

## Middle Eastern Studies Report:

### 1. British and Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES):

The 2022 BRISMES Annual Conference was hosted by the Institute of the Middle East, Central Asia and Caucasus Studies (MECACS) at the University of St Andrews in Scotland, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July. *Exploring and Contesting the (re)production of coloniality in the Middle East: Borders, Transnationalism, and Resistance* is the main theme of the conference.

Further information on the conference can be found at: <https://www.brismes.ac.uk/conference/past-conferences/2022-conference>

Professor Amira K. Bennison (University of Cambridge) delivered the 2022 BRISMES Keynote Lecture1 entitled **Appropriation, Resistance and the Idea of the Moroccan Centre in the Medieval Maghribi Imaginary**.

The lecture took place on MON 4TH JULY: 16-15 - 17:45 and was Chaired by Dr Fiona McCallum Guiney, University of St Andrews.

Dr Heba Raouf Ezzat (Ibn Haldun University, Istanbul) delivered the 2022 BRISMES Keynote Lecture2 **Beyond Orders and Borders: The Refiguration of the Urban Spaces of the Middle East**

The lecture took place on TUE 5TH JULY: 11:30 - 13:00 and was Chaired by Dr Malaka Shwaikh, University of St Andrews.

Professor Raymond Hinnebusch (University of St Andrews) delivered the 2022 BRISMES Keynote Lecture3 entitled **From Proxy War to Sanctions War: The Later Phases of the Syrian Conflict**

The lecture took place on WED 6TH JULY: 14:30 - 16:00 and was Chaired by Dr Jasmine Gani, University of St Andrews.

Professor Nadjie Al-Ali will give the 2022 BRISMES Annual Lecture online from 17:30-19:00 (GMT) on 17th November 2022 . The title of the lecture will be **Feminist Dilemmas and Ambivalences: Gendered and queer perspectives on the Middle East**. The lecture will be chaired by Dr Paola Rivetti. It provides an opportunity for members and non-members to hear from a distinguished scholar or expert within the field of Middle Eastern Studies and is a major event in the BRISMES calendar. The lecture is free to attend and open to all, but registration is essential.

Further details on the annual lecture and registration can be found at the following link:

<https://www.brismes.ac.uk/events/annual-lecture/2022>

BRISMES is organising an online research development seminar on **'Rethinking the Empirical Reality of Statehood in the MENA Region'** on 23rd November 2022, 16:00-18:00 (GMT)

More info and registration: <https://bit.ly/3TO1ihj>

The next Annual BRISMES Conference will be hosted by the University of Exeter 3–5 July 2023.

The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies and the University of Exeter invite proposals for the 2023 Annual BRISMES Conference on the theme of **Ecology, Crisis, and Power in the Middle East**.

## 2. British Association of Teachers of Arabic (BATA)

### BATA series of webinars:

BATA launched a series of webinars in 2022 to give colleagues in the field of teaching Arabic Language, Linguistics, Literature, Culture and Translation the opportunity to share, promote and disseminate best practices and resources across the wide network of teachers in the UK and abroad.

Dr Ruba Khamam, University of Leeds delivered the latest BATA webinar on 16th March 2022. The webinar's title was **Implementing vocabulary acquisition approaches and effective strategies to improve Arabic learners' writing proficiency**.

Further information on the series of webinars can be found at the following link: <https://britisharabicteaching.org/bata-webinars/>

**Supporting Arabic language teachers:** As reported in April, BATA continued to build and develop its resource pack to help and support colleagues in the field and can be found at the following link: <https://britisharabicteaching.org/textbooks-materials-and-recordings/>

**BATA 2022 International Conference** was held at the University of Westminster, from 30<sup>th</sup> June until 1<sup>st</sup> July. The conference was very well attended and over 80 scholars from 60 institutions in 23 countries presented their work at the conference. Further information on the Conference programme can be found at: <https://britisharabicteaching.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2022/06/BATA-2022-Final-Conference-Programme-Final.pdf>

Professor Yasir Suleiman (University of Cambridge) delivered BATA's first keynote lecture entitled **Speaking of Arabic: Arab Linguistics and Arabic Linguistics Revisited**.

Professor Brahim Chakrani (Middlebury College and Michigan State University)

delivered BATA's second keynote lecture entitled **Challenges and Prospects to Teaching Arabic as a Heritage Language**.

2023 BATA 3rd Annual International Conference will be hosted by the University of Manchester, 29th - 30th June 2023 and the call for abstracts is now open. Details of the conference themes and submission guidelines can be found in the following link: <https://britisharabicteaching.org/bata-conference-2023-2/>

Ruba Khamam, University of Leeds

Middle Eastern Studies Representative

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