

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

GATEWAY TO AFRICA

CULTURAL EXCHANGES ACROSS THE CATARACTS
(FROM PREHISTORY TO THE MAMLUK ERA)

PROGRAMME

1 - 3 NOVEMBER, 2022
CAIRO, IFAO

Organized by:

Valentina Gasperini
Gihane Zaki
Giuseppe Cecere

Partners:



IFAO - Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale
UNIBO (Università di Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum)
CNRS – UMR 8167 “Orient et Méditerranée”
ERC Horneast
Istituto Italiano di Cultura – Cairo
Austrian Archaeological Institute – Cairo

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Day I – 01 November 2022

9:30: Welcome Speech/Institutional Introduction (Laurent Coulon, Ifao - Davide Scalmani, Istituto Italiano di Cultura)

Session I - Chair: Valentina Gasperini, Ifao

10:00: Maria Carmela Gatto, *Polish Academy of Sciences*: “The Region of the Nile Cataracts between the Fourth and Third Millennium BCE”

10:30 Andrea Pillon, *Sorbonne University*: “The Rise and Decline of Elephantine Power Abroad in the late Third Millennium BC”

11:00: Marie-Kristin Schröder, *DAI Cairo*: “From Elephantine to Kerma – Archaeological cultures along the Cataracts from the mid-3rd to mid-2nd Millennium BCE”

11:30-12:00: *Coffee Break*

Session II - Chair: Gihane Zaki, CNRS

12:00: Andrea Manzo, *L'Orientale – University of Naples*: “Gateways to Africa far from the Cataracts: Mersa/Wadi Gawasis and Mahal Teglinos” **by Zoom**

12:30: Dietrich Raue, *DAI Cairo*: “Interregional Contacts between the Northern Horn of Africa and the Nile Region”

13:00-14:30: *Lunch Break*

Session III - Chair: Patrizia Piacentini, University of Milan

14:30: Marco Zecchi, *University of Bologna*: “Khnum beyond the First Cataract: the god's role in the Nubian temples of the Eighteenth dynasty”

15:00: Julia Budka, *University of Munich*: “Cross-cultural dynamics in the Attab to Ferka region: reconstructing Middle Nile contact space biographies in the Late Bronze Age”

15:30: Claire Somaglino, *Sorbonne University*: “The khetem-border-post of Senmut and the administration of the Egyptian border during the New Kingdom”

16:00-16:30: *Coffee Break*

Session IV - Chair: Dietrich Raue, DAI

16:30: Neal Spencer, *Fitzwilliam Museum*: “Nubian presences – and absence – at Amara West: before, during and after pharaonic rule” **by Zoom**

17:00: Valentina Gasperini, *Ifao*: “Living and Dying on the Fringe of the Empire: perspectives from the Amara West Ceramics”

Day 2 - 02 November 2022

Session V - Chair: Claire Somaglino, Sorbonne University

9:30: Patrizia Piacentini, *University of Milan*: “People and funerary practices in a cross-cultural context: The case of the Aga Khan necropolis at West Aswan”

10:00: Julie Cayzac, *Independent Scholar*: «Défunts divinisés dans la Région de la Première Cataracte»

10:30: Gihane Zaki, *CNRS*: “le Dodecaschène « entre deux mondes »»

10:30-11:00: *Coffee Break*

Session VI - Chair: Marco Zecchi, University of Bologna

11:00: Fabian Reiter, *University of Bologna*: “North and South – Egypt and its Southern Neighbours in Graeco-Roman Times”

11:30: Pamela Rose, *Austrian Archaeological Institute, Cairo*: “Hisn al-Bab in the Late Antique Period”

12:00: Katarzyna de Lellis-Danys, *The National Museum in Warsaw/Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology University of Warsaw*: “Borderscapes of ceramics from the monasteries in the region of the First and Second Nile Cataract”

12:30-14:00: *Lunch break*

Session VII - Chair: Hadrien Collet, Ifao

14:00: Renata Salvarani, *European University of Rome*: “Between Jerusalem and Nubian contexts: pilgrims routes, narratives, exchanges (6th-12th centuries E.V.)”

14:30: Sylvie Denoix, *CNRS*, “L’historiographie arabe de la conquête de la Nubie”

15:00: Sobhi Bouderbala, *University of Tunis, ERC Project HornEast*: “Between Islamic Egypt and Christian Nubia: the Bujja (Blemmyes) and their political position in the 3rd/9th century”.

15:30-16:00: *Coffee Break*

Session VIII - Chair: Giuseppe Cecere, University of Bologna

16:00: Stefanie Schmidt, *Free University Berlin*: “Local players at the First Cataract – Further evidence for the social composition of early Muslim Aswan”

16:30: Iliaria Cicola, *University of Bologna*: “«Dhu-l-nun al-Misri and the Sufi tradition in the Cataracts region».

17:00: Naglaa Hamdi Boutros, *Ifao*: « Souverains fatimides, patriarches coptes et rois nubiens : le jeu de la politique et de la religion »

Day 3 - 03 November

Session IX - Chair: Abbès Zouache, Ifao

09:30: Julien Loiseau, *Aix-Marseille University, ERC Project HornEast*: “A Gateway from Nubia? ‘Aydhāb at the crossroads between Egypt and Northeastern Africa in the Fatimid, Ayyubid and Mamluk Eras”

10:00: Robin Seignobos, *Université Lumière Lyon 2 – CIHAM*: “Seeking refuge in Nubia: a letter from ‘Abd Allāh b. ‘Alī Ibn Zubayr to the eparch of Nobadia (Qaşr Ibrīm, late 1160’s)”

10:30: Amelia Blundo and Michelina Di Cesare, *La Sapienza – University of Rome*: “Fatimid Landmarks on the First Cataract: Reconsidering Badr al-Jamālī’s Patronage in Upper Egypt”

11:00-11:30: *Coffee Break*

Session X - Chair: Sylvie Denoix, CNRS

11:30: Giuseppe Cecere, *University of Bologna*: “Abu al-Haggag al-Uqsuri: a saint across time and space”

12:00: Kawkab Tawfik, *Ifao*: “Music Memories of Religious and Cultural Encounters in Nubian Zār. The Case of the spirits: al-Sitt al-Kabīra, al-Ġammāl, Salīla and Yāwra Bek”.

12:30: **Concluding remarks**

