

# Book Talk

by Dr. José Ciro Martínez

(Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of York, UK)

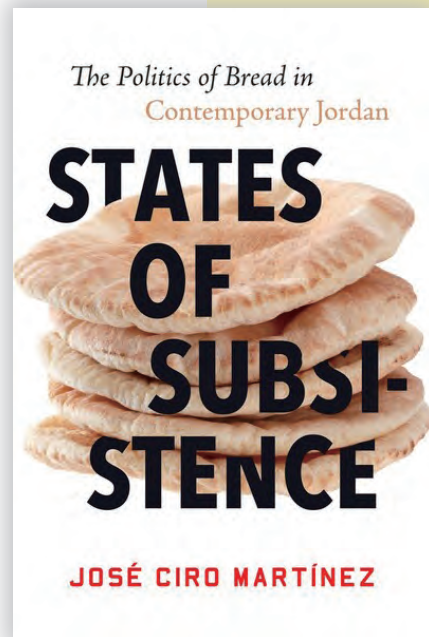
Discussant Dr. Walid Alkhatib

(Professor, Director CSS, University of Jordan, Jordan)

Language: ENGLISH

Thursday, October 12, 2023

13:00-14:30, at Koshinakan KS306,  
Ritsumeikan University



## States of Subsistence The Politics of Bread in Contemporary Jordan

Stanford University Press,  
April 2022, 368 Pages

「自給自足の国家 現代ヨルダンにおけるパンの政治学」  
スタンフォード大学出版会、2022年4月刊行、368ページ

On any given day in Jordan, more than nine million residents eat approximately ten million loaves of khubz 'arabi—the slightly leavened flatbread known to many as pita. Some rely on this bread to avoid starvation; for others it is a customary pleasure. Yet despite its ubiquity in accounts of Middle East politics and society, rarely do we consider how bread is prepared, consumed, discussed, and circulated—and what this all represents.

Drawing on more than a year working as a baker in Amman, Martínez probes the practices that underpin subsidized bread. Following bakers and bureaucrats, he offers an immersive examination of social welfare provision. Martínez argues that the state is best understood as the product of routine practices and actions, through which it becomes a stable truth in the lives of citizens. States of Subsistence not only describes logics of rule in contemporary Jordan—and the place of bread within them—but also unpacks how the state endures through forms, sensations, and practices amid the seemingly unglamorous and unspectacular day-to-day.

主催：立命館大学中東・イスラーム研究センター (CMEIS)、国際地域研究所、国際関係研究科、立命館先進研究アカデミー (RARA)

共催：立命館大学国際共同研究促進プログラム「危機下中東諸国における社会的レジリエンスの実証研究：ヨルダンのインフォーマルな資源配分を事例に」、科研費国際共同研究強化 (B) 「危機下の東アラブ諸国における社会的レジリエンスの実証研究：ヨルダンの事例から」

CMEIS

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科研費  
KAKENHI