

Visiting Speaker Series

The Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies is
pleased to present a talk by esteemed academic

Dr Gilbert Achcar
SOAS, University of London

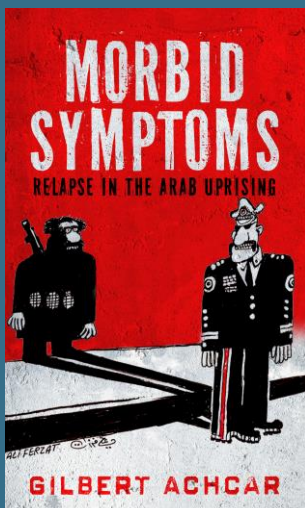
What Happened to the "Arab Spring"?

Wednesday 5 October 2016, 5.15 pm

LT1, IAIS Building, Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4ND

Tea & Coffee to be served from 4.30 pm in the Common Room,
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies.

All are welcome – no registration required.



The Arab Spring of 2011 was but the beginning of a long-term revolutionary process, rendered much more complicated than other revolutionary processes by specific socio-political features – rentierism and patrimonialism – of the dominant Arab state system.

Another complicating specific feature is the fact that counter-revolution in the Arab region is two-pronged: the revolutionary process confronts not only the established regimes, but also their Islamic fundamentalist contenders.

These peculiarities, combined with the intrinsic weakness of progressives in the region, provide the main explanation for

the shift from the initial revolutionary phase to the ongoing counter-revolutionary phase that started in 2013.

The various dynamics of this shift will be assessed in the light of the particular conditions that prevail in the different key theatres of the 2011 uprising.

The region will find no new stability as long as no solution emerges for the explosive socio-economic factors behind the Arab Spring.

This talk will be based on Gilbert Achcar's new book: *Morbid Symptoms: Relapse in the Arab Uprising* (Saqi Books, 2016).