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**When: Nov. 11, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Topic: THE EGYPTIAN ARMY IN THE SIX-DAY ARAB-ISRAELI WAR**

**A talk presented by Khaled Fahmy (Sultan Qaboos Professor of Modern Arabic Studies, University of Cambridge, and Member in the School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study), hosted by Sabine Schmidtke (Institute for Advanced Study)**

This presentation offers a close look at the performance of the Egyptian army during its catastrophic defeat in the June 1967 War. It starts by wondering why President Gamal Abdel Nasser issued a series of orders in May of that year that greatly raised the probability of a military confrontation with his main adversary, Israel, at a time when his army was woefully unprepared for war. The talk then weaves a narrative of the actual performance of the army in Sinai with an account of tensions within military HQ in Cairo in order to explain exactly when and how the army collapsed after only 48 hours of combat. It then follows the fate of the defeated generals in the weeks and months following the defeat, as well as Nasser's efforts to rebuild not only his shattered army but also his bereaved nation. The talk's main argument is that a true understanding of one of the most devastating defeats in modern history has to be built as much on a detailed analysis of what happened on the battlefield as on a close scrutiny of civilian-military relations.

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After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Please note that you will not be able to access the webinar without prior registration.

#### Webinar Speaker

**Khaled Fahmy** is the Sultan Qaboos Professor of Modern Arabic Studies at the University of Cambridge (UK) and currently a Member in the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ. His research focuses on the social and cultural history of the modern Middle East, with a particular focus on nineteenth-century Egypt. His publications include a social history of the Egyptian army in the first half of the nineteenth century (*All the Pasha's Men: Mehmed Ali, His Army, the Making of Modern Egypt*), a biography of Mehmed Ali Pasha (*Mehmed Ali: From Ottoman Governor to Ruler of Egypt*), and a cultural history of the relationship between Islam and modern science (*In Quest of Justice: Islamic Law and Forensic Medicine in Modern Egypt*). He frequently comments on current Middle Eastern affairs, and his newspaper articles and media appearances can be seen on his bi-lingual blog: [khaledfahmy.org](http://khaledfahmy.org)

