

## In Memoriam

### Fred Halliday 1946-2010

I MET FRED HALLIDAY IN 1988 WHEN I ARRIVED at the London School of Economics to study for my Master's in International Relations. He seemed to be teaching most of the courses I attended during that year: "International Politics," the degree's core course; "International Relations of the Middle East" (then still called "Great Powers and the Middle East," co-taught with Philip Windsor); "Revolutions and the International System;" "Women and IR," which he shared with Margot Light. The breadth of Halliday's teaching reflected the wide range of his interests and knowledge. He was a gifted and inspiring teacher. His lectures, delivered with a deep broadcaster's voice, were tightly structured, forceful in their argument, engaged and passionate. His students, myself included, were in awe of him.

Born in Ireland but educated in England, Fred Halliday joined the LSE in 1983 and became professor in International Relations in 1985. He retired from the School twenty-five years later, in 2008. He brought to academia a wealth of knowledge and experience from his previous life as a journalist and left-wing activist. He was on the editorial boards of the *New Left Review* from 1969 to 1983 and of the *Middle East Report* from 1977. He had travelled widely, in the Middle East and beyond, and spoke many languages, including Arabic and Farsi.

Fred Halliday's interest in the Middle East dated from these early, pre-academia days. His first monograph was *Arabia Without Sultans* (1974). It followed soon afterwards by *Iran: Dictatorship and Development* (1978). His focus

and expertise continued to be the Persian Gulf, but Halliday interpreted the Middle East widely to include Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa, in which he had a long-standing interest.

After joining LSE, Halliday's work brought together his regional focus and expertise on the Middle East with the wider theoretical concerns of International Relations as a discipline. He valued theory as a tool, not in abstraction, and his thinking was always rooted in the real world. He had always been captivated by the politics of the Cold War and published *The Making of the Second Cold War* in 1983. His long-standing interest in the impact of revolutions on the international system came to fruition in the publication of *Revolution and World Politics* (1999). Nevertheless, during his years in academia, Halliday continued to write on the Middle East more than on any other subject. He produced, among others, seminal works such as *Islam and Myth of Confrontation* (1996); *Nation and Religion in the Middle East* (2000); *Two Hours that Shook the World* (2001); and *The Middle East in International Relations* (2005).

Halliday's early Marxism shaped his analysis of International Relations and Middle East politics throughout his career. He argued that historical sociology was a most fruitful theoretical framework for interpreting IR. However, he had clearly moved to the political center by the 1980s. He changed from an internationalist of the Left to a liberal internationalist and became an ardent advocate of human rights, not least in the Middle East region which continued to be mired in authoritarianism. His support for the allied intervention in the Gulf in 1991 epitomized that shift, and it led to a rupture with many of his former colleagues on the Left. But Halliday was brave enough to change his views and admit it.

Although he valued the university as an institution, Halliday saw his own personal contribution as being also outside its walls. Through his numerous academic and non-academic writings and appearances in the media, he sought to influence public opinion away from obscurantism and faddism. Halliday was a child of the Enlightenment. He was a modernist through and through and unashamedly cherished values such as "progress" and "secularism." He relished the achievements of modernity (he once told me that he loved huge conurbations like Los Angeles). On a more personal level, Halliday was extremely supportive of those he liked and respected as individuals. This included his students and colleagues, but also many others from various walks of life, not least fugitives and dissidents from the various Middle Eastern dictatorships. He was generous in spirit and always ready to help.

Halliday was elected to the British Academy in 2002. He became Montague Burton Professor of International Relations in 2005 before, in his final years, taking up a post as ICREA Research Professor at the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI). He died of cancer in Barcelona. ✧

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## Frank Tachau 1929-2010

THE COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST mourns the passing of Frank Tachau, who succumbed to complications caused by multiple myeloma on Friday 23 July 2010, at the age of 80.

Frank Tachau was a pioneer in introducing modern social scientific analysis to the study of the Middle East. After training at one of the handful of institutions specializing in Middle East studies in the 1950s, the University of Chicago, where he received his Ph.D. in 1958, he went on to become one of the founders of the field of Middle East political science. He first taught at Rutgers University and then spent the bulk of his career as Professor of Political Science at the University of Illinois, Chicago Circle, where he also served as departmental chair. He continued his connection to the University of Chicago through the years as an Associate Member of its Center for Middle Eastern Studies. In the course of his career, he received numerous honors and visiting positions, including a Fulbright Fellowship; Visiting Noted Scholar at the University of British Columbia; Senior Research Fellow at the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, Israel; and visiting professorships in a number of Turkish universities.

Dr. Tachau was a key figure in moving the study of the Middle East from a pure regional specialty to one that used comparative methods in political science, placing the politics of the region in a broader perspective. His well-known book, *The Developing Nations: What Path to Modernization?* (1972) defined many of the interests that he pursued through his career. Before the term “globalization” even existed, Tachau pursued in the book the