Identity and Confessional Mobilization in Medieval Baghdad: A Microhistory of the Neighbourhoods of Bab al-Basra and al-Karkh (945–1258)

Nassima Neggaz
University of Oxford

THE GARDEN ROOM, STANFORD HOUSE, 65 HIGH STREET, OXFORD
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Nassima Neggaz’s paper explores the construction of distinct sectarian identities in medieval Baghdad, in particular a Twelver Shi‘i identity and a Sunni identity. It investigates how these identities were expressed through celebrations and rituals that were provocatively performed, in a dialectic manner and in a spirit of competition, often encouraged by the political authorities of the time.

‘The Long History of Ethnicity & Nationhood Reconsidered’ Seminar aims at systematically rethinking the history and theory of ethnicity, nationhood and nationalism. The full programme of the seminar is available at torch.ox.ac.uk/identity.

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