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DATE	NAME	SEMINAR TITLE	SHORT BIOGRAPHY	ABSTRACT
Session 1 NOV 26th 2020	Dr. Mahmood KHAYAT University of Kurdistan-Hawler mahmood.khayat@ukh.edu.krd	Short review	Mahmood Ahmed Khayat is Chair for architectural Engineering and sustainability programme at University of Kurdistan Hawler, he holds the title of Ifpo associate researcher.	
Chair Soorkeu ATROOSHI	Dr. Heja SINDI University of Kurdistan-Hawler heja_sindi@ukh.edu.krd	Opening speech	Heja Sindi Is Vice president for Academic Affairs and Research at University of Kurdistan Hawler	
Co-Chair Mahmood KHAYAT	Dr. Soorkeu ATROOSHI University of Kurdistan-Hawler soorkeu.atrooshi@ukh.edu.krd	UKH brief	Soorkeu Atrooshi is the Dean of School of Science and Engineering at the University of Kurdistan Hawler (UKH). He is an assistant professor with ongoing teaching and research activities. His field of research includes renewable energy and thermal cycles.	
	Dr. Barbara COUTURAUD Institut français du Proche-Orient b.couturaud@ifporient.org	Ifpo brief	Barbara Couturaud is an archaeologist, researcher at Ifpo (Institut français du Proche-Orient) and head of the Erbil Ifpo branch. Her research focuses on Mesopotamian archeology and iconography during the Early Bronze Age (3rd millennium BC). She is also the director of the excavations in Amyan (Kurdistan Regional Government).	
	Mahmood KHAYAT University of Kurdistan-Hawler mahmood.khayat@ukh.edu.krd	Neglected heritage Traditional and vernacular architecture of Erbil city are not the core of interest of majority of intellectuals living in Erbil city	Asst. Prof. Dr. Mahmood Ahmed Khayat is Chair for architectural Engineering and sustainability programme at University of Kurdistan Hawler. He acted as head of the Department of Architecture (2013-2018), cofounder of architecture postgraduate programs, and cofounder of Erbil forum for sustainable development at Salahaddin University-Erbil. He was awarded the title of Ifpo associate researcher in 2019 by French institute for the Near East for his collaborative research efforts for preservation of cultural and built heritage in a sustainable manner.	In the period from 1970 to 2003, Kurdistan Region-Iraq passed through conflicts and wars led to social, economic and cultural changes, some of them can be regarded as positive cultural developments, but architecture as a sub-culture especially vernacular and traditional part of Erbil city reached to a status that can be regarded as a critical one on physical and cultural levels, a status that needs serious reforms. The paper objective is to detect the rate of deterioration of perception of the symbolic value of traditional architecture elements as part of the cultural identity of intellectuals living in Erbil city. The goal of the research is to detect the factors that led to the status of the vernacular and traditional architecture in Erbil city to the status of neglected ness by the concerned intellectuals living in Erbil city. The research covers the traditional and vernacular houses in the old sectors of Erbil city including the Citadel and the surrounding three traditional zones. The methodology of the research uses perception survey using semantic differential scale on a group of concerned intellectuals represented by architecture department teaching staff and professional architects living in Erbil City.
Session 2 DEC 10th 2020 Chair Mahmood KHAYAT	Binyad MARUF KHAZNADAR University of Salahaddin-Erbil binyad.architect@gmail.com	The typology of forms in the traditional vernacular architecture in Erbil city. A cultural and architectural study	Binyad Maruf Khaznadar is born in Baghdad in 1975. He got his BSc and MSc degrees in the Architectural department-college of engineering-Salahadin university-Erbil. He established his own office since 1998. He is a teaching staff in the architecture department, Salahadin University, since 2010, and he got many positions as the head of quality assurance unit in the college of engineering, the manager of engineering consultant bureau in the college of engineering, and his current position is the vice dean of the college of engineering. He is currently a PhD student. He has two published books and five published papers written individually and as a coauthor.	Erbil city has a deep root in the history of mankind as the oldest continuous settlement on our planet. The culture and the way of life in Erbil city have a great impact on the typology of forms of the vernacular architecture in the past and till now. The diversity of forms and the architectural elements shows the richness of the vocabulary of forms in the buildings that is built by people themselves using traditional building materials and technologies. These buildings reflect the desires and the way of life of their inhabitants. There is a set of cultural factors for certain cultural groups that share the same way of life that impacts on the form determination in vernacular architecture, the most affective set of factors are the socio-cultural factors. This study aims to focus on those factors and their impact on the vernacular and traditional architecture in Erbil city.

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	Salahaddin YASIN BAPER University of Salahaddin-Erbil salahaddin.baper@su.edu.krd	The role of heritage buildings in constructing the continuity of architectural identity in Erbil city	Assistant Professor Dr. Salahaddin Yasin Baper is acting as head of architecture engineering department at the University of Salahaddin-Erbil. He obtained his BSc in Architecture from the University of Technology, Baghdad Iraq, with Honors. He continued his MSc in architectural technology at the University of Technology, Iraq. He earned his PhD in theory of architecture in School of Housing, Building and Planning-USM Malaysia. He works as a Consultant Architect and designed several important projects in Erbil city like supplementary buildings in Erbil International Airport and Sami Abdurrahman Park.	This paper is an empirical study for the concept of continuity in architectural identity. The aim of this paper is to measure the degree of continuity in commercial buildings design, in terms of architectural identity. Furthermore, the study will illustrate the influence of heritage buildings in constructing the continuity of architectural identity in Erbil city. The construction of the theoretical framework will rely on a procedure of two directions, the first direction will establish a comprehensive theoretical framework (multi-dimensional model) for the concept of continuity in architecture, while the second part will analyze the role of heritage buildings in constructing architectural identity in commercial buildings in Erbil City. The finding of the study indicates that the heritage buildings visual elements and its architectural cues playing a tangible role in constructing architectural identity in buffer zones of the city but this effect is gradually decreasing in other sectors due to adopting the hybrid approach by melting modern technology within architectural features of the city.
Session 3 JAN 14th2021 Chair Barbara COUTURAUD	John MACGINNIS British Museum Dara TALAAT AL YAQUBI Senior Consultant Architect and heritage Conservation Expert dalyaqubi@yahoo.com Sangar MOHAMMED ABDULLAH	The Archaeology and Ancient History of the Citadel of Erbil	John MacGinnis is based in the Middle East Department at the British Museum, where he is Senior Curator and Lead Archaeologist in the Iraq Emergency Heritage Management Training Scheme. He has worked in Kurdistan from 2009, including for many years in the position of Archaeological Advisor on the Citadel in Erbil. He also worked on a project for the Ministry of Youth and Culture of the Kurdish Regional Government researching the most ancient history of the city, published in the volume Erbil in the Cuneiform Sources. He has also worked in southern Iraq and in Syria, Turkey, Egypt, Sudan, India, Pakistan and Turkmenistan. Senior Consultant Architect and heritage Conservation Expert, Dara Talaat Al Yaqubi has a PhD in Architectural Heritage, MSc in Architecture, and BSc in Business Administration. Lecturer in the Department of Architecture/University of Baghdad from 1980 to 1998, and Salahaddin University 2015 to 2020, he was also Governing Board member of Kurdistan University 2008 to 2010. UN-Habitat and UNDP program officer, Team Leader, and Consultant from 1998 to 2007, he was also Senior Advisor for the Council of Ministers of KRG and Head of the High Commission of Revitalization of Erbil Citadel (HCECR) from 2009 to 2019. He is Ifpo Associate Researcher since 2019 and founder and head of ARBELA Center for Heritage and Architecture 2020.	This talk centres on the archaeology and ancient history of the Citadel of Erbil. We prepare the ground with an overview of our knowledge of Erbil as presented in cuneiform texts ranging from the third to the first millennium BC. This leads on to the assessment of the archaeological potential of the Citadel mound which in their turn formed the basis for the proposals for archaeological investigation formulated as part of the Master Plan for the Citadel. The results of the previous, limited investigations on the Citadel are then examined. This is the background for the presentation of the recent excavations carried out on the Citadel by the HCECR. The results of these operations are discussed, together with the implications for our understanding of the history of the city and the archaeology of the mound.
	Arnulf HAUSLEITER German Archaeological Institute arnulf.hausleiter@dainst.de Karwan A. M. AMIN Erbil Directorate of Antiquities Pshtiwan A. IBRAHIM Erbil Directorate of Antiquities	Archaeological survey in the city of Arbil	Arnulf Hausleiter, DAI Orient Department, Berlin, has been participating in archaeological research projects in the Assyrian heartland and beyond for many years. He published a comprehensive monograph on Iron Age ceramics in Assyria (2010) centering on the site of Ashur. Since 2004 has been directing the excavations in the oasis of Tayma (Northwestern Arabia) focusing on the cultural interconnections of the ancient oasis from the beginnings until present-day. He has been working in Arbil since 2009 jointly with Margarete van Ess (DAI).	Since 2015 a team of the Erbil Department of Antiquities (DoA) and the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) has been systematically investigating the city area of Arbil by means of surface survey. The project aims at contributing to the reconstruction of settlement history, distribution patterns and space use of the area surrounding the citadel which may have been the ancient lower town. Surface material is mainly characterized by ceramics among which Iron Age and early to middle Islamic shapes and fabrics dominate. This general evidence has been confirmed by various salvage excavations by local teams and by the 2009-2012 excavations of DAI and DoA in Arab Kon. Until now, the area within the 30 m-Road has been fully investigated, indicating remains of ancient mounds at several locations. These features need to be analyzed in

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			Karwan A. M. Amin graduated from Salaheddin University (2013) and has since been working as an archaeologist for the Erbil Directorate of Antiquities and as supervisor of classes in the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage. He participated in several international training programs in archaeology, conservation and heritage. Since 2015 collaborating with the DAI-DoA Survey Project, he is a member of the local group of the team. He also participated in other international collaborative field projects in the Kurdistan region. Pshtiwan A. Ibrahim graduated from Salaheddin University (2008) and has been working as an archaeologist for the Erbil Directorate of Antiquities since 2012. He participated in several international training programs in conservation and site management at the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage, where he worked as Master Trainer. Since 2015 collaborating with the DAI-DoA Survey Project, he is a member of the local group of the team. He also participated in other international collaborative field projects in the Kurdistan region.	the context of the topographic palimpsest of modern Arbil and of reconstructions of the fortifications of Arbil.
Session 4 JAN 28th 2021 Chair Barbara COUTURAUD	Maria Grazia MASETTI ROUAULT École pratique des Hautes Études masetti-rouault@ephe.psl.eu	Erbil and its region in Late Bronze and Iron Age. A view from its western border	Since 2005, Maria Grazia Masetti Rouault is professor teaching religions of the Syro-Mesopotamian world at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris. Since 2005, she is member of the French National Centre for Scientific Research. Since 2011, she is co-director of the French archaeological mission at Qasr Shemamok (Erbil region, Kurdistan, Iraq).	The lecture will present some the recent discoveries made by the French archaeological team at Qasr Shemamok, 25 km South-West of Erbil, explained in the perspective of better understanding the history and the shared culture and religion of this part of region since the Bronze Age, and until the end of the Assyrian Empire. While excavations continue to be carried out in the Erbil Citadel, the presence and the value of monumental structures of the Ottoman period, now restored or still under restoration, obviously limit the possibility to study more ancient levels of the city, one of the most important urban centers in Northern Mesopotamia since Early Bronze Age. In a close by position, so probably well connected with the regional capital social evolution, research carried out at Qasr Shemamok urban site offers the possibility to integrate our knowledge of Erbil/Urbil/Arbailu culture with other data, obtained by the international and interdisciplinary team working there. While the work is still in progress, some new information can be shared. If we have some elements showing the development of a settled occupation of the Qasr Shemamok area since Uruk period, and now also, on the site itself, the presence of a Ninive 5 habitat, my lecture will focus on the Late Bronze Period/Iron I transition, when we can document the presence of a Hurrian city and state, sharing a large part of its culture with the Middle Assyrian empire, before merging and being integrated into it.
Session 5 FEB 11th 2021 Chair Barbara COUTURAUD	Chamsia SADOZAÏ CRAterre-École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Grenoble ch.sadozai@gmail.com	Conservation of earthen architecture in archaeological contexts	Chamsia Sadozai is an archaeologist, specialized in earthen architecture preservation, after completing her post master degree at the National School of Architecture in Grenoble, France. She is a researcher in the AE&CC research Unit and a freelance consultant since 2012, on World heritage sites such as Qalhat (Sultanate of Oman), Hili in Al Aïn (United Arab Emirates), Sarazm in Tajikistan or Khiva in Uzbekistan. She is also working on more confidential sites in the Middle East (Armenia, Bangladesh, India, Kurdistan, Turkmenistan) with French Archaeological Missions and CRAterre,	Despite its important fired bricks heritage, Erbil Governorate has a noticeable number of places made of raw earth bricks, archaeological sites such as Qalinj Agha or vernacular architecture in the buffer zone of the Citadel. This architecture is suffering from several threats, natural but also human after excavations. The purpose of this presentation is to sensitize Heritage actors such as archaeologists, architects, decision makers and future generation of practitioners to preventive conservation approaches adapted to this material. Diversity of earthen architecture will be presented with its terminology, then a focus on technical solutions that are easy to implement will be proposed, as well as the general methodology for a conservation project, with case

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			the International Centre for Earthen Architecture.	studies from the Near East and Central Asia.
	Ariane THOMAS Musée du Louvre ariane.thomas@louvre.fr	Erbil in the Assyrian period and the stela of Ishtar from Arbela in the Louvre Museum	Dr. Ariane Thomas is curator in charge of Mesopotamian collections in the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Antiquities at the Louvre Museum. She has been teaching for several years and has been involved in various archaeological excavations in the Middle East as well as in numerous research projects, publications and exhibitions.	In the Assyrian period, Urbilum or Arbel, still occupied nowadays by the modern Erbil, was a particularly important city for it was the religious center of the goddess Ishtar 'Lady of Arbel' in the inscriptions of the Assyrian kings, especially those of Sennacherib and Ashurbanipal in the 7 th century BC. Focusing on the famous stele of Ishtar from Arbela exhibited in the Louvre Museum since its excavation in 1929 in Syria, this paper will discuss Erbil in the Assyrian period, notably with the related objects now in the Louvre.
Session 6 FEB 25th 2021 Chair Soorkeu ATROOSHI	Lionel MARTI French National Centre for Scientific Research lionel.marti@college-de-france.fr	Between political and geographical constraints. The question of communication roads in the Assyrian triangle	Lionel Marti is a researcher at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (UMR 7192), Paris. He has been trained in Assyriology at EPHE IVe section and in archaeology at University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne. He is part of the management with Ch. Nicolle and K. Shawaly of the archaeological mission of Bash Tapa. His research focus is primarily on the history of northern Mesopotamia and Syria, from the Old-Babylonian to the Neo-Assyrian period, with a particular focus on the development and functioning of the Assyrian world.	The Erbil Plain has been at the heart of several political entities or confrontations between great kingdoms. The issue of territorial structuring and interregional communications is therefore central to historical studies on the Erbil Plain. It is only with the beginning of recent archaeological explorations that this research has been able to undergo a new development thanks to the knowledge of the concrete reality of the terrain. Through the study of a few examples, this presentation proposes to illustrate how a better knowledge of the communication routes allows new understanding of well-known historical phenomena. Particular attention will have to be paid both to the impact of political entities on these roads and their structuring and to the impact of environmental constraints.
	Dara TALAAT AL YAQUBI Senior Consultant Architect and heritage Conservation Expert dalyaqubi@yahoo.com	The architectural heritage in Erbil. Current status, challenges, and solutions	Senior Consultant Architect and heritage Conservation Expert, Dara Talaat Al Yaqubi has a PhD in Architectural Heritage, MSc in Architecture, and BSc in Business Administration. Lecturer in the Department of Architecture/University of Baghdad from 1980 to 1998, and Salahaddin University 2015 to 2020, he was also Governing Board member of Kurdistan University 2008 to 2010. UN-Habitat and UNDP program officer, Team Leader, and Consultant from 1998 to 2007, he was also Senior Advisor for the Council of Ministers of KRG and Head of the High Commission of Revitalization of Erbil Citadel (HCECR) from 2009 to 2019. He is Ifpo Associate Researcher since 2019 and founder and head of ARBELA Center for Heritage and Architecture 2020.	The existing historic parts of Erbil city represent a distinct urban entity and a rare surviving example of traditional urban form and architectural heritage. Its fabric and expressed brick architecture, goes back to several hundred years of vernacular architecture and urban heritage. It is the legacy of how the previous generations interacted with their environment and developed their way of life based on their cultural values. The vast modern urban development in the city center led to the loss of parts of the architectural heritage and the rest's threat. The main reason was the lack of vision, lack of specialized entities, lack of management, and also uncontrolled construction. This paper aims to explore the significance and characteristics of the city's heritage architecture, its current status, risks, and challenges facing its preservation and, in the end, concluding a vision and a roadmap to overcome the difficulties and to save this national heritage in accordance with international standards, rules, and regulations.
Session 7 MARCH 11th 2021 Chair Barbara COUTURAUD	Martin SAUVAGE French National Centre for Scientific Research martin.sauvage@cnrs.fr	Building with earth in the ancient Near East	Martin Sauvage is a research engineer in archaeology at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS, UMR 7041 Archéologie et sciences de l'Antiquité, Nanterre). He is a specialist in building materials and techniques in the ancient Near East. He has participated in some thirty archaeological campaigns in this region mostly in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq.	The Mesopotamian alluvial plain is poor in raw materials and yet this region has developed considerable architecture thanks to the almost exclusive use of earth as building material. The conference will focus on retracing the major stages in the development of construction in ancient Mesopotamia and the Near East. We will describe the emergence of earthen construction (wattle, brick, daub) with the first dwellings in the Near East, around 9000 BC, then the diversification of building techniques and materials during the Neolithic. The gradual emergence of the first Sumerian cities (around 3000 BC) was also accompanied by innovations in the field of earthen construction: moulded bricks, fired bricks, specific layouts. The conference will focus, with the example of the oldest civilization, on showing the

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				relationship between social evolution and building activities. As such, knowledge of the oldest technical solutions makes it possible to better master the current issue of earthen architecture in the context of sustainable development: the lessons of the past make it possible to better prepare for the future
	Narmen ALI MUHAMADAMEEN University of Salahaddin-Erbil narmen.ameen@su.edu.krd	Erbil region. The historical and archaeological reality in the Sasanian and Islamic period in the light of archaeological work	Assistant Professor in the Department of Archeology/Faculty of Arts, Salahaddin University, PhD in Archaeology and History/France, Narmin Ali Muhamadameen is the first woman specialized in Archaeology of Christianism in Kurdistan. Member of the administrative board of the first French archaeological mission in Kalak Meshk in Erbil and second director of the French archaeological mission in Bazian in Sulaymaniyah in 2011-2016, she was also member of the French archaeological mission in Shemamok in Erbil (2011-2019), second director of the Czech Archaeology Mission in Erbil (2013-2015), member of the French archaeological mission in Amyan in 2019 and member of the archaeological mission of Harvard University for the Archaeological Survey of the Erbil Region Project in 2018. She is currently associate member of the Orient Research Center - Mediterranean in Paris and associate member of the French Institute for the Near East in Erbil.	Erbil and Kurdistan region were neglected for a long period of studies of archaeological works. With the beginning of the first French archaeological mission in Erbil region in 2010, European and international missions began arriving in Kurdistan. Archaeological data and the results of excavations and archaeological surveys revealed new, unknown sites. The history of Erbil region contains missing links and not sufficiently studied by researchers, especially for the Sasanian and pre-Islamic period, and the archaeological work can reveal aspects of the region's history and civilization.
Session 8 April 1st 2021 Chair Mahmood KHAYAT	Nader BABAKER MOHAMMED Erbil Directorate of Antiquities nader_babakr@yahoo.com	Kareez (aqueducts) irrigation system in the Erbil Governorate	MA of Archaeology in the Department of History and Archaeology-National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 2016 and BA of Archaeology, Tehran University, 1994, Nader Babaker Mohammed is manager of Erbil Antiquities Directorate from 2013 to present. He was also manager of Archaeological Affairs Department in General Directory of Antiquities between 2010 and 2013 and manager of Museum Department in General Directorate between 2008 and 2010.	As an archaeologist, I was eager to survey and research about the ancient sites of Kurdistan Region, where I am going to explain the 'Kareez Irrigation System' which was a technological innovation of the past, thus have been utilized by the ancient authority to provide fresh water for the needs of an ever increasing population. Water needed to be transported from distant sources to the irrigation of the fields around the urban center of Erbil. This system goes back to the historical age of Assyrian, Median, Achaemenid, Hellenistic and Islamic period. The field research that I have conducted in the Erbil region during the last years has led to the discovery of many Kareez and now we are in a position to conclude that there was not one single Kareez supply line, but many. But unfortunately, due to modern construction, the Kareez are now being destroyed.
	Hawar HIMDAD SECTANY University of Salahaddin-Erbil hawar.jamal@su.edu.krd	Health and cultural heritage. Tracing the perceptions of the role of architectural heritage in health and well-being (case study Erbil)	Holding an MSc degree in Architecture, Mrs. Hawar Himdad Jamal is a teaching staff member at the Department of Architecture at Salahaddin University-Erbil and also a Split-Site PhD Candidate at Eindhoven University of Technology with specific research interests in cultural and built heritage and in specific the human factor as determinant factors which shape the built environment and are consequently shaped by it.	The interdisciplinary character of cultural heritage fosters interdisciplinary studies. In cultural heritage studies, the individual and societal perceptions of the environment and the self, are starting to grow in importance. The relationship between health and environment is today mostly investigated in terms of measurable environmental factors, according to the biological definition of human health. This seminar explores the new emerging concept of relationship between health and cultural heritage towards inductive assumptions about what these relations will be with regard to perception. The main objective is to develop a theoretical framework that can be used for further research in the field of cultural heritage preservation, namely on architectural and urban level with emphases on promoting policies and education of healthy development of the built environment. The perception of the role of cultural heritage in health and well-being is traced throughout relevant literature concerned with the architectural environment, as well as, the psychological and philosophical literature revealing the essence of culture and architecture in health and its adaptability in case of Erbil City.

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Session 9 April 15th 2021 Chair Mahmood KHAYAT	Soizik BECHETOILLE Ministère de la Culture s.bechetoille@gmail.com	Mudbrick architecture. Erbil old souk	Dr. Bechetoille has a doctorate in History and the history of technology. She is a State Urban Planner Architect (AUE) at the Ministry of Culture in France, and a Conservation Architect with a postgraduate degree from the École de Chaillot (Paris). She is also a associate researcher at Ifpo.	This presentation will introduce a documentation work carried out in 2017 on heritage at risk: Erbil Old Souk housing. The old souk's remaining dwellings are mostly abandoned, threatened with destruction, or reused as a reserve for new stores. From the point of view of heritage and uses, photographic documentation of this old center allows us to read the urban form and the possible ways of inhabiting it that have developed over time, from the end of the 19th century to contemporary reuse. Documenting built heritage makes it possible to apprehend the urban memory and the local social, economic, and cultural history. The vivacity of the souk contrasts with the disappearance of the built heritage linked to it. One of the main factors of the abandonment of traditional buildings is the lack of maintenance led by the disappearance of traditional building materials (e.g., raw earth-based) combined with the lack of awareness of these same materials (wrongly associated with poverty). As a result, there is no more transmission of teaching of the techniques related to it. Today's climatic challenges are leading to frugality in the way we approach the built environment. Rather than deconstructing to rebuild a new building, rehabilitation offers the double advantage of preserving the heritage and conserving bio-sourced materials' thermal qualities. Through examples from the region from around the world, this presentation will show the advantages of reuse.
	Farah AL HASHIMI Independent Researcher farah.alhashimi2010@my.ntu.ac.uk	Arbail and the Historic Architecture and Urban Elements of Erbil	Farah is an architectural designer and independent researcher. She holds a PhD in architecture and urban design from the UK. Prize winner: Young Women Architects - Rising Star Award in the category of Women in Architecture and Construction. She was the founder and managing partner of her architecture bureau 'Horizon' in Duhok city, Iraqi Kurdistan. She has an interest in working in architecture and/or urban design using an interdisciplinary approach combining architecture, history, archaeology and culture. Her focus is on the productivity of urban spaces, conservation, sustainability and restoration strategies.	Erbil, the capital of the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq, is a historic city of great significance, which has faced enormous changes over centuries. The long history of the lower city is not immediately apparent due to successive periods of construction and demolition, which have left few traces of the past. This study set out to review and highlight the changes that have occurred to the historic urban elements of the city of Erbil with a particular focus on the Assyrian and Attabeg periods as well as the present day.

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Session 10 April 29th 2021 Chair Soorkeu ATROOSHI	Jason UR Harvard University jasonur@fas.harvard.edu Nader BABAKER MOHAMMED Erbil Directorate of Antiquities nader_babakr@yahoo.com Khalil BARZINJI Erbil Directorate of Antiquities Mohammed LASHKRI, General Directorate of Antiquities KRG	The history of settlement on the Erbil plain	Jason Ur is Stephen Phillips Professor of Archaeology and Ethnology in the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University. He specializes in early urbanism, landscape archaeology, and remote sensing, particularly the use of declassified US intelligence imagery. He has directed field surveys in Syria, Iraq, Turkey, and Iran. He is the author of Urbanism and Cultural Landscapes in Northeastern Syria: The Tell Hamoukar Survey, 1999-2001 (2010). Since 2012, he has directed the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey, an archaeological survey in the Kurdistan Region of northern Iraq. He is also preparing a history of Mesopotamian cities. MA of Archaeology in the Department of History and Archaeology-National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 2016 and BA of Archaeology, Tehran University, 1994, Nader Babaker Mohammed is manager of Erbil Antiquities Directorate from 2013 to present. He was also manager of Archaeological Affairs Department in General Directory of Antiquities between 2010 and 2013 and manager of Museum Department in General Directorate between 2008 and 2010. Khalil Barzinji is staff at the Erbil Governorate Directorate of Antiquities and EPAS drone pilot. Mohammed Lashkry is head of museums at the KRG Directorate of Antiquities, and EPAS geospatial specialist.	Since 2012, the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey (EPAS) has been identifying and mapping archaeological sites on the Erbil Plain (Dashti Hawler). The project is an international collaboration between Kurdish, European, and American archaeologists, led by Harvard University (Jason Ur) and the Directorate of Antiquities of Erbil Governorate (Nader Babakr). The presentation will describe the project's goals, its methods, and its results after seven field seasons of research. For more information about the project, please see https://scholar.harvard.edu/jasonur/pages/erbil .
	Karel NOVÁČEK Palacký University karel.novacek@upol.cz	A large, long and wide city: Looking into urban morphology of medieval Arbil	Karel Nováček is Associate Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the Palacký University at Olomouc. He obtained his Ph.D. in the History of Architecture and Art at Czech Technical University, Prague. Since 2006, he has pursued research projects in North Iraq and Kurdistan and is the principal author of two monographs: Medieval Urban Landscape in Northeastern Mesopotamia (Archaeopress, Oxford, 2016) and Mosul after Islamic State: The Quest for Lost Architectural Heritage (Palgrave, 2021).	Archaeological research into urban form and post-Assyrian development of the important Assyrian royal city of Arbil with its more than five—millenia—long settlement continuity poses a challenge given the current densely built-up environment of the modern vivid city. As the Islamic—period archaeological levels in the city centre have proved to be hardly accessible for excavation, remote—sensing approach and "archaeological reading" of textual sources have to be employed instead to reach a first insight into the matter. The resulting picture of medieval Arbil is, by no means, reliable but consists of set of hypotheses that show the direction, which further inquiry should follow.
Session 11 May 20th 2021 Chair Mahmood KHAYAT	Luca PEYRONEL University of Milan luca.peyronel@unimi.it	From prehistoric villages to global empires. The long history of Helawa and Aliawa in the Erbil Plain	Luca Peyronel is professor of Near Eastern Archaeology and Art History at University of Milan and is the director of the Italian Archaeological Expedition in the Erbil Plain. His main interests include cultural interactions, global networks and trade in the ancient Near East, and material culture of Mesopotamia, Anatolia and the Levant during the Bronze Age.	The Italian Archeological Expedition in the Erbil Plain (MAIPE) of the University of Milan is carrying out excavations at Helawa and Aliawa, in the south-western Erbil Plain, through an integrated approach of intensive surveys and targeted excavations. the two mounded sites show alternate periods of occupation. Helawa appears to have been a substantial prehistoric site that was abandoned in the course of the Late Chalcolithic 3 and resettled during the 2nd millennium BC; Aliawa's main occupation dates back to the Bronze Age, the center reaching more than 20 ha in extension at the beginning of the 2nd millennium BCE, whereas during the Iron Age and Hellenistic-Roman period it probably became a small fortified settlement. The results of the archaeological investigations are allowing the reconstruction of the local trajectories of human occupation in this part of the Erbil plain, contributing to a better understanding of the long settlement history of Kurdistan region of Iraq, from the early

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			villages of farmers and herders to the large town of the first global empires of the humankind.
Richard WILDING Creative Director, Gulan richard@richardwilding.com	Exploring Erbil and its citadel through historical and contemporary photography	Richard Wilding is a London based photographer, filmmaker, writer and exhibition curator. He specializes in the documentation of archaeology, cultural identity and costume in the Middle East and is working on projects in Iraqi Kurdistan, Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia. Since 2012, he has been Creative Director of Gulan, a UK registered charity which promotes Kurdish culture. In October 2013, Richard was awarded an outreach grant by The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) towards his photography of the Erbil citadel. His photographs of Kurdistan's heritage and archaeology have been exhibited at the Houses of Parliament, Courtauld Institute of Art and University of Exeter in the UK and in Erbil and Sulaymaniyah in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.	Richard Wilding explores the heritage, archaeology, religion and ethnic diversity of Kurdistan through historical and contemporary photography. In this presentation, Richard contrasts his contemporary photographs of Erbil, its citadel and lower city with photographs taken by Anthony Kersting in 1944-46. He also uses descriptions and illustrations by earlier travellers, writers and artists. Anthony Kersting (1916 - 2008), was the most prolific and widely travelled architectural photographer of his generation. He visited Northern Iraq and Kurdistan in 1944 and again in 1946. His photographs form an important record of historical architecture and archaeological sites that have since been damaged or destroyed, as well as tumultuous changes to the ethnic, religious, social and economic fabric of the region.