



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: 8 June 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

7:00–8:30 BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

8:45 ARRIVAL OF VIPs (IAIS)

9:00 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)
James Onley (Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

9:15 ANNOUNCEMENTS (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)

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

9:45

PANEL 1: **Iran and the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)
Chair: TBA

- 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)

11:00 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

11:45

PANEL 2: **Iran and the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)
Chair: TBA

- The Gulf Region and the Arab Spring: The Iranian Factor (**Mahjoob Zweiri**, Qatar University)
- WMD-Free Zone in the Persian Gulf as a new basis for a security arrangement (~~**Mansour Salsabili**, Harvard University~~) **cancelled**

12:45 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:15

PANEL 3: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- 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 on Public Discourse and Political Activity in the GCC (**Omar Mahmood Mohamed**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)
 - An Inter-Disciplinary Analysis of the State-Religion-Sectarian Tensions in the Arab Gulf following the "Arab Spring" (**Cornelia Epuras**, Arab Centre for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity, Beirut)
 - ~~The Politics of Distribution: State Building and Sects in the Arabian Peninsula (**Gwenn Okruhlik**, Qatar University & Brookings Doha Center) **cancelled**~~
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4:00 BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

4:30

PANEL 4: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- State and Sectarianism in Bahrain (**Mohammed Mattar**, IAIS, Exeter)
 - Boycotting of Businesses in Bahrain along Sectarian Lines (**Jasim Husain**, former MP, Bahrain)
 - Bahrain's 1973 and 2002 Constitutions: Past Experiences and Future Lessons (**Elham Fakhro**, International Institute for Strategic Studies, London)
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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

7:30–9:00 BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

9:30

PANEL 5: **History: Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- 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 6: **Tourism Development: Part 1** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Hidden Treasures: The Potential of Geotourism in Saudi Arabia (**Abdulaziz Al-Bassam**, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia)
- Tourism on a Plate: Marketing Responsible Geotourism in the Sultanate of Oman (**Peter Keage**, Ministry of Tourism, Oman)
- Planning for and Management of Sustainable Tourism within Environmentally Sensitive Areas [ESAs] in Saudi Arabia (**Ali Omar Al-Sulbi**, University of Dammam, Saudi Arabia)

PANEL 7: **Education** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

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

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

12:00

PANEL 8: **History: Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- Buraimi Dispute: Role of Shaikh Zayed 1952-1955 (**Saif Al Bedwawi**, Military Museum and History Centre, UAE)
- Britain and Oman: Semblances of Sovereignty in Era of Decolonization (**Will Clegg**, Balliol College, Oxford)

PANEL 9: **National Identity and Heritage** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Come and Watch Us, Maybe: Film Tourism in the UAE (**Alia Yunis**, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi)
- ~~Who is Bahraini? Bahrain Television and the Quest of Defining "Bahraini-ism"~~ (~~**Wafa Alsayed**, Georgetown University~~) **cancelled**

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

Chair: TBA

- 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)

1:00 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:30

PANEL 11: **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 12: **Tourism Development: Part 2** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Tourism in Bahrain: A Continuous Search for Economic Development and for Preservation of Cultural Heritage (**Magdalena Karolak**, Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, Saudi Arabia)
- The Price of Branding: Tourism and the Elusive Search for 'Culture' among Emiratis in Dubai, UAE (**Akbar Keshodkar**, Zayed University, Dubai)
- Nationalization Policies and the GCC Tourism Industry: Human Resource Development (HRD) as a Key to Sustainable Development (**La'aleh Al-Aali**, University of Manchester)
- The Role of Training in the Sustainable Development of Iran's Tourism Sector in Meeting the Challenges of Globalization (**Maryam Shademan Pajouh**, Durham University & Teesside University, UK)

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

5:00

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

Chair: TBA

- Transitions IN Authoritarianism: Political Reform in the Arab Gulf States Reconsidered (**Mary Ann Tetreault**, Trinity University, Texas & **Mohammed Al-Ghanim**, Georgetown University)
- The Political Economy of Reform in the Arab Gulf States (**Nasser bin Ghaith**, independent researcher & **Koji Horinuki**, Institute of Energy Economics, Tokyo, Japan)
- Political Culture and Political Reform in the United Arab Emirates (Marta **Saldaña Martín**, IAIS, Exeter & Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)
- ~~Rentier 2.0? Entrepreneurship as a Policy Response to Gulf Development Challenges~~ (**Crystal Ennis**, University of Waterloo, Canada) **cancelled**

PANEL 14: **Tourism Development: Part 3** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- The Impact of "Integrated Tourism Projects" on the Urban Development of Oman (**Aurel von Richthofen**, GUTech, Oman)
- 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)

- The Development of Cultural Heritage Tourism in Saudi Arabia: Bridging the Gap (**Yahya Mofreh Al-Zahrani**, Naif Arabic University for Security Science, Saudi Arabia)

6:30 END

7:30 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)

THURSDAY, 19 JULY

7:30–9:00 BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

9:30

PANEL 15: **Rentierism and Reform in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- 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 Socioeconomic Perspectives in the Arabian Gulf (**Mahmood Abdul Ghaffar**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)

PANEL 17: **Tourism Development: Part 4** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Welcome and Leave My Country Alone: Reconciling Preservation Efforts and Tourism Promotion in the GCC (**Shannon McNulty**, Texas A&M University at Qatar)
- On Media and the Image: The GCC States as a Case Study (**Massimiliano Fusari**, Massimedia Consulting)

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

11:00

PANEL 18: **The Sustainability of GCC Political Economies after the Arab Spring: Patronage vs. Development? Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: Kristian Coates-Ulrichsen (LSE)

- The Social Dynamics of the Privatization of Rent in the GCC (**Omar Al-Shehabi**, GUST University, Kuwait)
- 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 19: **Museums** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- An Institution of Cultural Power and the Role of the Tourist: Reading Islam through the Doha Museum of Islamic Art (**Courtney Dorroll**, University of Arizona)
- 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-Loffus**, independent researcher, New York)
- Museums in the GCC: Development for Whom? (**Alexandra Hirst**, Durham University)

FILM: **Polygyny in Oman: A Filmic Approach to the Study of a Social Phenomenon** (SR 1), a 45 minute film, followed by Q&A

Chair: **Annemarie Profanter** (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)

Discussant: **Stephanie Ryan Cate** (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)

12:30 BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

2:00

PANEL 20: **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 21: **Urban Development** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- 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)

PANEL 22: **Art** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

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

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

3:30

PANEL 23: **Migrants** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- ~~The Mythology of Migrants (**Jane Bristol-Rhys**, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi)~~
cancelled
- Growing Pains: (Un)mapping Geographies and Genealogies of Diaspora in Dubai, UAE (**Alisha Ticku**, York University, Canada)

- Arab Spring and its Impact on Migrant Population in the Gulf Region (**Anisur Rahman**, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)
- Globalisation through Segregation: Migrants and Power in Qatar (**Robina Mohammad**, University of Strathclyde & **James Sidaway**, National University of Singapore)

PANEL 24: **Foreign Affairs and Policy** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- 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)
- Redesigning Japan's Gulf Policy after the Tsunami (**Makio Yamada**, St Antony's College, Oxford)
- In Search of Relative Autonomy: Iranian Policy and Relations with Latin America (**Robert Mason**, IAIS, Exeter)

PANEL 25: **Tourism Development: Part 5** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Place Making and Tourism Development in the Gulf Region: Sustainable Models for Learning, Reflection and Growth (**David Kendall**, Goldsmiths, University of London)
- 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)

9:17 SUNSET: RAMADAN BEGINS

FRIDAY, 20 JULY

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

10:00

PANEL 26: **Energy (R)evolutions in the Gulf** (LT 1)

Chair: Mari Luomi (Georgetown University in Qatar)

- 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)
- Future of Energy Policy in Persian Gulf (**Abbas Maleki**, MIT, USA)

- GCC Intra-Regional Electricity Trading (~~Laura El-Katiri, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies~~) **cancelled**

PANEL 27: **Constructing Heritage, Re-Constructive Identity** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah: Conflicting Pasts in a Coordinated Present (**Victoria Hightower**, North Georgia College and State University)
- “Live Our Heritage!” Culture, Identity, and the Heritage Industry in the UAE (**Nadine Scharfenort**, University of Mainz, Germany)
- Beyond Boundaries: Exploring Hybrid Heritage in Abu Dhabi (**Sarina Wakefield**, The Open University, Milton Keynes)
- ~~Heritage and Health: Differing Attitudes, Behaviors, and Influences Among Young Emirati Women with Respect to Weight, Health, and Beauty~~ (~~Sarah Trainer~~, University of Arizona) **cancelled**

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