



SWEDISH RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN ISTANBUL

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SPRING LECTURES 2013

TRADE, PILGRIMAGE & COLONISATION THE IMPERIAL ROADS OF THE MIDDLE EAST

LECTURE

Tuesday March 19

19.00

ALBERTO FABIO AMBROSIO

**Dominican Institute Istanbul
(EHESS)**

Anti-Sufism in the Turkish Republican Era

Alberto Fabio Ambrosio was born in Fano (Italy) in 1971 and studied first in Milan. Having read philosophy and theology at the Dominican College in Bologna, he then undertook studies in Turkish language and civilization at Marc Bloch University in Strasbourg. In 2002 he completed an MA in Turkish, the subject of his thesis being the ritual of initiation into the Bektashi Order. In the same year he completed a second MA in theology with a paper on Hinduism and Sufism (the case of Bistami). In 2007 he completed his doctoral studies in modern history at the University of Paris IV (Sorbonne) on the subject of doctrines and practises of the Whirling Dervishes in the Ottoman Empire in the 18th century. He lives in Istanbul since 2003 and is currently pursuing his research in the Whirling Dervishes as well as on different aspects of the culture and history of sufitariqas.

His publications on Rumi and the Whirling Dervishes include: *Les dervichestourneurs. Doctrine, histoire et pratiques* (2006) with Eve Pierunek and Thierry Zarcone, an article on Ismail Rusuhi Ankaravi, in *Revue des mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée* (2006), as well as contributions to the *Journal of the History of Sufism*.

Refreshments are served after the lecture