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Nabil Matar, University of Minnesota:

**“Mediterranean Captivities in the Arabic Archive”**

Abstract:

The study of captivity in the early modern Mediterranean has largely relied on European and Ottoman sources. The Arabic archive furnishes further information about captives from the perspective of the multi-religious peoples in regions extending from Morocco to Syria. This paper examines the Arabic accounts of captivity of a Christian from Mount Lebanon, a Jew from Izmir, and numerous Muslims who fell victim to attacks by European and North African pirates.

Bio:

Nabil Matar received his BA and MA from the American University of Beirut, and his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. He is Presidential Professor in the President's Interdisciplinary Initiative on Arts and Humanities at the University of Minnesota and the Samuel Russell Chair in the Humanities. He is author of the trilogy: *Islam in Britain, 1558-1685* (Cambridge University Press, 1998), *Turks, Moors and Englishmen in the Age of Discovery* (Columbia University Press, 1999), and *Britain and Barbary, 1589-1689* (University Press of Florida, 2005). His second trilogy is on *Arabs and Europeans in the early modern Mediterranean World: In the Lands of the Christians* (Routledge, 2003), *Europe through Arab Eyes, 1578-1727* (Columbia University Press, 2009); and *A Moroccan Ambassador in the Mediterranean*, abridged, translated, and introduced (Routledge, 2015). His other publications include: *Britain and the Islamic World, 1558-1713*, with Gerald MacLean (Oxford University Press, 2011); *Through the Eyes of the Beholder: the Holy Land, 1517-1713*, co-edited with Judy Hayden, (Brill, 2012); *Henry Stubbe and the Beginnings of Islam* (Columbia University Press, 2013); *British Captives in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, 1563-1760* (Brill, 2014); and *The United States through Arab Eyes: An Anthology, 1876-1914* (Edinburgh University Press, 2018). His most recent book is *Mediterranean Captivity through Arab Eyes, 1517-1798* (Brill, 2021). His forthcoming book is on *Luther and the Papacy through Arab Eyes, 1517-1798* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2023). Professor Matar has been a recipient of grants from the British Council, Fulbright, the British Academy, and École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales. In 2017, he was awarded the most prestigious prize of the “Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences” for his life-long contribution to “the dialogue of civilizations.”