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California Polytechnic State University

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Contact: Jo Ann Lloyd

(805) 756-1511

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Cal Poly Speaker Series To Address Crisis in Middle East**

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Cal Poly is offering a series of lectures and panel discussions about the crisis in the Middle East as part of a winter quarter history course taught by Professor Manzar Foroohar.

The series of six presentations kicks off Jan. 27 with two speakers: Mahmood Ibrahim, professor and chair of the History Department at Cal Poly Pomona, who will speak on the "Historical Context of the Conflict and Prospects for Peace in the Middle East" and Susy Mordechay, an Israeli peace activist, discussing "The Assault on Palestinian Civilian Life, 2000-2002."

The series continues on four consecutive Mondays, then skips a week and concludes on March 10. All presentations will be 6-8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium on campus. The public is invited to the free talks, sponsored by Cal Poly's History Department and College of Liberal Arts. Additional series speakers and topics include:

- Feb. 3: Hagit Borer, professor and chair of the Linguistics Department at USC, will present "Zionism: Myth and Reality." In addition, a representative from the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles will speak. (The name of the individual and the topic have not yet been determined.)
- Feb. 10: Joe Stork, director for the Middle East and North Africa Division of Human Rights Watch, "Iraq and U.S. Policy in the Middle East: The Human Rights Dimension."
- Feb. 17: Jeff Halper, anthropology professor emeritus at Ben Gurion University, Israel, "The Key to an Israeli-Palestinian Peace: Dismantling Israel's Matrix of Control."
- Feb. 24: Sasan Fayasmanesh, associate professor of economics at

Cal State Fresno, will talk on the "Axis of Evil and the Holy Alliance."

· March 10: Jim Lafferty, executive director of the National Lawyers Guild in Los Angeles, will talk on "The Assault on Civil Liberties."

For more information, contact Foroohar at 756-2068 or [mforooha@calpoly.edu](mailto:mforooha@calpoly.edu).

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**Cal Poly Public Affairs**

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

805.756.7266

[polynews@calpoly.edu](mailto:polynews@calpoly.edu)