



Das Historische Institut - Zeitgeschichte -
lädt ein zum Gastvortrag von

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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

Pinar Emiralioglu (Houston)

The Ottoman Enlightenment: 'Geography' and Politics in the Long Eighteenth Century

im Rahmen des Forschungskolloquiums zur Geschichte nach 1800

(Vortrag in englischer Sprache, Fragen können auch auf Deutsch gestellt werden)

Gäste sind willkommen!

The paper will investigate the close relationship between geographical knowledge and imperial politics in the Ottoman Empire during the long eighteenth century. In doing so, it aims to challenge the traditional understanding that portrays the early modern Ottoman Empire as the *dark age* of Muslim scientific inquiry. Drawing on the works of intellectuals such as authors and translators Katip Çelebi and Ebu Bekir ibn Behram el-Dimashki, the paper will argue that Ottoman ruling elites and geographers did indeed participate in intellectual discussions, transnational networks and political developments of the eighteenth century. In their works, these geographers offered an organized and explicit definition of the science of geography for their readers and emphasized the usefulness of geographical knowledge in resolving political and military conflicts. In both regards they were influential on ruling elites during the 17th and 18th centuries, a period typically regarded as the beginning of Ottoman decline.

Pinar Emiralioglu ist Autorin von: *Geographical knowledge and imperial culture in the early modern Ottoman Empire*, Farnham 2014.

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16 –18 Uhr
Lerchenweg 36, Raum F-107**

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