

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.”

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 9th 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'."
- 18.005-19.00 **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-'Ajal 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.

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 4th-7th 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.”

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-7th 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.

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

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 6th-8th 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.

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 Committe
 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.

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-14th 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 soufism 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

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-
 assesment 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

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

The Early Ottoman Period in Bilad Al-Sham (16th-17th 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 (16th 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^{me} 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 17th century Ottoman Palestine.”
- 16.20-17.00 **Dr. Boutros Labaki** (Lebanese University):
“L'histoire économique de la principauté ma'anaite.”

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^{me} 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^{me}-17^{me} 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 Yahyia** (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 17th 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^{me} et 17^{me} 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 16th-17th 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).

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

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^e-VIII^e 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."**

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

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 (17th 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.**

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, 6th – 3rd 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".

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 4th – 7th 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 8th to the 10th 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.

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.

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.

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 18th 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 4th 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.

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 4th century Syro-Palestine.”
- 09.50-10.25 **Dr. Leah Di Segni** (Hebrew University):
“The use of chronological systems in 6th-8th 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 16th & 17th 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.

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 5th 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-Khoury** (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 14th 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: 1st-5th centuries AH (8th – 11th 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 7th and 9th 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 19th 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.

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.

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 20th 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 20th 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.

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.

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 Wadeson.

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 Karaimeh** (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 Wadeson (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 Capitoli.”
- 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.**

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**

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.**

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**

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 13th and 14th 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.**

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 3rd and 4th 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

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**

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 13th-14th 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-20th -century Christian missions to the Middle East." 09:45-10:30
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Paolo Maggolini** (Luspio University, Rome):
"The land of Transjordan as a mission field. The development of Catholic and Protestant missionary establishments in Karak during the mid-19th 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 19th 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**

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**

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 Antigonos 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.**

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**

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

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

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 3rd -4th 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 (7th-9th 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**

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.**

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**

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, (1st to 2nd 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 1st and 2nd 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.**

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 7th 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 19th 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.**

ARAM FORTY FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

Greek Culture & Interaction in the Levant 4th cent. BC – 7th cent. CE,

10-11 JULY 2017

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 Lemnaru** (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 (4TH BC – 1ST 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. Lih 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. Lih 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 2ND 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**

ARAM FORTY FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

Melkite Christianity

(The Patriarchates of Antioch, Alexandria, and Jerusalem)

12-14 JULY 2017

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 Mlynarczyk** (University of Warsaw)
 “SOME FACTS ABOUT THE NORTH-WEST CHURCH IN HIPPOS (IN ARAMAIC: SISITA, IN ARABIC SŪSIYAH) ON THE SEA OF GALILEE (6TH TO MID-8TH 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 8TH-9TH 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 13TH AND 14TH 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 11TH – 13TH 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 Vogelpoel** (Notre Dame University)
 “THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM AMONG THE MELKITES (8TH – 13TH 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 QVO*: 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 ATHANASIOS 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.**

ARAM FORTY SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

Arabs Before Islam

17-19 JULY 2017

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 NATABATAEN 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 6TH TO THE 9TH 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. Pawel 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 QAṢĪDA.”

12:30 **Conference ends.**

ARAM FORTY SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

The Aramaeans B.C.:
(History, Literature, and Archaeology)

09-10 JULY 2018

MONDAY, JULY 09, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

Chairperson: Prof. K. Lawson Younger, Jr. (Trinity International University – Divinity School, USA)

09:00-10:00 **Prof. Giuseppe Petrantoni** (University of Enna, Italy)

10:00-11:00 **Dr. Jérôme Rohmer** (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient & Méditerranée, France)
“RECONSIDERING THE ARAMAIC INSCRIPTION OF BAHADIRLI. A PILGRIMAGE FOR THE GODDESS KUBABA?”
“THE ARAMAEANS IN SOUTHERN SYRIA: NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA.”

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

11:30-12:30 **Prof. Rüdiger Schmitt** (University of Münster, Germany)
“THE ARAMEAN IMPACT ON JUDEAN RELIGION IN THE IRON II C PERIOD.”

12:30-13:30 **Dr. Paul Mandel** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
“WHEN A SAFAR IS NOT A SCRIBE: THE SEMANTIC AND CULTURAL EVOLUTION OF ARAMAIC SAFAR FROM RECORDER TO LEGAL INTERPRETER.”

13:30-15:30 *Lunch*

15:30-16:00 *Tea/coffee*

Chairperson: Dr. Sebastian Brock (University of Oxford)

16:00-17:00 **Dr. Lisa J. Cleath** (George Fox University, USA)
“CONSTRUCTING COLONIAL IDENTITY IN MISSIVE DISCOURSE: TEMPORAL-SAPATIAL MOVEMENT IN THE JEDANIAH ‘ARCHIVES’ AT ELEPHANTINE.”

17:00-18:00 **Prof. Theodore J. Lewis** (John Hopkins University)
“BAR-RAKIB’S LEGITIMATION AND THE PROBLEM OF A MISSING CORPSE: THE END OF THE PANAMUWA INSCRIPTION IN THE LIGHT OF THE KATUMUWA INSCRIPTION.”

18:00-19:00 **Dr. Haim Perlmutter** (Bar-Ilan University, Israel)
“RABBINIC ATTITUDES TO THE ARAMAIC LANGUAGE: ROMAN PALESTINE, 1-400 CE, HALLAKHIC PERSPECTIVES.”

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

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

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

09:00-10:00 **Prof. K. Lawson Younger, Jr.** (Trinity International University – Divinity School, USA)
“GODS AT THE GATES: A STUDY OF THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE DEITIES REPRESENTED AT THE GATES OF ANCIENT SAM’AL (ZINCIRLI) WITH POSSIBLE HISTORICAL IMPLICATIONS.”

10:00-11:00 **Prof. Ben Zion Rosenfeld** (Bar Ilan University)
“JOSEPHUS ON THE ARAMEANS – REALITY AND UTOPIA.”

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

11:30-12:30 **Prof. Daniel Bodi** (Sorbonne Université University of Paris 4)
“THE 8TH CENTURY BCE BATTLE ACCOUNT OF THE ARAMEAN DEFEAT AT SUĦU AND ITS BEARING ON THE HEBREW BIBLE AND ON EZEKIEL’S *HAPAX LEGOMENA* - PHILOLOGICAL AND COMPARATIVE STUDY.”

12:30-13:30 **Dr. Viktor Golinets** (University of Heidelberg)
“TOWARDS A TYPOLOGY OF HEBREW LOANWORDS IN JEWISH-ARAMAIC DIALECTS”

13:30-15:30 *Lunch*

15:30-16:00 *Tea/coffee*

Chairperson: Dr. Viktor Golinets (University of Heidelberg)

- 16:00-17 :00 **Prof. Minna Silver** (Mardin University)
 “AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON EARLY ARAMEANS AND THEIR KINGDOMS.”
- 17:00-18:00 **Prof. Marika Chachibaia** (Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University)
 “SOME ARAMAIC INSCRIPTIONS IN GEORGIA.”
- 18:00-19:00 **Dr. Krzysztof Jakubiak** (University of Warsaw)
 “THE REFLECTION OF CULT PRACTICES OF THE GREAT TEMENOS IN THE SMALL
 TEMPLES OF HATRA.”

19:00 **Conference ends.**

ARAM FORTY EIGHTTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

Syriac Christianity
((including Mar Touma Church),
and the Archaeology of monasteries and churches in the Syrian,
Maronite, Chaldean, Church of the East (Assyrian) Churches)

11th – 13th July 2018

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd (University of Oxford)

- 09:00-09:45 **Rev. Dr. Moon Yuen Garry Pang** (Alliance Bible Seminary (Hong Kong)
 “THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES OF DAQIN MONASTERY OF JINGJIAO (CHURCH
 OF THE EAST) IN XIAN, CHINA.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Martin Thomas Antony** (Independent Scholar, England)
 “ARCHAEOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY OF MAR THOMA NASRANIS (SAINT THOMAS
 CHRISTIANS) OF INDIA: A PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Željko Paša** (Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome)
 “TOWARD THE CRITICAL EDITION OF “KITĀB FARĀ’ID AL-FAWĀ’ID FĪ UṢŪL
 AD-DĪN WAL-‘AQĀ’ID” OF ‘AḐDĪŠŪ‘ BAR BRĪḤĀ OF NISIBIS.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd** (University of Oxford)
 “ANIMALS AND NATURE IN THE WRITINGS OF THE EARLY SYRIAN ASCETICS.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Prof. David G.K. Taylor** (University of Oxford)
 ““THE CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH FLOWS EVERY KIND OF HERESY’: EUROPEAN
 ANTAGONISM TOWARDS SYRIAC LANGUAGE AND TEXTS ON THE MALABAR COAST,
 16TH - 18TH CENTURIES.”

13:30-15:30 *Lunch*

Chairperson: Dr. Karel Innemée (University of Amsterdam)

- 15:30-16:15 **Fr. Dr. Joseph Palackal** (Christian Musicological Society of India)
 “THE SURVIVAL STORY OF THE SOUND, SENTIMENTS, AND MELODIES OF THE
 ARAMAIC CHANTS IN INDIA.”
- 16:15-17:00 **Dr. Richard Dumbrill** (University of London)

“THE BABYLONIAN ORIGINS OF SYRIAC MUSIC.”

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

17:30-18:15 **Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS – University of London)

“EVIDENCE FOR THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS IN THE EAST SYRIAN TRADITION.”

18:15-19:00 **Dr. Sebastian Brock** (University of Oxford)

“A FRAGMENTARY DIALOGUE BETWEEN ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW OF SAREPTA.”

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

Chairperson: **Dr. Erica Hunter** (SOAS – University of London)

09:00-09:45 **Dr. Rocio Daga** (University of Munich)

“ABU QORRAH AND HIS CONCEPT OF TRADITION.”

09:45-10:30 **Ms. Mara Nicosia** (PhD candidate at the University of Naples ‘L’Orientale’)

“FROM ANTONY OF TAGRIT TO THE ARABIC VERSION: THE SYRIAC TECHNICAL LEXICON OF RHETORIC AND WORD MIGRATIONS.”

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

11:00-11:45 **Rev. Dr. Elias Chakhtoura** (Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Roma)

“FASTING ACCORDING TO TWO SYRIAC CHURCH FATHERS, JOHN OF APAMEA AND ISAAC OF ANTIOCH.”

11:45-12:30 **Ms. Marie-Thérèse Elia** (PhD student at École pratique des hautes études - Paris)

“THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TEXTS ‘ON FAITH’ ACCORDING TO THE METRICAL HOMILIES ON FAITH OF JACOB OF SARUG.”

12:30-13:15 **PD Dr. Christa Müller-Kessler** (Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena)

“THE DIVERSITY OF ARAMAIC TERMS FOR THE DIRECTION OF THE WIND.”

13:30-15:30 *Lunch*

Chairperson: **Fr Nevsky Everett** (Keble College, University of Oxford)

15:30-16:15 **Mr. Seth Stadel** (PhD Student at the University of Oxford)

“OVERCOMING ALL DIFFERENCES FOR TRANSCENDENT LOVE: CHRISTOLOGY AND MYSTICAL UNION WITH THE GOOD IN THE BOOK OF THE HOLY HIEROTHEOS.”

16:15-17:00 **Ms. Alice Croq** (École pratique des hautes études, Paris)

“THE SYRIAC ORTHODOX PRESENCE IN CAIRO IN THE 13TH – 14TH CENTURIES AND THE HISTORY OF GARSHUNI: REASSESSMENT BASED ON THE UNEDITED MS JERUSALEM, SAINT MARK’S MONASTERY, 250.”

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

17:30-18:15 **Dr. Karel Innemée** (University of Amsterdam) and **Dr. Dobrochna Zielińska** (University of Warsaw)

“DEIR AL-SURIAN, A MEETING POINT OF SYRIAC AND COPTIC CULTURE.”

18:15-19:00 **Mor Polycarpus Augin Aydin** (Metropolitan and Patriarchal Vicar for the Archdiocese of the Netherlands of the Syriac Orthodox Church)

“THE MONASTIC LIFE IN THE SYRIAC ORTHODOX CHURCH)”

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

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

Chairperson: **Dr. Dobrochna Zielińska** (University of Warsaw)

09:00-10:15 **Prof. Teresa Wolinska** and **Dr. Zofia A. Brzozowska** (University of Łódź, Poland)

“SYRIAC CHRISTIANITY IN THE SLAVIC LITERARY TRADITION: THE *APOCALYPSE OF PSEUDO-METHODIUS* IN THE WRITINGS OF SOUTH, EAST AND WEST SLAVS (11TH–16TH CENTURY).”

10:15-11:00 **Rev. Dr. Iskandar Bcheiry** (American Theological Library Association)
“SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE IDENTITY AND HISTORY OF THE MONASTIC COMPLEX OF ŞIR BANĪ YĀS/UAE.”

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

11:30-12:15 **Dr. Anthony O’Mahony** (Heythrop College, London)
“CARDINAL-PATRIARCH GABRIEL TAPPOUNI (+ 1968) AND THE SYRIAC CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST 1928-1939.”

12:15-13:00 **Dr. Elena Narinskaya** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany)
“THE STORY OF MOSE’S MOTHER IN THE WRITINGS OF THE MIDRASH, EPHREM AND THE QUR’AN.”

13:00-13:45 **Mrs. Panagiota Mikropandremenou** (PhD Candidate at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece and the University of Slazburg, Austria)
“CHRISTOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS BETWEEN BABAI’S HYMN *BLESSED IS THE COMPASSIONATE ... AND ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON* FROM BYZANTINE LITURGICAL TRADITION.”

13:45 **Conference ends.**

ARAM FORTY NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

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

**Afterlife, Funerary Beliefs and Ceremonies, and Cemeteries
in the Near East before 8th Century A.D.**

16 – 17 July 2018

MONDAY, JULY 16, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

Chairperson: Dr. Renate Rosenthal-Heginbottom (Independent scholar, Germany)

09:00-09:45 **Prof. Tziona Grossmark** (Tel Hai College)
“VOYAGE TO NETHERWORLDS IN RABBINIC LITERATURE.”

09:45-10:30 **Dr. Adi Erlich** (University of Haifa)
“NO SKELETONS IN THE CLOSET: THE DECORATED SARCOPHAGI FROM BETH SHE‘ARIM REVISITED.”

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

11:00-11:45 **Dr. Uzi Avner** (The Arava Institute and the Dead Sea-Arava Science Center)
“PREHISTORIC BURIALS IN THE DESERT AND PERCEPTION OF LIFE AND DEATH.”

11:45-12:30 **Dr. Mateusz Klagisz** (Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland)
“IRANIAN VISION OF AFTERLIFE ACCORDING TO THE MIDDLE PERSIAN ‘ARDĀ WĪRĀZ NĀMAG’.”

12:30-13:15 **REV. Michal Karnawalski SJ** (University of Warsaw)
“DID THE BIBLICAL ELIJAH GO ‘TO’ OR ‘TOWARDS’ HEAVEN

13:15-15:30 *Lunch*

15:30-16:00 *Tea/coffee*

Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd (University of Oxford)

16:00-16:45 **Mrs. Flavia Pacelli** (La Sapienza University of Rome)

- “DEALING PERSONALLY WITH DEATH: THE CASE OF THE ASSYRIAN ELEGY IN THE MESOPOTAMIAN LITERATURE.”
16:45-17:30 **Dr. Helen Dixon** (Wofford College, USA)
- ““INTO THE HOUSE OF ETERNITY”: LEVANTINE PHOENICIANS AFTER DEATH.”
17:30-18:30 **Dr. Ayelet Dayan** (Israel Antiquities Authority)
- “EXCAVATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN CEMETRY OF JAFFA (5TH CENTURY B.C. – 13TH CENTURY A.D.)”
18:15-19:00 **Dr. Marie-Jeanne Roche** (LEM-CNRS/EPHE, Paris)
- “ASPECTS OF AFTERLIFE BELIEF IN NABATAEAN REALM AND ITS PARALLELS IN OTHER SEMITIC CULTURES.”
19:30-22:00 **Banquet**

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

(Venue: The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane)

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

- 09:00-09:45 **Dr. Renate Rosenthal-Heginbottom** (Independent scholar, Germany)
“CONTEXTUALIZING LEAD COFFIN BURIALS IN THE LEVANT.”
- 09:45-10:30 **Dr. Lidewijde de Jong** (University of Groningen)
“FUNERARY BELIEFS AND THE AFTERLIFE IN ROMAN SYRIA: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE.”
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 11:00-11:45 **Dr. Julye Bidmead** (Chapman University)
“LIMALITY AND REVERSALS IN THE MESOPOTAMIAN NETHERWORLD.”
- 11:45-12:30 **Mr. Robin B. ten Hoopen** (PhD Candidate at the Protestant Theological University, Amsterdam)
“TO DIE OR NO TO DIE, THAT IS THE QUESTION. THE USAGE AND MEANING OF *BLMT* IN THE KTU TEXTS.”
- 12:30-13:15 **Prof. Rüdiger Schmitt** (University of Münster, Germany)
“BURIAL PRACTICES OF THE IRON AGE II AND RITUAL INSTALLATIONS FOR THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD..”
- 13:15-15:30 *Lunch*

Chairperson: Dr. Shafiq Abouzayd (University of Oxford)

- 15:30-16:15 **Mr. Omri Abadi** (Bar-Ilan University, Israel)
“WHERE DID THE CHILDREN GO?”
- 16:15-17:00 **Mr. Daniel Sheridan** (SOAS, University of London)
“FROM CRADLE TO GRAVE: STUDIES IN ENVOY WEIJIE’S ACCOUNT OF SAMARQAND’S ZOROASTRIAN FUNERARY PRACTICES.”
- 17:00-17:30 *Tea/coffee*
- 17:30-18:15 **Dr. Ádám Bollók** (Visiting scholar at the University of Oxford)
“CHRISTIANISING THE MORTUARY REAL IN SYRIA AND PALESTINE IN LATE ANTIQUITY: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE.”
- 18:15-19:00 **Dr. Juan Manuel Tebes** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
“FUNERARY BELIEFS AND AFTERLIFE-RELATED CULTIC ARCHITECTURE AND TRAVEL IN THE ARID SOUTHERN LEVANT FROM *LONG DURÉE* PERSPECTIVE.”

19:00 **CONFERENCE ENDS**