

Research grant awards

- **Professor Robert Gleave:** ESRC-GUF 3-year Fellowship - Islamic Reformulations: Belief, Violence, Governance (£495,383.90)

"Islamic Reformulations" will continue and develop Rob Gleave's "Legitimate and Illegitimate Violence in Islamic Thought" Project, running between 2013 and 2015. The project will examine how Muslim thinking around the three areas of belief, governance and violence have displayed continuity and discontinuity over the centuries, exploring possible future trajectories of Muslim thinking in these areas. In addition to this, Rob Gleave will be contributing to the development of the Global Uncertainties programme across the UK Research Councils with a series of workshops and conferences examining whether beliefs and ideologies can be considered "global uncertainties", and exploring how beliefs and ideologies motivate (or fail to motivate) individual and communal acts which give rise to uncertainty.

- **Dr Marc Valeri:** ESRC - Re-negotiating the Social Contract in the GCC: State-Business Relations and Reforms in the Oil-Rentier Gulf Monarchies (£497,500.50)

This project will examine the business elites within the GCC countries, examining their composition and internal dynamics, and, most crucially, how they influence policy making in the Gulf. The project focuses in on the gap between what is thought to be the operations of these business elites, and the reality of it, aiming to inform policy makers and practitioners as well as producing high quality research on the modes of reform within the Gulf Monarchies.

- **Dr Leonard Lewisohn:** AHRC 9 month Fellowship - Classical Persian Poetry and Poets: The Timurid and Türkmen Periods (£52,317)

In May 2012, Dr. Leonard Lewisohn was awarded an AHRC Fellowship Scheme grant to write a monograph on "Classical Persian Poetry and Poets: The Timurid and Türkmen Periods." The project will also involve the convening of a one-day workshop in March 2013 at the IAIS, University of Exeter that will bring together several Persian Literature experts (from Iran, Europe, and North America) who have concentrated on Persian poetry of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (the focus of his project).

Honorary appointments

Honorary Research Fellows

Dr N Janardhan, Dr Bingzhong Li, Dr Saud Al-Sarhan,
Dr Chiara Zazzaro

Publications

Dionisius A Agius (2012): *The Rashayda: Ethnic Identity and Dhow Activity in Suakin on the Red Sea Coast*, *Northeast African Studies*, 12:1

Dionisius A Agius, John P. Cooper, Athena Tarkadas, Chiara Zazzaro (eds) (2012): *Navigated Spaces, Connected Places, Proceedings of Red Sea Project V*, (Oxford: Archaeopress)

Manuela E B Giolfo (2012): "yaqum vs qama in the Conditional Context: A Relativistic Interpretation of the Frontier between the Prefixed and the Suffixed Conjugations of the Arabic Language" in A.E. Marogy (ed.), *The Foundations of Arabic Linguistics. Sibawayhi and Early Arabic Grammatical Theory*, *Brill's Studies in Semitic Languages and Linguistics*, Vol. 65, (Leiden & Boston: Brill), pp. 135-160

Robert Gleave (2012): *Islam and Literalism: Literal Meaning and Interpretation in Islamic Legal Theory*, (Edinburgh University Press: Edinburgh) 212pp.

Ian Netton (2012): Richard Stoneman, Kyle Erickson & Ian Netton (eds), *The Alexander Romance in Persia and the East, Ancient Narrative, Supplementum 15*, (Groningen: Barkhuis Publishing & Groningen University Library), pp. xv, 416

Ian Richard Netton (2012): "Clouds, Veils and Nights in Islamic and Christian Mystical Theology", *Sacred Web: A Journal of Tradition and Modernity*, Vol.29 pp. 15-37

Clémence Scalbert-Yucel (2012): editor of *Special Section: The Autonomy of Minority Literature*, *Nationalities Papers* 40(3)

Clémence Scalbert-Yucel (2012): "Languages, politics and field theory – the question of the autonomy of small literatures", *Nationalities Papers: The Journal of Nationalism and Ethnicity*, *ibid.*, pp. 315-320

Clémence Scalbert-Yucel (2012): "Emergence and equivocal autonomization of a Kurdish literary field in Turkey" in *ibid.*, pp. 357-372

New posts

The Institute is appointing four permanent new research and teaching posts.

Interviews on 19 and 21 September:

- Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Arabic and Islamic Studies
- Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Cultural Studies of the Muslim World
- Lecturer-Senior Lecturer in Modern Middle East History
- Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Middle East Politics and International Relations



Forthcoming

A photographic journey through Kurdish history

7 September - 5 October 2012 Chris Kutschera, a French photographer, has been covering Kurdistan for 40 years with her husband, a journalist. Showing key events and personalities encountered over these years, the work of Chris Kutschera invites you on a journey through Kurdish history.

Algeria(s) in France: a journey through identity

3 October - 23 November 2012 2012 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Algerian War of Independence, a bloody eight-year conflict between France and Algeria. Leïla Sebbar, a contemporary novelist and photographer, is half Algerian and half French. This exhibition offers, for the first time in the UK, a snapshot of her photo-diary, as she attempts to negotiate her troubled history, and locate her personal story and experience within a historical and social context.

Islam, Trade and Politics Across the Indian Ocean

12 January - 31 March 2013 A travelling photographic exhibition produced by the British Library for ASEASUK and BIAA, supported by the British Academy.

Past exhibitions

Making Plans for Friday **Oliver Flexman**

Works by local artist Oliver Flexman were shown in The Street Gallery and at the Exeter Phoenix Gallery (11 May – 31 August). The exhibition explored our relationship with the Arab world through a combination of video, print, drawing, painting and stickers and offered an opportunity to view works which question the stereotypes that govern our perception and engagement with the Arab World.

Conferences, seminars and workshops

LIVIT Conference, 2012, 3 – 4 September 2012 Legitimate and Illegitimate Violence in Islamic Thought Project (LIVIT) funded through the RCUK Global Uncertainties Programme. www.livitproject.net/ 2012-livit-conference.php

Second International Conference on Kurdish Studies, 6-8 September 2012 'The Kurds and Kurdistan: Considering Continuity and Change' <http://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/iaais/research/centres/kurdish/conference/>

Islam in Central Asia: Ritual, Politics and Resistance Conference, 24-25 November 2012 Organised jointly with the Arab Center for Research and Strategic Studies and the Legitimate and Illegitimate Violence in Islamic Thought Project. www.livitproject.net

"The Use of Force in modern Shiite Thought", 17 December 2012 One day workshop as part of the LIVIT project. www.livitproject.net/workshops.php

Red Sea Conference in Saudi Arabia 2013 The Red Sea: Past and Present and Future challenges.

The focus is on topics that stimulate new thought and discourse about different human adaptations to and interactions with the environment of the Red Sea, both past and

present. The study of past methods of adaptation to and interaction with the marine environment can suggest solutions to present environmental problems. Equally, current scientific and ethnographic research can help us better interpret the past of Red Sea communities.

Past events

Cultures of Resistance: the Case of Palestine and Beyond 5-6 May 2012

EXCEPS and ECPS workshop and public lecture by Joseph Massad, and a film by Alia Arasoughly.

School of Abbasid Studies, Eleventh International Conference, IAIS 10th – 14th July 2012

Gulf Studies Conference 2012 16–20 July

An interdisciplinary conference on the Gulf region (Arabia, Iran, Iraq), past and present.

<http://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/iaais/research/centres/gulf/conference/2012conference/>

PhD awards

Sairan Ahmad, *The role played by the Kurdistan regional government in the reconstruction of the Iraqi state since 2003* – supervised by Gareth Stansfield

Sulaiman Alsuhaibani, *The Verbal Sentence in Written Arabic* – supervised by Dionisius Agius

Fawzy Elgariani, *Al-Qawa'id al-Fiqhiyyah (Islamic Legal Maxims): Concept, Functions, History, Classifications and Application to Contemporary Medical Issues* - supervised by Rob Gleave

Khamis Al-Jabri, *Oman's Maritime Doctrine* – supervised by James Onley

Talal al-Khalifa, *The Gulf and Southeast Asia. Regional Security Complex and Regional Security Community: a Comparative Study* – supervised by Tim Niblock

Robert Mason, *Economic Factors in Middle East Foreign Policies: the Case of Oil and Gas Exporters, with Special Reference to Saudi Arabia and Iran* – supervised by Tim Niblock

Firman Noor, *Institutionalising Islamic Political Parties in Indonesia: a Study of Internal Fragmentation and Cohesion in the Post-Soeharto Era (1998-2008)* – supervised by Gerd Nonneman

Nyaz Noori, *Faces of Economic Inequality in Iraqi Kurdistan (2004-2010): The Role of Regulation* - supervised by Gerd Nonneman

Zacharias Pieri, *The Contentious Politics of Socio-Political Engagement: The Transformation of the Tablighi Jamaat in London* – supervised by Jonathan Githens-Mazer