In Honor of Charles Issawi

Charles Issawi, writing about the state of his art during the period 1949-50, notes: "Much to my surprise, I was informed that I was a Middle Eastern expert and immediately set about to learn something about the region.... If asked a wise and urbane Iranian, Tāghí Nāyr... what were the best sources on the economy of Iran?... He replied, "The best source is still Herodotus," Thanks to Issawi’s creative efforts and the work of many generations of well-tutored students, who he lovingly called his “children,” the world knows significantly more today about the Middle East.

Charles Issawi is a pioneer and one of the foremost scholars in studies of economic history and economic development in the Middle East and North Africa. In reference to a brilliant and incredibly productive career, he humorously states that "I have written about all the countries that Alexander the Great conquered." Issawi has conquered the hearts of all of us who have been fortunate to be his students, friends or colleagues.

He was born in Cairo, Egypt of Syro-Lebanese parents on March 25, 1919 and was educated at Victoria College, Alexandria and Magdalen College, Oxford, receiving a B.A. degree from the latter. He obtained his B.A. degree (First Class Honours) from Oxford University in 1937 and his M.A. in 1944. In 1946, he married Jamais Marie Hilde, a brilliant partner and a great supporter of Issawi and his students. Issawi taught economics and political science at the American University of Beirut during 1943-47 and served as a visiting lecturer at Harvard in 1950 and Columbia in 1955-55. In 1955 he joined Columbia full-time in the Department of Economics and the Middle East Institute. He was Director of the Middle East Institute in 1962-64, and became Ragnar Nurkse Professor of Economics in 1964. He joined Princeton in 1973, and has been Bayard Dodge Professor in Near Eastern Studies since. Most of his working life has been spent in academia.
but he also worked for a number of governmental organizations, and been engaged in policy-oriented research. He worked at the Ministry of Finance in Cairo in 1937-38 and at the National Bank of Egypt in 1938-43. In 1945 he joined the United Nations Secretariat in New York as a member and then head of the Middle East Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and served as a member of the U.N. Economic Survey Mission for the Middle East in 1949.

Charles Issawi became president of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) in 1973. In 1974, along with other colleagues, Issawi founded the Middle East Economic Association, our organization. He has served on the Editorial Board of many journals including International Journal of Middle East Studies, Middle East Journal, Journal of Energy and Development, World Politics, International Affairs, and American Journal of Arab Studies as well as several series of publications by Columbia and Princeton Universities. He has served as a consultant to the UN and the FAO and on numerous academic bodies including the Social Science Research Council.

His numerous books include three major volumes about Egypt: Egypt: Economic and Social Analysis (1947); Egypt, at Mid-Century (1954); and Egypt in Revolution (1963). His four volumes on economic history of the Middle East in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are classic National and works of major importance. The Economic History of the Middle East: 1800-1914 appeared in 1966 and was followed by The Economic History of Iran, 1800-1914, in 1971; The Economic History of Turkey, 1800-1914, in 1980; and The Fertile Crescent: 1800-1914, in 1986. Another part of his works deals with oil: The Economics of Middle Eastern Oil (coauthored with M. Yeganeh) was published in 1962, and Oil, the Middle East, and the World in 1972.


Charles Issawi continues to be a major source of inspiration and encouragement in the study of Middle East.

Patemeh Moghadam
Manouchker Farvin

Minutes of MEEA's Business Meeting
held in Anaheim, CA on January 6, 1993

The meeting was called to order by the President.

1. It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of the 1992 business meeting.

2. The Executive Secretary reported that the number of sessions allocated to MEEA by ASSA was set at 30 (ten) sessions. This and the desire to maintain high quality papers prompted the Program Committee to reject about 15 proposals. The effort of the Program Committee was acknowledged.

3. MEEA like other associations suffers from the problems of no shows. Current MEEA policy is to deny listing on the program for one year of any paper that failed to participate in his/her scheduled session. The thrust of the discussion indicated that the process be tightened further.

4. The Executive Secretary reported on the meeting of ASSA executive secretaries which dealt with requirements governing new association; ASSA's future meeting site; and the number of sessions in 1993.

5. In response to the Eastern Economic Association's invitation that MEEA organize a session at their annual meeting, Karen Pfeifer agreed to accept the responsibility to organize such a session.

6. Karen Pfeifer agreed to circulate proposed topics for the Annual for consideration. Members were encouraged to send her their suggestions.

7. It was suggested that the responsibilities of the program committee be included in the revised By-Laws.

8. The Treasurer reported that MEEA's financial position was sound.

9. The World Bank's research project on the Middle East was discussed. The sense of the meeting was that

continued on page 5
Middle East Economic Association Annual Meeting
in conjunction with Allied Social Science Association
January 3-5, 1994  Sheraton Hotel, Boston, MA

Monday, January 3, 1994

8:00-10:00 A.M.
Sheraton Liberty F

DIMENSIONS OF THE ECONOMICS OF ISLAM AND THE MUSLIM WORLD

Presenting:
Abbas Almasrani, University of Vermont

Juma K.S., University of Malaya, Malaysia – A New Old View on Riba

Mahmoud Youssef, University of Northern Iowa, and Sobhrab Abizadeh, University of Winnipeg, Canada – Interest-Free Banking: Further Empirical Evidence

Abdel-Rahman Badr, San Diego State University – Investment Under Profit-Sharing Contracts: A Problem of Asymmetric Information

Alex Vivas, McGill University, Canada, and Amer Al-Roubaie, Concordia University, Canada – Economic of Satellite Broadcasting and Development in the Muslim World

Shafiq Alvi and Amer Al-Roubaie, Concordia University, Canada – Human Capital Resources and Growth Prospects in the Muslim World

Discussants:
Sobhrab Abizadeh, Dinman University
Abbas Almasrani, University of Vermont

3:15-5:15 P.M.
Sheraton Liberty F

THE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION OF THE IRANIAN ECONOMY

Presenting:
Shah Mehrabi, Montgomery College

Cyrus Blume, Harvard University – Global Integration; The Fragility of the Iranian Economy

Reza Fazeli, University of Rehoboth – International Integration and Income Distribution in Iran

Rafat Fazeli, University of Rehoboth – International and Domestic Determinants of a Gender Based Division of Labour in Iran

Farhoud Raisdana, United Nations University – Structural-Functional Change in Capital Formation and Falling of Economic Development in Iran in 1980s

Hamid Zanganeh, Widener University – Iran’s Regional Ties and Cooperation

Discussants:
Fatemeh Mehdouman, Hofstra University
Behzad Yaghmaian, Renseko College

10:15-12:15 P.M.
Sheraton Liberty G

EGYPT’S ECONOMY: DOMESTIC ISSUES AND INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

Presenting:
Galal A. Amin, American University in Cairo

Jeffrey R. Nugent, University of Southern California, and Abba M. Abulof, American University in Cairo – The Role of Barter Trade in Promoting Non-Traditional Exports: A Note on the Egyptian Experience

Michael D. Nunn, New York University – Egypt’s Current Military Industrialization Drive

Hans Lodge, American University in Cairo – A Short-Run Real Financial CCE Model for Egypt: Structure and Analysis of Recent Economic Reforms

Elia H. Tuma, University of California, Davis – The Suez Canal in the Political Economy of the Middle East

Discussants:
Galal A. Amin, American University in Cairo
Salih Alvi, Concordia University, Canada

HOUSING INSTRUCTIONS

SEND HOUSING FORM TO:
ASSA Housing Bureau, Suite 400
ASSA, 205 Canton Street
Boston, MA 02110

It is important that you return the hotel reservation form to the ASSA Housing Bureau, no later than December 3, 1993. Do not send to the ASSA office. Requests received after this date will be processed at a special rate. For inquiries, cancellations or questions, please call the ASSA HOUSING BUREAU at (617) 358-6925 or (617) 358-6931. Reservations cannot be made by telephone.

This year the hotel directory will be generated from the hotel reservation forms. You will receive your directory through the ASSA Housing Bureau by November 30. You will be listed in the directory.
Tuesday, January 4, 1994

2:30-4:30 P.M. Sheraton Liberty F

LABOR MARKET, WAGES AND INCOME DISTRIBUTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Presiding:
Rafat Fazeli, University of Redlands

Gulfur Muradoglu Senali, Bilkent University, Turkey – Differences in Household Savings Behavior: Evidence from Industrial and Developing Countries

Ayse Tanbol, Middle East Technical University, Turkey – Wage Earners and Moonlighting in Turkey: Further Results

Erol H. Cakmak and Stanislav M. Kot, Bilkent University, Turkey – A Multifactor Probabilistic Model of Income Distribution for Turkey

Ayse Erpin, New School for Social Research – Prices of Production and Profit Rate in the Turkish Economy

Suleyman Ozmen, Bogazici University, Turkey – Pricing and Income Distribution: The Turkish Case

Discussants:
Robin Barlow, University of Michigan
Haluk Erli, North Carolina State University

5:30-6:30 P.M. Sheraton Independence West

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Presiding:
Abbas Almasrari, University of Vermont

Charles Issawi, Princeton University

As It Was Then: Laying the Middle East Economies in the 1940s

8:00-10:00 P.M. Sheraton Liberty F

IDEOLOGY, RELIGION AND ECONOMIC DISCOURSE

Presiding:
Jeffrey N. Nugent, University of Southern California

Galal A. Amin, American University in Cairo – The Economic and Social Roots of Fundamentalism: A Study in Economic and Social History of Egypt

Hamid Hosseini, King’s College – Religious, Altruism and Cognitive Dissonance: How Does Homo-Islamicus Behave?

Kamran Badrkhah, Northeastern University – An Economic Analysis of the Extent and Limits of Ownership in Shi’i Islam

Mansourer Farzin, University of Akron and Hossein Akhavi-Pour, Hamline University – Ideology and Economics: The Case of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Mohammad Movahh, Bu Ali Sina University, Iran – The Study of Iranian Urban and Rural Households’ Consumption during the Recent Two Decades

Discussants:
Nora Ann Colton, Drew University

Abdullah Ferdowsi, Ferris State University

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF NATURAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Presiding:
Hossein Farzin, Georgetown University

Saeed Rahmna, Queen’s University, Canada – Development with Underdeveloped Resource in the Middle East

Hassan Hakimian and Masoud Karshenas, University of London – An Appraisal of Food Policy in the Middle East

Bassam Abu-Zaif, University of Utah – The River Jordan Water for Whom: A New Challenge in the Nineties

Djavad Suleh-Bahani, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University – Domestic Pricing of Petroleum Products in Iran

Saad Nazhat Hassan, University of Kentucky – Some Aspects of Politics in Iraq (1958-1980)

Discussants:
Nahid Atalibeign, Munnmouth College

3:00 P.M.

BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Shenandoah Republic A
Wednesday, January 5, 1994

8:00 A.M.
Sheraton Liberty F

LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Presiding:
Navafat Umari, University of Denver
Sara Roy, Harvard University – The Gaza Strip: A Study in Economic De-development

Gil Fishler, Tel Aviv University, Israel – Development of the Economy in the Event of Palestinian Autonomy: The Labor Sector

Abbas A. Tabari, University of Wisconsin Centers – Urbanization, Migration and Economic Growth: Evidence from Pre-Revolution Iran

Nora Ann Colton, Drew University – Labor Mobility, Trade and the Home Economy: the Case of the Republic of Yemen

Zehra Kasnakoglu, Middle East Technical University, Turkey – An Empirical Analysis of Female Occupation: Income and Fertility in Turkey

Discussions:
Navafat Umari, University of Denver
Asit Tansel, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

10:15-12:00 Noon
Sheraton Liberty F

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND GROWTH IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Presiding:
Mehmet Ozbek, Skidmore College

Patrick A. McNulty, University College, Ireland – Negotiating Out of Conflict: Playing Chicken with Volunteers: The Case of the Lebanon

Ghassan Dib, University of Texas at Austin – The Political Economy of Central Banking in Lebanon

Louis G. Hobeika, The World Bank – Beirut as a Regional Financial Center

A. Erikk Tveitan, Bilikent University, Turkey, and Jerry L. Ross, University of Minnesota – The Interface of Industrialization, Fiscal and Environmental Policies in a CEG Model for Turkey

Osmar Zaim, Bilikent University, Turkey – The Impact of Financial Liberalization on Efficiency and Technical Change: A Case Study on the Turkish Banking Sector

Discussions:
Salman Al-Qudsi, University of California – Davis

Mehmet Ozbek, Skidmore College

2:30 P.M.
Sheraton Liberty F

EXCHANGE RATES, INTEREST RATES AND CENTRAL BANKING IN TURKEY

Presiding:
E. Mina Cinar, Loyola University of Chicago

Faten Tauskan, Bilikent University, Turkey – Monetary Approach to Exchange Rate Determination and Turkey’s Experience with Floating Exchange Rates

Hüla Calisir, Central Bank of Turkey – The Term Structure and the Determinants of Interest Rates in Turkey

Zerrin Gurgenci, Central Bank of Turkey – The Return to the Primary Issues of the Treasury Bills in Turkey

Farkh Salkic, Bilikent University, Turkey – Monetary Shocks and Real Exchange Rates in Turkey

Gevhur Ozvit, Central Bank of Turkey – Trends, Cycles and Seasonality in Industrial Production and Price Indices in Turkey: Forecasting with Structural Models (Unobserved Component Model)

Discussions:
Guzin Erlat, North Carolina State University

Louis G. Hobeika, The World Bank

Minutes continued

MEEA as an organization should not be involved and that interested members could contact the Bank as individuals.

Concerns were voiced that certain issues are not being addressed at the regular sessions and that perhaps these issues be developed at the annual meeting and for some of the sessions. It was suggested that such "neglected" issues be communicated to the Editor of the MEEA Newsletter in the hope of generating wider interest. It was also suggested that the MEEA president invite individuals to address these issues outside the regular sessions.

It was suggested that we need to have a plenary session to provide an occasion for the members to meet. As things stand now the business meeting is the only forum where all members may attend and participate.

It was suggested that MEEA should consider the publication of its own journal. It was suggested also that the concept of Annals is adequate for the time being.

Members were urged to send news of their activities and accomplishments to the Editor of the Newsletter.

A suggestion was made that a data bank of MEEA members be developed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.
Announcements

ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT
Election of Board of Directors and Officers
The election of members of the Board of Directors and officers of MEEA will be held in the
Business Meeting
5:30 p.m., January 4, 1994
Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston
The Board of Directors consists of the president, executive secretary, treasurer and four other members, one of whom is a student if a candidate is available. The Board also includes the past president.
The Directors will be elected by the members at the annual meeting.
Nominations may be sent to the Executive Secretary prior to the meeting or be made at the meeting.

CALL FOR PAPERS
MEEA Annual, 1994
If you are working on a topic which fits into the outline described below, you are invited to submit a manuscript to be considered for inclusion in the first MEEA Annual volume. Decisions on papers to be included will be made by a committee of blind referees appointed by the MEEA Board of Directors. Send manuscripts to Karen Pfister, Department of Economics, Smith College, Northampton MA 01063. Deadline is January 31, 1994.

General Topic:
The Changing Role of the State in the Economics of the Middle East

Subtopics:
1. Introduction: “Civil Society and Civil Economics”
2. “The Promise and Problems of Privatization”
3. “Monetary and Fiscal Policy—the New Realities”
4. “Oil and the Rentier State”
5. “Industrial Policy and Industrialization”
6. “Public Investment and the Deployment of Human Resources”
7. “Agricultural Policy and Internationalization”
8. “Free Trade or Managed Trade? The Role of the State in the Global Economic System”

Note: not all of these subtopics will necessarily be covered. Manuscripts will be evaluated for their quality and how well they fit together to make a coherent volume.

CALL FOR PRE-ORGANIZED PANELS
MEEA at EEA, Boston MA, March 18-20, 1994
The Middle East Economic Association has again been invited to present as many as three panels at the Eastern Economics Association meetings, to be held at Boston, Massachusetts, Friday through Sunday, March 18 to 20, 1994.

The most efficient way to organize our participation is for those of you working in groups, or who know each other’s current work and would like an opportunity to have a forum to discuss three or four people’s work to form your own panels. It is not possible at this time for MEEA to process proposals for individual papers one by one.
Proposals for pre-organized panels should be submitted to Karen Pfister, Department of Economics, Smith College, Northampton MA 01063. The deadline is December 1, 1993, and participants will be notified by January 15, 1994.

SSRC FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS ON MIDDLE EAST
The Social Science Research Council, with support from the U.S. Information Agency Near and Middle East Research and Training Act, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is providing support for research and training on the Near and Middle East in the social sciences and humanities through the following programs:

Fellowships for Scholars
Postdoctoral Fellowships for Under-Represented Disciplines in Middle East Studies
Fellowships are offered to scholars for periods from two months to one academic year engaged in advanced research requiring fieldwork in the Middle East. Up to 10 advanced research fellowships may be awarded for the 1994-95 academic year. Scholars who are U.S. Citizens or permanent legal residents and who hold the Ph.D. in a social science or humanities discipline are eligible to apply. Scholars who are less than 30 years past the Ph.D. are particularly encouraged to apply. 
Application Deadline: December 1, 1993.

Mid-Career Skills Enrichment Program for Tenured Faculty
Fellowships are offered for periods from two months to a full academic year to tenured associate and full professors for research in a Middle Eastern country in which they have not previously studied, and/or for training in a new field, discipline, or method, to enhance their ability to conduct research in geographic areas with which they are already familiar. Applications focusing on countries and sub-regions which are currently understudied are particularly encouraged. Up to 6 mid-career skills enrichment fellowships may be awarded for the 1994-95 academic year. Scholars who are U.S. Citizens or permanent legal residents and who hold the Ph.D. in a social science or humanities discipline and are tenured associate or full professors are eligible to apply. 
Application Deadline: December 1, 1993

SSRC also provides the following fellowships for Graduate Students.
Fellowships for Graduate Students Pre-Dissertation Research and Training Fellowships and Dissertation Research Fellowships for Under-Represented Disciplines in Middle East Studies

Training Seminars on Theory and Methods in Middle East Studies: An annual graduate student seminar focusing on specific thematic problems in and/or specific methodological approaches to the study of the Middle East.

For further information and application forms for the grant program of specific interest to you, contact:

The Near and Middle East Program
Social Science Research Council
605 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10158

Tel: (212) 661-3286
Fax: (212) 370-7886

PAMPHLET SERIES BY MIDDLE EAST REPORT

Human Rights in the Middle East is a special pamphlet series from the publisher of Middle East Report, an independent, bimonthly magazine providing context, background, and analysis of the issues facing the peace and justice community today. The four-part series offers concise overviews of the status of religious freedom, academic freedom, press rights and women’s rights in the Middle East. To order, or for more information, contact Esther Merves, Circulation Director, MERIP, Suite 119, 1560 Mass. Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 223-3617.

TEDREC AND AMER ORGANIZED AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE


TEDREC was established in 1990 with the main purpose of dealing with problems related to the interaction of technological development and economic development issues. AMER is a non-profit independent body established in Sydney to advance scientific and economic frontiers of Middle East countries and to enhance academic relationships with Australia, New Zealand and neighbouring countries.

News About Members


Hoonhaeng Amirmohamadi, Rutgers, edited/co-edited United States and the Middle East: A Search for new Perspectives, State University of New York Press: Reconstruction and Regional Diplomacy in the Persian Gulf, Routledge and Iran and the Arab World, St. Martin’s Press. He also published the article “Toward a Multi-Cap Approach to Medium-Term Economic Growth in Iran”, Journal of Orient, the Oriental Institute, Germany. Amirmohamadi presented a paper on “Industrial Hazards of War: Recovery from the Iran-Iraq War” at an International Conference in Japan. He also spent two weeks in Iran setting up a project focusing on regional vulnerability analysis.


New Members 1993

Aghazadeh, Mrs. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Al-Hassan, Ahmed, Freddie, NJ
Al-Hashimi, Fawzi, City of London Polytechnic, UK
Cattan, Nora, Drexel University, Madison, NJ
Dakhil, Karim, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
Dawar, Tariq, University of British Columbia, Canada
Elin, Aiman, New School for Social Research, New York, NY
Gurgenci, Zerrin, Central Bank of Turkey, Ankara, Turkey
Hassan, Mohammed A., Memphis, TN
Hart, Gordon, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Kurban, Ali, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL
Krugman, Hoven, American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt
Oessen, Mahmud, Teachers College, Barstoga Springs, NY
Onnour, Sayyed, Bupaghi University, Isfahan, Turkey
Rafiee, Mohamm, Center for Educational Development, Washington, DC
Sahebi, Shahar, D.C., Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Yedano, Emric, Bielmont University, Ankara, Turkey
Youssif, Mohamm, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA
Zohiri, Mohammed Ali, Laval University, QC

New and Recent Titles

As part of the information services to MEBA Members the Newsletter will announce new titles on the political economy of the Middle East. We renew our request to publishers to send us copies of new titles on the political economy of the Middle East.

Deegan, Heather, The Middle East and Problems of Democracy, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1994)
Faris, Mohammed A. and Mohamud Hassan Khan, (eds.), Sustainable Agriculture in Egypt, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993)
Moghadam, Valentine M., Modernizing Women: Gender and Social Change in the Middle East, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993)
Nihal, Tim and Emma Murphy (eds.), Economic and Political Liberation in the Middle East, (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1993)
Safwat, Azzam, Islamic Development Policy: The Agrarian Question in Iran, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993)
Zarrouk, J. William (ed.), Tunisia, in Political Economy of Reform, (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1993)