

Curriculum vitae

Name: Bjørn Olav Utvik
Born 27-08-54 in Haugesund.
Norwegian citizen.
Married, three children.

Degrees

Dr.art., Faculty of Arts, University of Oslo (UiO) 2000.
Cand. philol., UiO 1990. Subjects: History (*hovedfag* (extended MA)), Arabic and Economy.

Relevant Employment

2007	Consultant, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
1996-present	Associate Professor of Middle East History and Cultural Studies, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS), UiO (until 2004 Department of East-European and Oriental Studies).
Spring 1993 and spring 1995	Assistant Professor, Department of East-European and Oriental Studies, UiO.
1991-5	Research Fellow at Department of History, UiO.

Languages

Norwegian, English, Arabic, German, French, Persian

Commissions/posts

2007-present	Member of board, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages
2007	Member of Evaluation Committee for Programme of International Studies, Faculty of Social Science, UiO
2006-7	Member of committee appointed by the Rectorate for the establishment of Centre for Islamic Studies at UiO
2006-7	Member of board, Programme for Asian and African Studies
2006-present	Member of board, Programme for Religious Studies
2005	Director of Middle East and African Studies, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, UiO
2005	Member and Administrator of Evaluation Committee for Applicants for Associate Professorship in Middle East History, University of Bergen
2004-2005	Director of Programme for Religious Studies, UiO
2004-present	Member of Editorial Council for <i>Babylon</i> , journal of Middle East Studies

2002-2005	Chairman of board Oslo-Gothenburg School of Asian and African Studies (OGSAA) (a cooperative effort between UiO and Gothenburg University)
2002	Member and Administrator of Evaluation Committee for Applicants for Position of Lecturer in Middle East Studies, University of Oslo
2002	Chairman of board Programme for Asian and African Studies, UiO
2002	Head of Coordination Committee for the Introduction of the Master degree at the Faculty of Arts, UiO
2000-2002	Head of Department, Department of East-European and Oriental Studies, UiO, <i>ex officio</i> member of Faculty Board, Faculty of Arts.
1999	Vice-Head of Department, Department of East-European and Oriental Studies, UiO.
1998-2007	President, Nordic Society for Middle East Studies.
1996-2001	Director of Middle East Studies programme, Department of East-European and Oriental Studies
1996-7	Member of Committee for Studies and Education, Faculty of Arts, UiO.
1995-2007	Board Member, Nordic Society for Middle East Studies.
1994	Member of Committee for Gender Equality, Faculty of Arts, UiO.
1993-4	Member of Faculty Board, Faculty of Arts, University of Oslo.

Educational experience (highlights)

- 2005-present: programme censor, Programme for Middle East Studies, University of Bergen.
- 2004-present: developed and taught courses at master level on Problems of Democracy in the Middle East, and on Political Islam.
- 2003-4: led a major revision of Programme of Religious Studies, UiO.
- 2003: took part in teaching courses at Faculty of Social Sciences, Teheran University: PhD level (“Democracy and Despotism”), master level (“Religion and Development”), and bachelor level (“Religion and Globalisation”).
- 2002: initiated and took part in designing Programme of Asian and African Studies.
- 2002: led the preparatory work for the introduction of the Master degree at Faculty of Arts, UiO.
- 1996-present: supervised 26 dissertations for “hovedfag”/master, within various disciplines: history, history of religion, peace and conflict studies (incl. at Gothenburg University), political science, Arabic, and Middle East studies (currently eleven students under supervision).
- 1991-present: involved in designing, developing and administering courses and programmes in interdisciplinary Middle East Studies at UiO.
- 1991-present: taught courses at bachelor level in history and politics of the region, including specialised courses in political Islam.
- 1991-present: censor work at bachelor and master level in Middle East Studies at UiO and University of Bergen, as well as political science, Arabic language, history of religion, history and peace and conflict studies at UiO.
- Guest lectures: University of Bergen, Lund University, Harvard University, American University in Cairo, Centre Français d’Archéologie et de sciences Sociales (CEFAS) in Sanaa.

Research-related experience (highlights)

- 2008-present: Leader of Gulf Research Unit at University of Oslo, a five-year project under the PETROSAM programme of the Norwegian Research Council,
cf. www.hf.uio.no/ikos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/gulf-research-unit/
- 2007-present: Leader of research group on Moderate Islamism in the Middle East, a project funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
cf. www.hf.uio.no/ikos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/utvik/b_o_utvik/
- 2004-2007: Leader of research group on Socio-economic and Political Development in the Gulf region at IKOS, a project in cooperation with and partially funded by Statoil and Ministry for Oil and Energy,
cf. www.hf.uio.no/ikos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/utvik/gulf/
- 2000-present: supervised 4 doctoral dissertations at UiO, one of them in cooperation with Institut d'études politiques in Paris (currently 2 PhD candidates under supervision).
- 1998: Main organiser of 4th Nordic Conference on Middle Eastern Studies: "The Middle East in a Globalizing World", Oslo, proceedings: <http://www.smi.uib.no/pao/paotoc1.html>
- 1997: Designer and organiser of Nordic PhD course on "Normative Islam and Social Reality", Lund. This was a week-long course fully funded by NorFa: 20 PhD students from Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway took part, as well as 7 invited teachers.
- Member of 6 evaluation committees for doctoral dissertations, 1 at UiO, 3 at University of Copenhagen, 2 at Sciences Po, Paris.

Experience in popularisation of research

Activity within this field includes roughly 50 popular lectures in a variety of forums, 30 articles in press, 30 contributions in radio and television.

Field experience from the Middle East

- Extended stays for studies and research: Egypt (1984-5, 1987, 1991-2, 1994) and Iran (2002, 2003).
- 1 year in United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) 1978-9.
- Shorter visits to the Middle East include several to above-mentioned countries, plus: Turkey, Uzbekistan, Syria, Jordan, Israel/Palestine, Yemen, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

Memberships

- Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA)
European Association for Middle East Studies (EURAMES)
Nordic Society for Middle East Studies (NSM)
The Norwegian Historical Association (HIFO)
Norwegian Non-Fiction Writers and Translators Association (NFF)

Miscellaneous

Initiated Memorandum of Understanding between UiO and Gulf Research Institute, Dubai (signed by rectors 2008) for research cooperation and exchange.

Initiated Memorandum of Understanding between UiO and Teheran University (signed by rectors 2004) for cooperation and exchange within education and research.

PUBLICATIONS

A: Books, articles, reports

"Mellom framskritt og patriarki; islamismen og kvinnene", *Babylon* No. 2 2008.

Islamists Movements in the Middle East: Challenging the Autocrats (co-authored with Truls Hallberg Tønnessen), University of Oslo 2008.

"Iranian Reformists Challenging Theocracy", *Ahram Democracy Review/al-Dimuqratiyya*, No. 28, October 2007.

"Economic Development as a Divinely Imposed Duty", *ISIM Review* No. 20, Autumn 2007.

"An Islamic Road to Europe? On the Political Role of Religion in Turkey", in Edgeir Benum, Alf Johansson, Jan-Erik Smilden and Alf Storrud (eds.), *Are We Captives of History? Historical Essays on Turkey and Europe*. Unipub, Oslo 2007.

Demystifying Power Relations: Iranian Reformists Challenging Theocracy (Gulf Studies No.8), University of Oslo 2007.

"Med Gud for profitt og velstand: islamister og islamsk forretningsvirksomhet i Egypt", *Materialisten*, 1/2006.

Neo-Cons in Power: End of Reform in Iran? (Gulf Studies No.6), University of Oslo 2006.

"Religious Revivalism in 19th Century Norway and in 20th Century Egypt: A Critique of Fundamentalism Studies", *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, Vol.17, No.2 Spring 2006

The Pious Road to Development: The Ideology and Practice of Islamist Economics in Egypt, Hurst, London 2006.

"The *Hizb al-Wasat* Story: The Potential for Change in Egyptian Islamism", *Critique*, Vol.14, No.2 Fall 2005.

The Political Formation of Contemporary Iran (Gulf Studies No.3), University of Oslo 2005.

"The modernizing force of Islamism", in François Burgat and John Esposito (eds.), *Modernizing Islam: Religion and the Public Sphere in the Middle East and Europe*, Hurst, London/Rutgers University Press, Piscataway, NJ 2003.

"Islamism: the Pious Road to Modernity", in Kirsi Virtanen (ed.): *Individual, Ideologies and Society: Tracing the Mosaic of Mediterranean History*, Tampere Peace Research Institute, Tampere 2002.

The Middle East in a Globalized World (co-ed. with Knut S. Vikør), Nordic Society for Middle East Studies, Bergen 2000.

Independence and Development in the Name of God: The Economic Discourse of Egypt's Islamist Opposition 1984-90, University of Oslo 2000.

“Cromwell i Midtausten. Islamismens moderniserande kraft”, in Øyvind Bjørnson, Egil Nysæter og Arve Kjell Uthaug (eds.): *Til debatt. Innlegg ved Norske historiedagar 1996*, Historisk institutt, Universitetet i Bergen 1998.

““A pervasive seriousness invaded the country ...” Islamism - Cromwell's ghost in the Middle East?”, in Stein Tønnesson, Juhani Koponen, Niels Steensgaard and Thommy Svensson (eds.), *Between National Histories and Global History*, Finska Historiska Samfundet, Helsinki 1997.

“Is there an Islamic Economic Alternative?”, in *Political Islam in the Middle East and North Africa*, North/South Coalition Information Bulletin No.2 1996.

“Filling the vacant throne of Nasser. The economic discourse of Egypt's Islamist opposition”, *Arab Studies Quarterly*, Vol.17, No.4, Fall 1995.

“Islamism - digesting modernity the Islamic way”, *Forum for Development Studies*, 2/93.

“The Egyptian Labour Party - a New Brand of Islamism”, in Heikki Palva and Knut S. Vikør (eds.), *The Middle East - Unity and Diversity*, Nordic Proceedings in Asian Studies No.5, Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen 1993.

“Bilder av Egypt. Terje Tvedts oppgjør med avhengighetsteorien”, *Forum for utviklingsstudier*, 2/90.

Kva kom inn den opne døra? Industrien i Egypt under Sadats nye økonomiske politikk. 1970-83, University of Oslo, 1990.

B: Book reviews and dictionary work

“François Burgat: Face to Face with Political Islam”, in *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, Vol.10, No.2, 2004.

“Finst det håp for Algerie?”, *Aftenposten* 20/11-95.

“Labor Party of Egypt”, in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World*, Vol.2, Oxford University Press, New York 1995.

C: Essays, popularisation

”Bekjemper islamistene vestlige verdier?”, *Babylon* No. 1 2006.

- ”Iran 25 år etter revolusjonen”, in *P2Akademiet*, Vol. XXXI, Transit/NRK, Oslo 2004.
- ”Islamismens tid - et overstået kapitel?”, in *Carsten Niebuhr Biblioteket* 2003(3).
- “Forsvaret for tausheten”, *Klassekampen* 12/1 -02.
- “Islamismens dilemma: vil islamistane demokrati?”, *Klassekampen* 24/10-98.
- “Guds revansj?”, *Røde Fane* No.5 1998.
- “Med Europa som barbarisk fotnote: Verdshistoria sett frå Kairo”, *Samtiden* No.2/3 1997.
- “Filling the vacant throne of Nasser”, *Middle East Insight*, Vol.XI, No.2, Jan-Feb 1995.
- Dei andre sitt opprør. Islamismen - frigjering eller reaksjonær blindveg?*, Studieforbundet Ny Verden/AKP 1994.
- “Med røtene først inn i framtida”, *Magasinet X*, November 1993.
- “Egypt - den neste islamske republikken?”, *Hva hender der?*, september 1993.
- “Hasan al-Banna - ein muslimsk Oftedal?”, *Midtøsten Forum* 1/93.
- “- Egypt treng Islam”, interview with Adil Husayn, *Klassekampen* 26/6 1992.
- “Egypt - stille før stormen”, *Klassekampen* 19/6 1992.
- “Ein muslimsk Oftedal?”, *Vårt Land* 13/6 1992.
- “Dei andres opprør”, *Klassekampen* 4 and 5/6 1992.
- “Taust om Algerie i vesten”, *Klassekampen* ½ 1992.
- “Golfen og Vesten”, *Ikkevold*, april 1991.
- “Statsstyrt utvikling i Sør-Korea”, *Klassekampen* 15/3 1991.
- “Sør-Korea - liberalismens triumf?”, *Klassekampen* 14/3 1991.
- “Vestens heilage krig for olja: Norske media og Golfen”, *SAIH-perspektiv*, November 1990.
- “Kommunistar og Gud”, *Røde Fane* No.3/89.

D: Translations from Arabic:

Ahmad Abu Matar: “Bildet av jøden i palestinske romanar”, *Materialisten* 2/3-97.

Mahmud al-Makhzanji: “Leiaren”, Abd al-Hakim Qasim: “Fløyta” and Abu al-Maati Abu al-Naja: “Slutt på leiken”, in Gunvor Mejdell (ed.), *Den arabiske verden forteller : arabiske noveller*, short-stories, Oslo 1997.

Muhammad Hassan: “Forstørta tid”, short-story, *Klassekampen* 17/2 1992.

Naguib Mahfouz: *Midaqq-smuget*, novel, Pax 1989.