

AHEA Conference

14-17 April 2011

John Carroll University, University Hts. (Cleveland), Ohio USA

AHEA OPENING NIGHT KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Ahmet Yükleýen

“Localizing Islam in Europe: Challenges and Opportunities of Islamic Pluralism”

Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Dolan Center for Science and Technology,

in the Donahue Auditorium, JCU campus,

Free and open to the public, all welcome.

Islam has become a source of challenge and opportunity to examine pluralism in Europe in the 21st century. Transnational Islamic movements do not simply transplant religious extremism from their countries of origin, nor do they necessarily conform to all of the European liberal values. This lecture compares how Islamic movements promote or resist pluralism in the context of Europe. Dr. Yükleýen will give particular attention to Hungary in his lecture.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Ahmet Yükleýen is Croft Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Mississippi. He studied international relations at Bilkent University and completed his MA degree at the Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver. He received his Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from Boston University in 2006. His dissertation research in Germany and the Netherlands in 2003-2004 was funded by grants from Wenner Gren Foundation, United States Institute of Peace, and Dutch Council of Higher Education. He has a forthcoming book titled *Localizing Islam in Europe: Turkish Islamic Communities in Germany and the Netherlands* to be published by Syracuse University Press. He has published articles in journals such as the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Contemporary Islam*, *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, and *Turkish Studies*.

Dr. Yükleýen’s research interests include anthropology of religion, ethnicity, Muslims in Europe, Islamic movements, and multiculturalism. He has taught at Tufts University and joined the faculty of the Sociology and Anthropology department at the University of Mississippi in 2006 where he is also affiliated with the Croft Institute for International Studies. He teaches courses on cultural anthropology, ethnic and religious identity politics in Europe, and Muslims in Western Europe and the United States.

ABOUT THE OPENING LECTURE

AHEA's JCU local organizing committee representatives and the MES Program (JCU's Modern European Studies Program) committee members, cognizant of the importance of Islam in Europe today, decided to host a co-operative lecture with the JCU Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies. The result was our co-operative invitation of a well known scholar of Islamic Studies, Dr. Ahmet Yükleven, as the opening night keynote speaker for AHEA. The Director of the Center for Global Education as well as the President and Board members of the local Northeast Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association also assisted with the planning.

Islam constitutes the second largest religion in the world. Today in the United States, it is the "hot topic" of the moment. American universities, in an attempt to respond to students' tremendous demand for more information about Islam, have established a variety of institutes, centers and chairs for the academic pursuit of Islamic studies. John Carroll University has joined this movement and has successfully established the Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies in 2003 to provide its students with balanced and responsible academic information about this important topic. Participation in the programs and courses of the Nursi Chair are open to people of all backgrounds.

The Center for Global Education and the **Northeast Ohio Chapter of the Fulbright Association** have made generous financial contributions supporting this lecture. Additional support has been provided by the **JCU Modern European Studies Program (MES)** as well as the **JCU Department of Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures (CMLC)**.