

American University of Beirut
School of Arts and Sciences
Beirut-Lebanon

CVSP 112

Final Exam

Fall 2008

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I- Comment briefly on THREE of the following focusing on their significance in Contemporary Arab society (10-15 lines)(30 points)

- A- Modernity
- b- Secularism
- c- Democracy
- d- Neo-Patriarchy
- e- Fundamentalism

II- Write a well developed essay on ONE of the following questions (70 points)

- a- "Arab identity is therefore developed to the extent that it manifests itself
Through a sense of belonging and a diversity of affiliations.
Arab identity
Relies, as well, on a shared culture and its variations. Arabs
also recognize
A shared place in history and common experiences. Similarly,
social
Formations and shared economic interests have helped to shape
Arab
Identity. And, finally, Arab identity is shaped by specific,
shared
External challenges and conflicts."

H.Barakat, The Arab World

Explain and analyze this quotation in the context of H. Barakat's thinking.

Do you agree with Barakat's ideas and why?

- b- What are, according to Amin Maalouf the problems confronting the Arabs in
the contemporary age and what are the solutions he proposes ?
Would H.
Sharabi , in your opinion, agree with Amin Maalouf and why?