

NEWSLETTER

September 2010

VACANCY

The Islamic Manuscript Association

Bilingual Event and Membership Coordinator

Application Deadline: 30 September 2010

The Islamic Manuscript Association is one of the principal projects of the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation. The Association is an international non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting Islamic manuscript collections and supporting those who work with them. It was formed in response to the urgent need to address the poor preservation and inaccessibility of many Islamic manuscript collections around the world. The position is full-time and is based at the Association's office in Cambridge, UK. The contract is for one year. Employment in Cambridge will be through the Foundation's representative company Tradigital, which is based in Cairo, Egypt. The salary will be £25,000 gross per annum.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Association, including the organisation of the Association's annual conference as well as meetings and workshops, the development of online resources for professionals working with Islamic manuscripts, and the coordination of the Association's grant scheme. He or she will report to the executive director. Excellent interpersonal skills and an enthusiasm for the Association's aims are essential.

The successful candidate will be able to work well as part of a small team and also under their own direction when necessary.

To view the full job specification please visit:

<http://www.islamicmanuscript.org/about/Vacancies.html>

To apply please send a CV and covering letter with reference to the job specification explaining your suitability for the position to:

The Islamic Manuscript Association Ltd
c/o 33 Trumpington Street
Cambridge, CB2 1QY
United Kingdom

Email: admin@islamicmanuscript.org

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

Online Newsletter

The Chroniques du manuscrit au Yémen no. 10 are now on line at

<http://www.anne.regourd.org/chroniques-du-manuscrit-au-yemen#10>.

Contributions include:

- Muhammad Jazim (CEFAS), "A new Corpus of documents from the Rasulid time" (in French),

- and Anne Regourd (CNRS; Zabid's Programme), "Text and object: an Anthology of studies on the papers of the manuscript in Arabic - The Genesis of a project"

(with 1 ill.).

Contributions and suggestions are welcome for January 2011 issue

CALL FOR PAPERS

Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations, Digital Humanities 2011, hosted by Stanford University, 19-22 June 2011

<http://dh2011.stanford.edu>

Abstract deadline: November 1, 2010 (Midnight GMT).*

Presentations include:

- Posters (abstract max of 1500 words)
- Short papers (abstract max of 1500 words)
- Long papers (abstract max of 1500 words)
- Multiple paper sessions, including panels (overview max of 500 words)

Abstracts of between 750 and 1500 words.

Topic: any aspect of digital humanities, from information technology to problems in humanities research and teaching, particularly relating to interdisciplinary work and on new developments in the field, and relating in some way to the theme of the 2011 conference, Digital Humanities 2011: Big Tent Digital Humanities.

Please see journal of the associations: Literary and Linguistic Computing (LLC), Oxford University Press for full range of topic areas.

Presenters will be notified of acceptance on **February 15, 2011**. The electronic submission form will be available on the conference site the beginning of October 2010.

Proposals for non-refereed or vendor demonstrations should be discussed directly with the local conference organizer, Glen Worthey, gworthey@stanford.edu

Conference web site, <http://dh2011.stanford.edu>.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Sam Fogg Paper Manufacturers have launched a new website

<http://domain2445032.sites.fasthosts.com/client/sf/201009081447-EmailCreator.html>

EXHIBITION:

Epic of the Persian Kings: The Art of Ferdowsi's *Shahnameh*

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge University, UK

Dates: 11 September 2010 to 9 January 2011

Admission Free

This landmark exhibition of rare manuscript paintings explores the monumental artistic legacy of one of the world's greatest literary epics: the 1000 year-old Persian 'Book of Kings', or *Shahnameh*.

For further details of the exhibition and of the associated programme of events please visit:

<http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/whatson/exhibitions/shahnameh/>

EXHIBITION:

The Wonders of Creation, Manuscripts of the Bavarian State Library from the Islamic World,

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

16 September 2010- 5 December 2010

The Bavarian State Library presents a choice selection of Islamic manuscripts, recalling hand on the library's 1910 exhibition with a collection of precious objects from the original presentation in the Fürstensaal, and displaying valuable new acquisitions of the last 100 years. Among the 82 exhibits are magnificent Koran manuscripts and prayer books, well-

known illustrated Arabic manuscripts, outstanding Persian and Turkish miniatures, high-grade calligraphies and selected samples of special book-making techniques.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Exhibition catalogue in German and English language: Die Wunder der Schöpfung: Handschriften aus dem islamischen Kulturkreis = The Wonders of Creation: Manuscripts of the Bavarian State Library from the Islamic world. Ed. Helga Rebhan. Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 2010

Contacts: helga.rebhan@bsb-muenchen.de peter.schnitzlein@bsb-muenchen.de

<http://www.changing-views.de/>

LECTURE SERIES

Location: Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, at the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies.

Wednesday evenings at 5.30 pm
Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Rooms 8 and 9 (unless otherwise specified)

Michaelmas 2010 (Provisional Programme)

NB: Some of the lectures may be repeated at the British Library, British Museum or the V&A at the initiative of the IHF

Prof. Charles Melville (Cambridge University)
The Political Context of Shahnameh Manuscript production
6 October 2010

Dr Barbara Brend (Exhibition Guest Curator)
The Juki Shahnameh in Context
13 October 2010

Dr Sheila Canby (Metropolitan Museum)
Persian Art: Classical and Modern
20 October 2010

Prof. Robert Hillenbrand (Edinburgh University)
Masterpieces of Persian Miniature Painting
3 November 2010

Dr Souren Melikian-Chirvani (CNRS Paris)
The Shahnameh: Mirror of Destiny
17 November 2010

Prof. Ali Ansari (University of St Andrews)
The Shahnameh and Modern Iran
1 December 2010

Prof. Richard Davis (University of Ohio)
The Shahnameh and Persian Poetry
8 December 2010

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline: 15 October 2010

Persian and Arabic Manuscripts in Indian Libraries

Conference: 9-11 December 2010, University of Delhi

The Department of Persian, University of Delhi, will be holding an international conference on Persian and Arabic Manuscripts (in Indian Libraries: National textual Heritage) from 9-11 December 2010. If you are interested in submitting an abstract, please do so by 15 October 2010. If your abstract is selected, free accommodation in Delhi will be provided. However, costs for airfare cannot be assured.

For further details please contact: Prof. Chander Shekhar, Seminar Coordinator, Dept of Persian, University of Delhi, Delhi-110007.

chshekhar@hotmail.com

WORKSHOP

Arabic Pasts: Histories and Historiography

Location: Aga Khan University, London

Date: 17 September, 9.30am – 5.45pm

The goal of the workshop is exploratory: to bring together the disparate strands of contemporary studies of Arabic historiography and to provide a forum in which future projects can be envisioned. Building on the classic areas of textual commentary and critique focused on the canonical literary corpus, a whole range of studies can be envisaged that might expand and deepen our understanding of how the past has been — and continues to be — imagined and narrated in Arabic, across time and space from the classical age to the present.

Contact: Sarah Bowen Savant, sarah.savant@aku.edu, Konrad Hirschler, kh20@soas.ac.uk or James McDougall, james.mcdougall@trinity.ox.ac.uk

VACANCY

Documentation Assistant (Coins and Medals)

Fitzwilliam Museum

Closing date: 20 September 2010. Planned Interview dates: w/c 27 September 2010.

Vacancy Reference No: DA07125 Salary: £20,327-£23,566

Limit of tenure applies*

The post contributes to the documentation of the Coins and Medals collection, assisting in its management and in providing public access to it. Working from the objects themselves, as well as with pre-prepared listings in Excel and Access files, the post holder will generate records and digital images for transfer to the central collections database (Adlib). A significant element of the role involves the creation of new images using a scanner, and their enhancing and processing using imaging and other software. The ability to process large numbers of items and generating records for the database efficiently and accurately is essential.

Candidates should have a first degree in history, archaeology or an allied subject. The work will cover the broad range of the collection, and while a detailed knowledge of numismatics will not be expected, a general knowledge of and interest in the history and culture of Europe and Asia from the Ancient to Modern period is required. Some experience in handling and classifying coins or other related museum objects will be expected. Knowledge of the principles and practice of museum documentation and previous experience in another museum in similar work would be an asset. Excellent IT skills and experience in digital imaging are essential, as is a methodical and accurate approach to work and clear handwriting for labelling purposes.

Further details and application form CHRIS/5 are available from
<http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/contact/jobs>

lmb26@cam.ac.uk

VACANCY

Gallery Attendants (Part Time), Fitzwilliam Museum

Vacancy Reference No: DA07145 Salary: £13,150-£14,550 pa, pro rata

Closing date: 27 September 2010. Interview date: 10 October 2010.

Part-Time Gallery Attendants: Sundays (5.5hrs) - 3 posts Saturdays (6.5hrs) - 1 post

The primary role of the Gallery Attendant is to safeguard the Museum's holdings and provide security, assistance and service to the visiting public in a 'front of house' capacity. This is achieved by enforcing the rules, regulations and policies of the Museum.

In addition, Gallery Attendants have a responsibility to ensure galleries are kept clean and accessible to the public.

These posts require a responsible attitude to work, sound general education with good levels of literacy and numeracy, basic IT skills, good oral communication skills, excellent timekeeping and an interest in the arts and heritage sector.

Further details and application form CHRIS/5 are available from our website <http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/contact/jobs> , via email: lmb26@cam.ac.uk or Tel: 01223 764840.