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CONGRESS

Middle East and Muslim Worlds
Studies

28 June - 2 July 2021



Panel 5

Muslim scholars of the Maghreb (18th-20th century)

Led mainly by doctoral students, this panel presents part of the results of a collective survey conducted as part of the project: «ILM: L'enseignement de l'islam au Maroc (18e-21e siècles). Islamologie et sciences sociales» (2017-2020 ANR 16-027-CE0015) coordinated by Sabrina Mervin, and leading to a collective work to be published (dir. S.Mervin and A.Jomier). Witnesses and actors of their times, the scholars of the Maghreb were the producers of piety, of cultural and social models that structured the populations of the region. Some of them also became leading political figures. Each of the four presentations will focus on the figure of a Muslim scholar - the so-called Ulemas, according to the Arabic term - and will develop various aspects of this history, placing the Maghreb at the heart of the evolution of Islam since the end of the 18th century. The target audience may be students and their teachers as well as a more general public, cultivated and curious about both Islam and the contemporary history of the Maghreb.

Person in charge : Amharar Ilyass (IREMAM)

Discussant : Mervin Sabrina (Césor)

Program

Amharar Ilyass (IREMAM)

From ġihād to collaboration: the eventful life of 'Abd al-Ḥayy Kattānī

This intervention will present the unusual journey experienced by 'Abd al-Ḥayy Kattānī, a precocious scholar from Fas who became within a few years an essential authority in the science of ḥadīṭ in the Arab-Muslim world. We will attempt to explain, in the light of the significant events of his life, this remarkable change of paths: from anti-foreign warlord to friend of France proclaimed chevalier à la Légion d'honneur.

Courreye Charlotte (IETT-Lyon III)

Abdelhamid Ibn Badis, a policy of Islamic sciences

Ibn Badis (1889-1940) is the founder of the Association of Algerian Muslim Ulemas. In the colonial context in Algeria, his action aimed to reform the practices of his contemporaries, through pedagogy, in terms of literacy in Arabic as the transmission of religious knowledge and by the exemplary nature of the ulemas he advocated. A respected model during his lifetime, he has become a political myth in independent Algeria.

Hammouchi Mounir (Sorbonne Université)

Muhammad al-Muhtār as-Sūsī (1900-1963): nationalist ulema, historian and ethnographer of Souss.

What is it like to be an ulema in southern Morocco? The works of the scholar and ulema Muhammad al-Mukhtâr al-Sûsî help us answer this question. Originally from Souss, he contributed greatly to writing the cultural and social history of his region. Son of a famous Sufi shaykh, he was trained in his father's zaouia, the Darqâwiyya. He then became involved in currents of thought close to Muslim reformism with various «Salafî» masters in Marrakech, Fez and Rabat. His spiritual commitment going hand in hand with his political commitment, the scholar actively campaigned with members of the national movement from 1925 for the independence of his country. Author of a monumental work, originally from a peripheral and Berber region, facing the eyes of scholars of Arab culture from large urban centers of knowledge production such as Fez, Tetouan, Rabat-Salé, or Marrakech, al-Sûsî devoted his life to trying to highlight the intellectual excellence of his world.

Riffi Daoud (EHESS)

Abd el-Kader, intellectual of the salafîyya?

The object of this intervention is to take a look at Emir Abd el-Kader, not from colonial, military, or political points of view, but the point of view of his role in the Damascene intellectual life of the second half from the 19th century.