Targeting the Symbols of the Baathist Era: Implications for Social Cohesion and National Identity in Iraq

Join us in welcoming Benjamin Isakhan as he discusses the complex inter-relationships between cultural and historical destruction, and national identity, social cohesion, sectarianism, violence and democracy.

Dr Benjamin Isakhan is a Research Fellow with the Griffith Islamic Research Unit, part of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance at Griffith University and affiliated with the National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies, Australia. Ben is the author of Democracy in Iraq: History, Culture and Politics (Ashgate, 2010) and the co-editor (with Associate Professor Stephen Stockwell) of The Secret History of Democracy (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010) and The Edinburgh Companion to the History of Democracy (Edinburgh University Press, 2011). Broadly, his work concerns issues such as: democracy in Iraq, Orientalism and the media, the history of democracy and Middle Eastern politics and history.

Weds, Dec 2\textsuperscript{nd} – 12:30-2pm - 207 Knox Hall