

**The Jews of Iraq – Engagement with modernities  
Conference 16-18 September 2019 at SOAS, London**

Organised by the British Institute for the Study of Iraq in collaboration with  
The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago and the Department of History,  
Religions and Philosophies and the London Middle East Institute at SOAS

**Day 1 – Monday, 16 September 2019**

13.00. – 13. 45	<b>Registration</b>
14.0	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>
14.00 – 16.00	<b>Memoires, Memories and Personal Histories: Moderator – Ella Shohat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Avi Shlaim (Chair)</li><li>• David Basson</li><li>• Linda Abdulaziz Menuhin</li><li>• Sami Zubaida</li></ul>
16.00 – 16.30	<b>Tea/Coffee break</b>
16.30 – 17.30	<b>Panel Discussion and Q &amp; A</b>
18.00 – 19.30	<b>Conference Reception at SOAS</b>

**Day 2 – Tuesday, 17 September 2019**

8.30 – 9.00	<b>Registration</b>
9.00 – 9.30	<b>Historical Overview – Zvi Ben-Dor Benite &amp; Orit Bashkin</b>
9.30 – 11.00	<b>Panel 1: Jews in Iraqi Society; sociological and cultural aspects Chair: Orit Bashkin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge – <i>The Aramaic-speaking Jewish communities of Northern Iraq</i></li><li>• Sarah Farhan, Department of History, York University, Canada – <i>Jewish Medical Professionals in Hashemite Iraq: The Making and Unmaking of State-Intermediaries</i></li><li>• Pelle Valentin Olsen, University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations – <i>Iraqi Jews and the Production and Consumption of Leisure</i></li></ul>
11.00 – 11.30	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>
11.30 – 13.30	<b>Panel 2: Ottoman Iraq and its Jews – Early experiments with modernity Chair: Zvi Ben Dor Benite</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annie Green, University of Pennsylvania – <i>Political Roots of an Iraqi Statesman: The Ottoman Deputy Sassoon Efendi Hesqel</i></li><li>• Lital Levy, Princeton University – <i>Literary Translation and Iraqi Jewish Modernity: The Case of fin-de-siècle Judeo-Arabic Fiction</i></li><li>• Mazen Latif, Editor in chief of <i>Nahraya</i> – <i>The role of Iraqi Jews in the Iraqi journalism</i></li><li>• Yuval Evri, SOAS – <i>Between Al-Andalus and Baghdad: Tracing Iraqi-Jewish Literary Visions in the Turn of the Twentieth Century</i></li></ul>
13.30 – 14.30	<b>LUNCH</b>

14.30 – 16.30

**Panel 3: The Hashemite period: New roles for Iraqi Jews**

**Chair: Joseph Sassoon**

- Emile Cohen, independent researcher – *Iraqi Jewish education and impact on Iraqi Society*
- Hanaw Mohammed Taqi Mohammed Amin – *Urban Jewish Cultural Heritage*
- Sasha R. Goldstein-Sabbah, Leiden University – *Baghdadi Transnational Networks in the Hashemite Period*
- Khalidah Hatem (Fine Arts Institute Baghdad) – *The role of Al-Hasid newspaper in refining the cultural awareness in Iraqi community : A Study investigating woman's issues*

16.45

**Film screening – Remember Baghdad**

**DAY 3 – Wednesday, 18 September 2019**

9.15 – 11.15

**Panel 4: Music, Cinema, and Performance: Cultural Considerations**

**Chair: Ella Shohat**

- Dafna Dori, Uppsala University – *Ṣāliḥ al-Kuwaytī as a modern Iraqi composer*
- Liliana Carrizo, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - *Jewish participation in Iraqi society from a musical perspective*
- Sara Manasseh – *Musical Life in Baghdad c. 1920–1950: Changing Attitudes towards Iraqi Jewish – Women as Performers and Participants*
- Yaron Shemer – *Home, Nostalgia, and Post-Memory in the Films of Second and Third Generation Iraqi-Jewish Immigrants*

11.15 – 11.45

**Tea/Coffee**

11.45 – 13.15

**Panel 5: Representing the Past: Archival, Literary and Culinary Dimensions**

**Chairs: Joseph Sassoon & Ella Shohat**

- Daniel Monterescu, Central European University, & Joel R Hart, Oxford University – *The Diasporic Social Life of Amba: Culinary Schismogenesis Among Iraqi Jews in London and Israel*
- Hana Morgenstern, Cambridge University – *Fire in the Camp: Committed Arab Literature and the Transit Camp Narratives*
- Sigal Goorgi, Ben-Gurion University – *The Culture and the Identity of the Iraqi Jews as reflected in their literary works*

13.15 – 14.30

**LUNCH**

14.30 – 16.30

**Panel 6: Painful dislocation and exile and future**

**Chair: Zvi Ben-Dor Benite**

- Khairuldeen Al Makhzoomi, Georgetown University – *The Forgotten Minorities: The History of Iraqi Jews from 1948-1971*
- Gadi Algazi, Tel Aviv University – *Protest on the Frontier: Iraqi Jews in an Israeli Transit Camp (1951–1952)*
- Ronen Zeidel, The Moshe Dayan Center for ME studies, Tel Aviv University – *“Where are the Iraqi Jews ?”: Difficulties in Communication Between the Second Generation of Iraqi Jews in Israel and Non Jewish Iraqis*
- Sa’ad Salloum, College of Political Sciences of Mustansiriya University, Baghdad – *Is there any future for the existence of Jewish Minority in Iraq?*

16.30 – 16.45

**Break**

16.45 – 17.30

**Closing Panel – Orit Bashkin, Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, and Ella Shohat and**

**Chair: Avi Shlaim**