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 Illegtimate 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 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


**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
Exhibitions

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.

Past events

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 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/iais/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

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.

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


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


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


www.exeter.ac.uk/iais/research