



CEFREPA Newsletter September/October 2023

INTRO:



The French Research Center of The Arabian Peninsula (CEFREPA) was founded in 1982 in Sanaa to support archaeological missions and social science researchers working on the territory of the former Yemen Arab Republic (...)

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The Centre gradually became a more decisive player, reaching out beyond the borders of Yemen and encompassing the whole Arabian Peninsula (Kuwait, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar). It also widened its areas of research which now include, in addition to archaeology, social sciences, and humanities in general. The CEFREPA is part of the network of the French Research Centers Abroad (IFRE) and is run both by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

CEFREPA is currently installed in a 1950s house whose architecture is inspired by Le Corbusier style. The Center is part of a heritage complex located in the heart of Kuwait City, and notably housing the remains of Diwân Khaz'al which was the first museum in Kuwait and the Gulf in 1957.

CEFREPA has offices and representations in all countries on the Arabian Peninsula, with the exception of Bahrain and Qatar.

WHAT'S NEW?



CEFREPA opens new antenna in Saudi Arabia, AlUla

The French Research Center of the Arabian Peninsula (CEFREPA) is pleased to announce the opening of a new antenna in Saudi Arabia (AlUla) represented by Dr. Hervé Monchot (...)

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Dr. Hervé Monchot is an archaeozoologist associated to the CEFREPA and attached to the Orient & Méditerranée Research Centre including the CNRS, Sorbonne Université, l'Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, l'École Pratique des Hautes Études and le Collège de France. His research project, entitled “Zooarchaeology at the service of modeling meat diets in the Middle East during the Antiquity and middle Ages. Socio-cultural and environmental implications” aims to study the meat-eating behavior of the inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula and to follow their evolution through the study of faunal remains from several archaeological sites (Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Oman, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia) from the Bronze Age till today.

Currently, Dr. Monchot collaborates with various missions in the Arabian Peninsula, notably in Saudi Arabia with the teams working in Farasan (Gizan), Al Bad, Thaj, Dadan and Al-Ula.

BACK ON:



CEFREPA participates in ALULA World Archeology Summit

Saudi Arabi, AlUla

14 September 2023

CEFREPA was present on the occasion of the holding of the Alula World Archeology Summit on September 14, 2023. Bringing together numerous specialists in archeology and heritage preservation, this World Summit constituted a strong moment of exchange and dialogue between researchers, experts and decision-makers around the crucial questions of knowledge of the past and its valorization (...)

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In addition to many researchers associated with CEFREPA who were present during the Summit, the Director, Makram ABBES, participated in a panel entitled “Cross-pollination: How Can Archeology Support Interdisciplinary Innovation?”.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS:



50 YEARS AFTER THE OIL CRISIS on October 17, 2023 at the Kuwait National Library.

The CEFREPA organized an International conference on “October 1973-October 2023. Fifty Years after the Oil Crisis”, followed by an original exhibition which retrace an important part of the contemporary history of the Middle East and the rest of the world from a local and global perspective (...)

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Fifty years ago, the oil ministers of the OPEC Gulf States met in Kuwait to make a series of decisions which led to outcomes that are still shaping our world today.

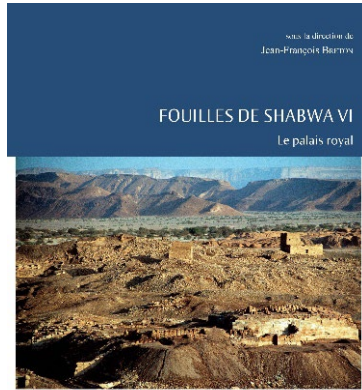
On 16 October 1973, they decided to increase oil prices, thereby taking back the power of setting these prices from the American and European oil companies that were still exploiting the region's oil fields.

On 17 October 1973, in response to the October War, the ministers of the Arab countries implemented an embargo on oil intended for countries allied to Israel.

Beyond its economic and geopolitical origins, this event was to have far-reaching consequences for the societies of the Gulf, which were modernizing at great speed, and would become after 50 years the nerve center of the Arab world and the major global players in the fields of energy and finance, as well as heritage and urban planning.

These scientific events shed light on the many discussions that surrounded the measures taken in Kuwait and their consequences for the development of the Gulf States. Bringing together key witnesses to the events of October 1973 and academic experts, they focus in particular on the economic, social and cultural effects of these decisions in the countries of the Middle East, and the way in which these decisions ushered in a new form of globalization that we are still experiencing today.

PUBLICATIONS:



Publication - Jean-François BRETON

“Excavations of Shabwa VI. The royal palace”, under the direction of Jean-François Breton, Archaeological and Historical Library 224, IFPO-CEPREFA, IFPO Press, Beirut (...)

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The ancient city of Shabwa was the capital of the Kingdom of Hadhramaut at the South Arabian region of the Arabian Peninsula. Volume VI of the “Excavations of Shabwa” collection is devoted to the royal palace, excavated from 1976 to 1985 then studied meticulously in the 2000s. Volume VI is part of a long publication series devoted to architecture and construction techniques, either in the architectural and artistic context, or in the fortifications. Synthesis volume VII is currently being prepared.

The building, which indeed occupies a preponderant place in the city of Shabwa, fulfills defensive, political, monetary, symbolic and economic functions.

The excavation yielded a certain number of pieces of high quality and finesse of execution. Let us first mention the bronze statuary, the fragments of statues bear witness to a decoration, undoubtedly magnificent, of characters (riders, archers, etc.) and animals (lions, horses or griffins). No other building in the city, with the exception of the large monument located south of the main street, offers such a decorative ensemble.

CALL FOR APPLICATION:



Stage intensif d'arabe, spécialisation Golfe.

Niveau B2, du 7 au 16 janvier 2024



Stage intensif d'arabe, spécialisation Golfe.

Niveau C1, du 21 au 30 janvier 2024

The intensive courses level B2 and C1 organized by INALCO and CEFREPA are specialized linguistic and cultural trainings on the contemporary Gulf. Standard Arabic courses are accompanied by courses in Gulf dialect and a human and social sciences course (history, geopolitics, archaeological and artistic heritage) (...)

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It is intended for trainees (students, researchers, professionals from French businesses and administrations in the region). Each intensive course take place over 10 days with a total of 60 hours of lessons on the CEFREPA-Kuwait site. The host country stands out in the region for its benevolent ambient Arabic, ideal for immersion and practice outside of class. During the duration of the courses, the course will reproduce a thorough immersion in the Arabic language.



The French Research Center of the Arabian Peninsula

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