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lecture

The socio-political dynamics in Palestinian society

Tuesday 8th December 2015

at 6.00pm

Simone WEIL amphitheater
5, allée Jacques Berque, Nantes

by

Abaher EL-SAKKA

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Abaher EL-SAKKA is a Palestinian sociologist and Fellow at the IAS-Nantes (2015-2016).

After a Master DEA in sociology he pursued with a PHD in Sociology at the University of Nantes, which he obtained in 2005. Between 1998-2006 he worked as researcher and lecturer at the University of Nantes and is currently Professor of Sociology at the University of Birzeit in Palestine.

He is also visiting professor at several universities in France and Belgium. He was involved in several research centers, including the *Institut français du Proche-Orient*. His current research interest focuses on the social history and the historiography of the social sciences. His various research interests focus on studies on Artistic modes of expressions, stratifies artistic expressive social forms, social and collective memory, social identity and protest movements; nationalism; social policies; social mobility and political practices.

Theme

This conference will focus on socio-political dynamics in Palestinian society since the end of Palestinian Authority's policies followed by the practice of clientelism, corruption and inability to meet the needs of the Palestinian population in a context of rise of Israeli settlements in the territories, while the Palestinian Authority has achieved nothing during twenty-three years of negotiations with Israel.

The conference will also discuss the signing of the Oslo Accord and the establishment of a Palestinian autonomous power over an insignificant part of Palestine which already saw the creation of a "new State", the state of the Palestinians. The Oslo Accords ended in open conflict, the current Palestine no longer resemble the one evoked by these Accords. Symbolic independence, symbolic nationality, symbolic return: would the Palestinian state be reduced to a new form, that of a state-symbol?

Finally, the conference will tackle the rise of social and political discontent, taking place amid oppressive colonization and crisis in the Palestinian political representation or the Palestinian project itself.