The Center for the Study of the Middle East invites you to attend

CSME Academic and Professional Lecture Series

The Translation of the Hundred and One Nights: Conveying the Value and Essence of an Arabic Literary Work

Professor Akiko Sumi
Monday, December 3rd, 12 noon
Center for the Study of the Middle East

The CSME lecture series at Indiana University is a program driven by the students’ areas of interests in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Near East as well as requests for lectures focused on professional experience and career development. Akiko Motoyoshi Sumi is an IU alumna and professor of Arabic literature and language at Kyoto Notre Dame University (Japan) and visiting professor of Arabic language at the Open University of Japan.

This talk will deal with the issues and challenges of translating the Arabic folkloric narrative, the Hundred and One Nights, which is considered part of the collection of the Thousand and One Nights. Through her experience of publishing the Japanese translation of the Hundred and One Nights in 2011, Professor Sumi will discuss the purpose of the translation, its intended readers, and factors both inside the text, e.g., proper nouns and stock phrases, and outside the text, e.g., the editor, parallel texts, and the function of notes.