

Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies

Research Newsletter Issue 5, September 2022



Welcome and DOR Information

Welcome to the fifth of the IAIS Research Newsletters. Again, it has been hard work encouraging people to send material for the Newsletter. It is here for everyone's benefit so please do send in material, rather than my having to chase this.

This term we will be seeking to develop new impact case studies so if you believe your research is suitable please get in touch. There will be more information in a staff meeting soon and William Gallois has kindly agreed to act as an impact case study mentor/advisor, based on the brilliant work he did in the last REF.

I also often get contacted by the British Academy linked British International Research Institutes about research grants and fellowship opportunities for UK-based scholars and/or academics in countries they are based in or linked with. These Institutes offer significant possibilities for research support, seed money, logistical assistance, and disseminating results that we could draw upon and develop in relation to our own research in the IAIS across the Humanities and Social Science spectrum. Six of the eight Institutes are also directly based in areas that are core foci of our personal research and of our research centres and I know that some of you are involved in these Institutes in various capacities. I am visiting the Council for

British Research in the Levant based in Amman in mid-September and will report on this in the next Newsletter. Please could I encourage you to explore research possibilities through these Institutes, starting with their websites, and if you are directly involved with any of the Institutes please promote opportunities that might be useful to us here in the IAIS.

British Institute at Ankara (BIAA) - <https://biaa.ac.uk>

British Institute of Eastern Africa (BIEA) - <https://biea.ac.uk>

British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS) - <https://www.bips.ac.uk>

Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) - <https://cbri.ac.uk>

British Institute for Libyan and Northern African Studies (BILNAS) - <https://www.bilnas.org/?ref=slsrebranded>

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) - <http://www.bisi.ac.uk>

Please send me contributions for the next issue of the Research Newsletter by **5pm Monday 16th January 2023.**



Professor Timothy Insoll, Director
of Research

Cover image. The Sankore Mosque, Timbuktu, Mali (photo. R. MacLean).

IAIS Research Centre News and Reports

Maqam for Arabic Studies (MAS)	Ms Abba Oudeh Mahmoud
Centre for the Study of Islam (CSI)	Dr István Kristó-Nagy
Centre for Middle East Politics (CMEP)	Prof. Lise Storm T1/ Dr Ella Gao T2
Centre for Persian and Iranian Studies (CPIS)	Dr Maziyar Ghiabi
Centre for Kurdish Studies (CKS)	Dr Farangis Ghaderi and Dr Allan Hassaniyan
Centre for Gulf Studies (CGS)	Prof. Marc Valeri
European Centre for Palestine Studies (ECPS)	Prof. Ilan Pappé Dr Nadia Naser-Najjab
Centre for Islamic Archaeology (CfIA)	Prof. Timothy Insoll

1. Maqam for Arabic Studies

Workshop led by Safaa Radoan (October 2022)

Teaching Foreign languages for Students with Visual Impairment: Practical tips for language teachers to help visually impaired students to maximize their performance in the language classroom.

Research project led by Giorgia Ferrari (October 2022)

Maqam is conducting an online survey to identify A1 and A2 Arabic grammar taught to AFL students in British, European and American Universities. The objective is to identify commonalities and differences in existing Arabic language programmes and to put together guidelines of grammar topics to be taught at the two beginners' levels, A1 and A2.

Field trip (December 2022)

Maqam is organizing the annual trip to the Bristol Palestine Film Festival. The trip includes Intermediate and Advanced Arabic students where they can watch Arabic speaking movies and participate in live discussions with actors and directors.

Field trip organized by Giorgia Ferrari (March 2023)

In partnership with [the Arab British Centre](#), Maqam will be organising a trip to London to the centre in which Arabic language students take a two-hour practical lesson in Arabic on playing the Oud.

Book club (January 2023)

Maqam will be hosting the Arabic Book Club monthly starting January 2023.

Ms Abla Oudeh Mahmoud

2. Centre for the Study of Islam

The Centre for the Study of Islam had another very productive academic year, 2021 to 2022. Highlights included the visit of Professors Nahyan Fancy (de Paul) and Wahid Saleh (Toronto) to the Institute as Al-Qasimi visiting professors in Islamic Studies. Their presence in the Institute gave us new research perspectives and they enriched our seminars and workshops with their contribution. More specifically, they organised their own workshops, which were very well attended and which provided PhD students with the opportunity to meet and discuss their research with these leading scholars.

Our weekly seminars (on Wednesday lunchtimes) continue to prove popular throughout the year with PhD students, Postdocs and Staff presenting, as well as visiting scholars – these included presentations but also including the chance to read Arabic texts together. A new innovation for 2021-22 was the Monday majlis, an online meeting on a Monday late afternoon with international scholars presenting their latest research to an online audience.

Full details of these past activities are available on the CSI pages section of the IAIS website. We will be continuing these (and other) activities in the coming year.

We had some great application successes as well. Kumail Rajani who is able to secure a British Academy research fellowship for three years, beginning in January 2023. Robert Gleave was awarded a British Academy Wolfson professorship, also for three years, and also beginning in January 2023.

Critical to the CSI's success is the work of staff members – we particularly recognise the professional support given by Sarah Wood as CSI research officer. It simply would not happen without her dedication and enthusiasm. We were fortunate to have additional research fellows, in the form of Omar Anchassi, and Pooya Razavian. They were both attached to the LAWALISI project for a period of six months and left in February 2022. Davide Pettinato joined us as a postdoc focusing on Islam and environmentalism. Belal Alabbas, who has been the British Academy Newton International fellow for the past 2.5 years, has secured a teaching position at the University of Bristol, and so will leave the Centre for the Study of Islam at the end of September 2022 - we wish him all the best in his future endeavours. Raha Rafii, LAWALISI postdoc also ended her time at Exeter, also in February 2022 – and we wish her all the best for her future work. The LAWALISI project came to an end in August 2022, and Kumail Rajani, the last remaining postdoc, will be taking over teaching responsibilities until January 2023 when he starts his British Academy postdoctoral fellowship. The CSI also hosted the ISLE (Islamic Law on the Edge) project, jointly held by Rob Gleave and Shahanaz Begum – this included seminars in Exeter and Spain, and a week-long summer school in June with 15 students from around Europe working on Islamic legal studies.

Members of CSI have produced various articles, book chapters, and edited collections over the past year, and full details are available on the individual webpages of CSI members. The CSI activities for the academic year 2022 to 2023, are currently under development, and will be posted on the CSI webpages in the coming weeks.

Finally, we have a change of director, as Rob Gleave steps down to take up his Wolfson professorship, and István Kristó-Nagy takes over as the new Director.

We look forward to another productive year of CSI activities and as always, we welcome engagement and participation from colleagues across the university.

Professor Robert Gleave

The Centre for the Study of Islam (CSI) has been thriving through the past years mostly due to the immense amount of dedicated work invested in by the previous director, Professor Robert Gleave. The administrative help from Sarah Wood was also instrumental in this success. Professor Sajjad Rizvi the former Head of the IAIS and member of the CSI also played a key role in some of our activities, in particular the online series 'Exeter-Habib Conversations: conversations in Postcolonial Islamic Spiritualities'. As the Head of IAIS, Professor Rizvi advised me when I took over the directorship that it may be impossible to maintain the same intensity of the programme as we had it last year, which included roughly

three events each week. We agreed that we should aim to have at least one every fortnight, but I am aiming for significantly more.

We will maintain the following activities:

CSI Monday Majlis

The CSI Monday Majlis is an online event, where invited speakers present on aspects of their current research. This may be a book they have recently published, a new project they are working on, or an exciting new potential avenue of Islamic studies research. They take place Mondays, online 1700-1830 UK time.

I aim to have a speaker each week. I have started to organise them and I will chair them.

CSI Wednesday Seminars

A research seminar in person with CSI members (students, research fellows, permanent staff and the visiting Al-Qasimi professor) and visiting speakers introducing the latest CSI research. They are timetabled for 3pm-4.30pm in Lecture Theatre 2, IAIS building.

I aim to have a seminar each fortnight, but if we have enough students, staff members and visiting speakers to present more, we can have more. I will chair these, too. I have started to organise for visiting speakers (aiming to have two or more each term).

Professor William Gallois will present a series of 4 lectures titled *Lewisohn Lectures* in memory of our colleague Lenny Lewisohn on the theme of '*Rethinking Islamic art in the period 1880-1930 C.E.*'.

Hikma: Philosophy and Poetry in Islamic Thought

Professor Rizvi is organising a new online series called *Hikma: Philosophy and Poetry in Islamic Thought*, starting probably late September or early October, fortnightly, most probably on Thursday or Friday. They will be chaired by Professor Rizvi.

CSI Research Afternoons

We aim to have a research afternoon at the end of each term. These will be organised and led by a member of the CSI with one or more visiting speakers as well as speakers from the CSI. It is possible we will have more of these research afternoons, too. Dr Belal Alabbas is organising the first one, scheduled for the 28th of September 2022, on the topic of '*Hadith in Legal Theory*', which will introduce, rather than conclude the activities of the CSI in the term and the academic year.

Dr István Kristó-Nagy

3. Centre for Middle East Politics

Activities since January:

17 Jan 2022: C-MEP meeting Jan/Feb 2022. First meeting in person for all members (students and staff, Streatham and Penryn).

31 Mar: Workshop on career experiences in academia (MENA politics); Spring 2022, 30 participants

Speakers: Prof. Anoush Ehteshami (Durham), Prof. Emma Murphy (Durham) and Prof. Catriona Pennell (Exeter, Penryn).

31 Mar/1 Apr 2022: Speakers: Prof. Emma Murphy (Durham): 'No place for a woman: the everyday political economy of young women's transport mobility in Tunis'' and Prof. Anoush Ehteshami (Durham): 'Systemic shift: Asia and the Middle East''

17 June 2022: We had the honour of welcoming IAIS alumnus Mr Tim Eaton (Chatham House). Tim gave a talk open to the public followed by a Q&A on the topic of 'Elite networks and state formation in Libya post-2011'.

Furthermore:

- C-MEP assisted in the hiring process for the two new MERIP-related posts (MERIP is hosted by C-MEP).
- We set up a C-MEP webpage.
- C-MEP was scheduled to host a student-led international workshop on 'civil resistance', which was sadly postponed. The workshop is designed and will be delivered by Vito Morisco (IAIS PhD student) sometime in the coming academic year instead.
- C-MEP members (Prof. Storm, Dr Gao and Dr Brownlee) have been closely involved in a grant application process with other colleagues in Law and Politics. This is a large bid for a Global Centre for the Study of Authoritarianism (PIs: Dr Cat Owen (Exeter, Penryn) and Prof. Lise Storm (Exeter)).
- C-MEP hosted an international webinar/talk/book launch organized by Dr Sabiha Allouche (Exeter, Penryn). The speakers were Prof. Carl Rommell (Texas), Prof. Nazanin Shakroni (LSE) and Dr Sabiha Allouche (Exeter, Penryn).

With the funds left over and the additional funds from the IAIS pot, C-MEP also sent 3 PhD students to BRISMES at St Andrews (4-6 July 2022). The students in question were: Hemn Seyedj, Peyman Zinati and Yunus Abakay. Students were asked to submit a proposal in November 2021.

I will only be directing CMEP in term 1 as I will be on leave in term 2. However, for term 1 I have a workshop on how to publish in MERIP lined up (hopefully October) and in November a workshop on how to publish with EUP. There will also be the regular meetings, of course. I have spoken with Ella, and it is likely that there will be two grant writing workshops in term 2, one with research support services and a second where people receive feedback on drafts/substantial ideas. There will also be monthly members' meetings in t2.

Professor Lise Storm

4. Centre for Persian and Iranian Studies

Activities since 2022:

3 February 2022

Dr Nazanin Shahrokni (LSE): Playing Politics: Gender and the Politics of Stadium Access in Iran.

9 February 2022

Dr Shireen Walton (Goldsmith): Ethnography across borders: tracing digital-visual threads between Afghanistan, Iran, Italy and the UK.

30 May 2022

Dr Negar Elodie Behzadi (Bristol): Young female miners in Tajikistani coal mines:
Intersectional extractive violence and ecologies of exhaustion.

CPIS activities for 2022/2023:

We have a line-up for the first term including:

Stephanie Cronin (Oxford): date tbc in early October.

Sussan Babaei (Courtauld): October 27

Matin Biglari (SOAS): November 22

Stella Morgana (BA Liverpool): date tbc

Shahram Khosravi (Stockholm): early December

Depending on funding, we will also host a one-day graduate workshop for UK/EU based PhD students, possibly in early 2023.

The CPIS - through IAIS and HASS - is also in the process of signing a MoU with the University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Studies (USWR) in Tehran, which should hopefully enable further research within the scope of social policy, public health, and medical humanities.

Dr Mazyar Ghiabi

5. Centre for Kurdish Studies

27-28 October 2022

Kurdish Folklore as World Heritage: Language, Music, and the Archives

Organisers: University of Exeter (DAME & CKS), Jagiellonian University (Poland), Kurdish Heritage Institute (Iraqi Kurdistan), Mezopotamya Foundation (Turkey)

The oral stories and songs performed by traditional performers, *dengbêj* and *çirokbêj*, have been the site of knowledge, memory, history, as well as the main form entertainment in Kurdistan up until the 1970s. Kurdish intellectuals, activists and the modern institutions established in the fragile political environments of the “Middle East” have been acutely aware of the necessity of collecting, documenting, preserving, and studying the diverse oral tradition of the Kurds. However, their existence has been threatened by states’ suppression and lack of funding. This international conference brings together the experience of Kurdish folklore collectors, archivists, international scholars, and institutions to explore possibilities of collaboration to study, develop and promote the diversity of Kurdish oral cultures.

More information and link for registration will be shared in due course.

Dr Farangis Ghaderi and Dr Allan Hassaniyan

6. Centre for Gulf Studies

The Centre was delighted to host the 32nd Exeter Gulf Conference in person on 28-29 June. The first Gulf Conference since 2019 and the breakout of the Covid-19 pandemic, it gathered 15 panellists from 11 countries, including our Exeter colleagues **Dr. Elham Fakhro**, **Dr. Nora Jaber** and **Abdulla Moaswes**, to discuss the theme of *Liberalism and its Paradoxes in the Arabian Peninsula*.

Professor Timothy Mitchell (William B. Ransford Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University, New York) gave the keynote on 'Climate Crisis and the Futures of Liberalism', and **Professor Neha Vora** (Professor of Anthropology at Lafayette College, Pennsylvania; @nativeinformant) gave the concluding remarks.

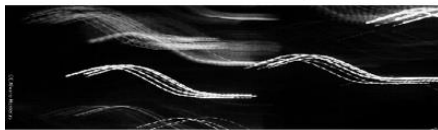
A huge thank you to all speakers, attendees, and colleagues, in particular Ahmed, Claire, Lauren, and Ross, who made this event possible!

Full programme available here:

<https://arabislamicstudies.exeter.ac.uk/research/centres/gulf/events/gulfconference/>.



32nd EXETER GULF CONFERENCE
28-29 JUNE 2022, Reed Hall, University of Exeter



**LIBERALISM
AND ITS
PARADOXES
IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA**



Professor Marc Valeri



7. Centre for Islamic Archaeology

We concluded our successful online Spring seminar series - **Medieval Archaeology in the Horn of Africa** with four further lectures co-organised and co-chaired by Awet. T. Araya and Timothy Insoll.

JAN 19 - APR 06 2022



'MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE HORN OF AFRICA'

SPRING 2022 SEMINAR SERIES
HOSTED BY THE
CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC
ARCHAEOLOGY, IAIS,
UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER.

SCHEDULE

<p>JAN 19 2022</p> <p>MIKAEL MUEHLBAUER</p>	<p>'THE FATIMID CALIPHATE AND EARLY ZAGWE ETHIOPIA: A 'GREEK TRAGEDY' TOLD IN MONUMENTS'</p>
<p>MAR 02 2022</p> <p>GABRIELE CASTIGLIA</p>	<p>'FROM EARLY CHRISTIAN TO ISLAMIC (?) ADULIS: NEW DATA AND QUESTIONS'</p>
<p>MAR 16 2022</p> <p>ALEBACHEW BELAY BIRRU</p>	<p>'MEGALITHIC LANDSCAPES IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS OF ETHIOPIA: LEGACIES OF A MEDIEVAL "PAGAN" CIVILIZATION'</p>
<p>APR 06 2022</p> <p>ROXANI ELENI MARGARITI</p>	<p>'ISLANDS OF RESILIENCE: MARITORY AND ECONOMY IN THE DAHLAK ARCHIPELAGO, 10TH-17TH CENTURIES'</p>

All lectures will be on
Wednesdays at 16:00 - 17:00
GMT via Zoom.



The semester 1 programme of the CfIA is dominated by our hosting the 2nd international conference, **Indian Ocean World Archaeology (IOW-ARCH)**, on the 19th-20th December 2022, here in the IAIS Building with papers encompassing the archaeology, material culture and heritage of the Indian Ocean (defined as from East Africa to Japan, including Australasia) from the first millennium BC to the contemporary era. This is a joint CfIA student-staff organised event and follows the very successful inaugural IOW-ARCH conference also held in the IAIS in January 2020.

All are welcome to attend and further details, including about registration, can be found here - <https://www.iow-arch.com>

In semester 2 of this academic year, the CfIA is organising a series of 4 seminars on **Medieval Archaeology in Egypt** jointly organised by John Cooper and one of the CfIA PhD students, Hesham Nasr. Full details to follow.

Refurbished Basement Workroom – Opening Event – 21/10/22

The CfIA is delighted to welcome you to visit our refurbished workroom on **Friday 21st October from 1400-1800**. The work was completed as part of the basement renovations linked with the movement of AWDU back into the building and funded as part of the DAME project. This new space permits us to store securely for the first time all the equipment, archaeological materials and teaching collections used by the CfIA and provides a dedicated space for analysis and research by the CfIA PhD students and visiting researchers.

Student News

Two of our students have been successful in securing recently academic posts. Awet Teklehimanot Araya has been appointed as Project Curator: Africa in the Africa, Oceania, and America department at the British Museum, where he will be involved in two major Africa-focused exhibitions; refreshing the Africa (Sainsbury) gallery and the International Training Program (ITP). He will also be involved in various Africa linked projects of the museum, and Dr Nathan Anderson has been appointed as a temporary lecturer in Archaeology at Santa Clara University in California.

Professor Timothy Insoll

Update on the DAME Project (Digital Archive of the Middle East), Special Collections and AWDU

Work continues on digitising selected material from the Arab World Documentation Unit (AWDU) and the Middle East archives held in Special Collections, and it is hoped that a dedicated digitisation space will shortly be established in the Old Library. Work has begun designing and constructing the DAME digital platform.

Three DAME PhD students will be starting this term, with research projects comprising 'The Roaring 70s: Cultural Renaissance in Iraqi Kurdistan', 'Reclaiming the Sea: coastal privatisation, land reclamation and contestation along Bahrain's shores' and '(De)Constructing Borders: A Digital Investigation of the Archaeological, Cultural, and Political Landscapes of Middle Eastern Nationhood.'

As part of her work for the Kurdish Digital Archive, Farangis Ghaderi has been in Kurdistan developing partnerships with a number of Kurdish archives - including both personal and institutional collections - museums and libraries. She hopes to provide a full report on her visit at the first DAME seminar, to be held in the autumn. Regular seminars will be held thereafter, allowing the PhD students and other researchers to present on different topics relating to the digitisation and topics of interest to IAIS.

Some new archival collections have recently been, or are in the process of being, acquired by Special Collections, including the Kutschera photo-archive containing over 100,000 photographs of Kurdistan and the Gulf, as well as other papers, and three archives relating to Jerusalem and Palestine.

During the week of 12-16 September, the Arab World Documentation Unit (AWDU) will be moved from the Old Library back up to a newly-refurbished study space in IAIS, where it was previously housed until summer 2012. This will provide an easily accessible reference collection for staff and students of IAIS, and - in addition to some other rearrangements - the new AWDU will also include an expanded Kurdish section to support the research activities of the Centre for Kurdish Studies. The archivist for the Middle East collections, James Downs, is currently also responsible for AWDU and will be available at selected times to help provide support for users of the collections.

Dr James Downs

Staff Research News

1. Yunus Abakay

Peer-Reviewed articles

Abakay, Yunus. 2022. Omran, *Subjects in Contested Spaces: Securitising the Kurdish Language in Syria*, 40: 97-117. (Published in Arabic: ذوات في فضاءات متنازع عليها: أمننة اللغة الكردية في سورية) <https://doi.org/10.31430/WVLM5255>

Abakay, Yunus. 2022. "Imperialist Globalism: From Exploiting Mines to Exploiting Minds." *Meridian (the Global Studies Centre Newsletter)*, no. 3: 11–12.

Conference

Subjects of Discursive Operations: Kurds in Post-Independence Syria, Institute for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Annual Conference, Durham University, 14 June 2022.

Op-Ed

"A Car with No Engine: Drain of Human Capital and Taliban's Reality Test." 2022. *South Asia, LSE*. February 7. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2022/02/07/a-car-with-no-engine-drain-of-human-capital-and-talibans-reality-test/>.

2. Professor Dionisius Agius

Book

Mallett, Alexander, Catherine Rider and Dionisius A. Agius (eds.) *Magic in Malta: Sellem Bin Al-Sheikh Mansur and the Roman Inquisition, 1605*, (Leiden: Brill 2022). 527 pages.

Chapters

Agius, Dionisius A. "The cognitive landscape of seventeenth century Malta: Communicating information in a cosmopolitan society", in *Magic in Malta: Sellem Bin Al-Sheikh Mansur and*

the Roman Inquisition, 1605, eds A. Mallett, C. Rider and D. A. Agius (Leiden: Brill, 2022), pp. 323-348.

Mallett, Alexander, Catherine Rider and Dionisius A. Agius, "Introduction" in *Magic in Malta: Sellem Bin Al-Sheikh Mansur and the Roman Inquisition, 1605*, eds A. Mallett, C. Rider and D. A. Agius (Leiden: Brill, 2022), pp. 2-22.

Keynote Lectures

22 January 2022

Dionisius A. Agius "The Maritime Language Dominance in the Western Indian Ocean up to the Post Medieval Period"

Rutter Project Seminar European Research Council, Sailing the Early Modern Indian Ocean: Texts and Practices in Contact, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa

1 June 2022

Dionisius A. Agius "The Life of the Red Sea Dhow: A Cultural History of Seaborne Exploration" Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt

3. Dr Samer Bakkour

My interview with Syrian TV Channel, analysing the Ar-Raqqa governorate during Syrian Regime, Free Syrian Army, Islamic Factions, ISIS, then Kurdish administration.

Here is the link -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqlhhDi8mAs&t=169s>

New article - Daraa and the Altered Trajectory of the Syrian Crisis <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/25765949.2022.2099025>

New book - *The End of the Middle East Peace Process The Failure of US Diplomacy* <https://www.routledge.com/The-End-of-the-Middle-East-Peace-Process-The-Failure-of-US-Diplomacy/Bakkour/p/book/9781032215242>

4. Hamdullah Baycar

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022) 'Promoting Multiculturalism and Tolerance: Expanding the Meaning of "Unity through Diversity" in the UAE'. *Digest of Middle East Studies*. In Publication

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022). 'The United Arab Emirates' Religious Soft Power through Ulema and Organizations'. *Religions* 13 (7), 646. (with Mehmet Rakipoglu) <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13070646>.

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022). 'Global-Local: Being an Emirati in a Globalized World'. *The GSC Newsletter (Meridian)* 3: 12-14. <https://gsc.gust.edu.kw/hamdullah-baycar>

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022). 'تشریح العلاقات التركية- السعودية: دأمة التنافس والتعاون'. *Rouya Turkiyyah* 11(3): 115-128 (with Mehmet Rakipoglu) <https://doi.org/10.36360/1560-011-003-007>.

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022). '17th Century Ottoman Women in Evliya Celebi's Seyahatname'. *Bilimname*, 47: 773-797. <https://doi.org/10.28949/bilimname.1050129>.

Book Chapters

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022) 'The Muslim Brotherhood's Movement in Saudi Arabia'. In *The Muslim Brotherhood as a Transboundary Social and Political Movement*, (in Turkish), edited by Abdülgani Bozkurt and Mehmet Rakipoğlu. Istanbul: Ketebe Yayinlari, (In Publication)

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022). 'UK's Post Brexit Strategy "Global Britain": A Quest of Being Great Power'. In *Great Power Politics in Greater Eurasia: Regional Alliances, Institutions, Projects, and Conflicts*: 119-143 edited by Rahman Dag and Özgür Tüfekçi. Lanham: Lexington Books. (with Emrah Atar)

Baycar, Hamdullah. (2022) 'International Relations and Covid-19: Realism and Covid-19 Pandemic' in *Political Science and pandemic: Policies, Applications, and Debates*, (in Turkish), edited by Emrah Atar and Önder Kutlu. Konya: Cizgi Yayinlari, In Publication (with Emrah Atar).

Op-Eds and Analyses

Baycar, Hamdullah. 'Israel, the Gulf and Turkey: Why Is Everyone Making up in the Middle East?' *Middle East Eye*, 23 February 2022. <http://www.middleeasteye.net/opinion/middle-east-reconciliation-season-what-will-come>. (with Selcuk Aydin)

Baycar, Hamdullah. 'Regional Implications of a Turkey-UAE Reconciliation'. *New Lines Institute*, 31 May 2022. <https://newlinesinstitute.org/state-resilience-and-fragility/regional-implications-of-a-turkey-uae-reconciliation/>.

Baycar, Hamdullah. 'Saudi-Turkish Normalization: More Complicated than Meets the Eye'. *Gulf International Forum*, 24 June 2022. <https://gulfif.org/saudi-turkish-normalization-more-complicated-than-meets-the-eye/>.

Baycar, Hamdullah. 'The UAE's Israel-Iran Balancing Act'. *Gulf International Forum*, 10 January 2022. <https://gulfif.org/the-uaes-israel-iran-balancing-act/>.

Bayar, Hamdullah. 'The UAE Formally Ceases to Be a Tax-Free Haven'. *The Washington Institute*, 14 February 2022. <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/uae-formally-ceases-be-tax-free-haven>. (with Sana Quadri)

Workshop

A Comparative Analyses of Gulf Investment in Sports: Qatar, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia

Gulf Research Meeting, Cambridge, UK 14-16 July 2022

<https://gulfresearchmeeting.net/documents/1657143416Workshop%203%20Agenda.pdf>

5. Professor William Gallois

William Gallois was awarded a Publication Grant of £4000 by the Barakat Trust to allow for an extensive illustration programme for his forthcoming monograph, 'To Paint the City is to Save the World', which is forthcoming with Penn State University Press.

6. Dr Maziyar Ghiabi

Maziyar Ghiabi has been invited to join the journal of *Drugs, Habits and Social Policy* (Emerald Publication) as **Associate Editor**, with reference to West and Central Asia and North Africa. I have been invited to join the Welch Medal Prize Committee of the American Association of Medical History (AAMH). I am on the Committee of the Nikki Keddie Book Award of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA).

I appeared on the BBC podcast 'Deeply Human' presented by singer Dessa on the topic of 'Intoxication' which you can listen to following this link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct3hgz>

My chapter has just been published in [*The Oxford Handbook of Global Drug History*](#), edited by Paul Gootenberg. It's titled 'De-Orientalizing Drugs in the Modern Middle East'.

Ghiabi, Mazyar. "[Critique of everyday narco-capitalism](#)." *Third World Quarterly* (2022): 1-20.
Ghiabi, Mazyar. 'The Pluriverse of Intoxication: words, lives, worlds in Islamicate history', *Social History of Alcohol and Drugs*, Vol 32. no. 2 2022 (in press)
Ghiabi, Mazyar and Thembisa Waetjen (Johannesbourg University), *In and Beyond the Colony: writing drugs history in the South*. *Social History of Alcohol and Drugs*, Vol 32. no. 2 2022 (in press)

I was asked to write a piece for *History Today* in the section *Head to Head* on the question of the 'war on drugs'. In September 2022, I was invited to take part in the Wellcome Trust Network Workshop on 'Connecting 3 Worlds' at the Humbolt University, Berlin. And I was invited to be a Discussant at the Conference 'What's at stake in the fake? Indian pharmaceutical, African Markets and Global health' at King's College London. In October 2022, I was invited by Ambassador T. Greminger, Director of Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), and the Global Initiative for Organised Crime (GIOC), to attend the *Experts Workshop Series on the Regional and International Impact of Afghanistan's Illicit Economy*.

7. Dr Farangis Ghaderi

Ghaderi, F. (2022). Poetics of modernity and nationalism: Revisiting the emergence of modern Kurdish poetry. *Literature Compass*, 19(7).

Ghaderi, F. & Rafii, R. (August 2022). "Unknown Ghazals". Translation of Kurdish Ghazals by Mahwi (1830-1906). *Circumference Magazine*, Summer Issue. <https://circumferencemag.com>

Conference Talk

Ghaderi, F. & Bockenska, J. (11-12 May 2022). *Collecting Kurdish Folklore as a Strategy for Language Revitalisation and Indigenous Knowledge Production*. *Kurdish Folklore Conference*. University of Zakho, Iraqi Kurdistan.

Co-organised and chaired "Meet the Author Series" of the Kurdish Gender Studies Network:

19 May 2022, Conversation with Ava Homa, Kurdish-Canadian novelist.

19 May 2022, Conversation with Jana Seyda, Kurdish writer, poet, and translator.

19 May 2022, Conversation with Zeyneb Yash, Kurdish writer, and archivist.

8. Professor Robert Gleave

BA Wolfson fellowship

<https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/news/british-academywolfson-professorships-awarded-to-pioneering-shape-research/>

9. Professor Adam Hanieh

New Publications

(2022) "Pandemic Effects: COVID-19 and the Crisis of Development in the Middle East", *Development and Change*, (co-authored with Rafeef Ziadah), pre-print available open access at, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dech.12727>

Invited Lectures

22 June 2022, Opening Keynote Address at the 15th Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Middle East Studies, Naples.

7 June 2022, talk on 'Oil and World Money', at the *Histories of Race and Capitalism* Workshop, SOAS, London.

3 June 2022, delivered on-line lecture on oil and the political economy of the Middle East, to the Political Economy Summer Institute, George Mason University, Washington DC.

2 June 2022, Panelist (with Rabab Al-Mahdi, AUC, and Safa Al Ahmad, Saudi journalist) on "Capital and Counterrevolution – Framing the Arab Gulf States" at the Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC).

18 February 2022, Panelist (online) at the University of Leiden, Political Economy Group workshop, *The Decade of Revolt? Class Conflict and the State of Permanent Crisis in the Post-2011 Middle East*.

24 January 2022, Panelist (online) at an event organised by the UCLA Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, *The Defeat of Democracy after the Arab Uprisings*

Other Research News

In August 2022, we launched the website for the Carnegie Corporation-funded project, *Mapping Connections: China and Contemporary Development in the Middle East*. The website is available at: <https://www.china-mena-connections.org/>

10. Dr Allan Hassaniyan

Times Radio

Date: 1 February 2022, related to the 43 Anniversary of the Iranian Revolution (1979), and the day Ayatollah Khomeini returned to Iran after his exile

Programme; 'On This Day'

With an interview with Stig Abell and Aasmah Mir

Allan Hassaniyan and Mansour Sohrabi, "Colonial Management of Iranian Kurdistan; with Emphasis on Water Resources", *Journal of World System Research*, Vol. 28, Issue 2 (2022), pp. 320-343, DOI 10.5195/JWSR.2022.108.

11. Dr Stephane Hlaimi

Stephane has obtained a PhD in Economics from Aix Marseille University in 2012 with research on intergenerational mobility of immigrants in France. He was a PhD student in the IAIS for a

doctoral research on identity and citizenship of French and British Muslims under the supervision of Prof. Lise Storm and Prof. Jonathan Githens-Mazer.

Since March 2022, I am recruited as a full time Lecturer in Economics (Education and scholarship) at Exeter University business school. Currently, I am working on minorities within Islam with a first research on Muslim homosexuals in France and Britain (with Charlotte Littlewood). I also study the gender inequalities in wage and employment in middle eastern countries (with Prof. Climent Quintana-Domeque, Exeter and Chicago Universities). I will be happy to contribute to any research that can connects the business school and the IAIS in the future as I strongly believe there is a door for such a multidisciplinary work.

If you want to read my publication, you can find them here:

http://business-school.exeter.ac.uk/about/people/profile/index.php?web_id=stephane_hlaimi

12. Professor Timothy Insoll

Media

Gave an interview about Islamic archaeology and the Centre for Islamic Archaeology on "Drivetime", *Voice of Islam Radio* (27/7/22).

Museums

Curated a new permanent exhibition, *Harlaa - Lost City of the Medieval Sultanate of Harla, Ethiopia*, at the Harlaa Site Museum he established at Ganda Biyo, Ethiopia, as part of his ERC Advanced Grant funded project, *Becoming Muslim*. The exhibition was installed in February 2022 by new CfIA PhD student Temesgen Leta in his capacity as an ARCCH Antiquities Officer. It has been very well-received by the Ethiopian authorities and local community and is being used extensively by school groups, supported by a trilingual booklet in Afaan Oromo, Amharic, and English that I wrote and was translated by Dejene Dandema and Temesgen Leta.



Local social media posts about, and groups visiting the new Harlaa Museum (photos. T. Leta) and trilingual Museum booklet cover.

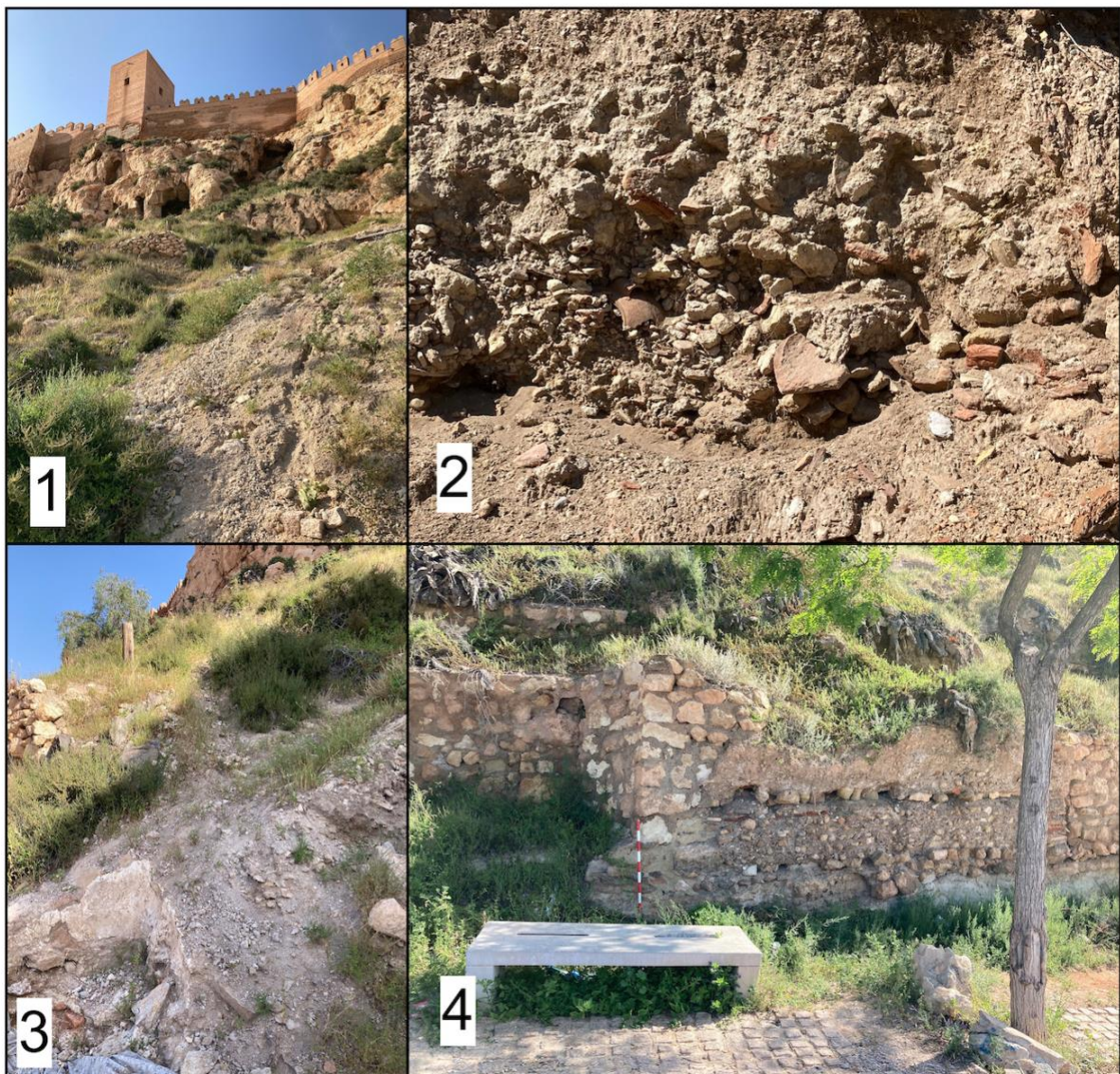
Invited lectures

March 2022. (Online). *The Missing Bishopric? The Archaeology of Christianity in Samahij, Bahrain*. Orient Department, German Archaeological Institute (DAI), Berlin, Germany.

April 2022. *Archaeological Perspectives on Contacts between Cairo and Eastern Ethiopia in the 12th to 15th Centuries*, and *Potential Archaeological Research Priorities in the Medieval Red Sea*. Medieval Archaeology in Ethiopia and Red Sea Workshops, University of Aix-en-Provence, France.

Fieldwork

Completed archaeological reconnaissance survey in May of the Meson Gitano area adjacent to the alcazaba, Almería, Spain, in partnership with MemoLab at the University of Granada, and the Alcazaba Directorate, Junta de Andalucía. This has identified a promising area for excavation as part of the *Afro-Andalus* project I am developing.



The excavation area between the Méson Gitano and northern wall of the Alcazaba in Almería.
1. Part of site. 2. Exposed deposits. 3. Exposed structures. 4. Exposed wall, right of ranging rod.

13. Dr Nadia Khalaf

Publications

Vousdoukas, M.I., Clarke, J., Ranasinghe, R., Reimann, L., Khalaf, N., Duong, T.M., Ouweneel, B., Sabour, S., Iles, C.E., and Trisos, C.H. (2022). African heritage sites threatened as sea-level rise accelerates. *Nature Climate Change*, 12(3), 256-262. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01280-1>

Simpson, N.P., Clarke, J., Orr, S.A., Cundill, G., Orlove, B., Fatorić, S., Sabour, S., Khalaf, N., Rockman, M., Pinho, P., et al (2022). Decolonizing climate change—heritage research. *Nature Climate Change*, 12(3), 210-213. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01279-8>

Ochungo, P., Khalaf, N., Merlo, S., Beldados, A., M'Mbogori, F.N., Tiki, W., and Lane, P.J. (2022). Remote Sensing for Biocultural Heritage Preservation in an African Semi-Arid Region: A Case Study of Indigenous Wells in Northern Kenya and Southern Ethiopia. *Remote Sensing*, 14(2), 314-314. <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/14/2/314>

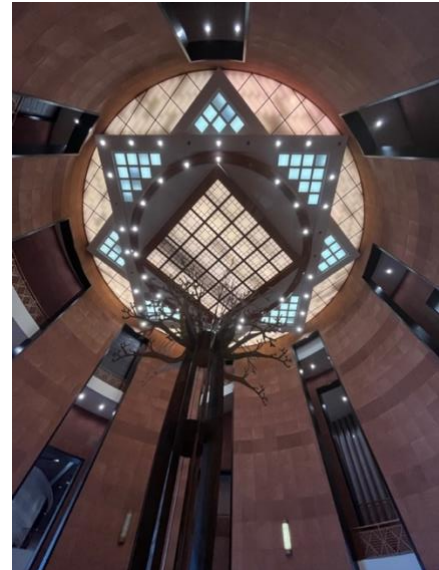
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) WGII Sixth Assessment Report. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-ii/>

Mapping Africa's Endangered Archaeological Sites and Monuments (MAEASaM) project workshop, Dakar, Senegal May 2022

Our Arcadia funded project, a collaboration with seven other institutions across Africa and Europe, started amid the pandemic in September 2020. We have met on Zoom every week since, but never in person, until Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) hosted a workshop in Dakar, Senegal, last month. During our three-day workshop we celebrated our current achievements, including mapping over 22,000 archaeological sites across our eight African countries only using satellite images and legacy records. We also deliberated on our forthcoming fieldwork and how we will capture sites on the ground. Overall, it was a very successful three days and we were lucky enough to visit Goree Island and the new Musée des Civilisations Noires (both photographed). You can read more about project here: <https://maeasam.org> and on social media @maeasamproject (Facebook, Instagram & Twitter).

Below images:

Left. MAEASaM team members visiting UNESCO World Heritage Site, Goree Island, Senegal.
Right. Baobab tree sculpture in the Musée des Civilisations Noire, Dakar, Senegal



14. Ihsan Mejdi

Mejdi, Ihsan, and Celeste Koppe. 2022. "Leading with Locally Produced Knowledge: Development in Jemna, Tunisia." In *Handbook on Participatory Action Research and Community Development*. Edited by Randy Stoecker and Adrienne Falcón. Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781839100970>.

<https://www.elgaronline.com/view/edcoll/9781839100963/9781839100963.00031.xml>.

15. Dr Nadia Naser-Najjab

Dr. Nadia Naser-Najjab presented a paper at BRISMES. Exploring and Contesting the (Re)Production of Coloniality in the Middle East: Borders, Transnationalism, and Resistance, 4-6 July, 2022, University of St Andrews. Paper entitled, The Colonial Context of People-to-People Programming in Occupied Palestine. Panel, Conquest and Domination: Colonial Liberalism and Governance in Contemporary Palestine and Beyond.

Dr. Nadia Naser-Najjab, A conversation with Professor Ilan Pappé. 'Israel and the Denial of Nakba, the Case Tantura Massacre' (Arabic).Palestine Forum, 05-02-2022. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISgzzmGEIM>

Published article in Arabic, The Tantura Massacre, Palestine Forum, 25-01-2022.

<https://www.palestineforum.net/%d8%b9%d9%86-%d9%85%d8%ac%d8%b2%d8%b1%d8%a9->

16. Dr Katie Natanel

I recently published an article with *Settler Colonial Studies*, titled 'Affect, excess and settler colonialism in Palestine/Israel'. This piece explores the sensations of uncomfortable research,

considering what spills beyond the frames of critical settler colonial theory and raising the question of how we might cultivate ethical decolonial scholarship. The full text can be accessed here: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/2201473X.2022.2112427>



Over 8-9 July, IAIS joined the Exeter's Global Systems Institute (GSI), Radical Ecology, the Serpentine Galleries, Open Society Foundations, UCL's Sarah Parker Remond Centre for the Study of Race and Racialisation (SPRC), and other sponsors in hosting '[Equilibrium: A Public Gathering on Environmental Justice](#)' in London. This two-day event began with a closed workshop titled 'Towards a New Global Architecture for Climate Finance', during which Katie Natanel facilitated discussions with participants from the International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Climate Vulnerable Forum, GSI, Stop Ecocide International, Global Alliance for a Green New Deal, among others. Following the workshop, a public event took place at the Serpentine Galleries, where interdisciplinary artists, campaigners and thinkers gathered to address the role of culture in creating and supporting environmental justice.

This generative collaboration continues in September, when Katie will be joining Ashish Ghadiali (GSI, Radical Ecology), Ruth Potts (Senior Advisor, Green New Deal Group) and Iman Datto (Visual Artist) in facilitating a gathering of the [Black Atlantic Innovation Network](#) (BAIN) in St. Austell, Cornwall. The meeting brings together representatives of SPRC, UCL Critical Heritage, the National Trust, the National Education Union, Serpentine Galleries, Tomorrow's Warriors, the Young Vic, Eden Project, the Royal Botanical Gardens, the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation and Lankelly Chase. Through movement workshops, musical performances and dialogue sessions, we will engage with issues relating to the network's core mission and future activities.

17. Professor Sajjad Rizvi

Faris Abdel-Hadi's PhD 'Identifying Ibn 'Arabī's Scope of Religious Pluralism: Degrees of Inclusivity' was examined by Professors James Morris (Boston College) and William Gallois. They passed it as it is which is a wonderful achievement.

Publications

With Scott Davison and Shira Weiss, *The Protests of Job: An Interfaith Dialogue*, Palgrave Pivot, New York: Palgrave/Macmillan, 2022

'God, Cosmos, and Humanity: Muslim Perspectives in Search of the Meaning of Divine Providence', in Jeff Koperski and Kelly James Clark (eds), *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022, pp. 199–220

With Majid Daneshgar, 'Inscribing Persian in the Arabic Cosmopolis: A Case Study of Qur'ānic Exegesis from Khurasan', *Australian Journal of Islamic Studies* 7.1 (2022), pp. 5–28.

18. Professor Christine Robins

Our AHRC-funded project, [Sinjar Lives](#): Oral Histories from the IDP Camps of Northern Iraq, has now finished its collection phase.

A community-led initiative, the project focused on collecting oral traditions and memories whose context and transmission have been ruptured by the genocide of the Êzidis (Yazidis) of Mt Sinjar (known as Shingal, in Northern Iraq) at the hands of ISIS/Da'esh in 2014. Most of this community is now displaced, in camps in Northern Iraq or scattered as refugees across the world. This grant was originally formulated as a GCRF urgency project. We are very grateful that when the GCRF funding was reallocated as Covid struck in 2020, the AHRC took up the funding instead and we were able to go ahead.

Currently, the project leaders - Zêdan Xelef and Emad Bashar, along with a team of Êzidi oral historians, are preparing about 80 oral history interviews for archiving and you can follow their progress via @tewtewarchive on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook. 'Tew Tew!' means 'Bravo!'/ 'Well sung!'/ 'Great job!' in Kurmanji (Northern Kurdish), the Shingali Êzidis' mother tongue.

This summer we hosted a series of Zoom seminars through June. Called the Tew Tew seminars, they aimed to introduce Êzidi to some of the most recent scholarship on Êzidi history and culture, to which many of them had not previously had access.

Prior to this, the in-country project team organised a folklore festival in the Lalesh Valley, Iraq on 29 April. Singers and tellers performed in intimate spaces in a joyous celebration of Êzidi oral tradition.

Along with the Principal investigator Christine Robins and Co-investigator Alana Marie Levinson-LaBrosse, Zêdan and Emad have collaborated on a number of publications for different outlets.

We are excited to announce that our first short article has just appeared in the magazine of the Friends of the Pitt Rivers Museum. It contrasts knowledge production from the 1950s, in the form of photos of Shingal by the British photographer Wilfred Thesiger, with contemporary knowledge production by Shingalis themselves, as they work on cultural preservation in the aftermath of genocide.

[Here's a teaser for some of the material on our oral history archive](#), up on Facebook.

19. Dr Emily Selove

The Sorcerer's Handbook project focuses on a collection of magical texts by an influential medieval scholar of the Arabic language, Sirāj al-Dīn al-Sakkākī (d. 1229 CE). Participants are producing an edition and translation of his grimoire, the *Kitab al-Shamil*, accompanied by a co-authored volume of essays. The team met up in person and online this July 18th-19th to discuss topics ranging from Indian and Zoroastrian influences on medieval Arabic magic to modern performance theory as a method to understand ritual. IAIS Senior Lecturer Emily Selove is the Principal Investigator of this Leverhulme-funded project.

20. Professor Marc Valeri

Valeri, M. (2022). 'Une affaire de famille. Reconfiguration du pacte oligarchique dans les monarchies de Bahreïn et d'Abou Dhabi au début du XXI^e siècle.' *Mondes en Développement*, no.198, pp. 55-71.

Available here:

<https://www.cairn.info/revue-mondes-en-developpement-2022-2-page-55.htm>