

Destruction of Monuments and Memory in the Middle East

Wednesday 16th December 2015

Asia House, 63 New Cavendish Street, London W1G 7LP

(1) Introduction (10.00 – 10.15)

(2) Setting the Scene

Iraq (10.15-11.15)

Dr John Curtis (Iran Heritage Foundation) – ‘The Pre-Islamic Period’

Dr Lamia al-Ghailani Werr (Independent Scholar) – ‘Muslim Monuments’

Dr Erica Hunter (SOAS and University of Cambridge) - ‘Churches and Monasteries’

Coffee (11.15-11.30)

Syria (11.30-12.00)

Dr Emma Loosley (University of Exeter)

North Africa (Libya, Tunisia, Egypt) (12.00-12.30)

Dr Hafed Walda (King’s College London)

Yemen (12.30 – 1.00)

Dr Noha Sadek (Paris)

Lunch (1.00 – 2.00)

(3) The Ideology of ISIS (2.00 – 2.40)

Dr Sussan Babaie (Courtauld Institute) – Iconoclasm in the Islamic Tradition

Charlie Winter (Quilliam Foundation) – Transnational Jihadism

(4) The Military and Regulatory Frameworks (2.40-3.40)

Major Hugo Clarke – ‘The Protection of Monuments in MENA: the Case for and against Military Intervention’

Major-General Sir Barney White-Spunner – ‘Military and Cultural Cooperation in Southern Iraq: a Case History’

TBA – ‘The Regulatory Framework’

Tea (3.40 – 4.00)

(5) The Media Reaction (4.00-4.40)

Maev Kennedy (The Guardian)

Martin Bailey (The Art Newspaper)

A.N. Other

(6) The International Response (4.40-5.40)

Dr Robert Bewley (University of Oxford) – ‘Recording Damage to Monuments: Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa’.

Dr Bijan Rouhani (ICOMOS) – ‘The reaction of ICOMOS’

TBC - ‘Responses from the international community: are they adequate and appropriate?’

(7) Concluding Discussion (5.40-6.30)

The seminar will be followed by a drinks reception