

*The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD)  
has the pleasure to invite you for the lecture:*

## ***“The dialects of Bedouin in the Sinai Desert of Egypt”***

by **Dr. Rudolf de Jong**, who has been working on dialect research in the Sinai Desert since 1993. After his PhD thesis on the dialects of the northern Sinai was published in 2000, he received a research grant in 2003 from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research to investigate the dialects of the southern Sinai for a period of four years. He is currently finishing his second book on the Bedouin dialects of the Sinai.

*He has taught Arabic at the Universities of Groningen and Amsterdam and sat on examination boards for interpreters and translators who wish to work in Dutch Courts of Justice. He also worked for the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam.*

*The lecture will be at:*

**Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, 2007, 19:00h at NIASD**



*The Sinai Desert of Egypt has for centuries been inhabited by Bedouin tribes who speak a variety of dialects. Recent developments in the area, such as the settlement of large numbers of mainland Egyptians in the northern part, and the booming tourist industry in the south, which attracts hundreds of thousands of tourists every year, have become a serious threat to the dialects of these tribes.*

*Over the past 15 years Rudolf de Jong has been traveling in the area to record their speech, and has published his findings in several articles and a book, while a second book is to appear next year. In his lecture, illustrated with projected images, he will point out some of the differences in dialect one may hear in Sinai, even though these dialects are similar enough to collectively be considered as the western extension of a larger dialect group situated in the Hijaz, southwestern Jordan and the Negev Desert.*



**Language:** English  
**Location:** NIASD, Farabi Street 85, East Mezzeh (near the Greek Embassy)  
**Time:** 19:00h  
**Information:** Telephone: 6120515, Email: [assistant@niasd.org](mailto:assistant@niasd.org)