

Contributors

Saïd Amir Arjomand (Ph.D, University of Chicago, 1980) is Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He was the inaugural Crane Fellow and Visiting Professor of Public Affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University (2004-5), and is Visiting Fellow at its Department of Near Eastern Studies (2006-8). He was Editor of *International Sociology*, from 1998 to 2003, and is the founder and President (1996-2002, 2006-10) of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies. His books include *The Turban for the Crown. The Islamic Revolution in Iran*, Oxford University Press, 1988, and *Rethinking Civilizational Analysis*, London: Sage Publications, 2004 (edited with Edward A. Tiryakian). He is currently working on a constitutional history of the Islamic Middle East as a Carnegie Scholar (2006-8).

Johann P. Arnason is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at La trobe University, Melbourne, and was until recently editor of the journal *Thesis Eleven*. His research interests are in comparative historical sociology and civilizational analysis. Recent publications include *Civilizations in Dispute: Historical Questions and Theoretical Traditions* (Leiden, Brill, 2003); *Eurasian Transformations, Tenth to Thirteenth Centuries* (edited, with Bjorn Wittrock; Leiden, Brill, 2004); *Axial Civilizations and World History* (edited, with S.N. Eisenstadt and Bjorn Wittrock; Leiden, Brill, 2005).

Shmuel N. Eisenstadt, PhD. Jerusalem 1947. Professor Emeritus, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Senior Research Fellow at the Jerusalem Van Leer Institute. Member of many academies and recipient of honorary doctoral degrees. Areas of major interest: Comparative research of modernities and civilizations; The historical experience of Japan from a comparative perspective; Patterns of civil society and democracy in different societies and cultures; Changing movements and heterodoxy in civilizational dynamics; Sociological and macro-sociological theory. Publications: *Political Systems of Empires*; *Power, Trust and Meaning*; *Japanese Civilization – A Comparative View*; *Paradoxes of Democracy, Fragility, Continuity and Change*; *Fundamentalism, Sectarianism and Revolutions*; *Die Vielfalt der Moderne*; *Comparative Civilizations & Multiple Modernities*; *Explorations in Jewish Historical Experience*.

Josef van Ess, born 1934, PhD Bonn 1959, “Habilitation” Frankfurt 1964, Visiting Professor UCLA 1967 and American University of Beirut 1967-8, Chair of Islamic Studies and Semitic Languages Tübingen University 1968-1999, Emeritus Professor since 1999. Honorary degree Paris (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Sorbonne) and Washington (Georgetown University). Member/Fellow of

Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften, Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres (Paris), Real Academia Barcelona, Academia Europaea, Iranian Academy of Philosophy, Iraqi Academy, Tunisian Academy, Medieval Academy of America. Publications in German, French, English, Arabic and Persian. Main work: *Theologie und Gesellschaft im 2. und 3. Jahrhundert Hidschra*, 1-6 (Berlin 1991-1997).

Raif Georges Khoury, PhD Sorbonne/Paris 1963, Habilitation Heidelberg 1970, Visiting Professor at different universities of Paris, among them Collège de France, Sorbonne, Ecole des Hautes Etudes, is Emeritus Professor of Arabistik at Heidelberg University where he managed the cooperations with universities in Europe, in particular France as well as in diverse North African, Near Eastern and Far Eastern countries. Since recent years he is Visiting Professor at the Hochschule der Jesuiten in Munich and at the University of Munich. He is the author of a huge body of books and articles on scriptures of Early Islam, Islamic literature in the Middle Ages and of the Arabic world of the 19. und 20. century and its relation to Europe. He is the editor of the series *Codices Arabici Antiqui* and of the series *Tradition und Modernität in der arabischen Welt gestern und heute*. His most recent work is the editing of *Platonismus im Orient und Okzident. Neue platonische Denkstrukturen im Judentum, Christentum und im Islam* (Heidelberg 2005).

Babak Rahimi received his Ph.D. from the European University Institute in 2004 and is now an Assistant Professor, Department of Literature, Program for the Study of Religion, at the University of California, San Diego. His research interests include public sphere and state formation in Islamic societies. He has published articles in the *Journal of Iranian Studies* and *Thesis Eleven*. He is currently working on a book project entitled, "The Isfahani Public: the Emergence of the Early Modern Iranian Public Sphere in the Safavid Period, 1590-1666."

Armando Salvatore obtained his Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute, Florence (1994) and his German *Habilitation* in Sociology from Humboldt University, Berlin (2005). He is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Essen (KWI) and at the Institute of Social Science, Humboldt University, Berlin. His research focuses on the significance of modern concepts of religion for Social and Political Theory, with particular regard to the Euro-Mediterranean civilizational area. Among his most recent publications, *Public Islam and the Common Good*, Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2004 (ed., with Dale F. Eickelman), *Religion, Social Practice, and Contested Hegemonies*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005 (ed., with Mark LeVine), and, *The Public Sphere between Tradition and Modernity*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming in 2007. He is the editor of the *Yearbook of Sociology of Islam* (with Georg Stauth).

Georg Stauth teaches Sociology at the University of Bielefeld, Germany. In the period 2003-2005 he has directed an international study group on Islam and Modernity at the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities (KWI-NRW), Essen. At the University of Mainz he is co-directing research on saintly places in Egypt and Ethiopia. He has widely published on Islam and theory of modernity. His most recent book is *Ägyptische heilige Orte I. Konstruktionen, Inszenierungen und Landschaften der Heiligen im Nildelta: 'Abdallah b. Salam*, Bielefeld: transcript, 2005. He is the editor of the *Yearbook of Sociology of Islam* (with Armando Salvatore).

Arpad Szakolczai studied at the University of Budapest and has a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. His recent and major publications include *The Dissolution of Communist Power* (Routledge, 1992; with Agnes Horvath), *Max Weber and Michel Foucault: Parallel Life-Works* (Routledge, 1998), *Reflexive Historical Sociology* (Routledge, 2000), *La scoperta della società* (Rome, Carocci, 2003; with Giovanna Procacci), and *The Genesis of Modernity* (Routledge, 2003), as well as articles and essays among others in *Social Research*, the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Theory, Culture and Society*, *Theoria*, *The European Journal of Social Theory* and *The European Sociological Review*. He is Professor of Sociology at University College, Cork, Ireland. He is currently finishing a manuscript on the sociology of the Renaissance that focuses on various aspects of 'grace,' to be published by Routledge in 2006, and is working on two further book projects: one provisionally entitled 'Overcoming Nihilism,' in which he aims to contrast Nietzsche's illuminating but often erratic insights with anthropological findings; and on another, together with Agnes Horvath, about the figure of the Trickster.

List of previous volumes

Volume 1, Islam – Motor or Challenge of Modernity. Edited by Georg Stauth. Hamburg: LIT, 1998. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: M. Arkoun (Paris), F. Colonna (Paris), Sh. N. Eisenstadt (Jerusalem), R. Schulze (Bern), S. Zubaida (London).

Volume 2, The South-South Dimension of Islam and Modernity. Edited by Helmut Buchholt and Georg Stauth. Hamburg: LIT, 2000. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: M. Abaza (Cairo), S. F. Alatas (Singapore), H. Khondker (Singapore), R. Loimeier (Bayreuth), C. Nelson (Cairo), Lani Probojo (Bielefeld/Frankfurt a.M.).

Volume 3, Muslim Traditions and Modern Technics of Power. Edited by Armando Salvatore. Hamburg: LIT, 2001. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: Iman Farag (Cairo), B. Dupret (Paris), A. Salvatore (Florence), P. Werbner (Manchester/Keele).

Volume 4, Islam in Africa. Edited by Thomas Bierschenk and Georg Stauth. Hamburg: LIT, 2002. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: G. Abdoulaye (Cotonou, Benin), Q. Gausset (Kopenhagen), S. Nageeb (Bielefeld/Khartum), A. Piga (Rome), M. Singleton (Louvain), T. Tamari (Paris).

Volume 5, On Archaeology of Sainthood and Local Spirituality in Islam. Edited by Georg Stauth. Bielefeld: transcript, 2004. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: Ch. Ahmed (Berlin), S. Andezian (Marseille), El-S El-Aswad (Tanta, Egypt; Bahrein), C. Mayeur-Jaouen (Paris), S. Schielke (Leiden/Amsterdam), E. Spadola (New York).

Volume 6, Islam and the New Europe. Continuities, Changes, Confrontations. Edited by Sigrid Nökel and Levent Tezcan. Bielefeld: transcript, 2005. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: St. Allievi (Padua), G. Klinkhammer (Bremen), M. LeVine (Irvin), Sch. Amir-Moazami (Constance/Florence), S. Zubaida (London).