



FACULTY OF ARTS  
Charles University



# Middle East Lecture Series

## “Orientalism, the Ottoman Empire, and Turkey: An Ambiguous and Multilayered Context”

**Prof. Edhem ELDEM**

**(Boğaziçi University and Collège de France)**



**Summary:** In 1978, Edward Said published his seminal work, *Orientalism*, radically changing our understanding of the perception and representation of the East by Western ideology, politics, scholarship, and culture. Today, on the fortieth anniversary of this intellectual benchmark, it seems that orientalism is still alive and well, perhaps even further reinforced by a revived Huntingtonian perception of the world. Interestingly, however, the Ottoman Empire and Turkey were largely absent from Said’s concerns, most likely because they did not fit well into the rather clear-cut distinction between East and West on which his work was based. From westernization to Ottoman orientalism, from Kemalism to Ottoman revivalism, the Ottoman and Turkish relationship with Orientalism has followed a meandering path, full of ambiguities and contradictions, which this lecture will try to explore.

### Organized by:

Ebru Akcasu, Near Eastern and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University

Stefano Taglia, Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences

**Thu., 1 March 2018 , 17:45**

**VENUE:** Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Room 301

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