

LECTURE NR. I

1. Title lecture	The Archaeology of Tell Sabi Abyad – Recent Results and Insights
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Monday 29 October 2007 at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Prof.Dr. Peter Akkermans
4. Function Lecturer	Professor of Near Eastern Prehistory at Leiden University, and Curator at the Netherlands National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden.
5. Profile Lecturer	Prof. Peter Akkermans has directed and participated in archaeological projects in Syria for over 25 years. He is director of the Tell Sabi Abyad Project, one of the largest archaeological research projects in Syria today. Together with Glenn M. Schwartz, he recently published <i>The Archaeology of Syria</i> (Cambridge University Press, 2003), the first book to present a comprehensive review of the archaeology of Syria from the end of the Palaeolithic period to ca. 300 BC.
6. Synopsis in English	Extensive, ongoing excavations at Tell Sabi Abyad (Mohafazat Raqqa) bring to light Bronze-Age fortresses, as well as excellently preserved Stone-Age villages. Exciting new insights are obtained on the relationship between cultural change in Syria and an abrupt climate change over 8200 years ago.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	تكتشف الحفريات المكثفة الجارية في تل صبي أبيض (محافظة الرقة) عن حصن من العصر البرونزي و قرى محفوظة بشكل جيد من العصر الحجري. تم الحصول على أفكار مشوقة حول العلاقة بين التغييرات الثقافية في سورية و التغير المناخي المفاجئ لأكثر من ٨٢٠٠ سنة مضت.
8. Languages	English + simultaneous translation into Arabic

Syrian Counterpart : Found Dr. Hamido Hamidi

LECTURE NR. II

1. Title lecture	The Dutch consulate in Aleppo in the 17th and 18th centuries
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Tuesday 30 October at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Dr. Maurits van den Boogert
4. Function Lecturer	Academic Project Manager for the 3rd edition of the Encyclopaedia of Islam, at Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden.
5. Profile Lecturer	The lecturer has a PhD (2001) in Ottoman studies from Leiden University. He is the author of <i>The Capitulations and the Ottoman Legal System: Consuls, Qadis and Beratlis in the</i>

	<i>18th century</i> (Leiden, 2005), and he has published several articles about the Ottoman Empire's foreign relations in the early modern period, with particular emphasis on Aleppo.
6. Synopsis in English	This presentation offers a survey of the consulate's pre-modern history, with particular emphasis on what the Dutch merchants and consuls knew about Ottoman society in Aleppo, about Islamic law, and about their own legal status as foreigners in the Ottoman Empire.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	يقدم هذا العرض نظرة عامة عن تاريخ القنصلية ما قبل الحديث مع تركيز خاص على ما يعرفه التجار و القناصل الهولنديون عن المجتمع العثماني في حلب و عن الشريعة الإسلامية و عن وضعهم القانوني كأجانب في الإمبراطورية العثمانية.
8. Languages	English + simultaneous translation into Arabic

Syrian Counterpart :

Dr. Mahmoud Haritani: contact information 1

LECTURE NR. III

1. Title lecture	A personal journey to Aleppo, Bilad al-Sham and the Syrian Arab Republic
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Wednesday 31 October at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Dr. Nikolaos van Dam
4. Function Lecturer	Ambassador of the Netherlands in Indonesia
5. Profile Lecturer	Dr. Nikolaos van Dam, currently Ambassador of the Netherlands in Indonesia, and former Ambassador to Iraq, Egypt, Turkey and Germany, has a special academic interest in Syria. He served most of his academic and diplomatic career in the Arab world, also covering Libya, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestinian occupied territories.
6. Synopsis in English	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How Syria became the lecturer's life long academic and personal fascination. 2. State boundaries and ethnic boundaries do not always coincide. 3. The Syrian Arab Republic covers parts of both Bilad al-Sham and Bilad al-Rafidayn. 4. "Unifying colonialism" and "divisive colonialism": a comparison between Dutch colonialism in Indonesia and British and French colonialism in the Middle East. 5. Is Arabism dying and being replaced by Islamic fundamentalism? 6. Dutch Arabists can be categorized into <i>Shami</i> and <i>Masri</i>.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ١- كيف أصبحت سورية فتنة المحاضر الأكاديمي و الشخصي طوال حياته؟ ٢- لا تتزامن حدود الدول مع الحدود العرقية دائماً. ٣- تشغل الجمهورية العربية السورية أجزاءً من بلاد الشام و بلاد الرافدين.

	٤- "الاستعمار الموحد" و "الاستعمار المسبب الشقاق": مقارنة بين الاستعمار الهولندي في اندونيسيا و الاستعمار البريطاني و الفرنسي في الشرق الأوسط. ٥- هل تندثر العروبة و يستعاض عنها بالأصولية الإسلامية؟ ٦- يمكن تصنيف المستعربين الهولنديين بالشامي و المصري.
8. Languages	Arabic with English translation available through power point

LECTURE NR. IV

1. Title lecture	Middle Eastern Travellers – And What They Can Teach Us About Iraq
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Thursday 1 November at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Dr. Marcel Kurpershoek
4. Function Lecturer	Ambassador of the Netherlands in Turkey
5. Profile Lecturer	After his study of Arabic at Leiden University, dr. Marcel Kurpershoek entered the Dutch foreign service in 1974 and served in Cairo, Damascus, New York, Riyadh (Counsellor) and Brussels (Counsellor). Between 1994 and 2002 he worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague, first as the Director of the Political UN-Affairs Department, afterwards as the Director of the Northern Africa and Middle East Department. Between 2002 and 2005, dr. Kurpershoek was the Ambassador of the Netherlands to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; since 2005 he is the Ambassador of the Netherlands to the Republic of Turkey. In 1981, Dr. Kurpershoek's PhD was published, on the short stories of the Egyptian author Yusuf Idris. Between 1997 and 2002, Dr. Kurpershoek also worked as Professor for Literature and Politics in the Arab World at Leiden University. His publications include: <i>Oral Poetry & Narratives from Central Arabia</i> (vols. 1-5, Brill Publishers, Leiden 1994-2005) and <i>Arabia of the Bedouins</i> , (Saqi Books, London 2001).
6. Synopsis in English	When reading the books, letters and memoirs of Gertrude Bell, Glubb Pasha, T.E. Lawrence, Max von Oppenheim, one cannot help comparing the experience of these early European travellers, officials and soldiers with the situation in Iraq today. And how did the Iraqi's feel about it? With the wisdom of hindsight, their experience and judgments gain new significance. In many ways things turned out very differently from what they expected. Equally true, some of their forebodings proved correct, and much of what they described in their role as passionate observers remains valid and pertinent to the drama that is unfolding every day in the region. As the notes and reflections of private persons, they also tell often poignant tales of personal struggles. The vivid

	sketches of these gifted eyewitnesses bring the age to life with a freshness and immediateness that cannot be rivalled by the systematic presentation of history books.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	لا يسع المرء عند قراءته لكتب و رسائل و مذكرات غير ترود بيل و غلوب باشا و تي أي لورانس و ماكس فون اوبينهيم إلا أن يقارن تجربة هؤلاء الرحالة و الموظفين و الجنود الأوروبين القدماء بالوضع في العراق في يومنا هذا. و كيف شعر العراقيون حول هذا؟ و مع حكمة الإدراك المتأخر اكتسبت تجربتهم و إصدارهم للأحكام معنىً جديداً. و بطرق عديدة تحولت الأشياء بشكل مختلف عما توقعوها. و هذا صحيح أيضاً فقد صدقت بعض هواجسهم و بقي الكثير مما وصفوه في دورهم على أنهم مراقبون عاطفيون فعلاً و وثيق الصلة بالدراما التي تنكشف كل يوم في المنطقة. و كملاحظات و انعكاسات الأشخاص الخاصين فقد رووا أيضاً حكايات حادة عن الصراعات الشخصية. و إن الصور المشوقة لشهود العيان الموهوبين هؤلاء أعادت العصر للحياة بشكل قوي و فوري لا يمكن مجاراته بعرض نظامي لكتب التاريخ.
8. Languages	English + simultaneous translation into Arabic

LECTURE NR. V

1. Title lecture	Silver is silver, books are gold. Scientific manuscripts from Aleppo in the collections of Leiden University Library.
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Friday 2 November at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Prof.Dr. Jan Just Witkam
4. Function Lecturer	Prof. Witkam (Leiden 1945) is since 2001 holder of the chair "Paleography and Codicology of the Islamic World" in the University of Leiden, The Netherlands. Before that he was for more than thirty years curator of Oriental collections in Leiden University Library.
5. Profile Lecturer	Prof. Witkam's research focusses on Islamic book culture and on Muslim scholarship. He focusses on manuscripts. He conducts research on themes such as the role of the book in Islam and on subjects related with the techniques and approaches of Muslim scholars, both in pre-modern times and nowadays. He has extensively published on these topics in international journals and in monographs.
6. Synopsis in English	In 1629 the Dutch Republic celebrated, in the words of the national poet Constantijn Huygens, a double victory. The Silver Fleet of Spain had been captured by the Dutch in the Caribbean, and Jacobus Golius (1596-1667) the Professor of Arabic in Leiden came back to Holland, after a journey of four years to Aleppo and Istanbul with a treasure of manuscripts. What had Golius been looking for, and why? What use did he have for these books, many of which are still unique copies of scientific texts? And how have these text

	been used up till now? The Spanish silver was used in the war of the Dutch against Spain and was soon exhausted. Golius' manuscripts form a more lasting lasting treasure.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	احتفلت الجمهورية الهولندية في العام ١٦٢٩ بانتصار مزدوج حسب كلمات الشاعر الدولي كونستانتين هيجانس. قام الهولنديون بأسر أسطول الفضة الإسباني في الكاريبي، و قد عاد أستاذ اللغة العربية في ليدن ياكوب جوليوس (١٥٩٦-١٦٦٧) إلى هولندا بعد رحلة مدتها أربعة أعوام إلى حلب و إسطنبول و معه كنز من المخطوطات. عن ماذا كان يبحث جوليوس و لماذا؟ ماذا استخدم لهذه الكتب و التي ما يزال معظمها نسخا فريدة من نصوص علمية؟ و كيف يتم استخدام النصوص إلى الآن؟ استخدمت الفضة الإسبانية في الحرب بين الهولنديين و الإسبانيين و قد استنفدت بسرعة. تشكل مخطوطات جوليوس كنزا باقيا دائما.
8. Languages	English + simultaneous translation into Arabic

LECTURE NR. VI

1. Title lecture	Perceptions of Islam in the West
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Friday 2 November at 20:30h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Dr. Maurits Berger
4. Function Lecturer	Senior Research Fellow at the Clingendael Institute for International Relations, The Hague
5. Profile Lecturer	Lawyer and Arabist, specialized in (political) Islam in the Middle East and Western Europe. Worked as journalist and researcher in Cairo and Damascus in 1995-2002.
6. Synopsis in English	There is a general fear among Westerners of Islam coming as a tsunami in their direction. To understand the Western misgivings of Islam, one needs to comprehend the recent Western experiences with Muslims. It will be shown that, for many Westerners, Islam has become the symbol of everything that the West is not.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	هناك خوف عام بين الغربيين من الإسلام على أنه تسونامي قادم باتجاههم. و لفهم شكوك الإسلام على المرء أن يفهم التجارب الغربية مؤخرا مع المسلمين. و سيظهر أن الإسلام، للعديد من الغربيين، أصبح رمزا لكل ما هو غير غربي.
8. Languages	English + simultaneous translation into Arabic

LECTURE NR. VII

1. Title lecture	Aspects and side effects of Western Qur'anic Scholarship
2. Date, Time, Duration, Location	Saturday 3 November at 18:00h (45 min), at the Directorate of Culture
3. Name Lecturer	Dr. Fred Leemhuis
4. Function Lecturer	Professor of Islamic Studies at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the University of Groningen.
5. Profile Lecturer	Attached to the University of Groningen as an Arabist and Islamologist Fred Leemhuis also is a correspondent member

	of the Academy of the Arabic Language (Cairo) and field director of the Qasr Dakhleh Project. His scholarly contributions are mainly in the sphere of Qur'anic Studies, but lately also in the field of Islamic archaeology.
6. Synopsis in English	In the last six years Western scholarship has produced the six volumes of the <i>Encyclopedia of the Qur'ân</i> . A look at the list of authors, however, makes it clear that Western Qur'anic studies are by no means divorced from Islamic scholarship as muslims and non-muslims from East and West contributed. In the lecture some aspects of western scholarship on the Qur'an will be discussed. Three relatively recent events, the publication of <i>Le Décalogue</i> , a series of French comic strips, the publication of a alledgedly scholarly book by C. Luxenberg on the Syriac origin of the Qur'an and the discovery of a number of leaves from a rather late Qur'anic manuscript in the Dakhla Oasis in Egypt will be taken as points of departure for focusing on discussions about the completeness, the clarity and the uniformity of the text of the Qur'an.
7. Synopsis in Arabic	أنتجت المنحة الغربية في السنوات الست الماضية سنة مجلدات عن موسوعة القرآن. و بالنظر إلى لائحة المؤلفين يتضح أن الدراسات القرآنية الغربية لا تتفصل بأي شكل عن المنح الإسلامية كمساهمات المسلمين و غير المسلمين من الشرق و الغرب. سيتم في المحاضرة مناقشة بعض النقاط حول المنح الغربية عن القرآن. سيتم اعتبار ثلاثة أحداث كنقاط انطلاق للتركيز على مناقشات حول كمالية و وضوح و تماثل نص القرآن. هذه الأحداث هي نشر "De Leuqolacé" و هي سلسلة مصورة هزلية فرنسية و نشر كتاب البحث المزعوم لـ "سي. لوكسانبرغ" حول الأصل السرياني للقرآن، و اكتشاف عدة صفحات من مخطوط القرآن متأخر في واحة الدخلة في مصر.
8. Languages	English with Arabic translation through power point