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book launch
OCT 18 | 4:00-5:30PM | Knox 208

Introduction by Rashid Khalidi
Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies (History)

Arab Patriotism – The Ideology and Culture of Power in Late Ottoman Egypt challenges the received narrative that Arabism in general and Egyptian territorial nationalism in particular emerged in opposition to the Ottoman and British Empires and primarily from below. Mestyan argues instead that early Arabic nationalist culture was produced in dialogue with the localized Ottoman power by educated Arabs who integrated Muslim and European cultural forms in their search for political inclusion and patronage.

Based on archival research in Egypt, Turkey, France, UK, and the USA Arab Patriotism offers the first scholarly investigation of the Egyptian khedivate, a semi-autonomous Ottoman regime type, between 1867 and 1914, a period that witnessed a global wave of monarchical restoration and reformation. The khedivate was a uniquely hybrid polity—ruled by the Ottoman Empire and later occupied by the British—that combined dynastic and nascent nationalist interests, and spurred a range of cultural productions and practices.

“A superb scholarly achievement” Ehud Toledano
“This is one of the most exciting new works that I have read in recent years.” Eugene Rogan
“Mestyan paints a detailed and animated picture of a rich cultural landscape.” Khaled Fahmy