

CHRISTIANITY IN IRAQ AT THE TURN OF ISLAM

Round table organized by the French Institute of the Near East (IFPO)
With the support of Salahaddin University
University of Salahaddin, Erbil
May 4 & 5, 2019

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

8:30 AM

Welcoming participants

9 AM

Opening words:

- Dr Ahmad Dezaye, President of Salahaddin University-Erbil
- Patrice Leroy, Deputy General Consul of France in Erbil
- Dr Kaify Ali, General Director of Antiquities
- Dr Qader M. Hassan, Dean of the College of Arts, Salahaddin University-Erbil
- Dr Aziz Zebari, Head of the Department of Archaeology, Salahaddin University-Erbil
- Dr Dominique Pieri, Director of the Department of Archaeology and History of Antiquity, French Institute of the Near East (IFPO)
- Dr Frédéric Imbert, Director of the Department of Arab, Medieval and Modern Studies, French Institute of the Near East (IFPO)

9:30 AM

Introduction by Dr Narmin Ali Amin (Salahaddin University-Erbil), Dr Julie Bonnéric (CEFAS) & Dr Barbara Couturaud (IFPO)

10 AM

Coffee break

Session 1. Textual Data

Chairman: Dr Qader M. Hassan

10:30 AM

Dr Nasser al Kaabi (University of Toronto), “Early Christian Responses to the Entry of Islam into Iraq. A Reading of the Syriac Sources” (AR)

11 AM

Dr Simon Brelaud (CNRS), “Pilgrimages and Christianization in Mesopotamia: the Testimony of Syro-Oriental Martyrology (6th-8th centuries)” (FR)

11:30 AM

Noémie Lucas (IFPO/Pantheon-Sorbonne University), “The Future of Christian Properties in Lower Iraq: Contributions to the History of Syro-Eastern Christianity in the Early Centuries of Islam” (FR)

12 PM

Dr Frédéric Alpi (IFPO), “The Correspondence of Severus of Antioch and Philoxenus of Mabbog with the Christians of al-Hira (Hirtha of Nu'man): Doctrinal, Institutional and Political Implications” (FR)

12:30 PM

Discussion

1 PM

Lunch

Session 2. Latest Archaeological Results in al-Hira Area

Chairman: Dr Julie Bonnéric

2:30 PM.

Dr Abbas al Hussainy (University of Al-Qadisiyah), “Archaeological traces of the spread of Christianity in South Mesopotamia” (AR)

3 PM

Dr Martin Gussone (Technical University of Berlin) and Dr Martina Mueller-Wiener (Goethe University Frankfurt), “Hira Survey Project 2015-2018, State of Research and First Results” (EN)

3:30 PM

Dr Haider Naji Atiyah (University of Kerbala), “Non-Islamic Architectural Remains as Traces of Civilization in the Provinces of Karbala and Najaf” (AR)

4 PM

Basim Jabbar (University of Al-Qadisiyah), “The Unpublished Excavations of Diwaniyah” (AR)

4:30 PM

Discussion

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

Session 3. Christianity in the Sulaymaniyah Area

Chairman: Dr Barbara Couturaud

9 AM

Dr Kamal Rashid (Directorate of Antiquities in Sulaymaniyah) & Dr Narmin Ali Amin (Salahaddin University-Erbil), « Archaeological excavations at Bazyan » (EN)

9:30 AM

Dr Agnieszka Lic, “What do plaques decorated with crosses from Bazyan (Iraqi Kurdistan) tell us about artistic contacts between Christian communities of northern and southern Mesopotamia, and the Persian Gulf in the early Islamic period?” (EN)

10 AM

Dr Narmin Ali Amin (Salahaddin University-Erbil), “Considerations on interesting features of churches in southern Kurdistan: the bema churches (Bazyan & Qala Shila)” (FR)

10:30 AM

Discussion

11 AM

Coffee break

Session 4. Christianity in Northern Kurdistan

Chairman: Dr Narmin Ali Amin

11:30 AM

Dr Qader M. Hassan (Salahaddin University-Erbil), “Pre-Islamic Christianity in Erbil” (EN)

12 PM

Dr Aziz Zebari (Salahaddin University-Erbil) & Dr Zidan Bradosty (Salahaddin University-Erbil), “Some Christian Archaeological Remains Discovered in the Zibar Area (Field Study)” (AR)

12:30 PM

Dr Mohammad Yousifi (Directorate of Antiquities in Zakho), “The Deir Al-Zaafran Monastery / Deir Afnimarn” (AR)

1 PM

Discussion

1:30 PM

Lunch

Session 5. Regional Comparisons

Chairman: Dr Dominique Pieri

3 PM

Dr Julie Bonnéric (CEFAS), “Monastic Communities in the Arabian Gulf and their Links with Lower Iraq” (FR)

3:30 PM

Dr Frédéric Imbert (IFPO/Aix-Marseille University), “Christian and Muslim Graffiti from the Beginnings of Islam on the Margins of Iraq: Traditions of Writing and Texts of Tradition” (FR)

4 PM

Dr Bertrand Riba (IFPO), “Archaeological Forms of Christianity in the Patriarchate of Antioch: Some Remarks on Mesopotamian Churches” (FR)

4:30 PM

Discussion

5 PM

Conclusion by Dr Narmin Ali Amin (Salahaddin University-Erbil), Dr Julie Bonnéric (Cefas) & Dr Barbara Couturaud (IFPO)