## Erbil History, Archaeology, Arts and Architecture

**UKH & Ifpo Online Bi-Monthly Seminars (second round) A/Y 2021-2022**  
**Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00 PM (Erbil Time, UTC +3)**  
**Program**

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| **Session 1**  
February 3rd 2022 | Dr. Mahmood KHAYAT  
University of Kurdistan-Erbil  
mahmood.khayat@ukh.edu.krd | Short review | Mahmood Ahmed Khayat is a professor of architecture. He is the Chair of Architectural Engineering and Sustainability Program at the University of Kurdistan Hewler. He holds the title of Ifpo associate researcher. | The cultural heritage is suffering from the risk of disappearing either due to severe weather conditions or human impacts, therefore it is essential to document the status of the sites precisely so as to be used later during the process of restoration and renovation. Although different techniques are available for documenting the heritage sites such as tapes and total stations which are listed to be direct measurements, they are specified to be time-consuming either during object measurements or plotting the data. On the other hand, indirect measurements have been used in the archaeological site documentation such as laser scanning and photogrammetry. Although laser scanning is specified to be very accurate and fast, it is specified to be very expensive and is difficult to be used in the old buildings due to the risk of the collapse, especially the roofs. Meanwhile the recent development in computers and image capturing devices has led photogrammetry to be very cost-effective in heritage site documentation which leads to producing 3D models for the objects, 3D vector maps, digital orthophoto, digital surface models and sections using simple techniques. In this presentation, the technique of photogrammetry will be illustrated and some examples will be shown on applying photogrammetry for documenting buildings in Erbil Citadel. |
| | Mr. Bill RAMMEL  
University of Kurdistan-Erbil  
bill.rammell@ukh.edu.krd | Opening speech | In 1997 Bill Rammell was elected as a Labour MP for Harlow to the UK House of Commons in the Blair landslide victory. Bill was a very successful MP for 13 years. And for the last 8 years of Bill’s parliamentary career, he served as a senior Government Minister in the Governments of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, starting with the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, then the Minister of State for Education and finally as the Minister of State for Defence. After leaving Parliament in 2011 Bill became Deputy Vice Chancellor at Plymouth University with responsibility for Internationalisation and the Student Experience and in 2012 Bill became Vice Chancellor of the University of Bedfordshire, serving successfully as Vice Chancellor for 8 years. Before becoming the President of UKH Bill worked as a Board member of 2 private Higher Education companies in the UK. |  |
| | Dr. Soorkeu ATROOSHI  
University of Kurdistan-Erbil  
soorkeu.atrooshi@ukh.edu.krd | UKH brief | Soorkeu A. Atrooshi is the dean of School of Science and Engineering at the University of Kurdistan Hewler (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 Coutraud is an archaeologist, researcher at Ifpo (Institut français du Proche-Orient) and head of the Erbil Ifpo branch. Her research focuses on Mesopotamian archaeology and iconography during the Early Bronze Age (3rd millennium BC). She is also the director of the excavations in Amayn (Kurdistan Regional Government). |  |
| | Haval Abdul Jabbar SADEQ  
Salahaddin University-Erbil  
haval.sadeq@su.edu.krd | Using Photogrammetry in Documentation of Cultural Heritage | Haval Sadeq has received a BSc degree from Salahaddin University-Erbil in 1996, an MSc degree in photogrammetry from Salahaddin University-Erbil in 2000, and a PhD degree in Geomatics from Glasgow University in 2015. From 2000 to 2011, he has worked as an assistant lecturer at the university and as a draftsman and project manager in the private sector. Since 2015, after obtaining his PhD, he worked as an assistant professor in Geomatics (Surveying) Eng. dep. at Salahaddin University-Erbil. His research interest is in (photogrammetry) stereo vision algorithm implementing the Bayesian approach and building footprint extraction with 3D modelling from very high-resolution satellite imagery. He is currently involved in teaching Map-Projections and Photogrammetry, undergraduate research project and postgraduate supervision (MSc and PhD). Furthermore, he was involved in preparing the lecture for the Erasmus+ program which was funded by the European Union. |  |
### Session 2
**February 17th, 2022**
**Chair Barbara COUTURAUD**

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<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rocco PALERMO</td>
<td>Imperial Landscapes and Climatic Variations in Assyria to Parthia in</td>
<td>Rocco Palermo is a Research Fellow at the University of Pisa (Italy) and an Affiliate Research Fellow at Harvard University (USA). Rocco obtained his PhD degree from the University of Naples (Italy) and Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne University. Prior to his current position, he was a VENI Grant holder as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Groningen (Netherlands). Rocco has extensive fieldwork experience in the Near East, having carried out excavations and surveys in Syria, Jordan, KRG, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. He is currently Director of the Gird-i Martrab Archaeological Project (gMAP) and Associate Director of the Erbil Plain Archaeological Survey, both located in the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan. He is the author of On the Edge of Empires: North Mesopotamia during the Roman Period (Routledge, 2019).</td>
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<td>Maria Grazia MASETTI-ROUAULT</td>
<td>The Assyrian City and its Landscape: Centers, Peripheries, and the People</td>
<td>Maria Grazia Masetti-Rouault is a professor at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris, Chair of “Religion of the Syrian-Mesopotamian World: History and Archaeology”. She is a member of CNRS research team UMR 8167 “Orient et Méditerranée”, and co-director of the Series Enudes Mésopotamiennes-Mesopotamian Studies (Oxford, Archaeopress). In the period 1997-2010 she has directed the Syro-French archaeological mission in Terqa Region (Lower Middle Euphrates Valley, Syria), and the excavations at the site of Tell Masaikh. Co-Director of the French archaeological mission at Qasr Shemamok (Erbil region, Kurdistan, Iraq) since 2011, she became its director in 2015.</td>
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<td>Shaymaa Fadhil ALKUBAISI</td>
<td>The impact of Urban Transformation for Old Erbil City on the Structure of its Surroundings</td>
<td>Shaymaa Fadhil Alkubaisi is a graduate of University of Technology, Architectural Department. She received her BSc degree in (1997), her MSc in (2000) in (urban design), and her PhD degree in (2017). She also received a Diploma of Eco Design from (Ecodemia) British Academy in July 2021. Additionally, she has participated in a regional course on Cultural Heritage First Aid and “Peace and Resilience” in Times of Crisis 2021 from ICCRO. She has 22 years of creative work as a scientific researcher and a designer inside Iraq with teaching experience in many places like the University of Technology in Baghdad, Koya University, Tishk International University and Cihan University in Erbil.</td>
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### Session 3
**March 3rd, 2022**
**Chair Barbara COUTURAUD**

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The idea of environmental constraints as impact factors influencing the structural transformation of ancient and modern communities and their relative economies has recently gained a prominent role on the scientific agenda. This is particularly true for Northern Mesopotamia, a region placed at the intersection of the oak-rich woods of Anatolia and the Arabian desert, a climatic zone where the interannual rainfall variability oscillates, thereby considerably affecting harvest practices, with great consequences on both political and social mechanics. Recent climatic proxies from the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan have been employed to suggest that environmental factors were one of the triggers causing the political transformation of the (former) Assyrian core area in northern Iraq. In this talk, I employ settlement data from different parts of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to compare with the paleoenvironmental proxies and other large-scale surveys from the region, in order to tentatively correlate phenomena of contraction and expansion of settlements in post-Assyrian Mesopotamia and the climatic oscillations in the region.

The relations between urban planning and Assyrian history have often been studied from a philological or an archaeological point of view. The themes connected with the creation of the city or its reconstruction in the Assyrian world, since the beginning of the second millennium BC, are discussed mainly in studies analyzing kingship, and the ideology of kingship, as it is expressed in the royal inscriptions. Assyrian kings are acknowledged as the authors of any important construction, in the city as well as in the landscape. For this reason, urban topography is considered to reflect only their own use of spaces and their interests, also in communication. In this lecture, presenting our experiences of research studying the site of Qasr Shemamok - the Assyrian town called Kilizu, close to Erbil -, I will try to explain why the perception of the urban landscape simply as the result of a royal project, now often strengthened by the vision offered by satellite pictures, with images produced by remote sensing or by surface surveys, must be exploited in a careful way, using all our critical historical and archaeological knowledge. The narration of the Assyrian royal inscriptions, often coincident with the visual impact of these often powerful images, should not satisfy too easily our interest in the meaning of the urban forms. The new data and documentation can open for us new ways to identify and to understand the different agencies, social situations, economic interests and environmental factors determining the creation, the evolution, and the collapse of urban occupations, and of all the society managing them.

This lecture will talk about the urban transformation of Erbil City and how it is constructed with time and the effect of the transformation of this structure on the surroundings neighborhoods like Taajel, Khaanaq and Arab neighborhoods. This is an analytical study explaining why heritage areas have decayed, including suggestions to re connect with the live areas.
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**Program**

| Session 5 | April 7th 2022 | Chair Soorkeu  
ATROOSHI |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| **Fouad MOHAMMAD**  
Nottingham Trent University  
foaad.mohammad@ntu.ac.uk | **Structural Assessment of Historical and Conventional Masonry Constructions**  
Fouad Mohammad is a senior lecturer of Structural Analysis and Design in the School of Architecture Design and the Built Environment at Nottingham Trent University, UK. Fouad holds BSc Civil Engineering from Baghdad University (1979); MSc Civil Engineering (majoring in structures) from Baghdad University (1987); MSc Structural Design with Distinction from Kingston University, UK (1993); PhD Civil Structural Engineering from Liverpool John Moores University, UK (1998); and Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) from Nottingham Trent University, UK (2006). His main areas of research expertise include design optimisation of structural systems, sustainable construction materials, non-destructive testing techniques, and finite element analysis of civil and structural engineering projects. Fouad is a reviewer for several structural engineering textbooks and journal papers, and a member of editorial team of the Journal of Engineering and Sustainable Development (JESD) and The Scientific Journal of Koya University (ARO). Furthermore, he is a member of the Academic Council of Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER). | This work deals with the structural assessment of historical and conventional masonry constructions. The term masonry applies to traditional stonework, brickwork and blockwork which are extensively used worldwide as low-cost vernacular buildings and historical constructions. Stone, adobe, and brick are all typical materials used as part of the structural system of historic buildings such as Erbil citadel, Minarat Al-Hadba and Pizza tower, to name a few. These types of masonry constructions exhibit a degree of complexity in terms form, geometry, material, loading, damage, and history. Therefore, an appropriate structural assessment ought to be conducted by qualified building surveyors and professional structural engineers before performing any restoration or rehabilitation treatments with regard to architectural conservation of conventional and historical buildings. Structural appraisal can be defined as the process of checking the adequacy of an existing structure and this can be examined under overall stability, strength, robustness, stiffness, etc. Structural appraisal is a different activity to structural design. It is aimed at assessing the real condition of an existing structure, hence finding out whether the structure is adequately safe now and will it remain so in the future; and if it can be used for its intended purpose now and in the foreseeable future. This work tries to identify defects occur in masonry buildings for a variety of reasons. Hence, requires a systematic investigation comprising of visual observations, oral and recorded information, and structural monitoring. The necessary obtained information should predominantly cover date of construction, sketch plans of each level, structural materials used, details of any modifications and alterations, details of cracks, distortion measurements of walls and floors. The study presents and discusses real cases of cracks and damages and their classification according to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) Digest 251. In addition, it suggests that further investigation such as non-destructive testing and soil investigation or even advanced numerical methods should be conducted whenever feasible in order to confirm or determine the exact cause of damage. Consequently, the right and most efficient remedy or restoration approach can be adopted. |

| Hewa A. PERDAWOOD  
Salahaddin University-Erbil  
hewa.hap@gmail.com | **Erbil Citadel in Local Artist Artworks**  
Hewa A. Perdawood has a BA from Salahaddin University, College of Fine Arts in 2011 and an MA in Fine Arts from the University of Portsmouth, UK in 2014 in Painting. He has extended experience with a number of techniques and materials with in-depth understanding of all types of modern and contemporary art styles, based on an analytical ability to discover style secrets and reconstruct art works in different shapes such as drawing, watercolours, oil colour, mixed media, video art and installations. He is also highly qualified in teaching the theory behind art history, anatomy, composition, supervising projects, organising and developing creative imagination. | During the last decade, the history of art in the city of Erbil went through various levels of development. The most iconic symbol in the city is the citadel which has been a great part of our memory as locals. Accordingly, the symbol can be seen and mentioned in most artworks, poems and even movies and plays. So, throughout this paper, I will focus on showing most of the paintings that portrayed the citadel of Erbil. Moreover, despite the different technical levels of work in these artworks we can note the vision and background of the artists in different times, which affects directly onto the canvas by showing their expression for the iconic symbol in the city. In this work, I will also be focusing on colours, spaces and styles inside the paintings. |

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<th>Session 6</th>
<th>April 21st 2022</th>
<th>Chair Mahmood</th>
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| **Haval SAMI**  
Tishk International University.  
havan.sami@gmail.com | **He got his BSc from Architectural department-college of Engineering-  
Salahaddin University-Erbil. He got his MSc, Degree in Turkey, and is currently a PhD candidate at Salahaddin University. He is working at Tishk International University as a teaching staff. The assigned as head of Interior Design Engineering for years 2016-2020 and head of Architecture Department 2020-2021 He acted as conference secretary (ICAD) and has contributed in many.** | **This work deals with the structural assessment of historical and conventional masonry constructions. The term masonry applies to traditional stonework, brickwork and blockwork which are extensively used worldwide as low-cost vernacular buildings and historical constructions. Stone, adobe, and brick are all typical materials used as part of the structural system of historic buildings such as Erbil citadel, Minarat Al-Hadba and Pizza tower, to name a few. These types of masonry constructions exhibit a degree of complexity in terms form, geometry, material, loading, damage, and history. Therefore, an appropriate structural assessment ought to be conducted by qualified building surveyors and professional structural engineers before performing any restoration or rehabilitation treatments with regard to architectural conservation of conventional and historical buildings. Structural appraisal can be defined as the process of checking the adequacy of an existing structure and this can be examined under overall stability, strength, robustness, stiffness, etc. Structural appraisal is a different activity to structural design. It is aimed at assessing the real condition of an existing structure, hence finding out whether the structure is adequately safe now and will it remain so in the future; and if it can be used for its intended purpose now and in the foreseeable future. This work tries to identify defects occur in masonry buildings for a variety of reasons. Hence, requires a systematic investigation comprising of visual observations, oral and recorded information, and structural monitoring. The necessary obtained information should predominantly cover date of construction, sketch plans of each level, structural materials used, details of any modifications and alterations, details of cracks, distortion measurements of walls and floors. The study presents and discusses real cases of cracks and damages and their classification according to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) Digest 251. In addition, it suggests that further investigation such as non-destructive testing and soil investigation or even advanced numerical methods should be conducted whenever feasible in order to confirm or determine the exact cause of damage. Consequently, the right and most efficient remedy or restoration approach can be adopted.** |
| Session 7 | May 5th 2022 | Farah AL HASHIMI  
Independent Researcher  
farah.al-hashimi2010@my.ntu.ac.uk | The Value of Erbil’s Historic Centre: Past, Present and Future  
Farah Al Hashimi is an architectural designer and independent researcher based in London. She holds a PhD in architecture and urban design. 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 ‘Horizons’ in Dahok City, Iraqi Kurdistan. She has an interest in working in architecture and 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’s historic centre – standing at the bottom of the southern side of the city’s citadel hill – has hosted different events and activities over the centuries. This presentation aims to strengthen the connection of this area to its past and increase the attachment of the local people to their city. |
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| Chair  
Soorken  
ATROOSHI |  |  |  |
| Session 8 | May 19th 2022 | Mohamed Y. M. AL-BARZNGY  
mombaz@gmail.com | Erbil Citadel from a Monumental Towards a Living Heritage Approach  
Mohamed Yahya Mohamed Al-Barzngy is a PhD candidate in Architectural Department-Salahaddin University-Erbil. He holds an MSc in Urban Regeneration from the University of Manchester UK (2014). He also holds a BSc and a Higher Diploma in Architectural Engineering from Salahaddin University (2004 and 2009).  
He has worked as an engineer and designer in the public sector since 2005. In 2007 he held the position of head of technical department in the directorate of projects in F.L.K (Kurdistan Army leadership). Between 2009 and 2011 he was the Director of Planning department. From 2011 to 2016, he was deputy director in the Directorate of military housing. From 2016 onwards he has been working as a chief architect responsible for designing, approving and supervising architectural designs and projects.  
The efficiency of Erbil citadel as a world heritage site with substantial historic value, being the longest continuously inhabited settlement globally, raises questions. The site suffered intensively from inadequate maintenance by its previous inhabitants because of not having clear legislation by authorities to prevent such practices. Those were mostly from other areas (distant villages) displaced by central government in the 1980s. These were evacuated in 2006 as an attempt to nominate the citadel for World Heritage List. Later, the site was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2014. However, this inscription is not a magic tool through which such a site can be enlivened but acts as a medium to raise awareness of local communities and stakeholders towards the significance of the heritage site/monument, preventing further deterioration and providing an avenue for systematic provision of funds from international and local organizations. This paper will use the available documentation for detecting the current condition of the citadel especially its architectural elements as the backbone of the citadel heritage site. The aim of this paper is to assess the current condition and approach of heritage preservation implemented so far in the citadel followed by recommendation for a  |
| Chair  
Mahmood  
KHAYAT |  |  |  |
|  |  | Caecilia PIERI  
Associate Researcher (Ifpo),Erbil/Beirut  
drcp.orient@gmail.com | Hifaz-Iraq: Presentation of a Cooperation Project on Heritage Between Ifpo, Salahaddin University- Erbil and the University of Mosul  
Caecilia Pieri is Associate Researcher at the French Institute of the Near East (Ifpo), Erbil/Beirut, where she was formerly Head of the Urban Observatory (2011-2015). She works on a comparative approach to the field of modern urban history and urban anthropology in Mediterranean and Middle Eastern areas. She received her PhD at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, on the subject of the modernization of Baghdad, where she has been conducting fieldwork since 2003. She was the leading coordinator of a research program within Ifpo/AUF (2015-2017) about "Heritage at war in the Mediterranean region". She is also an expert within the UNESCO (World Heritage) for the safeguard of modern heritage in the Arab World. Among her publications as an author or scientific editor: Baghdad Arts Deco, 1920-1950 (American University of Cairo Press, 2011), The Le Corbusier Gymnasium in Baghdad (co-authored with Mina Marefat and Gilles Ragot), and a book based on her PhD: Baghdad. La construction d’une capitale moderne, 1914-1960 (novembre 2015, Presses de l’Ifpo) and 2015 : "Villes du Moyen-Orient, n° 26, p. 15-39. https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-01162726/document  
This project aims to develop a training of trainers which will focus on specialized subjects in the field of the conservation of the built heritage (or monuments and sites). It will contribute to upgrade conservation of the built heritage to an academic and professional specialisation within both archaeology (a branch of the humanities) and architecture/construction. It is primarily designed to be interdisciplinary by bringing together staff and students who are usually separated, i.e. archaeologists and architects. In each university, core courses will be therefore taken jointly by students from scientific and literary streams. Trainees are coming from Lebanon, Iran and Europe.  |
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<td>Ashty RAHMAN</td>
<td>Erbil as Referred to in the Ottoman Archive Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salahaddin University-Erbil</td>
<td>ashty <a href="mailto:rahman@yahoo.com">rahman@yahoo.com</a></td>
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Ashty Rahman is a PhD candidate at the University of Harran in Turkey. She is a member of the teaching staff at Salahaddin University in the College of Arts. Her research starting in 2018 was on the Ottoman archive documents, in coordination with Cihan University publishing center. She managed to publish Kurdish translations of selected documents from the Ottoman archive regarding Kurdistan cities as follows: Erbil-2 volumes, Barzan and Zibar-2 volumes, Bazian-1 volume, Koya-1 volume, Rania-1 volume, Sulaimaniyah-2 volumes, Zakho-1 volume and Kirkuk-2 volumes.

Erbil as one of the old urban settlements, its history may go back to 5000 BCE, it was ruled, governed and inhabited by various nations and states, like (but not limited to) Assyrian, Sasanian, later various Islamic states (Umayyad and Abbasid) ending with Ottomans after the Battle of Chaldiran in 1514 between Safavid and Ottoman empires. Erbil City and its surroundings became part of the Ottoman Empire till the year 1920 when Iraq as a state was established.

Starting from the 16th century, Erbil area became officially part of the Ottoman Empire properties, it was a center of a (Kazaa) composed of 2 (Nahiaa) and 300 villages as per the administrative hierarchy of the Ottoman Empire at that time. Erbil (Kazaa) was related to Baghdad (Vilayet) then it was elated to (Shaherzoor Sanjak) then it was part of Mosul (Vilayet). Erbil city inhabitants were mainly state official staff, craftsmen and trades men, while the surrounding area was inhabited by tribal nomads and villagers who were mainly Kurds who were practicing cattle raising and agriculture, Erbil City had a strategic location being a station within the Mosul Baghdad transportation route. This location gave it a transportation, communication and economic importance in the area. Citizens of Erbil City were Muslims, Christians and Jews who managed to live together in peace for centuries. It was a place for people of multi-ethnic origin peaceful living.

Documents of the Ottoman Archive were official letters that maintains the communication administration and government issues of the Ottoman Empire. Today these documents are historical evidence that contains important and essential information that can fill gaps in the historical narration regarding Erbil City especially for the period from 1700-1920.