

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG RESEARCHERS' WORKSHOP
REWORKING SPACE, RE-NARRATING BELONGING

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Marwan M. Kraidy
**IGNITING THE CALIPHATE:
HOW "ISLAMIC STATE" USES FIRE TO
ARTICULATE SPACE, BELONGING AND GENDER**

In this lecture, I continue my exploration of the war machine in the digital age. Specifically, I will continue investigating changes in the nature, circulation and impact of images occasioned by the rise of Islamic State. Building on previous elaboration of the notion of the projectilic image (Kraidy, 2017), this lecture explores how Islamic State uses fire as a connective device in its images, videos and publications. Grounding my argument in textual and audio-visual primary sources in Arabic, English and French, and drawing on theories of affect, phenomenology, and magic, in addition to Islamic holy and eschatological texts, I argue that fire is an essential meaning-making and identity-constituting device, in both war and peace, and that it is a fundamentally gendered trope.

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HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN AND AFRICAN STUDIES
ROOM 315



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