

ANGLO-IRAQI DIALOGUE FOUNDATION

ANGLO-IRAQI STUDIES CENTRE (AISC)

JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER



July 2018

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Arab media visit to AISC

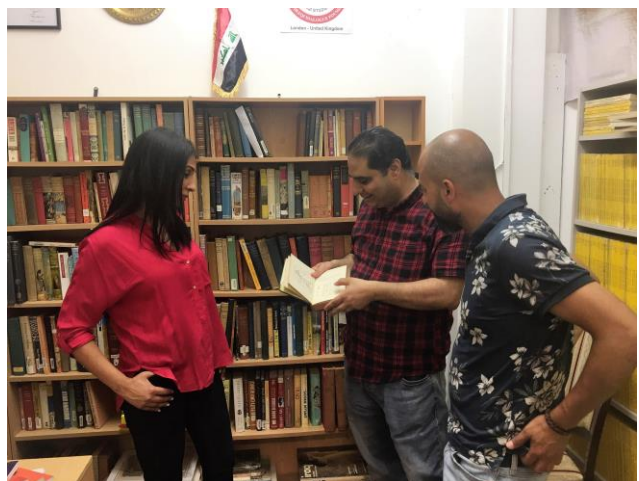
On 11 July, Ihsan M Al-Hakim and Nadeem Al-Abdalla welcomed the Arab journalist and TV personality, Ms Jihane Yassine, to the offices of the Anglo-Iraqi Studies Centre (AISC).

During her visit, Jihane toured the centre's library and viewed its collection of English language publications about Iraq and the Arab world. We talked with Jihane about the importance of re-presenting these English language publications, and of how this can maintain and revive Anglo-Iraqi and Anglo-Arab relations. This was a good opportunity to create public awareness of AISC, its activities and library collections, and its work in promoting positive community relationships in London and the UK.

During her visit to the centre, she also conducted a short TV interview with Nadeem and Ihsan for TRT World Arabia, about the current international situation and in particular the visit of US President Donald Trump to the UK.



Jihane Yassine, Arab journalist and TV personality, with Nadeem Al-Abdalla at AISC's offices



Piers Secunda Art Exhibition at Iraqi Ambassador's Residence

On 25 July, Ihsan M Al-Hakim and Nadeem Al-Abdalla from the AISC team were invited to attend an art exhibition held at the residence of the Iraqi Ambassador to the UK, Dr Salih Hussain Al-Timimi.

This art exhibition featured the works of Mr Piers Secunda, a renowned British artist who has recently worked to re-create works of Assyrian art that were destroyed by Daesh terrorists in northern Iraq between 2014 and 2017.

Art can be described as the language of common humanity, and Iraq has a proud history and heritage of art from the days of ancient Mesopotamia. Sadly, many of these artistic treasures were destroyed by Daesh terrorists in both Iraq and Syria.

Mr Piers Secunda gave a brief to the audience about the artefacts on display in the exhibition, and about his time working with destroyed Assyrian artefacts in Iraq, from which he re-created more than 40 pieces of Assyrian art, inspired by the original artefacts. Some of these were displayed at the exhibition, which was organised by the Iraqi Embassy and the representative's office of the Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

The event, hosted by Dr Al-Timimi, Iraqi Ambassador to the UK and the UK's KRG representative, Mr Karwan Jamal Tahir, was attended by Iraqi community organisations, groups and activists, British diplomats and many international guests.



"Trio from Baghdad" art exhibition, London

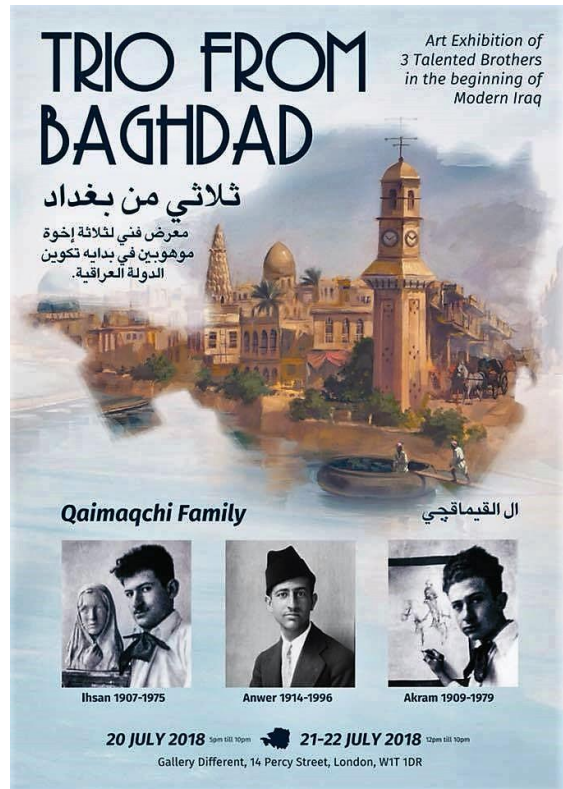
On 22 July, Ihsan M Al-Hakim and Nadeem Al-Abdalla from the AISC team were invited to attend an art exhibition titled "Trio from Baghdad", held at Gallery Different in London.

This art exhibition showcased the artistic work of three Iraqi brothers from Baghdad, who worked as medical doctors. These brothers were the renowned Iraqi artists Ihsan Qaimaqchi (1907-1975), Anwer Qaimaqchi (1914-1996) and Akram Qaimaqchi (1909-1979).

Their paintings depicted Iraq and Baghdad in the 20th century, which were created at a time when Iraq's art movement was in its pioneering age. The Qaimaqchi brothers were known for their great artistic works; Ihsan Qaimaqchi was a distinguished photographer and sculptor, Anwer Qaimaqchi was best known for the quality of his human portraits, whilst Akram Qaimaqchi was renowned for the quality of his colourful local and international paintings.

These photographs, portraits and paintings were all displayed in this art exhibition which served as a memorial to the great artistic legacy of Baghdad's Qaimaqchi family. Their work dates from the 1930s to the end of the 20th century and shows Iraq during its early days as an independent country, its culture, landmarks and environment.

The Qaimaqchi family's paintings, photographs and portraits of other countries in which they lived and worked were also shown at this exhibition.



Event on "The future of Iraq in the current situation"

On 5 July, Ihsan M Al-Hakim and Nadeem Al-Abdalla from the AISC team attended an event organised and hosted by the Iraqi Democratic Movement (IDM). This event was held at the offices of the Humanitarian Dialogue Foundation (HDF).

The speakers at this event were Dr Luay Al-Khateeb, Iraqi economist, Dr Abdul Hamied Al-Saeh and Mr Adnan Hussein, who are both Iraqi journalists. They spoke about the factors behind increasing numbers of public demonstrations in Iraq, the public's need for basic services to be provided in an orderly manner, and the disputed outcome of Iraq's 2018 parliamentary elections.



Educational event in London

On 7 July, Ihsan M Al-Hakim from the AISC team attended an event about "curriculums as the main pillar in the educational process" held at the offices of the Humanitarian Dialogue Foundation (HDF) in London. This event was organised and hosted by the Association of Supplementary Arabic Schools in the UK, and examined the role played by curriculum (a term which refers to what is included in students' learning plans) as an important factor in the process of education. Speakers at this event included Professor Tahseen Al-Sheikhly, an Iraqi professor, who spoke about curriculum and schools in the digital age, Mr Hussain Sakafi, who spoke about the psychological development of learning and the curriculum, and Mr Abdul-Ilah Tawfik, who spoke about the role of educational curriculum in social development.



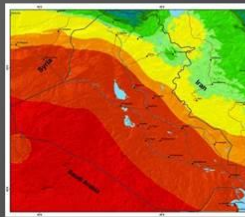
Our next cultural event will be on 25 August 2018



ANGLO-IRAQI STUDIES CENTRE CULTURAL EVENT



Environmental Degradation in Iraq from British Perspectives



A PRESENTATION BY DR JEHAN BABAN

Dr Jehan Baban, Founder and Head of the Iraqi Environment & Health Society UK, based in London, will talk about the environmental challenges facing Iraq, as documented in British studies. These challenges include climate change, drought, desertification, new industries, population growth, war and terrorism. She will also explore options for counteracting these issues.

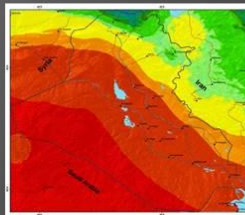
VENUE: AISC, UNIT C1, 289 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY, LONDON NW2 6NX
DATE & TIME: SATURDAY 25 AUGUST 2018 @ 6.30 PM



مركز الدراسات الانكلو عراقية امسية معرفية



التدهور البيئي في العراق وفق منظور بريطاني



امسية معرفية : د جيهان بابان

الدكتورة جيهان بابان الاستاذة والخبيرة البيئية، ورئيسة جمعية البيئة والصحة العراقية في المملكة المتحدة ستقدم ايجازا بالتحديات البيئية التي تواجه العراق وكما تم توثيقها في الدراسات والتقارير العلمية البريطانية وتشمل هذه التحديات امورا مثل التغيرات المناخية، الجفاف، التصحر، المواقع الصناعية، الازدياد السكاني، الحروب والارهاب وغيرها، وستحاول الدكتورة بابان استعراض الخيارات المتاحة والممكنة لتجاوز وتذليل هذه التحديات والمشاكل.

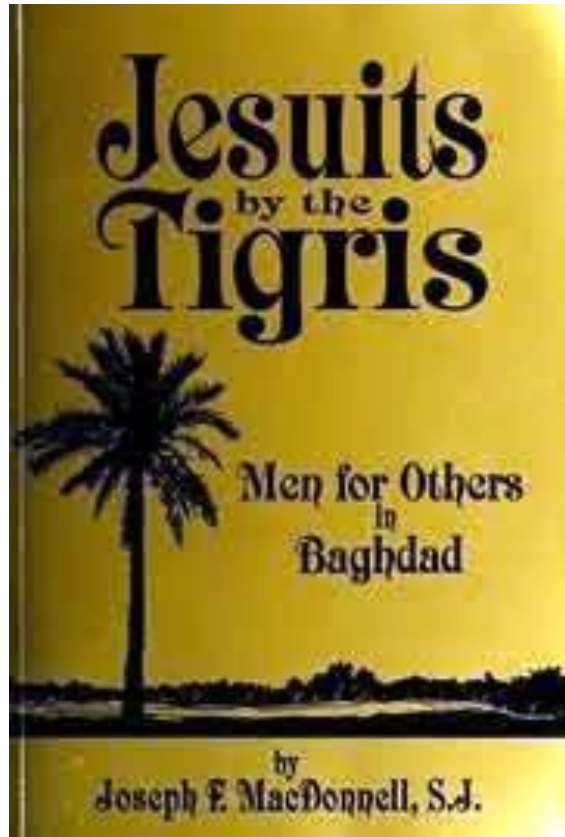
المكان: AISC, UNIT C1, 289 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY, LONDON NW2 6NX
التاريخ: السبت 25 اب / اغسطس 2018 الساعة السادسة والنصف مساء

FROM OUR LIBRARY THIS MONTH

Jesuits by the Tigris **(By Joseph F MacDonnell,** **published 1994)**

This book, published by the Reverend Joseph F MacDonnell in 1994, documents the Jesuits' time in Baghdad from 1932 until 1969. The Jesuits are an American Christian missionary group, who embarked on what became known as the "Jesuit Mission to Iraq" in 1932, the same year that Iraq became a fully independent country and formally entered the United Nations (UN). Whilst Iraq is a mainly Muslim country, a sizeable community of Iraqis are Christian. In 1932, the Jesuits opened an educational institution in Iraq; the famous Baghdad College, which was operated by the Jesuits until 1969. Later, in 1956, the Jesuits opened Al-Hikma University, which they operated until 1968.

Baghdad College was a boys' secondary school based in two houses by the Tigris. It started in 1932 with 120 enrolled students, and this eventually grew to 1,000 enrolled students. Enrolment in Baghdad College was not restricted to Christians; in fact, most of their students were Muslim, although most of these students were from middle-class, affluent backgrounds. Graduates of Baghdad College have joined the ranks of Iraq's leading politicians, economists and business people. Baghdad College was a well-known beacon of knowledge in Iraq from the 1930s to the 1970s.



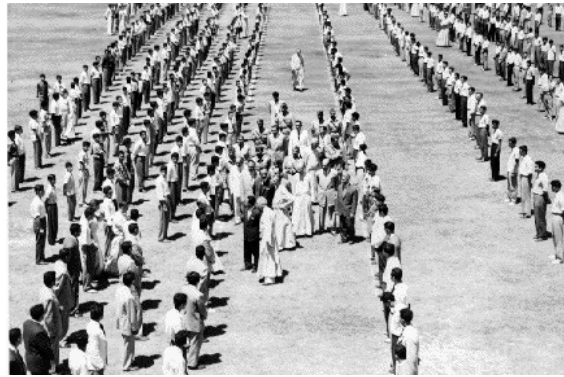
"Jesuits by the Tigris" bookcover, 1994



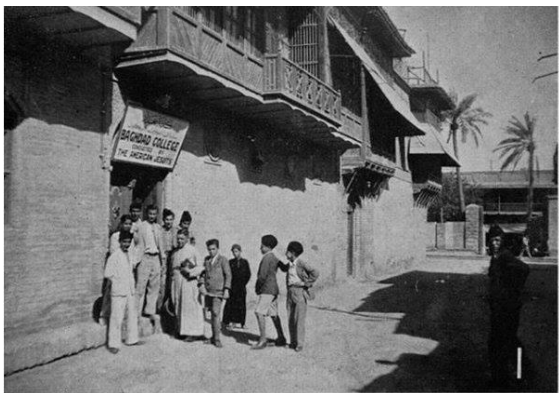
Jesuit Priests outside Baghdad College, 1930s



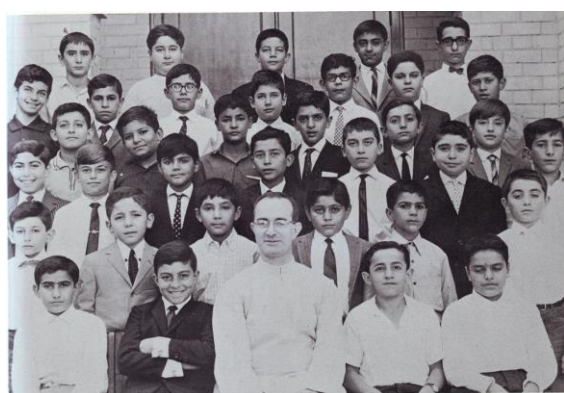
Baghdad College, Iraq, pictured in the 1930s



King Faisal visiting Baghdad College shortly before his death, 1958



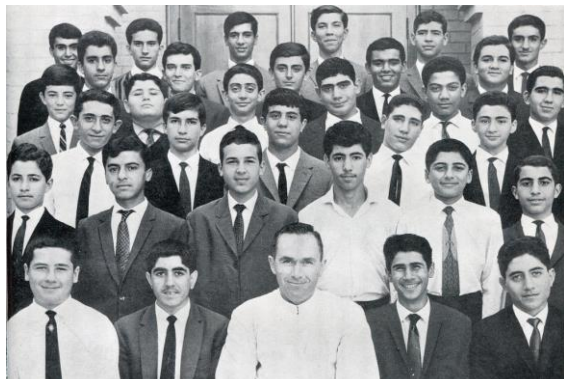
Students outside Baghdad College, Iraq



First-year Baghdad College students with their teacher, Father Alfred Hicks, 1961



Jesuit Priests from Baghdad College with one of their young students departing to the USA to complete his studies. Baghdad International Airport, 1957



Baghdad College students with their teacher, Father Edmund, 1966



These photographs, from “Jesuits by the Tigris” published in 1994, show Baghdad College, its students and staff during its time under Jesuit operation between 1932-1969. Today, Baghdad College remains one of Iraq’s leading schools.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

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Charity No: 1154526
Company No: 8323352**



“Enhancing Integration Through Knowledge,
Where East Meets West ”

