

THE KURDS AND THEIR NEIGHBOURS: THE SEARCH FOR IDENTITY AND SELF DETERMINATION

Spring, 2006

Tues., 8:10-10:40pm

SIS – 11

Course Number: SIS 511-001

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, SIS

Prof. Ghareeb

(202) 288-6666

This lecture discussion course will seek to identify the origins, evolution and role of the Kurds in the various countries of the Middle East particularly Iraq, Iran, Turkey and Syria. It will focus on the history and culture of the Kurds and the rise of Kurdish nationalist movements. It will also stress the response of the various regional governments to Kurdish demands. Attention will be given to the rises of the modern nation states in the Middle East and their attitudes toward ethnic and religious communities. The growth of nationalist movements among the Kurds and on their search for identity and self-determination as well as their impact on the socio-political developments in the countries they inhabit will receive a great deal of attention. Special focus will be given to the rise of Kurdish political parties, organizations and leaders. The role of foreign powers and regional actors will be traced and analyzed.

The major requirement of this course is the writing of one 20-25 page research paper and a final exam. Students will also be required to make oral presentations based on assigned articles or other readings. Grades will be based on the paper, the presentations and the final exam.

Required Readings:

(All will shortly be in the Reserve Reading Room for 2hr out-of-the-building loan)

S. Inati

Iraq

M. Khadduri & E. Ghareeb

War in the Gulf 1990-1991: The Iraq-Kuwait
Conflict and Its Implications

A. Maalouf

In the Name of Identity: Violence and the need to
Belong

D. McDowall

A Modern History of the Kurds

R. Olson

The Kurdish Question and Turkish-Iranian
Relations

Lecture and Discussion Topics:

- Kurdish History, Geography, Culture and Society
- Ethnicity, Religion and State in the Middle East: Majorities and Minorities
- The Kurds Under the Ottomans and the Safavids
- The Emerging State system in Turkey, Iraq and Iran
- Kurdish Nationalism, WWI and the Treaty of Sevres
- Kurdish Responses: Uprisings, organizations and Leaders
- Iraq and the Kurds under the Monarchy and the Republic
- Turkey and the Kurds: 1923-1978
- The Rise of the PKK and its Consequences
- The Kurds in Iran: Mahabad and its Aftermath
- The Kurds under the Ba'th: Autonomy and Revolution
- The Kurds under The Iranian Revolution and the Iran-Iraq War\
- The Kurds in Syria and other Countries
- The 2nd Gulf War, Uprising and safe Haven
- Intra Kurdish Relations, Economy and Regional Government
- The Kurds and their Minorities
- Kurdish Self-Determination in Regional and International Relations and the Prospects for the Future

Books on Reserve:

M. Van Bruinessen	<u>Agha, Sheikh and State</u>
G. Chaliand	<u>People Without A Country</u>
W. Eagleton	<u>An Introduction to Kurdish Rugs and Other Weavings</u>
E. Ghareeb	<u>The Kurdish Question in Iraq</u>
M. Izady	<u>The Kurds: A Concise Handbook</u>
S. Jawad	<u>Iraq and the Kurdish Question</u>
P Kreyenborek	
& C. Allison (eds.)	<u>Kurdish Culture and Identity</u>
D. McDowall	<u>A Modern History of the Kurds</u>
S. Pelletiere	<u>The Kurds: An Unstable Element in the Gulf</u>
D. Schmidt	<u>Journey Among Bravemen</u>

Recommended Readings:

W. Eagleton	<u>The Kurdish Republic of Mahabad</u>
A. Ghassemlou	<u>Kurdistan and the Kurds</u>
M. Gunter	<u>The Kurds and the Future of Turkey</u>

Class Schedule:

- 1+2. Kurdish History, Geography and culture
 - A. Maalouf, *In the Name of Identity*
 - N. Entessar, "Causal Factors in Ethno-Nationalism" *International Review of History and Political Science*, May 1985, pp 57-89
 - P. Kreyenboroeck, ch 1-3
 - M. Izady, *The Kurds: A Concise Handbook*
3. The Kurds under the Ottoman and the Persian Empires
 - D. McDowall, *A Modern History of the Kurds*, chs 1-5
 - M. Van Bruinssen, ch 2, 3, 4
4. Ethnicity, Religion and State in the Middle East
 - Minorities and State in the Arab World*
 - O. Bengio and G. Ben Do (eds), ch 1-3
 - R. Mclaurin (ed), ch 1, 8
- 5+6 Kurdish National, Sevres, and the Emerging State System
 - E. Ghareeb, *The Kurdish Question in Iraq*, ch 1-2
 - G. Harris, "Ethnic Conflict and Kurds", *Annals of American Academy of Political and social Science*, Sept. 1977, pp. 112-124
 - N. Entessar, "The Kurdish Mosaic of Mahabad" *Third World Quarterly* Oct 1989, pp. 83-100
7. Turkey and the Kurds
 - M. Gunter, *The Kurds and the Future of Turkey* (assigned chapters)
8. The Rise of the PKK and its Consequences
 - McDowall, ch 19-20
9. The Kurds in Iran from Mahabad to the Islamic Regime
 - McDowall, chs 10-13, W. Eagleton, *The Kurdish Republic of Mahabad* (assigned Chapters)
10. The Kurds in Iraq since 1958
 - E. Ghareeb, ch. 2, 3, 5
11. The Gulf War and its Consequences
 - M. Khadduri and E. Ghareeb, *War in the Gulf*, ch. 6, 7, 10
12. The Kurdish Question in Regional and International Relations
 - E. Ghareeb, ch 7
 - R. Olson, *The Kurdish Question in Turkish and Iranian Relations*
- 13+14 Intra Kurdish Relations, Economy, Regional Government and Prospects

for the Future

M. Gunter "A Defacto Kurdish State in Northern Iraq" Third World Quarterly,
Vol. 14, no. 2, 1993, pp 295-319

Geopolitical and Geo Strategic Changes in the Middle East"

Winter 92, pp. 2-25

E. Bring, Kurdistan and the Principle of Self-Determination

German Yearbook of International Law, vol 35, 1992, pp. 157-169.

J. Maresca, Self-Determination under Scrutiny, Mediterranean Quarterly,

Winter, 95, pp. 17-26.

On Reserve

Al-Marayati, Abid, A Diplomatic History of Iran, (New York: Robert Speller & Sons,
1961).

Al Nasrawi, Abbas, The Economy of Iraq, 1994.

Allison, C. and Kreyenboek, P., Kurdish culture and Identity, NJ, 1996.

Ben-dor, G. and Bengio, O., Minorities and the State in the Arab World, co, 1999.

Brett and Fentress, The Berbers, MA, 1996.

Bruinessen, Martin van, Agha, Shaikh, and State, NJ, 1992.

[Has Been Recalled. Will be in Reserve Reading Room in 2-3 weeks]

Eagleton, William, An Introduction to Kurdish Rugs and Other Weavings, New York,
1988.

Edmonds, C.J., Kurds, Turks, and Arabs, London, 1978.

[Has Been Recalled. Will be in Reserve Reading Room in 2-3 weeks]

Fattah, The Politics of Regional Trade in Iraq, 1745-1900.

Ghareeb, Edmund, The Kurdish Question in Iraq, Syracuse, 1981.

----- and Historical Dictionary of Iraq

Ghassemlou, Abdul Rahman, People Without a Country: the Kurds and Kurdistan,
London, 1980.

Gurr, Ted Robert, Minorities at Risk, Washington, Dc, 1993.

Hala, Fattah, Politics and Regional Trade in Iraq, Arabia and the Gulf 1745-1900. 1997.

Helms, Christine Moss, Iraq, Eastern Flank of the Arab World, Washington, DC, 1984.

Jawad, Sa'ad, Iraq and the Kurdish Question, 1958-1970, London, 1981.
[Has Been Recalled. Will be in Reserve Reading Room in 2-3 weeks]

Izady, Mehrdad R., The Kurds: A Concise Handbook, 1992.

Khadduri, Majid, Republican Iraq, London, 1969.

_____, Socialist Iraq, Washington, Dec. 1978.

_____, The Gulf War, Oxford, 1988.

Marr, Phebe, The Modern History of Iraq, Boulder, CO, 1985.

McDowall, David, A Modern History of the Kurds, NY, 1996.

_____, The Kurds, Minority Right Group, 1990.

Metz, Helen Chapin, ed. Iraq. A Country Study, (4th ed.), Washington, DC, 1990.

Olson, Robert W., The Kurdish Question and Turkish-Iranian Relations, CA, 1998.

Rabinovich, I. and Esman, M., Ethnicity, Pluralism, and the State in the Middle East, Ithaca, NY, 1988.

Simons, Geff, The Scourging of Iraq, 1995.