



AUTUMN LECTURES 2015

Prof. Elisabeth Özdalga
Associated Fellow and Former Director
Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul

The Mosque in the Formation of Turkish Nationalism: Reflections on a Contested Public Space



Tuesday, December 15, 2015

19:00

Based on glimpses from Islamic history the talk contains reflections on the role of the mosque in the formation of national identities in modern Turkey. Topics include the mosque as a house for daily prayers, teaching, social gatherings, and the formation of political constituencies. How steadfast is, in fact, the sought after unity of the religious community (cemaat) and how is that related to the solidarity of the wider nation (millet)?

Elisabeth Özdalga received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Since 1983 she has been attached to the Department of Sociology, Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, where she was appointed full Professor in 1994. She has also worked as director of the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul. She is the editor of several anthologies related to religion, politics and society in Turkey and the Middle East.

For attendance, registration at helins@sri.org.tr is necessary

Refreshments will be served after the lecture

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