



Lifelong Learning Centre

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

FREE EVENING SEMINAR

Wednesday 27 June 2012,
5.30 – 7.30pm

Reflections on the 'Arab Spring'
of 2011 and its aftermath



Spring into
Summer...

Please turn over for further information

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Seminar Outline

The seminar will discuss some of the cataclysmic changes that have occurred since January 2011 in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The so-called 'Arab Spring' has not only impacted upon the political structures within those countries experiencing revolutionary upheaval, but has had seismic implications for their economies, the sociocultural landscape and religious hierarchies. Also, the ripple effects of the Arab Spring are being felt in other parts of the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Iran and Israel as well as beyond the MENA region, particularly in those Far Eastern countries beleaguered by political autocracies. As part of the seminar, questions about the prospects for democracy in the region, the role/success of Islamist parties and Western concerns about Islamist-led administrations in the Arab world will be addressed.

This evening seminar is FREE to attend and open to anyone with an interest in the subject area.

Dr Hendrik Kraetzschmar

Hendrik Kraetzschmar completed his undergraduate studies in Political Science and Social Anthropology at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) in 1996, before moving to London to pursue an MA in Comparative Politics at the London School of Economic and Political Science (LSE).

Between 1999 and 2005 he studied for a PhD in Middle East Politics at the same institution. Before joining the Department of Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies at Leeds in September 2007, Hendrik lectured for two years in Middle East Politics at the American University in Cairo. At Leeds he teaches a wide range of modules in the area of Comparative and International Politics of the Middle East.

Dr Mustapha Sheikh

Mustapha Sheikh was educated at University College London where he took his BSc, and at St. Cross College, Oxford where he took his MSt in the Study of Religion and D.Phil in Theology. His doctoral research, which was completed under the supervision of Professor Yahya Michot and Dr M.A. Al-Akiti, is an exploration of the theology, mysticism and ethics of Imam Ahmad al-Rumi al-Aqhisari, a 17th century Ottoman scholar who was associated with the infamous Qadizadeli movement. From 2000 to 2009 Mustapha was a student of traditional Islamic studies and spent extensive periods of time in Syria and Turkey, reading texts in Arabic grammar, rhetoric, logic, jurisprudence, Qur'anic exegesis, legal theory, Arabic literature, Hadith and mysticism. In 2006 he was awarded a Higher License (Ijazah 'Aliyah) in Islamic Law.

FREE ENTRY

For further information please contact Rebecca Edwards on r.m.edwards@leeds.ac.uk / 0113 343 6892 or visit our website at <http://www.llc.leeds.ac.uk>