

AL-HAKIM FOUNDATION

# ANGLO-IRAQI STUDIES CENTRE (AISC)

## APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER



April 2017

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## AISC OUTREACH VISITS

### Bernard-Henry Levi event: "Battle of Mosul"

On 25 April 2017, Nadeem Al-Abdalla, manager of the Anglo-Iraqi Studies Centre (AISC) attended an event held at Savoy Place, London (IET – Institute of Engineering & Technology – Hall). The event was organised for the benefit of SSF (Rescuers Without Borders) and the Hexagon Society, and featured a lecture by the French academic Bernard-Henri Levy.

This included a documentary film about "The Battle of Mosul", which Levy filmed in October and November 2016, a talk about the Mosul battle and Iraq's current situation, the French election, Brexit and the election of Donald Trump as US president. Nadeem publicly challenged Levy on aspects of his film, particularly his attempt to connect Iraqi soldiers with Nazi propaganda. This is not true and has never been the case.



Bernard-Henri Levy talking about Iraq



The audience at Bernard-Henri Levy's lecture on Iraq at Savoy Place, 25 April 2017

## London Dialogue Forum Event

On 22 April 2017, Nadeem Al-Abdalla of the AISC team attended an event titled "Iraqi Dialogue Forum" in London.

The purpose of this forum was for Iraqi academics, professionals and community activists in the UK to discuss some issues affecting Iraq, and to attempt to find suggested resolutions and recommendations to be sent to decision-makers in Iraq.



London Dialogue Forum Event, 22 April 2017

## Celebrating the life and work of Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly

On 26 April 2017, Ihsan Muhsin and Nadeem Al-Abdalla from the AISC team joined members of the Iraqi community in London to celebrate the life and work of Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly.

This event was organised by the Humanitarian Dialogue Foundation (HDF) as part of their annual celebrations of Iraqis who have contributed greatly to Iraq's academic and cultural spheres and was held at Salam House, London.

Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly has worked in Iraqi universities and research centres for over 30 years, and he has published many research papers and books on the subjects of information technology, media and future studies.

Many tributes were read out to him at this event, by the Iraqi Ambassador to the UK, Dr Saleh Al-Timimi, and by many of his colleagues and students both in Iraq and in the UK.



Nadeem gives his tribute to Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly, Salam House, 26 April 2017



Iraqi community in London celebrating the life and work of Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly (centre)

## **Iraq – Silent Story: Lecture at SOAS, London**

On 5 April 2017, Ihsan Muhsin and Nadeem Al-Abdalla from the AISC team attended an event at the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), London.

This event was organised by the Association of Iraqi Academics (AIA) and featured a lecture in English by Professor Nadjé Al-Ali, an Iraqi academic whose mother is German. She lived in the UK for more than 20 years, and is a lecturer and researcher at SOAS.

Her lecture was about **“Iraq – the silent story – tyranny, sectarianism and gender violence”**. She spoke about the role of women in Iraq, specifically about middle-class Iraqi women between the 1940s and 1980s.

Professor Al-Ali works in SOAS’s Centre for Gender Studies, and she has published many books, articles and book chapters on the role of women in Iraq and the Arab world. These include:

Al-Ali, Nadjé (2000), *Secularism, Gender & the State in the Middle East: The Egyptian Women’s Movement*.

Al-Ali, Nadjé (2007) *Iraqi Women: Untold Stories From 1948 to the Present*.

Al-Ali, Nadjé and Pratt, Nicola (2009) *What kind of Liberation? Women and the Occupation in Iraq*.



Professor Nadjé Al-Ali giving her lecture about Iraq at the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS)

**Our next cultural event will be on 20 May 2017**      **"100 Years: British in Baghdad; Birth of a New Iraq"**



## ANGLO-IRAQI STUDIES CENTRE CULTURAL EVENT



**100 YEARS: BRITISH IN BAGHDAD .... BIRTH OF A NEW IRAQ**



**An event presented by Nadeem Al-Abdalla, BA, MA, MCIL,  
with an introduction by Dr Tahseen Al-Shaikhly.  
Remembering 100 years (1917 – 2017) since the British Army  
entered Baghdad, leading to a new Iraq**

**Venue: AISC, 289 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY, LONDON, NW2 6NX**

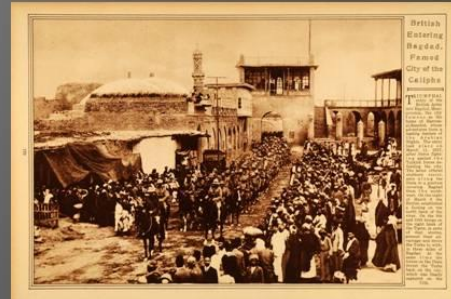
**Date /Time: SATURDAY 20 MAY 2017 AT 6PM**



## مركز الدراسات الانكلو عراقية امسية ثقافية



**100 عام على الدخول البريطاني لبغداد... وولادة العراق الجديد**



**امسية ثقافية يقدمها الباحث نديم العبدالله  
مع مقدمة تمهيدية للاكاديمي د تحسين الشخيلي  
استنكار 100 عام على الدخول البريطاني لبغداد، والذي جرى يوم 11 مارس 1917  
الباحث سيستعرض ملامح الحملة البريطانية ونتائجها التي ادت لولادة العراق الجديد**

**المكان: AISC, 289 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY, LONDON, NW2 6NX**

**التاريخ: السبت 20 مايو 2017، الساعة السادسة مساء**

## FROM OUR LIBRARY THIS MONTH

***"Escape from Baghdad"***  
**By Carl Raswan (1893-1966),**  
**published 1938**

This book describes the journey of the German writer and traveller Carl Reinhard Raswan (1893-1966) through Arabia in 1936. He travelled through Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and Iran by car, returning via the same route to Europe.

At that time (1930s), Iraq was under the influence of Britain. Germany was ruled by the Nazis (1933-1945) and this Anglo-German conflict of interests was reflected in Raswan's visit to Iraq; he found himself in a volatile political situation forcing him to leave Baghdad earlier than planned, hence the title of this book. The book itself describes Raswan's travels, the people of Baghdad and Iraq and what he saw; inside the book are 250 illustrations and photographs.

Raswan had a lifelong interest in breeding Arabian horses. He wrote numerous books on Arabian horses, and the Bedouin people who raised them. During his travels to Arabia in the 1920s and 1930s, Raswan returned with Arabian horses. Some of his publications include:

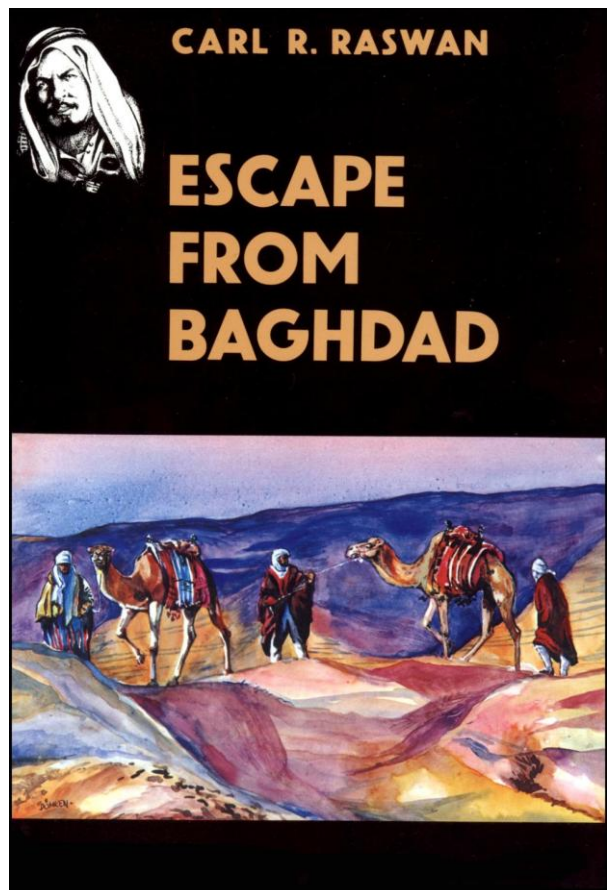
*"Im Land der Schwarzen Zelte"* (pub. 1934). Translated into English under the name *"Black Tents of Arabia; My Life Among the Bedouins"* (pub. 1935)

*"Drinkers of the Wind"* (pub. 1942)

*"The Arab & His Horse"* (pub. 1955)



Carl Reinhard Raswan (1893-1966) pictured on one of his travels to the Middle East



## ANGLO-IRAQI IMAGES

### From Australian photographer **Frank Hurley** **(1885-1962)**

Frank Hurley (1885-1962) was an Australian photographer and traveller, who served as Australia's official war photographer in both the First and Second World War. This required Hurley to travel with Australian forces, taking photographs from the countries in which Australian forces were engaged during both wars, including Iraq.

These photos were taken by Hurley in 1944; one was taken at Iraq's royal palace and shows a young King Faisal aged 9 years, whilst the other was taken in the Iraqi marshes and shows Iraqi marsh dwellers in canoes.

Hurley taught himself the art of photography in his late teenage years, and went on to set himself up in the postcard production business. He also published his photographs on advertising calendars and tourist booklets. In addition to this, Hurley used a movie camera to record his experiences during Antarctic expeditions, the building of Sydney's Harbour Bridge (Sydney being Hurley's home city) and war in the Middle East, including Iraq, during the Second World War.

The Australian National Library holds Hurley's photographic collection, containing photographs taken by him between 1910 and 1962, including these 1944 photos of Iraq. Hurley also took photographs of Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, Libya and Sudan and many other countries.



Frank Hurley (1885-1962)



Breakfast at the palace, 1944 by Frank Hurley.  
King Faisal II (9 years old) is photographed with his  
uncle, Crown Prince Abdul Illah



Canal with canoes, southern Iraq,  
1944 by Frank Hurley



Scenes from the Iraqi marshes. Photographs taken by Frank Hurley, 1943 and 1944.

مركز الدراسات الإنكلوية العراقية  
ANGLO-IRAQI STUDIES CENTRE



## FURTHER INFORMATION

To find out more about the AISC project, our activities and services, please visit our website at:

[www.angloiraqi.org](http://www.angloiraqi.org)

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