



Centre for Gulf Studies

The 2012
Gulf Studies



Conference

An interdisciplinary conference on
the Gulf region (Arabia, Iran, Iraq),
past and present

16–20 July 2012

Three days after the Gulf Research Meeting
at Cambridge, 11–14 July 2012

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

draft: 10 July 2012

IAIS Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies (the conference venue)
LT 1 Lecture Theatre 1, IAIS
LT 2 Lecture Theatre 2, IAIS
SR 1 Seminar Room 1, IAIS (to the left of LT 1)

MONDAY, 16 JULY

1:00–6:00 REGISTRATION & COLLECTION OF ROOM KEYS (Holland Hall, Streatham Campus)

6:00 DRINKS (Holland Hall bar, 1ST floor)

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

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

TUESDAY, 17 JULY

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

9:45 ARRIVAL OF VIPs (IAIS)

10:00 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)
James Onley (Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

10:15 ANNOUNCEMENTS (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)

- *Journal of Arabian Studies* (editorial team)
- Association of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies

10:45

PANEL 1: **Iran and the GCC** (LT 1 & LT 2)
Chair: Michael Axworthy (Director, Centre for Persian & Iranian Studies, Exeter)

- The Iranian Foreign Policy towards the GCC under Ahmadinejad (**Luciano Zaccara**, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona & IAIS, Exeter)
- The IRI's Domestic and Regional Policies and Its Impact on the Arab States of the Persian Gulf since June 2009 (**Gholam Vatandoust**, American University of Kuwait)

12:00 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:00

PANEL 2: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)
Chair: Gerd Nonneman (Dean, Georgetown University SFS-Qatar)

- The Prospect of Reform in The GCC Countries in The Arab spring Process (**Abdulnabi Alekry**, National Center for Studies, Bahrain)
- The Role of Political Islam in Public Discourse and Political Activity in the GCC (**Omar Mahmood Mohamed**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)

- The Gulf Region and the Arab Spring: The Iranian Factor (**Mahjoob Zweiri**, Qatar University)

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

4:30

PANEL 3: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)
Chair: Marc Valeri (Centre for Gulf Studies, Exeter)

- State and Sectarianism in Bahrain (**Mohammed Mattar**, IAIS, Exeter)
- Boycotting of Businesses in Bahrain along Sectarian Lines (**Jasim Husain**, former MP, Bahrain)
- Security Sector Reform in the Gulf States since 2011 (**Elham Fakhro**, International Institute for Strategic Studies, London)

6:00 END

6:45 PRE-DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)

7:45 CONFERENCE DINNER (Reed Hall), DRESS: smart-casual

8:45 AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)

WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY

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

9:30

PANEL 4: **History: Part 1** (LT 1)
Chair: Frauke Heard-Bey (Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage)

- Arabian Politics around Water: A History of Abu Dhabi's *Qasr al-Hosn* (**Laurent Lambert**, St Antony's College, Oxford & **Shohei Sato**, Waseda University, Tokyo)
- The Ajam Migration from Southwestern Iran to Kuwait: Push-Pull Factors between 1880 and 1938 (**Mohammad Alhabib**, Royal Holloway, London)
- The Bedouins and the Creation of New Towns in the Eastern Gulf in the Days of Ibn Saud (**Saeed Alqahtani**, King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia)

PANEL 5: **Tourism Development and Heritage: Part 1** (LT 2)
Chair: Hisham Mortada (King Abdul Aziz University)

- The Impact of "Integrated Tourism Projects" on the Urban Development of Oman (**Aurel von Richthofen**, GUTech, Oman)
- The Paradox of Urban Conservation in the Gulf: A Tale of Two Traditional Souqs (**Ali Alraouf**, Qatar University)
- Role of Women in the Traditional Architecture of Saudi Arabia and Sustainable Cultural Tourism: Opportunities and Challenges (**Hisham Mortada**, King Abdul Aziz University)
- Place Making and Tourism Development in the Gulf Region: Sustainable Models for Learning, Reflection and Growth (**David Kendall**, Goldsmiths, University of London)

PANEL 6: **Education** (SR 1)

Chair: Leslie McLoughlin (Centre for Gulf Studies, Exeter)

- Communication Skills and Employability in the Arabian Gulf: The Case of Oman (**Rahma Ibrahim Al-Mahrooqi**, Sultan Qaboos University)
- Off-Campus Orientalism: New Generation Western Universities in the Gulf (**M.H. Ilias**, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)
- "Our Stock in Trade that Has Been Returned to Us": Transnational Circuits and the Forging of the Islamic University of Medina" (**Mike Farquhar**, LSE)

11:30 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

12:00

PANEL 7: **History: Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: Frauke Heard-Bey (Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage)

- Buraimi Dispute: Role of Shaikh Zayed 1952-1955 (**Saif Al Bedwawi**, Military Museum and History Centre, UAE)
- Between the Devil of the Desert and the Deep Blue Sea: British Imperialism and the Orientation of Kuwait, 1920-1940 (**Robert Fletcher**, Nuffield College, Oxford)

PANEL 8: **Tourism Development and Heritage: Part 2** (LT 2)

Chair: Dionisius Agius (Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

- On Media and the Image: The GCC States as a Case Study (**Massimiliano Fusari**, Massimedia Consulting)
- Come and Watch Us, Maybe: Film Tourism in the UAE (**Alia Yunis**, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi)

1:00 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:30

PANEL 9: **Geopolitical Challenges of the Gulf States in the Era of "Arab Revolutions"** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: Ala Al-Hamarneh (University of Mainz, Germany)

- Re-Thinking GCC–USA Relations: An Analysis of Policies, Discourses and Practices in Light of the "Arab Revolutions" (**Corinna Mullin**, SOAS, London)
- "Looking for the Lost Pearl": A Geopolitical Analysis of the Bahraini Crises (**Hala Kindelberger**, University of Marburg, Germany)
- "The Saudi Darwinism": A Geopolitical Strategy of Regime's Stability? (**Ala Al-Hamarneh**, University of Mainz, Germany)
- A Conference for Security and Cooperation in the Middle East: Chances and Challenges in the Wake of the "Arab Revolutions" (**Ali Fathollah-Nejad**, SOAS, London & University of Münster, Germany)

PANEL 10: **Sport** (SR 1)

Chair: Nancy Jamal (Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)

- Salaam Dunk: A Comparative Ethnography of Female Athletes in Two Middle Eastern Countries (**Geoff Harkness**, Northwestern University in Qatar)
- Sustainability Questions on GCC Investments in Sports: A Critical assessment of UAE and Qatari Football (**Nnamdi Madichie**, University of Sharjah)

4:30 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

5:00

PANEL 11: **Rentierism and Reform in the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: Steffen Hertog (LSE)

- Transitions IN Authoritarianism: Political Reform in the Arab Gulf States Reconsidered (**Mary Ann Tetreault**, Trinity University, Texas & **Mohammed Al-Ghanim**, Georgetown University)
- Political Culture and Political Reform in the United Arab Emirates (Marta **Saldaña Martín**, IAIS, Exeter & Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)

PANEL 12: **Tourism Development and Heritage: Part 3** (LT 2)

Chair: Andy Spiess (GCC Network for Drylands Research & Development, Germany)

- Tourism in Bahrain: A Continuous Search for Economic Development and for Preservation of Cultural Heritage (**Magdalena Karolak**, Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, Saudi Arabia)
- Towards a Long-Term Tourism Paradigm for the Gulf (**Arnd Bätzner**, University of St Gallen, Switzerland)

6:00 END

7:00 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)

THURSDAY, 19 JULY

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

9:30

PANEL 13: **Rentierism and Reform in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: Shaun Curtis (Centre for Gulf Studies, Exeter)

- Social Media and the Reconfiguration of Public Discourse on Women's Rights in the Arab Gulf (**Leila DeVriese**, Hamline University, USA)
- Rentier State Theory: State Building and Political Reform in the GCC (**Mahmood Abdul Ghaffar**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)

PANEL 14: **Tourism Development and Heritage: Part 4** (LT 2)

Chair: Matthew Gray (The Australian National University, Canberra)

- Archaeological Sites in Wadi Al-Ghayran of the Rub' Al Khali Desert: Spatial Analysis as a Critical Tool for Research, Conservation and Sustainable Tourism Planning in Saudi Arabia (**Ali Madan Al-Ali**, Independent Researcher, Saudi Arabia)
- Hidden Treasures: The Potential of Geotourism in Saudi Arabia (**Andy Spiess**, GCC Network for Drylands Research & Development, Germany & **Abdulaziz Al-Bassam**, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia)

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

11:00

PANEL 15: **The Sustainability of GCC Political Economies after the Arab Spring: Patronage vs. Development? Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: Kristian Coates-Ulrichsen (LSE)

- A Citizens' Income as Alternative Distribution Regime for GCC Rentier Systems (**Steffen Hertog**, LSE)
- Stuck in an Impasse? The Politics of Economic Diversification in Kuwait (**Sebastian Adelung**, Durham University, UK)

PANEL 16: **Managing Heritages and Engaging Audiences in the UAE and Qatar** (LT 2)

Chair: Eric Langham (Barker Langham, London; Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

- Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah: Conflicting Pasts in a Coordinated Present (**Victoria Hightower**, North Georgia College and State University)
- Msheireb Downtown Doha: A New Architectural Language for the 21st Century? (**Nadine Scharfenort**, University of Mainz, Germany)
- The Museum-Cultural Heritage Relationship in the GCC: The Effects of the Use of Western-Style Museum Theory and Practice on Local Visitorship and Tourism (**Pamela Erskine-Loftus**, independent researcher, New York)

12:30 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:00

PANEL 17: **The Sustainability of GCC Political Economies after the Arab Spring: Patronage vs. Development? Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: Kristian Coates-Ulrichsen (LSE)

- Labour Nationalization Policies in the UAE and the Unemployment Conundrum (**Tariq Bin Hendi**, Imperial College, London; Mubadala, Abu Dhabi)
- Critiquing the "Dubai Model": Its Scope and Limits in the Study of the Political Economy of Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Bahrain (**Matthew Gray**, The Australian National University, Canberra)

PANEL 18: **Urban Development** (LT 2)

Chair: Ali Alraouf (Qatar University)

- Anthropology of the Emirati City: Youth and Public Space in Abu Dhabi (**Laure Assaf**, Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, France)
- Development and Architecture in the Gulf: Three Case Studies (**Andreas Jozwiak**, Trinity University, Texas)

3:00 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

3:30

PANEL 19: **The Global Gulf** (LT 1)

Chair: Gerd Nonneman (Dean, Georgetown University SFS-Qatar)

- Religion, Ideology, and Strategic Calculation: The Arab Gulf Monarchies and the Arab-Israeli Conflict (**René Rieger**, IAIS, Exeter & Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich)
- Re-Orientalizing the Gulf: The Arab Spring and the GCC's New Strategic Partnership With Southeast Asia (**Sean Foley**, Middle Tennessee State University, USA)

- Updating Gulf-Asia Relations, 2011-12 (**Makio Yamada**, St Antony's College, Oxford)
- Growing Pains: (Un)mapping Geographies and Genealogies of Diaspora in Dubai, UAE (**Alisha Ticku**, York University, Canada)

PANEL 20: **Art** (LT 2)

Chair: Marjorie Kelly (American University of Kuwait)

- Public Art in the Gulf (**Marjorie Kelly**, American University of Kuwait)
- Art in the UAE (**Frauke Heard-Bey**, ADACH, UAE)

5:30 END

6:30 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)

9:17 SUNSET: RAMADAN BEGINS

FRIDAY, 20 JULY

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

10:00

PANEL 21: **Energy (R)evolutions in the Gulf** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: Mari Luomi (Georgetown University in Qatar)

- Future of Energy Policy in Persian Gulf (**Abbas Maleki**, MIT, USA)
- The Politics of Energy Policy in the Gulf Arab States: Shortage and Reform in the World's Storehouse of Energy (**Jim Krane**, University of Cambridge)
- Gulf Monarchies and Multilateral Institutions in the Climate Change Era (**Mari Luomi**, Georgetown University in Qatar)
- The Domestic Gasoline Pricing Game in Kuwait (**Ingrid Krüger**, University of Oslo)

12:00 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

1:00 CLOSING REMARKS BY JAMES ONLEY (LT 1 & LT 2)

3:00 TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall)
TOUR OF EXETER
DINNER IN TOWN WITH REMAINING DELEGATES (call James Onley: 07891 018350)
CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

Note:

If you spot any errors in this programme, or have any questions about it, please email Dr James Onley at j.onley@exeter.ac.uk