

# WHY YEMEN MATTERS IN 2014 AND BEYOND

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**Helen Lackner: British-Yemeni Society**

Helen Lackner has been involved with Yemen since 1973 when she first visited the PDRY. She subsequently lived in the country from 1977 to 1982 and since then she has lived and worked in all parts of Yemen for varying lengths of time. She works as a consultant on social aspects of rural development, mostly in Yemen, but she has also worked in some 30 other countries. She published *PDRY, an Outpost of Socialism in Arabia* (Ithaca Press) in 1985 and has co-edited *Yemen into the Twenty First Century* (Exeter Arab and Islamic Studies, 2007) and has also contributed to various other publications on Yemen. Alongside her rural development work, she is currently working on an analysis of governance in

Yemen in the past century, using water management as a key to examine relations between the state, the people and external financiers.

She is the editor of *Why Yemen Matters, a society in transition*, recently published by the British-Yemeni Society, the London Middle East Institute and Saqi.



**Professor Allan Hill: Southampton University**

Dr Allan G. Hill is currently Professor of Population and International Health in the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences at the University of Southampton and the Andelot Professor of Demography at Harvard University. The long-standing focus of Hill's research has been understanding the health, mortality and fertility health transitions and their determinants in the Arab world and West Africa. He served as a Visiting Lecturer at Kuwait University whilst completing his PhD field work there before beginning his university career at the University of Aberdeen. From Aberdeen, he moved to the Office of Population Research at Princeton University. His first book, *Kuwait – a geomedical monograph*, published in 1971, was based on this early work in the Gulf. He accepted a position with the Population Council and moved to the American University in Beirut. The Lebanese civil war forced a re-location to the University of Jordan where he set up the Population Studies Programme at the University. He moved back to London in 1979 and became Director of the Centre for Population Studies at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine before being tenured as the Andelot Professor of Demography at the Harvard School of Public Health in 1991. He joined the Social Statistics and Demography Group at the University of Southampton in 2011.



**Dr Franck Mermier: (CNRS Paris)**

Franck Mermier is an anthropologist who is Director of Research at CNRS (Institut Interdisciplinaire d'Anthropologie du Contemporain, Paris) and responsible for the Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Urbaine. He was formerly Director of the Centre Français d'Etudes Yéménites in Sana'a from 1991 to 1997 and Director for Contemporary Studies at the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Beirut) from 2005 to 2009. His research on Yemeni society and urban societies in the Arab World has resulted in several publications such as *Le cheikh de la nuit. Sanaa, organisation des souks et société citadine* (Arles, Actes Sud/Sindbad, 1997) and *Le livre et la ville. Beyrouth et l'édition arabe* (Arles, Actes Sud, 2005). He is the co-editor of *Yémen. Le tournant révolutionnaire* (Paris, Karthala/CEFAS, 2012), *Cities of the South, Citizenship and Exclusion in XXI Century* (London, Saqi Books, 2007), *Mémoires de guerres au Liban 1975-1990* (Arles, Actes Sud, 2010), *Mondes et places du marché en Méditerranée* (Paris, Karthala, 2010) and *Leaders et partisans au Liban* (Paris, Karthala, 2012).

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**Dr Khaled Fattah: Lund University**

Dr Khaled Fattah is a non-resident scholar at Carnegie Middle East, a guest lecturer at Lund University in Sweden and a consultant for the UN and EU. He holds a PhD in international relations from the University of St Andrews.

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**Dr Gabriele vom Bruck: SOAS, University of London**

Gabriele vom Bruck is a Senior Lecturer in Anthropology at SOAS, the University of London. She has conducted extensive research in Yemen and published on hereditary elites, consumption, gender, photography and religious movements. She is the author of *Islam, Memory and Morality in Yemen* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005) and co-editor of *The Anthropology of Names and Naming* (Cambridge, 2006). Her most recent article 'Yemen: Revolution Suspended?' appeared in Fawaz Gerges, ed., *The new Middle East: protest and revolution in the Arab world* (Cambridge 2013).

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**Dr Noel Brehony: British-Yemeni Society**

Dr Brehony is the Chairman of the British Yemeni Society and author of a book on the PDRY entitled *Yemen Divided* (IB Tauris 2011 and 2013), having followed events in the PDRY throughout its existence. He is a former diplomat and businessman and is currently Chairman of both Menas Associates and the Council for British Research on the Levant. He was a Research Associate at the LMEI from 2008 to 2011 and is a member of its Advisory Council. He is past President of BRISMES and past chairman of the Middle East Association. He co-edited *British-Egyptian Relations from Suez to the Present Day* (Saqi & LMEI, 2007).