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**Nahrein –BISI Scholarships Scheme**

Application Form

The Visiting Scholarships Scheme enables academics, PhD students, cultural heritage professionals, and NGO workers to visit to conduct research at a UK host institution for 1-2 months on the sustainable development of cultural heritage. Scholarships may involve travel to the UK or be undertaken online in Iraq, via Zoom or other technologies. This is a programme managed jointly withthe British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI).

**Eligibility Advice**

* You cannot normally be a previous recipient of a Nahrein Network or BISI Visiting Scholarship.
* You should be a resident of Iraq (including KRI) though we may consider exceptions.
* We may ask you to take an English language test because a working-level of English language is needed in order to benefit from the scholarship.
* The Scholarship Scheme funds research related activity and not the restoration or conservations of buildings sites or collections, or archaeological digs. Nor can we fund work that directly involves children. The scholarship is designed to support the intellectual aspects of cultural heritage in the sustainable development of Iraq.
* Applications without a UK host will not be considered.

1. **Applicant details**

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| --- | --- |
| Title of project | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Type of scholarship | Tick the one that applies:  Travel to UK  Online in Iraq  ☐ Both |
| Full name | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Occupation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Academic or organisational affiliation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email address | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Contact phone number | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Will you need to apply for a UK visa?  (*NB your answer to this question will not affect your application but will help us to administer successful awards.*) | Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **Current employer/university**

Your current employer (or university if you are a PhD student) must send us a letter or email (in English, Arabic or a Kurdish language) giving you permission in principle to apply for this scholarship and permission to take leave if this scholarship is awarded.

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| --- | --- |
| Name of current employer/university | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Address of current employer/university | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Do you have permission from your current employer/university to take up this scholarship if offered to you? | Tick the one that applies  Yes  No |

1. **UK Host Institution**

You are encouraged to contact a suitable UK Host Institution to discuss your research proposal before submitting this application. Your UK host must issue you a letter or send a formal email to you confirming their invitation for the proposed project and timeline. **A copy of this letter/email should be added as an appendix to your application PDF.** You may use the ‘Example of letter to UK Host Institution’ attached in this application. The Nahrein Network will assist you in this process if you ask us **at least three weeks before** the deadline.

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| --- | --- |
| Name of UK host | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Address of Host Institution | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Preferred dates of taking up scholarship if awarded | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Length of time needed to complete your project (up to eight weeks maximum) | Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **Network aims**

The Visiting Scholarships Scheme is intended to strengthen research capacity in cultural heritage, history and the humanities and their role in the sustainable development of Iraq, We particularly encourage projects that relate to UNESCO Iraq’s “Revive the Spirit of Mosul” initiative. In all fields, we seek to support research applications of the highest quality and standards that will lead to significant advances in creativity, insights, knowledge and understanding. They must be of interest and value both to the research community and in wider contexts where they can help to achieve the Network’s aims.

Research projects should be designed to fulfil **at least one** of the Network’s aims. Please read the following descriptors carefully and tick those that apply (which been aligned with the [**UN’s sustainable development goals**](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) **- SDG**):

1. *To better understand the current situation* We aim to develop a fuller historical understanding of the current exclusion of local experts and audiences from the production and consumption of knowledge about the past of Iraq and its neighbours. ☐

2. *To raise the profile of local expertise* We aim to support Iraqi humanities academics and heritage professionals to re-engage with regional and global academic communities, as producers of research for international consumption. Cf SDG 10: Reduced inequalities☐

3. *To improve the job prospects of the region's youth* We aim to improve employability and leadership potential for humanities graduates from Iraqi universities. Cf SDG 4: Quality education☐

4. *To help heritage organisations better serve local needs* We aim to enable Iraqi museums, archives, cultural heritage sites and NGOs to contribute to and diversify local tourism and knowledge economies. Cf SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth☐

5. *To aid post-conflict healing and reconciliation* We aim to develop the role of Iraqi history and heritage in repairing past injustices, and in building inclusive communities and a fairer, more cohesive society. Cf SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions☐

6. *To address Iraq’s climate emergency* We aim to foster an integrated, holistic approach to heritage and the environment, in order to mitigate against the effects of impending natural disaster*.* Cf SDG 13: Climate action☐

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| 1. **Summary Curriculum Vitae**     Please provide a summary of your Curriculum Vitae using the table below. This should not be more than one page.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Education  Please state your academic qualifications and dates of completion | Click or tap here to enter text. | | Employment history | Click or tap here to enter text. | | Academic/professional responsibilities | Click or tap here to enter text. | | Any relevant research grants | Click or tap here to enter text. | | Key publications/research outputs over the last five years | Click or tap here to enter text. |  1. **Details of project proposal (500-1,000 words)**   Please describe your proposed project in no more than 500 - 1,000 words. You may use images or infographics. You should explain:   * 1. What work you want to do?  |  | | --- | |  |  * 1. Why you think that this work is important?  |  | | --- | | Click or tap here to enter text. |  * 1. Why you are qualified to do this work and/or what new skills you want to acquire to do it?  |  | | --- | |  |  * 1. EITHER Why you need to visit your host in the United Kingdom to do this work;  OR how you will be able to complete this project online from Iraq?  |  | | --- | |  |  * 1. What resources will you need to do this work?  |  | | --- | |  |  * 1. Please include a simple timetable for this work (including no more than 8 weeks in the UK).  |  | | --- | |  |  1. **Please describe previous work done on your research project.**  * Briefly detail any activities pertaining to your proposed research idea and project, including work completed in the past.   Click or tap here to enter text.   1. **Please describe your proposed output(s) in no more than 200 words**   This is an important part of your application. You should explain what specific outputs and results you expect to achieve and how it will benefit your work in your home country. An output can be in any reasonable form.  For example, a short research article, a video, podcast, a public talk, draft grant proposal, a contribution to the host institution’s collections catalogue or exhibition, etc. Formal outputs may be in any combination of appropriate languages.  Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Assessment Criteria**

Applications will be assessed in accordance with the following criteria:

* Whether the work is important
* Qualifications and experience of the applicant to produce research
* The quality of the proposed research
* Whether the timetable is realistic for this work
* The appropriateness of the UK host
* How well it meets the Nahrein Network’s five aims
* Whether the proposed outputs are appropriate and manageable

**Terms and Conditions**

* We cannot guarantee that your application will be successful, even if we have provided support in preparing it. However, if your application is unsuccessful, we can offer feedback and you may re-apply for the following deadline. In the case of rejection, partner institution will consider offering applicants a scholarship.
* If you are awarded a scholarship, we will send you a Letter of Award and Visiting Scholars Agreement Form. You must sign and return the Agreement Form in order to be awarded the Scholarship.
* You will need to take up the scholarship within 12 months of the offer being made.
* The application process is administered by UCL on behalf of the Nahrein Network. The grant is awarded and administered by the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI).
* Once the Award Letter is signed and returned, BISI will offer advice on obtaining visas, travel and accommodation.
* The Nahrein Network and BISI reserve the right to withdraw any scholarship offered.
* We may get in touch with you by phone or online voice call to discuss your application.

**Equal Opportunities**

The Nahrein Network and partner institutions are committed to eliminating unlawful discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and good relations across and between the defined equalities groups in all of their relevant functions. Accordingly, no eligible scholarship applicant should receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of: gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender re-assignment, race, colour, nationality, ethnicity or national origins, religion or similar philosophical belief, spent criminal conviction, age or disability. Equally, all applications will be assessed on equal terms, regardless of the sex, age and/or ethnicity of the applicant. Applications will therefore be assessed and graded on their merits, in accordance with the criteria and the aims and objectives of the Nahrein Network and partner institutions.

**Submission**

Deadlines are 15 February and 15 August annually.

1.Fill in your application

2. Make sure you have the letter of permission from your home institution

3. Make sure you have the letter of invite from your host institution

4. Run through the Submission checklist- Do you have all that is needed?

5. Convert all three documents into one PDF document. Name your file in format *applicantname\_homeinstitutionname.pdf*

5. Go to <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/dropbox/>

6. On the first page, choose 'Drop Off'

7. On the second page, under 'From:', add your name and email address

8. On the second page, under 'To;', add **Nahrein** and [nahrein@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:nahrein@ucl.ac.uk)

9. Choose your file to upload and add a short description

10. Choose 'Upload all files'

We will tell you the result of your application within one month of the closing date.

**Data Protection**

Consent for UCL to process personal data

UCL is required by law to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). It is the commitment of UCL to ensure that it complies with this Act to ensure the confidentiality of any personal data held by UCL, in whatever medium. Accordingly, UCL has a data protection policyas a commitment to the safeguarding of personal data processed by its staff and students, and to ensure compliance with the GDPR:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/informationsecurity/policy/public-policy/data-protection-policy.pdf>

Please note: The application form and personal data relating to unsuccessful applications will be deleted within six months of the submission deadline.

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| **Applicant’s Statement**  I agree that:   * I have read and understood the notes written above. * I consent to the processing of my personal information for the purposes of this research grant application. * I understand that such information will be treated as strictly confidential and handled in accordance with the   provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (2018). |
| **Signature**: (please insert an image in the field below) **Date:** Click or tap to enter a date. |
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**Please state how you heard of the Joint Visiting Scholarship Scheme:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

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**Example of Letter to UK Host Institution**

Applicants can adapt the following letter to contact a UK Host Institution:

Dear XX

I am writing to you to enquire about your possible interest in supporting a Joint Visiting Scholarship application to the Nahrein Network.

The title of my research is XX and I am interested in your supervisory support as a UK host to support my application. I am a researcher/PhD student/cultural heritage professional at XX.

The aim of my visit to the UK/online placement would be to carry out research into XX. I attach a detailed proposal to this email.

The Visiting Scholarship Scheme will cover the costs of travel and accommodation (for UK placements only) and other associated expenses.

You can read more about the Visiting Scholarships Scheme via [www.ucl.ac.uk/nahrein](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/nahrein)

If you do decide to offer to act as host, I will require it in writing, either as an email or a letter, to attach to my application.

I very much look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours,

**Submission Checklist**

This page is a checklist for you to ensure that your application is complete before submission. Please tick all boxes before submitting your application.

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| --- |
| I have completed all the questions |
| My contact details are correct |
| My employer/university **has provided me with a letter** allowing me to take leave if awarded the scholarship and it is attached to my application or will be uploaded to the Nahrein dropbox |
| My UK Host **has provided me with a letter** of invitation and this is attached to my application or will be uploaded to the Nahrein dropbox |
| The dates I am proposing are no longer than eight weeks |
| I have marked at least one X to show my proposal meets at least one aim of the Nahrein Network |
| I have signed and dated the application form, and read the data protection statement |