2019

طوابق

الرقمي

في العالم العربي

DAIAW

DIGITAL ARCHIVING
CONFERENCE IN THE ARAB WORLD

ABU DHABI
October 26-28

Programme

2

DIGITAL ARCHIVING IN THE ARAB WORLD

ABU DHABI   October 26-28

WELCOME

On behalf of the members of the organizing committee and the members of the scientific committee, it is my deepest pleasure to welcome you to the first international symposium on Digital Humanities, the first in the series we are planning for the coming years. This year's theme is "Digital Archiving in the Arab World", a large unifying topic. Without doubt, this conference held this year in Abu Dhabi, and which combines research and innovation, will become a pillar and reference in our scientific community for years to come. It is a meeting of ideas and best practices led by international experts, academics and speakers; it is also a great opportunity for us to do an in-depth analysis of the state of digital archiving in the Arab world and how we could take it forward.

The Scientific Committee would like to thank you for your scientific proposals and your involvement with us.

The organising committee and the representatives of the institutions are looking forward to meeting you.

Hala BAYOUMI
Digital Humanities Department Director
CEDEJ/ CNRS

ABU DHABI

As an Egyptian Expat who has been living for more than 33 years in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, I am very proud to say that I am lucky to have settled in this kind land. Abu Dhabi has always treated me and expats from all over the world very well.

Abu Dhabi in Arabic means the 'Land of Gazelles'. It received its name from the gazelle, which is one of the land's symbolic animals. I believe that names reflect the identity of people and places. If you google the meaning of the word "gazelle", you will get to know that gazelles have always been the symbol of agility, alacrity, alertness and consciousness; it is also the symbol of beauty, elegance and grace under pressure, and this is the spirit of Abu Dhabi that I know.

I have witnessed the miracle of transformation and development of Abu Dhabi into one of the most advanced modern cities in the world and should state that – like any other person who lives in this beautiful Emirate – I have learned a lot over the years and I have become a positive person. We do not know the word 'impossible' in Abu Dhabi, we know that everything is possible with hard work, knowledge and determination.

The greatness of Abu Dhabi and the UAE is that, despite its success in becoming an advance modern city, it still retains much of its ancient traditions and practices. The Emirate has been very successful in finding the right formula to progress rapidly yet keep its identity and embrace tolerance and diversity.

I hope you enjoy yourself in Abu Dhabi, the Emirate that accepts everyone and is open to gain knowledge, learn and progress well in all directions.

Niveen IBRAHIM
Chief Operating Officer
MBT Development

4

SUMMARY

PROGRAMME

Saturday October 26th

9:30 AM   Gathering in the lobby of the *Intercontinental Hotel* and departure to the *Louvre Abu Dhabi*

10 AM   Visit of *Louvre Abu Dhabi*

11:30 AM   Departure to *Sorbonne University*

SORBONNE ABU DHABI

12 PM   Lunch and registration

1:30 PM   Inaugural session and plenary conference

> **Official speeches by representatives of the organising countries**
> Opening of the conference
> Speeches by partner representatives: CEDEJ/ CEFAS/ Bibliotheca Alexandrina/ National Archives of EAU/ Sorbonne Abu Dhabi/ PROGEDO

> **Plenary conference**
> Dr. Zoé Headley – A Latent Archive? Investigating Non-Collections in South India
> Moderator: Dr. Sébastien OLIVEAU   Reporter: Mrs. Coline HOUSSAIS

3:45 PM   Coffee break

4 PM – 6:15 PM   Thematic session – Interdisciplinary Digital Archiving

> Prof. David Joseph WRISLEY – Digital Humanities Practices and Archival Appraisal in the Contemporary Arab World

> Prof. Jean LAMBERT – The First Commercial Recordings of Yemenite Music (1935–1960): A Data Base for the Future

> Dr. Pavel BASHARIN FIRKOVICH – Judeo-Arabic Literature of genizot from the Abraham Firkovich Collection of the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg

> Mrs. Coline HOUSSAIS – Nightingales in Baghdad – 1920s–1950s Iraqi Music, Archives and Live Performance

> Mr. Pierre FRANCE – Bootleg Patrimonialization of Arabic Music Practices

> President: Prof. Frédéric LAGRANGE   Reporter: Dr. Radwa ZAKI

8:30 PM   Official Dinner at the *Byblos-sur-mer* restaurant

Sunday October 27th

8:45 AM   Gathering in the lobby of the *Intercontinental Hotel* and departure to the *National Archives of the United Arab Emirates*

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

9:30 AM   Thematic session – Methodologies for Heritage Preservation

Dr. Ahmed MANSOUR – Digitization Arabic Typography: Bulaq Press Contributions

Mrs Noemi DAUCE/ Mrs Alice QUERIN – Digital archives: making Louvre Abu Dhabi collections available to everyone

Prof. Safwa BEDEIR – Virtual Archive and its Role in Recreation and Gathering of Document (An Applied Study)

Eng. Manal GHONEIM – Documentation of Architectural heritage with 3D modeling and 3D GIS (Alexandria as case study)

President: Dr. Pavel BASHARIN FIRKOVICH   Reporter: Dr. Juliette HONVAULT

11 AM   Coffee break

11:15 AM   Thematic session – Scientific Data Analysis in the Arab World

Prof. Alicia GONZALEZ / Dr. Thomas MILO – A working solution for searching in Arabic scripted-texts

Dr. Almotasem ALRAHABI – Identifying and Analyzing Places in Arabic Fiction Corpora

Mr. Clement DE BELSUNCE – The Skills and data platforms of Aix-Marseille University at the service of research in the human and social sciences in the Mediterranean

Eng. Dalia GALAL – SDMX Procedures from A Demographic Persective in Egypt

President: Prof. David Joseph WRISLEY   Reporter: Mrs. Coline HOUSSAIS

12:45 PM   Lunch

1:45 PM   Thematic session – Digital Libraries in the Arab World

Prof. Bradley BAUER – Digitization Means Access: Using Digitization to Extend the Reach of Cultural Heritage Materials in a Global Network University

Dr. Radwa ZAKI – The Digital Projects for Studying the Islamic Inscriptions

Mr. Messaoud BELIANE – Training on Digital Archiving at the Institute of the Library and Documentation Science, University of Constantine 02

President: Dr. Thomas MILO   Reporter: Mrs. Alaa QAQ

2:45 PM
– 4:30 PM   Thematic session – Manuscripts, rare books and endangered documents in the Arab World

Dr. Walid GHALI – The Digitisation of Manuscripts Collections in The Arab World – What is the Way Forward?

Dr. Fatima CKEIKH – Manuscripts and Rare Books Digitization Project in the Algerian National Library: Readiness Assessment

Mrs. Suzan DAANA – Palestinian Archive as a Case study

Mr. Hassan ELMESSABI – Can this present link the past to the future?

President: Prof. Jean LAMBERT   Reporter: Mr. Pierre FRANCE

Monday October 28th

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi

9:30 AM   Thematic session – Digital Archives & Collections for Knowledge Dissemination

> Dr. Julliette HONVAULT – Archives in a Global World: The Challenging Project of Digitizing the Archives of the Yemeni Teacher and Leader Ahmed Muhammad Nu'man (1909-1996) in Aix-En-Provence (France)

> Eng. Rami ROUSHDI: Egytian Press Archive of CEDEJ, case study of Arabic press archive repository

> Mrs. Alaa QAQ: Khazaaen – An attempt to preserve social archive in the Arab World

> Eng. Peter SOCCAR: Arab World Online Archive

> President: Prof. Alicia GONZALEZ MARTINEZ   Reporter: Dr. Ahmed MANSOUR

11 AM   Coffee break

11:30 AM   Synthesis, conclusion and perspectives

> Mrs. Coline HOUSSAIS

> Dr. Radwa ZAKI

> Dr. Juliette HONVAULT

> Mrs. Alaa QAQ

> Mr. Pierre FRANCE

> Dr. Ahmed MANSOUR

> Moderators: Dr. Hala BAYOUMI, Dr. Yann RODIER and Eng. Ahmed SAMIR

13 PM   Lunch and city tour

PARTNERS

CEDEJ

Created following the 1968 French-Egyptian agreement and under the French School of Law in Cairo (1890-1956), the Centre d'Études et de Documentation Économiques, Juridiques et Sociales (CEDEJ) in Cairo was developed with the mission of producing multidisciplinary knowledge in the human and social sciences, mainly on Egypt and the contemporary Arab world. In the 1980s, the CEDEJ became a flagship institute for research, training and documentation in Egypt and the Mediterranean. The CEDEJ is an Institution under the dual supervision of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and the French National Centre of Scientific research (CNRS). Since 2007, it has been part of the network of Mixed Units of the French Research Institutes Abroad (UMIFRE). The CEDEJ holds a library of 33,000 books and a map library (6,000 maps and plans) open to the public.

The CEDEJ is built over three main pillars:

- Digital humanities (mathematical-informatics, Geographic Information System): This unit is interdisciplinary in its operation, supporting collective research by collaborating on social science projects. It manages all the CEDEJ's documentary resources (library, map library and press archives).

- Governance and public policies: this unit mainly studies contemporary Egyptian political and social dynamics.

- Development-City-Circulations: this unit brings together studies on the city, migration, as well as research on territorial transformations and development.

www.cedej-eg.org

BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

Being born digital, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) has set out its objectives to include "Being an Instrument for Rising to the Challenges of the Digital Age". In this regard, the BA has a distinguished record of achievements in adopting and implementing proven technology solutions across different areas. From the automation that has been implemented in all the library functions, to the growing number of web-based portals that are being developed, the BA is maximizing the utilization of its ICT potential using state-of-the-art technologies.

With more than fifteen years of experience in the field, the BA is set out to be a worldwide leading institution of the digital age, aiming to be the focal point for scholars from around the globe.

The BA has built-up a well-established technological capacity to embark on new endeavors locally and internationally, thus sustaining its position among its peer organizations around the world to research and implement pioneering digital ideas for the benefit of the international knowledge community.

A full list of projects can be found at www.bibalex.org.

CEFAS

The French Center for Archaeology and Social Sciences (CEFAS) is a regional research center whose main objective is to promote studies on the Arabian Peninsula as a whole. CEFAS is part of the "French foreign research institutes" network (Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs & French National Center for Scientific Research – CNRS), with 27 institutions located in more than 30 countries. CEFAS is located in Kuwait since 2015 and opened an office in Abu Dhabi in 2019 in the framework of an agreement with Sorbonne Abu Dhabi University, where it is hosted.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Upon directives of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, the National Archives was established in 1968 under the name of "Documents and Research Bureau", and was affiliated with Al Diwan Al Amiri (Ruler's Court). Its objectives were defined as collecting documents and information relating to the history and culture of the Arabian Peninsula in general and the United Arab Emirates in particular, from primary sources in Arab and foreign countries. It has been entrusted with the documentation and translation of these

documents. In 1972, its name was changed to the Center for Documentation & Research (CDR). Federal Law No. (1) for 2014 changed the name of the CDR to the "National Archives".

The National Archives: The Oldest and Richest Archive relating to the Arabian Gulf region

In just over fifty years, the National Archives has achieved a pioneer status as the first of its kind in the Middle East and the sixth in the world, due to its adoption of the latest technologies available to accomplish its mission. It is one of the oldest cultural institutions in the United Arab Emirates and the largest documentation organization in the Arabian Gulf region. In addition to its role in documentation and archiving, the National Archives provides intellectuals with a variety of publications that explore both authentic cultural and contemporary issues in history and heritage.

The National Archives collects valuable historical material relating to the United Arab Emirates in particular and the Arabian Gulf states in general. It also documents, indexes and translates the material collected, based on which it publishes specialized historical research. Moreover, it hosts and organizes local, regional and international conferences and symposiums, in addition to holding related exhibitions both locally and abroad.

SORBONNE UNIVERSITY ABU DHABI

Founded in 2006 following an agreement between Sorbonne University in Paris and the government of Abu Dhabi, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi offers the best in international higher education. As a bridge between civilizations, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is based on a culture of tolerance, curiosity of mind and respect for cultural differences. It offers its students a multicultural environment conducive to the development of humanist values such as the ability to live together and respect for others. During their studies, students benefit from being taught by internationally renowned professors, internationally recognised diplomas and modern and sophisticated equipment. Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is doing everything in its power to prepare its students for brilliant and ambitious careers.

PROGEDO

PROGEDO is a very large French research infrastructure (TGIR) whose vocation is to develop data culture in SHS. The Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation has entrusted it with responsibility for quantitative data policy in the social sciences (surveys and databases). To achieve this, PROGEDO focuses its action on 3 levels: european, national and local. At the european level, it coordinates the French components of major international surveys (ESS, SHARE, EVS, ISSP, etc.). At the national level, it promotes these surveys and organises the dissemination of data from official statistics (INSEE, government data) to researchers. Locally, it structures the network of University Data Platforms, whose mission is to support research communities.

LOUVRE ABU DHABI

Created by an exceptional agreement between the governments of Abu Dhabi and France, Louvre Abu Dhabi was designed by Jean Nouvel and opened on Saadiyat Island in November 2017. The museum is inspired by traditional Islamic architecture and its monumental dome creates a rain of light effect and a unique social space that brings people together.

Louvre Abu Dhabi celebrates the universal creativity of mankind and invites audiences to see humanity in a new light. Through its innovative curatorial approach, the museum focuses on building understanding across cultures through stories of human creativity that transcend civilisations, geographies and times.

The museum's growing collection is unparalleled in the region and spans thousands of years of human history, including prehistoric tools, artefacts, religious texts, iconic paintings and contemporary artworks. The permanent collection is supplemented by rotating loans from 13 French partner institutions, regional and international museums.

Louvre Abu Dhabi is a testing ground for new ideas in a globalised world and champions new generations of cultural leaders. Its international exhibitions, programming and Children's Museum are inclusive platforms that connect communities and offer enjoyment for all. In 2019—the declared Year of Tolerance in the United Arab Emirates—Louvre Abu Dhabi will continue to be a hub for all cultures and a symbol of openness, hope, tolerance and inclusivity in the Arab world.

INTERCONTINENTAL ABU DHABI

InterContinental Abu Dhabi is a unique luxury urban resort. An icon of heritage and culture, it was opened by His Highness the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founding father of the United Arab Emirates, to house the first Gulf Cooperation Council Conference for the Gulf States. Since then, the hotel has been home to presidents, members of royal families, celebrities and captains of industry.

The hotel offers an unparalleled stay and an opportunity to experience history and Arabian hospitality. It boasts award winning-dining options and comprehensive leisure facilities in an oasis of calm, right in the heart of Abu Dhabi. All 390 rooms and suites offer sea or park views.

The Concierge team will introduce you to the hidden gems on offer around the hotel and Abu Dhabi to ensure you experience the best the city has to offer, enabling the most memorable of stays.

The hotel is located 30 minutes away from Abu Dhabi International Airport, 1 hour 45 minutes from Dubai Airport, 10 minutes from the Louvre Museum, 15 minutes from Abu Dhabi Exhibition Centre and is close to a number of Luxurious shopping malls and the famous Abu Dhabi Corniche.

Scientific & Organising Committees

Scientific Committee

Hala BAYOUMI
Research Engineer CNRS – Director of Digital Humanities Unit at CEDEJ
CNRS/ CEDEJ
hala.bayoumi@cedej-eg.org

Luc CHANTRE
Assistant Professor – Associate researcher at CEFAS
Institute of Political Studies Paris, Europe and Latin American campus
in Poitiers/ CEFAS
luc.chantre@hotmail.fr

Magdy NAGY
Professor – Senior Consultant – ICT Sector
Alexandria University/ Biblotheca Alexandrina
Magdy.Nagi@bibalex.org

Ahmed SAMIR
Director, Institutional Repositories & Integrated Library Systems
Department, ICT Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina
Ahmed.Samir@bibalex.org

Sébastien OLIVEAU
Senior lecturer HDR, Director TGIR PROGEDO
Aix Marseille University/ CNRS
sebastien.oliveau@univ-amu.fr

Abbes ZOUACHE
Researcher – Director of CEFAS
CNRS/ CEFAS
Abbes.ZOUACHE@cefas.cnrs.fr

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Hala BAYOUMI
Research Engineer CNRS – Director of Digital Humanities Unit at CEDEJ
CNRS/ CEDEJ
hala.bayoumi@cedej-eg.org

Karine BENNAFLA
Professor at Lyon II University
Lyon II University
karine.bennafla@9online.fr

Mahmoud El SARAWY
Statistician
CAPMAS
m_sarawy@yahoo.com

Coline HOUSSAIS
Chief Editor
USTAZA France
coline.houssais@gmail.com

Nagwa MAGDY
Librarian/ Archivist at CEDEJ
CEDEJ
nagwa.magdy256@gmail.com

Salma NASSAR
UN Habitat Egypt
CEDEJ
colloque.humnum@cedej-eg.org

Yann RODIER
Associate professor – Director of the History Department
Sorbonne Abu Dhabi
yann.rodier@psuad.ac.ae

Ebtihal YOUSSEF
Librarian/ Archivist at CEDEJ
CEDEJ
ebtihal.ibrahim@cedej-eg.org

ABSTRACTS

KEYNOTE - ZOÉ HEADLEY
A LATENT ARCHIVE? INVESTIGATING NON-COLLECTIONS IN SOUTH INDIA

This presentation explores the making of two very different digital archives in Tamil Nadu (South India) during the last decade. DATAH (Digital Archive of Tamil Agrarian History) and STARS (Studies in Tamil Studio Archives and Society) nonetheless share a significant common characteristic: they were digitally built up from discarded textual and visual data deemed unfit for institutional conservation. Besides discussing practical issues of digitizing the Tamil world, this presentation will also outline some of the ethical dilemmas involved in making non-collections visible.

HASSAN ALMESSABI
CAN THIS PRESENT LINK THE PAST TO THE FUTURE?

It is no secret that the golden age of Arab science and culture has become part of the distant past. When one speaks of Arab civilization, the first thing that comes to mind is the universities of Andalusia, the Library of Baghdad, the papers in Cairo, the University of Kairouan, the University of Karaouine, and the Al-Azhar Mosque. These places and many others were filled with precious books and manuscripts that reflected the scientific, literary and artistic civilization in the Arab and Islamic world. In fact, the Arabic manuscript was one of the hallmarks of that golden age. Printing appeared and spread in Europe, announcing the transition of human civilization from the era of writing to the era of printing, from the era of manuscript to the era of printed. Thus occurred a paradigm shift in blogging, resembling the transition of mankind from engraving on rocks to writing on leather and papyrus. We are now in a new transformation: the transition from the era of printing to the digital age. New technologies have opened doors that have not been taken into account in terms of electronic transmission, storage and availability of information.

MOTASEM ALRAHABI - CARMEN BRANDO - MUHAMED ALKHALIL - JOSEPH DICHY
IDENTIFYING AND ANALYZING PLACES IN ARABIC TRAVELOGUE LITERATURE

With the growth of Arabic textual content on the web and the emergence of deep learning techniques, Arabic text analysis is becoming the focus of major recent NLP research and is gaining considerable attention thanks, to its importance for numerous businesses and governmental agencies. In this paper we present a new project to build a platform facilitating the cartographic analysis of place occurrences in an Arabic corpus comprised of some key works in Arabic travelogue literature. For the first stage of the project, our

method uses different approaches (machine learning, rule based) with an effective end user application that performs Named Entities (NE) Recognition. Later, more traditional literary analysis methods will be used to examine the generated data and discover any illuminating patterns they may reveal. The contributions of this work are many: Our prototype allows readers to mine and analyze corpora by highlighting places and semantically parsing their context. The long-term goal is to cover other types of NE, to develop an extensible Geographic Information System drawing on a gazetteer of Arabic places in large corpora, and to create a convenient interface of geovisualization. In order to build a gold standard corpus, we have developed a manual annotation protocol attentive to the complex nature of the Arabic language for this task (absence of capitalization, agglutination, optional diacritics, spelling variants, etc.). This has involved several linguists with inter-annotator agreement calculation. Analysis results have been reported and interpreted for various performance parameters: precision, recall and F-score.

Pavel BASHARIN FIRKOVICH

Judeo-Arabic Literature of genizot from the Abraham Firkovich Collection of the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg

Keywords: Judeo-Arabic, genizoth, Abraham Firkovich, folklore, fairy tales, philosophy, magic, Sufism

Arabic literature was very popular among the Jewish population in the Middle East. Judeo-Arabic manuscripts revealed this interest. A lot of fragments of these works have been preserved in the various *genizoth* with the business documents and the writings of Jewish authors. Old and wore-out written texts were placed on permanent storage, because of its destroying has been forbidden. In this case, the overwhelming majority of the manuscripts has been preserved only in fragments. One of the most famous collections of Judeo-Arabic manuscripts is the collection of Abraham Firkovich placed in the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg. He collected them during his travels through Palestine, Egypt and Constantinople. His Judeo-Arabic collection contains over seven thousand manuscripts. The thematic repertoire of the collection shows a unique picture of the spiritual life of the Jewish communities in the medieval Middle East in the 11th-18th centuries. A lot of Arab folklore works are among these manuscripts. The most common example is one copy lists of the renowned multi-volume romance of 'Antar'. Another group of fragments are the tales of the *1001 Nights* and other fairy tales. The third part of the catalogue consists of medical texts, due to the popularity of the medical profession among Middle Eastern Jews. The copies of philosophical works have a great demand because of the interest of the Jewish community in philosophical studies. The interest in the text of the Qur'an shows in this catalogue too. Also, I mention the works on philology, ethics, logic, mathematics, astronomy and astrology, alchemy, magic, and the interpretation of dreams. In addition to these branches of knowledge, we find a group of Sufi manuscripts (about 13 units). Among these fragments we find a short work of *al-Hallaj Kitab al-sayhur fi naqd al-dayhur*. A lot of fragments are unique; their Arabic originals have not been preserved. The Jewish community in the Medieval Middle East did not get caught up in the complicated ideas and theories. As a majority of Muslims, they were interested in the practical realm. The efforts of the future point must be concentrated on the problem of authorship of these works. During this presentation I show some remarkable texts of various genres from the Firkovich collection.

Bradley BAUER

Digitization Means Access: Using digitization to extend the reach of cultural heritage materials in a global network university

As a recently created (2014) archival program in a young liberal arts university, the New York University Abu Dhabi Library's Archives and Special Collections department (ASC) seeks to collect, preserve and make available a wide range of primary source materials related to the cultural and social history of the Arabian Peninsula, Gulf and Indian Ocean regions. As part of a global network university with campuses and study centers in New York and around the world, the libraries of the broader university regularly share and exchange informational resources between campuses. But what about unique archival collections, especially those that are located solely at the Abu Dhabi campus? Working with the Library's Center for Digital Scholarship (CDS), archivists and librarians have taken into consideration both technological and legal issues—such as intellectual property and privacy concerns—in order to devise solutions that would enable such materials to be shared with a wider audience. Whether in reformatting audio-visual archives and making them available via an authenticated network between campuses, or a pilot project to digitize an archival collection related to modern Arab artists, the ASC and CDS are working together to make these unique resources more widely available, and in doing so, to extend the reach and audiences for the cultural heritage of the Arab world.

Safwa BEDEIR

Virtual Archive and its Role in Recreation and Gathering of Document (An Applied Study)

The term "virtual" is defined as: "The conceptual representation (of a thing) apart from its physical implementation". This term is associated with several other terms, including: Virtual Record, Virtual Space, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality.

Research questions

• What is the virtual archive? What is its importance in the memory-making processes of communities?
• What are the different archival areas that have benefited from the potential of virtual reality technology?
• What are the technological requirements to apply this technology?
• Can virtual reality technology be applied to our Arab documents in their various forms, both in terms of assembling the dispersed or re-establishing them?

Context

Virtual documents have become a reality with the widespread use of technology available since the advent of the Internet and Web applications in the 1990s, followed by Web 2.0 at the beginning of the millennium. Institutions concerned with the preservation and availability of sources of information—libraries, archives and museums—are taking advantage of the potential of these technologies in various technical processing endeavors of those sources. Of course, the archives were not immune from this benefit; there are many uses for the

potential of the networks of the web, whether in the stage of "records management" or in the stage of "archiving", either at the level of descriptions and electronic finding aids or at the level of exploring the digital content of the primary source groups themselves, while taking advantage of the virtual interactive features on archiving sites to achieve communication with archivist and with other users.

Methodology

• Maintaining the concept of "virtual archive" and showing its importance in the processes of the memory-making of communities.
• Review literature written to identify all the archival areas that have benefited from the potential of virtual reality technology.
• Exploring the possibility of applying this technology to our Arabic documents of all kinds and forms.
• Experience the application of virtual reality technology to various examples of documents

Field

Digital archiving and using of web applications to access primary resources and special collections

Main conclusions

• The technological developments in recent years, especially the functionalities associated with web 2.0 and social research, cannot be overlooked and the archives benefit from it.
• Virtual Reality includes the use of 3D technology and advanced interactions to introduce the real-world user into a simulation environment.
• The initial experience of the use of virtual reality technology has proved its great role in the development of the work of both archives and archivists.

Meriem BOULAHLI - Fatima CHEIK

Manuscripts and rare books digitization project in the Algerian National library: Readiness assessment

Keywords: Readiness, measure, project, digitization, rare books, manuscripts, Algerian national library

In modern times, manuscripts are considered to be the most precious and valuable sources of human knowledge. They are the witness of the past, the evidence of the present-day, and the treasure of the future where the national libraries play an effective role in collecting and maintaining them. The Algerian national library, like other national libraries, has striven since the Independence to take care of manuscripts maintained and renovated, inventoried and classified, indexed and investigated, enabled and valuated, in order to serve human knowledge and preserve human cultural heritage.

The Algerian National Library has invested modern technology in maintaining and valuing these treasures which are threatened by the simplest natural elements, and it has realized that digitization is the necessity of the present which guarantees the continued existence of manuscripts in the future. From this point of view, the Algerian national library has paid

full attention to this, where it strives to provide all the material and human requirements needed. It initiated the acquisition of equipment and the organization of training courses for human resource to ensure the success of this investment, which aims mainly to maintain manuscripts by reducing the circulation of the original ones and facilitate access to them by making them available online.

However, all these efforts were nothing but other wasted energies. The initiative to digitize manuscripts at the Algerian National Library, has not come to light yet due to a variety of technical and organizational challenges that prevented the completion of digitization procedures. From this point of view, this study is an attempt to measure the readiness of the Algerian National Library for the establishment of the digitization of rare books and manuscripts project by matching the available possibilities with the necessary requirements, where the different dimensions of project readiness have been measured including, inter alia : organizational readiness, individual readiness, technical readiness, substantive readiness and legal readiness, based on a set of indicators which have been identified relying on surveys results.

Since the readiness is a behavior, an interview has been adopted as an essential tool to collect data and use the fivefold Likert scale in the design of its format for it being seen as the ideal measure to gauge behavior, not to mention the observation through participation that is just as important as interviewing as a data collection method.

The organizational readiness has been reached to a high level as a consequence of the project working team owning to the base requirements of the project culture. Meanwhile, the same team lacks the establishment of digitization project skills as proven by their owning to traditional and declining skills that required development, thus rendering their readiness level average. With regard to technical readiness, its level is low due to the lack of conformity of the equipment used for standards in addition to its obsolescence. The same is true for the substantive readiness, which proved to be low as well due to the lack of a standard to create digital collections; at the end, the legal readiness which has also prove to be low as a result of the preventing of the Algerian cultural heritage law, the Algerian national library powers from the disposing of rare books and manuscripts.

MESSAOUD BELIANE - NABIL AKNOUCHE
TRAINING ON DIGITAL ARCHIVING AT THE INSTITUTE OF LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTINE 02.

The training of information professionals to use IT effectively has been increasingly demanding in the ever-changing information society. Digital archiving is an important skill that is in common use by the public and public administration centers in different activities areas, as long as the application of those techniques need better qualified and specialized, formation institutions must be reconsider in the curriculums to meet the job market needs.

This study will be conducted at the Institute of Library and Documentation Science, at the University of Constantine 2, to discover the reality of the educational process, through examining official courses offered in the curriculum concerning information specialists and archivists in digital archiving, as well as to present some suggestions which can improve the performance of the current programs in order to meet the needs of the job market.

The importance of the study represents the module of digital archiving during the time of teaching at the first national institute. It was divided into two separate sections: the first specialized in training librarians, and the second specialized in training archivists. In addition to that, students at the institute specialize in their field starting from the first year, unlike other universities where the first year is separate and students are unable to enroll in the field directly.

Our study is based on the descriptive method, as it relies on the analysis method to collect and interpret data about the phenomenon. And the survey will be used, as the study is comprehensive and will include all the sample respondents of LMD students (first and second years). The study will also be based on the questionnaire as a basic tool to collect data, as well as observation and interview.

Suzan DAANA
Palestinians Archive as a Case study

Keywords: endangered, digital archives, safeguarding, collecting, documenting, oral history and preserving.

The Birzeit University Digital Palestinian Archive (BZUDPA) is dedicated to documenting the life of Palestinians and their institutions over the past century. The Digital Palestinian Archive is distinguished: it is accessible; no one is paid for contributions and these contributions are freely accepted (within limits posed by social and legal parameter) It is thus a self-creating and perpetuating archive. It is not organized for battle, but for information, publication and spreading over the world. But de facto it presents a very different vision of Palestinian history and society, because it is not ideologically organized but developed freely. It covers a century of history of Palestine and Palestinians, since the Ottoman period to the present. Thus it has a clear focus and can potentially be seen as the ultimate Palestinian record, as it were (not the creation of a party, a movement, a financial investment, etc.).

Research question

How to safeguard the endangered documents (audio-visual) of Palestine and abroad during the conflict?

Methodology

The Digital Palestinian Archive is looking to documenting and digitizing all kind of materials on Palestine's history and cultural heritage. The methodology used is to collect, classify, catalogue and digitize the materials with the relevant metadata, then upload it onto the website of the archive to be available for researchers locally and internationally.

Field

Research for resources and conducting visits to individuals and institutions is the first step toward reaching the sources of documents. Thus history and cultural heritage of Palestine is the main field we are looking to documenting and digitizing.

Conclusion

We need to make many changes and improvements: accessibility and geographic criteria. For reasons of mobility we have our strongest documentation on the West Bank, as well of course as a comprehensive archive of Ottoman documents (but not accessible to Arabic

speakers). We need more from 1948, Gaza and the diaspora, including Lebanon. Narrative stories are in danger as most older people who witnessed historical events are going to die; thus we need to visit these areas to collect photos, documents and testimonies as well.

Noëmi DAUCÉ - Estelle GUÉVILLE - Faten NAEEM - Alice QUERIN
Digital archives: making Louvre Abu Dhabi collections available to everyone

Keywords: Archives, Database, Artwork files, Digitisation, Museum, Documentation.

Two years after the opening of the museum, Louvre Abu Dhabi intends to develop Research in four main areas of study which are crucial to the museum: Collections, Preventive Conservation, Museum Studies and Translation. As part of the Scientific, Curatorial and Collection Management Directorate, the Research & Development team intends to foster academic research, and to support and promote carreer development of young museum professionals. To that end, a Research Centre is being established with the primary mission of supporting research by insuring the accessibility of the collection and its documentation.

To that aim, the Research & Development team launched the "What's up Doc" project in February 2019. Its ambition is to digitise and organise the documentation following international standards while developing new methods and approaches for the treatment of a museum's archives, adapted to the specific case of Louvre Abu Dhabi. The documentation includes a wide range of information related to the collection including conservation, documentation, publications, bibliography and restoration. The main goals are to ensure the preservation of the collection, to make the digital and physical archives and database available for researchers and public, to improve knowledge about the collection and to facilitate interpretation. This presentation will outline the main strategy implemented to manage the Louvre Abu Dhabi digital archives.

Clément DE BELSUNCE - Sébastien OLIVEAU - Isabelle BLÖSS- WIDMER
The skills and data platforms of Aix-Marseille University at the service of research in the human and social sciences in the Mediterranean

Keywords: quantitative data, platforms, skills, social sciences, demographic, numeric, university, formation.

The spectacular development of the Internet and digital technology is making statistics, hitherto little known or reserved for experts, available to an ever-increasing public. This increased availability is an opportunity for the development of studies in the humanities and social sciences, of which data is an essential element. However, this increased ease of access to statistics is only apparent in many respects. In practice, most users are not only unaware of how to obtain "quality" data, the conditions under which it was produced or the precautions to be taken to use it. Recent initiatives illustrate the scientific research community's awareness that this accessibility to data is not actually as easy as one might imagine, including among the ranks of experts.

The first objective of this communication is to present the French and European mechanisms aimed at making quantitative data in the human and social sciences known and accessible. The presentation will focus on the fundamental role of user training in data and digital sciences. In France, the PROGEDO very Large Research Infrastructure (TGIR) (www.progedo.fr/) is responsible for meeting this training challenge. To meet this need, TGIR PROGEDO coordinates the network of University Data Platforms (PUDs), located in universities, each of which provides real skills support for the development of a quantitative data-user community. The PUD of Aix-Marseille University (http://pud.mmsh.univ-aix.fr/)

will be presented in its specific missions and activities of training but also of thematic support to research on the Mediterranean.

The second objective articulated with the first is to present an original initiative of the Maison Méditerranéenne des Sciences de l'Homme d'Aix-Marseille Université. This is a research team providing specific access to a new spatialised database dedicated to the populations of the Mediterranean countries (Mediterranean Demographic Observatory, DemoMed). This archiving initiative in the field of demographic statistics in the Mediterranean is intended to eventually host data in a trilingual interface (English, French, Arabic) to make available to a wide public scattered data (distributed by national statistical institutes or other organizations in the Mediterranean), often disparate (no international harmonization of variables) and difficult to access (national institutes publish in their national language or in English, on sites whose structures are not always obvious). For the project designers, the challenge was to make the data available to a wide audience, from civil society (citizens, journalists, "decision-makers") to human and social science experts.

Pierre FRANCE
Bootleg Patrimonialization of Arabic Music. Practices

Keywords: Music – Digital archives – Patrimonialization – Amateurs – Web

In order to determine what the available archives about Arabic music nowadays are, one should not only pursue a traditional work within libraries and archives (whether public or especially private) but also on the Internet. Based on a historical work on 15 blogs and websites (2000–2018) and interviews with their owners, this paper traces the dynamics of a set of websites that have digitized and spread Arabic music with a tremendous regional as well as international impact until today. They were instrumental in spreading well-known songs otherwise almost impossible to listen to by legal or official means. This paper aims at the identification of this social space (as well as its internal tensions, for instance between many definitions of what Arabic music is) and its history. It also deals with the set of concepts we might need to understand this phenomenon and thus it puts forward the concept of "bootleg patrimonialization".

Dalia GALAL
SDMX Procedures from A Demographic Perspective in Egypt

Keywords: SDMX, Data Documentation (DD), Social Science, EDHS, Child deprivation, GIS analysis

The implementation of SDMX applied globally through national governments has reminded us that, before SDMX and digitization of data, statistics were done on papers or by documentation. Now, SDMX has changed the way we process data: it is a standard combining the best of two worlds: the statistical one and the technical one. Metadata play a crucial role in social science to ensure that high quality documentation and community knowledge are properly captured. In social science, data documentation is a specification for capturing metadata, the study explores the possibility that data management models, tools, and approaches used within official statistics and social science research within the context of the demographic community and if so, how these approaches could be applied. The study manipulates with SDMX domains for providing a joined file of raw metadata of (EDHS, 2014) between the Household Questionnaire and the Ever-married Woman Questionnaire done by researcher to be used in the study, through both a descriptive analysis technique employed to assess levels and differentials of children deprivation using cross tabulation analysis and an analytical procedure of Geographic Information System. Five of seven deprivation areas were discussed as they are the most prevalent of deprivations. Results traced that

Deprivation is a condition and not a characteristic; as a result of being deprived, layers of GIS resulting from mapping discriminant scores spatially indicated deprived districts. Therefore, there are many similarities between requirements for SDMX in social science and other sciences, and thus the same or similar tools and approaches could be employed.

Walid GHALI

The Digitisation of Manuscripts Collections in The Arab World What is the Way Forward?

The digitisation of archival and manuscript collections has become an endorsed trend, equally on the international and national levels. However, looking at the situation in the Middle East in the last ten years, one should confirm that digitisation should become a compulsory collective initiative in Arab countries. The reason is that some of the archival and manuscript collections, as we have noticed, are subject to destruction or loss because of different reasons, let alone the increase of access and potential research projects that can be developed as an outcome of digitisation. This paper, therefore, aims to answer one fundamental question of why digitisation of manuscripts collections in Arab countries is not progressing as it should be.

To answer the above question, the paper will throw a light on the risks that archival and manuscripts collections are exposed to; it will also highlight the different types of challenges and constraints that act as obstacles to the implementation of digitisation projects of manuscripts and archival collections. These two significant points are based on the author's experience in different manuscript digitisation and cataloguing projects inside and outside Egypt. For instance, responding to one challenge such as resistant to digitisation projects would require a significant amount of work to raise people's awareness of the importance of digitisation. Many other examples will be demonstrated in this paper.

The analysis and data that will be provided in this paper are based on real involvement in projects, as well as other research that the author has been working on related to metadata schemas in the manuscripts digitisation projects. The author also served as a board member in a huge Digital Humanity project that dealt with Arabic and Persian manuscripts from the 10th century. As a result, the paper intends to provide responses to the challenges and suggest items for a national strategy for manuscript digitisation. Collaboration is the way forward in such a field that investigates preserving the cultural heritage of Muslims.

Manal GHONIEM

Documentation of architectural heritage with 3D modeling and 3D GIS (Alexandria as a case study)

Over the years, the value of heritage with all its different arts has increased, especially architectural heritage. This heritage has been obliterated and destroyed by the passage of time, wars, conflicts and the development of modern architecture; therefore, it becomes more necessary to establish strict systems to preserve cultural heritage. 3D models of historical sites and monuments are very efficient in archaeology. These models help archaeologists document historical sites and analyze the relationships between their components. Moreover, 3D models constitute an attractive factor that encourages visiting sites and presents virtual information and simulation of cultural heritage.

In this paper, we propose an approach for the integration of 3D Building Information Modelling and the 3D Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide semantically rich

models and to get the benefits from both systems to help.

The city of Alexandria has been selected as a case study for this research because it contains many buildings with a distinctive architectural heritage which is facing a real massacre, as many of these buildings were demolished due to urban encroachment and replacement of this great heritage with modern buildings.

Alicia GONZALEZ - Thomas MILO
A working solution for searching in Arabic scripted-texts

Today's Format for encoding linguistic information is Unicode, which in practice is understood as a standard for encoding writing systems: it is supposed to encode all scripts unambiguously. However, there is a conceptual glitch. The industry continues a typographic approach to language that has its roots in the 15th century, and has inadvertently inherited a focus on form rather than content. In a typographic paradigm it makes sense to represent groups of graphemes, and occasionally even words and phrases, as single code points, e.g. U+FDF2 'Arabic Ligature Allah Isolated Form' or U+FDFD Arabic Ligature Bismillah ar-Rahman arRaheem. From this perspective, Unicode even assigned distinct codes to a number of visually different regional variants of what is linguistically the exact same letter, e.g., U+0643 'Arabic Letter Kaf' and U+06A9 'Arabic Letter Keheh'. However, the typographic paradigm affects conventional string-searching algorithms when applied on Arabic script: the results of a searching task have low recall rates of performance. To address this issue, we have implemented a search algorithm that performs real-time normalisation of Arabic Unicode strings: internally our algorithm implements a rigorously disambiguated, graphemic instead of typographic model for Arabic Unicode. It also handles diacritics in a flexible manner. The algorithm is available as a python library: ya-kabikaj%

Juliette HONVAULT
Archives in a Global World: The Challenging Project of Digitizing the Archives of the Yemeni Teacher and Leader Ahmad Muhammad Nu'man (1909-1996) in Aix-en-Provence (France)

In 2009 the archives of the teacher and leader for modernization and peace in Yemen, Ahmad Muhammad Nu'man (1909-1996), joined a French scientific center in South of France, where they are now stored. They await to be shared—as Ahmad Nu'man himself wished—between academics in Yemen and elsewhere in the world. Their exposure in the digital world faces geopolitical, ethical, financial and skill constraints which cannot be ignored. It also leads to both strategies of communication and important archival choices that strongly identifies the archives. The current situation in Yemen, as well as the dispersion of its leaders, its intellectuals and its civil society, encourage the placement of some of these archives at the disposal of the 'digital' Yemeni society, whereas they were first dedicated by Ahmad Nu'man himself solely to the academic community. This particular situation impacts the choices that have to be made when presenting the archives on internet and when selecting the most urgent documents to be digitalized and diffused. The angle that has been adopted as part of the communication strategy concerning the Nu'man's archives—the struggle for Education in contemporary Yemen as a political tool for mobilization and State construction—not only defines their identity, but also impulses particular networks around them, in the perspective of a coming peace reconstruction in Yemen.

Coline HOUSSAIS
"Nightingales in Baghdad"
1920s-1950s Iraqi music, archives and live performance

"Once upon a night, I stumbled upon a blurry black and white YouTube video of Salima Mourad, the greatest Iraqi singer of the 20th century. While most musical memories from pre-revolutionary Iraq have been destroyed during the past decades, some of them have been preserved in the shape of family archives. Today, they have been uploaded on the internet and digitally re-create a past that no longer exists, yet is gaining unprecedented exposure both within the Iraqi diaspora and beyond". Hence starts the live creation I produced about the golden age of Iraqi music. It puts the question of forgotten—not to say erased—memories at the heart of its narrative while heavily relying on video, sound and image archives that I painstakingly sourced, curated and edited into a performance mixing music, storytelling and VJ (video-dj). In this paper I unveil the making of this show, focusing on the challenges to locate and obtain high definition archives. I also explain how I addressed these obstacles and played on the lack and/or lesser quality of these pieces to bring back to life as faithful and vibrant an image of bygone Baghdad as was possible. Shown at the Institut du Monde Arabe (2017) and the Institut des Cultures d'Islam (2018), "Nightingales in Baghdad" echoes the power of archives in arts, the enduring imbalance in archive ownership between former colonies and colonial powers as well as the pros and cons of amateur archive digitalization.

Jean LAMBERT - Rafik AL-AKOURI
The First Commercial Recordings of Yemenite Music (1935-1960):
A Data Base for the Future

The first commercial recordings of Yemenite music were made in Aden, at the end of the 1930s, at the time of the British colony. These 78 rpm records were published by a foreign company, Odeon, then by several local companies, like Aden Crown. Thus, most of the urban musical traditions, san' ânî, lahjî, etc., were spread in the whole country between 1935 and 1960. Besides these several thousand disks, many recordings of Yemenite music were also made in the Gulf, in India and in Indonesia, but they are still very little known. Because these recordings represent a collective memory for all the musicians, their inventory has a major importance for the cultural identity of Yemen. Considering the difficulty in collecting and documenting the material, we decided to establish a shared inventory consisting of mapping all the collections known in the world, and gathering them in the same database which will soon be put on the Web. So far, the access to the sound recordings is made through sound archive platforms as Telemeta (CREM-LESC, Nanterre, France) or common video-sharing platform as YouTube, while waiting for better solutions of storage. We shall expose the archiving methodology, especially concerning the use of the Arabic language, and a first analysis of this database.

Ahmed Mansour - Mohamed Hassan
Digitizing Arabic Typography: Bulaq Press Contributions

The Bulaq Press played an essential role in promoting the spirit of scholarship and knowledge dissemination in Egypt during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Arabic and Turkish books were set in Naskh style. Meanwhile Persian books were printed in Farsi, such as the book Gulistan. The Nasta'liq typface which closely imitates a hand-written manuscript came later, around 1832 CE. The shift of book production in Egypt after 1850 was marked from the graphic point of view which eventually incorporated Square Kufic designs as the ultimate sign of heritage revival. By 1883, Bulaq was the first press to incorporate Square Kufic script into such ornaments in the title pages of the book Fath al-bari, a trend later imitated by other presses in Egypt and abroad in Istanbul and Lebanon. In addition, Bulaq Press managed to print The Quran during the reign of King Fouad (1923), and this can be considered the first copy of the Quran printed. In 2012 the BA Writing and Scripts Center managed to digitize the Bulaq Press Quran typeface. However, as mentioned above, other typefaces can be digitized through investigating the Bulaq Press publications. Therefore, this contribution aims to suggest a multidisciplinary project that investigates the evolution of Bulaq Press typefaces, then to explain the methodology according to which Bulaq Press Quran typeface was digitized, and finally to initiate a multidisciplinary collaboration to fulfill this ambitious project.

Alaa QAQ
Khazaaen; an attempt to preserve social archive in the Arab world.

Many generations have relied on narrative storytelling and other social events, which in one way or another have affected the formation of the Social identity or tradition in society itself. It depended on individual memory which at some point became part of the collective memory that was transmitted from one person to another. The lack of documenting these stories will deprive generations from knowing an important historical aspect of their society, because it was not written or documented. It is therefore essential to give attention to preserving that memory, through archiving and documenting it, in order to protect the social identity that ordinary people were the reason of forming and creating. However, traditional archives merely document the Political Elitist History which documents history of wars, people from upper classes and groups close to government and authorities; most of this information is documented in books, magazines and newspapers the content of which we rarely find produced, at least in part, by farmers. The traditional archives did not document the lives of ordinary people of indigent classes that have paid a great price from their lives throughout history.

But what about Ephemera Materials? These are produced and published by society and are considered important items. They include pamphlets, diaries, maps, stamps, posters, advertising trade cards, bookmarks, catalogues, letters, postcards, tickets, wedding invitations, etc., Ephemeral materials contain stories of the daily life of ordinary people, with details and information that may be used in research, exhibitions, theatre or other studies and ideas. That is the goal of KHAZAAEN association in creating the first Social Archive in the Arab word which has until now 114 archives from different Arab countries and 80,000 items of material. To KHAZAAEN it was so essential to shed light on the importance of this material and encourage people not to throw them even if they were published today. Convincing people of the importance of archiving and documenting ephemeral materials

starts with the fact that these materials are losing thier public information value; it was therefore necessary to Archive, document, preserve, digitize and upload them on Khazaaen digital archive website, www.khazaaen.org , to allow researchers and concerned people around the world to use them. Each material is preserved in cabinets "Khezanah" holding the name of the person he/she contributed in Khazaaen Archive.

Rami ROUSHDI - Mohamed ELLOTF
Egyptian Press Archive of CEDEJ, case study of Arabic press archive repository

Keywords: newspaper, repository, Arabic, OCR, digitization, workflow

Newspaper digital repositories are essential to add more facilities to researchers, as they represent a major source of history. The Library of Alexandria and CEDEJ cooperated to publish a well-described repository with high quality text extraction of over 1M Arabic press clips that cover 40 years of political, cultural and economic aspects in modern Egypt. While most archiving repositories classify newspapers by publisher chronologically, CEDEJ project classified press clips by author, publisher, subject and timeline.

The nature of newspapers imposes some extra challenges in different aspects, including complex layout of pages, different fonts in the same page, the continuity of the article among pages and color balancing of different background colors in the page. Additionally, the Arabic language of the press clips affected decision-making about the standards and tools of image capturing/manipulation and text extraction (OCR).

In this paper, the metadata selection and digitization workflow are shown. A variety of different qualities of Arabic newspaper articles were chosen to apply a set of selected combination of digitization standards and tools, in order to pre-process the captured images and maximize the text recognition accuracy. As a result, a median character-based accuracy of 99.2% on different article types was achieved.

This paper is a guideline for different organizations who aim to establish Arabic newspaper digital archives, ensuring high quality images as well as high accuracy text extraction.

Peter SOCCAR - Basma OSAMA
Arab world Online Archive

Keywords: Culture, Heritage, Digital Preservation, Repository, Collections

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA), pursuing its mission in preserving cultural and historical heritage, is developing a specialized online repository to archive and introduce the history of the Arab civilization in written, heard and visualized form. The online archive aims to connect the younger Arab generations with their cultural identity and to maintain the collective memory of the people of the Arab World, through digitizing significant content ranging from preserved books, manuscripts, heritage sites, maps, stamps, historical agreements, press articles, habits and customs, public figures, audios and videos.

With such a large and heterogeneous collection at hand, thousands of items and their interrelations, designing a structure to comprise such a collection was a challenge. A single multidimensional web structure containing different materials and themes was developed. An efficient workflow to manage the different operations related to digitization, data entry, reviewing and maintaining integrity was implemented. Techniques such as Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for digitized text objects and tiling for ancient map visualization were utilized. The whole collection was indexed and, in addition, specialized viewers were developed for the various media types to provide a user-friendly experience.

David Joseph WRISLEY
Digital Humanities Practices and Archival Appraisal in the Contemporary Arab World

Our paper explores ways in which contemporary scholarly practices in the digital humanities can utilize archival documents as "raw" material for analytical and digital storytelling purposes. We present some case studies drawing on Wrisley's undergraduate teaching in digital humanities, using primary documents from and about the Gulf region (a fold-out map in a 1933 published book, a British India government historical gazetteer, a large format map of Arabia from the 1940s and local phone directories from the 1970s). We argue, on the one hand, that there is an interpretative potential in un-curated documents that digital humanities practices can unlock, and on the other hand, that the archival appraisal process needs to be attentive to such scholarly reuse and the data/information value of documents. In the end, we argue for the strong collaboration between the archivist and the digital humanist for building archival collections.

Radwa ZAKI
The Digital Projects for studying the Islamic Inscriptions

Digital libraries act as a focal source in knowledge production, providing accessible information for research around the world. Inscriptions, considered one of the most defined features in Islamic culture, were used to decorate works of art and architecture made in Islamic lands. Therefore, this paper debates whether there are digital archiving projects adopted studying and retrieving different types of Islamic inscriptions recorded on monumental buildings. It endeavors through comparative approach to show the methodology and the content of three digital projects dedicated to publish and record Islamic inscriptions; they are: "Thesaurus d' Epigraphie Islamique", "The Digital Library of Inscriptions & Calligraphies" and "The Monumental Inscriptions of Historic Cairo". Based on the previous points, the paper aims to evaluate the contribution of these projects in providing a sustainable platform for preserving and archiving Islamic inscriptions in digital form.

Can this present connect the past to the future?

It is no secret that the golden age of Arab science and culture is a thing of the past. The images that come to mind when speaking of the Arab civilization are those of Al Andalus, the Library of Baghdad, the papermaking mills of Cairo, Alqairawan University, Alqarawiyyin University and Alazhar University. These are the Arab institutions and establishments that once produced and contained the scientific, literary, and artistic treasures of the Arab civilization.

The Arabic manuscript was one of the landmarks of that golden age, but as that age was beginning to fade way, the era of the printing press began to formulate in Europe. Hence, human civilization witnessed the shift from writing to printing, i.e. from the manuscript to the printed book. This shift in documentation is similar in magnitude to the shift from

stone engravings to writing on animal skins and papyrus. Similarly, we are now amid the transformation from the printed document to the digital document. Like a miracle, new technologies opened new doors with regards to the preservation, transfer, storage and accessibility of knowledge.

That is how the Arabic manuscript met with digitization, since the need to preserve the heritage is of paramount importance. However, because desires are never on the same wavelength as realities, the situation of Arabic manuscripts and rare books looks as if it is going towards the loss of the physical object. Only digital copies will survive, it seems. Moreover, since digitization initiatives stand shy in front of the immensity of the Arabic documentary heritage, it seems only a fraction of that heritage will be transferred to future generations. In order to understand why, we must examine the big picture because a forecast of the future can only be delivered through an extensive study of the past and an accurate assessment of present times.

Speakers' Biographies

Keynote - Zoé HEADLEY

Zoe E. Headley, a social anthropologist, first trained in the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, London), then carried out her PhD at the École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS, Paris) and finally attended the Sud Asien Institut (SAI, Heildelberg University) as a post-doctoral fellow before joining the CNRS in 2010. Though her initial training was in Sanskrit and Hindi, from the MA onwards her focus has been on the Tamil speaking region. Her PhD revisited an emblematic Tamil subcaste, the Pramalai Kallars, who were studied in the late 1940s by the French anthropologist Louis Dumont. Her thesis focused on the issue of collective identity among this former 'criminal tribe' as it is articulated through oral and printed history, perception of the self and others through life-cycle rituals, health and illness and finally through contemporary politics and caste associations.

It was during her PhD fieldwork, that she came across written documentation in a Kallar village pertaining to a largely neglected field of study, that of conflict management at the village level and customary law. Further investigation brought to light an abundance of similar documentation spanning three centuries held in private households. These documents, on palm-leaf, paper and copper plates, in various stages of deterioration, constitute a unique resource for micro-historical studies of south Indian agrarian society and contribute to reappraise the enduring distinction in India between written and oral traditions which resulted in the neglect of textual resources produced in local communities.

With a five-year funding from the Endangered Archives Programme (British Library), Zoe Headley initiated in 2011, with S. Ponnarasu (Indian Institute of Technology - Madras), the Digital Archive of Tamil Agrarian History (DATAH, 1650-1950), a vast campaign of digitization of vulnerable documents scattered in private households across Tamil Nadu which resulted in the first "village" digital archive of over 100,000 documents.

She carried over her concern with the issue of deteriorating invisible archives and digital preservation to the field of Tamil studio photography. In 2016, she set up STARS (Studies in Tamil Studio Archive and Society), a project aimed at projecting a different light on the history of photography by constituting the first archive solely focusing on commercial photography produced by Indians for Indians from the opening of the first Indian-run studios in the 1880s up to the demise of studio photography during the 1980s. This archive of subaltern photography, presently numbering some 42,000 digitized glass-plate negatives, synthetic negatives and prints, presents a different narrative of the history of photography than that produced by the colonial and aristocratic archives.

Zoe E. Headley is currently co-director of the CEIAS (CNRS-EHESS), the largest South Asia research center in France.

Nabil AKNOUCHE

Professeur à l'Institut de bibliothéconomie et de documentation - Université Abdelhamid Mehri - Constantine 2 – Algérie

Nabil Aknouche is a Full Professor of the Institute of Library and Documentation science at the university of Constantine 02 - Abdelhamid Mehri University in Algeria. He received his master's degree and his PhD from the same institute; in 2010 he was awarded the prize of the PhD in LIS in the Arab world by the Arab Union for libraries and information for the best PhD in LIS in the Arab world (AFLI). He has been teaching for more thana decade and has been in charge in many high positions for many years at the institute and the university, Besides, he has been a member of the scientific board of the institute and of many specialized peer-reviewed journals in LIS as well. He has published many international and national papers as we all presented in many international and national conferences; he has been managing scientific research laboratories at the University of Constantine 02 since 2013.

Rafik AL-AKOURI

General Director of the Center for Yemeni Musical Heritage-Sanaa

Rafik al-Akouri is the General Director of the Center for Yemeni Musical Heritage (CYMH, Ministry of Culture, Sanaa), since 2012: https://www.facebook.com/pages/547933855236623.

Trained as an archivist, he was previously responsible for the musical archives in the CYMH from 2003 to 2011. He was involved in many national and international projects dealing with the preservation of Yemeni music, among which the is UNESCO project for the preservation of the Song of Sanaa (2006–2009). He also participated in many Arab and international conferences on the preservation of music and intangible heritage.

Hasan ALMESAABI

National Archives UAE – UAE

halmesaabi@na.ae

Hasan Almesaabi is a restoration specialist in the National Archives of the UAE. He specializes in the conservation of paper and archival materials. He holds a master's degree in conservation from the University of the Arts – London. He has been working for the National Archives since 2005. Before becoming a restoration specialist in 2016, he worked as a researcher, a translator and an education programs specialist. Almesaabi holds a B.A. in political science from Ohio State University and an M.A. in international law, international relations and diplomacy from Paris Sorbonne – Abu Dhabi.

Motasem ALRAHABI

Observatoire de la vie littéraire - France

motasem.alrahabi@gmail.com

Motasem Alrahabi received a PhD in Linguistic Engineering from Paris-Sorbonne University – France. He has taught in several universities in France and in UAE. He is currently a Research Engineer and Scientific Coordinator at the Observatoire de la vie littéraire (OBVIL, Sorbonne Université). His research activities in Arabic and French focus on the reported speech, opinions, definitions, comparisons and other aspects of texts' semantic analysis and their automatic annotation.

Pavel BASHARIN FIRKOVICH
Russian State University for the Humanities, Mardjani Foundation (Moscow, Russia) – Russia
Ph.D. in Philosophy, Assistant Professor

pbasharin@yandex.ru

Director of the Center of Iranian Studies in the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow; Assistant professor of the Department of Modern East of the Faculty of History, Political Science and Law in the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow.

University subjects: Islamic philosophy, Persian language, Classical Arabic texts, Language of the Quran, Shi'ism and Sufism in Iran, Religions of Pre-Islamic Iran.

More than 100 publications on Islamic mysticism, Islamic and Iranian demonology.

Bradley BAUER
New York University - Abu Dhabi Library – UAE

bdb3@nyu.edu

Brad Bauer is an Associate Academic Librarian and Head, Archives and Special Collections, at the New York University Abu Dhabi Library. Since joining the university in 2017, he has been responsible for the appraisal, acquisition, description and provision of access for the department's archival and manuscript collections, as well as its rare books, maps and related primary source research materials. Prior to this, he served as Chief Archivist at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC; as Associate Archivist for Collection Development and Western European Curator at Stanford University's Hoover Institution Archives; and as an archivist with the National Archives and Records Administration (U.S.), among other positions. He has been active in the Society of American Archivists, the International Council on Archives and the Society of California Archivists, serving a term as president of the latter organization from 2012-2013. He has a master's degree in liberal arts from Stanford University, a master's degree in library and information science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a bachelor's degree in history from California State University, Fullerton.

Hala BAYOUMI
CNRS/ CEDEJ - France/Egypt

hala.bayoumi@cedej-eg.org

Winner of the CNRS 2017 crystal medal and Ambassador of the program "la Science taille XXelle" for 2019, Hala Bayoumi is a research engineer at the CNRS France (National Center for Scientific Research) and head of the Digital Humanities cluster at the CEDEJ. After obtaining a doctorate in computer science and mathematics applied to the human and social sciences in Paris (with honours and congratulations from the jury), she received in 2017 a post-doc diploma from the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (EPHE) for the development of an interactive and collaborative web portal offering a world map of spatial reference aridity associated with a database (aridityworldmap.org). Between 2011 and 2015, Hala Bayoumi worked on Egypt's electoral sociology programme at the CEDEJ. Currently, she is the co-director of the Atlas of Contemporary Egypt (CNRS éditions February 2020); she is leading the updating of a demographic and socio-economic database of Egypt and the updating of the country's administrative map

in close collaboration with CAPMAS; she oversees the digitization of part of the collection of the CEDEJ library and the creation of a catalogue for the CEDEJ map library in partnership with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. In order to transmit the knowledge acquired, Hala Bayoumi has set up and coordinated since 2010 a master's level training in Data Analysis and Spatial Analysis Techniques (GIS 4D) for Egyptian officials from CAPMAS: she herself teaches within this inter-university diploma EPHE-University of Lyon.

Safwa BEDEIR
Cairo University/ Faculty of Arts/ Department of Libraries, Documents and Information Technology – Egypt

safwabedair@yahoo.com

Member of Society of American Archivists. Associate Professor of Archive, the Department of Libraries, Document and Information Technology, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University. Specialized in Archival Description Standards "typically, MARC 21 & EAD", Digital Archives and Engineering Archives. Also interested in "Publishing and Achieving the Documents of the French Campaign on Egypt".

Messaoud BELIANE
Université Costantine 2 – Algérie

messaoud.beliane@univ-constantine2.dz

Messaoud beliane is a PhD researcher who received his master's degree in 2017 with specialization in archival studies. Since October 2018, he has been pursuing his PhD research in LIS. He also has experience as a librarian since 2011, and has also been working as a medical librarian since 2017. He has published an article paper in the Arab Journal of Archives, Documentation and Information. His main research interests are archives management, digital archiving, digital information services, digitization in libraries and archive centers.

Karine BENNAFLA

Karine Bennafla is a professor of geography at the Jean Moulin University in Lyon. A member of the Institut universitaire de France, she was Director of the CEDEJ in Cairo from 2015 to 2019.

Isabelle BLÖSS-WIDMER
Aix-Marseille University (France)

isabelle.widmer@univ-amu.fr

Isabelle Blöss-Widmer is senior lecturer at Aix-Marseille University (France) and researcher at the Mediterranean Laboratory of Sociology (LAMES-CNRS, Umr 7305). She holds a PhD in demography from University Paris I-Sorbonne. She is head of the Mediterranean demographic observatory (DemoMed, www.demomed.org). Her current research is mainly on the demography of Mediterranean countries, focusing on the causes and consequences of demographic ageing studied on the different administrative scales of the territories. Specialist of quantitative surveys in social sciences, she is the scientific referent at Aix-Marseille University as part of the PROGEDO scheme (http://www.progedo.fr/).

Meriem BOULAHLIB
ABDELHAMID MEHRI UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTINE – ALGERIA

meriem.boulahlib@univ-constantine2.dz

Meriem Boulahlib : Assistant professor at library and documentation institute, University of Abdulhamid Mehri Constantine 2; holds a doctorate in library science; latest publication: Cultural Heritage digitization projects in Algeria: Case Study of the National Library. IFLA Journal, 41(3), 272-278

Carmen BRANDO

Carmen Brando holds a PhD in Computer Science and her research interests concern the development and use of natural language processing methods and machine learning for the humanities and the social sciences. At the moment, her works deals specifically with the annotation of named entities in literary and historical texts and geographical information extraction from texts.

Fatima CHEIKH
ABDELHAMID MEHRI UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTINE – ALGERIA

Fatima.cheikh@univ-constantine2.dz

Fatima Cheikh is a lecturer at the Library and Documentation Institute, University of Abdulhamid Mehri Constantine 2. She holds a doctorate in library science. Latest publication: The practice of digital reading in the university environment : case study of library science institute students at the University of Abdulhamid Mehri Constantine, Journal of human and social sciences, 44.

Suzan DAANA
FIELD RESEARCHER AND COORDINATOR - BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY PALESTINE – PALESTINE

sdaana@birzeit.edu – Mobile: 00970599359313

Suzan graduated from University of Aberdeen in United Kingdom with a master's degree in Political Research, Birzeit University with a master's degree in Democracy and Human Rights and Damascus University with bachelor degree in English Literature.

Since 2011 to present, she has been working at the Palestinian Digital Archive at Birzeit University in Palestine as a field researcher and coordinator of the archive (www.awraq.birzeit. edu) . She used to work as a public relations officer at the Women's Center in Shu'fat –Jerusalem.

Noëmi DAUCÉ
LOUVRE ABU DHABI - EAU/ FRANCE

ndauce@louvreabudhabi.ae

Noëmi Daucé currently works at Louvre Abu Dhabi both as Chief Curator for Archaeology and Manager for Research and Development.

She has been involved in the project of the Louvre Abu Dhabi since 2014 when she joined Agence France Museum as the curator for Archaeology and settled in Abu Dhabi to prepare the opening of the museum. She has actively contributed to the development of the permanent collection, through acquisitions and loans, overviewing conservation treatment, study and valorization with associated interpretation tools. In charge of local and regional partnership,

she has fostered international cooperation with other institutions in the UAE and abroad, such as Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia. In 2019, she co-curated the exhibition Roads of Arabia, Archaeological Treasures of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, that celebrated the first anniversary of the Louvre Abu Dhabi. As the Manager for Research and Development within the Scientific and Curatorial Department, she is currently building up a new unit to support and foster academic research in several fields, mirroring and nurturing the wide range of the museum's activities.

CLÉMENT DE-BELSUNCE
UNIVERSITÉ AIX-MARSEILLE – FRANCE

clement.DE-BELSUNCE@univ-amu.fr

Clément De Belsunce is research assistant in statistics at the University Data Platform of Aix-Marseille University (http://pud.mmsh.univ-aix.fr/) located in the Mediterranean Social Sciences Research House (MMSH http://www.mmsh.univ-aix.fr/). He is a member of the Mediterranean Demographic Observatory (http://demomed.org).

JOSEPH DICHY

Joseph DICHY, born 1951 in Beirut, is Professor of Arabic Linguistics in Lyon. Author of reference books on the writing system of Arabic, polyglossia, computational linguistics (DIINAR lexical db), medieval Arabic. Currently working on the Mashaatel series of bilingual Arabic dictionaries (publisher: ARADIC-Monde arabe, http://www.aradic.fr - mail: dichy@aradic.fr)

MOHAMED ELLOTF
DIRECTOR, ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT, ICT SECTOR - BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

mohamed.ellotf@bibalex.org

Mohamed Ellotf currently serves as Director of the ICT Infrastructure & Operations Department at the ICT Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina. He obtained his bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University in 2003. He also obtained his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the Arab Academy of Science and Technology in 2016. He started his tenure at the BA in 2003 as a system administrator, then served in several managerial positions within the ICT sector until he occupying his current position in October 2016.

Mohamed Ellotf is responsible for leading, developing and maintaining the library ICT infrastructure interoperability and operations management, thus contributing to the fulfillment of the main objectives of the BA as a Library in the digital age. His responsibilities encompass directing system acquisition, installations, server management, system support and maintenance, managing network and communication systems, voice, data and office automation. He also participated in several endeavors pursued by the BA such as the technical infrastructure implementation of the Encyclopedia of Life project and the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research digitization system.

MAHMOUD ELSARAWY
CAPMAS – EGYPT

m_sarawy@yahoo.com

Mahmoud ElSarawy has been an economic statistician at Central Agency for Public Mobilization And Statistics (CAPMAS) since 2009. He completed his master's degree on planning and development at the Institute of National Planning in 2019. He also completed a High Diploma

on Spatial Data Analysis at Lyon1 University in 2011, High Diploma on Time Series Analysis at Cairo University in 2011, High Diploma on Statistical Control and Quality Assurance at Cairo University in 2010, and his undergraduate degree is a Bachelor of Commerce from Tanta University, 2008.

Mahmoud has participated in many conferences and workshop program around the world in the statistical field with more than 20 research papers. He participated as a data expert toward the production and publication of the 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2019 Africa Capacity Report (ACR) with The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF). Mahmoud has membership of some professional organizations and associations such as the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in Netherlands, the Union of Arab Statisticians (UAS) in Jordan, and he is chairman of the Youth Committee, International association in Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW) in Canada, Young African Statisticians Association (YASA) in South Africa, Young Statisticians Group in IASC (YSG-IASC) and Egyptian Young sStatistician aAssosiation (EYSA) in Egypt, and he is one of its founders.

Pierre FRANCE
Sorbonne University – France – France

pierre.france@zoho.com

Pierre France is a Ph.D candidate in Political Science, based in Beirut, Lebanon, and Marseille, France. His thesis is about the phenomenon of continuous state activity in Lebanon during the civil war (1975-1990). wWhile in Beirut he also started working on some aspects of the music industry in the Middle East. He has published in various academic and para-academic journals (Annales d'Islamologie, Confluences Méditerranée, Orient XXI, Vacarme) on both subjects. He is the co-author of a book, "Sphère publique, intérêts privés" (Public sphere, private interests) with Antoine Vauchez (2017), to be translated in 2020 in English.

More: http://www.cessp.cnrs.fr/spip.php?rubrique163

Dalia GALAL
CAPMAS – Egypt

daliaelabady@yahoo.com

Dalia Galal is an executive manager of Training Courses Program at Human Resources Development Center. Before this position she was a senior GIS specialist at CAPMAS since 1999. She had a fellowship of National Defense College from Nasr Higher 'Military academy with Excellent degree, 2018. She also had an Appreciation Certificate for her fellowship research for having Excellent degree from the National Defense College Management, 2018. She has a pre-PHD degree in strategic planning philosophy, 2018 and a master's degree in Spatial Statistical Analysis from Ecole Pratique Des Hautes Etudes, University Clude Bernard Lyon1, France, 2016, as well as another master's degree in Demography and Vital Statistical analysis from Cairo Demographic Center, Institute of National Planning of EGYPT for the academic year 2014. She is trained in several specialized training courses as: Advanced GIS applications combined with Mobile aApplications provided by MEDSTAT IV, in Italy, 2017; Advanced Statistical analysis course provided by UNICEF, 2018.; Statistical and Economic Reporting Skills training course provided by Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait, 2018. She has long experience in the GIS field as she worked on   the last National pProject of Population, Housing and Establishment Electronic Census, 2017, as an official who was responsible

for the province of Suez Canal governorates. She participated in several projects related to GIS department with governmental agencies and private sector. She has done about three theses and about five or six scientific papers related to GIS fields and combined by statistical analysis and demography.

WALID GHALI
AGA KHAN LIBRARY – ENGLAND

walid.ghali@aku.edu

Dr. Ghali is the Head of the Aga Khan Library in London, and Assistant Professor at the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations. He holds associate membership from the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP). He worked in various librarian roles at the American University in Cairo. He also held several consultancy roles inside and outside Egypt, such as the Ministry of Endowment, Qatar University and the Supreme Council for Culture in Kuwait. He received his PhD from the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University with specialisation in Islamic manuscripts studies. He has also completed coursework towards a master's degree in Islamic Studies and a postgraduate diploma in Executive Management from the American University in Cairo.

Dr Ghali's current research projects focus on the Islamic manuscript traditions, particularly in Arabic script, and the history of books. He is working on three manuscripts to examine the cross-cultural influences on manuscript traditions. He is also a member of the Board Committee for a massive digital humanity project that is currently under development at the Aga Khan University and an active member of the Islamic Manuscript Association in Cambridge since 2006 and has served as a member of its Cataloging Subcommittee.

He teaches an introductory course in Sufism at AKU–ISMC. He also teaches short courses related to the history of Islamic manuscripts, Codicology, Quran recitations, and Pre-Islamic Poetry. His current research project is on private documents of Muhammad Abdu, who led the reform movement in the Middle East in the 19th century.

MANAL GHONIEM
CAPMAS – EGYPT

manalgis79@gmail.com

She is a geographic information systems (GIS) specialist and has 18 years of experience in that field. Geographic information systems is not just a job she has specialized in, but a field that she loves to work with and with all her techniques. She always seeks to learn everything new. She has participated in many projects over the years. Its work, which is the most popular census of Egypt in 2006 and 2017.

Manal graduated from Cairo University, Faculty of Arts, and Geography Department in 2000, and then joined the GIS Diploma in Ain Shams University, graduating with a degree of excellence in 2002. Manal joined Egyptian institutions of great importance in the field of GIS including the Research Survey Institute and finally the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics.

She is interested in cultural, civilizational and natural heritage and always dreams of preserving and sustaining it.

Alicia **GONZÁLEZ MARTÍNEZ**
The Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg – Germany

alicia.gonzalez@uni-hamburg.de

Alicia González Martínez (Universität Hamburg) is a research associate on computational linguistics at the Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg. She has a multidisciplinary profile covering Arabic linguistics, Oriental studies and software development, with a special focus on Arabic Natural language processing. She completed her PhD in 2013 on Arabic computational morphology and is the developer of Yakabikaj, a search utility for Arabic-scripted texts.

Estelle **GUÉVILLE**
Louvre Abu Dhabi – UEA

egueville@louvreabudhabi.ae

Estelle Guéville graduated in art history, medieval history and management of cultural projects from University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne. Since 2013, she has worked in various French cultural institutions and museums. In 2016, she joined the France-Museums agency for Louvre Abu Dhabi project, where she participated in the opening of the museum as Assistant Curator. She worked on acquisitions, mediation, exhibitions, research and documentation projects. In July 2018, she joined Louvre Abu Dhabi in the "Research and Documentation" Department and is co-leading the documentation project aiming to archive and digitize the artworks files.

Mohamed **HASAN**
Bibliotheca Alexandrina – Egypt

Mohamed.Hasan@bibalex.org

Mohamed Hasan, Phd, was born in October 1983, and obtained a master's degree with excellent degree; his thesis was entitled "Calligraphy and calligraphers in Egypt in the Fatimid period". He obtained his PhD with highest honor degree in December 2014; his thesis was entitled "The Diwani Writings in Sultans Mamluk Era". He participated in "The First International Islamic Arts Forum in Kuwait, 2010". He also gave a lecture entitled "The Arabic Calligraphy in Mohamed Aly Dynasty Period" in the "Fifth Arabic Calligraphy Forum in Sharjah". He organized "Letters of Light" in the Egyptian Cultural center in Athens, Nouakchott and Maghreb. He is the co-author of the book "Diwan of Arabic Calligraphy in Egypt during the Muhammed Ali Dynasty" and the author of "El Ameid's Biography-The Calligrapher Sayed Ibrahim". In addition, he is an instructor of Documents and Manuscripts Calligraphy in Faculty of Arts, Alexandria University, and The Arabic Research and study institute; affiliated to The Arab League.

Juliette **HONVAULT**
Aix Marseille Université – France

jhonvault@yahoo.fr

Juliette Honvault is a researcher at the Institut for Arab and Islamic Studies and Research (IREMAM-CNRS), based in Aix-en-Provence (France). She is specialized in the social, intellectual and cultural history of the contemporary Middle East, and more particularly of Yemen. As an Arabist, she studied and worked in Egypt, Syria and Yemen, and her works deal with competing memories for writing the national stories through political autobiographies and private archives.

Coline HOUSSAIS
USTAZA France – France

coline.houssais@gmail.com

Born in 1987 in France, Coline Houssais is an independent researcher, curator and writer, specializing in Arab contemporary cultures and societies with a focus on parallel narratives. A graduate from Sciences Po, INALCO and the London School of Economics, Coline currently teaches History of Arab Politics and Culture in Europe, as well as Music and Politics in Contemporary MENA and Politics of Museums and Heritage at Sciences Po. In addition to regular contributions in a number of publications and media outlets, Coline is currently writing two books: a material history of Arab music (to be published in March 2020) and a biography of Arab divas (to be published in May 2020). Founder and head of cultural agenda-turned-creative content agency Ustaza à Paris since 2011, she is also the creator of "The Lovebirds of Baghdad", a live video and storytelling performance about Iraqi Jewish music. She released her TEDx talk entitled "This is not a veil" on the history of female headwear in France (2018) and is a Camargo Core Programme Fellow for 2019-2020 for a multimedia project about the sound archives of the Kabyle community in France.

Frédéric LAGRAGE
Sorbonne University/ CEFAS

Frédéric Lagrange, Professor of Arabic studies at Sorbonne Université, Paris, and delegate of CEFAS in Abu Dhabi. He is a translator of contemporary novelists (Hoda Barakat, Khayri Shalabi, Abduh Khal) and medieval Arabic classics (Abu Hayyan al-Tawhidi). His original research field, music practice and production in early 20th century Egypt, has led him to be a leading authority on early recordings of Arabic music. His interests expanded to cover the analysis of contemporary Arabic cultural productions from a linguistic, dialectological, historical, sociological and gender perspective. His most recent publications have dealt with Egyptian and Arabian Peninsula material, literary or audiovisual, focusing on the intersection of language, music, and ideologies. After completing completing two collective volumes dedicated to Words of desire in Arabic culture and Egyptian Pop Culture at the eve of the 21st century, he is currently developing a research project centered on the awakening of pan-arabic pop culture in the Gulf area (UAE, KSA and Kuwait) as an alternative to historically hegemonic centers of production in the Middle-East.

Jean LAMBERT
Musée de l'Homme, Paris – France

jean.lambert@mnhn.fr

Jean Lambert is an anthropologist and an ethnomusicologist specialized on Yemen and the Arabian Peninsula, as well as Lebanon and the history of Arab music. He is currently an assistant professor in the Musée de l'Homme (MNHN, Paris, Laboratoire d'Eco-Anthropologie) and an associated researcher in the CREM-LESC (Nanterre University).

https://www.jean-lambert.com/

Nagwa MAGDY
CEDEJ – Egypt

nagwa.magdy256@gmail.com

Nagwa Magdy has been a librarian and archivist at CEDEJ (Centre d'Études et de Documentation Économiques, Juridiques et Sociales) since March, 2017. She completed her bachelor's degree at the Archaeology and Egyptology department, Cairo University in 2016. She

attended a one-month training course in Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) in January 2017.

Ahmed **MANSOUR**
Bibliotheca Alexandrina - Egypt

Ahmed.Mansour@bibalex.org

Ahmed Mansour is Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina's Writing and Scripts Center. He is an Egyptologist by study, researcher in the history of Arabic printing and in the history of writing by work and research. He obtained his PhD from Alexandria University. In 2005, he published, in collaboration with Dr. Khaled Azab, The Bulaq Press monograph which relates the history of Egypt's first government-owned printing house for which they were awarded the Incentive State Award in Social Science in 2008. He was also the recipient, in 2006, of an award from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development for the best translated book form French into Arabic: Histoire de l'écriture de l'idéogramme au multimédia. In 2008, He co-published a book entitled The Arabic Printed Book: From Origins to Bulaq Press.

In 2012, he participated in Granshan Competition in Yerevan as a judge for Arabic typefaces. From 2013 to 2015 he was selected as an expert for Granshan Competition for Arabic typefaces. In 2016, he was invited to lecture about the history of Bulaq press and Arabic History of Printing in Jikji International Ceremony in South Korea. During 2016-2017 he was invited as a founding member the International Association of Printing Museums (IAPM) in Cheongju, South Korea. From 2018-2020 he has been officially nominated by Bibliotheca Alexandrina to be a founder and a board member of the International Association of Printing Museums (IAPM) in Cheongju, South Korea.

Thomas **MILO**
DecoType team - The Netherlands

tmilo@decotype.com

Thomas Milo (DecoType), linguist and computer typography pioneer, specialized in writing systems and Arabic-scripted typography from Amsterdam, the Netherlands. He published many articles on the structure and history of Arabic script, notably on the scientific analysis of classical Arabic script which led to the introduction of the concept of script grammar. Distinctions: Nobel Peace Prize 1988 for participating in an armed UN peacekeeping operation - Unicode Bulldog Award 2000 for fundamental contributions to digital text encoding - Dr Peter Karow Award 2003 for exceptional and innovative contributions to the development of digital type and typography related technology.

- Thomas Milo 2013, Towards Arabic Historical Script Grammar through contrastive analysis of Qur'an manuscripts, in: Writings and Writing, investigations in: Islamic text and Script, edd. Robert Kerr and Thomas Milo

- Thomas Milo 2013, "Arabic Typography", in: Encyclopedia of Arabic Language and Linguistics, edd. Lutz Edzard and Rudolf de Jong

- Thomas Milo 2011, Quran Concordance, in: Brill's Quranic Studies Online

- Thomas Milo 2009, Arabic Amphibious Characters - phonetics, phonology, orthography, calligraphy and typography, in: Vom Koran zum Islam, edd. Markus Gross and Karl-Heinz Ohlig

- Thomas Milo 2008, Computing and the Qur'an - some caveats, in: Schlaglichter, edd. Markus Gross and Karl-Heinz Ohlig

- Thomas Milo 2003, ALI-BABA and the 4.0 Unicode characters - Towards the ideal Arabic

working environment, in: TUGboat, Volume 24 (2003), No. 3 — Proceedings of EuroTEX 2003

- Thomas Milo 2002, Authentic Arabic: A Case Study – Right-to-left font structure, font design and typography (2002)in: Manuscripta Orientalia, international Journal for Oriental Manuscript Research, vol 8, no 1 march 2002

- Thomas Milo 2002, Arabic script and typography: A brief historical overview, in: Language Culture Type, international type design in the age of Unicode, ed. John D. Berry,

- Thomas Milo 1989, The Koran Fragments from the Lodewijk Houthakker Collection (1989 in Design into Art, Peter Führing, reprinted 1995 in: MELA Notes, number 62)

Eʙᴛᴇʜᴀʟ MOHAMED
CEDEJ – Eɢʏᴘᴛ

ebtihal.ibrahim@cedej-eg.org

Ebtehal Mohamed has been a librarian and archivist at CEDEJ (Centre d'Études et de Documentation Économiques, Juridiques et Sociales) since 2016. She obtained her bachelor's degree with honor in Documentation and Information Technology from Cairo University, Faculty of literature in 2016. She is an expert in MARC21 and Minisis.

Fᴀᴛᴇɴ NAEEM ROCHDY
Lᴏᴜᴠʀᴇ Aʙᴜ Dʜᴀʙɪ – EAU

FRochdy@louvreabudhabi.ae

Faten Naeem Rochdy joined Louvre Abu Dhabi's Research and Development Department as the Resource Centre Unit Head since 2019. She holds a master's degree in History from Paris I – Panthéon-Sorbonne University. She had worked in the Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale (IFAO) since 2007 as a librarian before joining the publishing department in 2015. She has participated in the project "Bibliothèque d'Orient" launched by the Bibliothèque Nationale de France since 2015 to create a trilingual collaborative digital library that brings together remarkable documents from the BnF collections and several heritage and research libraries in the Middle East. She has also been the Coordinator in Egypt of the exhibition "L'épopée du Canal de Suez. Des pharaons au XXIe siècle" organized by the Institut du Monde Arabe in 2018.

Mᴀɢᴅʏ NAGI
Sᴇɴɪᴏʀ Cᴏɴsᴜʟᴛᴀɴᴛ, ICT Sᴇᴄᴛᴏʀ - Bɪʙʟɪᴏᴛʜᴇᴄᴀ Aʟᴇxᴀɴᴅʀɪɴᴀ/ Aʟᴇxᴀɴᴅʀɪᴀ Uɴɪᴠᴇʀsɪᴛʏ – Eɢʏᴘᴛ

Magdy.Nagi@bibalex.org

Dr. Nagi is a Professor in the Computer and Systems Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University. He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Karlsruhe, in 1974, where he served as lecturer for two years and as a consultant to its Computer Center from 1974-1990. During this period, he also served as consultant to many companies in Germany such as Dr. Otker, Bayer, SYDAT AG, and BEC.

On the national level, he was a consultant to many projects under the umbrella of either the University of Alexandria or the Faculty of Engineering for designing and/or implementing

automation projects for governmental authorities or public sector companies, such as the Ministry of Interior, the Health Insurance Organization (HIO), the Social Insurance Organization (SIO) and the Customs Authorities.

Dr. Nagi has served, since 1995, as Consultant to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Among his activities were the design and installation of Bibliotheca Alexandrina's network and information system, namely a trilingual information system that offers full library automation.

In 2001, he was appointed as the Head of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Sector of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and occupied that post till 2012. He currently serves as a senior Consultant to the ICT Sector and continues to oversee the various projects and partnerships established between the ICT Sector and many international institutions.

Dr. Nagi is a member of the ACM and the IEEE Computer Society as well as several other scientific organizations. His main research interests are in operating systems and database systems. He is author/co-author of more than 100 papers.

Salma NASSAR
UN Habitat Egypt

colloque.humnum@cedej-eg.org

She is an Architect and an Urban Designer, with an MSc degree from University College London in Building and Urban Design in Development. She is part of the organizational committee of the international symposium of the Digital Archiving in the Arab World 2019. She currently works at the UN Habitat Egypt in the Housing and Upgrading Program. Her academic research focuses on urban informality and upgrading both locally in Egypt and internationally in the global south. She worked closely with local communities to develop participatory design solutions that cater their needs in four different countries including Italy and Myanmar. In parallel, Salma was a teaching assistant at the Architecture Department at the American University in Cairo.

Sébastien OLIVEAU
Aix-Marseille University/ PROGEDO – France

sebastien.oliveau@univ-amu.fr

Sébastien Oliveau is Ass. Professor (Ph.D., Habil.) at Aix-Marseille University (France). He is cofounder of the Mediterranean Demographic Observatory (http://demomed.org) and current director of the French very large-scale research infrastructure PROGEDO (http://progedo.fr).

Muhamed OSMAN AL KHALIL
NYU Abu Dhabi

Muhamed Osman Al Khalil is associate professor of Arabic at New York University in Abu Dhabi. Dr. Al Khalil received a BA in English literature from the University of Damascus (1993), an MA in applied linguistics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (1998), and a Ph.D. in Modern Arabic Literature from the University of Arizona (2005). He has received a Fulbright scholarship and taught at universities in the United States, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. His research interests include Arabic language computing, Arabic corpora, language policy, and the interplay of the literary and political in modern Arabic literature. He is currently producing an anthology of Arabic fictional works on the United States, and is also leading several research projects creating corpus-based learning resources for the language, notably the grant-funded SAMER project (Simplification of Arabic Masterpieces for Extensive Reading).

Basma OSSAMA
Bibliotheca Alexandrina – Egypt

Basma.Ossama@bibalex.org

Basma Ossama is from Alexandria where she works as senior software engineer at Institutional Repositories & Integrated Library Systems department of the ICT sector in Bibliotheca Alexandrina. She graduated from Faculty of Engineering in 2014, Computer and Communications Department. She has a great deal of experience in web development and digital archiving systems.

Alaa QAQ
Khazaaen Association for Archives and Documentation in Jerusalem – Palestine

pr@khazaaen.org

Alaa QAQ is the Public Relations and Fundraising Manager and co-Founder at Khazaaen Association for Archives and Documentation in Jerusalem. Besides her role in public relations and fundraising, Alaa represents Khazaaen in many workshops and conferences where she discusses the association's role in preserving ephemeral materials and digitization.

Born in Palestine, Jerusalem, in 1988, Alaa received her M.A. degree in European studies from Düsseldorf University in Germany and her B.A in Economics and Political Sciences from Al Quds University. She spent a period of her time volunteering in different sectors, and she was a member of the editorial board of MODAFEEN "Defenders" magazine for human rights in Jerusalem. In 2011, she represented Palestine in a Conference in Nairobi where she talked about the political, economic and educational situation in Jerusalem. In 2009, some of her poems where published in a book alongside poems by other writers.

Alaa's growing interest in documentation and archives has encouraged her to consider pursuing her studies in this particular field, where she hopes to direct people's attention to the importance and need for the ephemeral material produced every day. www.khazaaen.org

Alice QUERIN
Louvre Abu Dhabi – EAU

aquerin@louvreabudhabi.ae

Alice Querin received a BA in Art History and an MA in Modern and Contemporary Art from Bologna University, Italy and Essex University, United Kingdom.

In 2010, she joined DCT Abu Dhabi and she managed Abu Dhabi Art galleries and VIP relations for 6 years. She joined the Dubai Culture team in 2016 and she set up the collection's database; she helped in documenting and digitalizing a collection of more than 26,000 objects.

In 2018, she was hired by Louvre Abu Dhabi to manage the artworks database; she is also co-leading the documentation project aiming to digitalize, archive and document the museum's collection.

Yann RODIER
SUAD – EAU

Yann.Rodier@psuad.ac.ae

Yann Rodier is Assistant Professor and Head of History Department at the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates). He defended a PhD accepted for publication under the following title: Les raisons de la haine. Histoire d'une passion dans la France du premier XVIIe

siècle (1610-1659). This research attempted to study the scientific history of passions, the history of emotions – especially xenophobia – and the history of prejudices and stereotypes. His perspective on research has been broadened by studying the Gipsy minorities in Europe. Another current research in the UAE is focused on French diplomacy in the Gulf (Persia, Sultanate of Oman, Yemen) in the 17-18th c.

Rami ROUCHDI
BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA –EGYPT

Rami.Rouchdi@bibalex.org

Rami K. Rouchdi, head of Digitization Operations Section of the ICT Infrastructure & Operations Department at the ICT Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

B.Sc. of Computer Engineering, 1997 from Arab Academy for Science and Technology.

He worked as system administrator for many companies till 2002. He then started his career at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) by 2002 as Senior Technical Support Engineer. From 2005 to 2011, he led the Digitization Laboratory Unit at Library of Alexandria. Since 2011 to date, he leads the Digitation Operations Section.

As part of his responsibilities at BA, Rami led many national and international digitization projects. In addition to his expertise in digitization, a main part of his research is about the digitization of Arabic content. He organized many digitization workshops to train organizations to digitize Arabic textual documents. These included Yale University, AUB (American University of Beirut), BRILL and KISR (Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research) and others. Recently he developed a mass production workflow for Arabic ePub books that adopts the digitization technologies of Arabic textual contents to produce electronic Arabic books in ePub format.

Ahmed SAMIR
BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA –EGYPT

Ahmed.Samir@bibalex.org

Ahmed Samir currently serves as Director of the Institutional Repositories & Integrated Library Systems Department at the ICT Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina. He obtained his BSc. in Computer Engineering in 2001 from the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University, in addition to acquiring his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the Arab Academy of Science and Technology in 2016. He started his career as a programmer at Pfizer and afterwards he served as a computer engineer at the Egyptian Ministry of Communication and Information Technology. He also served as a Security System caliber at the Egyptian Presidency in 2002 – 2003.

He joined the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 2001 – 2002, starting off as a Software Engineer, then he re-joined the Library in 2003 where he took managerial positions spanning 2004 – 2013 as Head of the Software Engineering Unit and as Project Manager at the ICT sector. Ahmed Samir's expertise encompasses different areas of digital preservation. He has supervised the creation of several digital library projects such as the BA's digital library of inscriptions and the award-winning Memory of Modern Egypt digital archive among others. That is in addition to his experience for more than 18 years in building solutions and software management which represent the core of the BA's institutional infrastructure through different yet integrating systems, such as the content management system, archiving, workflows of administrative procedures and oracle-based enterprise resources system which manages personnel, finance, purchasing, inventories, etc.

PETER SOCCAR
BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA –EGYPT

Peter.Soccar@bibalex.org

Peter Soccar is a Project Manager at Institutional Repositories & Integrated Library Systems department of the ICT sector at Bibliotheca Alexandrina. He obtained his bachelor degree from Alexandria's Faculty of Engineering, Computer Science and Automatic Control department in 2005 with an Excellent with Distinction degree; since then he has been working as a software engineer with extensive experience in Web and Mobile application development, as well as digitization and archiving systems. He is currently a Project Manager and leading a team of software engineers.

DAVID-JOSEPH WRISLEY
NYU ABU DHABI – EAU

djw12@nyu.edu

David Joseph Wrisley is Associate Professor of Digital Humanities at NYU Abu Dhabi. Professor Wrisley has lived in the Arab world since 2002, previously holding a position in the Department of English at the American University of Beirut and serving as department chair from 2010-14. Trained as a literary historian and medievalist, he is an interdisciplinary scholar-teacher with interests in Digital Humanities, Spatial Humanities, Visualization and AI for the humanities. At the core of his research are questions of spatio-temporality, multilingualism, interculturality and the materiality and variance of archival documents. He works in seven languages, including Arabic. More information about his research, teaching and professional practice as well as a publication list can be found at djwrisley.com.

RADWA ZAKI
BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA – EGYPT

Radwa.Zaki@bibalex.org

Dr. Zaki is currently a Senior Researcher in the Writing and Scripts Center, Academic Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

She obtained her Ph.D. in Islamic Architecture from Alexandria University, and a six-month fellowship in National Research Center in Rome (CNR), "Cultural Heritage Deplomizia".

She is the author of "The legacy of the stone… Biography of the monuments transferred to the Architecture of Cairo Islamic, (Cairo: Egyptian General Book Organization, 2019)", "Pharaonic architectural elements reused in the Islamic monuments of Cairo", (Cairo: Battana, 2019) and "Reviving the science of Alexandria: From Greek to Arabic, (Cairo: General Authority for Culture Palaces, Ministry of Culture, 2017).

She is also a co-editor of Hassan Qassem, "Mwsw'eh Almzarat Aleslamyh Walathar Al'erbyh Fy Alqahrh Alm'ezyh, eight Volumes, (Alexandria: Bibliotheca Alexandrina, 2018)", and she published research papers in peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences, besides dozens of articles.

She is an academic referee in the field of Islamic history and Archaeology in the Egyptian General Book Organization - Ministry of Culture, Egypt.

Dr. Zaki was nominated for "Sheikh Zayed Book Award 2018-2019 (13th Edition)" for the 'Young Author' category for the book, "The Revival of Alexandrian Sciences".

2019

DAIAW

DIGITAL ARCHIVING
CONFERENCE IN THE ARAB WORLD