

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**Amber Ayers** has been interested in the Middle East, particularly in Mandate Palestine, since the third year of her undergraduate degree when she took a class on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. In 2010, she completed her MA in the Department of History at the University of Victoria. Amber has a deep interest in the Arabic language, which she has been studying since 2007. She plans to pursue further graduate studies in this field.

**Jennifer Shutek** received her BA from Simon Fraser University in the spring of 2013. She completed a major in History, a concentration in Middle Eastern and Islamic History, and a minor in English literature. She spent two months during the summers of 2012 and 2013 at the Arabic Language Institute in Fez, Morocco, studying Modern Standard Arabic, and intends to participate in an Arabic immersion program in Jerusalem in the summer of 2014. Jennifer is currently in the first year of her M.Phil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Oxford, where she is pursuing her interest in food and agriculture in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

**Jessica Singh** is a fourth year undergraduate student of Political Science and History at the University of Victoria. In addition to English, she is fluent in Hindi and Punjabi, which has allowed her to develop a more intimate understanding of particular fields of historical and political study. Her research interests include political theory, in particular the role of state sovereignty within the fluid dynamisms of the modern world, contemporary politics of the Middle East, post-9/11 foreign policies, the War on Terror, and the notion of Orientalism. Her work has been published in the UVic Department of History's journal, *The Corvette*. Upon the completion of her B.A., she intends to explore, diversify, and expand her research interests through graduate work in Political Science.

**Khash Hemmati** completed his BA in History at Simon Fraser University and received the Middle East Concentration certificate as part his degree. As an undergraduate, Khash worked as a research assistant for Dr. Derryl MacLean at the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures. He is currently completing his MA in History at Simon Fraser University, and his thesis focuses on the making of identity in contemporary architecture in the Middle East.