



The Past in the Present of the Middle East – Provisional



Programme

A joint conference hosted by the Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) and the London Middle East Institute (LMEI)
Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies

Day One – Friday 15th April 2016

Registration (9.00-9.30)

Opening address (9.30-9.45)

Keynote (9.45-10.30)

Charles Tripp (SOAS)

Panel One: Cultural heritage, society and economics (11.00-12.30)

Convener: Bill Finlayson (CBRL)

Carol Palmer (CBRL) *Whose Heritage, Whose History? Crisis in the Countryside*

Oroub el Abed (CBRL) *The Impact of Heritage on Society and Economy*

Paul Burtenshaw (CBRL) *Cultural Heritage as a Sustainable Development Asset*

Alex Bellem (CBRL and Durham University) *Whose Language? Disappearing Dialects, Disappearing Cultures*

Lunch (12.30-2.00)

With an introduction to the British Institute in Amman and poster session

Panel Two: Cultural heritage in conflict (2.00-3.30)

Convener: Peter Stone (Blue Shield)

Emma Cunliffe & Greg Fisher (Heritage for Peace) *Caring for the past – Syria and her heritage: Local, national and international perspectives*

Luisa Gandolfo (University of Aberdeen): *Material Mnemonics and Cultural Heritage in Palestine-Israel*

Mahmoud Hawari (British Museum) *Shared holy sites in Palestine: Whose cultural heritage?*

Morag Kersel (De Paul University) *The (W)Hole Story: the Intersection of Pots, People, and Planes on the Dead Sea Plain in Jordan*

Claire Launchbury (Institute of Modern Languages Research/Institute of Historical Research, University of London) *Autour de la Maison jaune: Presenting the past in postwar Beirut*

Panel Three: Britain and the Levant: Culture and (Mis) Communication (4.00-5.30)

Reflecting on British understandings(s) of the Levant over the years

Convener: Rosemary Hollis (CBRL and City University)

Frances Guy (Head of Middle East region at Christian Aid and former Ambassador to Lebanon) *Perceptions and Misperceptions of UK Policy; Representing the official line in the Levant*

Zeina Ghandour (Birkbeck College, London) *Law and Love*

Michael Kerr (King's College, London) *The links that bind conflict studies in Northern Ireland and the Levant*

Simon Mills (University of Kent) *Sacred Geography: Scholarship and Politics in Late Imperial Britain*

(5.30) Evening reception and launch of *Contemporary Levant* journal sponsored by Taylor and Francis



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Day Two – Saturday 16th April 2015

Keynote (9.30-10.15)

Lina Khatib, Arab Reform League, *The Reinvention of Turmoil in the Middle East*,

Panel One: The past in the political present: the legacy of colonialism and intervention (10.15-11.45)

Convener: Mandy Turner (CBRL)

Philip Marfleet (University of East London), *Legacies of the colonial state: Mass migration in a zone of crisis*

Adam Hanieh (SOAS), *The political economy of imperialism in the Middle East*

Roberto Mazza (SOAS), *The forgotten past of Jerusalem: stones, streets and trams (the governorship of Ronald Storrs 1917-1926)*

Greg Shapland (University of Sussex), *Cutting up Palestine: plans for partition and actual outcomes*

Yara Hawari (University of Exeter), *Returning to sites of destruction in historic Palestine: Challenging Zionism and the continuing Nakba*

Panel Two: The impact of research – working with humanitarian agencies and practitioners (12.00-1.00)

Convener: Ben White (University of Glasgow and CBRL)

Dana Abi Ghanem (Manchester University), *Living with power outages in Lebanon: practices and infrastructures for maintaining electricity services in homes*

Juliette Harkin (University of East Anglia), *Recovering dignity – a consideration of the concept of dignity in the Syrian uprising*

Lunch with introduction to the Kenyon Institute and poster session (1.00-2.00)

Panel Three: The politics of dissent: challenges to Orientalism and Zionism (2.00-3.30)

Convener: Cherine Hussein (Swedish Institute of International Affairs and CBRL)

Jamie Allinson (CBRL and Edinburgh University), *Counter-revolution and geopolitics in the Middle East*

Elian Weizman (CBRL), *Contemporary Jewish-Israeli Anti-Zionist Resistance*

Nancy Hawker (Oriental Institute, Oxford University), *Dissonant Arabic Performativity on Zionist stages: The political discourse of Palestinian citizens in Israel*

Roman Vater (University of Oxford), *Rightwing anti-Zionism: A typology proposal*

Tara Povey (SOAS) *Making History through Dissent: Repertoires of Contention in the Middle East*

Closing session: The future of the past in the Middle East (4.00-5.00)

Eleanor Robson (University College London) to lead.