

**Monday, June 4th 2018, 2:15-3.45 pm,
at the Centre for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS), Room
00A02**

Souad Etmimi, Faculty of Arts and Humanities of Sousse, Tunisia

"The Criticism of the Intellectual in Contemporary Arab Thought"

In her lecture, Souad Etmimi supposes that the Intellectual in human thought has the role of mediator between knowledge and the public. Generally, there are three types of cultures in the Arabic thought. The first one is concerned with the worries of the public. The second type revolves around the voice of political power. The third one tries to reconcile the two sources of knowledge and power.

The criticism of his counterpart is usually documented and explained in the cognitive field because the intellectual knows the imperfections of his counterpart and the mistakes he can commit. The question is how does the intellectual criticize his counterpart? What are the issues he raises in his criticism? Is it related to knowledge or its relationship with society and authority? What is the site criticized by the intellectual? What is his school of thought? To what extent is he was loyal to it?

These problems raised thoughts in the contemporary Arab intellectuals especially with the narrow horizons of knowledge and the pressure exerted by power on them. It put them under two options either to engage in the political institution or to be left marginalization and exclusion.