



The 2008

# Gulf Studies Conference



An interdisciplinary conference on the Gulf region (Arabia, Iran, Iraq), past and present, commemorating **30 years of Gulf Studies in Exeter, UK**

## 1–5 July 2008

Website: [www.ex.ac.uk/iais](http://www.ex.ac.uk/iais)

Convenor: Dr James Onley ([J.Onley@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:J.Onley@exeter.ac.uk))

Send questions about logistics to Miss Laura Scrivens,  
([L.Scrivens@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:L.Scrivens@exeter.ac.uk))

# PROGRAMME

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## TUESDAY, 1 JULY

- 1:00–6:00 COLLECTION OF ROOM KEYS & REGISTRATION (Pennsylvania Court, Streatham Campus)
- 1:00–5:00 OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THE GULF COLLECTION IN THE ARAB WORLD DOCUMENTATION UNIT (Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies / IAIS)
- 6:00 WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO IAIS (depart from: Pennsylvania Court)
- 6:15 DINNER (Common Room, Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies / IAIS)
- 7:15 DRINKS & OPENING OF EXHIBITION OF HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE GULF (lower level, IAIS)
- 8:30 TAXI SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT
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## WEDNESDAY, 2 JULY

- 7:30–9:00 BREAKFAST (Hope Hall)
- 9:05 WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO IAIS (depart from: Hope Hall)
- 9:30 ARRIVAL OF VIPS (IAIS)
- 9:45 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION (IAIS)
- 10:00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR TIM NIBLOCK**  
(Al-Qasimi Chair of Gulf Studies & founding Director of the IAIS)  
CHAIR: Dr James Onley (Director of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
- 10:25 **HERITAGE & EMIRATI NATIONAL IDENTITY**  
CHAIR: Dr James Onley (Director of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
- Museums and Emirati National Identity  
(**Manal Ataya**, Director, Sharjah Museums Department, UAE)
  - Falconry and Emirati National Identity  
(Dr **Sulayman Khalaf**, Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage, UAE)
- 11:25 COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS)
- 11:45 **GENDERING NATIONAL IDENTITY & PUBLIC POLICY IN THE UAE**  
CHAIR: Dr Sawsan Karimi (University of Bahrain)
- Female Political Participation in the United Arab Emirates  
(**Ruba Al-Hassan**, Abu Dhabi Government)
  - The 'Abaya-as-Fashion: Contesting Ideological Constructions of Dress  
(Dr **Noor Al-Qasimi**, New York University)
- 12:45 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS, entrance foyer)

- 2:15     **IRAQ**  
CHAIR: Professor Gareth Stansfield (IAIS)  
  - The Transnational Impact of the Kurdish Self-Rule in Iraq: Leading to Peace or Violence  
(Dr **Abdollah Ramezanzadeh**, University of Tehran)
  - Qadissiyat Saddam: The Gamble Didn't Pay Off  
(Dr **Chérine Chams El-Dine**, Cairo University) **CANCELLED**
- 3:20     TEA & BISCUITS (IAIS)
- 3:50     **WOMEN IN SAUDI ARABIA**  
CHAIR: Dr Noor al-Qasimi (New York University)  
  - Changing Lifestyles in Riyadh: Young Female City-Dwellers and Spaces for Consumption  
(**Amélie Le Renard**, Sciences Po, Paris)
- 4:20     END
- 4:30     WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT
- 5:45     WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO REED HALL
- 6:00     PRE-DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall)
- 7:00     CONFERENCE DINNER (Reed Hall), dress: smart-casual
- 8:30     AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall)
- 9:30     TAXI SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT

## THURSDAY, 3 JULY

- 7:30–9:00   BREAKFAST (Hope Hall)
- 9:05     WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO IAIS (depart from: Hope Hall)
- 9:30     **BAHRAIN**  
CHAIR: Dr Sulayman Khalaf (Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage, UAE)  
  - Neighborhood Conflicts in Bahrain: The Case of the Bin-Ali / Karimi Fir□j  
(Dr **Sawsan Karimi** , University of Bahrain)
  - Ethnographies of Historicity: Exploring the Role of History in Modern Bahrain  
(**Thomas Fibiger**, University of Aarhus, Denmark)
  - The Impulse for Green: Changing Meanings of Green in Gulf Urbanism  
(**Gareth Doherty**, Harvard University)
- 11:00     COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS)
- 11:30     **ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE GULF**  
CHAIR: Dr Martin Hvidt (University of Southern Denmark)  
  - Community, Courts and Contracts: Debt and Economic Order in the Gulf Pearling Industry, c. 1875–1940  
(**Fahad Bishara**, Duke University)
  - Creating a Braudelian Gulf: A New Economic History of Bahrain and Microecologies in the Gulf  
(**Hasan Hujairi**, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan) **CANCELLED**

- 12:10 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS, entrance foyer)
- 1:10 **IRAN**  
CHAIR: Michael Axworthy (IAIS)
- Revolutionary Power and Socialization: Explaining the Persistence of Revolutionary Zeal in Iran's Foreign Policy  
(Dr **Maximilian Terhalle**, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York)
  - Iran–Saudi Relations: The Emergence of Shia Element in Regional Balance of Power  
(Dr **Mohammad Hossein Hafezian**, Islamic Azad University, Karaj, Tehran)
  - Iran's Nuclear Program and the Positions of the Gulf Cooperation Council  
(Dr **Armin Amini**, Islamic Azad University, Karaj, Tehran)
  - Persian Ghosts: The Iranian Perception of Foreign Intervention  
(**Ivo Sobral**, University Fernando Pessoa, Portugal)
  - The Impact of the 8<sup>th</sup> Majles Elections on Iranian Political System  
(**Luciano Zaccara**, Autonoma University of Madrid, Spain)
- 3:30 TEA & BISCUITS (IAIS)
- 4:00 **THE GCC STATES**  
CHAIR: Professor Gerd Nonneman (Al-Qasimi Chair of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
- State Capacity and Political Liberalization in Qatar  
(Dr **Mehran Kamrava**, Director, Center for International & Regional Studies, Georgetown University, Qatar campus)
  - Political Reform and Freedom of Association in Bahrain  
(**Edward Burke**, FRIDE, Madrid, Spain)
  - Charity Regulation in the GCC States: Towards a New Vision  
(**Didi Alayli**, International Programme, Charity Commission for England & Wales)
  - Economic Diversification and Knowledge Economy in the GCC States  
(Dr **N. Janardhan**, Political Analyst, UAE)
- 6:00 END
- 6:10 WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT
- 7:30 TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Pennsylvania Court)
- DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)
- CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT (tel. 01392 666666)

## FRIDAY, 4 JULY

7:30–9:00 BREAKFAST (Hope Hall)

9:20 WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO IAIS (depart from: Hope Hall)

### 9:45 **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

CHAIR: Dr Kamil Mahdi (IAIS)

- The Dubai Model: Is It being Replicated in the Other GCC Countries?  
(Dr **Martin Hvidt**, University of Southern Denmark)
- Special Economic Zones: 'Unprofanable' Spaces of Religion and Capitalism in the Arabian Gulf Region  
(Dr **Hussain Ilias**, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies)
- Energy Security and Climate Change Mitigation in the Gulf: Can the UAE Provide Regional Leadership?  
(**Mari Luomi**, University of Durham & Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

11:15 COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS)

### 11:45 **CHINA**

CHAIR: Professor Tim Niblock (Al-Qasimi Chair of Gulf Studies, IAIS)

- Navigating the Persian Gulf from the Formosa Strait: China's Long March toward the Gulf Region  
(**Yong-Bin Lee**, National Assembly, Republic of Korea)
- Pilot Study of the China-Yemen's Link: From the Socialist Era to the Contemporary Period  
(Dr **Ho Wai-Yip**, Hong Kong Institute of Education)

12:45 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS, entrance foyer)

### 1:45 **FARSI & ARABIC: POETRY, LITERATURE, & DIALECT**

CHAIR: Professor Rasheed El-Enany (Director of the IAIS)

- Mirror and Glass in Persian Poetry and the Poetry of Gulf Region: A Discourse in Similarities (*paper to be read by Dr Sajjad Rizvi, IAIS, in his absence*)  
(Dr **Alireza Korangy Isfahani**, University of Virginia)
- Representations of the Other in Kuwaiti Novels  
(Dr **Afaf Bataine**, American University of Kuwait)
- Persian Discourse Elements in Khuzestani Arabic: A Contact Phenomenon  
(Dr **Maryam Shabibi**, Shahid Chamran University of Ahwaz, Iran)
- Arabic Dialects of *Al-Howeyra* (South Iraq) and the Gulf  
(Dr **Zviadi Tskhvediani**, Akaki Tsereteli State University, Kutaisi, Georgia) **CANCELLED**

3:30 COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS)

### 4:00 **WIND, WATER, & STARS**

CHAIR: Dr Hasan Al-Naboodah (Director, Zayed Centre for History & Heritage; UAE University, Al-Ain)

- Windtower Houses of Dubai  
(Dr **Anne Coles**, University of Oxford)
- Water Management: The Use of Stars in Oman  
(**Harriet Nash**, IAIS & Professor **Dionisius Agius**, IAIS)

5:00 SHORT BREAK

- 5:10      **BRITISH RECORDS ON THE GULF**  
CHAIR: Dr James Onley (Director of Gulf Studies, IAIS)  
• Britain and the Dhofar War in British Official Perspective  
  (Dr **Francis Owtram**, University of Kurdistan Hawler, Irbil, Iraq)
- 5:45      END
- 5:45      CLOSING REMARKS
- 6:00      WALK OR TAXI SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT
- 7:30      TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Pennsylvania Court)
- DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)
- CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO PENNSYLVANIA COURT (tel. 01392 666666)

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## **SATURDAY, 5 JULY**

- 8:00–9:30    BREAKFAST (Hope Hall)
- DEPART EXETER? (taxi: 01392 666666)
- 10:00      TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN. Please pack your things beforehand.
- 10:15      TOUR OF EXETER
- 12:30      LUNCH IN TOWN WITH REMAINING DELEGATES
- DEPART EXETER? (taxi: 01392 666666)
- TOUR OF EXETER
- 6:00      DINNER IN TOWN WITH REMAINING DELEGATES