

Since Napoleon invaded Egypt in 1798 with a cadre of scientific experts, the Middle East has been framed as the cradle of the world past: the place where civilization began, burgeoning with antiquities, where ancient history was visible in the landscape—or could be made so through the right kind of labour. This framing continues to affect heritage politics and international relations in the region.

This conference explores how historical consciousness about the Middle East was reshaped in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, and new senses of its ancient past forged through excavation and exegesis of traces of ancient civilisations. How did the emerging disciplines of archaeology and ancient history shape the modern region? How were these scholarly disciplines in turn shaped by competing visions and agendas of empires and new nations, 'outsiders', 'locals', and those who fell between these categories? Papers will consider these questions over this crucial period, across diverse places within the Middle East, through various lenses.

As part of the Global History and Culture Centre, we will also reflect on what it means for the past of one particular region to be so heavily linked to the concept of a 'global' heritage, belonging to the world at large.

For more research on the Global History, see the Global History and Culture Centre:

**Global History and Culture Centre ([warwick.ac.uk](http://warwick.ac.uk))**

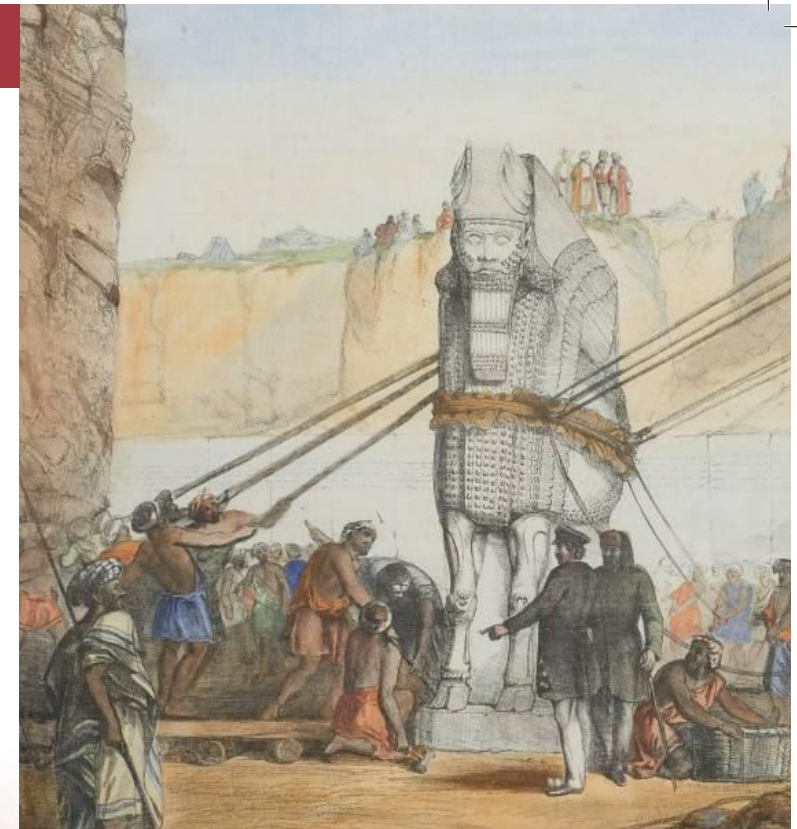
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**Global History  
and Culture Centre  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE**

**WARWICK**  
GLOBAL HISTORY AND  
CULTURE CENTRE

**Archaeology, Antiquity,  
and the Making of the  
Modern Middle East:  
Global Histories 1800-1939**

**25-26 May 2023**

OC0.04 Oculus Building, University of Warwick

## Thursday 25 May

**10.00 - 10.30** Registration and Arrival

Introduction from organisers, Guillemette Crouzet, EUI in Florence and Eva Miller, UCL

Welcome by Guido van Meersbergen, Director of GHCC

**10.30 - 12.00** Panel 1 **Monuments of the Nation**

Chair: Eugene Rogan, University of Oxford

**Walls and Wonder: Finding and Taking the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus in Bodrum**

Debbie Challis, The Portico Library, Manchester

**Antique Nationalism: Archaeology and the Construction of the Nation in Egypt, Lebanon and Israel**

Erin O'Halloran, University of Cambridge

**The Iran Bastan Museum between Archaeology and Nationalism**

Solmaz Kive, University of Oregon

**12.00 - 13.00** Lunch

**13.00 - 14.00** Panel 2 **Texts and Publics**

Chair: Guillemette Crouzet, EUI in Florence

**Austen Henry Layard and the Cadi's letter: The Multiple Pasts and Futures of 19th-century Mosul**

Daniel Foliard, University Paris Cité

**Glorious Past, Complicated Present? A German Traveler and his Travelogues**

Nora Derbal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Representing Iraqi Antiquities in the Interwar Arabic Press**

Laith Shakir, NYU

**14.30 - 15.00** Break

**15.00 - 16.30** Panel 3 **Authority**

Chair: Rebecca Earle, University of Warwick

**Who is an Archaeologist? Deconstructing Archaeology in Palestine**

Nicole Khayat, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Whose Egypt? Centring Egyptian Multivocality in the Making of Egypt's Heritage**

Heba Abd el Gawad, UCL

**16.30 - 17.00** Break

## KEYNOTE

17.00 - 18.15 **Oxford Intelligence: Archaeological Adventurism in the Middle East**

Lynn Meskell, University of Pennsylvania

Chair: Eleanor Robson, UCL

## Friday, 26 May

**9.30** Coffee

**9.30 - 11.00** Panel 4 **Identity and the Past**

Chair: Eva Miller, UCL

**Near Eastern Studies in Germany and the Complex Involvement of German Jews with 'the Orient'**

Thomas Gertzen, Freie Universität Berlin

**'We are Phoenician, not Arabs': Lebanon Between Past and Present**

Marwan Kilani, University of Basle

**Antiquities for a Mandate: Internationalism, the Emergence of a 'Regime of Archaeology' and the Reorganization of the Middle East, c. 1914-1939**

Billie Melman, Tel Aviv University

**11.00 - 11.30** Break

**11.30 - 13.00** Panel 5 **Local and International Knowledge**

Chair: James Poskett, University of Warwick

**Subjects of Destruction: Imperial Economism and Archaeological Site Looting in Upper Egypt 1882-1919**

Amany Abd el Hameed, Helwan University, and Robert Vigar, University of Pennsylvania

**The Traders: Sending and Selling 'Antiquités Orientales' to Paris, 1900-1939**

Sarah Griswold, Oklahoma State University

**Dismantling Nablus: the Samaritans, Orientalism and the Mandate Department of Antiquities**

Sarah Irving, Staffordshire University

**13.00 - 14.00** Lunch

## KEYNOTE

14.00 - 15.15 **Museums, Politics, Empires**

Zeynep Çelik, Columbia University

Chair: Daniel Branch, University of Warwick

**15.15 - 15.45** Break

**15.45 - 17.00** Roundtable

**Whose Heritage? Living with the Legacies of Imperialism, Colonialism, and Nationalism in the Middle East**

Chair: Anne Gerritsen, University of Warwick

Panelists:

Ammar Azzouz, University of Essex and University of Oxford

Rozhen Mohammed-Amin, Kurdistan Institution for Strategic Studies and Scientific Research

Heba Abd el Gawad, UCL

Mirjam Brusius, German Historical Institute, London

Lynn Meskell, University of Pennsylvania

**17.00 - 18.30** Wine and canapés reception

