

SCENTS OF ARABIA:
INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO ANCIENT OLFACTORY WORLDS



IASA

International Association
for the Study of Arabia

الرابطة الدولية لدراسة الجزيرة العربية

SEMINAR FOR ARABIAN STUDIES

SCENTS OF ARABIA: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO ANCIENT OLFACTORY WORLDS

*Papers from a Special Session of the Fifty-fifth
Meeting of the Seminar for Arabian Studies, held
in Berlin on 6th August 2022*

**Edited by
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Guidelines and Transliteration

Guidelines for Authors

For details on the submission of papers and the preparation of papers for publication, authors are requested to consult and follow the latest *Guidelines for Authors*. These are available on the International Association for the Study of Arabia website at <https://www.theiasa.com/seminar/publication/>. Please contact the editors on <https://www.theiasa.com/seminar/publication/> for further information.

Formatting

Electronic versions of papers being submitted for publication should be set in Times New Roman 12-point typeface if at all possible, with double-line spacing on A4-paper size and 2.45 cm margins all round.

The IASA System of Transliteration of Relevant Characters

Quotations, single words, and phrases from Arabic or other languages written in non-Roman alphabets, are transliterated according to the systems set out below.

- We firmly encourage authors to use the correctly transliterated form of any place name, but the names used for types of pottery, archaeological periods, and cultures which have become archaeological standards should be used in that form: Umm an-Nar, Julfar ware, etc. If any place name needs to be given in a non-standard format, the correctly transliterated form should be added in the first instance in any paper (see *Guidelines for Authors* for more details).
- Personal names, toponyms, and other words that have entered English or French in a particular form, should be used in that form when they occur in an English or French sentence, unless they are part of a quotation in the original language, or of a correctly transliterated name or phrase. In the latter cases, they should be correctly transliterated, even when they occur in an English or French sentence.

1. Arabic

ء M	ج j	ذ dh (dh)	ش sh (sh)	ظ ẓ	ق q	ن n
ب b	ح ḥ	ر r	ص ṣ	ع ʿ	ك k	ه h
ت t	خ kh (kh)	ز z	ض ḍ	غ gh (gh)	ل l	و w
ث th (th)	د d	س s	ط ṭ	ف f	م m	ي y
Vowels	a i u ā ī ū	Diphthongs	aw ay			

The underlined variants can be used to avoid any ambiguity, e.g. *lam yushir* vs. *lam yushir*.

Initial *hamzah* is omitted.

Alif maqṣūrah is transliterated as ā.

The *lām* of the article is not assimilated before the ‘sun letters’, thus the form should be *al-shams* but not *ash-shams*.

The *hamzat al-waṣl* of the article should be shown after vowels except after the preposition *li-*, as in the Arabic script, e.g. *wa-l-wazīr*, *fī-l-bayt*, but *li-l-wazīr*.

Tāʾ marbūṭah (ة) should be rendered *-ah*, except in a construct: e.g. *birkah*, *zakāh*, and *birkat al-sibāḥah*, *zakāt al-ḥiṭr*.

2. Persian, Urdu, and Ottoman Turkish

Please transliterate these languages using the system set out for Arabic above with the additional letters transliterated according to the system in the *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (<http://referenceworks.brillonline.com/entries/encyclopaedia-islamica/system-of-transliteration-of-arabic-and-persian-characters-transliteration>) except that ž is used instead of zh. There is a useful table to convert Ottoman Turkish to modern Turkish characters on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottoman_Turkish_language.

3. Ancient North and South Arabian Consonants:

ʾ	b	t	ṭ	ḥ	g	ḥ	d	ḏ	r	z	s ¹	s ²	s ³	ṣ
ḏ	ṭ	z	ʿ	ḡ	f	q	k	l	m	n	h	w	y	

4. Other Semitic languages

Please use the transliteration systems outlined in the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* (BASOR) 262 (1986), p. 3. (www.jstor.org/stable/i258780).

Preface

This volume presents the contributions to the special session “Scents of Arabia: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Ancient Olfactory Worlds”, which took place as part of the 55th Seminar for Arabian Studies on August 6, 2022 at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. We are pleased to publish most of the ten papers given at this very inspiring conference, which concluded with a panel discussion followed by a keynote lecture by Kiersten Neumann.

The editors join the International Steering Committee in thanking the organizers of 2022 Seminar, namely the International Association for the Study of Arabia (IASA), the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), the Humboldt University and the Museum of Islamic Art, as well as all associated institutions and colleagues, who are named in the foreword to the 2022 conference proceedings.

Arnulf Hausleiter would like to thank the German Research Foundation (DFG), Bonn, for approving a grant for this special session as part of the ‘International Scientific Conference’ funding programme.

This publication was made possible by the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) and the then Director of the Orient Department, Ricardo Eichmann, who provided a budget for the editorial work. Derek Kennet supported the publication process in the pre-print phase, while the International Committee of the Seminar enthusiastically accompanied the creation of the volume. Hanna Hamel took care of the editing, while Mike Schurer from Archaeopress, together with Erin McGowan, handled the typesetting and the cover design as smoothly as ever. Annika Busching kindly supported the final phase of the publication process. We are very pleased to present this publication as both an open access and a print publication. We would like to thank everyone involved in the production of this publication for their kind support. We include the two reviewers in these thanks for adding valuable comments.

Finally, we are indebted to the authors of this volume for their contributions to this interdisciplinary publication.

Berlin and Jena, July 2025

Arnulf Hausleiter, Barbara Huber