

Journal of Levantine Studies

Journal of Levantine Studies (JLS) is a new interdisciplinary journal – to be published by the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute – that is dedicated to critical study of the geographical, social, and cultural settings which, in various periods of history, have been known as the “Levant.”

The goal of this journal is to reclaim the notion of the Levant as a historical, political, social, and literary concept and as a category of identity, classification, and analysis. In doing so, JLS will offer a platform with novel possibilities for academic discussion and will catalyze productive debate regarding both the notion and practices of the Levant and of Levantines in various geographical and historical contexts.

The journal offers no singular definition of the Levant, thereby acknowledging the fluidity of the geographical and theoretical boundaries of the notion. While the term admits of geographically-based lineages, it also suggests the flexibility of time and space required in analyses of multi-dimensional and complex realities, spaces, and identities.

The journal will focus on the modern era, which we define as commencing symbolically with the conquest of Constantinople in 1453. Thus, a chronological focal point is adopted that pays tribute to the history of the region itself (and to its cultural and political symbolism) and that avoids the traditionally western notion of 1492 as the watershed for global diffusion.

JLS will seek to publish articles that engage contemporary academic discussions on relevant socio-political topics including (but not limited to):

- Religion, secularization, and post-secularism
- National borders, trans-nationalism, and Diaspora communities
- The construction of memory and identity
- Globalization and neo-tribalism
- The migration of knowledge and people
- Literary and linguistic streams
- Consumerism and commercial networks

JLS will also encourage a wide spectrum of theoretical and empirical scholarship on various corresponding categories, such as “Mediterraneanism” and “the Orient,” as well as on relevant social and historical theories such as “longue durée” and the existence of Judeo-Christian, Islamo-Christian, and Judeo-Islamic heritages.

Journal of Levantine Studies will be published electronically twice a year in English and will feature six articles (blind peer-reviewed), a literary translation, book reviews, and review essays. Abstracts of published articles will appear in Arabic, French, Hebrew, and Turkish.

Please see the attached Submission Guidelines for details.

Articles should be sent to the editor,
Dr. Anat Lapidot-Firilla, at
editor@levantinestudies.org

For additional information please contact
Nathalie Alyon, the journal’s coordinator, at
info@levantinestudies.org

Editor: Anat Lapidot-Firilla

Editorial Board: Gabriel Motzkin (Chair), Samir Ben-Layashi, Yuval Evri, Yochi Fischer, Kinneret Lahad, Merav Mack, Sasson Somekh, Sara Soreni, Andrea Stanton, Keith Watenpaugh, Gökçe Yurdakul, Raef Zreik

Call for Papers

Submission Guidelines

Each issue of the journal will consist of five-six articles (with abstracts published in Arabic, French, Hebrew, and Turkish), one literary translation, and book reviews / review essays.

Please refer to the following for style, formatting, and transliteration guidelines, information on the review process, submission restrictions, and additional requirements.

Submission Contact Information

All materials should be submitted electronically to the journal's editor at editor@levantinestudies.org

Style

All submissions should conform to *The Chicago Manual of Style* formatting standards, particularly for bibliographical citation. Please see http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html for more information and follow the "notes" version for each type of citation. For both citations and author's notes, please use in-text superscripted numerals to refer the reader to the appropriate endnote (endnotes – and not page-by-page footnotes – should be utilized). Citation should be consistent and accurate throughout.

Please use Gregorian calendar (Common Era) dates and common Arabic numerals (0, 1, 2, 3...) in your own text. When quoting an author that utilizes the *Hijri* (Islamic) calendar, Eastern Arabic numerals, or another system, please provide the corresponding Common Era calendar date and/or Arabic numeral in brackets.

American spelling should be used where spelling varies by dialect.

Formatting

All materials should be submitted as standard PC word-processed documents. Text should appear in 12-point Times New Roman font and should be 1.5-spaced throughout.

All paragraphs should be indented five spaces and all margins should be 1-inch in length (on standard 8.5"x 11" paper).

Please place only one space between sentences.

Double quotation marks should be used for short quotes and expressions and block quotes for material longer than three lines (remove quotation marks and indent entire quotation five spaces).

Please distinguish between two types of dashes:

En dash: a shorter hyphen used for appropriate compound words like "state-of-the-art," for numbers between twenty-one and ninety-nine, and for adverbial phrases like "well-written" and "hastily-conceived."

Em dash: a longer dash used in clauses that qualify content with a parenthetical thought. For example:

"The majority of the Syrian elite were quick to adopt this narrative as their own – that is, after the application of considerable pressure from above – but resentment over the shift continued to linger in some circles."

Transliteration

Terms from languages that utilize the Latin alphabet – including modern Turkish – should not be altered from their original form (for Ottoman Turkish, please transliterate in accordance with modern Turkish norms).

Transliteration from Arabic should conform to *American Language Association* (ALA-LC) standards, as detailed at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/romanization/arabic.pdf> and from Hebrew to the *Academy of the Hebrew Language's* 2006 transliteration guidelines as outlined at <http://hebrew-academy.huji.ac.il/PDF/Taatiq2007.pdf>

When commonly used transliterations of names or terms conflict with these official transliteration styles, the Editorial Board will allow for the use of the former. Please use "Qur'an" and "Shari'a" when appropriate.

For questions regarding the transliteration of languages not listed here, please contact info@levantinestudies.org

Review Process

All submissions will undergo a blind peer-review process and will be selected for publication by the Editorial Board.

Authors should be careful to avoid any references in the text that might reveal their identity to referees. Instead, please include a cover page with all submissions with the title of the submission, author's name, affiliation, email address, and telephone number.

Submission Restrictions

Please do not submit materials that have been published or are set to be published elsewhere, in English or otherwise. If your submission is selected for publication elsewhere after it has been accepted by JLS, the editorial board should be notified immediately.

Please obtain permission from copyright holders where necessary (for example, when citing stanzas of a poem, maps, photographs, poster, tables, figures, or text exceeding the maximum length permitted by Copyright Law).

Articles – Additional Requirements

Articles should feature original research or analysis and should contain approximately 6,000 to 10,000 words (including endnotes and captions).

Please include a short abstract (up to 150 words) that summarizes the content and claim of your article. In addition to English, abstracts of selected articles will appear in, Arabic, French, Hebrew, and Turkish. The Editorial Board will perform the necessary translation work unless the writer prefers to do so.

Tables and figures may be included in the text. They should be numerically ordered and may contain captions.

Book Reviews and Review Essays – Additional Requirements

Book reviews should contain approximately 600 to 1200 words. Review essays that offer a comparative review of several books or articles should total around 3,000 to 5,000 words in length. All reviews should begin with the bibliographical information of the book or essay(s) being reviewed (in *Chicago Manual of Style* format, "bibliography" type; see http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html), followed by the number of pages and price of the item. Example:

Al-Fatih, Bashir M., *Workers' Movements in Lebanon*, Beirut: Nur Publishing, 2002.

314 pages

\$24.99 hardcover, \$15.99 paperback

Writers may submit reviews of new or established publications.

If you would like to recommend your own book or someone else's for review, you may send a note to editor@levantinestudies.org and/or send a copy of the book to:

Nathalie Alyon

Coordinator, *Journal of Levantine Studies*

The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute

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