

## EDITOR'S NOTE

From nineteenth century Morocco to contemporary Palestine, this volume of *Almunataqa* features five research articles that are both inter-and multi-disciplinary, an analytical essay on Arab views of Iran based on data provided by the Arab Opinion Index, and two book review essays. As usual, *Almunataqa*'s team has been meticulous in its selection of articles to be translated from Arabic into English, prioritizing original and significant contributions to knowledge production, while maintaining regional balance. A more challenging task has been maintaining gender balance and despite systemic hurdles, *Almunataqa* features trailblazing research by female academics across the region.

In this context, Suhad Daher-Nashif and Areen Hawari offer a glimpse into the daily reality of occupation and colonialism in Palestine by employing intersectionality as a conceptual framework to explore the lived experiences of married Palestinian women from the West Bank and Gaza Strip who live inside Israel, deprived of civil rights. The authors explain the married women's strategies for coping with a colonial regime that reinforces a patriarchal social context.

Mohammed Hemchi and Abdennour Benantar, using a trans-disciplinary perspective, examine the validity of the "Algerian exception" narrative as an analytical framework for the 2019 *Hirāk*. They conclude that although it is particular to Algeria, the *Hirāk* is part of a regional social phenomenon with transnational dynamics.

Imad Mansour and John Daniel Hicks analyse the impact of audience expectations on Tunisia's foreign policy through the lens of Role Theory. They explain the post-2010 change in Tunisia's foreign policy that defied neighbouring states' expectations that Tunisia maintain strategic distance and non-partisanship and its subsequent reversal back to the expected role.

We return in this volume to the Kurdish question in Syria, with Yunus Abakay's article on both the official and public securitization of the Kurdish language. Based on interviews and an approach that utilizes the Foucauldian concept of power, this study examines the measures taken to repress manifestations of a Kurdish identity through language, and the counter-measures adopted by the Kurdish community to reproduce and validate its language in the public space.

In the final study of the volume, Basraoui Yahya examines an overlooked aspect of European domination in 19th century Morocco. He sheds light on the illicit practice of pig husbandry and its development into a revenue-generating activity for European settlers. The practice also revealed the *Makhzen*'s inability to resist European pressure and protect Morocco's social fabric and economic interests.

Delving into data provided by the Arab Opinion Index, Hamideh Dorzadeh examines the persistence of negative views of Iran held by a majority of Arab citizens, and the continued perception of its regional role as a source of threat and instability. It reveals that, in contrast to Lebanon, the sectarian divide in Iraq between Sunnis and Shias has little impact on citizens' opinion.

This volume contains two book review essays. The first, by Mohamed Chibani, explores the methodologies and findings of two books released by the Arab Centre dealing with populism, Frank Stengel et al. (eds.), *Populism and World Politics: Exploring Inter- and Transnational Dimensions*, and Aymen Boughanmi, "*The People Want*": *When Democracy Is Eroded*, identifying the gaps they fill in the literature. The other is by Abdelkarim Amengay, who lays out the contributions and shortcomings of Marc Lynch, Jillian Schwedler, & Sean Yom (eds.), *The Political Science of the Middle East: Theory and Research Since the Arab Uprisings*.

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