Day 1: Thursday 27 November

09.00        Registration
             Pre-conference registration and payment is greatly preferred.
             Please use the booking form at www.societyforarabianstudies.org/dbconf08.shtml

**Session 1: Introduction and Neolithic Arabia**

09.45        Timothy Taylor, University of Bradford
             Materiality and the soul: challenges for the archaeology of death

10.15        Vincent Charpentier, CNRS, Paris, and Philippe Charlier, Hôpital Raymond Poincaré
             Garches, Paris
             First evidence of necrophobia in Neolithic Arabia

10.40        Adelina Kutterer, University of Tübingen
             Remarks on Neolithic burials in SE Arabia

11.05        Roland de Beauclair, University of Tübingen
             Seashells in the desert: burial practices at the Neolithic graveyard of al-Buhais 18, UAE

11.30        Coffee

**Session 2: Bronze Age South-Eastern Arabia**

12.00        Sophie Méry, CNRS, Nanterre, and Julio Bendezu Sarmiento, UMR GREMMO-Lyon
             Results, limits and potential: burial practices and Neolithic and Early Bronze Age
             societies in the Oman Peninsula

12.25        Kath McSweeney, University of Edinburgh, Sophie Méry, CNRS, Nanterre, and Walid
             Yasin al Tikriti, Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage
             Life and death in an Early Bronze Age community from Hili, Abu Dhabi Emirate, UAE

12.50        Eugenio Bortolini and Maurizio Tosi, University of Bologna
             Prehistoric burial cairns and control of passage in Early Bronze Age Oman: The oasis
             of Zukayt (Ad Dakhiliyah, northern Oman)

13.15        Lunch

**Session 3: Bronze Age to Iron Age South-Eastern Arabia**

14.00        Daniel Potts, University of Sydney
The late Umm an-Nar period tomb at Tell Abraq, Sharjah Emirate, UAE

14.25  Debra Martin, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Patterns of mortality and morbidity in the commingled tomb from Tell Abraq

14.50  Christian Velde, National Museum of Ra’s al-Khaimah
Wadi Suq period tombs in SE Arabia

15.15  Crystal Fritz, Bryn Mawr College
Ceramic remains from the Iron Age II burials in the Wadi al Qawr: investigating burial practices and status differentiation

15.40  Coffee

Session 4: Bronze Age South-Western Arabia and Adjacent Regions

16.10  Tara Steimer-Herbet, Institut Français du Proche Orient, Damascus
Megalithic societies: funerary and cultic aspects in Arabia and the southern Levant of the 4th and 3rd millennia BC

16.35  Jennie Bradbury, Durham University
Mobility, territoriality and mortuary ritual: The role of cairn burials within the Levant and Arabia during the 4th/3rd millennium

17.00  Joy McCorriston, Ohio State University, Prem Goel, Dorota Bzezinska, Michael Harrower, Tara Steimer-Herbet, Jacob Reidhead, Jihye Park, Matthew Senn, Eric Oches, and Kimberly Williams
Monuments, territories, ancestors, tribes: reconstructing social boundaries in ancient Hadramawt with remotely sensed imagery

Day 2: Friday 28 November

09.00  Registration
Day 2 registration will take place in the foyer outside the Stevenson Lecture Theatre

Session 5: Dilmun

09.30  Moawiyah Ibrahim, Al-Isra University, Jordan
Beliefs surrounding death in Dilmun

09.55  Steffen Laursen, Moesgaard Museum
The early Dilmun cemetery of Karzakkan – Bahrain

10.20  Eric Olijdam, Durham University
Interpreting differences in early Dilmun burial practices: socio-cultural homogeneity examined

10.45  Christine Kepinski, CNRS, Paris
The burial mounds of the Middle Euphrates (2100–1800 BC): the subtle dialectic between tribal and state practices

11.10  Coffee

Session 6: South-Western Arabia in the 1st Millennium BC

11.40  Jérémie Schiettecatte, CNRS, Paris
The funerary stelae: clues for cross-cultural contacts in South Arabia during the Iron Age?
12.05 Sabina Antonini, Istituto Universitario Orientale, Università di Napoli, and Alessio Agostini, Università di Firenze
A first Minaean necropolis in Barâqish, Jawf, Yemen: results of two archaeological campaigns

12.30 D’arne O’Neill, University of Sydney
South Arabian miniature grave goods and the role of miniaturization in mortuary contexts

12.55 Stephen Buckley, Joann Fletcher, University of York, K Al-Thour, M Basalama, University of Sana’a, and Don Brothwell, University of York
Cultural implications of new biomolecular findings on ancient Yemeni mummification

13.20 Lunch

Session 7: North-Western Arabia

14.15 Lucy Wadeson, Keble College, Oxford
Sepulchral space in the Nabataean funerary realm: a comparison of the façade tomb chambers in Petra and Mada’in Salih

14.40 Isabelle Sachet, ATER, Collège de France
Funerary meals in Nabataea

15.05 Nicolas Garnier, Laboratoire N Garnier, Paris
Biomolecular archaeology, burial and offerings: The case of Nabatean tombs from Petra

15.30 Coffee

Session 8: North-Western Arabia and Adjacent Regions

16.00 Arnulf Hausleiter, German Archaeological Institute, Orient-Section, Sebastiano Lora, Padua, Italy, and Mohammed Al-Najem, Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, Tayma, Saudi Arabia
Burial contexts at Tayma, NW Arabia – archaeological and anthropological data

16.25 Jill Baker, Independent Researcher, USA
The Canaanite Funeral Kit: Its Genesis and Extinction

16.50 Alexander Nagel, University of Michigan, and Hasan Rahsaz, Parsa-Pasargadae Foundation, Fars
New investigations on the history and polychromatic appearance of the tomb of Darius I at Naqsh-e Rustam, Fars

18.00–20.00 Conference reception and viewing of poster presentations – details TBC

Day 3: Saturday 29 November

09.00 Registration
Day 3 registration will take place in the foyer outside the Stevenson Lecture Theatre

Session 9: Late Pre-Islamic Arabia

09.25 Michel Mouton, CNRS, Paris
The monolithic Djin Blocks at Petra: A funerary practice of pre-Islamic Arabia
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.50</td>
<td>Carl Phillips, CNRS, Paris</td>
<td>Random graves and formal cemeteries: late pre-Islamic burial practices in south-east Arabia</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15</td>
<td>Aurelie Daems and An De Waele, University of Ghent</td>
<td>'Death is a black camel': Pre-Islamic animal burials in Arabia</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.40</td>
<td>Juris Zarins, Missouri State University</td>
<td>Funerary monuments of southern Arabia: The Iron Age-Islamic traditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.05</td>
<td>Dick Nauta, Independent scholar, Khartoum, Sudan</td>
<td>Dry-stone built tombs in the western Red Sea littoral</td>
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<td>11.30</td>
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<td>Coffee</td>
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**Session 10: Islamic Arabia**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>James Edgar Taylor, Independent scholar, UK</td>
<td>Attitudes, themes and images: an introduction to death and burial as reflected in early Arabic poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.25</td>
<td>Mikhail Rodionov, Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, St Petersburg</td>
<td>Wadi Hadramawt as landscape of death and burial</td>
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<td>12.50</td>
<td>Lynne Newton, Office of the Advisor to HM the Sultan for Cultural Affairs, Salalah, Oman</td>
<td>Survey of saints’ tombs in Dhofar</td>
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<td>13.15</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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**Session 11: Islamic History and Non-Islamic Traditions**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>14.15</td>
<td>Vered Madar, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</td>
<td>Ma Mee Aladame Ella Ma Kutab Le – ‘A man has nothing but what the Heavens decreed’: on Jewish and Muslim lament traditions and mourning in Yemen</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.40</td>
<td>Matthew Suriano, University of California, Los Angeles</td>
<td>Sheol and the tomb: locating the transition to the afterlife in the Hebrew bible</td>
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<td>15.05</td>
<td>Jose Morillas, Universidad de Granada, and Pablo Piñar, Cornell University</td>
<td>In anima vili: Islamic constructions on life autopsies</td>
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<td>15.30</td>
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<td>Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Leor Halevi, Texas A&amp;M University and Vanderbilt University</td>
<td>Death and Burial in the Muslim World: The Role of Islam</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.30</td>
<td>Lloyd Weeks, University of Nottingham</td>
<td>Closing comments and thanks</td>
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Workshops

Workshops will take place in the Claus Moser Room and run in parallel with the lectures in the Stevenson Lecture Theatre. Workshops are small sessions designed to promote discussion of specific themes of the conference. Places are limited to around 20 individuals, and attendance and participation should be discussed with the workshop chair.

**Workshop 1: Death and Burial in the Islamic World: from Spain to Bangladesh**

**Day 2: Friday 28 November, 14.00–16.00**

Chair: Janet Starkey, Durham University

Maribel Fierro, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Madrid  
Death and burial in al-Andalus

Corinne Fortier, CNRS, Paris  
The 'living death' in Mauritania and in Maliki Islam

Suhad Daher Nashif, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Instituting the dead body: the case of the Palestinian Forensic Medicine Institute

Sara Mondini, Ca' Foscari University, Venice  
The commemoration of death and its representations: royal funerary complexes in the India of sultanates

Matt Yarrington, University of Edinburgh  
Assisting the recently deceased in Bangladesh

Anne Macklin, University of Leeds  
Sofi Hamid: an Islamic cemetery in Azerbaijan

This workshop provides for the discussion of a number of specific aspects of Islamic burial traditions, with a focus on regional practices in the Muslim World from a range of anthropological, theological, ethnical and forensic perspectives. It is hoped that workshop will also allow discussion on cultural connections with Arabia. For further details, please contact Janet Starkey at j.c.m.starkey@durham.ac.uk

**Workshop 2: Bronze Age Burial Traditions in SE and SW Arabia**

**Day 3: Saturday 29 November, 14.00–16.00**

Chair: Lloyd Weeks, University of Nottingham

Manfred Boehme, Bat Research & Restoration Project, Oman  
Hafit and Umm an-Nar period burials at Bat, Oman

Olivia Munoz, Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne  
Around the graves: Funerary practices, social uses and rituals during the Umm an-Nar period

J Giraud and S Cleuziou, CNRS, UMR 7041  
Early Bronze Age graves and graveyards in the in eastern Ja’alan (Sultanate of Oman): social rules working in the evolution of a funerary landscape

Juris Zarins, Missouri State University  
Bronze Age Funerary Monuments from the Mahra Governate, Yemen

Ed Keall, Royal Ontario Museum  
A reverence for stone reflected in various Late Bronze Age interments at a Red Sea coastal site in Yemen

This workshop will focus on aspects of burial traditions in Bronze Age Arabia. For SE Arabia, these issues include tomb 'typologies'; ritual spaces within and around tombs, and burial landscapes. For SW Arabia, Bronze Age Megalithic traditions are documented and placed within their cultural context. The workshop will also allow discussion of cultural connections between SE and SW Arabia as documented in the burial archaeology record. For further information, please contact Lloyd Weeks at Lloyd.Weeks@nottingham.ac.uk
Poster presentations

Posters will be displayed in the foyer outside the Stevenson Lecture Theatre

  Inventory of finds from a second millennium grave in Dadna, Emirate of Fujairah, UAE

- Ora Berger, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  The phenomenon of pilgrimage to Ta’izz to the grave of the Jewish Poet Shalom al-Shabazi from the point of view of Art History

- Fabio Cavulli, University of Trento, Olivia Munoz, Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Simona Scaruffi, University of Bologna
  Burials in the middle Holocene fishermen settlement of KHB-1, Sultanate of Oman

- Janet Cope, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Debra Martin, David Miller, Springfield College, MA, and Daniel Potts
  Discerning Health, Disease and Activity Patterns in a Bronze-Age Population from Tell Abraq, UAE

- Remy Crassard, LCHES, University of Cambridge, UK, Holder Hitigen, DAI, Sana’a, Yemen, Hervé Guy, INRAP, Pantin, France, and Jeremie Schiettecatte, CNRS, Paris, France
  Reuse of tombs or cultural continuity? The case of Bronze Age tombs in Shabwa governate, Yemen

- Dina Dahbany-Miraglia, The City University of New York
  Jewish burial customs in Yemen

- William and Fidelity Lancaster, Independent researchers, UK
  Graves and graveyards of various locations in Ras al-Khaimah Emirate, UAE, and Musandam wilayat, Oman

- Kirsi Lorentz, University of Newcastle
  Hairy stories: Reconstructing life from human remains at 3rd millennium BC Shahr-e Sokhteh (Sistan, Iran)

- Olivia Munoz, Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
  Burials at Ra’s al-Hamra

- Carl Phillips, CNRS
  A rock-artist’s sketchbook: a comparison of rock art and decorated gravestones at a village in Ras Musandam

- Diana Pickworth, University of California Berkeley
  Bintayn Methul – landscape of life, death, and burial

- Marie-Jeanne Roche, Collège de France
  Funerary Eye steles from Arabia: analysis and interpretation

- Waleed Al-Sadeqi, University of Durham
  Beads and Wealth Exhibition in Early Dilmun Burials

- Emma Thompson and Nasser Hashim, Sharjah Archaeological Museum
  Communicating Neolithic burial practices to a general audience: Al-Buhais 18, Sharjah, UAE

- Anna Tozzi Di Marco, IAEAS
  Cairo’s City of the dead: the cohabitation between the living and the dead from an anthropological perspective