Chihab El Khachab

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Academic Positions

- 2020-2023: British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (FAMES), University of Cambridge
- 2016-2020: Junior Research Fellow in Anthropology, Christ Church, University of Oxford

Education

- 2012-2017: D.Phil. in Anthropology, Wolfson College, University of Oxford
- 2008-2012: Joint Honors B.A. in Anthropology and Sociology, awarded *summa cum laude*, University of Ottawa
  - 2011-2012: Visiting student at the Faculty of Arts, McGill University (Montreal)
  - 2011: Student exchange at the Department of Sociology, University of Washington (Seattle, USA), January-March 2011
  - 2010: Student exchange at the Department of Anthropology, Université de Provence (Aix-en-Provence, France), January-June 2010

Book

- (Forthcoming October 2020): *Making Film in Egypt: How Labor, Technology and Mediation Shape the Industry*. Cairo & New York: American University in Cairo Press

Publications (Peer-reviewed)

- (Accepted): "A Brief History of the Future of Culture in Egypt", *Journal of the African Literatures Association* (Special issue titled "Egypt in Focus: Creativity in Adversarial Contexts", edited by Nevine Nossery and Shereen Abouelnaga)
- (Accepted): "Describing the Future: Predictability, Uncertainty and Imponderability" in D. Gellner & D. Martinez. (eds). *Sociality, Matter, and the Imagination: Re-Creating Anthropology (ASA 2018 Conference)*. London: Bloomsbury
- (Accepted): "Being a (Muslim) Worker in the Egyptian Film Industry" in K. Petersen (ed.) *New Approaches to Islam in Film*. London: Routledge
- (2020): "'Est-ce que ça ne vaut pas mieux que d'être comme la Syrie et l'Irak?' Les caractères nationaux vus par la caricature numérique égyptienne sur Facebook" in R. Jacquemond & F. Lagrange (éds.) *Culture Pop en Égypte : Entre mainstream commercial et contestation*. Paris : Éditions Riveneuve
- 2019: "The Sobky Recipe and the Struggle over 'the Popular' in Egypt", *Arab Studies Journal*, 27 (1): 34-61
- 2017: "Compressing Scales: Characters and Situations in Egyptian Internet Humor", *Middle East Critique*, 26 (4): 331-353
- 2017: "State Control over Film Production in Egypt", *Arab Media & Society*, 23 (Winter/Spring)
- 2016: "'What Does it Look Like?': On the Use of Intermediary Images in Egyptian Film Production", *Visual Anthropology Review*, 32 (2): 167-179
- 2016: "Living in Darkness: Internet Humour and the Politics of Egypt's Electricity Infrastructure", *Anthropology Today*, 32 (4): 21-24
- 2016: "Secular Preachers: Watching Television Pundits in Post-Revolutionary Egypt", *Anthropology Now*, 8 (1): 117-124

- 2013: "The Logical 'Goodness' of Abduction in C. S. Peirce's Thought", *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 49 (2): 157-177
- 2013: "What Becomes of Bodies on Film?", *Quarterly Review of Film and Video*, 30 (2): 173-189

Publications (Essays)

- 2018: "The Underbelly of Capital in Cairo". *Jadaliyya*, June 12th, 2018
  - An abridged version was published under the title "A World without Hope and without Despair". *Al-Ahram Weekly*, November 25th, 2018
  - A French version was republished under the title "Un monde sans espoir ni désespoir". *Al-Ahram Hebdo*, December 5th, 2018
  - The original version appeared in Spanish under the title "'Rosas venenosas' en las curtidurías de El Cairo". *El País (Africa no es un país blog)*, May 4th, 2018
- 2018: "Two Questions to Marxist Anthropology", *TripleC: Communication, Capitalism & Critique*, 16 (2): 656-665
- 2018: "Current Trends in the Anthropology of Bureaucracy – A Report", *Allegra Lab*
- 2017: "El Khachab's Technology, Labor, and Mediation in the Egyptian Film Industry", *CaMP Anthropology*.
- 2017: "Books without ending", *Christ Church Matters* (alumni magazine of Christ Church, University of Oxford), no. 40, p. 24
- 2013: "That's the Revolution??", *Romulus: Wolfson College magazine*
- 2013: "Some Thoughts about OLR #3", *Oxford Left Review*, no. 9, pp. 29-32
- 2013: Charles Carrier-Plante, "An Insight into the Repression of the Québécois Student Movement" (Translation), *Oxford Left Review*, no. 9
- 2012: "Representing Tahrir Square", *Oxford Left Review*, no. 8, pp. 11-13

Publications (Essays in Arabic)

- 2019-: "Mawsu'at al-Malal" (*The Encyclopedia of Boredom*), biweekly column on philosophical concepts in Arabic, published by the literary blog *Boring Books* **(30 articles)**
- 2019: "Al-Mu'jam al-Uruppi fil-'Amiyya al-Misriyya" (*The European Lexicon in Egyptian Colloquial Arabic*), published by the weekly literary magazine *Akhbar al-Adab*, 14th July 2019, pp. 34-35
- 2016-2018: "Al-Fahhama" (*The Explanation Machine*), weekly column on philosophical concepts in Arabic, published by the online daily newspaper *Tahrir News* **(91 articles)**
- 2018: "Ward Masmum… aw al-sinima fi makan moftares" (*Poisonous Roses... or Cinema in a Savage Place*), published by online magazine *Medina Portal*, November 25th, 2018
- 2018: "Bela Hodud" (*Unlimited*), published by Egyptian film magazine *El Film* (special commemorative issue on Youssef Chahine), 15
- 2018: "Eshme'na henak w-mesh hena" (*Why there and not here?*), published by Egyptian film magazine *El Film*, 14
- 2018: "Mat'allemtesh haga fil-Ma'had" (*I Didn't Learn Anything at the High Cinema Institute*), published by Egyptian film magazine *El-Film*, 13: 29-31
- 2017: "Nahj al-Matahif fi Nashr al-Ma'arif" (*The Method of Museums in Disseminating Knowledge*), published by Egyptian cultural magazine *Ibdaa'*, 4th series, vol. 2 (November-December 2017)
- 2017: "Al-Sha'b al-Misri sha'b wasati" (*The Egyptian people are a moderate people*), published by *Tahrir News*, July 11th, 2017

- 2017: "Al-Se'r lillah wal-Watan lil-Jami'" (*Prices belong to God, the nation belongs to all*), published by *Tahrir News*, June 8th, 2017
- 2017: "Dar el-Salaam", published by *Tahrir News*, May 11th, 2017

Publications (Translations)
- 2020: Rodney, Walter. "Al-Sulta lil-Sha'b, la lil-Diktator". *Boring Books*, published January 22nd, 2020
    - Original: Rodney, Walter. (1979). "People's Power, No Dictator". An allocution given to the Working People's Alliance in Georgetown, Guyana
- 2019: Editor and translator of a special issue on Edwar al-Kharrat, *ArabLit.org*. With contributions by Mohamed Shoair, May Telmissany, Montasser al-Kaffash, Ferial Ghazoul, and Gamal Alkassas, published December 2nd, 2019

Publications (Book Reviews)
- 2018: "Review of *Made in Egypt: Gendered Identity and Aspiration on the Globalised Shop Floor*, by L. Z. Chakravarti", *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 24 (1): 209-210
- 2017: "Review of *Far Afield: French anthropology between science and literature*, by V. Debaene", *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, 9 (3): 411-413
- 2016: "Review of *Anthropologists and their Traditions across National Borders*, edited by Regna Darnell & Frederic W. Gleach", *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, 8 (2): 283-284
- 2014: "Review of *The Anthropology of the Middle East and North Africa*, edited by Sherin Hafez & Susan Slyomovics", *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale*, 22 (4): 507-508
- 2014: "L'État en lutte", review of *Soldiers, Spies, and Statesmen* by Hazem Kandil, *Al Ahram Hebdo*, March 26th, 2014
- 2013: "Review of *Digital Ethnography*, by N. Underberg & E. Zorn", *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, 5 (1): 94-95

Conferences & Workshops
- 2020: "The Egyptian Film Industry: Labour, Technology, Mediation." Invited talk to the Film, Media, and Culture Research Group, University of Kent (United Kingdom)
- 2019: "Notes à propos de la difficulté d'étudier les archives de l'État." CEDEJ Research Seminar, Cairo (Egypt)
- 2019: "A Bureaucracy without Bureaucrats: Inside the Egyptian Governmental Sector." Workshop titled *Governance and Processes of Bureaucratization*, organized by Prof Ursula Rao and Dr Dominik Müller, University of Leipzig (Germany)
- 2018: "Coordination, Visualization, and Imagined Audiences in Egyptian Film Production." Cinema-Going in the Arab World, Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo
- 2018: "Reification and Recognition in Egyptian Film Production." Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth Annual Conference, University of Oxford (United Kingdom)
- 2018: "What is 'Egyptian' about Egyptian Cinema." British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES) Annual Conference, King's College London
- 2018: "Remediation and Translation in Egyptian Digital Caricatures", New Geographies of Visual Satire, Christ Church, Oxford (United Kingdom)
- 2018: "Methodological challenges in studying the Egyptian film industry", Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Annual Conference, Toronto (Canada)

- 2017: “Les caractères nationaux dans la caricature numérique égyptienne.” Congrès du Groupement d’Intérêt Scientifique (GIS) Moyen-Orient et Monde Méditerranéen. Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO), Paris (France)
- 2017: “Technology and Anticipation in Egyptian Film Production.” Canadian Association of Social and Cultural Anthropology (CASCA) and International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) joint meeting, University of Ottawa (Canada)
- 2017: “The Perennial ‘Crisis’ of Egyptian Film Production.” Rethinking Media through the Middle East Conference, American University in Beirut (Lebanon)
- 2016: “Rethinking State Control over Media Production in Egypt.” Middle Eastern Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston (United States)
- 2016: “Three Meanings of ‘Work’ in the Egyptian Film Industry.” European Association of Social Anthropologists Biennial Conference, Milano (Italy)
- 2016: “Managing Imponderable Problems in Egyptian Film Production.” Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth Annual Conference, University of Durham (United Kingdom)
- 2016: “*Poisonous Roses:* Interpreting Sibling Love in Contemporary Cairo.” Workshop titled *Finding Siblings in the Anthropology of the Middle East and North Africa*, organized by Dr. Mary Montgomery, London School of Economics
- 2014: “The Incorporation of Peirce in Deleuze’s *Cinema*.” Charles S. Peirce International Centennial Congress, Lowell (United States)
- 2014: “The Double Role of Media Technologies in Egyptian Film Production.” American Ethnological Society (AES) Spring Conference, Boston (United States)
- 2013: “Questioning Heidegger on Modern Technology.” Taller d’Investigacio en Filosofia XV, University of Valencia (Spain)
- 2012: “Questioning Heidegger on Essence, Potential, and Modern Technology.” Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford (United Kingdom)

Teaching

- 2020: Co-convener (with Dr. Darci Sprengel) of a DPhil/MPhil ethnographic methods seminar titled ‘Ethnographies of Arts and Performance’, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford
- 2020: Co-lecturer (with Prof. Walter Armbrust, Dr. Morgan Clarke and Dr. Zuzanna Olszewska) in the MPhil course ‘The Anthropology of the Middle East’, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology/Middle East Centre, University of Oxford
- 2017-2018: Co-convener (with Dr. Zuzanna Olszewska and Dr. Ann Wand) of a DPhil/MPhil ethnographic methods seminar titled “Ethnographies of Arts and Performance”, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford
- 2017: Co-lecturer (with Dr. Walter Armbrust) in the MPhil course “Mass Media in the Middle East”, Middle East Centre, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford
- 2015-17: Tutor in ‘Introduction to Anthropological Theory’, Hertford College & St. Peter’s College, University of Oxford
- 2015-16: Tutor in ‘Cultural Representations, Practices, and Beliefs’, St-Hugh’s College, Harris Manchester College & Hertford College, University of Oxford
- 2016: Teaching supplement to the article titled “What Does It Look Like?”, published in *Visual Anthropology Review*.

Academic Service

- 2018: Convener of the “Current Trends in the Anthropology of Bureaucracy” seminar series, Christ Church, University of Oxford

- 2017-2018: Member on the Board of Examiners, Archaeology & Anthropology undergraduate degree, University of Oxford
- 2016: Co-convener (with Kåre Poulsgaard) of the "Anthropological Approaches to Technics" seminar series, hosted by the Institute for Science, Innovation, and Society (InSIS), University of Oxford

Scholarships, Prizes and Awards

- 2018: Fieldwork grant for a project entitled "The Cultural State: Bureaucracy and Uncertainty in Post-Revolutionary Egypt", Christ Church Research Centre, University of Oxford **(5,000£)**
- 2013-2016: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Doctoral Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada **(60,000$)**
- 2012-2015: School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography Grant, University of Oxford **(30,000£)**
- 2012: University Gold Medal (awarded for the highest standing in the joint honors bachelor, honors with major and multidisciplinary programs in the Faculty of Social Sciences), University of Ottawa
- 2012: Faculty Plaque in Anthropology (awarded for the highest standing in the honors bachelor in anthropology), University of Ottawa
- 2008-2011: Admission scholarships, University of Ottawa **(12,000$)**
- 2010-2011: Killam Fellowship to study in the University of Washington (Seattle), Fulbright Canada **(5,000$)**
- 2010: Dean of Social Sciences François Houle Scholarship **(1,609$)**

Ethnographic Fieldwork

- 2018-2019: 13 months of fieldwork at the Ministry of Culture, Cairo, Egypt
- 2013-2015: 18 months of fieldwork in the Egyptian film industry, Cairo, Egypt

Languages

English: Fluent in reading, writing, and speaking
French: Fluent in reading, writing, and speaking
Arabic: Fluent in reading and speaking; Good writing knowledge
Spanish: Good reading and conversation; Basic writing knowledge
Persian: Good reading and conversation; Basic writing knowledge