



MATERIAL CULTURE IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA AND THE GULF DURING THE LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY ISLAMIC PERIOD

**5th International Seminar
on the Archaeology of the Arabian Peninsula**

12 March – 14 March, 2023

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

Organized by the National Council for Culture, Arts, & Letters (**NCCAL**) and the
Centre français de recherche de la péninsule Arabique (**CEFREPA**)

Main objectives

Material culture within the Arabian Peninsula is still a growing field of research, particularly regarding the study of the artefacts dated within the end of the Sassanian empire to the Abbasid area. Since the 1960s and 1970s, archaeologists have proposed numerous hypotheses for a better understanding of the exchange networks, typologies of objects and their dating. Beyond the typological works, new research focused on chemical characterisation and function with a developing interest for their context location in domestic habitats or other types of occupations. The accumulation of recent data, pooled by the numerous archaeological missions, on the fields or in laboratories, allows us to a further comprehension of material culture in Arabian Peninsula, for the Late Antiquity until the beginning of the Medieval period.

This International Seminar represents an opportunity for researchers, working in and around the Peninsula, to present or answer many pending issues. Whether related to matters of typology, dating and provenance of artefacts or comparisons between the uses of materials in different archaeological sites. This gathering will allow the discussion between specialists of the different types of objects (pottery, glass, stoneware, metalwork, stucco) but also to propose a global synthesis on the material culture

Organizing board

Mohammad Bin Redha (NCCAL)

Dr. Julie Bonnéric (Ifpo / Cefrepa / Ciham)

Rémi Perrogon (Cefrepa / Aix Marseille University)

Schedule

2 days at Crowne Plaza Hotel

Crowne Plaza Kuwait Al Thuraya City

Farwaniya Block 3 - Street 103, Farwaniya, 81006, Kuwait

1 day at Failaka

11 March 2023

Arrival of participants

Speakers

1	Ashkanani	Hasan	Kuwait University
2	Béliez	Yann	French-Kuwaiti Archaeological Mission in Failaka
3	Bonnéric	Julie	Institut français du Proche-Orient
4	Chung-To	Guillaume	Sorbonne University
5	El Mansy	Zeinab	Alexandria University
6	Guerin	Alexandrine	National Museum of Qatar
7	Islam	Sohel Moni	Durham University
8	Kulshreshta	Salila	New York University Abu Dhabi
9	Lic	Agnieszka	Polish Academy of Sciences
10	Marchand	Julie	Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) Art & History Museum (KMKG-MRAH) of Brussels
11	Moawiyah	Ibrahim	Yarmouk university
12	Mosbah	Chiraz	Higher Institute of Fine Arts of Sousse
13	Nowakowska	Magdalena	University of Warsaw
14	Perrogon	Rémi	Aix University / CEFREPA
15	Power	Tim	U.A.E. University
16	Rosak	Alexia	Archaïos
17	Skupniewicz	Patryk	University of Natural Sciences and Humanities in Siedlce

Chairmen

17	Al-Ajmi	Abd Al-Hadi	Kuwait University
18	Al-Wahaibi	Fahad	Kuwait University
19	Ashkanani	Hasan	Kuwait University
20	El Sayed	Mahfouz	Kuwait University

12 March 2023

8:30 – 9:00 Welcoming of the participants and general public at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel**

9:00 – 9:15 Official speeches

- NCCAL representative
- French Embassy in Kuwait representative and CEFREPA Director

9:15 – 9:40 Media break

SESSION 1.

Typologies and material culture

Chair: Dr. Fabad al Wabaibi (Kuwait University)

9:40 – 10:00 Dr. Julie Bonnéric (Ifpo, Cefrepa, Ciham), “Typology of the glass discovered at early Islamicate al-Qusur monastery (Failaka Island, Kuwait) and the questions of dating and function”

10:00 – 10:20 Dr. Julie Marchand (ULB, Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, Cefrepa), “Early Islamic soft-stone ware in the Arabian Peninsula: Production, distribution and consumption aspects”

10:20 – 10:40 Yann Béliez (Mafkf), “Macro-lithic tools in an archaeological context in the Arabian Gulf at the turn of Islam: the example of al-Qsūr (Failaka Island, Kuwait)”

10:40 – 11:00 Dr. Alexandrine Guérin (National Museum of Qatar) “Typology, distribution and provenance of Murwab ceramics. Preliminary results”

11:00 – 11:20 Dr. Patryk Skupniewicz (University of Siedlece), “Sasanian plate from Al Sabah collection. Some points on methodology of studies of Late Antique Iranian aesthetics”

11:20 – 11:50 Questions and discussions

11:50 – 12:20 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 2.

Material culture and settlement characterization

Chair: Dr. Hasan Ashkanani (Kuwait University)

12:20 – 12:40 Pr. Derek Kennet (Duhram University) & Moni Islam (Duhram University), “Settlements and the lived environment in Late Antique Arabia”

12:40 – 13:00 Alexia Rosak, Cassandra Furstos, Maureen Le Doaré, Dr. Maria Paola Pellegrino, Francelin Tourtet, Dr. Yasmin Kanhoush, Dr. Julien Charbonnier (Archaios), “Understanding the territory of the medieval city of Al-Qurh (Al-Ula Valley – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia): the qanat system and associated surface assemblages”

13:00 – 13:20 Rémi Perregon (Cefrepa, Aix Marseille University), “Between domestic and community activities: functional study of the ceramics of the al Qusur monastery”

13:20 – 13:40 Questions and discussions

13:40 – 14:40 LUNCH

14:40 Shuttle to the Tareq Rajab Museum

15:00 – 16:30 Visit of the **Tareq Rajab Museum**

16:30 Shuttle to the hotel

18:30 – 19:00 shuttle to Jabriya

19:00 Reception at the **Residence of H.E. the Ambassador of France**

13 March 2023

8:45 – 9:00 Welcoming of the participants and general public at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel**.

SESSION 3.

Roads and material culture

Chair: Dr. Mahfouz El Sayed, (Kuwait University)

9:00 – 9:20 Dr. Hasan Ashkanani (Kuwait University), “Material culture and compositional analysis”

9:20 – 9:40 Dr. Magdalena Nowakowska (Warsaw University), “Underwater Cultural Heritage in the Context of Early Islamic Settlement Structures on Failaka Island. A contribution to the study of maritime contacts and routes during the early Islamic period in the northern zone of the Arabian Gulf with the example of Failaka Island, Kuwait State”

9:40 – 10:00 Guillaume Chung-To (Sorbonne University), “An Early Islamic assemblage from the oasis of al-Bad’ (Saudi Arabia)”

10:00 – 10:20 Dr. Agnieszka Lic (Polish Academy of Sciences), “Was the Arab-Persian Gulf in the Early Islamic Period an Artistic Region? The Case of Christian Stucco Decorations from the Gulf Islands”

10:20 – 10:40 Questions and discussions

10:40 – 11:10 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 4.

Faith and material culture

Chair: Dr. Abd Al-Hadi Al-Ajmi (Kuwait University)

11:10 – 11:30 Dr. Salila Kulshreshta (NYU Abu Dhabi), “Sanctuaries of faith: cultural heritage of the coastal shrines on the Arabian peninsula ”.

11:30 – 11:50 Dr. Zeinab El Mansy (Alexandrina University),

مساجد الخطط في المدينة المنورة حتي وفاة الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم

11:50 – 12:10 Pr. Chiraz Mosbah (Higher Institute of Fine Arts of Sousse)

قراءات جديدة في تاريخ المشهد ذو المنارتين بجزيرة آوال

12:10 – 12:30 Pr. Moawiyah Y. Ibrahim (Yarmouk University),

المسيحية في منطقة الخليج العربي قبيل الإسلام وفي صدر الإسلام على ضوء النصوص السريانية والمكتشفات الأثرية

12:30 – 12:50 Pr. Tim Power (U.E.A. University), “The Material Culture of Late Antique Monasticism at Siniya Island, Umm al-Quwain”

12:50 – 13:20 Questions and discussions

13:20 – 13:30 Concluding remarks

13:30 – 14:30 LUNCH BREAK

14:30 Shuttle to the Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyya

14:45 – 16:15 visit of the **Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyya**

16:30 Shuttle to the **CEFREPA**

17:00-19:00 **Reception at the CEFREPA**

14 March 2023

10:00 Shuttle from the Crowne Plaza Hotel to Marina Hotel

10:30 Boat to **Failaka Island. Meeting point at Marina Hotel (Salmiya)**

Working Session 1. Visits of early and late Islamic sites

12:00 – 14:00 Visits

12:00-14:00

- Al Qusur
- Al Saida
- Al Qurainyah
- Fishermen coastal sites

14:00 – 16:00 LUNCH

Working Session 2. Practical workshop: pottery, glass, metal, stone

16:00 – 18:00 Workshop

19:00 Boat to Kuwait City

19:30 Shuttle to the hotel

15 March 2023

Departure of the participants