In honor of Professor Wadie Jwaideh’s remarkable service to Indiana University as founder, Professor and Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, and Professor of History, we are pleased to present the third annual

Wadie Jwaideh Memorial Lecture
in Arabic and Islamic Studies

7:30 p.m. November 19, 2004
Ballantine Hall Room 013

"The Kurdish Question: Whose Question, Whose Answers? The Kurdish Movement Seen by the Kurds and by Their Neighbors"

Presented by
Professor Martin van Bruinessen
Dept. of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Languages and Cultures
Utrecht University

A reception will follow in the University Club.

Funded by the College of Arts and Sciences
We would like offer our sincere thanks to the generous people who have already contributed to the Wadi Jwaideh Memorial fund:

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Contributions to the Jwaideh Lecture Fund can be made to the IU Foundation. For more information please contact the NELC department:

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*Thank you!*
Professor van Bruinessen, an accomplished scholar of Kurdish Studies, teaches in the Department of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Languages and Cultures of Utrecht University in the Netherlands. He has done extensive field research on social organization and social change among the Kurds. He has also done research on Kurdish society during the Ottoman Empire.

His research interests include studies of Kurdish society, Kurdish history during the Ottoman Empire, Kurdish and Turkish politics and religious movements, and also various areas of Indonesian Islam. He is currently working on recent developments in the Kurdish movement and the shifting religious and ethnic identities in Turkey.

In this memorial lecture, Professor van Bruinessen will be taking a look at later developments in the Kurdish movement - including some very recent and controversial ones - and especially at the representations of the Kurds and the Kurdish movement by scholars and political actors in Turkey, Iraq, and Iran, both Kurds and non-Kurds. Competing efforts to ‘frame’ the situation of the Kurds and to define the nature of a Kurdish question (or to define it out of existence) have had a significant impact on the course the Kurdish movement, or rather movements, took. Local knowledge, scholarship, and politics have been narrowly intertwined. Additionally, the rise and decline of the PKK in Turkey and the present struggle for Kirkuk in northern Iraq will be looked at through the prism of the debates on Kurdish identity.
Professor Wadie Elias Jwaideh had a long and distinguished career both within and outside of Indiana University. He received the degree of Licentiate in Law from the University of Baghdad in 1942. In 1960, he received his PhD from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. During this time, he also held a lecturer position in Arabic at Johns Hopkins University.

His dissertation entitled “A History of the Kurdish Nationalist Movement” is the most comprehensive study ever made into the Kurdish question. This work established him as one of the world’s leading experts on the Kurds. It will be published in English in 2004 by Syracuse University Press.

Dr. Jwaideh joined the faculty of Indiana University in 1960 and became the founder and chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature and Professor of History until his retirement.

In 1972, Professor Jwaideh was given the Lieber Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching. A number of his colleagues and former students contributed articles for a Festschrift in his honor. Dr. Robert Olsen edited this book, entitled Islamic and Middle Eastern Society (Amana Books, 1987).

After his retirement from IU in 1985, Dr. Jwaideh accepted an appointment as Adjunct Professor of history at the University of California at San Diego, where he taught until 1990.