



Psychiatric Afterlives Narrating Illness, Violence and Gender in Lebanon

This talk will focus on my book manuscript *Psychiatric Afterlives* that traces the cultural authority of psychiatry in Lebanon from the late 1930s until present day. Drawing on an archival ethnography of psychiatry, therapeutic subjectivity, and public life, the talk will locate various experts debates (like diagnosis, illness and therapies, institutionalization, global mental health and stigma) in conversation with public imaginaries of madness and illness, and with the life worlds of patients and therapeutic communities in Lebanon.

Lamia Moghnieh is an associate professor at the Center for Culture and the Mind (Cultmind) at the University of Copenhagen. She is a medical anthropologist, a psychotherapist and a social worker, whose research explores the dynamics and politics

of psychiatry, subject and society in the Arab region.

Date: June 4, 2025

Time: 6pm (Cairo/UTC+3) - 5pm

(Paris/UTC+2) - 11am (New York/UTC-4)

Register now to attend online:

<https://cnrs.zoom.us/meeting/register/Abq92MfmS8eNzPZZ6qm6yq>

Research Seminar

Knowing the Psyche in the Middle East and North Africa

(20th and 21st century)

History, Social Science, Testimonies

This seminar reflects on new scholarship about the psyche as object of knowledge and care in the Middle East and North Africa. It aims to highlight a polycentric approach to the history of psychiatry, psychology, and psychoanalysis. Thus, by focusing on the 20th and 21st centuries, it looks at these dynamics in post-independence states in their historical depth. It also fosters a conversation between studies of what is usually known as medicine, religion and popular knowledge.

Sessions with social science researchers and mental health professionals will explore such subject matters as knowledge

production, actors' trajectories, health policies, practices of care, and representations – all elements of a regional history of norms that relate to interiority and mental health.

Seminars take place on the last Wednesday of each month starting in April 2024, between 6 and 7:30pm (Cairo time).

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