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# Druze Studies Journal

# DSJ

مجلة الدراسات الدرزية

Druze Studies Journal (DSJ) is a peer-reviewed open-access interdisciplinary journal that aims to advance scholarly understanding of the Druze communities, including their history, society, and faith.

Founding Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Rami Zeedan

The University of Kansas



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The journal is published in English. Scholars can also choose to publish an Arabic version of their accepted articles.

Founding Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Rami Zeedan, the University of Kansas

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Introduction- Druze Studies Journal, Issue 1. *Rami Zeedan*

## Articles

The Status of Druze Studies and Launching the Druze Studies Journal (DSJ). *Yusri Hazran, Marianne A. Reed, Birgit Schähler, Hussam S. Timani, and Rami Zeedan.*

سلوك الدروز الديني في استعمال العنف: دراسة تستند إلى المصادر الشفهية. سعيد أبو زكي.

The Religious Attitude of the Druze Towards Violence: A Study Based on Oral Sources. *Said Abou Zaki.* (English version of the above Arabic article)

The Druze Sub-Governor Nasib Beik Jumblatt and the Ottoman Policy in Mount Lebanon. *Tuba Yildiz.*

Religious Unification, Regional Divergence: Exploring Multifaceted Linguistic Practices and Identities among the Israeli Druze and the Druze Community in the Golan Heights. *Afifa Eve Kheir.*

Druze Reincarnation Narratives - Book Forum: Druze Reincarnation Narratives: Previous Life Memories, Discourses, and the Construction of Identities, by Fartacek, Gebhard. *Maha Nator, Dmitry Sevruck, Jens Kreinath, and Gebhard Fartacek.*

The Office of Sheikh al-‘Aql of the Druzes in Lebanon”, book forum of: Mashyakhat ‘Aql al-Durūz fī Lubnān: Baḥth fī Usūlihā wa-Ma ‘nāhā wa-Tatawwurihā [The Office of Sheikh al-‘Aql of the Druzes in Lebanon: An Investigation into its Origins, Meaning and Development], by Abou Zaki, Said. *Abdul Rahman M. Chamseddine, Yusri Hazran, Akram Khater, Tuba Yildiz, and Said Abou Zaki.*

Bibliography of Periodical Literature on the Druze in 2023. *Charles Johnson and Rami Zeedan.*

## Book reviews

Kamal Jumblatt and the Soul of Socialism in Lebanon”, review of *The Druze community and the Lebanese state: between confrontation and reconciliation*, by Yusri Hazran. *Eduardo Wassim Aboultaif*.

Code-Switching and Sociopolitical Identity among the Druze in Israel,” review of *Codeswitching as an Index and Construct of Sociopolitical Identity: The Case of the Druze and Arabs in Israel*, by Eve Affa Kheir. *Muhammad Zammad Aslam and Sami Hussein Hakeem Barzani*.

An Ethnographic Exploration of the Druze in Syria.” review of *Power, Sect, and State in Syria: The Politics of Marriage and Identity amongst the Druze*, by A. Maria A. Kastrinou. *Mael Baummar*

## Call for Papers- 2025

With the publication of the 2024 issue of the Druze Studies Journal, we would like to invite scholars to submit their contributions for consideration in our next issue.

The journal will now shift to publishing upon acceptance. After concluding the peer review with an acceptance decision, we aim to finish production, copyediting, and formatting as soon as possible thereafter.

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We seek submissions that focus on the Druze as a whole, or on specific Druze communities, or include a comparison between the Druze and others or a comparison between several Druze communities. We encourage submissions from discipline-specific or those who employ an interdisciplinary approach, including, for example, History, Political Science, Theology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Linguistics, Literature, Economics, Medicine and Health, Psychology, Philosophy, Geography, Art (Performing and Visual), Law, Education, Journalism, Media Studies and Communication.

To submit your manuscript for consideration by the Druze Studies journal, please visit <https://journals.ku.edu/druze>.

If you have any inquiries, please contact the editorial office at [druze-studies@ku.edu](mailto:druze-studies@ku.edu).

## **Call for Papers for the 2025 Hybrid Bilingual Interdisciplinary Conference: “Druze in the Levant and the Diaspora - Discourses of Tradition and Modernity”**

16-17 October 2025

The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas (USA) and over Zoom webinar.

With its rich historical heritage and unique religious identity, the Druze community has maintained a distinct presence in the Levant and across various diaspora communities. As the world rapidly 'transforms', the Druze have navigated the delicate balance between preserving traditional values and embracing change. This conference seeks to explore the diverse experiences of the Druze in both the Levant and the diaspora, focusing on the interplay between tradition and (late) modernity.

For this purpose, the Druze Studies Journal (<https://journals.ku.edu/druze>) and the Druze Studies Project at the University of Kansas (<https://druze.ku.edu/>) will be holding a hybrid bi-lingual event: “2025 Interdisciplinary Conference: Druze in the Levant and the Diaspora - Discourses of Tradition and Modernity,” on 16-17 October 2025. The conference will include online and in-person panels of original research on the Druze. It will also feature roundtables of experts in the Druze Studies. Arab Art and cultural offerings will be available in person.

Active participants and the audience will be invited to attend in person in Lawrence, Kansas, or over the conference Zoom webinar.

We invite scholars from various disciplines to submit original and unpublished papers that focus on the Druze as a whole, a specific Druze community or communities, or a comparison between the Druze and others. Presentations can be from a discipline-specific approach or those who employ an interdisciplinary approach.

Papers will explore various topics, including but not limited to the following topics:

- **Druze History and Historiography:** Studies that delve into landmark events, developments, and figures in Druze history and interpret Druze history in various periods and regions, analyzing how historiographical methods have influenced our understanding of their past.
- **Historical Evolution and Identity:** Examine the Druze community's historical development in the Levant, uncovering change and continuity in defining and practicing their identity and focusing on how their unique history has shaped their identity in their homeland and the diaspora.

- **Society and Ethos:** An exploration of Druze customs, collective behaviors, and social norms, including religious practices that define the community's ethos.
- **Cultural Adaptation in the Diaspora:** Research on how Arab Druze communities adapt to new environments while maintaining their cultural and religious identity, both in their home countries and abroad.
- **Education and Knowledge Transmission:** Insights into the coexistence of traditional knowledge systems within the family and modern education within Druze communities, highlighting the ways in which knowledge is preserved and passed on to future generations.
- **Political Participation and Integration:** Analyses of the political engagement and integration of Druze communities in Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and the diaspora, exploring their roles in various political systems, international relations, geopolitics, and impact on broader societal dynamics.
- **Comparative Studies:** Comparative analyses of the Druze experience across different countries or regions, examining similarities and differences in cultural, social, and political contexts.
- **Literature, Art, and Performing Arts:** Investigations into how literature, visual arts, or performing arts reflect and shape Arab Druze cultural identity, emphasizing the community's creative expressions.
- **Family, Social Change, and Intergenerational Dynamics:** Studies exploring the tensions and synergies within Druze families, the impact of social change, and the relationships between older and younger generations in preserving traditions in a modern context.

#### Submission Guidelines:

- **Abstract Submission:** Interested participants should submit an abstract of no more than 350 words by 28 February 2025. The abstract should clearly outline the research question, methodology, and anticipated findings.
- Papers must be original and unpublished (recently published articles in 2025 will be accepted)

- We encourage submissions from established scholars in the field, with institutional affiliation or independent scholars, and emerging scholars (including doctoral students). An exceptional master's thesis can be considered with a letter of recommendation from the student's advisor.
- Panels and papers can be in English or Arabic. Live interpretation will be provided for some panels: English to Arabic / Arabic to English.
- Full Paper Submission: Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit a complete draft by 31 August 2025.
- Presentation Format: Accepted papers will be presented in panel sessions, followed by a Q&A discussion. Each presentation should not exceed 20 minutes.

#### Important Dates:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 28 February 2025
- Notification of Acceptance: 30 April 2025
- Full Paper Submission Deadline: 31 August 2025
- Conference Date: 16-17 October 2025

#### Submission Process:

- Please submit your abstracts here [https://kusurvey.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6r0AWPSBvezCSkS](https://kusurvey.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6r0AWPSBvezCSkS) .
- Organized panels can be submitted here [https://kusurvey.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_26lZARvgQieHnQG](https://kusurvey.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_26lZARvgQieHnQG) . They must include 3 or 4 presenters.
- For any inquiries regarding the conference, please get in touch with Prof. Rami Zeedan at [rzedan@ku.edu](mailto:rzedan@ku.edu) or the DSJ editorial office at [druzestudies@ku.edu](mailto:druzestudies@ku.edu)

We look forward to your contributions to this critical dialogue on Druze Studies.

The conference website can be accessed here:

<https://druze.ku.edu/2025druzeconference>.

Thanks to the support of our co-sponsors at the University of Kansas, participation in the conference is free of charge for presenters and the audience.