

I U A E S

Commission on the Middle East

Krakow, August 7-9, 2016

Panels:

I-Migration, Change and Continuity:

What Makes Cultures Survive in the Face of Major Crisis

II-Anthropologists of the Middle East in Retrospect

Migration, Change and Continuity

People have been coming to settle in the Middle East in peace or war for centuries. Peoples of the Middle East have left to live elsewhere, and the diaspora in all continents vouch for this claim. In this panel we would like to consider any of the above three terms, Migration, Change or Continuity, either separately or together. Migration, or exodus, at any time in history, in religious texts, remnants of migration in archaeological sites or today, can be topical.

Change, destruction, adaptation, revitalization has been happening within the region for centuries. Those living in the area and those leaving have been dealing with other situations and otherness all throughout their settlement and adaptation. What has changed, and what has survived elsewhere are significant. In this panel we search for the causes of survival of cultures of the Middle East in face of major crises.

Papers could be within any of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, they could address people's behavior in economic and political domains, arts, medicine, social structure, world view, language, even their imagined worlds. Studies could focus on any ethnic, religious, regional group or whole countries, and bring to light political, economic, legal, logical, emotional reasons which have allowed for cultural survivals. Kinship studies would be most welcome.

Anthropologists of the Middle East in Retrospect

Travelers, merchants, geographers, literary men of various states of the Middle East have been traveling for centuries. Their books have long been due to be studied as “anthropologists in retrospect.” Their search must not have been those of anthropologists of today, but within their text there is much to be discussed on their manners of recording, keeping daily journals, analyzing, and portraying the cultures they crossed. The texts could be in Arabic or Persian, but some have been translated, and all scholars would be welcomed to introduce such texts and show their value anthropologically. The centrality of our field and all its subfields is a priority as the topic indicates, but inter-disciplinary papers could also be considered.

Please send the titles of your papers to:

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