



SRI AUTUMN LECTURES 2022

Searching for the Sacred

Tuesday, October 11, 7 p.m.

The Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul İstiklal
Caddesi 247 (Beyoğlu - Tünel)

“We have Avenged the Prophet!” An attempt at explaining extreme reactions to acts of desecration.

Prof. Jonas Svensson, Linnaeus University, Sweden

Why is it that some persons (and not others) will react violently to what they perceive as acts of deliberate, and sometimes even accidental, violations of whatever they consider sacred? Using examples mainly from contemporary Islam, the talk suggests a possible explanation for such emotionally based behavior. The explanation involves exploring what the perception of sacrality and sacralization of objects, places and persons entails, and how it is established and nurtured, individually and socially. It also entails exploring the role in social interaction of shared perceptions of sacredness.

We kindly request that you do not attend if you are not fully vaccinated against COVID or if you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms. Limited seating 50 persons. Registration is necessary. Please register at event@sri.org.tr.