The 2011 Gulf Studies Conference

Aspirations & Challenges in the Gulf

29 June – 2 July 2011

An interdisciplinary conference exploring the aspirations of and challenges facing the peoples of the Arabian Peninsula, Iran, and Iraq (immediately following BRISMES 2011 at Exeter, 27–29 June)

Website: www.ex.ac.uk/iais
Convenor: Dr James Onley (J.Onley@exeter.ac.uk)
Send questions about logistics to Jane Clark (Jane.Clark@exeter.ac.uk)
PROGRAMME

version: 22 June 2011

Key
IAIS  Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies (the conference venue)
LT 1  Lecture Theatre 1, IAIS
LT 2  Lecture Theatre 2, IAIS

WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE

1:00–4:00  COLLECTION OF ROOM KEYS & REGISTRATION (Holland Hall, Streatham Campus)

4:00–4:20  ARRIVAL OF DELEGATES TO IAIS (ground floor)

4:30  WELCOME & INTRODUCTION (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)
      James Onley (Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

4:35  LAUNCH OF THE JOURNAL OF ARABIAN STUDIES

4:45  PANEL 1: URBAN SPACE (LT 1 & 2, IAIS)
      Chair:  John Cooper (IAIS)
      • History in the City: Competing Views on Preservation, the Built Environment, and Urban Renewal in Kuwait (Farah Al-Nakib, American University of Kuwait)
      • Studying and Conserving Urban Heritage of the Gulf (Samia Rab, American University of Sharjah)
      • Small is Beautiful! Construction and Conservatism Challenging Qatar for 2022 FIFA World Cup (Nadine Scharfenort, Geographical Institute / Johannes Gutenberg-University of Mainz)

6:15  END

6:25  DRINKS (Holland Hall bar, 1ST floor)

7:30  DINNER & WELCOME (Holland Hall, ground floor), DRESS: causal

8:30  AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Holland Hall bar, 1ST floor)

THURSDAY, 30 JUNE

7:00–8:30  BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

9:00  PANEL 2: LIBERALIZATION & LEGITIMACY IN THE GULF (LT 1 & 2, IAIS)
      Chair:  James Onley (Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)
      • Tim Niblock (Emeritus Professor of Middle East Politics, IAIS)
      • Gerd Nonneman (Al-Qasimi Chair of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
      • Marc Valeri (Programme Director, MA in Gulf Studies, IAIS)

11:00  BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)
11:30 PANEL 3: GOVERNANCE IN THE GCC STATES (LT 1 & 2, IAIS)
Chair: Gerd Nonneman (Al-Qasimi Chair of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
• The Dynamics of Dynastic Monarchies: Rules and Tools of Successions (Russell E. Lucas, Florida International University, Miami)
• Security, Control and the New Means of Art of Government in the Gulf Monarchies (M.H. Ilias, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)
• Rentier Revised? Managing Political Economy Transformations in the Gulf States (Crystal Ennis, University of Waterloo, Canada)

1:15 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS, ground floor patio if sunny, entrance foyer if raining)

2:30 PANEL 4: HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE GULF, part 1 (LT 1, IAIS)
Chair: Ala Al-Hamarneh (University of Mainz)
• Balancing Cultures at the American University of Kuwait (Marjorie Kelly, American University of Kuwait)
• The Experience of Qatar: International Partnerships in Higher Education (Eunsook Park)

PANEL 5: EAST ASIA & THE GCC (LT 2, IAIS)
Chair: Tim Niblock (Emeritus Professor of Middle East Politics, IAIS)
• Saudi-Asian Relations in a Shifting Global Political Economy (Koji Muto, IAIS)
• A ‘China Model’ for GCC Political Economy? (Makio Yamada, St Antony’s College, Oxford)

3:30 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

4:00 PANEL 6: HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE GULF, part 2 (LT 1, IAIS)
Chair: Ala Al-Hamarneh (University of Mainz)
• Education and Change: Ask Why, but Don’t Ever Act on It (Mohammed Al-Kabour, Columbia University)
• Nationalizing Skilled Labour in the Gulf: The Transitions of Qatari Youth into Vocational Education and Training (Adam Larson, College of the North Atlantic, Qatar; King’s College, London)

PANEL 7: IRAQ (LT 2, IAIS)
Chair: Gareth Stansfield (Director, IAIS)
• Set up to Fail: Consociational Structures in Post-War Iraq, 2003-2010 (Nussaibah Younis, University of Durham)
• Mapping Turkmeneli: Nationality, Ethnicity, and Territory in Modern Iraq (Güldestem Baykal-Büyükasarç, Kadir Has University, Turkey)
• Views of ‘the Other’ in the GCC: Americans after the Invasion of Iraq (Fatemeh Shayan, Tampere University, Finland)

5:30 END

6:30 PRE-DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)

7:30 CONFERENCE DINNER (Reed Hall), DRESS: smart-casual

8:30 AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)
FRIDAY, 1 JULY

7:30–9:00  BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

9:30  PANEL 8:  BRITAIN & THE TRUCIAL STATES  (LT 1, IAIS)
     Chair:  Leslie McLoughlin (IAIS)
     • The Deposition of Shaikh Saqr of Sharjah in 1965  (Helene Von Bismarck, Humboldt-University, Berlin)
     • The Deposition of Shaikh Shakhbut of Abu Dhabi in 1966  (Michael Curtis, formerly of the Trucial Oman Scouts)
     • The Life of TOS Desert Intelligence Officers in the Trucial States  (Saif Al-Bedwawi, Ajman Diwan)

PANEL 9:  GENDERED PERSPECTIVES  (LT 2, IAIS)
     Chair:  Jane Kinninmont (Chatham House, London)
     • Genderframing Women’s Rights in the United Arab Emirates: An Exploratory Approach  (Vânia Carvalho Pinto, University of Brasilia)
     • The Kuwaiti Diwaniyya: From Shareecha to Mshtaricha  (Lindsey Stephenson, Aga Khan University, London)
     • Aspects of the Omani Rentier State 1970–2010: Gender Relations in Dhofar  (Francis Owtram, University of Kurdistan Hawler, Erbil, Iraq; IAIS; Annemarie Profanter, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)

11:15  BREAK:  COFFEE & BISCUITS  (IAIS, ground floor)

11:45  PANEL 10:  IRANIAN POLITICS  (LT 1, IAIS)
     Chair:  Michael Axworthy (Director, Centre for Persian and Iranian Studies, IAIS)
     • Elite Dispute through Electoral Means in a Competitive Authoritarian Regime: The Case of Iran  (Luciano Zaccara, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona; IAIS)
     • Human Rights in Iran after the Green Movement: Cyrus Cylinder Unraveled?  (Anicée Van Engeland, University of Exeter)

PANEL 11:  YEMENI POLITICS  (LT 2, IAIS)
     Chair:  Gerd Nonneman (Al-Qasimi Professor of Gulf Studies, IAIS)
     • The Southern Movement and New Political Culture in Yemen  (Susanne Dahlgren, Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, Finland)
     • Struggling for the Hearts and Minds of the Arab Street: Political and Social Attitudes of Yemeni University Students  (Fernando Carvajal, IAIS; Dino Bozonelos, UC Riverside)

12:45  BUFFET LUNCH  (IAIS, ground floor patio if sunny, entrance foyer if raining)

2:00  PANEL 12:  EXPATS  (LT 1, IAIS)
     Chair:  Marc Valeri (Programme Director, MA in Gulf Studies, IAIS)
     • The Somali Expatriate Community in the Gulf States: Their Main Economic Activities and the Remittances System  (Ioannis Mantzikos, University of Peloponnese; SOAS)
     • Presence of Expatriate Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Assets or Liabilities?  (Anisur Rahman, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)
     • Meeting the Demands of the Arabian Gulf: Transformations of an Islamic Knowledge System in Kerala  (Mohammed Swalih, Madeenathunnoor College of Islamic Sciences, Calicut)
PANEL 13: **IDENTITY** (LT 2, IAIS)
Chair: Chris Davidson (Durham University)

- Engaging Past: Historicity and Political Imagination in Bahrain (**Thomas Fibiger**, Aarhus University, Denmark)
- Identity Politics vs. Identity Politics: Baha’i Schooling in Pahlavi Era, 1928-1934 (**Leila Chamankhah**, Azad University, Iran)
- English Language Education in the Gulf: A Qualitative Case Study of Qatari Student Identities (**Amir Abou-El-Kheir**, College of the North Atlantic, Qatar)

4:00 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

4:30 PANEL 14: **GOVERNMENT POLICY IN THE GCC** (LT 1, IAIS)
Chair: Tim Niblock (Emeritus Professor of Middle East Politics, IAIS)

- Narcotic Drugs in Dubai: Impact, Trends and Responses (**Philip Robins**, St Antony’s College, Oxford)
- ‘Global Governance’ or the ‘Governance of Globalization’? Gulf States’ Perspectives on Global Engagement (**Kristian Coates Ulrichsen**, LSE)
- Infrastructure Projects in the Gulf: The Regional Linking and Belonging of Oman (**Steffen Wippel**, University of Leipzig)

PANEL 15: **PEARLING IN THE MID-20TH CENTURY** (LT 2, IAIS)
Chair: Rob Carter (Oxford Brookes University)

- The Political and Social Ramifications of Debt and Debt Absconding in the Emirates along the Southern Gulf (**Victoria Penzier Hightower**, Florida State University)
- Pearls, Politics, and the Challenges of Debt (**Ivan Rosales Montes**, American University of Cairo)

6:00 END

7:15 TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall)
DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)
CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

---

**SATURDAY, 2 JULY**

7:30–9:00 BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

9:30 PANEL 16: **IRANIAN SECURITY** (LT 1, IAIS)
Chair: Luciano Zaccara (Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Spain; IAIS)

- Perceptions and Narratives of Security: The Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps, the Iran-Iraq War and Security in the Gulf (**Annie Tracy Samuel**, Tel Aviv University)

PANEL 17: **UAE HISTORY** (LT 2, IAIS)
Chair: Frauke Heard-Bey (Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage)

10:30  BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

11:00  PANEL 18: OIL & POLITICS (LT 1, IAIS)
      Chair: Steve Wright (Qatar University; IAIS)
      • Kuwait’s Diplomacy and the First Oil Crisis, 1970–1974 (Shigeto Kondo, Keio University, Japan)
      • Transparency and Foreign Investment in the Oil Sector of Iraq: The Kurdish Regional Government and the Hunt Oil and DNO Contracts (Francis Owtram, University of Kurdistan Hawler, Erbil, Iraq; IAIS)

      PANEL 19: MATERIAL CULTURE IN KUWAIT (LT 2, IAIS)
      Chair: Dionisius Agius (Al-Qasimi Professor of Islamic Material Culture, IAIS)
      • Traditional Bedouin Al Sadu Weaving of Kuwait: Current Practices and Future Developments (Keireine Canavan, University of Wales Institute, Cardiff)

12:00  BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS, ground floor patio if sunny, entrance foyer if raining)

1:00   CLOSING REMARKS (LT 1 & 2, IAIS)

1:15   END

2:30   TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall)
      FREE TIME IN TOWN

      DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)

      CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

---

**SUNDAY, 3 JULY**

8:00–9:30  BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

      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
      (call James Onley: 07891 018350)

      DEPART EXETER? (taxi: 01392 666666)

      FREE TIME IN TOWN

6:00   DINNER IN TOWN WITH REMAINING DELEGATES
      (call James Onley: 07891 018350)