

University of Notre Dame and Kyoto University International Symposium

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# The History and Culture of Iran and Central Asia in the First Millennium CE: From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Era

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June 25–27, 2017



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University of Notre Dame and Kyoto University International Symposium

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**The History and Culture of Iran and  
Central Asia in the First Millennium CE:  
From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Era**

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# Conference Program

## Sunday, June 25

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11:30 a.m.–  
12:45 p.m.      **Registration and Buffet Lunch**

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12:45–1 p.m.      **Welcome and Introductions**  
Deborah Tor, Conference Co-organizer  
University of Notre Dame  
Thomas G. Burman  
Director of the Medieval Institute  
University of Notre Dame  
Minoru Inaba, Conference Co-organizer  
Kyoto University

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1–3 p.m.      **Session I: Sogdia**  
“The Proto-Sogdian Inscriptions of Kultobe:  
New fragments and new reconstructions”  
Nicholas Sims-Williams  
SOAS  
“The Impact of the Arab Conquest on the  
Political, Social, and Religious Structures  
of the Sogdians”  
Michael Shenkar  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
“The Triumph of the Middlemen: Arab and  
Persian Culture in Islamicized Transoxiana”  
Pavel Lurje  
The State Hermitage Museum

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3–3:30 p.m.      **Coffee Break**

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3:30–5:30      **Session II: Bactria**  
“From Bactrian to Arabic: Changes in Seals  
and Sealing Practices as Observed in  
Bactrian Documents”  
Judith Lerner  
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU

“Notes on Islamisation Narratives in the  
Faḍā’il-i Balkh”

Arezou Azad  
University of Birmingham

“Patronage, Pilgrimage, and  
Trans-National Trade”

Deborah Klimburg-Salter  
University of Vienna

## Monday, June 26

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8:30–10:30 p.m.      **Session III: Islamisation  
and Iranisation**

“Islamisation and Persianisation in Khorasan  
and Transoxania”

Francois de Blois  
University College London

“Iranian Customs in Early Shi`i Law”

Robert Gleave  
University of Exeter

“The Formation of Islamic Bukhara”

Florian Schwarz  
University of Vienna

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10:30–11 a.m.      **Coffee Break**

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11 a.m.–1 p.m.      **Session IV: China in Relation to  
Iran and Central Asia**

“Three Scenarios for the Historical Background  
of the Xi’an Sino-Pahlavi Inscription”

Yutaka Yoshida  
Kyoto University

“The Qarākhānids in the Sinitic World:  
Diplomacy and Trade”

Dilnoza Duturaeva  
Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences

**“Xian Temples of the Sogdian Colonies in China”**

Etsuko Kageyama

Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

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**1–2:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

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**2:30–4:30 p.m. Session V: The Pre-Islamic Past in Islamic Eyes**

**“Representations of the Pre-Islamic Past in Early Persian Court Poetry”**

Gabrielle van den Berg  
Leiden University

**“The Sasanian Past in the Historical Writings and Political Advice of al-Tha`alabī (AD 961–1038)”**

Louise Marlow  
Wellesley College

**“Zoroastrian Solutions to Neoplatonic Problems: Reading the Rāsta of Dādār Son of Dādukht alongside Priscian’s Answers to Khosro”**

Daniel Sheffield  
Princeton University

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**4:30–5 p.m. Coffee Break**

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**5–6:30 p.m. Session VI: Iran in Early Islamic History**

**“How Ziyād Made a Name for Himself”**

Michael Bates  
American Numismatic Society

**“Istakhrī’s Account of the Province of Fārs”**

Hugh Kennedy  
SOAS

## Tuesday, June 27

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**8:30–10:30 p.m. Session VII: Pre-Islamic Cultural Continuities in the Islamic Period**

**“Snake Demons in the Penjikent Paintings and Some Possible Parallels in Islamic Book Illustrations”**

Matteo Compareti  
Renmin University of China

**“Al-Bīrūnī’s Anthropology of Minerals”**

George Malagaris  
University of Oxford

**“Royal Descent and Dynastic Authority in the 4th c. Iranian World: The Figural Medallions of the Buyid and Samanid Courts”**

Luke Treadwell  
University of Oxford

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**10:30–11 a.m. Coffee Break**

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**11 a.m.–1 p.m. Session VIII: Cities in Iran and Central Asia**

**“Types of City Planning in Ancient Iranian Cities: New Considerations”**

Frantz Grenet  
Collège de France

**“The Evolution of Domestic Space in the Bukhara Oasis: Between Late Antiquity and the Islamic Period”**

Rocco Rante  
The Louvre

**“Marv, 671”**

Étienne de la Vaissière  
École des hautes études en sciences sociales

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**1–2:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

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**2:30–3:30 p.m. Roundtable Discussion and Closing Remarks**

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