

# U.S. Interests in the Middle East: Source of Stability or Conflict?



**Emad Yahya:** *Is there light at the end of the tunnel in Iraq?*

Emad Yahya, MBA is President of the Arab-American Cultural Center of Silicon Valley. He lived in Iraq for 26 years and has travelled there multiple times since the U.S. invasion in 2003. He recently appeared on "Real Time with Bill Maher."

**Salem Ajluni:** *Political economy of occupied Palestinians*

Salem Ajluni, PhD served as a U.N. economist in the occupied Palestinian territories during 1996-2001. He is an SJSU alumnus and has taught economics for more than a decade.

**Hossam el-Hamalawy:** *Egyptian labor movement and U.S. backing for Mubarak*

Hossam el-Hamalawy, MA is an Egyptian labor journalist and activist. He is a visiting scholar at the U.C. Berkeley School of Journalism. View his website at: <http://arabawy.org>.

**Gil Villagrán:** *U.S. exceptionalism in the Middle East*

Gil Villagrán, MSW is a lecturer in the School of Social Work at SJSU. He has practiced social work with immigrants, political refugees, torture survivors, youth gangs, and the poor. He writes on human rights and social justice.

**Sharat G. Lin:** *Moderator*

Sharat G. Lin, PhD writes on global political economy, the Middle East, India, and labor migration. He has lived for many years in Lebanon and the Gulf countries. He is affiliated with the San José Peace & Justice Center.

**Tuesday, April 29, 2:45 - 6:00 pm**  
**Engineering Auditorium, San José State University**

San Fernando Street and South 7th Street

**Admission free**