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Total War in the Middle East

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Inger Marie Okkenhaug, of the University of Bergen, Norway, and an expert on missionary relief and refugees, will speak at the University of Dayton at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, in the Sears Recital Hall.

Okkenhaug is associate professor in the department of archaeology, history, religion and cultural studies, and has done extensive research on missions, education and gender in the Middle East and Scandinavia. The lecture, "Total War in the Middle East: Mission and Relief Among the Dispossessed of World War I," will focus on mission-based relief and the enormous refugee crises in the Middle East during and immediately after World War I.

Okkenhaug's talk will follow the achievements of Norwegian nurse, Bodil Biørn, who as a missionary could operate relatively safely and independently in the Middle East, unlike local men and women. Okkenhaug will discuss missionary relief in the framework of conflict, the plight of refugees and humanitarian aid efforts.

Her talk is the annual Beauregard-King Emeritus Lecture sponsored by the University of Dayton's history department in honor of retired professors Erving Beauregard and Sandy King. A reception will be held after the lecture. For more information, contact University of Dayton history professor William Trollinger at 937-229-2827 or trolliwv@notes.udayton.edu.

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