

Atef S. Said

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago
(2017 – Present)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago
(2014- 2017)

Visiting Scholar, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago
(2013- 2014)

EDUCATION

University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Ph.D. Sociology, 2014

Dissertation: “The Tahrir Effect: Space, History and Protest in the Egyptian Revolution of 2011” Committee: George Steinmetz (Chair), Howard Kimeldorf, Fatma Müge Göçek, Sandra Levitsky (Members), and Juan Cole (Cognate)

Received the 2014 ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award

Masters of Arts, Sociology, 2013

The American University in Cairo

Masters of Arts, Anthropology and Sociology, 2004

Cairo University

Post- Graduate Diploma, Political Sciences, Institute of African Research and Studies, 1996

Ain Chams University. Cairo.

Bachelor of Arts L.L.B. School of Law, 1991

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2008. *Torture as a Crime Against Humanity: Study on the Applicability of International Criminal Law on the Practices of Torture in Egypt*, Hisham Mubarak Law Center, Cairo (in Arabic)

2001. *Torture in Egypt: A Judicial Reality: An Analysis of 1124 Lawsuits of Civil Compensations for Victims of Torture in Egypt*, The Human Rights Center for the

Articles (peer-reviewed journals)

Forthcoming. "The Rise and Fall of the Tahrir Repertoire: Theorizing Temporality, Trajectory, and Failure." *Social Problems*.

2016 "The Cry for Human Rights: Violence, Transition, and the Egyptian Revolution." With Nadine Naber. *Humanity Journal*. Vol 7, No 1. Spring. pp 71-90.

Re-published in Daulatzai, Sohail, and Junaid Rana (eds.). *With Stones in Our Hands: Writings on Muslims, Racism, and Empire*. University of Minnesota Press, 2018. pp. 219-243

2015 "We Ought to Be Here: Historicizing Space and Mobilization in Tahrir Square and the Egyptian Revolution of 2011." *International Sociology*. Vol 30. No 4. pp 348-366.

2012 "The Paradox of Transition to "Democracy" under Military Rule," *Social Research* Vol 79, No 2, Summer, pp 397-434.

Chapters in edited volumes and special collections (peer-reviewed)

Forthcoming. "Tahrir, and The Many Faces of Violence in the Egyptian Revolution," *In Cultural Violence and Destruction of Communities: New Theoretical Perspectives*, edited by Fiona Greenland and Fatma Müge Göçek. Routledge

2018. "Doing Research during Times of Revolution and Counterrevolution," in *Political Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa*. Oxford University Press, edited by Janine A Clark and Francesco Cavatorta.

2017 "Arab Spring, Mobilization, and Contentious Politics in the Middle East." *Oxford Bibliographies in Sociology*. Oxford University Press.

2008 "The Role of the Judges' Club in Enhancing the Independence of the Judiciary and Spurring Political Reform". Ed. Nathalie Bernard-Maugiron. *Judges and Political Reform in Egypt*, American University in Cairo Press.

Under Review

Book manuscript. *Revolution Squared: Political Space, Revolutionary Possibilities and Counter-Revolution in Egypt*.

In-Progress

Chapter, "Law, Counter-Revolution and Limits of Procedural Democracy," in the *Handbook on Law, Movements, and Social Change*, edited by Steve Boutcher (UMass Amherst), Corey Shdaimah (U of Maryland), and Michael Yarbrough (CUNY-John Jay). Edward Elgar Publishing

Chapter. "State theory and the Arab Spring uprisings." in *Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of the Middle East*, edited by Fabio Vicini and Sari Hanafi

Article "Counter-Revolution as a Sociological Category."

Article "Agency and Scale in Revolutionary Events: The Egyptian Revolution as a Case Study."

Article "A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Revolutions."

Articles (in academic newsletters and websites)

2017 "Three Lessons for Social Movement Research from the Egyptian Revolution." March 1, 2017. *Mobilizing Ideas*, an online Publication of the Center for the Study of Social Movements at the University of Notre Dame. Available in this link: <https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2017/03/01/three-lessons-for-social-movement-research-from-the-egyptian-revolution/>

2014 "Regimes and Movements: Thoughts on Contentious Politics and the Arab Spring" December 10, 2014. *Mobilizing Ideas*, an online Publication of the Center for the Study of Social Movements at the University of Notre Dame. Available in this link: <http://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2014/12/10/regimes-and-movements-thoughts-on-contentious-politics-and-the-arab-spring/>

2014 "Three Observations on Religion, Politics and the Muslim Brotherhood." April 1, 2014 *The Immanent Frame*. Social Science Research Council Blog <http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/2014/04/01/three-observations-on-religion-politics-and-the-muslim-brotherhood/>

2011 "The Egyptian Revolution: Ethnographic Notes from Tahrir." *Footnotes*, Newsletter of American Sociological Association. Vol. 39, No. 6, July/August 2011. p 4 and 8.

2011 "America in the Egyptian Revolution." April 11, 2011. *The Immanent Frame*. Social Science Research Council Blog, <http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/2011/04/11/america-in-the-egyptian-revolution/>

2007 "Global Transformations and 'Cosmopolitical' Social Science" with Michael D. Kennedy, Camilo Leslie, Allison Nau, and Hiro Saito. *Journal of the International Institute*, University of Michigan. Vol. 14, No. 2, Winter 2007.

2002 “Homosexuality and Human Rights in Egypt” Newsletter of the International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World, Leiden University, January: Issue 9.

Book Reviews

- 2018 *Popular Contention, Regime, and Transition: The Arab Revolts in Comparative Global Perspective*, by Alimi, Eitan Y., Avraham Sela, and Mario Sznajder, eds. Oxford University Press, 2016. Reviewed for *Mobilization Journal*, June 2018, Vol. 23, No. 2, pp. 260-261
- 2017 *Arab Revolution in the 21st Century?: Lessons from Egypt and Tunisia*, by Nader Fergany, Springer, 2016. Reviewed for *Contemporary Sociology*. Col 46, No 4. pp 429-431.
- 2017 “Arab Spring: Against Shallow Optimism and Pessimism.” Achcar, Gilbert. *Morbid Symptoms: Relapse in the Arab Uprising*. Stanford University Press, 2016. And *Workers and thieves: Labor movements and popular uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt*. Beinin, Joel. Stanford University Press, 2015. Reviewed for *Against the Current*, Vol 187, March/April.
- 2016 *Mobilizing Democracy: Globalization and Citizen Protest* by Paul Almeida. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014. Reviewed for *Contemporary Sociology*. Vol 4, No 1. pp 17-18.
- 2014 *Bourdieu and Historical Analysis*, edited by Philip Gorski. Duke University Press, 2013. Reviewed for *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*. Volume 55:5, pp.455-458.
- 2014 *The People Want: A Radical Exploration of the Arab Uprising*, by Glibert Achcar. University of California Press, 2013. Reviewed for *Against the Current*, v. 170, May/June. Available in this link: <http://www.solidarity-us.org/node/4166>.
- 2012 *Social Movements, Mobilization, and Contestation in the Middle East and North Africa*, edited by Joel Beinin and Frédéric Vairel. Stanford University Press, 2011. Reviewed for *Mobilization*, v. 17, Issue 4, pp 487-488.

Public Scholarship

2018-2019. “*Revolutionary Remnants: Art of Protest From The Green Movement to Occupy*.” An Art Exhibit. Curated with Kafie Rafie, Sponsored by the Social Justice Initiative, the Institute for the Humanities, the Arab American Culture Center, Department of Sociology, the Department of Art History, at UIC.

2018 “The Rise and the Decline of The Tahrir Paradigm.” Article published in Arabic, in *Maraya* Journal. Cairo-Egypt

2017 “Our Political-Scientific Responsibility against the Muslim Ban.” *Policy Trajectory*, American Sociological Association’s Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology. Available in this link: <http://policytrajectories.asa-comparative-historical.org/2017/04/our-political-scientific-responsibility-against-the-muslim-ban/>

2013 “Imperialist Liberalism and the Egyptian Revolution.” *Jadaliyya* (<http://www.jadaliyya.com/>)

2012 “A New Judicial Moment in Egypt.” *Jadaliyya* (<http://www.jadaliyya.com/>) 2011 “Egypt After the Revolution”. *US Amnesty Magazine*, June 2011.

GRANTS, AWARDS and FELLOWSHIPS

2018-2019 Fellow- The Institute for the Humanities at UIC.

2017 The 2017 Interdisciplinary Collaboration in the Arts and Humanities (ICAH) Award. The University of Illinois at Chicago for the project, “Arts of Dissent: The Fate of Unfinished Revolutions from Green Movement to Occupy Movement.” Collaborative project with Kaveh Mohammad Rafie.

2016 Post-doctoral Seminar in Critical Realism. Critical Realism Network. Yale University. June 2016.

2015 Arab Research Support Program Grant. Research Grant from Arab Reform Initiative.

2015 The 2014 *ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award*, University of Michigan Ann Arbor.

- 2014 Faculty Fellowship, the UIC Institute of Research on Race and Public Policy
- 2014 Rackham Graduate School Travel Grant, University of Michigan to participate at the conference “Conceptualizing Cyber-Urban Connections in Asia and the Middle East, National University of Singapore.
- 2012 Research Fellow. With the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology and Egyptology, The American University in Cairo.
- 2012 Rackham Centennial Spring Summer Fellowship Award. Rackham Graduate School. University of Michigan
- 2012 African Studies Initiative Research Grant. The Department of Afro- Americans and African Studies. The University of Michigan.
- 2012 Arts of Citizenship Grant. Public Scholarship Grant. University of Michigan
- 2011 Rackham Graduate School Dissertation Grant. University of Michigan.
- 2011 Rackham Graduate School International Research Award, University of Michigan.
- 2011 Dissertation Prospectus Seminar Fellowship, The Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Heidelberg University, Germany.
- 2008 Travel Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan. For: Annual Meeting of Middle Eastern Studies Association.
- 2008 Graduate Student Instructorship, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.
- 2007 Graduate Student Instructorship, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.
- 2007 Travel Grant, Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan. Human Rights NGOs meeting, Egypt.
- 2006 Travel Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan. For: Annual Meeting of Middle Eastern Studies Association.
- 2006 Graduate Student Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan

COURSES TAUGHT

SOC 585 Classical Sociological Theory. Graduate Seminar
SOC 565 Graduate Seminar in Political Sociology
SOC 565 Graduate Seminar in Political Sociology (From Social Movements to Revolutions)
SOC 465 Topics in Sociology of Politics (Arab Revolutions)
SOC 465 Topics in Sociology of Politics (Middle Eastern Societies)
SOC 465 Topics in Sociology of Politics (from Arab Spring to ISIS)
SOC 465 Topics in Sociology (Contemporary Social Movements)
SOC 385 Introduction to Sociological Theory

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 (Invited) “ *Revolution Squared: Political Space, Revolutionary Possibilities and Counter-Revolution in Egypt.* ” Two chapters presented at Politics, Culture, and Society Workshop (PCS) at the Wisconsin-Madison, February 17, 2020
- 2019 (Invited) “For a Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Revolutions,” Paper presented at the Comparative Historical Social Sciences (CHSS) Workshop, Northwestern University, November 15, 2019.
2019. “ For a Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Revolutions.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. NYC. August 10, 2019, at *Theoretical and Empirical Advances in Comparative Historical Sociology* Panel, organized by the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section
2019. “Towards a Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Revolutions.”. Paper presented at the Social Theory Workshop. Department of Sociology. The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. January 16, 2019.
2018. “Spatio-Temporality or Spatio-Temporalities of Revolution?” Fellow Lecture. The Institute for the Humanities, UIC, October 24, 2018.
2018. (Invited) “Long Revolutionary Process or Crisis in Historical Analysis: Reflections from Studying the Arab Spring Uprisings” Paper presented at The Crisis of History and the History of Crisis: The Mini-Conference of the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section. Philadelphia, August 10, 2018
- 2018 (Invited) “Studying Spatialities of a Revolution and Counter-Revolution: Some Theoretical and Methodological Reflections.” **Keynote Address** at the 2018 Annual Graduate Conference in Sociology organized by the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) at the Department of Sociology of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 20-21, 2018
- 2017 "The Rise and the Decline of the Tahrir Paradigm: Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Contemporary Egypt," A Talk as part of the colloquium of the Sociology-

Anthropology Department. Illinois Wesleyan University. November 28, 2017

- 2017 “Towards a Realist Multitemporal Perspective in the Study of Revolutions.”
Paper presented at "Beyond Positivism: Theory, Methods, and Values in Social Science Conference. Montreal. Canada. August 8 –10, 2017
- 2017 “The Spatialities of Contentious in Counter-Revolutionary Egypt.” Paper presented at the Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.” Montreal. Canada. August 12 – 15, 2017
- 2017 “Occupy Tahrir, Repertoires and the Paradoxical Limits of “Democracy”: Uses and Abuses and Lessons from the Egyptian Revolution." First *Mobilization* Conference on Social Movements and Protest: Nonviolent Strategies and the State. The conference is organized by *Mobilization: An International Quarterly*. San Diego State University on May 5-6, 2017
- 2017 (Invited) “Decolonizing Revolutionary Theory: Arab Spring Uprisings and Their Aftermath." **Public Lecture**. Organized by the Social Justice Institute and The Critical Racial and Anti-Colonial Studies (CRACS) Research Network at the University of British Columbia-- Vancouver, Canada. January 26, 2017.
- 2016 (Invited) “Shades of Defeat: Emotions in the Egyptian Revolution. Paper presented at the four-day workshop “After Tahrir: Egyptian Revolutionary Experiences and Future Visions. University of California at Santa Barbara- January 22-January 26, 2016.
- 2015 “The Virtual Making of Tahrir: Social Media and the Egyptian Revolution of 2011.” Paper at Social Media, Activism and Organizations conference (SAMO15), at Goldsmiths, University of London, November 6, 2015.
- 2015 (Invited) “Tahrir Square, Cairo and Making of the Egyptian Revolution of 2011.” Paper Presented at Cities Across the Globe: People and Places Across Borders. Conference organized by the Great Cities Institute, UIC. September 7-8, 2015.
- 2015 “Toward a processual/micro-contingency approach to the study of revolutionary events: The case of the Egyptian Revolution of 2011. Paper at the 7th Annual Seminar at the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, Bielefeld Germany, June 29-July 1, 2015
- 2015 “U.S. Imperial Sovereignty, Imperial Subjecthood and the No Man’s Jurisdiction” Practices of Order: Colonial and Imperial Projects conference. University of Copenhagen, Denmark, 28-30 January 2015.

- 2014 (Invited) “Spatiality of the Arab Spring and its Aftermath.” Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies (CMENAS), University of Michigan.
- 2014 “The Virtual Making of Tahrir: Social Media and the Egyptian Revolution of 2011”, Conceptualizing Cyber-Urban Connections in Asia and the Middle East. Conference Organized by Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- 2013 “The Power of Tahrir Square: a Spatio-Cognitive Analysis of Tahrir Protests in the Egyptian Revolution of 2011.” The Fourth Annual Young Scholars in Social Movements conference, University of Notre Dame, IN.
- 2012 (Invited) “The paradox of Transition to “Democracy” under Military Rule.” presented at Egypt in Transition, conference organized by the Center for Public Scholarship, the New School’s 28th Social Research Conference, NYC.
- 2011 “America in the Egyptian Revolution”. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2011 “The Question of Jurisdiction in the Practice of Extraordinary Rendition”. Annual Meeting of Law and Society Association. San Francisco, California. 2010
- 2010 “Human Rights, Imperial Sovereignty, and Extraordinary Rendition”. Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association. San Antonio, Texas.
- 2010 (Invited) “Imperial Sovereignty, Relationality and the No-Man’s Jurisdiction: Examples from Extraordinary Rendition”. Symposium on Law, Violence and the State at the University of Southern California.
- 2010 “Sovereignty, Extraordinary Rendition and the Politics of Citizenship”. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2010 “Path-Dependence, Memory, and Abu Ghraib”. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2009 (Invited) “Law, Authoritarianism and Legitimacy in Egypt”. International

Institute for the Sociology of Law. Ontai, Spain.

- 2008 (Invited) “Non-Totalitarian Dictatorship and the Rule of Law”.
Conversation: Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law in Egypt and Iran.” Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association. Washington, D.C.
- 2008 (Invited) “The Paradoxes of Non-Totalitarian Dictatorship”.
Symposium on Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law in Egypt and Iran. The Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies. Stony Brook, Manhattan.
- 2008 “Old Wine in a New Bottle: When Egyptian Anti-Imperialism Becomes Anti-Americanism and Vice-Versa”. Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association. Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2006 “Judges' Battle for Democracy: The Case of the Judges Club in Egypt”.
Middle Eastern Association Annual Conference. Boston, Massachusetts
- 2004 “Muslim Activism in the Aftermath of September 11th 2001: State Actions-Islamists' Reactions: Case Study of the Muslim Brotherhood”. Annual meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association. San Francisco, California
- 2002 “The Faith of the Egyptian Legislator in a Changing Society: Sociological Reading for the Process of Criminalization of Five Crimes in Different Eras”. International Sociological Association Annual Congress. Sessions of the Research Committee of the Sociology of Law (participation declined). Brisbane, Australia.
- 2002 "Enacting the New Personal Status Law: Analyzing the Stances of Government and the Official Islamic Institutions in Egypt, the Case of Al-Khul". First World Congress for the Middle Eastern Studies. University of Mainz, Germany.
- 2002 "Judges' Discretion in Egypt: A Comparative Approach to Civil and Criminal Court Judges". Third Mediterranean Social and Political Research Meeting. European University Institute. Florence, Italy.
- 2001 “An Analysis of the Social Movement in the World Trade Organization Meeting in Seattle.” University of Vigo, Spain.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- 2002 “The Tenth United Nations Preparatory Commission of the Establishment of the

International Criminal Court.” The United Nations. New York.

2000 “Workshop for Experts on Judiciary”. Sponsor: International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Rapporteur for the Independence of the Judiciary. Drafted: International Declaration on Judiciary Corruption in the World.

1999 “The Reality of the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession in Egypt and its Impacts on the Conditions of Human Rights in Egypt”. Annual Conference of Egyptian Organization for Human Rights. Oct. 1999 (in Arabic).

1998 “International Human Rights Conference”. Edmonton, Canada. Sponsors: University of Alberta and the High Commissioner for Human Rights

SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

2019-present Member in the Best Scholarly Article Award Committee, Section on Global and Transnational Sociology. The American Sociological Association.

2018-present Member, Mentoring Committee. Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section at ASA

2018-Present Member- The Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP) Editorial Committee.

2018 Member in the Edward Shils-James Coleman Memorial Award for Best Student Paper in Sociological Theory- Section on Sociological Theory. The American Sociological Association

2018 Discussant- the Comparative Historical Social Science (CHSS) conference- Northwestern University

2018 Discussant- The 20th Chicago Ethnography Conference. University of Chicago

2017-Present Faculty Fellow. Honors College. The University of Illinois at Chicago.

2017 Faculty Advisor- The 20th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference- “On the Ground: Ethnography & Contemporary Social Crises.” UIC.

- 2017 Member in the Best Scholarly Article Award Committee, Section on Global and Transnational Sociology. The American Sociological Association.
- 2017 Member in the Best Student Paper Award Committee. Section on History of Sociology. The American Sociological Association.
- 2015-2017 Member in Geographies of Justice: The Andrew Sawyer Seminar Working Group- UIC. Coordinated by Professor Barbara Ransby and UIC's Social Justice Initiative.
- 2013-Present Contributing Editor: *Mobilizing Ideas* Blog, administered by the Center for the Study of Social Movements at Notre Dame University.
- 2012-Present Occasional Reviewer for the following journals: American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Journal in Comparative Studies in Society and History, Contemporary Politics, Social Movement Studies, Contemporary Sociology, Mobilization, the International Journal of Comparative Sociology and Qualitative Sociology.
- 2010-Present Member of the Interdisciplinary research group, "Law and Colonialism/ the *Anti-Colonial Machine*." with Professors Denise da Silva (University of British Columbia) Fred Moten (New York University), Dylan Rodríguez (University of California at Riverside), Colin Dayan (Vanderbilt University), Sora Han (University of California at Irvine), and David Lloyd (University of California at Riverside), and J. Kameron Carter (Indiana University at Bloomington)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
 American Studies Association
 Law and Society Association
 Middle Eastern Studies Association
 Social Science History Association