

edifice endures after her, just as the memory of her extraordinary personality and her astonishing intellectual force vividly remains with her colleagues and friends. ✧

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James W. Hudson
1930–2015

James W. Hudson, professor emeritus at Morgan State University, passed away on 28 August 2015, at his home in Baltimore, Maryland, after a long illness. James' father Donald, himself the son of missionaries and born in Japan, passed on to Jim a strong interest in international issues and a love of travel that helped shape his professional career and personal life.

Jim was born on 28 March 1930, in Carlinville, Illinois, and grew up in Evanston, outside of Chicago. He received his BA in geography from Haverford College in Pennsylvania in 1952 and his MS in geography from the University of Wisconsin in 1954.

After receiving his master's, Jim wanted a respite from school. Shortly after a conversation with his uncle (a physician who had provided medical treatment to bedouin in eastern Syria and taught at the American University of Beirut medical school), he applied for a teaching position at the International College in Beirut, Lebanon. He taught English there from 1954 to 1956 and traveled throughout the region, including Syria, Jordan, and Palestine. It was during this time in Beirut that Jim developed a lifelong interest in the Middle East.

In 1956, Jim returned to the U.S. and earned his PhD in geography from the University of Chicago. After two years teaching geography at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, he decided to return to the Middle East. He taught geography at the American University of Beirut for the next six years.

Jim returned to the States and in 1970 took a position with Morgan State University as a professor of geography. He remained at the school until his retirement in 1992. While at Morgan State, Jim established the master of arts program in international studies. He was a member of the Association of American Geographers and a founding member of the Sudan Studies

Association (1981), for which he served as president. He was also a member of the Middle East Studies Association, serving in 1987 as the chair of its annual meeting program committee and as a member of its local arrangements committee. A Fulbright scholar, Jim authored the *Illustrated Atlas of the Middle East* (1975) as well as numerous articles and conference papers.

As a lifelong aficionado of railroads, Jim collected train schedules from all over the world. He is survived by his adopted son Ayman and his two brothers, Donald and Glenn, as well as nieces and nephews. ✂

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Vangelis Kechriotis 1969–2015

In August 2015 we lost an inspiring scholar of Ottoman history, Vangelis Kechriotis. Vangelis was born in Athens in 1969. He studied history first at Athens University and then at Essex and Leiden universities. His dissertation, *The Greeks of Izmir at the End of the Empire: A Non-Muslim Ottoman Community between Autonomy and Patriotism*, proved to be an influential work in understanding the intellectual and ideological currents of late nineteenth to early twentieth century Ottoman Empire. He was also the editor of *Modernism: The Creation of Nation-States*, which provided invaluable primary sources on nationalisms in the Balkans.

In Spring 2004, I remember walking into a class on Nationalism in the Balkans and meeting this sympathetic instructor with a Greek accent. I had no clue at the time that this class would be one of those encounters that shapes one's academic career. That was how I met Vangelis Kechriotis and how he became a mentor in my initial steps into academia. Our paths crossed multiple times in different classes, conferences, or simply on the Boğaziçi campus. He was a brilliant scholar, great person, and an activist. He opened new horizons for his students, helping us go beyond the dry explanations of political structures of the nineteenth century. He helped us understand the people, their ideas, and the conditions they lived in; going beyond the hollow stereotypes of nationalist historiographies. He had an engaging style as a professor making room for enthusiastic intellectual debates in class and in time I got to know him as a person. He would stand with the students in