

**ISAC 2025 Conference**

**5-8 November 2025**

**Programme**

**5 November**

**11:00 – 12:40** REGISTRATION

**12:40 – 13:00** Opening of the conference – Welcome by the directors and organisers

**13:00 – 14:00** **The Fall and Rise of the Urban Citadel: Decastellamento and recastellamento in the cities of the Islamic Middle East in the first four centuries of Muslim Rule**

**Keynote Lecture by Prof. Hugh Kennedy**

**14:20 – 14:40** Coffee Break

**14:40 – 15:40** **Islamic archaeology and the museum: past incentives and current challenges**

**Keynote Lecture by Dr. Martina Müller-Wiener**

**15:40 – 16:00** Coffee Break

***SESSION 1: Transition into Islam***

Session Chair: *Karol Juchniewicz (Polish Academy of Sciences)*

**16:00 – 16:25** Christianity to Islam in Archaeology: A case study from the German-Portuguese Mértola Project

*Vanesa Andrić (Goethe University Frankfurt), Michał Mozyrski (University of Warsaw), Susana Gomez Martinez (University of Evora, CAM-CEAACP), Hagit Nol (Goethe University Frankfurt)*

**16:25 – 16:50** Byzantine – Islamic Transition at Nessana, Negev: First Fieldwork Results  
*Yana Tchekhanovets (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)*

**16:50 – 17:15** Arab-Byzantine and Umayyad Coins from the Marea / Philoxenite, Egypt. State of Research for 2022-2025  
*Barbara Zajac (National Museum in Kraków)*

**17:15 – 17:35** Coffee Break

***SESSION 2: Christians in the Islamic World***

Session Chair: *Robert Carter (Qatar Museums Authority)*

**17:35 – 18:00** Tracing Monastic Landscapes in Northern Iraq: The Case of Deir Za'faran from Late Antiquity to the Early Islamic Period and Beyond  
*Mustafa Ahmad (Goethe University Frankfurt)*

**18:00 – 18:25** The latest dating of Christian sacral architecture in Iraqi Kurdistan – results of radiocarbon research  
*Xenia Kolińska (Adam Mickiewicz University, Present and Past Foundation)*

**18:25 – 18.50** Tracing Culinary Practices in al-Andalus: Organic Residue Analysis of 10th-Century Ceramics from Tózar (Granada)  
*Jasmine Lundy (University of York), Luca Mattei (University of Granada), Cristina Martínez-Álvarez (Polish Academy of Sciences), Guillermo García-Contreras (University of Granada), Oliver E. Craig (University of York), Michelle Alexander (University of York), Alexandre Lucquin (University of York), Bronwen Kennedy (University of York), Becca Howarth (University of York), Betsie Hall (University of York)*

**19:00** Welcome Banquet

## **6 November**

**08:30 – 10:30** Visit in the Oriental Department in the National Museum

### **SESSION 3: Cities and States**

Session Chair: *Agnieszka Lic (Polish Academy of Sciences)*

**11:25 – 11:50** Defining the Early Islamic strata at Musti (El-Krib), northern Tunisia: an attempt at high-resolution archaeology  
*Piotr Makowski (University of Warsaw), Chokri el-Touihri (Institut National du Patrimoine), Monika Badura (University of Gdańsk), Urszula Iwaszczuk (Polish Academy of Sciences), Magdalena Moskal-del Hoyo (Polish Academy of Sciences), Karin Apolinarska (Adam Mickiewicz University), Jamel Hajji (Institut National du Patrimoine), Tomasz Waliszewski (University of Warsaw)*

**11:50 – 12:15** Resilient cities: urban life in Jerash after the earthquake of AD 749  
*Louise Blanke (University of Edinburgh)*

**12:15 – 12:40** Red Sea Trade and Islamic Port Cities: Archaeological Evidence from Aylah (Aqaba) and Quseir al-Qadim  
*Sirajuddin Shaikh (Darul Huda Islamic University)*

**12:40 – 14:10** Lunch Break

### **SESSION 4: Household, Water, and Agriculture**

Session Chair: *Stephen McPhillips (CNRS LA3M - UMR 7298)*

**14:10 – 14:35** Plant remains from Islamic sites in Spain: new crops, new tastes  
*Antonio Peralta-Gómez, Leonor Peña-Chocarro (Spanish National Research Council)*

**14:35 – 15:00** Water supply network and sanitary hygienic installation in the medieval town Gabala (Northwestern part of Azerbaijan)  
*Jeyhun Eminli (Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences)*

**15:00 – 15:25** The water of the Alhambra and the hydraulic lifting system of the almunias of the Dehesa del Generalife (Granada, Spain)  
*Luca Mattei (University of Granada), Luis José García-Pulido (Spanish National Research Council)*

<b>15:25 – 15:50</b>	Domestic architecture, water installations and architectural decoration in the Andalusian neighbourhood of Almería (Spain) <i>Elena Salinas (Spanish National Research Council), Belén Alemán (Yacimiento Arqueológico Barrio Andalusí, Almería Council)</i>
<b>15.50 – 16.15</b>	The Umayyad palace garden at Medina Azahara <i>Dominik Lengyel (Brandenburg University of Technology)</i>
<b>16.15 – 16:35</b>	<u>Coffee Break</u>

### 7 November

#### **SESSION 5: Settlement Patterns and the Landscape**

Session Chair: *Alexandrine Guérin (Qatar Museums Authority)*

<b>08:30 – 08:55</b>	DCAA Archaeological Survey Works in Hatta (Dubai, the UAE). The Discovery of Late Islamic Period Sites <i>Hassan Zein, Mansour Boraik, Bader Al Ali (Dubai Culture &amp; Arts Authority)</i>
<b>08:55 – 09:20</b>	Landscape and Society in the Northwestern border of the Lleida District (8th–12th Centuries): An Archaeological Perspective <i>Raúl Muñoz Céspedes (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)</i>
<b>09:20 – 09:45</b>	Uncovering Middle to Late Islamic Evidence in the Northern Zagros: Insights into the Material Culture and Settlement Pattern in Soran Area – Iraqi Kurdistan. <i>Anna Bach (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Mustafa Ahmad (Goethe University Frankfurt), Jesús Brufal (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)</i>
<b>09:45 – 10:10</b>	Medieval and post-Medieval cultural landscapes in Nahla Valley (Northern Iraq) <i>Rafał Koliński (Adam Mickiewicz University)</i>

<b>10:10 – 10:30</b>	<u>Coffee Break</u>
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<b>10:30 – 10:55</b>	Springs, castles, settlements – Preliminary Results of a survey at the Abu Jir springs in the Western Desert of Iraq <i>Martin Gussone (Technical University of Berlin), Jaafar Jotheri (Qadisiyah University), Martina Müller-Wiener (Museum of Islamic Art, Berlin)</i>
<b>10:55 – 11:20</b>	Morphology of the Early to Middle Islamic-Period Agricultural Settlements in Iraqi Kurdistan: new results <i>Karel Nováček (Palacký University Olomouc)</i>
<b>11:20 – 11:45</b>	A preliminary look at the Islamic ceramics of the Nahla Valley, Northern Iraq / Iraqi-Kurdistan <i>Johannes Köhler (Museum of Islamic Art, Berlin)</i>
<b>11:45 – 12:10</b>	Sudiyer valley: a case study for the rural early Islamic sites from Central Arabia <i>Mohammed A. Alsubaie (Durham University, King Saud University)</i>
<b>12.10 – 12.35</b>	The Landscape of Marivan in the Islamic period <i>Hamzeh Mohammadpour (University of Tehran), Hassan Karimian (University of Tehran), Saeed Shirbandi (University of Tehran) Ali Behnia (Bu-Ali Sina University), Mohammad Masoomian (University of Tehran)</i>

<b>12:35 – 14:00</b>	<u>Lunch Break</u>
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### **SESSION 6: Marketplaces and Khans**

Session Chair: Rafał Koliński (Adam Mickiewicz University)

**14:00 – 14:25** Date presses of Al Zubarah  
*Ferhan Sakal (Qatar Museums Authority)*

**14:25 – 14:50** Tracing the Lost Souk of al-Uxbun  
*José Pedro Henriques (Cota 80.86, NOVA University Lisbon), Tiago Pereira (Cota 80.86), Catarina Parreira (Cota 80.86), Vanessa Filipe (Cota 80.86, NOVA University Lisbon)*

**14:50 – 15.15** The Archaeology of the Syrian Hajj in Central Jordan: New Evidence from Khirbat al-Balu'a  
*Ian W. N. Jones (New York University)*

**15:15 – 15.40** On the relationship between mosques and khan's (caravanserais): A new perspective to understanding settlement in Palestine's rural areas and the periphery during the Medieval Islamic period  
*Abd el -razeq Matani (ATIQ for Antiquities and Heritage)*

**15:40 – 16.00** Coffee Break

### **SESSION 7: Fortifications**

Session Chair: Ian W. N. Jones (New York University)

**16:00 – 16.25** Tabriz, Iran: The Great Tower of the fortress on the Rab'-e Rashidi site – an architectural import?  
*Christian Fuchs (Winterfuchs, German Archaeological Institute)*

**16:25 – 16.50** Living in Late Antique rural Sicily, between Byzantium and Islam: Preliminary results of the first season of excavation at Terravecchia di Caltavuturo (Palermo, Italy)  
*Nicolò Pini (Université libre de Bruxelles - CReA-Patrimoine/Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS)*

**16:50– 17.15** A Historical and Archaeological Perspective on the Evolution of Jeddah's Fortifications, Saudi Arabia  
*Otto Bagi (Jeddah Historic District), Karol Juchniewicz (Polish Academy of Sciences), Dan Socaciu (ArcheoConsultant), Ahmed Alfalah (Jeddah Historic District), Karol Ochnio (ArcheoConsultant), Andrea Titolo (ArcheoConsultant)*

**17:15 – 17.35** Coffee Break

### **SESSION 8: Mosques**

Session Chair: Hagit Nol (Goethe University Frankfurt)

**17.35 – 18:00** An early medieval rural mosque in the inland region of Málaga (Andalusia, Spain): recent archaeological research at the Cortijo de Las Mezquitas  
*Angelo Castrorao Barba (Spanish National Research Council ), Enrique Álvarez Areces (CN IGME, Spanish National Research Council ), Pedro Gurriarán Daza (Yamur S. L.), Jesús Lorenzo Jiménez (UPV-EHU), Francisco Melero García (Aratispi*

*Patrimonio S.L.), Jose Ignacio Murillo Fragero (Spanish National Research Council ), María de los Ángeles Utrero Agudo (Spanish National Research Council )*

**18:00 – 18:25** Reshaping Fener's Sacred Landscape: Islamic Conversions and Urban Transformation in the Ottoman Capital  
*Rahime Aksa Boyraz (Free University of Berlin)*

**20:00** Speakers' Dinner

### **8 November**

**09:00 – 10:30** ***Workshop: Early Islamic Ceramics in Arabia: A Field in Transition***

*Convenor and speaker: Maria Gajewska (Department of Culture and Tourism Abu Dhabi)*  
*Speakers: Mustafa Ahmad (Goethe University Frankfurt), Robert Carter (Qatar Museums Authority), Rémi Perrogon (Aix-Marseille University)*  
*Discussants: Alexandrine Guérin (Qatar Museums Authority)*

**10:30 – 10:50** Coffee Break

### ***SESSION 9: Objects, Usage, and Production***

Session Chair: Jeyhun Eminli (Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences)

**10:50 – 11:15** The Sasanian incantation bowls and their early Islamic contexts  
*Hagit Nol (Goethe University Frankfurt)*

**11:15 – 11:40** Stone Tools and Rural Life on the Desert's Edge: Insights into Early Islamic Agricultural Communities in the Southern Levant  
*Yael Abadi-Reiss (Israel Antiquities Authority)*

**11:40 – 12:05** Networks and Ceramic Production between the 9th and 11th Centuries: A Comparative Study in the Kūra of Ilbīra (Southeast Iberian Peninsula)  
*Cristina Martínez-Álvarez (Polish Academy of Sciences)*

**12:05 – 12:30** Mamluk glassmaker's furnace and glass bracelets from 14th century Cairo  
*Tanja Tolar (Independent scholar), Stephane Pradines (Aga Khan University, London)*

**12:30 – 14:25** Lunch Break

**14:25 – 14:45** Coffee Time

**14:45 – 16.10** General Assembly