The 56th Seminar for Arabian Studies

Draft Program (subject to change)
Updated 30. June 2023

Day 1 (Aug. 4th) Moesgaard Museum (NEW building - Moesgaard Allé 15)

Main Auditorium Session 1 (12 paper + 1 key note)
8:00 - 8:50 Registration
9:00 - 9:25 Welcome/Practicalities/Opening address(s)

Session 1:  Early Bronze Age on Oman Peninsula I
9:25  Eli Dollarhide: Beyond the Oasis: Three Seasons of Landscape Archaeology at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bat, Oman
9:50  Jonas Kluge: Closing the gap: Survey and Excavation at Ibra, Sultanate of Oman
10:15 Ali Al Meqbali et al.: Archaeological Excavations at Umm an-Nar Island 1959-2022
10:40 Break (30 min)
11:10 Maurizio Cattani et al.: Chronological sequence and regional variants in Early 3rd mill. BCE (EBA1) tombs: the case study of Ras al-Hadd and Ras al-Jins (Eastern Sharqiyyah, Sultanate of Oman)
11:35 Olivia Munoz et al.: Evolution of the funerary landscape and mortuary practices in the Hajar foothills during the Early Bronze Age: the case of the Bisya region (Sultanate of Oman)”
12:00 Lunch (60 min)

Session 2:  Early Bronze Age on Oman Peninsula II
13:00 Mathilde Jean et al.: The Umm an-Nar period at Bisya from the regional to the settlement scale: results from 2022-2023 survey and excavations of the French archaeological mission in Central Oman (FAMCO)
13:25 Eric Staples et al.: Zayed National Museum Bronze Age Ship Project
13:50 Lucas Proctor et al.: Hafit Period fuelwood preferences associated with early copper production at Building V, Al-Khashbah, Oman
14:15 Akshyeta Suryanarayan et al.: Meat, milk and ‘invisible’ organic products in pottery: results of ceramic lipid residue analysis of vessels from Bronze Age sites in SE Arabia
14:40 Taichi Kuronuma et al.: Mortuary archaeological landscapes and their background at the canyon of Al-Hajar mountains: Results of surveys in the Tanūf District 2022-2023
15:05 Break (15 min)
15:20 Corinne Castel et al.: Main results of the Bat/al-Arid archaeological mission after two news years of exploration (ad-Dakhiliyyah governorate, Oman)
15:45 Tara Beuzen-Waller et al.: Can Early Bronze age ditches be used to study local water resource and palaeoenvironment? First results from the excavation of three ditches in Al Khashbah (Northern Oman).
16:10 Intermission
16:15 Keynote Address by Professor Adrian G. Parker
Arabian Palaeoenvironments and climate change during the Arabian Bronze Age (3500-1000 BC)
17:15 Wine “Carlsberg Beer” Party - Meet the Pioneers (2.5 hours)
19:40 End of Vine Party. Public Bus no.18 (320 m walk), leaves 19:59
20:00 Moesgaard is locked up by security.
Day 2 (Aug. 5th) Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus building 1441

8:00 - 8:50 Registration

Auditorium 1

Special session Bronze Age - 70 years on....

What we have learned, and what we still don’t know

9:00 Introduction (Steffen T. Laursen)
9:10 Marta Luciani: The walled ‘urban’ oases "Culture" in Northwest Arabia: 4th to 2nd millennium BCE
9:35 Questions
9:45 Arnulf Hausleiter: The Bronze Age in Northwest Arabia - A view from Tayma
10:10 Questions
10:20 Break (20 min)
10:40 Michael Harrower: Bronze Age Societies of Yemen and Dhofar
11:05 Questions
11:15 Olivia Munoz: The pan-Arabian c. 3000 BC monumental tumuli complex
11:40 Questions
11:50 Lunch (50 min)
12:40 Nasser Al-Jahwari, K. Douglas & M. Hesein: Early Bronze of SE Arabia - origins and evolutions focused on the Hafit to Umm an-Nar transition
13:05 Questions
13:15 Stephanie Döppper: The Umm an-Nar to Wadi Suq Transition as seen from Oman
13:40 Questions
13:50 Michel de Vreeze: What is this thing called ‘Wadi Suq’. A view from the Northern Emirates
14:15 Questions
14:25 Lloyd Weeks: Bronze Age Metal Exchange in the Greater Persian Gulf region
14:50 Questions
15:00 Break (20 min)
15:20 Dennys Frenez & Akinori Uesugi: Beyond Trade: The Intricacies of Indus Civilization Interplay with Dilmun during the Bronze Age
15:45 Questions
15:55 Steffen Laursen: Dilmun’s - Cultural & Economic Boom
16:20 Questions
16:30 Panel’s Remarks (Felix Riede, Robert Carter, Derek Kennet, Peter Magee, & Adrian Parker).
16:40 Break (10 min)
16:50 Panel’s Discussion with speakers Felix Riede, Robert Carter, Derek Kennet, Peter Magee, & Adrian Parker).
17:40 Concluding remarks Steffen T. Laursen
17:45 End of Special Session
Day 2 (Aug. 5th) Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus building 1441

Doors are opened at 7:30 and locked at 18:00.

Auditorium 2

Session: Islamic period I

9:00 Amir Zaribaf et al: Socio-political factors in the outset of large-scale copper production in Early Islamic Oman

9:25 Timothy Power et al: The Second Season of the Siniya Island Archaeological Project: The Late Antique Monastery and Associated Settlement

9:50 Robert Carter et al: Investigation of Two Early Islamic Period Sites in Qatar

10:15 Jose C. Carvajal Lopez: The ceramics of Yughbi (Qatar), one of the earliest Islamic sites of the Gulf

10:40 Break (25 min)

11:05 Seth Priestman et al: The Medieval Port of Sohar in the Indian Ocean World

11:30 Mustafa Ahmad et al: Qurh / al-Mabiyat: New Insights into a Hijazite Town during the Early – Middle Islamic Period

11:55 Alexandre Monteiro et al: Pearls, Spices and Trade: the Underwater Cultural Heritage Potential of the United Arab Emirates as told by the Archives and Maritime Archaeological Research

12:20 Lunch (50 min)

Session: Islamic period II

13:10 Alexandrine Guerin: The discovery of the Murwab site by the Danish Expedition 1959 - Update of results, material culture and architecture, end of 8th to end of 9th century, Qatar


14:00 Vladimir Dabrowski et al: Rice meals, suckling lambs and tuna steak in the medieval Islamic Oman: Archaeobiological analyses on the domestic building (B94) of the harbour city of Qalhät (Oman, 13th-16th c. CE)

14:25 Alexia Rosak et al: The qanats of al-Mabiyat (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia): mapping and investigating an abandoned waterscape around the Abbasid city of al-Qurh

15:00 Martina Renzi et al: Preliminary results of the first investigation campaign of a palatial complex in the World Heritage Site of At-Turaf District in Diriyah (Riyadh, KSA)

15:25 Break (20 min)

15:45 Irini Biezevald: Traditional villages in central Oman: New views on the emergence and decline of 17th-20th century sites

16:10 Michela Gaudiello et al: The Islamic mining settlement of al-Ṣalaylī: results of the first excavation season

16:35 Karol Juchniewicz & Agnieszka Lic: Recent research at the Early Islamic site of Jumeirah, Dubai

17:00 Saeed Alahmari et al: ‘Islamic’ Burials and the Ethical Treatment of Human Remains in AlUla

17:25 End
Day 2 (Aug. 5th) Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus building 1441

Classroom 110 (60 seats) (10 papers)

Session  

9:00  Helen Canaud & Apolline Vernet: Behind the camera, photographic approaches through the archives fund of AlUla Old Town

9:25  Awet Teklehimanot: Reflections on the representation ‘Africans’ in Bahrain in drawing collections of C. D. Belgrave

9:50  Beth Derderian: Displaying Arabia Felix: The Phillips and Foster Collections in Defining Arabian Archaeology and History in American Museums

10:15  Amber Zambelli: Encountering Wendell Phillips in the archives: observations on the American Foundation for the Study of Man’s place in the history of Arabian archaeology.

10:40  Break (25 min)

11:05  Rizvan PS: Transoceanic Connections of Early Historic Tamilakam and the Arabian Peninsula

11:30  Shaima Sherif: Behind the loom: An ethnographic study of the reconstitution of al-Sadu in Qatar

11:55  Hafis C: Aden and Malabar: Trade and religious network between an Arabian port and Malabar coast

12:20  Lunch (50 min)

13:10  Mohamed Hesein et al: Urban Change-Related Risks to Built Heritage in Muscat Governorate, Sultanate of Oman

13:35  Norbert Weismann: The significance of the shāsha on the Batinah Coast, Oman.

14:00  End
Day 3 (Aug. 6th) Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus building 1441

8:00 - 8:50 Registration

**Auditorium 1**

**Session**  
**Iron Age and beyond**

9:00  
**Maria Paola Pellegrino et al:** Five thousand years of human occupation in the Al-Ula valley: study of the pottery collected by the Al-Ulla Cultural Oasis Project

9:25  
**Paige Paulsen et al:** Social relations and lived experience at small mountain villages in Iron Age Oman.

9:50  
**Sebastiano Lora et al:** The urban sanctuary of Dhū Ghābat at Dadan

10:15  
**Silvia Lischi:** The Dhofar Coastal Culture (DCC): A New Player in the Historical Scenario of Iron Age Dhofar

10:40  
**Poster Session / Break (25 min)**

11:05  
**Piotr Bielinski & Materusz Iskra:** The core of an Iron Age II settlement in the mountains of Northern Oman. Omani-Polish investigations of QA 20 site near Ayn Bani Saydah - 2022.

11:30  
**Stephanie Black and Derek Kennet:** Iron Age settlement in the Rustaq area

11:55  
**Romolo Loreto:** Dūmat al-Jandal, a north Arabian oasis from the Assyrian period to the advent of Islam. Results and perspectives after field and remote seasons 2019-2022

12:20  
**Lunch (50 min)**

13:10  
**Juan de Lara:** The marzeah of Qaryat Al Faw? The Third-Century CE Frescoes and their Egyptian connections

13:35  
**Marie Laguardia:** New data on the Necropolis of Thaj: Evolution of the Funerary Architecture

14:00  
**Asterios Kechagias:** The Indian Origin of Ancient Ethiopians and Southern Arabs: Between Confusion and History

14:25  
**Julian Jansen van Rensburg et al:** Site Distribution and the Longue Durée in NEOM, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from the Paleolithic to the Late Islamic Period

14:50  
**Hugh Thomas et al:** New Life to Structures of Death: The Reuse of Monumental Bronze Age Tombs in Northwest Saudi Arabia

15:15  
**Break (20 min)**

15:35  
**Peter Sheehan et al:** Aflaj Discoveries in al-‘Ayn – exploring and documenting the network of shafts and tunnels recently revealed below the streets of the modern city

16:00  
**Aaron Koller:** State formation, the transfer of writing, and trans-Arabian trade in the early Iron Age

16:25  
**Discussion**

16:50  
**End**
Day 3 (Aug. 6th) Tåsingegade 3, 8000 Aarhus building 1441

Auditorium 2

Session  Epigraphy & Text
9:00  Peter Stein: South Arabian documentation on wooden sticks: A résumé fifty years after discovery
9:25  Anne Multhoff & Friedrich Schiller: The ‘al-ʿUqla texts’ revisited
9:50  Asmahan Al -Garoo: Epigraphy of Oman: A New discovery
10:15  Ferhan Sakal: A Review of the Rock Art in Qatar
10:40  Poster Session / Break (25 min)
11:05  Mohammed A. Atbuosh: The Quranic ‘Abb’, as a south Arabian magical formula

Session  Stone Age and Prehistory
11:30  Eleanor Preston: The Ubaid in the Gulf: Interaction over land and sea (6th-5th millennium BCE)
12:20  Lunch (50 min)
13:35  Matthew Dalton et al: Largescale prehistoric landscape modification in the Arabian Peninsula and Levant: stone clearance mounds of the harrat
14:00  Alzbeta Danielisova et al: Unique megalithic grave in Nafūn (al-Wustā Governorate, south-central Oman) as a reflection of the collective identities in the Neolithic period
14:25  Maria Pia Maiorano et al: The Early to Mid-Holocene geoarchaeological landscape of Shaqat and Urq Jadailah (Southern Rub al Khali, Sultanate of Oman)

Session  Dilmun
14:50  Masashi Abe et al: The 7th Season of Excavations at Wadi al Sail, Bahrain: Subadult Burials during Early Dilmun Period
15:15  Break (20 min)
15:35  Ann Andersson: Interregional contacts of Bronze Age Failaka Island: A Perspective from the Bead Assemblage of the Danish 1958-1963 Excavations
16:00  Helene David-Cuny & Denny Frenez: Dilmun-inspired seals from the Oman Peninsula: Hints of a local seal production driven by cross-cultural interaction?
16:25  Caitlin Bonham Smith & Judith Littleton: Subsistence in the Land of the Two Seas
16:50  End