The Arab Spring

Day symposium to mark the first anniversary of the Tunisian Revolution

Friday 13th January 2012 10am – 5pm

Board Room (M4), Grand Parade, University of Brighton

Presented by Centre for Research in Memory Narrative and Histories.

Programmed by Dr Dora Carpenter-Latiri and Dr Graham Dawson.

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN MEMORY NARRATIVE AND HISTORIES * University of Brighton Faculty of Arts





Wall graffiti "Tunisia is free – Ben Ali has been kicked out; 'Gaddafi you are a coward – the Libyan people won't be defeated'" Image @ Dr Dora Carpenter-Latiri

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In this symposium taking place on the eve of the first anniversary of the Tunisian Revolution, we will reflect on the specific case of Tunisia and also on other features that seem to characterise the Arab Spring. The Arab Revolution erupted first in Tunisia, a small country that has been represented in the West as a peaceful tourist paradise. The self-immolation of young street-vendor Mohamed Bouazizi provided the spark for a revolutionary movement still spreading throughout the Arab world and brought to light the anger, frustrations and hopes of the young, the poor and the dispossessed.

The Tunisian Revolution has been called the Jasmine Revolution and also the Revolution for Dignity. What we are witnessing in the Arab world today is a democratisation process along with a quest for identity/ies and geo-political positioning. In Tunisia identity issues that had been shaped and controlled during the Ben Ali and Bourguiba era are emerging in a post-modern context with tensions arising between modernists and Islamists, with worries, shared with Egypt, Syria and other countries of an Arab Winter. These issues are also at play in the whole Arab world and are to be framed within the specificities of each Arab state.

Speakers

Haifa Zangana, Author and journalist: "Arab Spring in Baghdad: prospects and challenges."

Professor Nejet Mchala, University of Carthage-Tunis: "Dis-oriented Post Revolution Tunisia: globalised beards and veils."

Dr Jim Livesey, University of Sussex: "Revolution(s): Arab revolutions and the French Revolution paradigm."

Mahmoud Ali Hamad, Researcher and journalist: "Will peaceful demonstrations alone topple Assad? Syria and the hope for a Tunisian scenario." Emir Ben Ayed, Photographer, University of Tunis: "The Tunisian revolution and beyond: photographic representations of the revolution."

Julia Winckler and Karin Jaschke, University of Brighton: "Photographs of Tunisia during the Ben Ali era"

Professeur Foued Laroussi, University de Rouen and Dr Dora Carpenter-Latiri, University of Brighton: "Rewriting the Tunisian Constitution, debates on linguistic identity and room for change."

Registration and delegate rates

This event is open to all but delegates must register in advance. The registration fee is £80 (waged), with concessions for retired/unemployed/unaffiliated delegates (£50) and students (£25). The registration fee includes tea/coffee and lunch.

Bookable at

http://bit.ly/sUY4zM

Contact

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Kindly supported by British Council (Tunis) and the French Institute (London)



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