

## **ARAM FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### **The Nabataeans**

#### **TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1989**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-16.30 Registration  
17.00-18.30 Official opening by **His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan**  
19.00-21.00 Inaugural Dinner

#### **WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1989**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd (University of Oxford)  
09.30-10.05 **Dr. Piotr Bienkowski** (Liverpool Museum):  
"The chronology of Tawilan and the 'Dark Age' of Edom."  
10.05-10.40 **Dr. John Bartlett** (University of Dublin):  
"The situation between the end of the Edomite kingdom and the appearance of the Nabataeans."  
10.40-11.15 Tea/coffee  
11.15-11.50 **Dr. David F. Graf** (University of Miami):  
"The origin of the Nabataeans."  
11.50-12.25 **Dr. Manfred Lindner** (Naturhistorische Gesellschaft, Nurnberg):  
"A unique Edomite/Nabataean archaeological site in the mountains of southern Jordan."  
12.25-13.00 **Dr. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College):  
"Settlement patterns on the Moabite plateau from Iron Age through the Nabataean/Roman period."  
13.00-14.30 Lunch  
**Chairperson:** **Mr. Michael Macdonald** (Oxford University)  
14.30-15.05 **Dr. William Jobling** (University of Sydney):  
"Some new Thamudic and Nabataean inscription of the Hisma in southern Jordan."  
15.05-15.40 **Dr. Philip C. Hammond** (University of Utah):  
"The rise of a provincial state: Nabatene."  
15.40-16.10 Tea/coffee  
16.10-16.45 **Mr. Peter Parr** (University of London):  
"The archaeology of the Petra town centre."  
16.45-17.10 **Mr. Julian Bowsher** (Museum of London):  
"Early Nabataean coinage."

#### **THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 1989**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (Oxford University)  
09.30-10.05 **Dr. Margaret Lyttleton** (London):  
"The sculpture found in the temenos of the Qasr al'Bint at Petra."  
10.05-10.40 **Dr. Marie-Jeanne Roche** (Hunter College-New York):  
"Panels decorated with busts from Petra."  
10.40-11.15 Tea/Coffee  
11.15-11.50 **Dr. Jacqueline Dentzer-Freydy** (Universsity of Paris 1 -Sorbonne):  
"Le décor architectural du temple nabatéen de Khirbet edh-Dharieh."  
11.50-12.25 **Dr. François Villeneuve** (Ecole Normale Superieure):  
"Problème de chronologie de la céramique nabatéenne (1er-2me ap.J.C.) à partir des fouilles de Khirbet edh-Dharieh."

- 12.25-13.00 **Dr. David Johnson** (Brigham Young University):  
“Nabataean Pyriform Unguentaria: Chronology, production and use, the evidence from Petra.”
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 14.30-15.05 **Dr. Khairieh Amr** (Department of Antiquities - Jordan):  
“The late Kiln at Zurrabah.”
- 15.05-15.40 **Dr. Fawzi Zayadine** (Department of Antiquities - Jordan):  
“The Nabataean gods in the Sinai and Egypt.”
- 15.40-16.10: Tea/coffee
- 16.10-16.45 **Dr. Dominique TARRIER** (Yarmouk University):  
“Baalshamin dans le monde nabatéen.”
- 16.45-17.10 **Dr. Ernest Axel Knauf** (University of Heidelberg):  
“Dušares and Shai alqaum.”

### FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 1989

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. John F. Healey** (Manchester University)
- 09.30-10.05 **Dr. Zeidoun al-Muheisen** (Yarmouk University):  
“The hydraulic and hydroagricultural installations found in southern Jordan.”
- 10.05-10.40 **Mr. Alistair Killick & Mrs. Marie Killick** (Oxford):  
“The Nabataeans at Udhruh.”
- 10.40-11.15 Tea/Coffee
- 11.15-11.50 **Dr. Avraham Negev** (Hebrew University):  
“The Greek papyri at Nessana (Aujah Hafir) in the Negev.”
- 11.50-12.25 **Mr. Karl Schmitt-Korte** (Frankfurt):  
“An early Christian record of the Nabataeans.”
- 12.25-13.00 **Dr. Jean-Marie Fiey** (Université St Joseph-Beirut):  
“From the Nabataeans to the Nabat.”
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Adnan Hadidi** (Department of Antiquities - Jordan)
- 14.30-15.05 **Dr. Khalid Ismail Ali** (Baghdad University):  
“Etymological and semantic aspects of the root NBT.”
- 15.05-15.40 **Dr. John F. Healey** (Manchester University):  
“The Nabataean contribution to the development of the Arab script.”
- 15.40-16.10: Tea/coffee
- 16.10-16.45 **Dr. Salah Hamarneh** (University of Jordan):  
“The period which followed the end of the political reign of the Nabataeans.”
- 16.45-17.10 **Dr. Mohammad A. Abdul'Karim** (University of Baghdad):  
“The Nabataeans in the Arab tradition.”

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### ARAM SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### Syriac and Arab Cultures during the Abbasid Era in Iraq

### MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 1991

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-17.30 Registration
- 17.30-19.00 Official opening by **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd**  
**Dr. Alison Salvesen**: The main projects of ARAM

19.00-21.00 Inaugural Dinner

## TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1991

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** Dr. Sebastian Brock (University of Oxford)
- 09.00-10.00 **Dr. Michael Morony** (University of California at Los Angeles):  
"The Aramaean population in the economic life of early Islamic Iraq."
- 10.00-11.00 **Dr. Yousif Ishaq** (Sweden):  
"The Zuqnin chronicle (Ps Dionysius of Tel-Mahre) as a source of study of the political and economic situation of Northern Iraq during the Abbasid era."
- 11.00-11.30 Tea/coffee
- 11.30-12.30 **Dr. Stephanie Dalley** (University of Oxford):  
"Gilgamesh after the Cuneiform."
- 12.30-15.00 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Jeremy Black** (University of Oxford)
- 15.00-16.00 **Dr. Richard Dumbrill** (London):  
"The Babylonian origins of Arab medieval music."
- 16.30-16.30 Tea/coffee
- 16.30-17.30 **Dr. Lawrence Conrad** (Wellcome Institute-London):  
"The life of Mohammad in Syriac discussions in early Abbasid Syria."
- 17.30-18.30 **Dr. Wilfred Madelung** (University of Oxford):  
"Imam al-Qasim ibn Ibrahim and Christian theology."
- 18.30-19.00 **Mrs. Averil Makhlof** (Richmond-USA)  
"Elias of Nisibis."
- 19.00-20.00 Dinner
- 20.00-21.00 **Miss. Carmela Baffioni** (PhD candidate: University of Napoli):  
"Probable influence in Ihwan al-Safa's logical epistles."

## WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1991

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09.00-10.00 **Dr. Hans Daiber** (Vrije Universiteit-Amsterdam):  
"Nestorians of 9<sup>th</sup> century: Syriac and Arabic. A survey of unexploited sources with special reference of I. of Kashkar."
- 10.00-11.00 **Dr. Bo Holmberg** (Lund University):  
"The trinitarian terminology of Israel of Kahkar."
- 11.30-11.30 Tea/Coffee
- 11.30-12.30 **Dr. Sarah Stroumsa** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
"The impact of Syriac tradition on early Judaeo-Arabic Bible exegesis."
- 12.30-16.30 Lunch
- Free afternoon for shopping and visiting Oxford.**
- 16.30-17.00 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Alison Salvesen** (University of Oxford)
- 17.00-18.00 **Dr. Johannes den Heijer** (Leiden University):  
"The existence of a Syriac intermediate version of Aristotle's 'Historia Animalium'."
- 18.00-19.00 **Dr. Mauro Zonta** (University of Pavia-Italy):  
"New evidence for the History of Aristotle's 'De Animalibus' amongst Syrians and Arabs."
- 19.00-20.00: Dinner
- 20.00-21.00 **Prof. Sidney Griffith** (Catholic University of America):  
"The Apologetic treatise of Nonnus of Nisibis."

## THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1991

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Erica Hunter** (Cambridge University)  
09.00-10.05 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):  
"The Syriac background of Hunayn ibn Ishaq's translation technique."  
10.00-11.00 **Dr. Gotthard Strohmaier** (Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR-Berlin):  
"Hunayn ibn Ishaq: an Arab scholar translating into Syriac."  
10.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee  
11.30-12.30 **Dr. Samir Khalil** (St. Joseph University-Beirut):  
"Le Kitab al-'Agal de Hunayn retrouvé."  
12.30-14.00 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Johannes Glenthøj** (Oxford)  
14.00-15.00 **Dr. Henri Hugonnard-Roche** (CNRS-Paris):  
"Contributions syriaques aux études arabes de logique à l'époque abbasside."  
15.00-16.00 **Mr. Robert Hoyland** (PhD candidate: University of Oxford):  
"Syriac and Arabic historical writing: an example of a cross-cultural collaboration."  
16.00-16.15 End of the Conference: A short communication.

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### **ARAM THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **The Decapolis**

#### **MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 1992**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-17.30 **Registration.**  
17.30-18.00 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd:** Welcome and introduction.  
18.00-19.00 **Dr. David Graf** (University of Miami): Opening talk:  
"Hellenization and the Decapolis."

#### **TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 1992**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
09.10-09.50 **Dr. Martin Goodman** (University of Oxford):  
"The Jews in the Decapolis."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr. W. Harold Mare** (Covenant Theological Seminary-USA):  
"Abila: A thriving city of the Decapolis."  
10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee  
11.00-11.40 **Dr. Robert Wenning** (University of Münster):  
"Nabataer in der Dekapolis."  
11.40-12.20 **Mr. Ali Ziayadeh** (Birzeit University):  
"Urban transformation in the Decapolis cities of Jordan."  
12.20-13.00 **Dr. Thomas Weber** (Johannes Gutenberg University):  
"Indigenous and foreign elements in the sanctuary sculpture of the Decapolis."  
13.00-14.20 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Seán Freyne** (Dublin University)  
14.20-15.00 **Prof. Gedeon Foerster** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
"Nysa-Scythopolis: 'kata coelen Syrian hellenidon poleon' as reflected in recent excavations at Bet-Shean, Israel ."  
15.00-15.40 **Prof. Yoram Tsafrir (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):**  
"Roman to Byzantine: Bet Shean (Scythopolis) in the 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> centuries."

- 15.40-16.10 Tea/coffee  
 16.10-16.50 **Prof. Maurice Sartre** (Francois Rabelais University):  
 “Canatha et Ahadra, cités de Décapole.”  
 16.30-17.30 **Dr. Michael Fuller** (St. Louis Community College-USA):  
 “Survey and ethnoarchaeological studies at Abila of the Decapolis.”

### WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 1992

(Venue: St. Hugh’s College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. David Kennedy** (University of Western Australia)  
 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Pau Figueras** (Ben-Gurion University):  
 “The roman worship of Athena-Allat in the Decapolis and the Negev.”  
 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Jacques Seigne (IFAPO-Jordan):**  
 “A l’ombre de Zeus et d’Artemis, Gerasa de la décapole.”  
 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Robert Houston Smith** (College of Wooster-USA):  
 “Pre-Christian religions and their survivals at Pella of the Decapolis: Historical and Archaeological evidence.”  
 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Robert Smith** (Miami University):  
 “A Necropolis of the Decapolis: the use of tombs and cemeteries at Abila.”  
 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Dominique Tarrier** (Yarmouk University):  
 “The tombs of Yasileh in comparison with the tombs of the cities of the Decapolis.”  
 13.00-20.00 Lunch and sightseeing tour.

- Chairperson: Dr. Alison Salvesen** (University of Oxford)  
 20.00-20.50 **Dr. Margaret O’Hea** (University of Adelaide-Australia):  
 “The glass industry of the Decapolis.”  
 20.40-21.20 **Mr. Julian Bowsher** (Museum of London):  
 “Civic organisation within the Decapolis.”  
 21.20-22.00 **Dr. Yzhar Hirschfield & Dr. Erez Cohen** (Israel Antiquities Authority):  
 “The reconstruction of the Roman baths at Hammath Gader.”

### THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1992

(Venue: St. Hugh’s College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Joseph Patrigh** (University of Haifa)  
 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Leah Di Segni** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
 “Greek inscriptions of the Bath-House in Hammath Gader.”  
 09.50-10.30 **Dr. John D. Wineland** (Miami University):  
 “Archaeological and numismatic evidence of Greco-Roman religious of the Decapolis with a particular emphasis on Gerasa and Abila.”  
 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Zeidoun Al-Muheisen** (Yarmouk University):  
 “Le site de Yasileh et ses relations avec les villes de la Décapole.”  
 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Lawrence I. Conrad** (Wellcome Institute):  
 “The cities of the Decapolis on the eve of the Arab conquests: some new lights from verse attributed to Hassan ibn Thabit.”  
 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Alan Walmsley** (University of Sydney):  
 “Vestiges of the Decapolis in north Jordan during the late antique – early Islamic transition”  
 13.00-14.20 Lunch  
**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)  
 14.20-15.00 **Dr. Willard Winter** (Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary):  
 “A Byzantine Basilica at Abila.”  
 15.00-15.40 **Dr. Karel J. Vriesen** (University of Utrecht):  
 “The centralised church in Umm Qais.”

- 15.40-16.10: Tea/coffee  
 16.10-16.50 **Ing. Robert Guinée & Dr. Nicole Mulder** (University of Utrecht):  
 “Survey of the terrace and western theatre area in Umm Qais.”  
 16.50-17.30 **Dr. Susanne Kerner** (German Protestant Institute for Archaeology):  
 “Umm Qais: recent excavations.”

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### **ARAM FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Cultural Interchange in the Umayyad Era**

##### **MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1993**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-17.30 Registration.  
 17.30-17.45 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (Oxford University): Welcome and introduction.  
 17.45-18.25 **Prof. Irfan Shahid** (Dumbarton Oaks-USA):  
 “The Umayyad ajnad: Byzance après Byzance.”

##### **TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Patricia Crone** (University of Cambridge)  
 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Zeidoun al-Muheisen** (Yarmouk University):  
 “The end of the Byzantine period and the beginning of the Islamic period in northern Jordan.”  
 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Elizabeth Savage** (London):  
 “Iraqi Christian links with an early Islamic sect.”  
 10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Michael Bates** (American Numismatic Society):  
 “Byzantine coinage and its imitations, Arab coinage and its imitations: Arab-Byzantine coinage.”  
 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Michael and Neathery Fuller** (St Louis Community College-USA):  
 “Continuity and cultural interchange at Tell Tuneinir, Syria.”  
 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Pamela Watson** (British Institute at Amman for Archaeology and History):  
 “Pictorial painting on pottery and its demise in the mid-7<sup>th</sup> century AD: the case of the Jerash bowls.”  
 13.00-14.00 Lunch  
 Free afternoon for shopping, sightseeing, etc.

##### **WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 1993**

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Jeremy Johns** (University of Oxford)  
 09.10-09.50 **Mr. W. A. Oddy** (The British Museum):  
 “The earliest Umayyad coinage of Gerasa and Scythopolis.”  
 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Steven Rosen** (Ben-Gurion University):  
 “The nomadic periphery: archaeology of pastoralists in the south central Negev during Late Antiquity.”  
 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Claus-Peter Haase** (university of Kiel-Germany):  
 “Is madinat al-Far in the Balikh region of northern Syria an Umayyad foundation?.”  
 11.40-12.20 **Prof. Ahmad Shboul** (University of Sydney):  
 “Umayyad Damascus: notes on its population and culture based on Ibn ‘Asakari’s History.”

- 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Donald Whitcomb** (University of Chicago):  
“Were there Amsar in Syria?”
- 13.00-14.20 Lunch.
- Chairperson: Dr. Julian Raby** (University of Oxford)
- 14.20.-15.00 **Dr. Harold Mare** (Covenant Theological Seminary-USA):  
“The Christian church of Abila of the Decapolis of the Yarmouk valley system in the Umayyad period.”
- 15.00-15.40 **Mr. Claude Vibert-Guigue** (Institut Français d’Archéologie du Proche-Orient):  
“A French-Jordanian project for copying the painting in Quseir ‘Amra .”
- 15.40-16.10 Tea/Coffee
- 16.10-16.50 **Dr. Geoffrey Khan** (University of Cambridge):  
“The pre-Islamic background of Muslim legal formularies.”
- 16.50-17.30 **Mr. George Kiraz** (University of Cambridge):  
“Current academic projects on Syriac studies using computational methods.”

#### **THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 1993**

(Venue: St. Hugh’s College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Averil Cameron** (London University)
- 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Lawrence Conrad** (The Wellcome Institute-London):  
“Did Walid I found the first Muslim hospital?”
- 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Pau Figueras** (Ben-Gurion University):  
“The impact of the Islamic conquest on the Christian communities of the Third Palestine.”
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Prof. Daniel Sahas** (University of Waterloo-Canada):  
“Byzantine-Arab cultural interaction during the Umayyad era: the circle of John of Damascus.”
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Monica Blanchard** (Catholic University of America):  
“The Georgian version of the martyrdom of St Michael, monk of Mar Sabas monastery.”
- 12.20-13.00 **Prof. Sidney Griffith** (Catholic University of America):  
“The vita of St. Michael and its reported dialogue between St. Michael and the Caliph ‘Abd al-Malik.”
- 12.30-14.20 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)
- 14.20-15.00 **Prof. Han Drijvers** (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen-Holland):  
“Testamentum domini nostril Jesu Christi.”
- 15.00-15.40 **Mr. Robert Hoyland** (PhD candidate: University of Oxford):  
“The correspondence between Leo III (717-741) and ‘Umar II (717-720).”
- 15.40-16.10: Tea/coffee
- 16.10-16.50 **Dr. Chase F. Robinson** (University of Oxford):  
“The Shaharija: ‘Christian’ pragmatism in an early Islamic milieu .”
- 16.50-17.30 **Dr. Andrew Palmer** (School of Oriental and African Studies-London):  
“Two Jacobite bishops, Theodotus (d. 698) and Simeon (d. 734), and their relations with Umayyad authorities.”
- 17.30-18.0 **Conference ends:** closing address.

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#### **ARAM FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Palmyra (Tadmor)**

## MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1995

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-17.30 Registration  
17.30-17.35 **Dr Shafiq Abouzayd** (Chairman of ARAM): Welcome and introduction.  
17.35-18.00 **H.E. Dr Najah Al-Attar** (The Syrian Minister of Culture): Address.  
18.00-18.05 **Dr Sultan Muheisen** (Director General of the Syrian Department of Antiquities & Museums): Address.  
18.00-18.30 **Prof Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw):  
"News from Palmyra: Current Work and Perspectives of Research".  
18.30-19.15 Reception  
19.15-21.00 Dinner (Mr Faisal Kudsi [ARAM Board of Patrons]: Address)

## TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1995

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Prof Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw)  
09.10-09.50 **Dr Sultan Muheisen** (Director General of the Syrian Department of Antiquities & Museums):  
"Excavation work in Syria."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr Khaled Asaad** (Director of Palmyra Museum):  
"Restoration work at Palmyra."  
10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
11.00-11.40 **Dr Andreas Schmidt-Colinet & Dr Annemarie Stauffer** (University of Bern):  
"Textiles and the quarries of Palmyra"/"Eastern and Western Fashion - Reconstruction and Analysis of Palmyrene garments."  
11.40-12.20 **Dr Andreas Schmidt-Colinet & Dr Annemarie Stauffer:**  
"Textiles and the quarries of Palmyra"/"Eastern and Western Fashion - Reconstruction and Analysis of Palmyrene garments."  
12.20-13.00 **Prof Klaus Parlasca** (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg):  
"Probleme der Palmyrischen Kunst."  
13.00-14.00 Lunch  
**Chairperson:** **Prof Han J.W. Drijvers** (University of Groningen)  
14.20-15.00 **Dr Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet** (Collège de France - Paris):  
"Un cratère palmyrénien inscrit: nouveau document sur la vie religieuse des palmyréniens."  
15.00-15.40 **Prof Malcolm A.R. Colledge** (University of London):  
"Palmyrene funerary iconography in its Greek and Roman contexts."  
15.40-16.10 Tea/coffee  
16.10-16.50 **Dr W Harold Mare** (Covenant Theological Seminary):  
"Abila and Palmyra: Ancient trade routes from Southern Syria into Mesopotamia."  
16.50-17.30 **Dr Saito Kiyohide** (Japanese Mission in Palmyra):  
"Excavation at Southeast Necropolis in Palmyra from 1990 to 1995"  
19.00-20.00 Dinner

## WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1995

(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
09.10-09.50 **Prof Delbert Hillers** (John Hopkins University):  
"Palmyrene Aramaic: Lexical and grammatical notes."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr Mohammad Maraqtan** (University of Marburg/Lahn):  
"Arabic words in Palmyrene inscriptions."  
10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
11.00-11.40 **Prof Han J.W. Drijvers** (University of Groningen):  
"Inscriptions from Allat's Sanctuary."



- 11.40-12.20 **Dr Stephanie Dalley** (University of Oxford):  
"Bel at Palmyra, Apamea, and Assur."  
12.20-13.00 **Dr Jacques Seigne** (IFAPO - Jordan):  
"The peribolos of the temple of Bel."  
13.00-14.20 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr Stephanie Dalley** (University of Oxford)  
14.20-15.00 **Dr Valentino Columbo** (Italy):  
"Nabataeans and Palmyreans: an analysis of the Tell el-Shuqafiyye inscriptions."  
15.00-15.40 **Dr Eleonora Cussini** (University of Bologna):  
"Transfer property at Palmyra."  
15.40-16.10 Tea/coffee  
16.10-16.50 **Miss Palmira Piersimoni** (Italy):  
"A Palmyrene prosography: Methodological Problems."  
16.50-17.30 **Dr Marek Baranski** (University of Warsaw):  
"The great colonade of Palmyra reconsidered."  
19.00-20.00 Dinner

**THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 1995**  
(Venue: St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr Jacques Seigne** (IFAPO-Jordan)  
09.10-09.50 **Dr Ernest Will** (Institut de France-Paris):  
"Architecture locale et architecture impériale à Palmyre."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College):  
"The Palmyrene luxury trade and Revelation 18: 12-13: a neglected analogue."  
10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee  
11.00-11.40 **Dr Muhammad S.D. Megalommatis** (Eastern Mediterranean University - Turkey):  
"Aspects of Palmyrene Mithraism."  
11.40-13.20 Open discussion.  
13.00-14.00 Lunch  
14.00-18.30 **Free afternoon.**  
18.30-22.00 Dinner at ARAM House (46 Sunderland Avenue, Oxford)  
Closing party; conference ends

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**ARAM SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd (Oxford University), Dr. J.F. Coakley & Prof. Peter Machinist,  
(Harvard University))

**Who were, or are the Aramaeans?**

**SUNDAY 9 JUNE 1996**

(Venue: Near Eastern Department, Harvard University)

- 17.00-18.00 Registration at the Semitic Museum, 6 Divinity Avenue.  
18.00-19.30 Dinner and business meeting of the ARAM Society.  
19.30-20.30 **H.E. Dr Najah Al-Attar** (The Syrian Minister of Culture): Address.  
18.00-18.05 **Prof Peter Machinist** (Harvard University):  
"The emergence of Aramaic popular literature in the first millennium BCE."

**MONDAY 10 JUNE 1996**

(Venue: Near Eastern Department, Harvard University)

- Chairperson: Dr J.F. Coakley** (Harvard University)  
09.00-09.45 **Dr Paul Dion** (University of Toronto):

- 09.45.-10.30 "Aramean royal courts and civilian structures of authority."  
**Dr Hartmut Kühne** (Freie Universität Berlin):  
 "The Arameans on the Lower Habur: 1000-500 BCE."
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.45 **Dr Stephen Cole** (Harvard University):  
 "The early history of the Arameans in Iraq."
- 11.45-12.30 **Dr. Stephen Grosby** (Villanova University):  
 "'m klh: a nation of ARAM?"
- 12.30-14.15 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 14.15-15.00 **Prof. John Huehnergard** (Harvard University):  
 "What is Aramaic?"
- 15.00-15.45 **Prof. Stephen Kaufman** (Hebrew Union College):  
 "What isn't Aramaic? A lexicographer's dilemma."
- 15.45-16.15 Tea/coffee
- 16.15-17.00 **Dr Chul Bae** (Harvard University):  
 "Aramaic as a 'lingua franca' in the ancient Near East."
- 16.50-17.30 **Prof. Oktor Skjaervo** (Harvard University):  
 "Aramaic 'heterograms' in Iranian scribal traditions."
- 17.30-18.15 **Prof. Yona Sabar** (University of California at Los Angeles):  
 "Parallel features of development in Jewish neo-Aramaic and modern Israeli Hebrew."
- 19.00-22.00 Conference dinner at the Faculty Club, followed by a talk by **Professor Franz Rosenthal** (Yale University).

#### **TUESDAY 11 JUNE 1996**

(Venue: Near Eastern Department, Harvard University)

- Chairperson: Prof. Peter Machinist** (Harvard University)
- 09.30-10.15 **Dr. Erica C.D. Hunter** (Cambridge University):  
 "Aramaic-speaking communities of Sassanid Mesopotamia."
- 10.15-11.00 **Dr. Victoria Erhart** (Dumbarton Oaks):  
 "The Arameans of the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> centuries CE."
- 11.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee
- 11.30-12.15 **Dr. J.F.Coakley** (Harvard University):  
 "Assyrians or Arameans? In memoriam J.M. Fiey."
- 12.15-13.00 **Dr Jorum J. Buckley** (USA):  
 "Mandaeans in the USA today: the tenacity of traditions."
- 13.00 Conference ends.

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#### **ARAM SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Trade Routes in the Near East: Pre-Islamic and Early Islamic Times**

**MONDAY 15 JULY 1996**

(Venue: Keble College, University of Oxford)

- 14.00-17.30 Registration
- 17.30-20.00 The opening ceremony

- Chairperson: Dr. Andrew Palmer**
- 17.30-18.15 **Dr Shafiq Abouzayd; & Dr. Sebastian Brock:** Welcome & Introduction.

- 18.15-19.15 **Prof. John Carswell** (Islamic Department, London):  
 “All at Sea: Recent Research in the Indian Ocean”.
- 19.15-20.00 Reception
- 20.00-21.00 Banquet

## TUESDAY 16 JULY 1996

(Venue: Keble College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Donald Whitcomb** (University of Chicago):
- 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Aloïs van Tongerlo** (University of Leuven):  
 “The Three Magi wandering Eastward”.
- 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Fawzi Zeyadine (Dept. of Antiquities, Jordan):**  
 “The Spices and Silk Routes in Transjordan in the Hellenistic and Roman periods”.
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Dr. J. M. Frayn** (England):  
 “Aspects of Trade on the Judaean Coast in the Hellenistic and Roman periods”.
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Leo Mildenberg** (Zurich):  
 “Petra on the Frankincense Road? - Again”.
- 12.20-13.00 **Prof. Avraham Negev** (Hebrew University):  
 “Oboda - A Major Nabataean Caravan Halt”.
- 13.10-14.00 Lunch
- 16.00-16.45 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson: Prof. Nicola Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):
- 17.00-17.40 **Drs Lucida Dirven** (Rijks University-Leiden):  
 “A possible trade connection between Dura-Europos and Palmyra”.
- 17.40-18.20 **Dr. John F. Healey** (Manchester University):  
 “Palmyra and the Arabian Gulf trade”.
- 18.20-19.00 **Dr. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College-USA):  
 “The King’s Highway, the Desert Highway, and Central Jordan’s Kerak”.
- 19.10-20.00 Dinner

## WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 1996

(Venue: Keble College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr Lawrence Conrad** (Wellcome Institute-London):
- 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Andrew Palmer** (SOAS-University of London):  
 “The Routes of Pilgrims to Jerusalem”.
- 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Marlia Mundell Mango (University of Oxford):**  
 “Byzantine Trade with the East”.
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University):  
 “Stepped Roads in Roman Palestine”.
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Mohammad A. R. Al-Thenayian** (King Saud University-Saudi Arabia):  
 “The Yemeni Highland Pilgrim Route between San‘a and Mecca”.
- 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Mohammed Maraqtan** (University of Marburg-Germany):  
 “Dangerous Trade Routes: On the Plundering of Caravans in the Ancient Near East”.
- 13.10-14.00 Lunch
- 14.00-15.30 **A guided visit to the Ashmolean Museum.** For more details please contact ARAM at Keble College.
- 14.15-16.30 **ARAM Annual General Meeting:**  
 14.15-15.30 ARAM Committee  
 15.30-16.30 Members  
 at ARAM House, 46 Sunderland Avenue, Summertown.
- 16.00-16.45 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson: Dr. John F. Healey** (University of Manchester):

- 17.00-17.40 **Dr. Hamad M. Bin Seray** (University of United Arab Emirates):  
 “Spasinu Charax and its commercial Relations with the East through the Arabian Gulf”.
- 17.40-18.20 **Dr. Donald Whitcomb** (University of Chicago):  
 “The Darb Zubayda: An Abbasid trade route and its settlements across Saudi Arabia”.
- 18.20-19.00 **Prof. Nicola A. Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):  
 “External Trade of Bilad al-Sham under the Early Abbasids”.
- 19.10-20.00 Dinner

**THURSDAY 18 JULY 1996**  
 (Venue: Keble College, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):
- 09.10-09.50 **Dr. Sarit H. Oked** (Ben Gurion University):  
 “Patterns of the Transport Amphora at Ostrakine during the 6th and 7th Century”.
- 09.50-10.30 **Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw):  
 “The Euphrates Route between Syria and Mesopotamia”.
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee
- 11.00-13.00 Round-Table Discussion.
- 13.10-14.00 Lunch
- 14.00- **Free Afternoon**
- 18.30-22.00 Dinner at ARAM House (46 Sunderland Avenue, Oxford)  
 Closing party; conference ends.

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**ARAM EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Mamluks in Bilad al-Sham:  
 History and Archaeology**

**TUESDAY APRIL 1 1997**  
 (Venue: Alumni Club, Beirut, Lebanon)

**The Opening Ceremony**

- 16.30-18.15 **Rev. Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Chairman of ARAM Society): Address  
**H.E. Mr. Rafiq Al-Hariri** (The President of the Lebanese Council of Ministers):  
 Address.  
 Reception
- 18.15-19.00 Inaugural talk: **Prof Nicola Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):  
 “The Mamluks in the Balance”.

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 2 1997**  
 (Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Angelica Neuwirth** (Director of the German Institute for Oriental Studies-Beirut)
- 09.00-09.40 **Prof. Ahmad Hoteit** (Lebanese University):  
 “Les expéditions mameloukes du centre du Mont-Liban: Répercussions sur la répartition des habitants”.
- 09.40-10.20 **Prof. Elias Kattar** (Lebanese University):  
 “La géographie de la population et relations entre les groupes au Liban à l’époque des mameloukes Circassiens”.
- 10.20-10.35 Break: Tea/Coffee

- 10.35-11.15 **Dr. Erica Cruikshank Dodd** (University of Victoria):  
“Christian Arab Painters under the Mamluks”.
- 11.15-11.55 **Dr. Lucy-Anne Hunt** (University of Birmingham):  
“The Production of Illustrated Manuscripts by Christians in 13th-14<sup>th</sup> century Syria and Mesopotamia”.
- 11.55-12.35 **Prof. Rifaat Ebied:** (University of Sydney):  
“Inter-religious attitudes: al-Dimashqi’s (d. 727/1327) letter to the people of Cyprus”.
- 12.35-14.15 Lunch

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Ahmad Shboul** (University of Sydney)
- 14.15-14.55 **Dr. Adnan Darwiche** (IFEAD. Damascus):  
Ibn Qadi Shouhba, un historien syrien de la période des Mameloukes”.
- 14.55-15.05 A commentary by **Prof. Dr. H. Grotzfeld:**  
“Note sur un manuscrit du Tarikh d’Ibn Hijji, copi=E9 en partie par Ibn Qadi Shuhba”.
- 15.05-15.45 **Prof. Dr. Heinz Grotzfeld** (University of Munster):  
“Contes populaires de l’Époque des Mameloukes dans les Mille et Une Nuits”.
- 15.45-16.25 **Drs. Sabri Jarrar** (Oxford University):  
"Suq al-Ma‘rifa (Market of Knowledge), a Hanbalite Shrine in al-Haram al-Sharif”.

#### THURSDAY APRIL 3 1997

(Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson:** **Mr. Camille Asmar** (Director General of the Lebanese Department of Antiquities & Museums):
- 09.00-09.40 **Drs. Sami el-Masri** (Free University of Berlin):  
“Medieval pottery from Beirut’s Downtown excavations: the first results”.
- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Eveline J. van der Steen** (University of Leiden):  
“What happened to Arabic-Geometric pottery in Beirut?”
- 10.20-10.50 Break: Tea/Coffee
- 10.50-11.30 **Mr. Abrecht Fuess** (University of Cologne):  
“Beirut during the Mamluk Era”.
- 11.30-12.15 **Prof. Omar Tadmury** (Lebanese University):  
“The Mamluk Architecture of Tripoli al-Sham”.
- 12.15-14.15 Break: Lunch

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Samir Seikaly** (American University of Beirut)
- 14.15-14.55 **Dr. Marcus Milwright** (University of Oxford):  
“The Cup of the Saqi: origins of an emblem of the Khassakiyya.”
- 14.55-15.35 **Dr. Lutz Wiederhold** (University of Halle):  
“Legal - Religious Elite and Temporel Authority in Mamluk society: a “Zahiri Revolt” in Damascus in 1386”.
- 15.35-16.15 **Prof. Suad al-Hakim** (Lebanese University):  
“Le soufisme et son message culturel durant la période des Mameloukes”.

#### FRIDAY APRIL 4 1997

(Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Helga Seeden** (American University of Beirut)
- 09.00-09.40 **Dr. Alan Walmsley** (University of Sydney):  
“Village Life in Mamluk Jordan: Views of the Jordan Valley from Fahl (Pella)”
- 09.40-10.20 **Drs. Laurent Tholbecq** (IFAPO-Amman):  
“Une installation d’Époque islamique dans le sanctuaire de Zeus de Jérash: la céramique, chronologie et technologie”.
- 10.20-10.35 Break: Tea/Coffee
- 10.35-11.45 **Ms. Alison McQuitty, Ms. Mads Sarley, Ms. Mona Khoury and Ms. Chantell Hoppe:** (BIAAH-Amman):

- 11.45-12.25 “Archaeology from Khirbet Faris (Jordan): the Mamluk evidence”.  
**Dr. Margreet Steiner** (University of Leiden):  
 "The Excavation at Tell Abu Sarbut - a Mamluk village in the Jordan Valley".
- 12.25-14.15 Break: Lunch
- Chair:** **Prof. Nicola Ziadeh** (Emeritus Professor)
- 14.15-14.55 **Dr. Sarab Atassi** (IFEAD, Damascus):  
 “Damas au temps des Mameloukes, la poursuite d’un développement urbain soutenu”.
- 14.55-15.35 **Dr. Howyda Al-Harithy** (American University of Beirut):  
 “Mamluk Architecture in Damascus”.
- 15.35-16.15 **Dr. Nasser Rabbat** (MIT-Boston):  
 “The Mosaics of the Qubba al-Zahiriyya in Damascus: A classical Syrian medium requires a Mamluk signature”.
- 16.15-16.45 Closing address

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### **ARAM NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Cultural Interchange in the Arabian Peninsula**

**MONDAY 14 JULY 1997**

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Fawzi Zayadine** (Dept. of Antiquities, Jordan)
- 09.00-09.50 **Prof. Vitaly Naumkin & Prof. Victor Porkhomovsky** (Institute of Oriental Studies-Moscow):  
 Scotran oral tradition and cross-cultural contacts”.
- 09.50-10.30 **Dr. Mohammad Maraqtan** (Marburg University-Germany):  
 “Mari and Arabia: Some Aspects of Tribal Organisation and Social Institutions”.
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Ahmad Shboul** (University of Sydney):  
 “Aspects of Socio-cultural change and continuity in the Hijaz and its contacts with Syria in the early Islamic period”.
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Amin T. Tibi** (England):  
 “Relations between Arabia and East Africa - as depicted in three documents”.
- 13.00 Lunch
- 16.00-16.30 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson:** **Prof. John Healey** (University of Manchester):
- 16.30-17.10 **Dr. William D. Glanzman** (University of British Columbia-Canada):  
 “South Arabia’s International Commerce (3rd century BC - 3rd century AD)”: A Re-assessment of the Evidence”.
- 17.10-17.50 **Dr. Beatrice Nicolini** (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart-Milan):  
 “The Source of Spice: Europe, Oman and Zanzibar during the XIX Century”.
- 17.50-18.30 **Open discussion** (The speakers of the day are kindly required to be present).
- 19.00 Banquet

**TUESDAY 15 JULY**

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford):
- 09.00-10.30 **Dr. Christian Robin, Dr. Joëlle Beaucamp, Dr. Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet** (Maison de la Méditerranée-Aix en Provence):  
 “La persécution des Chrétiens des Chrétiens de Najran et la chronologie himyarite.”

- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Hamad M. Bin Seray** (University of the United Arab Emirates):  
 “Christianity in East”.  
 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):  
 “Isaac the Syrian and other ascetics from Qatar”.  
 13.00 Lunch  
 16.00-16.30 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
 16.30-17.10 **Dr. Andrey Korotayev** (Institute of Oriental Studies-Moscow):  
 “‘Aramaecans’ in a late Sabaic inscription”.  
 17.10-17.40 **Dr. Serguei A. Frantsouzoff** (Institute of Oriental Studies-Petersburg):  
 “A gezerah-decree from ancient South Arabia (new approach to the interpretation of MAFRAY-Hasi 1).”  
 17.40-18.20 **Dr. Marek Baranski** (Poland): “The adoption of the Arch structure in the  
 Architecture of the Arabian Peninsula”.  
 18.20-18.50 Open discussion (The speakers of the day are kindly required to be present).  
 19.00 Dinner

### WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 1997

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Vitaly Naumkin** (Institute of Oriental Studies-Moscow):  
 09.00-09.40 **Mr. Uzi Avner** (Israel Antiquities Authority):  
 “The Nabataeans standing stones and their interpretations”.  
 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Robert Wenning** (Westfälische Wilhelms University-Münster):  
 “Petra and Hegra: What makes the difference?”.  
 10.20-10.50 Tea/Coffee  
 10.50-11.30 **Mr. Laurent Tholbecq** (IFAPO-Jordan):  
 “Le temple nabatéen du Wadi Ramm et son environnement culturel: à propos de  
 recherches récentes”.  
 11.30-12.30 **Dr. Fawzi Zayadine** (Dept. of Antiquities-Jordan) & **Mrs. Saba Fares** (IFAPO-  
 Beirut):  
 “The Arabian tribes of Wadi Iram (Jordan)”.  
 12.30-12.45 Closing address.  
 13.00 Lunch at Mansfield College

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### ARAM TENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### The Early Ottoman Period in Bilad Al-Sham (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries): History and Archaeology

#### TUESDAY April 14 1998

(Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson: Prof. Mohammad al-Bakhit** (Al al-Bayt University, Jordan).  
 09.00-09.15 **Prof. Mohammad al-Bakhit** (Al al-Bayt University, Jordan):  
 Opening address.  
 Scotran oral tradition and cross-cultural contacts”.  
 09.15-09.55 **Prof. Nicola Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):  
 “The coming of the Ottomans.”  
 09.55-10.35 Prof. Linda T. Darling (University of Arizona):  
 “The Syrian provinces in Ottoman eyes.”  
 10.35-11.00 Tea/coffee

- 11.00-11.40 **Prof. Dr. Wolf Hütteroth** (Friedrich-Alexander Universität, Erlangen-Nürnberg):  
“Northeastern Syria and adjoining parts of Iraq and Turkey under early Ottoman rule (16<sup>th</sup> century).”
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Taisir El-Zawahreh** (Mu'tah University, Jordan):  
“The Turks (al-Rum) in the works of Najm al-Din al-Ghazzi.”
- 12.20-14.00 Lunch

- Chairperson: Prof. Angelica Neuwirth** (Orient-Institut, Beirut):
- 14.00-14.40 **Dr. Joseph Rahme** (The University of Michigan-Flint):  
“Some socio-economic observations on late sixteenth century Ottoman Syria.”
- 14.40-15.20 **Dr. Issam Khalifeh** (Lebanese University):  
“Les moulins, les roues à soie et le pressoirs d'huile et de raisin dans le nord du Liban au XVI<sup>me</sup> siècle”.
- 15.20-15.40 Tea/coffee
- 15.40-16.20 **Dr. Samir Seikaly** (American University of Beirut):  
“Al-Fatwa al-Khairiyya: juridical literature as a source for the study of socio-economic and religious trends in the 17<sup>th</sup> century Ottoman Palestine.”
- 16.20-17.00 **Dr. Boutros Labaki** (Lebanese University):  
“L'histoire économique de la principauté ma'anaïte.”

### WEDNESDAY April 15 1998

(Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson: Dr. Eugene Rogan** (University of Oxford).
- 09.00-09.40 **Prof. Dr. Robert Mantran** (Université de Provence):  
“Le pouvoir ottoman en Syrie au XVI<sup>me</sup> siècle: Kununname et inscriptions monumentales.”
- 09.40-10.20 **Mr. Stefan Weber** (German Institute-Damascus):  
“Imperial architecture and local design: decoration of the Damascene buildings in the early Ottoman period in Syria.”
- 10.20-10.40 Tea/coffee
- 10.40-11.20 **Dr. Robert Schick** (Albright Institute):  
“The archaeology of Palestine/Jordan in the early Ottoman period.”
- 11.20-12.00 **Dr. Mohammad Adnan al-Bakhit** (Al al-Bayt University, Jordan):  
“The waqf of Tulkarm (Palestine) during the early Ottoman period.”
- 12.00-14.00 Lunch

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Robert Mantran** (Université de Provence)
- 14.00-14.40 **Drs. Hind el-Soufi-Assaf** (Université Libanaise):  
“Les vestiges ottomans de Tripoli, 16<sup>me</sup>-17<sup>me</sup> siècles.”
- 14.40-15.20 **Mr. Reuben Thorpe** (American University of Beirut):  
“Ottoman archaeology in the Beirut Souks area”.
- 15.20-15.40 Tea/coffee
- 15.40-16.20 **Dr. Hassan Ramez Badawi** (Université Libanaise):  
“Trois mosques à Saida (Sidon) de l'époque pale-ottomane.”
- 16.20-17.00 **Drs. Ruba Kanaan** (University of Oxford):  
“The Travels of Evliya Shelebi: a re-interpretation of the urban history of seventeenth-century Bilad al-Sham.”

### THURSDAY April 16 1998

(Venue: American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford).
- 09.00-09.40 **Dr. Mounir Ismail** (Université Libanaise):  
“La transformation du système des privileges étrangers au système des fidéicommissaires durant le règne de Soleiman al-Qanouni.”
- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Hasan Yahya** (Université Libanaise):



- “le développements du système gouvernemental entre l’autorité ottomane et le pouvoir local dans Bilad al-Sham, 1520-1636.”
- 10.20-10.40 Tea/coffee
- 10.40-11.20 **Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney):  
“An unknown poem on the siege of Aleppo and the violent events of A.H. 1065/A.D. 1655.”
- 11.20-12.00 **Dr. Otfried Weintritt** (Albert-Ludwig University/Freiburg):  
“Tarikh ‘Abd al-Qadir: biography as historiography in an early 17<sup>th</sup> century chronicle from Syria.”
- 12.00-14.00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Boutros Labaky** (Lebanese University):
- 14.00-14.40 **Dr. Samir Khalil** (Université St. Joseph):  
“Les chrétiens et les prémices de la renaissance arabe aux 16<sup>me</sup> et 17<sup>me</sup> siècles.”
- 14.40-15.20 **Dr. Carsten-Michael Walbiner** (German Institute, Beirut):  
“Some remarks on the hierarchy of the Greek-Orthodox Church in Bilad ash-Sham in the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries.”
- 15.20-16.00 **Drs. Souad Slim** (Balamand University, Lebanon):  
“The situation of wafq between ‘Timar’ system and Iltizam.”
- 16.20-16.15 **Closing address:** Dr. Boutros Labaky (Lebanese University).

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### **ARAM ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Cultural Interchange in the East of the Arabian Peninsula**

**MONDAY JULY 13 1998**

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Moawiyah Ibrahim** (Sultan Qaboos University, Oman)
- 09.00-09.45 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (Oxford University):  
“From Qatar to Tokyo, by way of Mar Saba: the translations of Isaac of Niniveh’s writings”.
- 09.45-10.30 **Prof. John Healey** (Manchester University) & **Dr. Hamad Bin Seray** (United Arab Emirates University):  
“Aramaic in the Gulf: towards a corpus”.
- 10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.45 **Dr. Bruce Ingham** (University of London):  
“The bedouins of Qatar in the light of cultural interaction”.
- 11.45-12.30 **Dr. Beatrice Nicolini** (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart-Milan):  
“Sa‘id bin Sultan of the Al Bu Sa‘idi of Oman (1806- 1856) and his relationship with Europe”.
- 13.00 Lunch
- 15.45-16.15 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 16.15-17.00 **Dr. Aviva Klein-Franke** (Universität zu Köln):  
“The Hebrew and the Arabic inscription in the mosque of Beith al-Hadr”.
- 17.00-17.45 **Prof. Paolo M. Costa** (University of Bologna):  
“The ancient Jewish community of Sohar (Oman)”.
- 17.45-18.30 **Mr. Carl Phillips** (University of London):  
“Cultural interchange in the East of the Arabian Peninsula illustrated by the excavations at Kalba (UAE)”.
- 19.00 Dinner.

**TUESDAY JULY 14 1998**  
(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Mr. Michael Macdonald** (University of Oxford)  
09.00-09.45 **Prof. Ahmad Shboul** (University of Sydney):  
“East Arabia and Syria during the Umayyad period”.  
09.45-10.30 **Prof. Nicola Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):  
“Trade and Travel in the Arabian Gulf in the Middle Ages”.  
10.30-11.00 Tea/coffee  
11.00-11.45 **Prof. Clive Holes** (University of Oxford):  
“Dialogue Poems in Eastern Arabia: a literary link with ancient Mesopotamia”.  
11.45-12.30 **Dr. Hasan R. Badawi** (Lebanese University):  
“La viabilité à Tyr et l’échange culturel avec l’est de la péninsule arabe à l’époque tardo-antique”.  
13.00 Lunch  
15.45-16.15 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson:** **Mr. Peter Parr** (University of London)  
16.15-17.00 **Dr. Hanae Sasaki**, (Kanazawa University-Japan):  
“Ancient maritime trade and cultural interchange between the Arabian Gulf and East Asia”.  
17.00-17.45 **Prof. Valeria Piacentini** (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart-Milan):  
“Merchant families in the Gulf. A mercantile and cosmopolitan dimension: the written evidence (11-13 centuries AD)”.  
17.45-18.30 **Dr. Salma Samar Damluji** (London):  
“The vernacular architecture in the cities of Oman and the United Arab Emirates”.  
18.30 Conference ends

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**ARAM TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

(Organised by Dr. Shafid Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Beirut: History and Archaeology**

**TUESDAY APRIL 13 1999**  
(Venue: The American University of Beirut)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Helen Sader** (American University of Beirut)  
08.45-09.00 **Opening Address**  
09.00-09.30 **Dr. J.P. Thalmann** (Université Paris I - Sorbonne):  
“The Bronze Age on the Syro-Lebanese coast (Tell ‘Arqa and Beirut).”  
09.30-10.00 **Dr. Michel Al-Maqdissi** (IFAPO-Damas):  
“Les données récentes sur l’âge du Bronze ancien dans la plaine de Jablé (côte syrienne).”  
10.00-10.30 **Dr. Leila Badre** (American University of Beirut):  
“The Bronze Age of Beirut: Major results.”  
10.30-11.00 **Break:** Tea/Coffee  
11.00-11.30 **Discussion**  
11.30-12.00 **Dr. Hans Curvers** (University of Amsterdam):  
“The lower town of pre-classical Beirut.”  
12.00-12.20 **Dr. Uwe Finkbeiner** (University of Tübingen):  
“The Iron Age fortification and city gate: new evidence.”  
12.20-12.40 **Mr. Francisco Nunez Calvo** (University of Pompeu Fabra-Barcelona):  
“An approach to trade relations in Iron Age Beirut: the ceramic evidence.”  
12.40-13.00 **Discussion**  
13.00-14.30 **Break:** Lunch

- Chairman:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)  
 14.30-15.00 **Mrs. Françoise Chaput** (University of Tübingen):  
 “Un cimetière de chiens de l’époque perse à Beyrouth”  
 15.00-15.30 **Dr. Hussein Sayegh** (Université Libanaise):  
 “L’architecture domestique durant la période perse.”  
 15.30-16.00 **Discussion**  
**Dr. Naji Karam** (Université libanaise): Pannau / Panel  
 17.00-19.00 **Reception:** at the Institut Français d’Archéologie du Proche Orient (IFAPO): Centre Culturel Français

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1999

(Venue: The American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Pascal Arnaud** (Université de Nice- Sophia Antipolis)  
 09.00-09.30 **Dr. John W. Hayes** (University of Oxford):  
 “Aspects of Hellenistic/Roman pottery (finds from site Bey 004 and their connections).”  
 09.30-09.50 **Mme. Catherine Aubert** (IFAPO-Beirut):  
 “Architecture hellénistique et peinture murale à Beyrouth.”  
 09.50-10.10 **Dr. Margreet Steiner** (University of Leiden):  
 “The results of the excavations at BEY 011: the Hellenistic and Byzantine souk”.  
 10.10-10.30 **Mr. Dominic Perring** (University of York):  
 “Classical Beirut: themes of urban continuity and change: Hellenistic to Byzantine Beirut.”  
 10.30-10.50 **Break:** Tea/Coffee  
 10.50-11.10 **Dr. Barbara Stuart** (University of Amsterdam):  
 “Cemetries in Beirut.”  
 11.10-11.40 **Discussion**  
 11.40-12.00 **Dr. Ulrike Outschar** (Austrian Academy of Science)  
 “Amphorae Peacock Class 45 (micaceous water jars) and their trade in the Eastern Mediterranean”.  
 12.00-12.20 **Dr. Kevin Butcher** (American University of Beirut):  
 “Coin circulation in Roman Beirut: the Assemblages from BEY 006 and 045.”  
 12.20-12.40 **Mr. Reuben Thorpe** (A.C.R.E.):  
 “The Imperial Thermae of BEY 045 and Observations on the Topography of Roman Beirut.”  
 12.40-13.00 **Discussion**  
**Dr. Naji Karam** (Université libanaise): Pannau / Panel  
 13.00-14.30 **Break:** Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Mr. Dominic Perring** (University of York)  
 14.30-14.50 **Drs. Noor Mulder-Hijmans** (University of Maastricht):  
 “Egg shell oil lamps from the Roman souk of Bey 011.”  
 14.50-15.10 **Ms. Rima Mikati** (American University of Beirut):  
 “The spatial, functional and chronological aspects of lamp studies; the Roman Bath Lamps, BEY 045”  
 15.10-15.30 **Drs. Lidewgde de Jong** (University of Amsterdam):  
 “The Roman burial practices in Beirut”.  
 15.30-16.00 **Discussion**  
**Dr. Hassan Badawi & Dr. Manuel Asmar** (Université libanaise):  
 “Thermes romains: histoire et restauration”: Pannau / Panel  
 16.30-17.00 **Break:** Tea/Coffee  
 17.00-17.30 **Prof. Pascal Arnaud** (Université de Nice- Sophia Antipolis):  
 “Beirut commerce and trade: late Hellenistic to Byzantine times.”  
 17.30-17.50 **Ms.S. Jennings** (English Heritage) & **Ms. Joanna Abdallah** (AUB)  
 “Glass from Beirut: Roman to Mamluk.”

17.50-18.30 **Discussion**

**THURSDAY APRIL 15 1999**

(Venue: The American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

- Chairperson: Prof. Jean-Marie Dentzer** (IFAPO)  
09.00-09.30 **Dr. Linda Jones Hall** (St Mary's College of Maryland):  
"Beirut through the Classical texts: From Colonia to Civitas."  
09.30-10.00 **Dr. Henry I. MacAdam** (Princeton University):  
"The Roman Law School of Beirut."  
10.00-10.20 **Discussion**  
10.20-10.50 **Break:** Tea/Coffee  
10.50-11.20 **Dr. Frederic Alpi** (IFAPO):  
"Beyrouth byzantine et proto-islamique: continuité et ruptures (V<sup>e</sup>-VIII<sup>e</sup> s.)"  
11.20-11.50 **Dr. Muntaha Saghieh-Beydoun** (Lebanese University):  
"The stratigraphy and architecture of sector BEY 004".  
**Dr. Paul Reynolds** (American University of Beirut):  
"Pottery in Beirut: Economic trends in the 6th-7th centuries A.D."  
11.50-12.10 **Dr. John Meloy** (American University of Beirut):  
"Beirut's political and economics status in the Islamic periods."  
12.30-13.00 **Discussion**  
13.00-14.30 **Break:** Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Samir Seikaly** (American University of Beirut)  
14.00-14.20 **Ms. Patricia Antaki** (American University of Beirut):  
"Le château croisé de Beyrouth".  
14.20-14.40 **Ms. Eveline van der Steen** (University of Leiden):  
"Mamluk and Ottoman pottery."  
14.40-15.00 **Dr. Joseph G. Rahme** (The University of Michigan-Flint):  
"Demographic History of Ottoman Beirut, 1516-1918."  
15.00-15.30 **Discussion**  
15.30-16.00 **Break:** Tea/Coffee  
16.00-16.20 **Mr. Oussama Kabbani** (Solidere-Beirut):  
"Preservation and restoration of historical buildings (Solidere)"  
16.20-16.40 **Mrs. Isabelle Skaf** (Direction Générale des Antiquités):  
"Lifted mosaics from the Beirut excavations: conservation problems."  
16.40-17.00 **Mrs. Renata Tarazi** (Direction Générale des Antiquités):  
"Loi et pratique dans la conservation du patrimoine culturel."  
17.00-17.20 **Dr. Helga Seeden** (American University of Beirut):  
"Dialoguing with the past: Will Beirut's past still speak to the future?"  
17.20-18.00 **Closing Session:** "Final Discussion."

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**ARAM THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, (University of Oxford) & Dr. J.F. Coakley, (Harvard University))

**The Mandaean**

**SUNDAY JUNE 13 1999**

(Venue: Harvard University, USA)

- 08.00-13.00 **Mandaean baptism in the Charles River**  
13.00-16.00 Lunch  
16.00-17.30 **Registration** at the Harvard Semitic Museum, 6 Divinity Avenue.

**Chairperson: Prof. Cyrus Gordon**

(Venue: Harvard Divinity School, USA)

- 19.00-19.15 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Chairman of the ARAM Society): Opening remarks.  
19.15-19.25 **Mr. Nasser Sobbi** (New York): Short Statement.  
19.25-20.00 **Sheikh Salem Choheili** (Ahwaz, Iran):  
“The Mandaeans and on the living water in Mandaeism.”  
20.020-20.30 **Dr. Leila alroomi** (Glasgow, Scotland):  
“Al-Sabea, a social, religious and historic view.”  
20.30-21.00 **Dr. M.J. Farhan** (Nottingham, England):  
“The current situation of the Mandaean community in Iraq and Iran.”  
21.00-22.00 **Mandaean chants & concluding prayer.**

### MONDAY JUNE 14 1999

(Venue: Near Eastern Dept. Harvard University)

**Chairperson: Prof. Karen King** (Harvard University).

- 09.00-09.40 **Prof. Nathaniel Deutsch** (Swarthmore College, USA):  
“The palm tree and the wellspring: Mandaean and Jewish mysticism.”  
09.40-10.20 **Dr. Roberto Sánchez Valencia** (Universidad Iberoamericana):  
“An approach to the identity of the treatise ‘Adversarius legis et prophetarum.’”  
10.40-11.20 **Prof. Fabrizio Pennacchietti** (University of Turin):  
“John the Baptist in an Arabo-Islamic reinterpretation of the Legend of Susanna.”  
11.20-11.40 Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Prof. Peter Machinist** (Harvard University)

- 11.40-12.20 **Prof. James Tabor** (University of North Carolina):  
“John as Saviour of the world: Some pro-John the Baptist readings in medieval Shem-Tob’s Hebrew Matthew and their New Testament provenance.”  
12.20-13.00 **Prof. Francesca Rochberg** (University of California at Riverside):  
“Babylonian celestial divination and astrology in the Mandaean Book of the Zodiac.”  
13.00-14.00 Lunch

**Chairperson: Prof. James Russell** (Harvard University)

- 14.00-14.40 **Dr. Erica Hunter** (Cambridge University):  
“Mandaean bowls in the British Museum.”  
14.40-15.20 **Dr. Mikhail Tarelko** (Belarusian State University, Minsk):  
“A magical scroll in the Drower collection.”  
15.20-16.00 **Prof. Edwin Yamauchi** (Miami University, Ohio):  
“Mandaean incantation texts.”  
16.00-16.15 Tea/Coffee

**Chairperson: Prof. John Huehnergard** (Harvard University)

- 16.15-17.00 **A panel** on the Mandaic language, featuring native speakers.  
17.00-17.45 A showing of **Lady Drower’s 1954 film** of Mandaean ceremonies in Iraq, with commentary by Jorunn J. Buckley.  
18.00-20.00 **Conference dinner** at the Biology Labs Café, 16 Divinity Avenue.  
20.00-21.00 **Mrs. Margaret Hackforth-Jones** (Daughter of Lady Drower):  
“The dedication of Lady Drower to the Mandaean culture and people.”

### TUESDAY JUNE 15 1999

(Venue: Near Eastern Dept. Harvard University)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University).

- 09.00-09.40 **Prof. Sinasi Gündüz** (Istanbul University, Turkey):  
“Problems on the Muslim understanding of the Mandaeans.”  
09.40-10.20 **Prof. Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College, USA):  
“The use of colophons and scribal postscripts in envisioning Mandaean history.”  
10.40-11.20 **prof. Edmondo F. Lupieri** (University of Udine, Italy):

- 11.20-11.40 “On the history of early contacts between Mandaeans and Europeans .”  
Tea/coffee
- Chairperson: Prof. Wolfhart Heinrichs** (Harvard University)
- 11.40-12.20 **Drs. Roberta Borghero** (University of Turin, Italy):  
“A seventeenth-century glossary of Mandaic.”
- 12.20-13.00 **Mr. Brian Mubarak** (University of Sydney):  
“The development of typed Mandaic.”
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. J.F. Coakley** (Harvard University)
- 14.00-15.00 **Press conference** at Room 18, 2 Divinity Avenue.
- 15.00-15.20 **Conference ends:** Address

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## ARAM FOURTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### Antioch and Edessa

**MONDAY JULY 12 1999**

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University).
- 09.15-10.00 **Dr. Daphna V. Arbel** (University of British Columbia):  
“Junction of tradition in Edessa: possible interaction between Mesopotamian mythology and Jewish mystical traditions in the first century C.E..”
- 10.00-10.45 **Dr. Serguei A. Frantsouzoff** (Oriental Institute-Petersburg):  
“Antioch in South Arabian tradition.”
- 10.45-11.15 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson: Prof. Ricardo Contini** (University of Venice)
- 11.15-12.00 **Dr. Alain Desreumaux** (Paris):  
“Nouvelles inscriptions araméennes édesséniennes en Osrhoène.”
- 12.00-12.45 **Prof. Catherine Saliou** (Paris):  
“Mythes et récits de fondation d’Antioche.”
- 12.45-14.00 Lunch
- 16.00-16.30 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson: Prof. Zeidoun al-Muheisen** (Yarmouk University, Jordan)
- 16.30-17.45 **Dr. Grégoire Poccardi & Mr. Jacques Leblanc** (Université de Nanterre):  
“Nouvelles recherche sur la ville d’Antioche et ses faubourgs: le stade olympique de Daphné.”
- 17.45-18.30 **Dr. Hans Erbes** (University of Upsala):  
“The syro-Hexapla readings in relation to the Peshitta variants and related versional readings in Joshua 1-5.”

**TUESDAY JULY 13 1999**

(Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. J.F. Coakley** (Harvard University).
- 09.15-10.00 **Dr. Muriel Debié** (Paris):  
“Record keeping and chronicles writing in Antioch and Edessa..”
- 10.00-10.45 **Dr. Witold Witakowski** (University of Upsala):  
“The Antiochene continuation of Eusebius’ chronicle in Syriac.”
- 10.45-11.15 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Paolo Costa** (University of Bologna)  
 11.15-12.00 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University):  
 “The untamed violence of Syrian ascetics: a study of the problem of violence and killing in the Liber Graduum.”
- 12.00-12.45 **Dr. Ephrem Yousif** (Université Paris X):  
 “Les calamites: sauterelles, famine, peste, guerre, tremblement de terre, à Édesse et à Antioche du quatrième au septième siècle dans le chroniques syriaques.”
- 12.45-14.00 Lunch  
 16.00-16.30 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Theresa Ubrainczyk** (University College, Dublin)  
 16.30-17.15 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):  
 “The impact of Hellenism on Syriac: Greek loanwords in the writings of two authors of Edessa, Ephrem and Narsai.”
- 17.15-18.00 **Prof. Michel van Esbroeck** (University of Munich):  
 “Peter the Fuller and Cyrus of Edessa.”

**TUESDAY JULY 13 1999**  
 (Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. R. Bas Ter Haar Romeny** (University of Leiden).  
 09.15-10.00 **Dr. Erica C.D. Hunter** (University of Cambridge):  
 “The transmission of Greek scientific knowledge: Cambridge ms. Mm. 6.29..”
- 10.00-10.45 **Dr. Klaus-Peter Todt** (University of Mainz):  
 “Antioch and Edessa in the so-called treaty of Deapolis/Devol (September 1108).”
- 10.45-11.00 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)  
 11.00-11.45 **Prof. Nicola Ziadeh** (American University of Beirut):  
 “Dawood al-Antaki (David of Antioch) in the Arab history.”
- 11.45-12.30 **Dr. Carsten-Michael Walbiner** (Orient-Institut, Beirut):  
 “The city of Antioch in the writings of Macarius ibn Azza‘im (17<sup>th</sup> century).”
- 12.30-13.15 **Dr. Nikolaj Serikoff** (Wellcome Institute):  
 “Patriarch Gregory al-Haddad and his gift to Nicholas II, the emperor of Russia. (About the Christian Arabic MSS preserved in the St. Petersburg Institute of Oriental Studies.”
- 13.15-13.30 **Conference End:** Address.

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**ARAM FIFTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
 (Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Water in the pre-modern Near East**

**MONDAY 17 JULY 2000**  
 (Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. J.F. Coakley** (Harvard University)  
 09.30-10.10 **Dr. Tsvika Tsuk** (Israel):  
 “Urban water reservoirs in the land of the Bible during the Bronze Age and the Iron Age (3000-586 B.C.)”.
- 10.10-10.50 **Mr. Yehuda Peleg** (Frontius Gesellschaft):  
 “The stone pipeline of Susita-Hippos (Decapolis)”.
- 10.50-11.10 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson: Dr. Ahmed Khalifa Al-Shamsi** (Fujairah-United Arab Emirates)  
 11.10-11.50 **Dr. Estee Dvorjetski** (Haifa University):  
 "Thermo-mineral waters in the eastern Mediterranean basin: historical, archaeological and medicinal aspects".
- 11.50-12.30 **Dr. Claude Vibert-Guigue** (CNRS-Paris):  
 "Water problems during the Umayyad period in Jordan: architectural evidence".
- 12.30-16.00 Lunch  
 16.30-16.30 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Jeremy Black** (University of Oxford)  
 16.30-17.10 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (Israel Antiquities Authority):  
 "Ancient agricultural settlement in 'Uvda valley, southern Negev, 6<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C."
- 17.10-17.50 **Dr. Stephanie Dalley** (Oxford University):  
 "Water management in Assyria in the ninth to seventh centuries B.C."
- 17.50-18.30 **Dr. Danila Piacentini** (University of Rome):  
 "Palmyra's springs in the epigraphic sources".

**TUESDAY 18 JULY 2000**  
 (Venue: Rhodes House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Mr. Michael Macdonald** (University of Oxford)  
 09.30-10.10 **Dr. Khaleel Al-Muaikel** (King Saud University):  
 "A unique water system in Wadi al-Shuwahitayah, north Arabia".
- 10.10-10.50 **Dr. Fiorella Scagliarini** (Italy):  
 "The origin of the qanat system in the Al 'Ula area in the light of the Gabal 'Ikma inscriptions".
- 10.50-11.10 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson: Mr. Peter Parr** (University of London)  
 11.10-11.50 **Mr. John P. Zeitler** (Naturhistorische Gesellschaft Nürnberg):  
 "Irrigation in Nabataean agriculture in the greater Petra area".
- 11.50-12.30 **Prof. Dr. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University):  
 "Water cisterns and reservoirs in Judaea and Nabatea during the Hellenistic and the Roman Periods".
- 12.30-16.00 Lunch  
 16.00-16.30 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University)  
 16.30-17.10 **Dr. Zeev Meshel** (Tel Aviv University):  
 "The water supply of the Hellenistic-Roman desert fortress near the Dead Sea".
- 17.10-17.50 **Prof. Dr. Paolo Costa** (University of Bologna):  
 "Reservoirs and accelerators in the traditional water management of Arabia"
- 17.50-18.30 **Prof. Dr. Serge Cleuziou** (CNRS-France):  
 "Irrigation in the early Bronze Age in the Oman Peninsula: the evidence from Hili".

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**ARAM SIXTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
 (Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Palestinian Christianity**

**16-18 JULY 2001**

**MONDAY 16 JULY 2001**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)



- Chairperson:** **Prof. Dr. Paolo Costa** (University of Bologna)
- 09.15-09.50 **Prof. Maria Teresa Viviani** (Catholic University of Chile):  
“The Jordan river as a natural barrier between two expressions of Christianity. An architectural analysis of 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> centuries Palestine and Hawran”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Rev. Dr. David Clark** (University College London):  
“Jordanian Byzantine churches and space syntax analysis: an application toward a hierarchical theology”.
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Dr. Estee Dvorjetski** (Haifa University):  
“The synagogue-Church at Jerash in Jordan and its contribution to the study of ancient synagogues”.
- 11.30-12.05 **Mr. Peter Fabian** (Ben-Gurion University):  
“A unique monumental church at Beer-Sheva”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Steven L. Derfler** (University of Wisconsin-River):  
“The Byzantine church at tel Keriot, Negev”
- 12.40-15.30 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Hannah Hunt** (University of Leeds)
- 16.00-16.35 **Mr. Doron Bar** (Hebrew University):  
“The Christian rural population of Palestine during Late Antiquities: a case of forced conversion or proselytising?”
- 16.35-17.10 **Dr. Jacqueline Calzini** Gysens (Italian Institute for Africa and the Orient):  
“Change and continuity in urban settlement patterns in Palaestina Tertia: the case of Christian Areopolis (Rabba, Jordan)”.

#### **TUESDAY 17 JULY 2001**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Dr. Amos Kloner** (Bar Ilan University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Dr. Haim Goldfus** (Ben-Gurion University):  
“Urban monasteries in Early Byzantine Palestine”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Prof. Rehav Rubin** (Hebrew University):  
“Greek and Syriac Anchorites in the laura of St. Firmin”
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Prof. Dr. Johannes Hahn** (Westf. Wilhelms Universität Münster):  
“Trading in tradition – martyrdom and persecution in early Byzantine Gaza”.
- 11.30-12.05 **Dr. David Woods** (University College Cork, Ireland):  
“The ‘martyrdom’ of Bishop Sophronius of Jerusalem”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Roberto Sanchez Valencia** (University of Mexico):  
“The Monophysite conviction in the East versus Byzantium’s political convenience: A historical look to Monothelism in Palestine”.
- 12.40-13.15 **Dr. Kathleen Hay** (University of Melbourne):  
“Severus of Antioch: an inheritor of Palestinian monasticism”
- 12.40-15.30 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 16.00-16.35 **Dr. Andrew Oddy** (British Museum):  
“The Christian coinage of early Muslim Syria?”
- 16.35-17.10 **Dr. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena):  
“The survival of holy stories in Christian Palestinian Aramaic texts”.

#### **WEDNESDAY 18 JULY 2001**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

**Chairperson: Prof. Dr. John Healey** (University of Manchester)  
 09.15-09.50 **Mr. Pachomios R. Penkett** (University of Reading):  
 “Palestinian Christianity in the Spiritual Meadow of John Moschos”.

09.50-10.25 **Prof. Pau Figueras** (Ben Gurion University):  
 “Mythological themes in Palestinian Byzantine mosaics”.

10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee  
 10.55-11.30 **Dr. Kate Leeming** (University of Oxford):  
 “The adoption of Arabic as a liturgical language by the Palestinian Melkite”.

11.30-12.05 **Dr. Mariam Nanobashvili** (Tbilisi State University):  
 “The development of literary contacts between the Georgians and the Arabic speaking Christians in Palestine from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> century”.

12.05-12.40 **Dr. Mika Levy-Rubin** (The Kibbutzim College & The Hebrew University):  
 “The reorganisation of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem during the early Moslem period”.

12.40-15.30 Lunch  
 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
 16.00-16.35 **Prof. Irfan Shahid** (Georgetown University):  
 “Arab Christianity in Palestine in pre-Islamic times”.

16.35-17.10 **Prof. Sidney Griffith** (Catholic University of America):  
 “Jerusalem and the holy places: a setting for Muslim/Christian encounters in Arab Christian texts in the early Islamic period”.

17.10-17.15 Closing Address.

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## **ARAM SEVENTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### **The Mandaean**

**07-09 JULY 2002**

**SUNDAY 07 JULY 2002**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

**Chairperson: Dr. Ghassan Al-Murani** (Oxford)  
 08.00-13.00 **Mandaean baptism in the Thames River**, Wolvercote village, near the Trout Inn Restaurant.  
 13.00-16.00 Lunch  
 16.00-17.30 **An exhibition of Mandaean arts and culture** at the Oriental Institute.

**MONDAY 08 JULY 2002**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

### **A- ACADEMIC PAPERS**

**Chairperson: Dr. John Healey** (University of Manchester)  
 09.15-09.50 **Dr. Erica C.D. Hunter** (Cambridge University):  
 “Modern Mandaean communities in Iraq”.

09.50-10.30 **Dr. Şinasi Gündüz** (Ondokuz Mayıs University-Turkey):  
 “Mandaean parallels in Yezidi beliefs and folklore”.

10.30-11.00 Tea/Coffee  
 11.00-11.40 **Mr. Martin Lindgren** (University of Uppsala):  
 “Mandaean or Nasurai: an anthropological perspective”.

11.40-12.20 **Miss. Roberta Borghero** (University of Cambridge):  
 “Some linguistic features of a Mandaean manuscript from the seventeenth century”.

- 12.20-13.00 **Prof. Edmondo Lupieri** (University of Udine):  
 “Friar of Ignatius of Jesus (Carlo Leonelli) and the first scholarly book on  
 Mandaeism (1652)”.
- 13.00-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Michael Sokoloff** (Bar Ilan University)
- 16.00-17.00 **Prof. Dr. Dr. Kurt Rudolph** (Philipps-Universität):  
 “The relevance of Mandaean literature to the study of Near Eastern religions”.
- 17.00-17.30 **Open discussion.**

## TUESDAY 9 JULY 2002

(Venue: the Oriental Institute, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. J. F. Coakley** (Harvard University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Mr. Bogdan Burtea** (Freie Universität Berlin):  
 “Šarh d-Paruanaiia. A Mandaean ritual commentary”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Dr. Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst** (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences):  
 “The short Parthian hymn in M4a: mwqr’nyg”.
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena):  
 “The question of the origin of the Mandaeans”.
- 11.40-12.20 **Prof. Dr. Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College):  
 “A re-investigation of the Book of John”.
- 12.20-13.00 **Open Discussion.**
- 13.00-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

## **B- PUBLIC TALKS**

- Chairperson: Dr. Ghassan al-Murani** (Oxford)
- 16.00-16.25 **Škanda Salem Choheili Salman** (Ahwaz – Iran):  
 “A school for Mandaic language and literatures in Ahwaz”.
- 16.25-16.50 **Mr. Masoud Forouzandeh** (Mandaean Research Centre – Iran):  
 “Mandaean cultural heritage in Iran”.
- 16.50-17.15 **Mr. Jaroslaw Fret** (Jerzy Grotowski’s Centre – Poland):  
 “Mandaean baptism in Iran: Photographic records”.
- 17.15-17.20 Closing address.

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## ARAM EIGHTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### The Manichaeans

10-11 JULY 2002

## WEDNESDAY 10 JULY 2002

(Venue: the Oriental Institute, Lecture Room 1)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)
- 09.15-09.50 Dr. Desmond Durkin-Meisterernst (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences):  
 “The Manichaean magical text M389-M8430/I”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Prof. F. Stanley Jones** (California State University):  
 “The Book of Elchasai in its relevance for Manichaean institutions”.
- 10.25-10.45 Tea/Coffee

- 10.45-11.20 **Prof. Jason David BeDuhn** (Northern Arizona University):  
“The Near Eastern connections of Manichaeans confessionary practice”.
- 11.15-11.50 **Prof. Dr. François Decret** (France):  
“Le manichéisme en Afrique du Nord et ses rapports avec la secte en Orient”.
- 11.50-12.00 Short break
- 12.00-12.35 **Dr. Helmut Waldmann** (University of Tübingen):  
“Manichaeism shapes modern Europe: Eleanor of Aquitania (1124-1204)”.
- 12.35-13.10 **Dr. John C. Reeves** (University of North Carolina-Charlotte):  
“A Manichaean Blood Libel”.
- 13.10-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

- Chairperson: Dr. J. S. Montserrat-Torrents** (Barcelona)
- 16.00-16.40 **Dr. Zsuzsanna Gulacsi** (Sophia University-Japan):  
Sideways pictures of Manichaean, Christian, and Islamic illuminated manuscripts”.
- 16.40-17.20 **Dr. Jorinde Ebert** (University of Vienna):  
“Some aspects of Manichaean dress in the Turfan oasis.”

#### THURSDAY 11 JULY 2002

(Venue: the Oriental Institute, Lecture Room 1)

- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)
- 09.15-09.50 **Mr. Tudor Sala** (University of Bonn):  
“Ephrem Syrus’ encounter with the Manichaeans discourse”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Mr. Marcus Bierbaums** (Universität Bonn):  
“Ephrem the Syrian on freedom of will in Manichaeism (Pr. II-XXVIII): a reference to the Manichaean common property?”.
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 11.00-11.40 **Dr. Frédéric Alpi** (CNRS):  
“Les Homélie Cathédrales de Sévère d’Antioche: observations sur quelques passages négligés relatifs aux Manichéens.”
- 11.40-12.20 **Dr. Sam Lieu** (University of Macquarie):  
“Manichaean terminology in Syriac – some observations”.
- 12.20-13.00 **Dr. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena):  
“The question of the contents of Manichaean Syriac Bowls”.
- 13.00-13.05 Closing address.
- 13.30-15.00 **Conference Lunch** at the Tarbouch Lebanese Restaurant.

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#### ARAM NINETEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### Alcohol

7-9 JULY 2003

MONDAY 7 JULY 2003

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Prof. Maria Teresa Viviani** (Catholic University of Chile):  
“The role of alcoholic beverages in Sumer and Akkad: an analysis of iconographic patters (III millennium)”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Ms. Natascha Bagherpour Kashani** (Julius-Maximilian Universität):  
“The ‘Cultic Vase’ from Inandik: Was it used for Alcohol?”
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee

- 10.55-11.30 **Dr. Max Nelson** (Windsor University):  
“Beer in Graeco-Roman Antiquity”.
- 11.30-12.05 **Dr. Michael Decker** (Rice University - Houston):  
“The wine trade of Cilicia in Late Antiquity”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Stephan Dähne** (German Institute for Oriental Studies – Beirut):  
“A Christian-Arabic sermon against the sin of drunkenness from the half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century”.
- 12.40-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 16.00-16.35 **Mr. Moheb Chanesaz** (Université Libanaise):  
“Les pressoirs du vin au Liban: étude archéologique et historique”.
- 16.35-17.10 **Dr. Souad Slim** (University of Balamand):  
“Viticulture in waqf land XVIII and XIX centuries Lebanon”.

### TUESDAY 8 JULY 2003

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Witold Witakowski** (Uppsala University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Dr. Lukas Amadeus Schachner** (University of Oxford):  
“‘I greet you and thy brethren. Here are fifteen shentasse of wine’: wine as a product in the early monasteries of Egypt and the Levant”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University):  
“The structure and installation at Hulda and their function as a winepress”.
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Dr. Lucinda Dirven** (University of Amsterdam):  
“Banquet scenes from Hatra”.
- 11.30-12.05 **Dr. Danila Piacentini** (University of Rome):  
“The funeral ceremony in Palmyra and its alcoholic beverages”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Steven Derfler** (University of Wisconsin):  
“The 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE Persian wine presses at Tel Michal and the wine presses of the Sharon”.
- 12.40-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)
- 16.00-16.35 **Prof. Joseph Patrich** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“Was Dionysus, the Wine god, venerated by the Nabataeans?”.
- 16.35-17.10 **Mr. Zeyad al-Salameen** (University of Manchester):  
“Nabataean wine-presses from Bayda, southern Jordan”.
- 7pm **Banquet** at Tarbouch Lebanese Restaurant.

### WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2003

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford):  
“The prohibition of alcohol in the Syrian ascetic spirituality: a new analysis of its origins”.
- 09.50-10.25 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):  
“Sobria ebrietas in some Syriac texts”.
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Dr. David Taylor** (University of Birmingham):  
“The hymns in praise of wine by Khamis bar Qardahe”.
- 11.30-12.05 **Dr. Bo Holmberg** (Lund University):  
“Longing for unconsciousness”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Kathryn Kueny** (Lawrence University):  
“Wine and mystical speculation in Islam”.

12.40-12.50 Closing address.

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**ARAM TWENTIETH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Palestinian Christianity**

**MONDAY 28 JUNE 2004**

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Prof. Mohammad Waheeb** (Hashemite University, Jordan):  
“Christian remains at the Baptism site in Wadi Karrar.”
- 09.50-10.25 **Dr. Estee Dvorjetski** (University of Haifa):  
“Christians at the thermo-medical baths in Roman-Byzantine Palestine.”
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Rev. Dr. David L. Clark** (UCL Bartlett School of Graduate Studies):  
“The purative church at Aqaba-Jordan: the latest archaeological architectural and liturgical analysis.”
- 11.30-12.05 **Prof. Dr. Pau Figueras** (Ben Gurion University):  
“Remains of a mural painting of the Transfiguration in the Southern church of Sobata (Shivta).”
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Weksler-Bdolah** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“The Christianisation of Jerusalem – Archaeological record and accepted history.”
- 12.40-16.00 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 16.00-16.35 **Dr. Haim Goldfus** (Ben Gurion University):  
“A new discovery of a monastery in the Negev desert: the burial place and its liturgical use.”
- 16.35-17.11 **Dr. Jacqueline Calzini Gysens** (Italian Institute for Oriental & African Studies, Rome):  
“Aropolis (Jordan): diagnostic research and preliminary considerations.”

**TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2004**

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. John Healey** (Manchester University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Dr. John F. Wilson** (Pepperdine University, USA):  
“The statue of Christ at Baniyas: a saga of Pagan-Christian confrontation in the 4<sup>th</sup> century Syro-Palestine.”
- 09.50-10.25 **Dr. Leah Di Segni** (Hebrew University):  
“The use of chronological systems in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> centuries Palestine.”
- 10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee
- 10.55-11.30 **Dr. Edward Watts** (Indiana University):  
“Concerning the sophistic and ascetic mélange: Zacharias Scholasticus and intellectual influence of Aeneas of Gaza, and John Rufus.”
- 11.30-12.05 **Dr. Stéphane Verhelst** (Switzerland):  
“La disparition de la brebis perdue en carême. À propos d’une homélie de Jean de Bolnisi. ”.
- 12.05-12.40 **Dr. Istvan Perczel** (Central European University, Budapest):  
“An old-new document of the six-century origenism: the Erotapokriseis of Pseudo-Caesarius.”.
- 12.40-16.00 Lunch

15.30-16.00 Tea/Coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. David Taylor** (University of Oxford)

16.00-16.35 **Dr. Kate Leeming** (University of Oxford):

“Worship in the vernacular. Mar Saba monastery and the mission of the slaves.”

16.35-17.11 **Prof. Dr. Martin Tamcke** (University of Göttingen):

“Palestinian Christians as they were seen by a German traveller in 1898-1899.”

19.00-22.00 **Banquet** at al-Shami Lebanese Restaurant.

### WEDNESDAY 30 JUNE 2004

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

**Chairperson: Dr. Mary Milne** (St. Mary’s University, USA)

09.15-09.50 **Dr. Philippe Roisse** (École des Hautes Études Hispaniques, Casa de Valázquez, Granada):

“From Palestine to al-Andalus: sketching the relations between Christians of both sides of the Mediterranean in the Middle Ages and the beginning of the modern era.”

09.50-10.25 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):

“East Syriac pilgrims to Jerusalem in 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> centuries: the evidence of colophons.”

10.25-10.55 Tea/Coffee

**Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University)

10.55-11.30 **Prof. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College, USA):

“Attitudes of early Protestant Missionaries toward local Christians in Palestine and Transjordan.”

11.30-12.05 **Dr. Antony O’Mahony** (Heythrop College, University of London):

“Christian presence and theology in modern Jerusalem.”

12.05-12.40 **Prof. Charles H. Miller** (St. Mary’s University, Texas):

“Hermeneutical problems for a Palestinian Catholic reading the Old Testament and current pastoral responses.”

12.40-12.50 Closing address.

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### ARAM TWENTY FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### Pilgrimages and Shrines in the Syrian Orient

### WEDNESDAY JULY 6 2005

(Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University)

09.00-09.35 **Dr. Ramez Boutros** (French Institute of Oriental Archaeology in Cairo):

“The cult of Syrian physician saints in Egypt: literary and religious exchange.”

09.35-10.10 **Dr. Tamila Mgaloblishvili** (Tbilisi University):

“An unknown Georgian monastery from the 5<sup>th</sup> century in Umm Leison, near Jerusalem”.

10.10-10.45 **Dr. Joel Walker** (University of Washington):

“The festival at Melqi: A late antique martyr shrine in Adiabene (Northern Iraq)”.

10.45-11.15 Tea/coffee

11.15-11.50 **Dr. Lamia El-Khouri** (Yarmouk University):

“Did the Nabataeans perform pilgrimage?”

11.50-12.25 **Mr. Moulay Mhamed Janif** (Sorbonne University):

“Sacred time in Petra and Nabatea: some epigraphical and archaeological evidences”.

12.25-13.00 **Dr. Gaby Abou-Samra** (University of the Holy Spirit – Kaslik, Lebanon):

- “The pilgrimage of Thodoros, the monk, from Saydnaya to Jerusalem: a study of a 14<sup>th</sup> century manuscript from Lebanon”.
- 13.00-15.30 Lunch  
15.30-16.00 Tea/coffee at Queen Elizabeth House
- Chairperson: Dr. Alison Salvesen** (University of Oxford)
- 16.00-16.35 **Dr. Khalid Sindawi** (Tel Aviv University):  
“The pilgrimage to the tomb of Al-‘Iusayn b. Ali in Shite poetry: 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries AH (8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> centuries CE)”.
- 16.35-17.10 **Dr. Mohammad Suwaed** (Jordan Valley Academic College):  
“Rituals of pilgrimage to Muslim Saints’ graves in the north of the Holy land during the Ottoman period”.
- 17.10-17.45 **Dr. Mahmoud Yazbak** (University of Haifa):  
“Common shrines for Muslims and Christians in Galilee during the Ottoman period”.

#### THURSDAY JULY 7 2005

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Dr. Avril Makhlof** (Catholic University of America)
- 09.00-09.35 **Dr. Marlène Kanaan** (Balamand University):  
“À propos du pèlerinage et des quelques lieux saints au Liban et en Syrie à l’époque médiévale.”
- 09.35-10.10 **Dr. Osman EravPar** (Selçuk University):  
“Anatolia-Syria Caravan Road and Menzil Caravansaries in 13th century”.
- 10.10-10.45 **Dr. Hana Taragan** (Tel Aviv University):  
“Pilgrimages and shrines: Baybars and Maqam Nabi Musa near Jericho”.
- 10.45-11.15 Tea/Coffee  
11.15-11.50 **Dr. Daniella Talmon-Heller** (Ben Gurion University of the Negev):  
“The ‘revival’ of ancient graves in Zangid and Ayyubid Syria (1150-1260)”.
- 11.50-12.25 **Prof. Pau Figueras** (Ben Gurion University):  
“The location of Xenodochium sancti Georgii in the light of a graffito-inscription in Mizpe Shivta.”
- 12.25-13.00 **Dr. Samy Swayd** (San Diego State University):  
“Sanctifying Space: Job, Jethro, and the Druzes.”
- 13.00-15.30 Lunch  
15.30-16.00 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson: Dr. Marina Bazzani** (Oxford University)
- 16.00-16.35 **Dr. Lucinda Dirven** (University of Amsterdam):  
“Hatra:, a pre-Islamic Mecca?”.
- 16.35-17.10 **Prof. Tomas E. Levy** (University of California at San Diego):  
“Prehistoric pilgrimage in the Southern Levant – New views from the Gilat sanctuary”.
- 17.10-17.45 **Dr. David Woods** (University College Cork):  
“Adomnan, Arculf, and the True Cross: overlooked evidence for Heraclius’ pilgrimage to Jerusalem c. 630”.
- 19.00-22.00: Banquet

#### FRIDAY JULY 8 2005

(Venue: Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09.00-09.35 **Mrs. Aliaa El Sandouby** (University of California at Los Angeles):  
“The places of Ahl al-Bayt in Bilad al-Sham.”
- 09.35-10.10 **Ms. Michelle Zimney** (University of California at Santa Barbara):  
“The Sayyida Zaynab shrine in Damascus: the making of history.”
- 10.10-10.45 **Dr. André Binggeli** (CNRS – Paris):



- “Fairs and pilgrimages on the hajj road between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries in Bilad al-Sham.”
- 10.45-11.15 Tea/Coffee
- 11.15-11.50 **Dr. Leah Di Segni** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“The development of Christian tombs’ cult during the Second Temple’s period.”
- 11.50-12.25 **Dr. Rina Avner** (Israel Antiquity Authority):  
“The pilgrimage site at Kathisma”.
- 12.25-13.00 **Dr. Maria Luisa Mansfield** (Harvard University):  
“Jerusalem in the 19<sup>th</sup> century: changes in the built environment”.
- 13.00-15.30 Lunch
- 15.30-16.00 Tea/coffee at Queen Elizabeth House
- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (Oxford University)
- 16.00-16.35 **Prof. Martin Tamcke** (University of Göttingen):  
“Abraham of Kashkars pilgrimage to the West”.
- 16.35-17.10 **Dr. Cornelia Horn (St. Louis University):**  
“Perspectives on children as pilgrims and shrines of holy children in the early Syriac tradition.”
- 17.10-17.45 **Miss. Francesca P. Barone** (University of Palermo):  
“Pilgrims & pilgrimages in John Chrysostom”.
- 17.45-18.00 Closing address.

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### **ARAM TWENTY SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Iconography and Mythology of Prophet Elijah, St George, and Al-Khodor in the Syrian Orient**

**04-06 JULY 2006**

**TUESDAY JULY 4 2006**

(Venue: Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09.15-09.50 **Dr. Daphna Arbel** (University of British Columbia):  
“Elijah, Enoch, and Metaron: Elijah’s imagery in the Hekhalot and Merkavah literature.”
- 09.50-10.30 **Prof. Yoram Bilu** (Hebrew University):  
“The worship of Prophet Elijah the ‘Gate of Paradise’ in Beit She’an.”
- 10.30-11.50 Tea/coffee
- 10.50-11.30 **Dr. Yaron Harel** (Bar Ilan University):  
“The commemoration of Prophet Elijah in the Jewish communities of Aleppo and Damascus: customs, rituals and holy caves.”
- 11.30-12.10 **Miss. Maja Kominko** (Oxford University):  
“Elijah in the ‘Christian topography’ – Syriac story in Greek image.”
- 12.10-12.50 **Miss. Lucy Wadson** (Oxford University):  
“Chariots of Fire: Elijah and the Zodiac in synagogue floor mosaics of Late Antique Palestine.”
- 13.00-15.30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Marina Bazzani** (Oxford University)
- 15.30-16.10 **Dr. Francesca P. Barone** (Palermo University) & **Gianluca Masi** (University of Florence),:  
“The image of Prophet Elijah in Pseudo-Chrysostom”.
- 16.10-16.50 **Dr. David Woods** (University College Cork):  
“Pope Zacharias and the head of St. George.”

### WEDNESDAY JULY 5 2006

(Venue: Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University)  
09.15-09.50 **Dr. Joshua A. Sabih** (Copenhagen University):  
"Creating a universal history of salvation: Ilyas and al-Khodor in Quranic Exegesis."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr. Shady H. Nasser** (Harvard University):  
"Al-Khodor in relation to Alexander the Great and 'people of the cave' as presented in the Quran."  
10.30-11.50 Tea/Coffee  
10.50-11.30 **Dr. Sonia Fellous** (IRHT – CNRS Paris):  
"The prophet Elijah in the Doura Europos synagogue."  
11.30-12.10 **Prof. Pau Figueras** (Ben Gurion University):  
"Iconography of St. George and other military saints in Byzantine Palestine."  
12.10-12.50 **Dr. Netice Yildiz** (Eastern Mediterranean University - Cyprus):  
"Reflection of St. George and Hidr Elias in the architectural decorations in Cyprus and quest of their origin in the Syrian art."  
12.50-13.10 **Dr. Aharon Gaimani** (Bar-Ilan University):  
"The Chair of Eliyahu and the Jewish circumcision ceremony."  
13.10-15.30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University)  
15.30-16.10 **Dr. Marlene Kanaan** (Balamand University – Lebanon):  
"Places, legends, and traditions related to the cult of St. George in Lebanon."  
16.10-16.50 **Mr. Gibran Maamary** (Balamand University – Lebanon):  
"The iconography of St. Elias and St. George in the Orthodox churches in Lebanon."  
19.00-22.00: Banquet

### THURSDAY JULY 6 2006

(Venue: Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum)

- Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
09.15-09.50 **Dr. Mordechai Aviam** (University of Rochester):  
"Archaeological remains of St. George/al-Khodor in Western Galilee-Israel."  
09.50-10.30 **Dr. Zvi Uri Ma'oz** (Golan Research Institute):  
"Elijah-Mar George at Cesarea-Philippi-Banias."  
10.30-11.50 Tea/Coffee  
10.50-11.30 **Dr. Antony O'Mahony** (Heythrop College):  
"El-Muhraga - Elijah's Altar': Tradition and Carmelite presence on Mount Carmel in the Ottoman and Modern Period."  
11.30-12.10 **Dr. Osman Eravsar** (Seljuk University):  
"Miniature paintings of prophet Elijah and Al Khodor in Ottomon Period".  
12.10-12.50 **Miss. Hasmik Tovmasyan** (Yerevan State University):  
"Common saints for Muslims and Christians? Khidr and the cult of St. Sargis in Armenia."  
13.00-15.30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)  
15.30-16.10 **Dr. Teresa Fitzherbert** (Ashmolean Museum – Oxford):  
"The Freer Canteen: a further speculation."  
16.10-16.50 **Mr. Stephen Hirtenstein** (Ibn 'Arabi Society):  
"The Mantle of Khadir: mystery, myth and meaning according to Muhyidin Ibn 'Arabi."  
16.10-16.50 Closing address.

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**ARAM TWENTY THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Modern Syriac Literature**

**10-12 APRIL 2007**

**TUESDAY APRIL 10 2007**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago)

- Chairperson:** Mrs Linda Wheatley-Irving (University of Chicago)
- 09.005-09.40 **Prof. Martin Tamcke** (University of Göttingen):  
“The difficult way to becoming an academic. Lazarus Jaure’s distress during his study at the University in Germany.”
- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. George Kiraz** (Gorgias Press):  
“Tabetha Syriac: child acquisition of classical Syriac, the first years.”
- 10.20-11.00 **Dr. Robert Paulissian** (Journal of Assyrian Academic Studies):  
“The continuity and maintenance of modern Syriac in Iran, after the exodus of Assyrians from Urmia in 1918 to the present time.”
- 10.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee
- 11.30-12.10 **Dr. J.F. Coakley** (Harvard University):  
“Assyrian printers in the United States.”
- 12.10-12.50 **Mr. Daniel Benjamin** (Journal of Assyrian Academic Studies):  
“The Assyrian printing presses in Iraq during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.”
- 12.50-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-15.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Stuart Creason** (University of Chicago)
- 15.00-15.40 **Prof. Heleen Murre-van den Berg** (Leiden University):  
“Syriac writing in the Church of the East between 1500 and 1800.”
- 15.40-16.20 **Prof. Amir Harrak** (University of Toronto):  
“The Garshuni inscriptions of Iraq: appearance, style, and development.”
- 16.20-17.00 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford):  
“Maronite contribution to modern Syriac literature.”
- 18.00-20.00: Reception organized by the **Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation**.

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 11 2007**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)
- 09.005-09.40 **Mr. Youel A. Baaba** (Baaba Library):  
“The evolution of short story in modern Assyrian literature.”
- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Samuel Fox** (Chicago):  
“Some features of neo-Aramaic and narrative.”
- 10.20-11.00 **Prof. Geoffrey Khan** (University of Cambridge):  
“The syntax and discourse structure of neo-Aramaic narrative texts from Barwar.”
- 10.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee
- 11.30-12.10 **Dr. Eleanor Coghill** (University of Cambridge):  
“Neo-Aramaic folk-stories.”
- 12.10-12.50 **Prof. Istvan Perczel** (Tübingen University & Central European University Budapest):  
“Classical Syriac as a modern lingua franca in South India between 1600 and 2006.”
- 12.50-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-15.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson:** **Prof. Donald Whitcomb** (University of Chicago)

- 15.00-15.40 **Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney):  
“A collection of letters in Syriac and Arabic addressed to Eduard Sachau.”
- 15.40-16.20 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford):  
“The use of Modern Literary Syriac in Qolo Suryoyo over the years.”
- 16.20-17.00 **Prof. Yona Sabar** (University of California at Los Angeles):  
“Romantic songs in Christian neo-Aramaic as preserved in Kurdistan Jewish Folklore.”
- 19.30-22.00: Banquet sponsored by the **Northbrook Institute for Research and Development.**

**THURSDAY APRIL 12 2007**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09.005-09.40 **Dr. Abdul Massih Saadi** (Notre Dame University):  
“The translation of the Bible into modern Aramaic dialect of Tur ‘Abdin.”
- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Zomaya Solomon** (USA):  
“The use and lack of the definite and indefinite article in the Assyrian Aramaic language.”
- 10.20-11.00 **Dr. Helen Younansardaroud** (Freie Universität Berlin):  
“Assyrian Proverbs and idioms.”
- 10.00-11.30 Tea/Coffee
- 11.30-12.10 **Prof. Alessandro Mengozzi** (University of Bergamo):  
“A Neo-Aramaic poem on the Russian-Turkish war (1876-1878): Modern Syriac literature from Northern Iraq at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.”
- 12.10-12.50 **Prof. Bruno Poizat** (University of Claude Bernard Lyon 1):  
“La collection de lettres aux Pères de mar Yaqo, conservée à la Bibliothèque du Saulchoir.”
- 12.50-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-15.00 Tea/Coffee
- Chairperson:** **Prof.** (University of )
- 15.00-15.40 **Mr. David Malik** (Chicago):  
“Modern Assyrian hymns in the Church of the East.”
- 15.40-16.20 **Mr. Daniel Wolk** (University of Alabama at Birmingham):  
“Qasha Samuel Yosip bet Kulya and Discourse against the Hachaqoghe Thieves of the Cross .”
- 16.20-17.00 **Dr. Shawqi Talia** (Catholic University of America):  
“The socio-cultural history of some Dorekyatha from Northern Iraq.”
- 17.00-17.15 **Conference ends:** Closing address.

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**ARAM TWENTY FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Prof. Rifaat Ebied (University of Chicago), & Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, (University of Oxford)

**The Mandaean**

**08-10 JULY 2007**

**SUNDAY JULY 08 2007**

(Venue: Sancta Sophia College, University of Chicago)

- 08:30 Leave Sancta Sophia College for Penrith
- 10:00-13:00 **Mandaean Baptism Ceremony**, Nepean River, Penrith, conducted by the Mandaean Clergy in Sydney [Ganzivra Salah Chohili, Dr Brikha Nasoraia, Tarmida Karim ‘Uraybi and Tarmida Youhanna Nashmi].

- 13:30-16:00 **Visit to the Mandi in Wallacia** by invitation from Mr Majid Fandi al-Mubaraki and reception, courtesy of Mr. al-Mubaraki, Publisher of Mandaean Books.
- 17:00-21:00 **Reception** hosted by The Mandaean Council of Australia in Stars Palace Reception Hall, Fairfield. During the Reception the following presentations will be made: (i) A recorded address by **Mrs. Peggy Hackforth-Jones**; (ii) Display of the first volume of the **Codex Codicum Mandaeorum** Series; (iii) An Exhibition of Mandaean arts, cultural and literary items.

**Exhibitions:**

- Mandaean Baptism by Dr Edward Crangle and Rabbi Dr Brikha Nasoraia.
- Mandaean Books, Periodicals and artifacts by The Mandaean Council of Australia.
- Mandaean paintings by Mr Faisal al-Sa'di.
- Mandaean artwork by the Mandaean Ladies Association, Sydney.

**MONDAY JULY 09 2007**

(Venue: Sancta Sophia College, University of Chicago)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)
- 09:00-09:15 **Welcome and Introduction.** Conference Registration is on throughout the day at the main door of the Conference hall.
- 09:15-09:30 **Mandaean Religious songs** presented by "Al-Nur" Group.
- 09:30-10:30 **Prof. Dr. Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College)  
**key-note address:** "New perspectives on the Sage Dinanukt in Right Ginza 6."
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee
- 11:00-12:00 **Dr Edward Crangle & Rabbi Dr. Brikha Nasoraia** (University of Sydney):  
"Soul Food: The Mandaean Laufani."
- 12:00-12:40 **Prof. Dr. Iain Gardner** (University of Sydney):  
"Searching for traces of the 'utria in the Coptic Manichaica'"
- 12:40-13:45 Lunch

- Chairperson: Dr. Erica C.D. Hunter** (Cambridge University)
- 14:00-14:40 **Dr. Dennis P. Walker** (Monash Asia Institute-Melbourne): "Multi-acculturation and bilingualism of Mandaean people during the Saddam Husayn regime."
- 14:40-15:20 **Mrs. Sandi van Rompaey** (PhD researcher at La Trobe University-Melbourne):  
"The notion of the Tree in Mandaean symbolic art."
- 15:20-15:50 Tea/coffee
- 15:50-16:50 **Dr. Maikel Annalee & Rabbi Dr. Brikha Nasoraia:**  
"The Mandaean Cosmogony."
- 16:50-17:30 **Mrs. Barunaya Shnan** (Baghdad University):  
"Quotations of 'the planets' influence on earth' in the Mandaean Asfar Milwasha Manuscript."
- 19:30-22:00 **Reception** hosted by the Sabian Mandaean Association in Australia Ltd. In Al-Manda Reception Hall, Liverpool. During the Reception the following presentations will be made: (i) A recorded address by **Mrs. Peggy Hackforth-Jones**; (ii) Display of the first volume of the **Corpus Codicorum Mandaeorum** Series.

**TUESDAY JULY 10 2007**

(Venue: Sancta Sophia College, University of Chicago)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)  
Conference Registration continues during the morning.
- 09:00-09:50 **Dr. Erica C.D. Hunter** (Cambridge University):  
"Mandaean History and Literature: Perspectives from Incantation Bowls."
- 09:50-10:30 **Dr. Jürgen Tubach** (Martin-Luther-Universität-Halle):  
"Proto-Mandaean in Theodore bar Konai's appendix to his Old Testament commentary."
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee

- 11:00-12:00 **Prof. Garry Trompf & Rabbi Dr. Brikha Nasoraia** (University of Sydney):  
“Reflecting on the 'Rivers Scroll'”
- 12:00-12:40 **Miss. Jennifer Hart** (PhD researcher at Indiana University-USA):  
“Yahia as a Mandaean Rasul?: Some thoughts on Islam's influence on the  
development of Mandaean literature.”
- 12:40-13:45 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 14:00-14:40 **Dr. Mark J. Lofts** (Australia):  
“Mandaism as the sole extant tradition of Sethian gnosticism.”
- 14:40-15:20 **Rabbi Dr. Brikha Nasoraia** (Sydney University):  
“The Scroll of the Great Creation.”
- 15:20-15:50 Tea/coffee
- 15:50-16:50 **Dr. Dan Shapira** (Bar-Ilan University):  
““Apocalypse and the Last Days in seventh century Iraq: A Mandaean text and its  
parallels”.”
- 16:50-17:30 **Prof. Dr. Werner Arnold** (Heidelberg University):  
“Archaic features in modern Mandaic and Western Neo-Aramaic.”
- 17:30-18:30 **Conference ends:** Mandaean Religious songs presented by “Al-Nur” Group;  
Concluding Remarks and Recommendations.

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## ARAM TWENTY FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### **The Decapolis: History & Archaeology**

**07-10 JULY 2008**

**MONDAY, JULY 07, 2008**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09:00-09:35 **Prof. Estee Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University): “Military and Medical History  
of Gadara as Reflected by the City-Coins.”
- 09:35-10:10 **Mr. Michael Eisenberg** (University of Haifa): “Hippos' Hellenistic-Early Roman  
Fortifications following Eight Seasons of Excavations.”
- 10:10-10:45 **Prof. Zeev Weiss** (Hebrew University): “Buildings for mass entertainment in the  
cities of the Decapolis.”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Dr. Claudia Bührig** (Orient Dept of the German Archaeological Institute: DAI):  
“Gadara (Umm Qais). Continuity and change in the urban structures from a  
Hellenistic hilltop site to a Roman linear structure”.
- 11:50-12:25 **Dr. Chaim Ben David** (Jordan Valley College-Israel): “The Jewish settlements in the  
districts of Hippos, Skytopolis and Gadara.”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Joseph Patrich** (Hebrew University)
- 14:00-14:35 **Dr. Leonardo Gregoratti** (University of Udine): “The Role of the Decapolis Region  
in connecting Inland Syria with the Mediterranean Coast.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Dr. Karel Vriezen** (University of Utrecht): “Ancient Gadara and its region.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 15:30-16:05 **Mr. Benny Arubas** (Hebrew University): “Town planning and urban developments  
in Scythopolis during the time of the Decapolis.”

- 16:05-16:40 **Prof. Yoram Tsafir** (Hebrew University): “The Decapolis again – further notes on the meaning of the term.”
- 16:40-19:00 **Mini Tour of Oxford** City organised by Miss. Lucy Wadson.

### **TUESDAY, JULY 08, 2008**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University)
- 09:00-09:35 **Prof. Jolanta Mlynarczyk** (Warsaw University): “Churches and the society in Byzantine-period Hippos.”
- 09:35-10:10 **Dr. Andrew Oddy** (England): “The coinage of Abila in the early Umayyad period.”
- 10:10-10:45 **Prof. John Wineland** (Kentucky Christian University): “Byzantine Ecclesiastical Organization in the Decapolis: Evidence from Abila.”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/Coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Dr. Robert W. Smith** (Roanoke Bible College): “Walls of the Decapolis.”
- 11:50-12:25 **Dr. David W. Chapman** (Covenant Theological Seminary): “Roman Remains at Decapolis Abila: An Update on Twenty-Eight Years of Excavations.”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Robert Wenning** (University of Münster)
- 14:00-14:35 **Dr. Achim Lichtenberger** (University of Münster): “The Decapolis and Phoenicia.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Prof. Basema Hamarneh** (Kore State University of Central Sicily – Enna): “The influence of the urban model of the Decapolis on rural settlements of Arabia in the byzantine and early Islamic epoch.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 15:30-16:05 **Dr. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College): “Crossroads of Empires: Pre-Hellenistic/Roman Interest in the Decapolis Territory.”
- 16:05-16:40 **Dr. Kate da Costa** (University of Sydney): “Transport costs, tax and borders in the Decapolis.”
- 19:00-22:00: Banquet

### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 09, 2008**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Judith McKenzie** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:35 **Dr. Shaher Rababe'h** (The Hashemite University-Jordan): “The temples of Zeus and Artemis and their relation to the urban context of Gerasa.”
- 09:35-10:10 **Mr. Kristoffer Damgaard** (University of Copenhagen): “Sheltering the Faithful: Using archaeological data to reconstruct the roof of the Umayyad mosque in Jarash.”
- 10:10-10:45 **Mr. Sufyan Al Karaimh** (University of Leiden): “Water as display of pleasure or wealth? An ethnographic research of local irrigation systems in the North of Jordan.”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/Coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Prof. Joseph Patrich** (Hebrew University): “The Hippodrome of Gerasa reconsidered in light of the Herodian Hippo-Stadium of Caesarea Maritima.”
- 11:50-12:25 **Dr. Orit Peleg-Barkat**, (Hebrew University): “The introduction of classical architectural decoration into cities of the Decapolis: Scythopolis, Hippos, Gerasa and Gadara.”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Miss. Lucy Wadson** (University of Oxford)
- 14:00-14:35 **Dr. Michele Piccirillo** (Studium Biblicum Franciscanum): “The mosaic floors of Jordan dated with the era of the Decapolis.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Prof. Dr. Thomas M. Weber** (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität): “Roman Marble Sculpture in the Decapolis.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee

- 15:30-16:05 **Dr. Charles March** (Royal Holloway-University of London): “From Temple to Church, the spatial aspects of religious transition.”
- 16:05-16:40 **Dr. Lucinda Dirven** (University of Amsterdam): “The Decapolis and the Imperial Cult.”

**THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2008**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. David Milson** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:35 **Dr. Margaret O’Hea** (University of Adelaide): “Regional identities and glass assemblages in the Decapolis and its neighbours.”
- 09:35-10:10 **Mr. Julian Bowsher** (Museum of London): “The Foundation of Roman Capitolas.”
- 10:10-10:45 **Dr. Katharina Galor** (École biblique et archéologique française de Jérusalem & Brown University): “Tiberias beyond the borders of the Decapolis.”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/Coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Dr. Nadine Riedl** (Berlin): “Zeus on Decapolis city coins: A mere local issue?”
- 11:50-12:25 **Dr. Kenneth Lonnqvist** (University of Helsinki): “New Perspectives on the Roman coinage on the Eastern limes in the late republican and Roman imperial period: The introduction of Roman denarii to Syria-Palestine .”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 14:00-14:35 **Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): “The architectural heritage of the cities of the Decapolis in the buildings and art of the Byzantine churches of Transjordan.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Mr. Ross Burns** (Macquarie University-Australia): “The function of the colonnaded axes in the cities of the Decapolis.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 15:30-16:05 **Prof. David Adan-Bayewitz** (Bar-Ilan University): “Trade between Provincia Judaea and the Decapolis in the first century C.E.: Archaeological-analytical evidence from Scythopolis and Hippos.”
- 16:05-16:40 **Dr. Bernhard Lucke** (Brandenburg University of Technology (BTU) Cottbus) “Demise of the Decapolis: : past and present desertification in the context of soil development, land use, and climate.”
- 16:40-17:00 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM TWENTY SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Neo-Aramaic Dialects**

**06-08 JULY 2009**

**MONDAY, JULY 06, 2009**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09:00-09:40 **Mr. Nicholas al-Jeloo** (University of Sydney): “Stonecutters for Scribes: Neo-Aramaic funerary inscriptions and Christian Assyrian carving centres on the Urmia and Salamas plains.”
- 09:40-10:20 **Dr. Hezy Mutzafi** (Tel Aviv University): “Barzani Jewish Neo-Aramaic as a transitional dialect cluster.”
- 10:20-11:00 **Miss. Michal Schwartzbart** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):



- 11:00-11:30 “The Exposition unit in folktales in the Jewish dialect of Zakho.”  
Tea/coffee
- 11:30-12:10 **Mr. Ariel Gutman** (École Normale Supérieure & Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle) :  
“Reexamination of the Bare Preterite Base in the Jewish Neo-Aramaic Dialect of Zakho.”
- 12:10-12:50 **Dr. Eran Cohen** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“The determination system: the Jewish dialect of Zakho.”
- 12:50-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)
- 14:30-15:10 **Dr. Eleanor Coghill** (Cambridge University):  
“The Neo-Aramaic dialects of Aqra.”
- 15:10-15:50 **Dr. Roberta Borghero** (Cambridge University):  
“The Neo-Aramaic dialect of Ankawa.”
- 15:50-16:30 **Dr. Geoffrey Khan** (Cambridge University):  
“The Jewish Neo-Aramaic Dialects of Iran.”
- 16:30-17:00 Tea/coffee

### TUESDAY, JULY 07, 2009

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Fabrizio Pennacchietti** (University of Turin)
- 09:00-09:40 **Dr. Samuel Ethan Fox** (USA):  
“The weak verbs of Bohtan Neo-Aramaic.”
- 09:40-10:20 **Prof. Dr. Martin Tamcke** (Göttingen University):  
“Intercultural or Transcultural? Some observations to texts from the Urmia- Region in the late 19th and early 20th Century.”
- 10:20-11:00 **Dr. Alessandro Mengozzi** (Università degli Studi di Bergamo):  
“The contribution of early Christian vernacular poetry from North Iraq to Neo-Aramaic dialectology.”
- 11:00-11:30 Tea/coffee
- 11:30-12:10 **Dr. Shabo Talay** (Philpps University of Erlangen):  
“The object suffixes in Turoyo and NENA.”
- 12:10-12:50 **Dr. Norman Solhkhah** (Mesopotamian Musuem, Chicago):  
“The creation of an electronic archives of Assyrian manuscripts.”
- 12:50-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Emma Loosely** (University of Manchester)
- 14:30-15:10 **Dr. Kunjumon A. Plathottathil** (Oxford University):  
“Syriac words in Malayalam dialect.”
- 15:10-15:50 **Dr. Marco Moriggi** (Università degli Studi di Catania - Italy):  
“Between late and modern Aramaic: reflections on some phenomena in Aramaic varieties of Late Antiquity.”
- 15:50-16:30 **Dr. Alinda Damsma** (Cambridge University):  
“The Hassana-dialect of South Eastern Turkey.”
- 16:30-17:00 Tea/coffee
- 19:00-22:00: Banquet

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 08, 2009

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University)
- 09:00-09:40 **Dr. Helen Younansardaroud** (Freie Universität Berlin):  
“ A manuscript from Assfalḡ’s Catalogue entitled: Die Erzählungen aus Urmia. ”

- 09.40-10.20 **Dr. Maciej Tomal** (Warsaw University):  
 “Tūrōyo Perfect and NENA Perfects. A Preliminary Syntactical Analysis.”
- 10:20-11:00 **Dr. Michael Waltisberg** (Philipps-Universität Marburg):  
 “Perspectives for a project investigating Turoyo syntax.”
- 11:00-11:30 Tea/coffee
- 11:30-12:10 **Mr. Nineb Lamassu** (Firodil Institute-UK):  
 “What can the Songs of the Assyrian Mountaineers Tell us about their Composers?”
- 12:10-13:00 **Prof. Olga Kapeliuk** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
 “The copula in Urmi Neo-Aramaic in suppletion with the verb h-v-j.”
- 13:00 **Conference ends**

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**ARAM TWENTY SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Mandaean**

**09-11 JULY 2009**

**THURSDAY, JULY 09, 2009**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:45 **Mrs. Sandi van Rompaey** (La Trobe University, Australia):  
 “The Symbolism of the /Drabsa/ in the Mandaean illustrated manuscripts.”
- 09.45-10.30 **Dr. Sacha Stern** (University College London):  
 “The origins of the Mandaean calendar.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS-University of London):  
 “Comparative perspectives on Mandaic incantation texts.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Prof. Iain Gardner** (University of Sydney):  
 “Mani's 'Book of Mysteries': Prolegomena to a new look at Mani, the baptists and the Mandaean.”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 14:30-15:15 **Mr. John Flannery** (Heythrop College-University of London):  
 “The Augustinians and the Mandeans in 17th c. Mesopotamia.”
- 15:15-16:00 **Dr. Edward F. Crangle** (University of Sydney):  
 “The Asutha Wish: Adam Kasia and the Dynamics of Healing in Mandaean Contemplative Praxis.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 19:00-22:00 Banquet.

**FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS-University of London)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Matthew Morgenstern** (Haifa University):  
 “The present state of Mandaic philology.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Miss. Jennifer Hart** (PhD candidate, Indiana University):  
 “Making a case for a connection between Mandaean literature and Islam.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. David Hamidovic** (Western Catholic University, Angers, France):

- 11:45-12:30 “The links between Dead Sea Scrolls and Mandaean Liturgy.”  
**Dr. Christa Kessler** (University of Jena – Germany):  
 “A Mandaean Incantation Against an Anonymous Demon (DC 43 E and DC 20).”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS-University of London)
- 14:30-15:15 **Miss. Caroline Nik Nafs** (University of Bamberg – Germany):  
 “The ‘Lebenswelt’ of the Iranian Mandaeans in the 21st century.”
- 15:15-16:15 **Prof. Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College):  
 “Mandaean-Sethian Connections.”
- 16:15-16:45 Tea/coffee

**SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2009**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Emily Cottrell** (University of Leiden):  
 “Al-Shahrazuri al-Ishraqi and the Mandaeans.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Charles G. Häberl** (The State University of New Jersey):  
 “The demon and the damsel: A Mandaean folk tale from Iraq.”
- 10:20-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Jay Johnston** (University of Sydney):  
 “Towards a typology of Drawings of spirit beings in Mandaean, gnostic and ancient magical texts.”
- 11:45-12.30 **Dr. James F. McGrath** (Butler University-USA):  
 “Mandaean polemic against Jews and Christians as evidence about the origins and setting of early Mandaeism.”
- 12:30 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM TWENTY EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
 (Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Zoroastrianism in the Levant**

**05-07 JULY 2010**

**MONDAY, JULY 05, 2010**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Almut Hintze** (SOAS-University of London)
- 09:00-09:35 **Prof. Aida Gasimova**, (Baku State University-Azerbaijan):  
 “Worships, beliefs and traditions connected with fire in pre-Islamic Arabia and Zoroastrianism.”
- 09.35-10.20 **Prof. Vicente Dobroruka**, (University of Brasilia)  
 “Zoroastrian apocalyptic and Hellenistic political progaganda.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Prof. Dan Shapira** (Bar-Ilan University):  
 “Pahlavi texts on fire.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Geoffrey Herman** (Cornell University):  
 “Like a slave before his master" A Persian gesture of deference in Sasanian Jewish and Christian sources.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch break
- Chairperson: Dr. Sarah Stewart** (University of London):
- 14:30-15:15 **Prof. Alan Williams**, (University of Manchester)

- 15:15-16:00 “Purity Boundaries and Rules Reconsidered.”  
**Prof. Maria Macuch** (Freie Universität Berlin):  
 “The Case against Mār Abā, the Catholicos, in the Light of Zoroastrian-Sasanian Law.”
- 16:30-21:30 **Zoroastrian Maachi Ceremony & Dinner** at the Zoroastrian Centre, Harrow (London): hosted by “Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe”.

**TUESDAY, JULY 06, 2010**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09:00-09:35 **Mr. Samuel Thorpe** (PhD Candidate, University of California at Berkeley):  
 “Abraham and the critique of Judaism in the Škand Gumanig Vizar.”
- 09:30-10:45 **Profs. P. Oktor Skjaervo** (Harvard University) & **Prof. Yaakov Elman** (Yeshiva University):  
 “The shared scholastic culture of late Sasanian Iran or does pollution need stairs?”
- 10:45-11:15 tea/coffee
- 11:15-11:45 **Mr. Burzine Waghmar** (PhD candidate: SOAS, University of London):  
 “Matthew’s Midrashic Magi.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Jenny Rose** (Claremont Graduate University-USA):  
 “The Good Shepherd and the Whore of Babylon: archetypal resonances between Zoroastrians and Jews.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch break

- Chairperson: Dr. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College-USA)
- 14:30-15:15 **Dr. Sara Kuehn** (Austria):  
 “The Dragon Fighter: the Influence of Zoroastrian Ideas on Judaeo-Christian and Islamic Iconography.”
- 15:15-16:00 **Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw):  
 “Zoroastrian echoes in the paintings of the Mithraeum of Hawarte, Syria.”
- 16:00-16:30 tea/coffee
- 19:00-22:00: **Aram Dinner**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 07, 2010**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:30 **Dr. Mikael Nicheanian** (Bibliothèque Nationale de France-Paris):  
 “The Zoroastrians in Byzantine Historiography
- 09:30-10:15 **Dr. Matteo Compagni**, (Italy):  
 “The Representation of Zoroastrian Divinities in Late Sasanian Art and their Description in Avestan Literature.”
- 10:15-11:00 **Mr. Farrokh Vajifdar**, (World Zoroastrian Organisation):  
 “A Wilderness of Ideas.”
- 11:00-10:30 Tea/Coffee
- 11:30-12:15 **Dr. Patricia Crone** (Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton):  
 “The descent of the fravahrs and a Mu'tazilite Sufi myth on the origins of mankind.”
- 12:10-13:00 **Prof. Jamsheed K. Choksy** (Indiana University):  
 “Relations between the Zoroastrians and Jewish communities in Iran.”
- 13:00-13:30 **Dr. Bahman Moradian** (University of Kerman - Iran):  
 “The day of ‘Mihr’ month and the ceremony of ‘Mihrized’ in Yazd.”
- 13:30-14:00 **Conference ends**

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**ARAM TWENTY NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

## **Astrology in the Ancient Near East**

**08-10 JULY 2010**

**THURSDAY, JULY 08, 2010**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09.15-10.00 **Dr. Daphna Arbel** (University of British Columbia):  
“Astrology and the Zodiac in Sefer Hekhalot.”
- 10:00-10:45 **Dr. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller University-Jena):  
“Mandaic signs of the Zodiac and related sources”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Ms. Asia Halim** (University of London):  
“An Iron Age Levantine bronze Bowl and the tradition of the Eight-fold Zodiac in the Ancient Near East.”
- 11:50-12:35 **Prof. Meir Bar-Ilan** (Bar-Ilan University):  
“The Hebrew Book of Creation and the Syriac Book of Shem.”
- 12:35-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Gerald Mattingly** (Johnson Bible College-USA)
- 14:00-14:35 **Ms. Asia Halim** (University of London):  
“Mithraic Iconography and precedents on a Seleucid Zodiacal Clay Tablet and an Etruscan Mirror.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Dr. Joan Taylor** (King’s College London) :  
“Astrological symbolism in Philo of Alexandria’s De Vita Contemplativa.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 15:30-16:05 **Prof. Jin Han** (New York Theological Seminary):  
“The Zodiac and the Bible: Revisiting Pagan Footprints in Daniel 7 and 8”
- 16:05-16:40 **Ms. Helen R. Jacobus**, (Ph.D candidate, The University of Manchester):  
“The Zodiac Calendar in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Babylonian Horoscopes.”
- 19:00-22:00: **Aram Dinner** (venue to be announced later)

**FRIDAY, JULY 09, 2010**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. John Wineland** (Kentucky Christian University)
- 09:00-10:00 **Prof. Francois Villeneuve** (University of Paris 1) & **Dr. Pascale Linant de Bellefonds** (CNRS-France):  
“The Zodiac reliefs discovered on the frieze of the Nabataean-roman temple at Dharih (Jordan).”
- 10:00-10:30 **Dr. Judith McKenzie** (University of Oxford):  
“The context of the Zodiac of Khirbet et-Tannour, Jordan.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:40 **Mr. Nicholas al-Jeloo**, (University of Sydney):  
“Kaldāyūthā: the Spar-Sammān and Late Antique Syriac Astrology. ”
- 11:40-12:15 **Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw):  
“The Zodiac of the Bel temple in Palmyra.”
- 12:15-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw)
- 14:00-14:35 **Mrs. Rosalind Park** (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) :  
“Dating the Dendera Zodiac.”
- 14:35-15:10 **Dr. Hana Taragan** (Tel-Aviv University) :

- “The appearance of the Zodiac on metalwork in Iran in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries CE.”
- 15:10-15:30 Tea/coffee
- 15:30-16:05 **Dr. Nicholas Campion** (University of Lampeter-UK):  
“More on the transmission of the Babylonian Zodiac to Greece.”
- 16:05-16:40 **Dr. Lih Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“Perpetual geometric motifs and the cycle of the year in the churches of the Holy Land.”

**SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2010**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:35 **Dr. Osman Eravsar**, (Seljuk University-Turkey):  
“Symbols related to Astrology in Seljuk art.”
- 09:35-10:10 **Rev. Jim Collins**, (Ottawa – Canada):  
“Abraham and Astrology - A Medieval Syriac Perspective.”
- 10:10-10:45 **Ms. Devon Stewart** (PhD candidate, Emory University) :  
“Conservation and innovation; the Zodiac in Egyptian art.”
- 10:45-11:15 Tea/Coffee
- 11:15-11:50 **Dr. Emidio Vergani** (Italy):  
“Le destin et la liberté dans les Hymni contra Haereses 11-12 d’Éphrem.”
- 11:50-12:25 **Mr. Roland Laffitte** (Pantin – France):  
“Aramaic as a major intermediary in the diffusion of Babylonian Zodiac.”
- 12:25-12:30 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM THIRTIETH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Trade Routes and Seafaring in the Ancient Near East**

**04-06 JULY 2011**

**MONDAY, JULY 04, 2011**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson:** **Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (The University of Sydney)
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Dina Frangié-Joly**, (University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne):  
“Umm Hadar: a fort on the River Jordan (historical and archaeological research).”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Iris Sulimani**, (Hebrew University Haifa University):  
“Egyptian heroes travelling in Hellenistic road networks: the representation of the journeys of Osiris and Sesostris in Diodorus.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Antony Spalinger**, (Auckland University, New Zealand):  
“Overland in the Sinai: The Sile to Gaza Road in Literature and Art.”
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson:** **Dr. Dina Frangié-Joly**, (University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne)
- 14:00-14:45 **Prof. Meir Bar-Ilan** (Bar-Ilan University):  
“King Solomon's trade with India.”
- 14:45-15:30 **Dr. William D. Glanzman**, (Mount Royal University – Canada):  
“By land, and by sea: problems and solutions in assessing camel caravan commerce in Arabia.”
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee
- 16:00-16:45 **Prof. Ben Zion Rosenfeld**, (Bar-Ilan University):

16:45-17:30 “Linen Trade in Roman Palestine in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries.”  
**Mr. Kristoffer Damgaard** (University of Copenhagen):  
“Modelling mercantilism: trade and the archaeological landscapes of the early Islamic Red Sea.”

**TUESDAY, JULY 05, 2011**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Moshe Fischer** (Tel Aviv University)  
09:00-09:45 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (The Arava Institute & The Dead Sea-Araba Research Center):  
“Ancient desert roads and the Nabatean trade routes in the Negev.”  
09:45-10:30 **Dr. Caroline Sauvage**, (New York University):  
“Of fish and ships in the late second millennium B.C.E. eastern Mediterranean.”  
10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee  
11:00-11:45 **Prof. Estee Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University):  
“Sailing on the Dead Sea: Historical, Archaeological and Medicinal Perspectives from Antiquity to the Middle Ages.”  
11:45-12:30 **Dr. Gil Gambash**, (University of Haifa):  
“Maritime Activity in the Ancient Southern Levant - the Case of Late Antique Dor.”  
12:30-14:00 Lunch

**Chairperson: Dr. William D. Glanzman**, (Mount Royal University – Canada)  
14:00-14:45 **Dr. Leonardo Gregoratti**, (Udine University):  
“The Palmyrene trade lords and the protection of the caravans.”  
14:45-15:30 **Dr. Eivind Heldaas Seland**, (University of Bergen - Norway):  
“Camels and the practicalities of Palmyrene caravan trade.”  
15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee  
16:00-16:45 **Prof. Moshe Fischer**, (Tel Aviv University):  
“Yavneh-Yam (Israel): archaeology of East-West commerce at the Mediterranean.”  
16:45-17:30 **Mr. Nicholas al-Jeloo** (PhD Candidate, University of Sydney):  
“Traders and Churches in Beth-‘Arvaye: recent discoveries and the Christian heritage of Syriac Mesopotamia.”  
19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 06, 2011**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Ben Zion Rosenfeld**, (Bar-Ilan University)  
09:00-09:45 **Dr. Abdullah Abduljabbar** (King Saud University):  
“The Nabataeans' maritime activities.”  
09:45-10:30 **Dr. Tziona Grossmark** (Tel Hai College):  
“The Pandocheion in Rabbinic Literature”  
10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee  
11:00-11:45 **Dr. Roger S. Nam** (George Fox University):  
“The Ma'hadu port: A test case for economic anthropology and understanding Late Bronze Age exchange.”  
11:45-12.30 **Dr. Louise M. Pryke** (University of Sydney):  
“Trade Routes and fierce disputes: the disruption of Trade Routes in the Amarna Letters.”  
12:30-12:40 Conference ends

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**ARAM THIRTY FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Amorites**

## 11-12 JULY 2011

### MONDAY, JULY 11, 2011

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (The University of Sydney)
- 09:00-09:50 **Dr. Dan’el Khan** (University of Haifa):  
“One step forward, two steps backward: Amuru between Amenhotep III, king of Egypt and Tushratta, king of Mitanni.”
- 09.50-10.40 **Dr. Laurent Colonna d’Istria**, (Université de Genève):  
“The kingdom of Mari and Amorites during the nineteenth-century BC.”
- 10:40-11:10 Tea/coffee
- 11:10-12:30 **Dr. Richard Dumbrill** (Institute of Musical Research, School of Advanced Study, University of London.) & **Dr. Myriam Marcetteau** (Sorbonne University, Paris):  
“Music at Mari during the last dynasties (1787-1762) under the reigns of Yasmah-Addu and Zimri-Lim.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Mrs. Madeline L. Pruitt** (University of California at Berkeley)
- 14:30-15:20 **Dr. Felice Israel** (University of Genoa):  
“Amorite Studies III: The onomastic of one unknown Amorite tribe: the Hyksos.”
- 15:20-15:50 Tea/coffee
- 15:50-16:30 **Dr. Minna Lönnqvist** (University of Oulu, Finland):  
“Jebel Bishri and the earliest state formation of the Amorites – an archaeological perspective.”
- 16:30-17:20 **Prof. Dr. Juan Oliva Mompean** (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha - Spain):  
“On Syrian inner Chronology at the end of the Amorite Period.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

### TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2011

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Juan Oliva Mompean** (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha - Spain)
- 09:00-09:50 **Dr. Riens de Boer** (Leiden University):  
“The Amorite takeover in Northern Babylonia around 1900 BC and its effects on society.”
- 09.50-10.40 **Dr. Viktor Golinets** (University of Basel):  
“The verb in the Amorite Onomasticon of the Old Babylonian Period.”
- 10:40-11:10 Tea/coffee
- 11:10-12:00 **Dr. Daniel Bodi**, (University of Paris 8):  
“The Retribution Principle in the Amorite View of History: Yasmah-Addu’s Letter to Nergal (ARM I 3) and Adad’s Message to Zimri-Lim (A. 1968)”
- 12:00-12:50 **Prof. Lorenzo Nigro** (University of Roma):  
“The Amorites, Jericho and the Intermediate Bronze Age.”
- 12:50-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Minna Lönnqvist** (University of Oulu, Finland)
- 14:30-15:20 **Dr. Adam E. Miglio**, (Wheaton College):  
“The dynamics of legitimate authority: uncovering another potential rival to Zimri-Lim’s kingship.”
- 15:20-15:50 Tea/coffee
- 15:50-16:30 **Prof. Amanda Podany** (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona):  
“Royal land grants in Amorite kingdoms: the evidence from Hana.”
- 16:30-17:00 **Conference ends**



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**ARAM THIRTY SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Western Christian Missions in the Levant**

**18-19 JULY 2011**

**MONDAY, JULY 18, 2011**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Antony O'Mahony** (Heythrop College, University of London):  
"The First Papal Pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the Holy Land: Paul VI, January 1964."
- 09:45-10:30 **Ms. Deanna Womack** (PhD Candidate, Princeton Theological Seminary):  
"Imperial politics and theological practices: Comparative transformations in Anglo-American and Russian Orthodox missions to Syria-Palestine."
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Mr. Samir Boulos** (PhD Candidate, University of Zurich):  
"Culturally entangled spaces: Western missionary institutions in Egypt."
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. J.E. Coakley** (Cambridge University):  
"Mission presses in the Middle East: the bibliographical state of affairs."
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Karen Sanchez** (Leiden University)
- 14:00-14:45 **Dr. Khalid Dinno** (University of Toronto):  
"The Western Missions and the motivation for revival within the Syriac Orthodox Church."
- 14:45-15:30 **Dr. Sotiris Roussos** (University of Peloponnese – Greece)  
"A defensive "Mission": The Greek "Committee for the support of the Greek Church and education" (1893-1912)."
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee
- 16:00-16:45 **Dr. Gerasimos P. Makris** (Panteion University, Athens Greece):  
"The Greek Orthodox Church of the Sudan: ethnically Greek and black African believers in a missionary vacuum."
- 16:45-17:30 **Dr. Peter Cowe** (University of California at Los Angeles):  
"Franciscan and Dominican contacts with the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia in the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries and their later activities among Armenian communities in the Levant."

**TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. David D. Grafton**, (Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia)
- 09:00-09:45 **Ms. Catriona Laing** (PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge):  
"A missionary's study of Islamic devotion: a strategy for mid-20<sup>th</sup> -century Christian missions to the Middle East." 09:45-10:30
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Paolo Maggolini** (Luspi University, Rome):  
"The land of Transjordan as a mission field. The development of Catholic and Protestant missionary establishments in Karak during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century."
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Miss. Ariana Patey** (PhD Candidate, Heythrop College):  
"Making Christ present: The concept of Holy Land and Charles de Foucauld's mission to Algeria."
- 11:45-12:30 **Ms. Florence Hellot-Bellier** (PhD Candidate, Paris III La Sorbonne Nouvelle):  
"Christian Missionaries in Persia and the Iranian Constitutional Revolution."

12:30-14:00 Lunch

- Chairperson: Dr. Walid Hindo** (Northbrook Institute for Research and Development - Chicago)
- 14:00-14:45 **Mr. Hasan Çolak** (PhD student, Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman & Modern Greek Studies, University of Birmingham):  
“Catholic infiltration in the Levant and responses of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchs.”
- 14:45-15:30 **Prof. Martin Tamcke** (University of Göttingen):  
“Detwig von Oertzens’ mission to the Levant.”
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee
- 16:00-16:45 **Dr. David D. Grafton** (Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia):  
“For God and which Country?: Lutheran Pietists and their role in 19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican Mission Societies in the midst of the “Eastern Question” from 1825-1898.”
- 16:45-17:30 **Dr. Karène Sanchez Summerer** (University of Leiden):  
“Education, linguistic policies and identity building process under pressure- The impacts of the French Catholic Schools in Palestine (1908-1968).”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

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### **ARAM THIRTY THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### **Zoroastrianism in the Levant**

**04-06 JULY 2012**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 04, 2012**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University):
- 09:00-09:50 **Dr. Ezio Albrile** (Italy)  
“Hypnotica iranica: Zoroastrian Ecstasy in the West.”
- 09:50-10:40 **Dr. Daphna Arbel**, (The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada):  
“On Human’s Elevation, Hubris, and Fall from Glory. Traditions of King Yima and Enoch-Metatron - An indirect Cultural Dialogue?”
- 10:40-11:10 Tea/coffee
- 11:10-12:00 **Ms. Simin Patel** (Oxford University)  
“ ‘The Shoe Question’: Parsi self-fashioning in colonial Bombay.”
- 12:00-12:50 **Ms. Asia Halim** (PhD candidate at the University of London)  
“Hidden dimensions of Zoroastrian practice at Persepolis”
- 12:50-15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00-15:30 Tea/Coffee
- 15:30-16:20 **Dr. Alison Betts** (University of Sydney)  
“Kingship and the Divine in Ancient Khorezm”
- 16:20-17:10 **MMag. Predrag Bukovec** (Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen)  
« Iranian Influences on Mandaean Eschatology »

**THURSDAY, JULY 05, 2012**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (Warsaw University)
- 09:00-09:50 **Dr. Mehdi Estakhr** (Alabama State University USA):  
“The Journey of the Magi: the religious and political context.”
- 09:50-10:40 **Dr. Vicente Dobroruka** (Brasilia University, Brazil):  
“Mixtures and dreaming according to Persian and Jewish visionaries? Dn 2 in relation to “the mixed iron” in the Zand-i Wahman Yasn.”

- 10:40-11:10 Tea/Coffee  
 11:10-12:00 **Dr. Navid Fozi** (National University of Singapore)  
 "The Plight of Zoroastrians in Shi'i-dominated Iranian Culture: The Socio-Discursive Construct of a Distinctive Community."  
 12:00-12:50 **Mr. Malcolm Deboo** (The Zoroastrian Turst Fund of Europe):  
 "The Zoroastrian Centre in Harrow, London."  
 12:50-15:00 Lunch break  
 15:00-15:30 Tea/Coffee  
 15:30-16:20 **Dr. Andrew D. Magnusson** (PhD Candidate at the University of California, Santa Barbara):  
 "On the origins of the prophet Muhammad's charter to the Zoroastrians."  
 16:20-17:10 **Miss. Paulina Niechcial** (PhD Candidate at the University of Jagiellonian, Cracow):  
 "The Contemporary Collective Identity of Tehrani Zoroastrians."  
 19:00-22:00: **Banquet**

**FRIDAY, JULY 06, 2012**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Iain Gardner** (University of Sydney)

- 09:00-09:50 **Prof. David Sick** (Rhodes College)  
 "A Zoroastrian Interpretation of Xerxes' Dreams"  
 09:50-10:40 **Mr. Marcin Wagner** (PhD candidate at Warsaw University):  
 "A fire temple at a Topaz Kala Tepe in Turkmenistan."  
 10:40-11:10 Tea/Coffee  
 11:10-12:00 **Dr. Myriam Wissa** (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London):  
 "Pre-Islamic Topoi in Dho'l-Nun al-Mesri thoughts: A re-assessment of Egyptian and Hermetic-Gnostic echoes of knowledge, wisdom and truth and their connections with Zoroastrianism."  
 12:00-12:50 **Dr. Helene Giunachvili** (G. Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies, Georgia):  
 "Zoroastrian terminology in old Georgian sources."  
 15:00-20:00 **A Visit to the Zoroastrian Centre in Harrow London**

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**ARAM THIRTY FORTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Idumeans and the Nabataeans**

**24- 27 JULY, 2012**

**TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2012**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. John Bartlett** (Trinity College, Dublin)  
 09:00-09:45 **Mr Stefan Höhn** (University of Mainz):  
 "Natural recourses and human response as limits of landscape history in a border area of Edom."  
 09:45-11:00 **Dr. Eyal Baruch & Prof. Avraham Faust** (Bar-Ilan University):  
 "From Edom to Idumaea: On the Emergence of Province Idumaea"  
 11:00-11:30 Tea/coffee  
 11:30-12:15 **Prof. Chaim Ben-David** (Kinneret College, Israel):  
 "You who live in the clefts of the rocks" Jeremiah (49:16) Edomite Rock-Shelters in Southern Jordan."  
 12:15-13:00 **Dr. Eyal Ben-Eliyahu** (Hebrew University & University of Haifa):

- 13:00-14:30 “What Does 'Fair Babylon' have to Do with Sela' in Edom (Psalms 137)”  
Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Yigal Levin (Bar-Ilan University)**  
14:30-15:15 **Dr. Erez Ben-Yosef**, (Tel Aviv University):  
“Technologies and identities: copper production in the Arabah and ancient Edom”
- 15:15-16:00 **Prof. Daniel Bodi** (Université de Paris 8 Vincennes- Saint-Denis) :  
“The Food List on a 4th Century BCE Idumean Ostrakon and the Feast of King David”.
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 16:30-17:15 **Prof. Bezalel Porten** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“The Idumean Aramaic ostraca from the fourth century BCE.”
- 17:15-18:00 **Prof. Israel Shatzman** (Hebrew University):  
“Did the Idumaeans convert voluntarily into Judaism? The evidence of Strabo.”

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2012

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami)  
09:00-10:30 **Mrs. Lee Perry-Gal; Prof. G. Bar-Oz, Dr. A. Erlich, &**, (University of Haifa):  
“The Zooarchaeology of Idumean Maresha (Israel): Ethnic identity and site use”.
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Yigal Levin** (Bar-Ilan University):  
“The Formation of Idumean Identity.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Prof. Amos Kloner**, (Bar-Ilan University)  
“Idumea and the Idumaeans.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar-Ilan University)  
14:30-15:15 **Dr. Yuval Baruch** (Hebrew University):  
“The Archaeological Aspects of Rural Settlement in Idumea”
- 15:15-16:00 **Dr. Zeev Meshel** (Tel Aviv University)  
“The Linkage between the Nabatean Rock-Shelters, the Judean Desert Fortresses and Masada’s Edomites Phase”
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 16:30-17:15 **Dr Moti Haiman** (Israel Antiquity Authority and Bar Ilan University)  
“Spatial Perspective of the Edomites and the Nabateans”
- 17:15-18:00 **Professor Estēe Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University and University of Haifa) &  
**Dr. Lamia el-Khoury** (Yarmouk University):  
“The Nabataean Theatre Performances: A Reassessment”

### THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Judith Mckenzie** (Oxford University)  
09:00-09:45 **Dr. Brian Schmidt** (University of Michigan):  
“Emerging Aspects of Early Edomite Religion of the Iron Age: A 21st Century Perspective”
- 09:45-10:30 **Mr. Uri Davidovich** (Hebrew University):  
"Between Judea, Edom and Nabatea: the Southern Judean Desert in the first millenium BC".
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Adi Erlich** (University of Haifa):  
“Similarity and Difference Between the Art of Idumea and Nabataea in the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman Periods”
- 11:45-12:30 **Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami):  
“The Maresha Aramaic Ostraca: New Evidence for Idumaeans and “Nabataean” Arabs”

- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Ian Stern** (Archaeological Seminars Institute - Jerusalem):  
“Bilateral Low Ethnic Boundary Maintenance in Hellenistic Maresha as Reflected in the Material Finds.”
- 13:15-15:00 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Brian Schmidt** (University of Michigan)
- 15:00-15:40 **Dr Rachel Barkay** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“New Aspects of Nabatean Coins”
- 15:40-16:10 Tea/coffee
- 16:10-17:00 **Prof. Piotr Bienkowski** (University of Manchester) & **Prof. Stephan G. Schmid** (Humboldt University Berlin):  
“Recent work on Umm al-Biyara in Petra and the issue of Iron Age-Nabataean continuity.”
- 17:00-17:45 **Dr. Fabrice De Backer** (University of Louvain):  
“New Perspectives in Jordan : WYAS and KKASP”
- 17:45-18:00 **Dr. Judith Mckenzie** (Oxford University):  
“A short announcement about Manar al-Athar.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

### FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2012

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Fabrice De Backer** (University of Louvain)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Mohammad Nasarat** (Al-Hussein Bin Talal University, Jordan):  
“The epithets of Nabataean Kings: A historical and critical study.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Juan Manuel Tebes** (Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina):  
Edom: The Arabian Connection”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Prof. Joseph Patrich** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem):  
“The two military expeditions of Antigonus Monophthalmos against the Nabataeans reconsidered.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (Arava Institute for Environmental Studies ):  
“The Nabatean in Sinai”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 14:30-15:15 **Mr. Jonathan Ferguson** (University of Toronto):  
“The ‘Nabataeanization’ of the Beni ‘Amirat: The adoption and retention of Nabataean identity at Madaba, Jordan”
- 15:15-16:00 **Prof. Pau Figueras** (Ben-Gurion University):  
“Nabataean syncretism: the virgin and her divine son as worshipped in Elousa.”
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 18:00 **Conference ends.**

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### ARAM THIRTY FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### The Amorites and the Hurrians

4-5 APRIL 2013

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 04, 2013

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Minna Lönnqvist** (Aalto University, Finland)
- 09:00-10:00 **Ms. Asia Halim** (University of London)

- 10:00-11:00 “2M cylinder seals and contract-making: an Amorite or Hurrian Tradition?”  
**Dr. Richard Dumbrill** (Institute of Musical Research, School of Advanced Study, University of London.)  
 “H6, a new interpretation.”
- 10:00-11:30 Tea/coffee
- 11:30-12:30 **Dr. Mary R. Bachvarova** (Willamette University USA):  
 “The Hurrian goddess Shawushka.”
- 12:30-13:30 **Dr. Daniel Bodi**, (University of Paris 8)  
 “Is There a Connection Between the Amorites and the Arameans?”
- 13:30-15:30 Lunch
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee

- Chairperson:** **Dr. Daniel Bodi**, (University of Paris 8)
- 16:00-17:00 **Dr. Minna Lönnqvist** (Aalto University, Finland)  
 “Equid burials in archaeological contexts in the Amorites, Hurrians and Hyksos cultural intercourse.”
- 17:00-18:00 **Prof. Dr. Juan Oliva Mompean** (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha - Spain)  
 “Hurro-Akkadian in Late Bronze Age Syria Reconsidered”
- 18:00-19:00 **Dr. Aaron A. Burke** (University of California at Los Angeles)  
 “A historical and anthropological model for the emergence and development of Amorite societies.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 05, 2013

- 09:00 -21:00 **A Visit to the British Museum in London and a late Lebanese lunch**

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### ARAM THIRTY SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

#### Mandaicism

8-9 July 2013

#### MONDAY, JULY 08, 2013

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson:** **Rifaat Ebied** (Sydney University)
- 09:00-10:00 **Charles G. Häberl** (The State University of New Jersey)  
 “Dating the language of the Mandaean Book of John.”
- 10:00-11:00 **James F. McGrath** (Butler University-USA):  
 “Polemic, Redaction, and History in the Mandaean Book of John: The Case of the Lightworld Visitor(s) to Jerusalem.”
- 11:00-11:30 Tea/coffee
- 11:30-12:30 **Mark J. Lofts** (Australia)  
 “When did Zazai d-Gawazta live?”
- 12:30-13:30 **Brikha H.S. Nasoraia** (Mardin Artuklu: Sydney and Macquarie Universities)  
 “An Investigation into Diwan Qadaha Rba D-Dmut Kusta Copied by Yahia Ram Zihrun, Sabian Mandaean Priest.”
- 13:30-15:00 Lunch
- 15:00-15:30 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson:** **Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 16:00-17:00 **Matthew Morgenstern** (Haifa University)  
 “A new dictionary of Mandaic: Accomplishments and prospects.”
- 17:00-18:00 **Brikha H.S. Nasoraia** (Mardin Artuklu: Sydney and Macquarie Universities)

19:00-22:00 “Mandaean Sacred Art.”  
**Banquet**

**TUESDAY, JULY 09, 2013**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Erica Hunter** (University of Cambridge)

09:00-10:00 **Sandra van Rompaey** (La Trobe University - Australia)

“The function of the other: the female principle in Mandaean religious art.”

10:00-11:00 **Tania Notarius** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

“Zarazta d-Hibil Ziua: towards a textual synopsis.”

11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee

11:30-12:30 **Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College)

“The Embattled Mandaean Bread, the Pihta.”

12:30-13:30 **Discussion**

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:00 Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Jorunn J. Buckley** (Bowdoin College)

16:00-17:00 **Mark J. Lofts** (Australia)

“How old are the Psalms of Thomas and what are the connections of the Gospel of Thomas?”

17:00-18:00 **Erica Hunter** (SOAS-University of London):

“Mandaean Asylum in the UK.”

18:00-19:00 **Layla Al-Roomi** (Glasgow University)

“The Madaeans Human Rights.”

(Partly shared with Mr. Nasrir Shethur)

19:00 **Conference ends.**

**Exhibition of Mandaean Arts** on Monday and Tuesday organised by Ziad Shiltagh (Chairman of Mandaean Association UK) in the Faculty Room 2

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**ARAM THIRTY SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Christian Contribution to Arab Renaissance**

**15-17 July 2013**

**MONDAY, JULY 15, 2013**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (University of Sydney)

09:00-10:00 **Rev. Željko Paša, SJ** (Pontificium Istitutum Orientale, Roma)

“The Concept of God’s Trinity in the ‘Kitāb farā’id al-fawā’id fī uṣūl ad-dīn wa-l-‘aqā’id’ of ‘Abdīšūc bar Brīkā’.”

10:00-11:00 **Dr. Hilary Kilpatrick** (Lausanne - Switzerland)

“What were the aims of Christian writers of the 17th and early 18th century?”

11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee

11:30-12:30 **Dr. Ioana Feodorov** (Rumanian Academy, Bucharest)

“Beginnings of Arabic Printing in Ottoman Syria (1706-1711): the Romanians’ part in Patriarch Athanasios Dabbās’s achievements.”

12:30-13:30 **Dr. Hayat Bualuan** (American University of Beirut)

“Contribution of 18th Century Christian Historians of Bilad al Sham to the Arab Renaissance.”

13:30-15:30

Lunch

15:30-16:00

Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

16:00-17:00 **Dr. Paolo Maggiolini** (University of Milan)

“Tradition and Modernity. The Melkite Catholic Church from the late Ottoman Empire until the Mandate system in the Middle East.”

17:00-18:00 **Dr. Anas Soufan** (Geneva University)

“Syrian architectural Modernity between Ottomanism and Arabism?”

## **TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2013**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Carsten Walbiner** (Birzeit University, Palestine)

09:00-10:00 **Dr. Paola Pizzo** (University G. d'Annunzio, Chieti, Italy)

“Nāṣīf al-Yāzījī: his fortune in East and West at the beginning of the Arab Renaissance.”

10:00-11:00 **Dr. Antony O'Mahony** (Heythrop College - University of London)

“Ecclesial and Lay Reform movements in the Coptic Orthodox Church in modern Egypt: The Millet Council late 19th - mid-20th century.”

11:00-11:30

Tea/Coffee

11:30-12:30

**Dr. Geoffrey Roper** (London)

“The Arabic press in Malta, 1825-1842: its influence on the 19th century Arab renaissance.”

12:30-13:30

**Ms. Rana Issa** (PhD candidate at UIO, Norway)

“Bible translation and modernization of the Arabic language in the 19th century.”

13:30-15:30

Lunch

15:30-16:00

Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. Ioana Feodorov** (Rumanian Academy, Bucharest)

16:00-17:00 **Dr. Christine B. Lindner** (Near East School of Theology, Beirut)

“The woman who rocks the crib with her right hand is the one who shakes the world with her arm’: Women and gender in the Nahda.”

17:00-18:00

**Dr. Carsten Walbiner** (Birzeit University, Palestine)

“Ilyas Basil Faraj – a Lebanese protagonist of the Nahda in Jerusalem.”

19:00-22:00

**Banquet**

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2013**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Hilary Kilpatrick** (Lausanne - Switzerland)

09:00-10:00 **Dr. Abjar Bahkou** (Baylor University, Waco, Texas)

“Jurji Zaydan: Activist and reformer of the Arabic language and literature.”

10:00-11:00

**Dr. Souad Slim** (Balamand University - Lebanon)

“The role of the Greek Orthodox in the starting of the civil society in Bilad al-Sham and in confirming Arab identity.”

11:00-11:30

Tea/Coffee

11:30-12:30

**Dr. Marco Demichelis** (University of Turin)

“Kalām viewpoints in F. Anṭūn vs. M. ‘Abduh’s debate on Secularization. God’s absolutism and Islām irrationality as cornerstones of the Orientalist Arab-Christian thought during the Nahḍa.”

12:30-13:30

**Dr. Joumana El-Debs** (Université St Joseph, Beyrouth)



14:00 “The contribution of the Orthodox in secularism and Arab Nationalism in Bilad al-Sham.”  
**Conference ends**

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**ARAM THIRTY EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Decapolis: History & Archaeology**

**29-31 JULY, 2013**

**MONDAY, JULY 29, 2013**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson:** **Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami)  
09:00-09:45 **Prof. Zeev Weiss** (Hebrew University)  
“Mass Entertainment in the Cities of the Decapolis under Christian Hegemony.”  
09:45-10:30 **Prof. Makoto Ezoe** (Keio University, Tokyo)  
“The character of the Decapolis cities as seen in coin legends.”  
10:30-11:00 Tea/coffee  
11:00-11:45 **Dr. Claudia Bührig** (Orient Dept of the German Archaeological Institute: DAI)  
“Gadara (Umm Qais) and its surrounding countryside”.  
11:45-12:30 **Mr. Sufyan Al-Karaimh** (Leiden University)  
“A territorial analysis of Gadara regarding water management and allocation.”  
12:30-14:30 Lunch

**Chairperson:** **Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar Ilan University)  
14:30-15:15 **Dr. Kenneth Lönnqvist** (University of Helsinki)  
“Judaea and the Decapolis: transhumance, life and travel in the time of Jesus and the early Roman period.”  
15:15-16:00 **Dr. Steven Bourke** (Sydney University)  
“Exploring the Pre-Classical Decapolis: Social, Economic and Political Relationships of the Decapolis cities in the Bronze and Iron Age World.”  
16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee  
16:30-17:15 **Prof. David Kennedy** (University of Western Australia)  
“Brünnow and von Domaszewski in the Jordanian Decapolis.”  
17:15-18:00 **Prof. Ben Zion Rosenfeld** (Bar Ilan University)  
“Camel Caravans from the Decapolis to the Galilee in the first centuries C.E. A revolution in regional transport?”  
18:00-18:30 **Dr. Judith McKenzie** (University of Oxford):  
“Introducing the Manar al-Athar open access photo-archive.”

**TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2013**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson:** **Prof. Estee Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University)  
09:00-09:45 **Dr. Robert W. Smith** (Mid-Atlantic Christian University)  
“Abila and the Decapolis in modern Esoteric literature.”  
09:45-10:30 **Prof. David H. Vila** (John Brown University - Arkansas USA)  
“Continuity and change in the Byzantine/Islamic tradition at Abila of the Decapolis.”  
10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee  
11:00-11:45 **Prof. John Wineland** (Kentucky Christian University)  
“Burial Patterns in the Abila Necropolis: Evidence for Social Organization.”  
11:45-12:30 **Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami)  
“The Decapolis and Koile Syria.”

12:30-14:30 Lunch

**Chairperson: Prof. Dr. David Kennedy** (University of Western Australia)

14:30-15:15 **Dr. Haim Perlmutter** (Ashkelon College - Bar Ilan University)  
“Contacts between Scythopolis and the Galilee in the 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> Centuries CE.”

15:15-16:00 **Dr. Renate Rosenthal-Heginbottom** (Germany)  
“Dionysos at Nysa-Scythopolis (Beth Shean).”

16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee

16:30-17:15 **Prof. Joseph Geiger** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“Greek intellectuals in the Decapolis.”

17:15-18:00 **Dr. Zeev Meshel** (Tel Aviv University)  
“The water-supply system of Hippos (Susita).”

19:00-22:00: **Banquet**

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2013

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Chairperson: Dr. Judith McKenzie** (University of Oxford)

09:00-09:45 **Prof. Mark Schuler** (Concordia University)  
“Microcosm of transition: The northeast insula at Hippos of the Decapolis.”

09:45-10:30 **Prof. Chaim Ben David** (Kinneret College-Israel)  
“Christian, Jews and Muslims in the Hippos District in Late Antiquity.”

10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee

11:00-11:45 **Prof. Frank Trombley** (Cardiff University)  
“Towns and the villages of the Balqā’ and other territories (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> c. CE)”

11:45-12:30 **Dr. Michael Ehrlich** (Bar-Ilan University)  
“Decay-Polis: the Decapolis area during the early Muslim period 638-1099AD.”

12:30-13:15 **Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“Destruction of symbols and Iconoclasm after the Muslim conquest.”

13:15 **Conference ends**

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## **ARAM THIRTY NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

### **Astrology in the Ancient Near East**

**23-24 April 2014**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2014**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Mrs. Darrelyn Gunzburg** (University of Bristol)

09:00-10:00 **Mr. Netanel Anor** (PhD candidate at the Freie Universität Berlin)  
“Babylonian divination.”

10:00-11:00 **Dr. John Wee** (University of Chicago)  
“Stranger Beasts in the Zodiac: Kalendatexte and the Astrological Table in BM 56605”

11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee

11:30-12:30 **Prof. Michael Roaf** (University of Munich)  
“Assyrian Astroglyphs.”

12:30-13:30 **Prof. Joseph Geiger** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“Eutocius: a mathematician and astrologer from Ascalon.”

13:30-15:30 Lunch

15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)  
 16:00-17:00 **Miss. Carol Ferris** (Marylhurst University)  
 "The Celestial Roads of Babylon and early China."  
 17:00-18:00 **Dr Massimiliano Franci** (Firenze, Italy)  
 "Astrology and premonitions in ancient Egypt."  
 18:00-18:45 **Dr. Nicholas Campion** (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)  
 "The Horoscopes of Cities in the Near East".

**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Bernadette Brady** (University of Wales Trinity St David)  
 09:00-10:00 **Dr. Saiyad Ahmad** (American University – Cairo)  
 "Light upon Light: The Astrological Theurgy of Shihab al-Din al-Suhrawardi al-Maqtul (executed Aleppo 587 H/ 1191 CE)."  
 10:00-11:00 **Dr. Louise M. Pryke** (University of Sydney)  
 ""The Bull of Heaven: Animality and Astronomy in Tablet VI of the Gilgamesh Epic".  
 11:00-11:30 Tea/Coffee  
 11:30-12:30 **Dr Simone Isacco Maria Pratelli** (University of Pisa - Italy)  
 "In search of truth: Astronomy versus Astrology in the Syriac 'Book of Causes'.  
 12:30-13:30 **Mrs. Darrelyn Gunzburg** (University of Bristol)  
 "The representation of celestial images in the Palazzo della Ragione, Padua, Italy."  
 13:30-15:30 Lunch  
 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)  
 16:00-17:00 **Mr. Chris Mitchell** (PhD researcher at the University of Leicester)  
 "The provenance of 'Arabic' astrological techniques."  
 17:00-18:00 **Dr. Bernadette Brady** (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)  
 "The influence of Islamic astrology on Galileo's work."  
 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**  
 22:00 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM FORTIETH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Hatra, Palmyra, Edessa:**

**Contacts and Cultural Exchange between Cities in the Fertile Crescent before Islam**

**14-15-16 July, 2014**

**Monday, July 14, 2014**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rifaat Ebied** (The University of Sydney)  
 09:00-09:45 **Rubina Raja** (Aarhus University, Denmark) & **Andreas Kropp** (University of Nottingham)  
 "The Palmyra Portrait Project"  
 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Sami Pataci** (University of Ardahan – Turkey)  
 "Roman sculptures from the Museum of Şanlıurfa."  
 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee  
 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Marco Moriggi** (Catania - Italy)  
 "Hatra epigraphy: evidence from published and unpublished graffiti."

- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Enrico Foietta** (University of Torino)  
“The defences of Hatra: a revaluation through the archives of the Italian expedition.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Marco Moriggi** (University of Catania - Italy)
- 14:30-15:15 **Ms. Amélie Le Bihan** (PhD Candidate at the University of Paris 1)  
“Cultic objects and religious practices in the Fertile Crescent in the Roman Period.”
- 15:15-16:00 **Dr. Krysztof Jakubiak** (University of Warsaw)  
“Some aspects of the cult rituals and ceremonies in Hatra.”
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 16:30-17:15 **Prof. Jørgen Christian Meyer & Dr Eivind Heldaas Seland** (University of Bergen)  
“Palmyra and the trade-route to the Euphrates.”
- 17:15-18:00 **Dr. Leonardo Gregoratti** (Durham University)  
“Forms of Territorial Control in the shade of the Empires: Palmyra, Hatra, Edessa.”
- 18:00-18:45 **Dr. Rocco Palermo** (Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II)  
“Managing the Steppe: Landscape, Settlements and Material Culture in Northern Mesopotamia during the Partho/Roman period.”

## TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Lucinda Dirven** (University of Amsterdam)
- 09:00-09:45 **Prof. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena)  
“Unpublished Old Syriac and Hatraen Inscriptions”.
- 09:45-10:30 **Prof. John Healey** (Manchester University)  
“The Beginnings of Syriac in Context: language and script in early Edessa and in Palmyra.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Erica Cruikshank Dodd** (University of Victoria – Canada)  
“Palmyra and Poidebard: Roman Foundations for the building of Early Christianity and Islam.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Prof. Ergün Lafli** (Dokuz Eylül University - Izmir)  
“Roman and Byzantine Inscriptions in the Museum of Şanlıurfa.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar Ilan University, Isarel)
- 14:30-15:15 **Dr. Ute Possek** (Gordon College - USA)  
“Between Rome and Parthia: Edessan Culture in the Time of King Abgar VIII”
- 15:15-16:00 **Dr. Roberta Ricciardi Venco & Roberto Parapetti** (University of Torino)  
“Architectural notes and Christian elements of the Great Sanctuary at Hatra.”
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 16:30-17:15 **Miss Sanne Klaver** (University of Amsterdam)  
“Dress and identity in the Syrian – Mesopotamian desert: the case of Dura-Europos and Hatra.”
- 17:15-18:00 **Mr. Jacopo Bruno** (PhD researcher at the University of Torino)  
“Some unpublished small finds from the Italian excavations at Hatra.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rubina Raja**
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Francesca Dorna Metzger** (University of Torino)  
“The north street at Hatra: a multifunctional area.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Stefan Hauser** (University of Konstanz - Germany)  
“Social space and territory at Palmyra”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee

- 11:00-11:45 **Ms. Aleksandra Kubiak** (Warsaw University & Sorbonne University Paris IV)  
“Gods without names?”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Lucinda Dirven** (University of Amsterdam)  
“Old wine in new bottles. A note on the survival of ancient Babylonian religion in Syrian-Mesopotamian cities during the first centuries of the Common Era.”
- 12:30-14:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Mr. Enrico Marcato** (University of Ca' Foscari - Venice)
- 14:30-15:15 **Dr. Roberto Bertolino** (École Normale Supérieure - Paris)  
“Considérations sur les tribus hatréennes.”
- 15:15-16:00 **Dr. Adil al-Jadir** (Manar University - Tunis)  
“The status of women in Syriac and Hatran Aramaic inscriptions.”
- 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee
- 16:30-17:15 **Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw)  
“The urban development of Palmyra.”
- 17:15-18:00 **Mr. Enrico Marcato** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)  
“Hatran onomastics.”
- 18:00 **Conference ends**

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**ARAM FORTY SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Religious Offerings and Sacrifices in the Ancient Near East**

**20- 22 JULY 2015**

**MONDAY, JULY 20, 2015**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Katharina Scholder** (Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany)  
“Religious offerings and ritual depositions in the sanctuary of Tall Bazi, Syria, (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD)”.
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr Amélie Le Bihan** (CNRS UMR 7041, France)  
“Incense offerings in the Roman Near East: texts, cultural objects and iconography.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Mateusz Klagisz** (Krakow University)  
“Indo-Iranian animals offerings in the light of the Essai sur la nature et la fonction du sacrifice by Hubert and Mauss.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Stefania Ermidoro** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)  
“The Neo-Assyrian religious calendar.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Mrs. Iwona Zych & Mrs. Joanna K. Rądkowska** (University of Warsaw)  
“The late Roman Lotus temple in Berenike: a case study of archaeological evidence for ritual activity of an unidentified cult in the Red Sea area.”
- 13:15-15:30 Lunch
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee
- Chairperson: Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 16:00-16:45 **Prof. Estēe Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University & University of Haifa)  
“Sacrificing to the Gods of Medicine and Health in Roman-Byzantine Palestine and Provincia Arabia.”
- 16:45-17:30 **Dr. Zeev Meshel** (Tel Aviv University)  
“The religious offerings discovered et Kuntillet ‘Ajrud (Sinai).”
- 17:30-18:15 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (The dead Sea-Arava Science Center and the Arava Institute – Isarel)

“Offerings, sacrifices and innovations in the desert prehistoric religion.”

**TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2015**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Estée Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University & University of Haifa)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Giuseppe Minunno** (University of Pisa)  
“Ritual activities at Tell Afis in the Iron Age.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Prof. Raffaella Pierobon Benoit** (Università di Napoli Federico II)  
“Shrines, offerings and rituals at Tell Barri/Karat”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Prof. Anne Katrine de Hemmer Gudme** (University of Copenhagen)  
“A Lingering Memory: Materiality and Divine Remembrance in Aramaic Dedicatory Inscriptions.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Krzysztof Ulanowski** (Gdańsk University - Poland)  
“War sacrifices in Mesopotamia.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Juley Bidmead** (Chapman University - USA)  
“Gendered gifts: women’s religious offerings in first millennium BCE Mesopotamia and the Levant.”
- 13:15-15:30 Lunch
- 15:30-16:00 Tea/coffee

**Chairperson: Prof. Estée Dvorjetski** (Oxford Brookes University & University of Haifa)

- 16:00-16:45 **Rabbi Nahum Ben-Yehuda** (Bar Ilan University)  
“‘Parokhet’. The Temple veil. Its varied functions and evolution from the Tabernacle through the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple.”
- 16:45-17:30 **Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Schmitt** (University of Münster)  
“Bird sacrifices in the Hebrew Bible and their rituals functions.”
- 17:30-18:15 **Prof. Meir Bar-Ilan** (Bar-Ilan University)  
“The rationale behind the rite of the Red Heifer (Num. 19).”
- 18:15-18:45 **Prof. Meir Bar-Ilan** (Bar-Ilan University): Presentation of a new Book: “Sacrifices on the Heavenly Altar: Words of Gad the Seer.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2015**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Schmitt** (University of Münster)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)  
“Offerings and sacrifices in the early Syrian Church.”
- 9:45-10:30 **Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“Design of the Eucharist space in the churches of the Holy Land.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Zuzanna Wygnańska** (University of Warsaw)  
“Equids and young dogs burial in a ritual landscape of Syria during the Bronze Age.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Sandra van Rompaey** (La Trobe University - Australia)  
“The myrtle plant as an element of the sacraments in two Mandaean manuscripts.”
- 12:30 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM FORTY THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**The Ancient Churches of the Levant**

**18-19 JULY 2016**

## MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (Oxford University)
- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Karni Golan & Dr. Haim Goldfus** (Ben Gurion University)  
“Not for the church only: Similarities between church and domestic architectural decorations in the Byzantine period.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Haim Goldfus & Dr. Peter Fabian** (Ben Gurion University)  
“The Archaeological Life of the Church at Kh. Bard (Barud) in the Southern Fringes of the Shephelah Region.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Richard A. Freund & Ms. Maha Darawsha**, (University of Hartford, USA)  
“The Rediscovery of the Ancient Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox, Nazareth.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Jacob Ashkenazi & Dr. Mordechai Aviam** (Kinneret College, Israel)  
“Morphology, typology, and context of Byzantine period churches in northern Israel.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“The architectural typology and function of churches’ halls and chapels in Transjordan in the light of pilgrimage.”
- 13:15-15:30 Lunch

- Chairperson: Dr. Haim Goldfus** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
- 15:30-16:15 **Dr. Robert Smith** (Mid-Atlantic University)  
“Abila of Palestina Secunda/ Jund al-Urdun. discoveries regarding materials and motives in multi-phase Byzantine/ Ummayed ecclesiastical structures.”
- 16:15-17:00 **Miss. Sharon Burger** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“The impact of the Byzantine-Islamic transition on the architecture of churches in the Holy Land during the 7<sup>th</sup> century.”
- 17:00-17:30 Tea/coffee
- 17:30-18:15 **Prof. Emeritus Moshe Fischer** (Tel Aviv University)  
“A church and a Xenodocheion on the pilgrims road to Jerusalem.”
- 18:15-19:00 **Dr. Zbigniew T. Fiema** (University of Helsinki)  
“The memorial church at the monastery of St. Aaron near Petra, Jordan.”

## TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2016

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

- Chairperson: Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 09:00-09:45 **Mr. David Boyer** (PhD Candidate at the University of Western Australia)  
“Fresh insights into the Christian churches of Gerasa from the records of early 19<sup>th</sup> century visitors.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Mrs. Annette Nagar** (Israeli Antiquity Authority)  
“A Byzantine Church near Beit Neqofa beside the Ancient Road between Jaffa and Jerusalem.”
- 10:30-11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:00-11:45 **Prof. Joseph Patrich** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“A new digital corpus of churches and monasteries in the Holy Land – a project in work: Structure and challenges.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Michael Fuller & Mrs. Neathery Fuller**, (St Louis Community College - USA)  
“Ancient churches at Tell Tueinir and Tell Hasake, Syria.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Gábor Kalla** (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)  
“Holy place from mud brick. The sixth-century church in the monastery of Tall Bi‘a, Syria”
- 13:15-15:30 Lunch
- Chairperson: Dr. Ken Dark** (University of Reading)

- 15:30-16:15 **Mr. Pietro D'Agostino** (University of Paris IV Sorbonne)  
 "A long-overlooked monophysite monastery in Syria: the case of Mār Ḥanīnā in the desert."
- 16:15-17:00 **Ms. Sipana Tchakerian** (Sorbonne University – Paris I)  
 "Four-sided early Christian stelae from Armenia and Georgia serve as witness of interactions between Caucasus and Levant's churches."
- 17:00-17:30 Tea/coffee
- 17:30-18:15 **Dr. Ken Dark** (University of Reading)  
 "Byzantine Nazareth as a pilgrimage centre."
- 18:15-19:00 **Dr. Miranda Williams** (Oxford University)  
 "Church sites in the Levant with continued Significance in the Islamic period."
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**
- 22:00 **Conference ends.**

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### **ARAM FORTY FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Greek Culture & Interaction in the Levant 4<sup>th</sup> cent. BC – 7<sup>th</sup> cent. CE,**

**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2017**

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

- 09:00-09:45 **Prof. Joseph Geiger** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
 "GREEK INTELLECTUAL NETWORKS IN LATE ANTIQUE PALESTINE."
- 09:45-10:30 **Miss. Andrea-Maria Lemnar** (PhD researcher at Paris-Sorbonne IV University)  
 "IAMBlichus AND THE NEOPLATONICIAN SCHOOL OF APAMEA: GREEK PHILOSOPHY AND ORIENTAL RELIGIONS."
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. David H. Sick** (Rhodes College)  
 "KHUSRAU AS PHILOSOPHER KING."
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Denise Demetriou** (University of California at San Diego)  
 "COMMUNITY AND IDENTITY IN THE FOURTH CENTURY BCE: PHOENICIAN RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS IN THE GREEK WORLD."
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Dina Franjié Joly** (Maison de l'Archéologie et de l'Ethnologie Nanterre, France)  
 "GREEK CULTURE AND INTERACTION: THE CASE OF BEIRUT AND SOUTHERN PHOENICIA (4<sup>TH</sup> BC – 1<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AD.)"
- 13:30-16:00 *Lunch*
- 15:30-16:00 *Tea/coffee*

**Chairperson: Dr Dina Franjié Joly** (Maison de l'Archéologie et de l'Ethnologie Nanterre)

- 16:00-16:45 **Dr. Zoi Kotitsa** (University of Marburg)  
 "CULTURAL INTERACTION BETWEEN GREECE AND BEIRUT IN THE HELLENISTIC PERIOD: THE CERAMIC EVIDENCE."
- 16:45-17:30 **Prof. Dr. Winfried Held** (Philipps-Universität Marburg)  
 "THE HIPPODROME OF BERYTUS, ITS FUNCTIONS AND HERODIAN INFLUENCE IN BERYTUS."
- 17:30-18:15 **Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Zwickel** (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz)  
 "HARBOURS ALONG THE SOUTHERN LEVANTINE COAST IN THE PERSIAN AND HELLENISTIC PERIOD."



**TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
“THE CLASSICAL HERITAGE IN THE DOMESTIC, PUBLIC, AND RELIGIOUS SPACE, AS REFLECTED  
IN MOSAIC FLOORS IN THE HOLY LAND IN THE BYZANTINE PERIOD.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Ezio Albrile** (CESMEO/Independent Researcher)  
“BLINDED BY THE LIGHT. ON THE ORIGINS OF GREEK ALCHEMY.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Mr. Emanuele Zimbardi** (PhD Candidate at La Sapienza University, Rome)  
“TRANSLATION FROM SYRIAC INTO GREEK: THE CASE OF EPHREM THE SYRIAN.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Yury Arzhanov** (Ruhr University of Bochum, Germany)  
“HOMER AND MENANDER IN SYRIAC GNOMIC COLLECTIONS.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
“CIVIC CULTURE REFLECTED IN GREEK LOANWORDS IN SYRIAC.”
- 13:15-15:30 *Lunch*

**Chairperson: Dr. Lihi Habas** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

- 16:00-16:45 **Prof. Ronny Reich** (University of Haifa)  
“GREEK INFLUENCE ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST *MIQWA'OT* (JEWISH RITUAL BATHS) IN  
JUDAEA, IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CENT. B.C.E.”
- 16:45-17:30 **Prof. Stéphanie Anthonioz** (Université Catholique de Lille)  
“THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN (PROV” 31:10-31) IN LIGHT OF GREEK SOURCES.”
- 17:30-18:15 **Mr. Dror Segal** (Curator and Director of the Museum of Regional Mediterranean  
Archaeology, Gan-Hashlosa. PhD student at Haifa University)  
“‘THE OLYMPICS FOR PEACE AND TOLERANCE’ IN THE SPIRIT OF ANCIENT GREECE  
(EKECHEIRIA). THE ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM IN GAN-HASHLOSHA.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**
- 22:00-00:00 **Conference ends**

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**ARAM FORTY FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Melkite Christianity**  
**(The Patriarchates of Antioch, Alexandria, and Jerusalem)**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

- 09:00-09:45 **Ms. Julia Burdajewicz** (PhD candidate at the University of Warsaw)  
“THE WALL PAINTINGS FROM THE BASILICA OF PORPHYREON: FROM THE HELLENISTIC-  
ROMAN ART TO THE NEW AESTHETICS OF THE EARLY BYZANTINE ART.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Mariusz Burdajewicz and Prof. Dr. Jolanta Młynarczyk** (University of  
Warsaw)  
“SOME FACTS ABOUT THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH IN HIPPOS (IN ARAMAIC: SISITA, IN ARABIC  
SŪSIYAH) ON THE SEA OF GALILEE (6<sup>TH</sup> TO MID-8<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES).”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*

- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Emma Maayan, Dr. Ravit Linn, Dr. Guy Bar-Oz, Dr. Yotam Tepper** (University of Haifa)  
 “DISCOVERIES IN THE DESERT: AN EARLY TRANSFIGURATION AT SHIVTA- ICONOGRAPHY AND THE WORK OF THE ARTIST.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Mr. Steve Gertz** (PhD candidate at Georgetown University)  
 “WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HOLY MAN AFTER YARMOUK? ST SABAS AND ST STEPHEN COMPARED.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Mr. Pietro D’Agostino** (University of Paris IV Sorbonne)  
 “THEODORE ABŪ QURRAH'S UNPUBLISHED WORKS: MATERIALS FOR THE STUDY OF 8<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MELKITE CHRISTIANITY.”
- 13:15-15:30 *Lunch*
- 15:30-16:15 **Dr. Adrian Pirtea** (University of Berlin)  
 “PSEUDO-MACARIUS IN THE MELKITE TRADITION: GREEK, SYRIAC AND ARABIC COLLECTIONS AT ST CATHERINE’S MONASTERY ON MT. SINAI.”
- 16:15-17:00 **Mr. Joseph Glynias** (PhD student at Princeton University)  
 “MOUNT SINAI AND SYRIAC MELKITE MONASTICISM IN THE 13<sup>TH</sup> AND 14<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES.”
- 17:00-17:30 *Tea/coffee*
- 17:30-18:15 **Dr. Natalia Smelova** (University of Manchester)  
 “THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE SYRIAC MELKITE OCTOECHOS, ACCORDING TO THE 11<sup>TH</sup> – 13<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MANUSCRIPTS.”
- 18:15-19:00 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)  
 “A PUZZLING PALIMPSEST WITH LITURGICAL CANONS IN THE SINAI SYRIAC ‘NEW FINDS’.”

**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Adrian Pirtea** (University of Berlin)

- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Daniel Galadza** (University of Vienna) & **Mr. Alex C.J. Neroth van Vogel** (Notre Dame University)  
 “THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM AMONG THE MELKITES (8<sup>TH</sup> – 13<sup>TH</sup> C.)”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Charbel Nassif** (Institut Catholique de Paris)  
 “SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THREE ARABIC EUCHOLOGIA: MALATIUS KARMA’S (+1635) MANUSCRIPT (ROME, BAV AR. 618), THE EUCHOLOGION OF JERUSALEM (1865) AND THE EUCHOLOGION OF THE PAULIST MISSIONARIES (1968) – PECULIARITIES AND ADAPTATIONS.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Bishara Ebeid** (Pontifical Oriental Institute - Rome)  
 “THE MELKITE ORTHODOXY: THE SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS ACCORDING TO EUTYCHIUS OF ALEXANDRIA’S ANNALES AND AGAPIUS OF MABBUG’S UNIVERSAL HISTORY.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Pierre Moukarzel** (Lebanese University, Beirut)  
 “THE MELKITE PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM DURING THE MAMLUK PERIOD.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Scott Ables** (University of Oxford)  
 “WAS THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THE JERUSALEM PATRIARCHATE A ‘PROTO-MELKITE’ GAMBIT ORCHESTRATED BY JOHN OF DAMASCUS—*QUID PRO QUO*: CATHEDRAL FOR PATRIARCHATE?”
- 13:30-15:30 *Lunch*
- 15:30-16:15 **Dr. Nestor Kavvadas** (University of Siegen, Germany)  
 “BALANCING BETWEEN AACHEN, ROME AND BAGHDAD: PATRIARCH THOMAS OF JERUSALEM AND THE FILIOQUE CONFLICT.”
- 16:15-17:00 **Dr. Željko Paša** (Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome)  
 “CHRISTOLOGICAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN MELKITES AND NESTORIANS IN 630 A.D.”
- 17:00-17:30 *Tea/coffee*

- 17:30-18:15 **Dr. Ken Parry** (Macquarie University, Sydney)  
 “MELKITES IN CENTRAL ASIA AND THE TRANSFER OF WRITING PAPER TO THE WEST.”
- 18:15-19:00 **Ms. Joanna A. Ciesielska** (PhD candidate at University of Warsaw) and **Dr. Robert J. Stark** (McMaster University)  
 “UNITY IN DIVERSITY: INVESTIGATION OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL CUSTOMS IN MEDIEVAL MAKURIA BASED ON THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED AT GHAZALI, NORTHERN SUDAN.”
- 19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

**FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Lucy-Anne Hunt** (Manchester Metropolitan University)  
 “MELKITE ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTION DURING THE CRUSADES’ PERIOD.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Souad Slim** (Balamand University)  
 “THE PEARL OF THE BYZANTINE KINGS. BETWEEN LEGEND AND HISTORY.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Ioana Feodorov** (Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy, Bucharest.)  
 “A NEW BOOK: THE ARABIC VERSION OF CANTEMIR’S *DIVAN* BY ATHANASIUS DABBAS, PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH (1705).”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Anthony O’Mahony** (Heythrop College, London)  
 “AN ECCLESIOLOGICAL AND CANON LAW EXPLORATION OF THE TITLE OF ‘PATRIARCH’ IN THE MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MODERN HISTORY SINCE MAZLOUM III”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Naila Takieddine Kaidbey** (American University of Beirut)  
 “MELKITES IN DAMASCUS: THE ACCOUNT OF MIKHAIL BREIK.”

13:15 **Conference ends.**

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**ARAM FORTY SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:**

(Organised by Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd, University of Oxford)

**Arabs Before Islam**

**MONDAY, JULY 17, 2017**  
 (Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Aziz Al-Azmeh** (Central European University, Budapest)

- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. John Wineland** (Southeastern University, Florida)  
 “EARLY ARABS ON THE KARAK PLATEAU.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Rachel Barkay** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
 “THE ORIGIN OF ARETAS IV KING OF THE NABATAEANS.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami)  
 “THE NABATAEANS IN EGYPT DURING THE HELLENISTIC PERIOD.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Prof. Michael Gawlikowski** (University of Warsaw)  
 “A NABATAEAN LATE TRADING STATION IN THE HIJAZ.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Dr. Mohammed Nasarat** (Al-Hussein Bin Talal University, Jordan)

“PETRA, TAXES AND TRADE, RECONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF A NEWLY DISCOVERED PETRA CHURCH ARCHIVE.”

13:15-15:30 *Lunch*

**Chairperson: Dr. Fabrice de Baker** (University of Vienna)

15:30-16:15 **Dr. Romolo Loreto** (University of Naples L'Orientale)

“A NORTH ARABIAN OASIS DURING THE PRE-ISLAMIC ERA. RESULTS FROM 2009-2016 EXCAVATION SEASONS IN THE HISTORICAL AREA OF DUMAT AL-JANDAL, ANCIENT ADUMMATU.”

16:15-17:00 **Dr. Fabrice de Baker** (University of Vienna)

“THE IDENTITY OF DEAD PEOPLE IN KHIRBET AL KHALDE.”

17:00-17:30 *Tea/coffee*

17:30-18:15 **Dr. Carmelo Pappalardo** (Università degli Studi di Firenze)

“PERSISTENCE AND TRANSFORMATION IN THE URBAN SPACES: UMM AL-RASAS/KASTRON MEFA ON THE JORDAN PLATEAU FROM THE 6<sup>TH</sup> TO THE 9<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY.”

18:15-19:00 **Dr. Giuseppe Petrantoni** (“La Sapienza”, University of Rome)

“SOME REMARKS ON THE PASSIVE PARTICIPLE *MDKWR* AND *MQTRY* FORMS: TWO ARABISMS IN NABATAEAN INSCRIPTIONS.”

## TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2017

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. Amos Kloner** (Bar Ilan University, Isarel)

09:00-09:45 **Ms. Louise Dorso** (PHD student at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University)

“THE ARABS IN NEO-ASSYRIAN SOURCES: PERCEPTION, REPRESENTATION, AND DEFINITION.”

09:45-10:30 **Dr. Alessio Agostini** (Sapienza University of Rome)

“THE EXPIATORY RITE BEFORE ISLAM: DATA FROM ANCIENT SOUTH ARABIAN TEXTS.”

10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*

11:00-11:45 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (The Arava Institute and the Dead Sea-Arava Science Center)

“ICONOGRAPHY OF THE IBEX IN THE ART OF ARABIA AND THE NEAR EAST.”

11:45-12:30 **Prof. Dan Shapira** (Bar-Ilan University)

“WHAT THE WORD ‘*JIHAD*’ REALLY MEANT IN PRE-ISLAMIC ARABIA?”

12:30-13:15 **Dr. Zofia A. Brzozowska** (University of Łódź, Poland)

“FEMALE DEITIES OF PRE-ISLAMIC ARABIA IN THE BYZANTINE AND OLD RUSSIAN SOURCES”

13:15-15:30 *Lunch*

**Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)

15:30-16:15 **Dr. Mohammad Rihan** (Balamand University, Lebanon)

“PRE-ISLAMIC UMAYYADS.”

16:15-17:00 **Mr. Simon Brelaud** (Paris IV - Sorbonne)

“THE ‘ARAB CONNECTION’ OF THE CHURCH OF PERSIA’S PATRIARCH DURING THE SASANIAN EMPIRE.”

17:00-17:30 *Tea/coffee*

17:30-18:15 **Dr. Teresa Wolińska** (University of Łódź, Poland)

“EAST ROMAN EMPIRE AND THE ‘PERSIAN ARABS.’”

18:15-19:00 **Dr. Khodadad Rezakhani** (Princeton University)

“‘PERSIANS’ BEFORE ISLAM: ARABS IN THE SASANIAN WORLD, AD 293-651”

19:00-22:00 **Banquet**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2017**  
(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

**Chairperson: Prof. David Graf** (University of Miami)

09:00-09:45 **Dr. Paweł Filipczak** (University of Łódź, Poland)

“THE ARABS OF THE SYRIAN ANTIOCH IN THE FOURTH CENTURY: LIBANIUS’ TESTIMONY.”

09:45-10:30 **Prof. Tziona Grossmark** (Tel Hai College)

“THE IMAGE OF TIEA‘AI (ARABS) IN THE RABBINIC LITERATURE.”

10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*

11:00-11:45 **Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS, University of London)

“HIRA AND SOUTHERN IRAQ: THE CHRISTIAN ARAB CONTRIBUTION.”

11:45-12:30 **Mr. Iyas Nassir** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

“PERCEPTION OF LOVE, DESPAIR, AND CONSOLATION IN PRE-ISLAMIC QAŞIDA.”

12:30 **Conference ends.**

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