An International Conference

Egypt and Syria under Mamluk Rule: Political, Social and Cultural Aspects

11-13 April 2011

Monday, 11 April 2011
The Observatory Hall, Eshkol Tower
9:30-10:00 Gathering
10:00-11:30 Opening Session
Chair: Amalia Levanoni, University of Haifa
Greetings: Prof. Reuven Snir, Dean of Faculty of Humanities
Keynote Lecture: Carl Petry, Northwestern University
Rana, Espionage, Abandonment: Three Incidents of Christian-Muslim Tensions in their Criminal Context
11:30-11:45 coffee break
11:45-13:00 Bedouins in the Mamluk Territories
Chair: Frédéric Bauden, University of Liège
Kurt Frantz, Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg
Spatial Relations and the Construction of Territory: The Steppes and Bedouin Dwellers
Sarah Buesow-Schmitz, Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg
Rules of Communication between Bedouin and Mamluk Elites: The Case of the Ahdab Revolt, c. 1353
13:00-14:30 lunch
14:30-16:15 Mamluk Diplomacy
Chair: Reuven Amitai, Hebrew University
Malika Dekkiche, University of Liège
Diplomacy at its Zenith: Agreement between the Mamluks and the Timurids for the SENDING of the Kiswa
Frédéric Bauden, University of Liège
"Protect the Venetians from all sources of harm": A Study of an Unpublished Document issued by al-Mu’ayyad Shaykh’s Chancery and a Contribution of the Kiswah
Yaacov Lev, Bar-Ilan University
Europeans in Mamluk Ports and Cities
16:15-16:30 coffee break
16:30-17:45 Economy in the Mamluk Sultanate
Panel I
Chair: Kurt Frantz, Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg
Kate Raphael, Hebrew University
Fighting Drought and Defending Grain Reserves
Stuart Borsch, Assumption College, Worcester
Grains and Gukh: Shifts in Egypt’s Economic Profile
19:00 farewell dinner in the Central Carmel

Tuesday, 12 April 2011
The Observatory Hall, Eshkol Tower
9:00-11:00 Economy in the Mamluk Sultanate
Panel II
Chair: Li Guo, Notre Dame University
Daisuke Igarashi, University of Tokyo
Waqf as a Means of Holding Assets: The "Self-benefiting" Waqf in Mamluk Egypt
Warren Schultz, DePaul University
Contextualizing the Silver Coinage Reforms of Sultan al-Mu'ayyad Shaykh
Patrick Wing, Ghent University
International Trade and Local Politics: Sultan Barsbay’s Upper Euphrates Campaigns
11:00-11:15 coffee break
11:15-13:00 Political Institutions in the Mamluk Sultanate
Chair: Carl Petry, Northwestern University
Amalia Levanoni, University of Haifa
Mamluk Patterns of Rule Transition: A Note
Jo Van Steenbergen, Ghent University
Nomen est omen: From the Regime of the Turks to the Sultanate of the Mamluks?
Koby Yosef, Tel Aviv University
The Names of the Mamluks: Ethnic Groups and Ethnic Solidarity in the Mamluk Sultanate
13:00-14:30 lunch
14:30-17:00 Mamluk Society: Doctrine and Practice
Session I
Chair: Michael Winter, Tel Aviv University
Li Guo, Notre Dame University
Doctrinal Anxiety and Social Reality Regarding Leisure (al-lahw) in Mamluk Cairo
Carl Petry, Northwestern University
Travails of Prohibition: Suppression of Alcohol Consumption in the Mamluk Sultanate
Daniela Talmon-Heller, Ben-Gurion University
& Raquel Ukeles, The National Library of Israel
The Rites of Rajab: From Fatimid to Mamluk Times
Leigh Chipman, The Hebrew University
Cryptanalysis of Poetry and Prose according to Mamluk Authors

Wednesday, 13 April 2011
The Observatory Hall, Eshkol Tower
9:00-11:00 Mamluk Society: Doctrine and Practice
Session II
Chair: Reuven Amitai, Hebrew University
Livnat Holtzman, Bar-Ilan University
Several Responses to a Dhimmi’s Question on Predetermination: On the Dynamics of Composing Poetical Didactic Poems in Mamluk Cairo and Damascus
Paulina Lewicka, University of Warsaw
Projecting Enemy: Non-Muslims and Ummagemeinschaft in the Mamluk State
Shaun Marmion, Princeton University
al-Bal wa-al-Sumr: Race, Gender and Slavery in the Burji Period
11:00-11:15 coffee break
11:15-13:00 Syria and Palestine under Mamluk Rule
Chair: Warren Schultz, DePaul University
Joseph Drory, Bar-Ilan University
An Ill-Rewarded Officer: Baktamur al-Mansuri in the Service of al-Nasir Muhammad
Nimrod Luz, West Galilee College
Public Sphere and Public Space – Reflections on Urban Autonomy and its Limitations in Syrian Cities
Yehoshua Frenkel, University of Haifa
An Introduction to the Environmental History of the Mamluk Period
13:00-14:30 lunch
14:30-15:30 Mamluk Architecture
Chair: Joseph Drory, Bar-Ilan University
Katie Cytryn-Silverman, The Hebrew University
The White Mosque of Ramla during the Mamluk Period
Hana Taragan, Tel Aviv University
The Neo-Mamluk Architectural Style in Modern Egypt: The Search for Identity
15:30-15:45 coffee break
15:45-16:00 Concluding Session
Conference Convener: Amalia Levanoni, University of Haifa. For further information, contact levanoni@research.haifa.ac.il