

**ABED EL-RAHMAN TAYYARA**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

Department of Modern Languages  
Cleveland State University  
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Cleveland, OH 44115  
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Shaker Heights, OH, 44122

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**EDUCATION AND DEGREES:**

**Ph.D. Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University, New York, 2005**

**M. A. The Aranne School of Ancient History (Magna Cum Laude), Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 1995**

**B. A. World History and Classical Studies, Tel-Aviv University, Tel Aviv 1988**

**DISSERTATION:**

*The Reflection of Non-Islamic Cultures in Early Islamic Universal Histories*

This is a comparative textual analysis of the portrayal of non-Islamic cultures in early Islamic universal histories. This study also deals with the emergence of the writing of universal histories among Muslim scholars and examines the cultural repercussions of this historiographical trend. More specifically, my research seeks to examine why Muslim historians began to write about non-Muslim cultures, and how they viewed the importance of these cultures to the understanding of the past.

**CERTIFICATIONS:**

**ACTFL Full Certification**, Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Tester, Arabic, since April 2012

**Teaching Portfolio**, Center for Teaching Excellence, Cleveland State University, spring 2012

**GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS:**

**EDGE Faculty Grant**, Institutional Diversity, Cleveland State University, summer 2011

**Tel-Aviv University, Department of History**, Research Grant, Spring 2009

**The Lady Davis Post-Doctorate Fellowship**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, spring 2008 (not funded)

**The Barakat Foundation Doctorate Fellowship**, 2001-2002

**Israeli-Arab Scholarship Program**

Grant funded by the United States Department of State and administered by AMIDEAST, 1998- May 2001

**The Institute of German History**, Tel- Aviv University, Grant

was awarded to study German in Schwäbisch Hall (Germany), summer 1997

**Lessing Fellowship**, Tel-Aviv University, 1997

**Aranne School of History Scholarship**, Tel-Aviv University, 1992

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Assistant Professor of Middle Eastern Studies and Arabic**, Cleveland State University, fall, 2006-Present

**Adjunct**, New York University in Tel-Aviv, spring 2010

Courses Taught: *Elementary Arabic I*, *Intermediate Arabic*, *Colloquial Arabic*, and *History of the Middle East*

**Adjunct**, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, fall 2009

Course Taught: *The Evolution of Early Islamic Historical Writing*

**Instructor**, New York University, fall 2005-Summer 2006

Courses Taught: *Elementary Arabic I*, *Elementary Arabic II*, *Intermediate Arabic I*, *Intermediate Arabic II*, and *Colloquial Arabic* (Palestinian Dialect)

**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University, fall 2001- Spring 2003

Courses Taught: *Intermediate Arabic* (I and II),

**Preceptor**, Morse Academic Plan: World Cultures Segment, New York University, fall 2004-fall 2005

Courses Taught: *Islam in Asia* and *Islamic Societies and Shi'ism*

**COURSES TAUGHT (at CSU):**

ARB 493/393	Media and Writing	
ARB 393	Special Topics in Arabic	
ARB 393	Independent Study	
ARB 301	Composition and Writing	
ARB 293	Special Topics in Arabic	
ARB 274	Introduction to the Middle East	
ARB 201	Intermediate Arabic	II
ARB 202	Intermediate Arabic	I
ARB 102	Elementary Arabic	II
ARB 101	Elementary Arabic	I

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND DRAFT PAPERS FOR PUBLICATION:**

"The Representations of the Paulicians in Early Islamic Sources," The MESA 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver, November 17-20, 2012

"Prophethood In Islam, the Cleveland State University 4<sup>th</sup> Cultural Crossings Symposium, Cleveland, October 7-11-2011

"The Temporal Evolution of the Qur'anic Term "Qarn," The MESA 2009 Annual Meeting in Boston, November 21-24, 2009.

"The Reflection of the Romance of Julian the Apostate in Early Islamic Sources," Conference in Memory of prof. Zeev Rubin, Tel-Aviv University, November 5, 2009.

"The Application of Islamic Legal Methodology in Early Islamic Historical Writing," Conference on Law and History in Palestine, Birzeit, Birzeit University, December 20, 2008 (In Arabic).

"Al-Dinawari's Historical writing and the Shu'ubiyya Controversy," The MESA 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., November 22-25, 2008.

- Ibn al-Tayyib's *Fiqh al-Nasraniyya* and its Cultural Context," Ohio Academy of History, Dayton, April 11-12, 2008.
- "Representations of Prophethood in Islamic Historical Thought," The Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, March 7-8, 2008.
- "Narratives of Inevitable Prophecies of Confrontation between Good and Evil," the Cleveland State University 2<sup>nd</sup> Cultural Crossing Symposium, Cleveland, October 7-11-2007.
- "The Term *qarn* as an Example of Linguistic Metamorphosis in Arabic," Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, April 19-21 2007.
- "The Shu'ubiyya Controversy and the Ranking of Nations," The Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, March 1-3, 2007.
- "The Evolvment of the Story of Alexander the Great in Early Islamic Historiography," The MESA 2006 Annual Meeting in Boston, November 18-21, 2006.
- "The Reflection of the Story of Julian the Apostate in Early Islamic account, Medieval and Renaissance Center, New York University, March 30, 2005.
- "The Story of Sacrifice (*al-dhabih*) in Early Islamic Universal Histories" Chicago University, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference, May 10-11, 2002.
- "Non-Muslim cultures as Reflected in Early Islamic Universal Histories" Medieval and Renaissance Center, New York University, November 9, 2001.
- "Early Islamic Historiography as Influenced by John Malalas" The MESA 2000 Annual Meeting in Orlando, November 17-19, 2000.
- "The Influence of Byzantine Historiography on al-Mas'udi's Writings" Chicago University, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference, April 28-29, 2000.

#### **INVITED LECTURES:**

- "The Palestinian Minority in Israel and the Israeli-Arab Conflict," Siegal College for Judaic Studies, April 17, 2012
- "The Classical Greek Heritage in Islamic Intellectual Life," The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, June 21, 2009 (In Hebrew)
- "The Temporal meaning of *qarn* and End of the Companions' Generation," Tel-Aviv University, December 17, 2008 (In Hebrew)
- "The Palestinian Minority in Israel," Case Western Reserve University, November 15, 2006

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Workshops Attended:**

- "Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic," Denver, November 17-20, 2012
- "Startalk, Arabic workshop, arranged by the National Middle East Language Resource Center, Provo, UT, July 23-28, 2012
- "MESA Annual Conferences," Washington DC, December 1-3, 2011
- "Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic," Washington DC, December 1-3, 2011

**“ACTFL Writing Proficiency,”** University of Akron, May 12, 2011  
**“ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview Workshop,”** Boston, November 15-19, 2010  
**American Oriental Society Annual Conference,** Chicago, March, 21-24, 2008  
**MLA Annual Conference,** Philadelphia, December 27-30, 2006  
**“Shu‘ubiyya Colloquium,”** The Institute for Advanced Study, New Jersey, May 1-4, 2006  
**“Workshop for Teachers of Arabic,** arranged by the National Middle East Language Resource Center, Emory University, Atlanta, August 17-22, 2005

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- 1) “Prophethood and Kingship in Early Islamic Historical Thought,” *Der Islam*, 84 (2007), pp. 73-102.
- 2) “Narratives of Inevitable Prophecies of Confrontation between Good and Evil,” *Idā’āt*, 3 (2010), pp. 333-348.
- 3) “Arabic and the Cultural and National Discourses in Jaffa,” *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, Vol. 1. 12 (2011), pp. 29-33.
- 4) “The Evolution of the Term ‘qarn’ in Early Islamic Sources” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, 72, 1 (2013), pp. 99-110.
- 5) “Prophethood and the Making of Islamic Historical Identity,” in the *Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Cultural Crossings Symposium*, Cleveland State University (accepted)
- 6) “The Evolution of the Romance of Julian the Apostate in Early Islamic Sources,” (in Arabic) *al-Majma’*, 6 (2012), pp. 111-140.
- 7) “Origin Narratives and the Making of Dynastic History in al-Dinawari’s Historical Writing,” *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, (submitted).

#### **BOOK REVIEWS:**

**Review** of *In the Shadows of the Master: al-Mutanabbi’s Legacy and the Quest for the Center in the Fatimid and the Andalusian Poetry*, by Majd Yaser al-Mallah, (Berkshire; Berkshire Academic Press, 2012), *Digest of Middle East Studies* (forthcoming).

**Review** of *Islam: Origins, Practices, Holy Texts, Sacred Persons, Sacred Places*, by Matthew S. Gordon, Oxford, Oxford University Press, in *American Journal of Islamic Social sciences*, vol. 23, Number 1, winter, 2006.

**Review** of *Byzantium Viewed by the Arabs*, by Nadia Maria El-Cheikh, Cambridge, MA, and London, Harvard University Press, 2004, in *Mediterranean Historical Review*, Vol., 20, Number 2 / December, 2005.

**Review** of *Reinterpreting of Islamic Historiography: Harun al-Rashid and the Narrative of the ‘Abbasid Caliphate*, by Tayeb el-Hibri, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000, in *Arab Studies Journal*, Vols. IX no. 2; X no. 1. Fall 2001/ Spring 2002

## **SERVICE:**

### **Service to the University**

Member in the University Student Life Committee fall 2011-  
Introducing David Relin, the author of *Three Cups of Tea*, Cultural Crossing spring  
2008  
Leading a book discussion on *Three Cups of Tea*, Cultural Crossings, spring 2008  
Helping CSU's Michael Swartz Library in acquiring new Reference books in Arabic,  
fall 2006-fall 2007

### **College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

Member, Middle Eastern Studies Steering Committee 2006-  
Member, Classical and Medieval Studies 2006-2008

### **Department of Modern Languages**

Member, Spanish Search Committee 2011-2012  
Member, program committee 2010-2013  
Supervisor of the FLTA students 2007-2008  
MLA member in the CLAM search committee 2008  
Member, departmental Self-study 2007-2008  
Member, Graduate committee 2007-2008  
Substitute for the MLA member in the CLAM search committee 2007  
Coordinator of the Arabic Program 2007-  
Secretary of the Department 2006-2007

### **Service to the Profession**

Member of the Editorial Board, The Digest of Middle East Studies 2011-  
Moderator, "Preparing Citizens for a Global Democracy," CSU, February 2008  
Panel chair and discussant, Ohio Academy of History conference, University of  
Dayton April 2008  
Reviewer, "Developing Jewish Identity Across Borders: The Epistolary Relationship  
between Rabbi Isaac Klein and American Jewish Servicemen during World War  
II," in Antonio Medina-Rivera and Lee Wilberschied, Eds. (2011). *In, Out and  
Beyond: Studies on Border Confrontation, Resolutions and Encounters*.  
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

### **Professional Affiliations**

The Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS) Since 2012  
Modern Languages Association (MLA) Since 2012  
American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA) since 2007  
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) since 2010  
Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) since 2002  
American Oriental Society (AOE) since 2007

**Community Service**

Giving a Series of Talks about Islam, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, OH fall 2011

Editing the New Visitor Guide in Arabic for the Cleveland Museum of Art fall 2010

Introducing Dr. Khaled Abu al-Fadl, City Hall Series, fall 2007

Arranging Stand-up comedy Event at CSU spring 2008

Arranging Arab Festival at CSU spring 2008

Discussion of the play "My Name is Rachel Corrie" at the Cleveland Public Theatre, spring 2007

Serving as a consultant for the lawyer Thomas Gilbert regarding a political asylum case, spring 2007

Advisor of the Arab student Union, 2007-

Advisor of the Pakistani student Union, 2007-2008

**LANGUAGES:** Fluent in Arabic and Hebrew (reading, listening, speaking, and writing), and Working Knowledge in German, Greek, Latin, Syriac, Persian, and French.