



CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Popular Protests, Governance and Political Transitions in the Maghreb: Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia

A symposium organized by the **Program in Moroccan Studies**
at the Center of Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University
October 20-21, 2011

Program

October 20

Panel 1 *

5:00 - 7:00 pm *Chair:* Baber Johansen, Director, CMES, Harvard University

Address of Welcome

William Granara, Director, Program in Moroccan Studies at Harvard

The Tunisian Revolution: Why and How Did it Happen and What is Next? The Prospects for Democratic Governance

- Michele Angrist, Union College: *Understanding the Success of Mass Civic Protest in Tunisia, and Prospects for Consolidating Plural Politics*
- Malika Zeghal, Harvard University: *The Islamists in the Tunisian Revolution and Transition: A Post-Islamist Paradigm?*

October 21

Panel 2 *

9:00 - 11:30 am *Chair:* Roger Owen, Department of History, Harvard University

Comparing Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco: Explaining the Successes and Failures of Popular Uprisings, Evaluating the Potential for Reform

- John Entelis, Fordham University: *Algeria: Democracy Denied, and Revived?*
- Khadija Mohsen, Université de Paris 8: *Morocco: the February 20 Movement and the Monarchy's Constitutional Reforms*
- Ali Ahmida, University of New England: *The Libyan February 17 Revolution, The Maghrib, and the Struggle for Democracy*

Roundtable *

2:30 - 5:00 pm *Chair:* William Granara

Democratic Transition Theories: How Can the Arab Revolutions/Reforms Help Rethink Them?

- Introduction to the roundtable by **Abdeslam Maghraoui**, Duke University:
Democratization Theories and the Crisis of Authoritarianism in the MENA Region
- Followed by a roundtable including all the panelists

Participants

Ali Abdullatif Ahmida was born in Waddan, Libya and educated at Cairo University in Egypt and The University of Washington, Seattle. He is a professor and chair of the Department of political science at the University of New England, Biddeford, Maine, USA. His specialty is Political Theory, Comparative Politics, and Historical sociology. His scholarship focuses on power, agency and anti-colonial resistance in North Africa especially modern Libya. He published major articles in, *Italian Studies*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, *Arab Future*, *Third World Quarterly* and the *Arab Journal of International Studies*. He is also the author of *The Making of Modern Libya: State Formation, Colonialization and Resistance*, a book published by State of New York University Press, 1994, 2009. This book also translated into Arabic and now is published in second edition by the Center of Arab Unity Studies, 1998, Beirut, Lebanon. He is the editor of *Beyond Colonialism and Nationalism in the Maghrib: History, Culture and Politics*, published by Palgrave Press in 2000. Professor Ahmida has lectured in a variety of U.S., Canadian, European, Middle Eastern, and African Universities and colleges. He has contributed several book reviews, articles and chapters to books on the African state, identity and alienation, class and state formation in modern Libya. He has received many academic grants and awards such as the Social Science Research Council national grant award, the Shahade award, and the Keannely Cup Award for distinguished academic service of the year at University of New England and in 2003. In the May 2010, he was awarded the Ludcke Chair of Liberal Arts and Sciences for 2010-11 for excellence in teaching and scholarship at the University of New England.

Routledge press published his book, *Forgotten Voices: Power and Agency in Colonial and Postcolonial Libya*, 2005, an Arabic edition was published in 2009, and currently it is being translated into an Italian edition, which will be published in 2011. Cambridge Scholars Press has publish his edited book, *Bridges Across The Sahara*, September 2009, and The Center of Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, Lebanon, published his book *Post-Orientalism: Critical Reviews of North African Social and Cultural History* in August 2009.

Michele Penner Angrist is Associate Professor of Political Science at Union College in Schenectady, NY, where she teaches courses in international, comparative, Middle East, and African politics. She earned her PhD in Politics from Princeton University. Her research interests in general are regime type and regime change, and women and politics in the Middle East and the Muslim World. She is author of *Party Building in the Modern Middle East* (University of Washington Press, 2006), editor of *Politics and Society in the Contemporary Middle East* (Lynne Rienner Press, 2010), and co-editor of *Authoritarianism in the Middle East: Regimes and Resistance* (Lynne Rienner Press, 2005). Her articles have appeared in *Comparative Politics*, the *Journal of North African Studies*, and *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.

John P. Entelis is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Middle East Studies Program at Fordham University. He received his PhD from New York University and studied Arabic in Cairo, Harvard, and Princeton. He has been awarded several Fulbright awards including a U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship to conduct research in Lebanon, a Senior Fulbright Professorship at the University of Algiers and one at the University of Tunis, and a Fulbright

Regional Research Award to Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. He has also directed three National Endowment for the Humanities summer institutes and seminars. Professor Entelis is the author or co-author of numerous scholarly publications on the comparative and international politics of the Middle East and North Africa including: *Pluralism and Party Transformation in Lebanon*, *Comparative Politics of North Africa*, *The Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa*, *Political Elites in Arab North Africa*, *Algeria: The Revolution Institutionalized*, *Culture and Counterculture in Moroccan Politics*, *State and Society in Algeria*, and *Islam, Democracy, and the State in North Africa*. He has also written scores of book chapters, articles and book reviews that have appeared in the leading scholarly journals in the fields of political science, international relations, Middle Eastern affairs, and North African studies. He has also published analytic pieces in *The New York Times* and *Le Monde Diplomatique*, among many others. He is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of North African Studies* and Publications Officer of the American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS).

William Granara

Professor Granara teaches Arabic language and literature and directs the Arabic language program at Harvard University. He studied Arabic at Georgetown University and received his PhD in Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the former executive director of the Center for Arabic Study at the American University in Cairo and the former director of the Arabic Field School of the U.S. Department of State in Tunis, Tunisia. He has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East and North Africa. Dr. Granara specializes in the history and culture of Muslim Sicily. He has written on cross-cultural encounters between Islam and Christendom throughout the Middle Ages, as well as the poetry of Ibn Hamdis, Sicily's most celebrated Arab poet. His study of "Ibn Hamdis and the Poetics of Exile" was published in the 1998 issue of *Edebiyyaat*. In addition, he lectures and writes on contemporary Arabic literature and has published translations of Egyptian and North African fiction. His translation into English of the Algerian Arabic novel, *The Earthquake*, was published in March 2000. His work on literary criticism focuses on post-colonialism and cross-cultural poetics.

Abdeslam Maghraoui is Associate Professor of the Practice of Political Science at Duke University and member of the core faculty at the university's Duke Islamic Studies Center (DISC). He studies comparative politics of the Middle East and North Africa with a focus on the interplay between culture and politics. His current research includes two projects: a comparative study of the connection between modern forms of political power and high corruption in the Arab world, and experimental research on the recasting of traditional identity norms into modern political values. He is author of *Liberalism without Democracy* (Duke University Press, 2006), a book on politics and identity in Egypt during the 1920's and 1930's, and a series of papers on the challenge of democratization in the Maghreb. Before joining Duke University, Maghraoui taught at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Georgetown University, and Princeton University. He has conducted policy-oriented research for the World Bank, the US Agency for International Development, the US Institute of Peace, and the International Peace Academy. Abdeslam Maghraoui received a PhD in politics from Princeton University and a BA in politics and sociology from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Khadija Mohsen-Finan is a lecturer at the University of Paris VIII, and researcher at the Institut Maghreb Europe. She directed the North Africa Program at the IFRI (1999-2010).

She also follows up the questions related to the integration of Muslim populations in Europe and the Mediterranean issues. She is a lecturer at IEP Paris where she works on the Compared Policy Master and at the Venice Ca'Foscari University.

Malika Zeghal is a political scientist who studies religion through the lens of Islam and power. She is particularly interested in Islamist movements and in the institutionalization of Islam in the Muslim world, with special focus on the Middle East and North Africa in the postcolonial period and on Muslim diasporas in North America and Western Europe. She has more general interests in the circulation and role of religious ideologies in situations of conflict and/or dialogue. She has published a study of central religious institutions in Egypt (*Gardiens de l'Islam. Les oulémas d'al-Azhar dans l'Egypte contemporaine* [Presses de Sciences Po, 1996]), and a volume on Islam and politics in Morocco (*Islamism in Morocco: Religion, Authoritarianism, and Electoral Politics* [Markus Wiener, 2008]), which has won the French Voices-Pen American Center Award. She has recently edited a special issue of the *Revue des Mondes Musulmans et de la Méditerranée, Intellectuels de l'islam contemporain. Nouvelles générations, nouveaux débats* [123, 2008], on new intellectual debates in contemporary Islam. She is currently working on a book on states, secularity, and Islam in the contemporary Arab world, forthcoming at Princeton University Press.