The Egyptian Revolution of 1919: The Birth of the Modern Nation

A conference presented by
the British Egyptian Society,
the London Middle East Institute, SOAS University of London
& the Council for British Research in the Levant

The Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre
SOAS University of London
Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 March 2019
The Egyptian Revolution of 1919: The Birth of the Modern Nation

Wednesday 27 March

09.00 Registration

09.30–09.45 The Rt Hon. Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, James Watt and Dr Hassan Hakimian on behalf of the BES, CBRL and LMEI

09.45–10.45 Session 1 1919 A Century Beyond: Reflections on Egyptian Polity
Keynote Speaker: Professor Nabil Fahmy
Dean of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the American University in Cairo
Chair: Professor Magdy Ishak Hanna
Vice Chairman, British Egyptian Society

10.45 Refreshments

11.15–12.00 Session 2 Reflections on the 1919 Independence Movement
Copts in the 1919 Revolution - An Exceptional Participation in Egyptian Political Life
Mounir Fakhry Abdel Nour
Former Egyptian Minister of Trade, Industry and Investment
Moderator: Sir Derek Plumbly
Former British Ambassador to Egypt

12.00–13.00 Session 3 The Great Theft of History: The First World War and the Prelude to Revolution
Professor Khaled Fahmy
His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Sa'id Professor of Modern Arabic Studies, University of Cambridge
Moderator: Roger Hardy
Associate Fellow, Green Templeton College, Oxford

13.00 Lunch

14.00–15.15 Session 4 The Strategy and Tactics of the Protests
Telegraphing Revolt: Protest Diffusion in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution
Dr Neil Ketchley
Lecturer in Middle East Politics, King’s College London

Workers on the Canal, Camaraderie within Apartheid
Mohamed Elsayed
MA History, SOAS and Co-founder of Mubtada

Moderator: Dr May Darwich
Assistant Professor in the International Relations of the Middle East in the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University

15.15 Refreshments
Session 5  Britain and Egypt

The British and 1919: Reaction, Reform and Regime Restoration  
Professor James Whidden  
Professor, Department of History, Acadia University

‘No Very Fixed Ideas’. The Foreign Office, the High Commissioners and the Egyptian Nationalists  
Dr C. W. Richard Long  
Author of British Pro-Consuls in Egypt, 1914-1929

Moderator: HE Sir Geoffrey Adams  
British Ambassador to Egypt

PUBLIC LECTURE

THE IMPACT OF EGYPT’S 1919 REVOLUTION ON THE POST-OTTOMAN ARAB WORLD  
Keynote Speaker: Professor Eugene Rogan  
Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, Director, St Antony’s College Middle East Centre, Oxford University

Chair: James Watt  
Chairman, Council for British Research in the Levant

Thursday 28 March

Session 6  The Role of Women in the Independence Movement

A Ward of Their Own: Mothers, Medical Doctors and the Revolution of 1919  
Professor Beth Baron  
Distinguished Professor and Director, Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center, The City College of New York

Women and Gender in the 1919 Revolution and Beyond  
Professor Margot Badran  
Senior Fellow, Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim Christian Understanding, Georgetown University

Moderator: Nabila Ramdani  
Journalist, author of Women in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution

Refreshments

Session 7  The Historiography of the 1919 Revolution

From Nationalism to Islamism; Revolution, the Wafd and the Rise of the Muslim Brotherhood  
Professor Philip Marfleet  
Emeritus Professor in Social Sciences at the University of East London

Neither Wilson nor Lenin: an Intellectual History of the 1919 Revolution  
Dr Hussein A.H. Omar  
Assistant Professor in Global History, University College Dublin

Moderator: Dr Anthony Gorman  
Senior Lecturer, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh

Session 8  Impact on Society and Minorities

Copts and the 1919 Revolution: Egyptian Identities and Nationalisms  
Mark Bebawi  
Doctoral Student, Rice University
The 1923 Egyptian Constitution and the Future of Elementary Education in Egypt
Dr Relli Shechter
Academic Visitor, Middle East Centre, St Antony's College, University of Oxford

Moderator: Dr Ahmed El Mokadem
International Consultant & Company Chairman

13.15
Lunch

14.15–15.00
Session 9 The Arts
Long Live Degenerate Art! Art as a Liberator for Egyptian Surrealists
Dr Omneya el Naggar
Department of Political Science, the American University of Cairo

Moderator: Peter Mackenzie Smith
Trustee, The British Egyptian Society

15.00–16.45
Session 10 The Revolution and its Influence on the Next Hundred Years (panel session)
Panellist: Dr May Darwich
Assistant Professor in the International Relations of the Middle East in the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University

Panellist: Dr Anthony Gorman
Senior Lecturer, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh

Panellist: The Hon. Mona Makram Ebeid
Former Member of Parliament and Senator, Professor of political Science and Media

Panellist: Nabila Ramdani
Journalist, author of Women in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution

Moderator: Professor Robert Springborg
Italian Institute of International Affairs

16.45–17.00
Closing Remarks
The Rt Hon. Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean
Chairman, The British Egyptian Society

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