

DAVO  
GÜNTER MEYER

**The Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient für Gegenwartsbezogene Forschung und Dokumentation (DAVO) was established in 1993. Since then, more than 500 scholars and other persons interested in the Middle East have become part of DAVO. Membership does not only consist in those from Germany, but also from other European countries, North America and the Middle East.**

DAVO is a scholarly, non-political and non-profit professional association open to all persons with an interest in the Middle East. The main aim of DAVO is to improve the exchange of information on Middle East studies between its members and various national and international institutions. Middle East studies include disciplines relevant to the study of an area comprising all Arab states and territories, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, the Muslim states of the former USSR and Israel, as well as the impact of this region on the development of other parts of the world.

The association publishes the *DAVO-Nachrichten*, a biannual guide to German

and international Middle East studies. The publication includes a roster of members, announcements of meetings, conference reports, introduction of new research projects, presentations of institutions engaged in Middle East studies, internet news, and book reviews. Furthermore, the guide contains an overview of the latest publications of DAVO members and current articles in journals on the Middle East. Each issue of the *DAVO-Nachrichten* contains up to 200 pages of information; many articles are in English and French. Generally, less than two weeks transpire between the deadline for contributions and the distribution of the printed issue. Recipients include DAVO members, almost 200 libraries, research centres and other institutions in the Middle East, Europe and North America.

In addition, DAVO operates a weekly updated homepage 'DAVO-Info Aktuell' on the World Wide Web (<http://www.geo.uni-mainz.de/davo>). It contains a global calendar of Middle East conferences, information on research centres and other institutions, a register of websites, recent articles in journals, announcements of grants and other recent information relevant to Middle East studies.

DAVO also organizes an annual congress which is gradually changing from a German conference to an international meeting with rapidly growing numbers of participants from all over the world. Although the majority of the papers are still delivered in German, English papers and discussions are strongly encouraged. ◆

*The Sixth Annual Congress of DAVO will take place in Hamburg from 2-4 December 1999. The deadline for the registration of papers is 2 November 1999. For further information on this congress contact the DAVO Conference Organization: Deutsches Orient-Institut, Mittelweg 150, D-20148 Hamburg, Fax: 040/441484, e-mail: doihh@uni-hamburg.de*

*Those interested in the activities of DAVO may obtain a trial copy of the latest issue of DAVO-Nachrichten free of charge by contacting the DAVO secretariat: Centre for Research on the Arab World (CERAW) Institute of Geography, University of Mainz D-55099 Mainz, Germany.*

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