The Egyptian Revolution of 1919: The Birth of the Modern Nation

A conference presented by
the British Egyptian Society,
the London Middle East Institute, SOAS University of London and
the Council for British Research in the Levant

The Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS University of London
Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 March 2019

Conference Programme

Wednesday 27 March

09.00 Registration

09.30–09.45 Welcome and Introduction
HE Mr Tarek Adel
Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Rt Hon Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean,
James Watt and Dr Hassan Hakimian
on behalf of the BES, CBRL and LMEI

09.45–10.45 Session 1
1919 A Century Beyond: Reflections on Egyptian Politics
Keynote Speaker: Professor Nabil Fahmy
Dean of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the American
University in Cairo

Chairman: Professor Magdy Ishak Hanna
Vice Chairman, British Egyptian Society
10.45  Refreshments

11.15–12.00  Session 2  Reflections on the 1919 Independence Movement

*Copts in the 1919 Revolution - An Exceptional Participation in Egyptian Political Life*

Mounir Fakhry Abdel Nour  
*Former Egyptian Minister of Trade, Industry and Investment*

Moderator:  Sir Derek Plumbly  
*Former British Ambassador to Egypt*

12.00–13.00  Session 3  The Great Theft of History: World War One and the Prelude to Revolution

Professor Khaled Fahmy  
*His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Sa'id Professor of Modern Arabic Studies, University of Cambridge*

Moderator:  HE Sir Geoffrey Adams  
*British Ambassador to Egypt*

13.00  Lunch

14.00–15.15  Session 4  The Strategy and Tactics of the Protests

*Telegraphing Revolt: Protest Diffusion in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution*

Dr Neil Ketchley  
*Lecturer in Middle East Politics, King’s College London*

*Workers on the Canal, Camaraderie within Apartheid*

Mohamed Elsayed  
*MA History, SOAS and Co-founder of Mubtada*

Moderator:  Dr May Darwich  
*Assistant Professor in the International Relations of the Middle East in the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University*

15.15  Refreshments
15.45–17.00  
**Session 5  Britain and Egypt**

**The Wafd, the Royal Family and the British**
Professor James Whidden  
*Professor, Department of History, Acadia University*

‘No Very Fixed Ideas’. The Foreign Office, the High Commissioners and the Egyptian Nationalists  
Dr C. W. Richard Long  
*Author of British Pro-Consuls in Egypt, 1914-1929*

Moderator:  **Roger Hardy**  
*Associate Fellow, Green Templeton College, Oxford*

18.00–19.30  
**PUBLIC LECTURE**

**THE IMPACT OF EGYPT’S 1919 REVOLUTION ON THE POST-OTTOMAN ARAB WORLD**

Keynote Speaker:  **Professor Eugene Rogan**  
*Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, Director, St Antony’s College Middle East Centre, Oxford University*

Chairman:  **James Watt**  
*Chairman, Council for British Research in the Levant*

**Thursday 28 March**

09.00–10.15  
**Session 6  The Role of Women in the Independence Movement**

**A Ward of Their Own: Mothers, Medical Doctors and the Revolution of 1919**
Professor Beth Baron  
*Distinguished Professor and Director, Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center, The City College of New York*

**Women and Gender in the 1919 Revolution and Beyond**
Professor Margot Badran  
*Senior Fellow, Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim Christian Understanding, Georgetown University*

Moderator:  **Nabila Ramdani**
Journalist, author of Women in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution

10.15 Refreshments

10.45–12.00 Session 7 The Historiography of the 1919 Revolution

From Nationalism to Islamism; Revolution, the Wafd and the Rise of the Muslim Brotherhood
Professor Philip Marfleet
Emeritus Professor in Social Sciences at the University of East London

Neither Wilson nor Lenin: an Intellectual History of the 1919 Revolution
Dr Hussein Omar
Assistant Professor in Global History, University College Dublin

Moderator: Dr Anthony Gorman
Senior Lecturer, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh

12.00–13.15 Session 8 Impact on Society and Minorities

Copts and the 1919 Revolution: Egyptian Identities and Nationalisms
Mark Bebawi
Doctoral Student, Rice University

The 1923 Egyptian Constitution and the Future of Elementary Education in Egypt
Dr Relli Shechter
Academic Visitor, Middle East Centre, St Antony's College, University of Oxford

Moderator: Dr Ahmed El Mokadem
International Consultant & Company Chairman

13.15 Lunch

14.15–15.00 Session 9 The Arts

Long Live Degenerate Art! Art as a Liberator for Egyptian Surrealists
Dr Omneya el Naggar
Department of Political Science, the American University of Cairo

Moderator: Peter Mackenzie Smith
Trustee, The British Egyptian Society
Session 10  The Revolution and its Influence on the Next Hundred Years (panel session)

Panellist:  Dr Anthony Gorman  
Senior Lecturer, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh

Panellist:  Mona Makram Ebeid  
Lecturer of Political Science at the American University in Cairo

Panellist:  Nabila Ramdani  
Journalist, author of Women in the 1919 Egyptian Revolution

Panellist:  Dr May Darwich  
Assistant Professor in the International Relations of the Middle East in the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University

Moderator:  Professor Robert Springborg  
Italian Institute of International Affairs

Closing Remarks:  The Right Honourable Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean  
Chairman, The British Egyptian Society

Conference website:  http://1919conference.britishegyptiansociety.org.uk/