

**The Third Bethlehem International Conference**  
**Methodological Problems and Epistemological Trends in Palestinian**  
**Archaeology and Cultural Heritage**  
**First day: November 18, 2025**  
**Furno Hall**

Registration		8:30 – 9:00
Opening and Welcome		9:00- 9:30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address of the Vice President for Academic Affairs: Dr. Iman Saca</li> <li>Chair of the conference: Dr. Omar Abed Rabo</li> </ul>		
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Hamdan Taha		9:30- 10:00
The first Session Facilitator: Hanadi Soudah-Younan		10:00 – 11:15
Issam Nassar	Visualizing the Past: Nostalgia for an Imagined homeland	10:00 – 10:20
Samah Bsoul	The War of Cinematic Narratives about the Judaization of Antiquities and its Impact on Reality	10:20 – 10:40
Wisam Abbasi	Reclaiming Cultural Heritage from UNESCO and Donor Institutions	10:40 – 11:00
Q&A		11:15 – 11:00
Coffee break		11:15 – 11:30
The Second Session Facilitator: Husam Wahhab		11:30 – 13:00
Omar Abed Rabo	Documenting Rural Heritage: Archaeological Survey, Khirbet Abu Hamama	11:30 – 11:50
JUNGEN Christine	Is nature a culture? Documenting and preserving natural environments in Palestine	11:50– 12:10

Hani Nour al-Din	Archaeological data and its methodological dimension in understanding the cultural history of the ancient urban era in Palestine and the surrounding areas in Bilad al-Sham	12:10 – 12:30
Qasem Abu Harb	Exploring the past- a century of digging in Palestine- The British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem- Kenyon Institute	12:30 – 12:50
Q&A		12:50 – 13:05
lunch break		13:05- 14:10
The Third Session: Facilitator: Mehdi Berrih		14:10 – 15:30
Nasser al-Din Abu Khdair, and Issam Halayqa	Hebraization and Judaization of the names of places in Palestine, methodology and practice	14:10 - 14:30
Rawda Ghanayem	Surveying Palestinian Villages before their Demolition, Taking aerial footage of these villages, Changing their names, and Judaizing them	14:30 – 14:50
Mahmoud Hawari	Archaeology as a Weapon in the Hands of Settler Colonialism to Erase and Seize Palestinian Cultural Heritage	14:50– 15:10
Jad Abu Saad	The Depopulated Village of Dayr Aban in 1948: Reclaiming Spatial identity	15:10 – 15:30
Q&A		15:30 – 15:45
Break		15:45 – 16:00
Fourth Session Facilitator: Issam Nassar		16:00 – 17:30

Jamal Bargouth, and Mazen Iwaisi	Nakba, Genocide and Archaeocide: Epistemic Disobedience in Palestinian Archaeology	16:00 – 16:20
Deborah Weidner	Mental Health as Cultural Preservation: Psychological Devastation and the Erasure of Intangible Heritage in Gaza	16:20 – 16:40
Mahmoud Issa	In the 21th Century, Colonialism & Apartheid Are Doomed to Failure	16:40 – 17:00
Q&A		17:00 – 17:15
End of the first day		
Q&A		6:20 – 6:40
End of the first day		

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**The second day: November 19, 2025**  
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First Session Facilitator: Laura Vie'		9:30 – 10:45
Zeidan Kafafi	The Role of the Herodian Dynasty in the History of Palestine	9:30 – 9:50
Said Badawi	Genocide and Cultural Heritage: Archives, Memory, and Context / Towards Building a Memory of Resilience	9:50 – 10:10
Mazin Qumsiyeh and Victor Kawwas	Valorizing Cultural and Natural Heritage via exhibits and programming at the Palestine Museum of Natural History	10:10- 10:30
Q&A		10:30 – 10:45
Second Session Facilitator: Hamdan Taha		10:50 – 12:05
Sahar al Khasawneh	Applications of Synchrotron Radiation at SESAME in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	10:50- 11:10
Adel Ledawi	The Role of Geographical Information Systems and Streets Naming in Valorizing Local Cultural Heritage Within Conflictual Geopolitics; The Case of Beit Jala City	11:10 – 11:30
Hamza al-Aqrabawi	The Shrines of the Saints are an Introduction to Understanding Popular Culture.	11:30 – 11:50
Q&A		11:50- 12: 05
Lunch Break		12:10- 13:20

Third Session Facilitator: Montaser Jarar		13:20- 14:40
Maha al-Samman	Modern cultural heritage and tourism in East Jerusalem: The Role of Hotels between 1948-1967	13:20- 13:40
Daoud Ghoul	An alternative reading in light of the available literature on Silwan	13:40 – 14:00
Mansour Nasasra	Materializing an ‘Arab Metropolis’: The Jerusalem Airport Narrative 1948-1967	14:00- 14:20
Q&A		14:20 – 14:35
Fourth Session Facilitator: Abeer Musleh		14:40 – 16:15
Salah Al-Houdalieh and Hassan Al-Jamal	The Impact of the October 2023 War on Archaeological Sites in the West Bank	14:40- 15:00
Sujood mhajne	The Palestinian Archives and Narrative of the Village of Lajjun	15:00 – 15:20
Ahmad Assad	The Cultural Memory of Artas Village: An Ethnographic Study	15:20 – 15:40
Akram M. A. Ijla	Postwar recovery of cultural and natural heritage in Gaza	15:40 – 16:00
Q&A		16:00 – 16:15
Closing and Recommendations Dr. Omar Abed Rabo		16:15 – 16:30