

The Supernatural, Healing and Mental Health in Contemporary Middle East

Workshop

07 - 08 July 2023

Schillerplatz 17/Room 00.13



Photo: E. Spät

Beseeching, creating channels to communicate with or attempting to manipulate the Supernatural to heal mental and physical sickness, avert calamities, ensure success, gain love, solve difficulties or learn the hidden cause of various troubles has always been a traditional part of Middle Eastern religious and socio-cultural traditions. Various divinatory and healing practices, and associated beliefs often have a long history, their roots reaching back through centuries. Their exact form, interpretation and evaluation, however, was (and is) constantly changing, reflecting transformations in the social environment. The aim of the workshop will be to examine the ways by which notions of communication between the human and the Supernatural spheres and related healing/divinatory practices form an integral part of lived religion and religio-ritual life in today's Middle East.

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