



The Aga Khan Program For  
Islamic Architecture  
at  
Harvard University  
and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**INFORMAL COLLOQUIUM  
ON THE  
RELATIONSHIP OF ISLAMIC THOUGHT  
AND CULTURAL EXPRESSION**

**SATURDAY APRIL 21, 1990  
CENTER FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING STUDY  
ROOM 9 - 150**

**Presenters**

**JANET ABU-LUGHOD**

Professor of Sociology  
New School of Social Research  
New York City

**CARL BROWN**

Director  
Near Eastern Studies Program  
Princeton University

**MUHSIN MAHDI**

James Richard Jewett Professor of Arabic  
Department of Near Eastern  
Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University

**ANNEMARIE SCHIMMEL**

Professor of Indo-Muslim Culture  
Department of Near Eastern  
Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University

**BASSAM TIBI**

Head, Center for International Relations  
Georg-August Universität, Göttingen  
West Germany

**Chairpersons**

**OLEG GRABAR & RONALD LEWCOCK**

**Discussants**

**NADER ARDALAN  
OLEG GRABAR  
GULRU NECIPOGLU  
LUO XIAOWEI**

**MORNING SESSION 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
**CHAIRPERSON : OLEG GRABAR**

**SPEAKERS**

**CARL BROWN**

**The Essential Islam vs the Historical  
Islam, with Special Attention to the  
Built Environment**

**QUESTIONS**

**ANNEMARIE SCHIMMEL**

**Poetry and the Visual Arts**

**QUESTIONS**

**5 MINUTE BREAK**

**BASSAM TIBI**

**The Challenge of Modernity, Islam  
and the claim of Post - Modernism**

**QUESTIONS**

**DISCUSSANTS**

**AFTERNOON SESSION 2: 00 PM - 5:00 PM**  
**CHAIRPERSON : RONALD LEWCOCK**

**SPEAKERS**

**MUSHIN MAHDI**

**Rhetoric and the Visual Arts**

**QUESTIONS**

**JANET ABU - LUGHOD**

**The Structure of Society and  
the Visual Environment**

**QUESTIONS**

**10 MINUTE BREAK**

**DISCUSSANTS**



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**Discussants**

**Morning session:**

**Luo Xiaowei**

Professor of Architecture

Tong Ji University

Shanghai

China

**Gulru Necipoglu-Kafadar**

John L Lobe Associate Professor of Humanities

Department of Fine Arts, Harvard University

**Afternoon session:**

**Nader Ardalan, Architect**

Principal, Jung/Brannen Associates

Boston

**Oleg Grabar**

Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture

Harvard University