



**Conflict and Cultural Heritage Conference:  
Saturday 31 October 2015  
in the Auditorium, St John's College, Oxford**

**Programme**

*All welcome. No pre-registration needed. Arrival 09.15 for 09.30:*

- 09.30 **Theme 1: What is happening?** The significance of sites at risk, and the current situation
- 09.30 Welcome and introduction - Chair: Dr Liz Carmichael (OxPeace)
- 09.35: Dr Robert Bewley (EAMENA): *Overview of Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa*
- 09.45: Dr Ross Burns (author 'The Monuments of Syria' and 'History of Damascus'): *Monuments at War—the Syrian Conflict and the Changing Pattern of Destruction as Reflected in Aleppo and Palmyra*
- 10.15: Dr Lamia al-Gailani (UCL / SOAS): *When words fail. Iraq's lost heritage, and efforts to save it*
- 10.40: Dr Sebastian Brock and Sebastien de Courtois (Oriental Institute, Oxford University, and l'École Pratique des Hautes Études): *Syriac Christian communities: people, monuments and manuscripts in Syria, Turkey, and Iraq*
- 11.10 **Coffee** in Reception Room
- 11.30 **Theme 2: Why is this happening?** Understanding ISIL and other Islamist extremism: Chair: Dr John Chesworth (Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies, Oxford)
- 11.30: Dr Alia Brahimy (CCW; Contest Global): *Cultural Heritage in the Islamic State's Worldview*
- 12.00: Dr Rizwaan Sabir (Liverpool John Moore University): *ISIS: In the Name of Power, Politics, and Propaganda*
- 12.30: Dr Noel Brehony (Chair of CBRL): *Politics, with a focus on Yemen*
- 13.00 **Lunch** (1 hour): sandwiches, juices provided in Reception Room
- 14.00 **Theme 3: What is being done or should be done?** Exploring archaeological and military heritage protection initiatives. Chair: Dr Paul Collins (Ashmolean)
- 14.00: Prof. Graham Philip (Durham Univ.) *The Sites and Monuments Record for Syria, and the Shirin Project.*
- 14.20: Lt Col Tim Purbrick (British Army): *Delivering a Military Cultural Property Protection Capability*
- 14.40: Vernon Rapley (V&A Museum) *Law Enforcement of Cultural Heritage Crime*
- 15.10: Dr Emma Cunliffe (EAMENA) *"Heritage for Peace": an NGO protecting Syrian Cultural Heritage during the Conflict*
- 15.30 **Panel: Where do we go from here?** The impact of the present situation on the fields represented by today's speakers, and on the media. A discussion panel of the speakers, with audience Q&A, introduced and chaired by Sebastian Usher (BBC Middle East Editor).
- 16.30 **Closure** (chair: Dr Liz Carmichael) and **tea in Reception Room.**

Podcasts will be available here: <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/> and here: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/itunes-u>  
Video will be available here: <http://www.vam.ac.uk/page/c/culture-in-crisis>