. 33, No. 3 (1992), pp. 351-368

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-8537%281992%2933%3A3%3C351%3ABABIST%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E)

[8537%281992%2933%3A3%3C351%3ABABIST%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-8537%281992%2933%3A3%3C351%3ABABIST%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E)

H. T. Norris

Yemenis in the Western Sahara

*The Journal of African History* > Vol. 3, No. 2, Third Conference on African History and

Archaeology: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 3-7 July

1961 (1962), pp. 317-322

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-8537%281962%293%3A2%3C317%3AYITWS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8)

[8537%281962%293%3A2%3C317%3AYITWS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-8537%281962%293%3A2%3C317%3AYITWS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8)

Elizabeth Savage

Survival through Alliance: The Establishment of the Ibadiyya

*Bulletin (British Society for Middle Eastern Studies)* > Vol. 17, No. 1 (1990), pp. 5-15

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-6139%281990%2917%3A1%3C5%3ASTATEO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

[6139%281990%2917%3A1%3C5%3ASTATEO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-6139%281990%2917%3A1%3C5%3ASTATEO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-O)

**7      Nov. 2                              Africans and Baluchis**  
**& video: Afro-Iranian Lives**

Esma Durugönül

The Invisibility of Turks of African Origin and the Construction of Turkish Cultural Identity: The Need for a New Historiography

*Journal of Black Studies* > Vol. 33, No. 3 (Jan., 2003), pp. 281-294

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-9347%28200301%2933%3A3%3C281%3ATIOTOA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4)

[9347%28200301%2933%3A3%3C281%3ATIOTOA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0021-9347%28200301%2933%3A3%3C281%3ATIOTOA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4)

Edward A. Alpers

Recollecting Africa: Diasporic Memory in the Indian Ocean World

*African Studies Review* > Vol. 43, No. 1, Special Issue on the Diaspora (Apr., 2000), pp. 83-99

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-0206%28200004%2943%3A1%3C83%3ARADMIT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-3)

[0206%28200004%2943%3A1%3C83%3ARADMIT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-3](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-0206%28200004%2943%3A1%3C83%3ARADMIT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-3)

Aijaz Ahmad

The National Question in Baluchistan

*Pakistan Forum* > Vol. 3, No. 8/9, Focus on Baluchistan (May, 1973), pp. 4-18+37

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0315-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0315-7725%28197305%2F06%293%3A8%2F9%3C4%3ATNQIB%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8)

[7725%28197305%2F06%293%3A8%2F9%3C4%3ATNQIB%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0315-7725%28197305%2F06%293%3A8%2F9%3C4%3ATNQIB%3E2.0.CO%3B2-8)

### **Optional Readings:**

Selig S. Harrison

Baluch Nationalism and Superpower Rivalry

*International Security* > Vol. 5, No. 3 (Winter, 1980), pp. 152-163

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-2889%28198024%2F198124%295%3A3%3C152%3ABNASR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

[2889%28198024%2F198124%295%3A3%3C152%3ABNASR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-2889%28198024%2F198124%295%3A3%3C152%3ABNASR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

Brian Spooner

Politics, Kinship, and Ecology in Southeast Persia

*Ethnology* > Vol. 8, No. 2 (Apr., 1969), pp. 139-152

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0014-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0014-1828%28196904%298%3A2%3C139%3APKAEIS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-W)

[1828%28196904%298%3A2%3C139%3APKAEIS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-W](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0014-1828%28196904%298%3A2%3C139%3APKAEIS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-W)

Stephen L. Pastner

Lords of the Desert Border: Frontier Feudalism in Southern Baluchistan and Eastern Ethiopia

*International Journal of Middle East Studies* > Vol. 10, No. 1 (Feb., 1979), pp. 93-106

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28197902%2910%3A1%3C93%3ALOTDBF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

[7438%28197902%2910%3A1%3C93%3ALOTDBF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28197902%2910%3A1%3C93%3ALOTDBF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

H. Holdich

The Arab Tribes of Our Indian Frontier

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