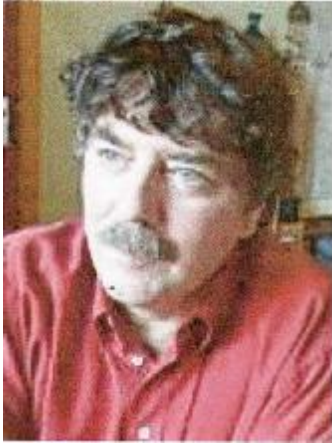


*The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD)  
has the pleasure to invite you for the lecture:*

## **‘Semantic shifts of words in Classical Arabic Literature: the case of “leanness” (نحافة)’**

*- Lecture by Gert Borg -*



**Gert Borg** (1953, Holland) studied Semantic Languages and Literatures at the university in Nijmegen from 1971 to 1979, specializing in Classical Arabic Literature and Ugaritic. From 1978 to 1988 he worked at the Department for Arabic and Islam of the same university as a teacher of Arabic, later as an assistant professor for Classical Arabic Literature. He was director of the Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo twice: from 1989 to 1991 and from 2003 to 2006.

**Monday 19th January 2009, 19:00h at the NIASD**

Words have careers: their semantic range shifts during centuries of usage, even in the “limited” context of Arabic poetry. Until recently we did not have a tool to observe these shifts, but this situation has changed. In this lecture I will present the Mawsu’a Shi’riyya (Encyclopedia of Poetry) / (الموسوعة الشعرية) and the opportunities it offers in both the fields of Literature and Linguistics.



**Language:** English – with Arabic examples  
**Location:** NIASD, East Mezzeh, Al-Farabi Street, 85, Basement.  
**Time:** 19:00h  
**Information:** Telephone: 6117622, Email: [assistant@niasd.org](mailto:assistant@niasd.org)