

Double Lecture

Tuesday, 31 March 2020

Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin

2 – 3 pm

Good Neighbors: Jews and Muslims in Interwar Berlin

Lecture by Gerdien Jonker

Based on private archives and substantial photo collections, the lecture offers an introduction to the Muslim-Jewish network which existed in Berlin in the interwar period. The network consisted of several overlapping spheres of interest, in which Indian Jadidists and Russian Halachists, Egyptian entertainers and Berlin homosexuals, German life reformers and Muslim world revolutionaries mixed and, each in their own manner, reformulated the relationship between the Self and the 'world' out there. While the Weimar Republic offered ample room for diversity and experiment, the totalitarian National-Socialist government that followed in its wake narrowed down the network's options and reformulated them. Who were these people? In which social and political frameworks did their network emerge? And what happened to the web of neighborly relations once the National-Socialists rose to power?

3 – 4 pm

Mosque Archives as Sources for Historical Research: The Case of Berlin-Wilmersdorf

Lecture by Gerdien Jonker and Maria-Magdalena Fuchs

In 1923, the Lahore Ahmadiyya, a revivalist Muslim movement founded in colonial South Asia, sent a missionary to Berlin with the task to erect a mosque and enter into a conversation with Europeans. As part of contemporary debates, the Ahmadiyya aimed at reforming the Islamic tradition with the help of new educational and organizational approaches, to which proselytization was added. Once in Berlin, it strove to build a 'Religion of the Future' that would underscore the equality of all civilizations and religions. Almost one hundred years later, documents from the mosque, including correspondences, marriage registries, reports, pamphlets, and photographs were transferred to the National Archive of Berlin. We will thread several pathways through this exciting archive in order to show how it can contribute to existing research.

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 **Gesellschaft
zur Förderung
des ZMO e.V.**

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