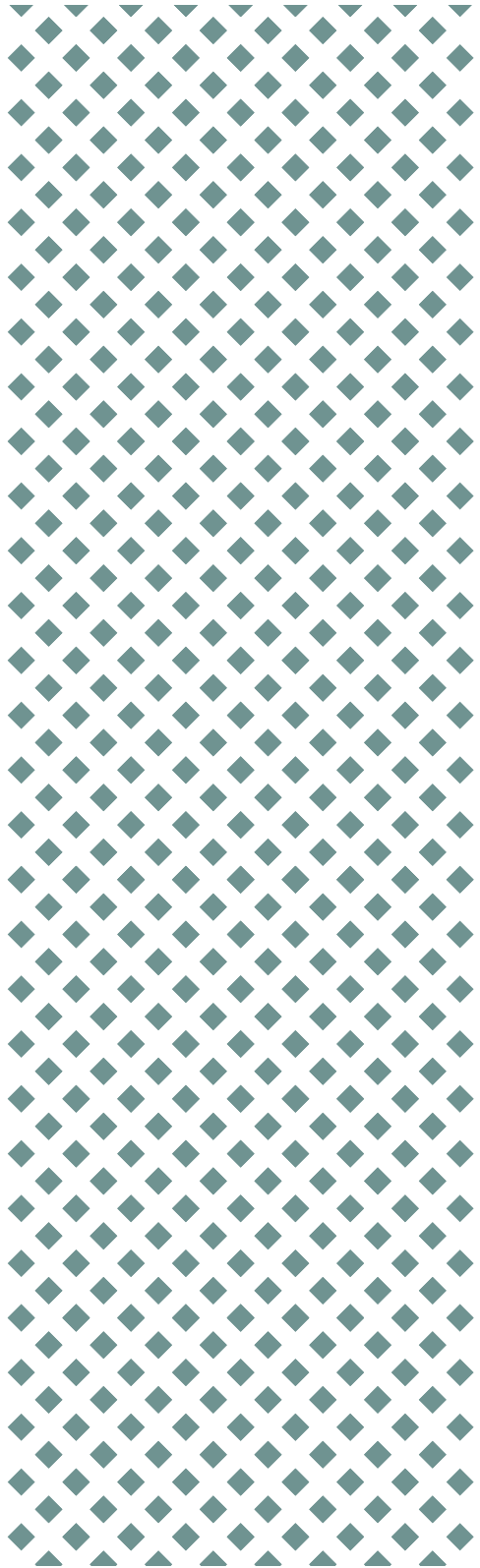




ARAB CULTURAL HERITAGE FORUM

Knowledge...the future of our heritage



Speakers





Oliver Martin

Chairperson of the Council of ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property)

MARTIN obtained a Master in Architecture in 1998 from Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, ETHZ Zürich. He pursued his studies with a PhD in technical sciences and history of architecture at ETHZ until 2002. Martin held several positions at the Swiss Federal Office of Culture until he joined the management board in 2012 as Head of Section Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments. In parallel, he acted as an expert member of the Swiss delegation to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee from 2010 to 2013.



Zaki Aslan

Director of the ICCROM's Regional Conservation Centre in Sharjah (ICCROM-Sharjah)

Dr. Aslan is a conservation architect, he received his Ph.D. in Heritage Conservation and Management from University College London (UCL), U.K. He was a consultant to UNESCO, EC, and ICCROM. He is co-author of a UNESCO-ICCROM teacher's guide titled "Introducing Young People to Heritage Site Management and Protection." Aslan is also member of the editorial board of the "Journal of Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites"; Maney Publishing, U.K. He represents ICCROM as advisory board member at the 2nd Category WH Centre for Arab states. He is honorary professor at University College London, and directs ICCROM's programmes in the Arab States.



Noura Al Kaabi

Minister of Culture & Knowledge Development
Chairperson of BOD of Media Zone Authority in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

A member of several BODs such as the National Media Council, Abu Dhabi Media Co., Imagination and Abu Dhabi Sports Council. She undertakes the enhancement of all cultural fields in the United Arab Emirates and she sponsors and supports the activities aiming at the development and care of young talents in community. She held formerly the position of "Minister of State for Federal National Council Affairs. She was listed as the first Emirati national to be in the list of Top 100 Thinkers in the World from Foreign Policy magazine.

In 2014, she entered in the list of Most Influential 30 Women at the Government Sector in the Arab World by the Forbes Middle East magazine, had the award of Businesswoman of the Year from Gulf Business Industry Awards and was honored in 2015 by the American Association of Media (AAM) in appreciation of her leading role in the development of media industry in the United Arab Emirates. She holds a BA of Management Information Systems from the United Arab Emirates University in 2001 and completed the Leadership program from London Business School in 2010.



Webber Ndoro

Director-General, ICCROM
(International Centre for the
Study of the Preservation and
Restoration of Cultural Property)

Ndoro holds a BA in History from University of Zimbabwe, a Master of Philosophy in Archaeology from Cambridge University, and a Master in Architectural Conservation from York University. His formal education was completed at Uppsala University where he obtained a PhD in Heritage Management. Ndoro worked at National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe. He served as Co-coordinator of its Monuments Programme, and then moved to the University of Zimbabwe as lecturer on heritage management.

He has also lectured on heritage management at University of Bergen in Norway, as well as at University of Cape Town, South Africa. His first involvement with ICCROM was in 1998, when he was tasked with implementing one of the first site projects for the AFRICA 2009 programme. From 2002, he worked as a full-time ICCROM staff member on AFRICA 2009 Programme, providing an African perspective at ICCROM to the planning and implementation of the programme. He left ICCROM in 2007 to accept the position of Executive Director of African World Heritage Fund (AWHF). During his mandate, Ndoro has guided the AWHF to become one of the leading conservation organizations in the region, and has raised a significant endowment. He was elected in November 2017 to the position of Director General of ICCROM starting a mandate as of 1 January 2018.



Halit Eren

Director General of IRCICA
(Research Centre for Islamic
History, Art and Culture)

Graduated from the Faculty of Islamic Studies Marmara University in Istanbul, and holds an MA in History from the Social Science Institute, and Ph.D. in Modern History from the Turkish Studies Center in the same university and is an Associate Professor in Social, Human and Management Science from the presidency of the universities' boards in Turkey. He started working at IRCICA as a specialized expert and head of Library and Documentation Section, and in the committee for organizing conferences and seminars on the history of Caucasus, Volga- Oral territory, central Asia and Balkans.

He participated in many summits and conferences of Islamic Foreign Affairs Ministers, and represented IRCICA in Islamic conferences of Ministers for Culture and Media. He was finally appointed Director General in January 2005. He oversaw on the publication of many important books like "Jerusalem Through Historical Pictures" in Turkish, English and Arabic and the Holy Quran ascribed to Uthman ben Affan, TOPKAPI SARAYI edition, the Holy Quran ascribed to Ali ben Abi Taleb, Sana'a edition. He joined several of humanitarian associations and non-governmental cultural organization such as the Islamic -Turkish association in England, and was a consultant for the State Minister for the Balkans Affairs in Turkey, and established the Balkans Civilization Foundation (BALMED). He is a co-founder and vice president of The Turkish-Arab International Dialogue Organization. He speaks Arabic, English, Greek and Persian beside Turkish. He can communicate with Slavic languages. He contributed to the Islamic literature with a great number of international works and articles in the different languages of Islamic world.



Moajab Bin Saed AL-Zahrani

Director General of the Institute du Monde Arabe in Paris

Holds a Ph.D. in General And Comparative Literature, from the Univesity Sorbonne, for his thesis “the image of west in the modern Arbic novel”, a lecturer in the Department of Arabic Leterature in King Saud University,. He also holds a BA in Arabic Language and Literature from the Faculty of Education, King Saud University and “the high-class certificate in French language”, and a diploma in Advanced Studies in Modern Arabic Literature D.E.A . from Sorbonne University. He is a member of the editorial board of “eastern studies” magazine which he founded in Paris, and a member of editorial board in “Kawafel” magazine, and supervises the cultural material of the Encyclopedia of KSA, and

a board member of the translation center at King Saud University. He has several studies and research work in critics and narratives including: Al-Tahtawy and the myth of the beginning, Critical Readings of Some Concepts in Progressive Arabic Rhetoric, the Concept of Heritage in Contemporary Arab Thought, Argument of Cultural Invasion Between Cognitive and Ideological, Global Illusions: Comparative Critical Reading in the Concept of “global .”



Anna Paolini

Director, UNESCO
Representative in Arab States
of the Gulf
Head of UNESCO Regional
Office in Doha

Anna Paolini holds a MA in Architecture and Urban and Regional Planning for Developing Countries from the Institute of Architecture of Venice Italy, and a Ph.D. in Urban and Territorial Engineering from the Faculty of Engineering at University of Bologna (Italy). She joined UNESCO as an Associate Expert at UNESCO Office in Amman in 1993, and was detached initially to the Department of Antiquities of Jordanian Ministry of Tourism to manage and implement restoration and conservation work on Petra and Qusair’ Amra. In July 2000, she became Head of the Arab Countries Unit of the Cultural Heritage Division.

She assisted in the long-term rehabilitation of collections of Kuwait National Museum and the preparation of National Strategies for Cultural Development in Abu Dhabi and Yemen. She also was responsible for the Secretariat of the International Coordination Committee for Safeguarding of Iraqi Cultural Heritage (ICC). Paolini worked with the Section for Museum and Cultural Objects within the Culture Sector, tasked with operational and capacity building activities, including training in cooperation with the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and ICCROM. She is a member of International Council of Museums (ICOM) and Italian Association of Professional Architects.



Mohammed Abdullah Younis

Expert of Islamic Heritage at ISESCO (Islamic Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization), Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco.
Assistant Professor of Islamic Monuments in the Faculty of Archaeology, Fayoum University, The Arab Republic of Egypt
PhD in the Islamic Monuments from Cairo University and University of Jena in Germany. His research focus is on monuments, coins and Islamic history, and many of his papers are published in English and Arabic. He undertook many scientific missions for the Egyptian Ministry of Education, EU, the International Council of Coins and a number of German universities. He also Participated in many international conferences in Germany, Russia, Italy, Turkey and many Arab countries, and taught in a number of programmes on Islamic Archaeology in the Fayoum and Alexandria Universities.



Ahmad Ali EL-Zein

Writer and Media Figure

El Zein studied music and theatre at the Lebanese University, Beirut. He started as a journalist and wrote cultural essays, articles and editorials for al-Nida' newspaper, Annahar, Assafir, al-Hayat and Zahrat al-Khalij. In 1986, he produced, wrote and presented dozens of comedies and political shows for Radio Sawt al-Sha'b. For television, he directed documentary films portraying contemporary Lebanese artists, singers, musicians, writers and poets for Télé Liban. He contributed to the editing and production of several episodes of the talk show Hiwar al-Omr, presented by Giselle Khoury, which was broadcasted on LBC Channel.

In Abu Dhabi TV, he edited and directed Qira'at, a program presenting the latest and most important books. He also wrote, edited and directed a series of short documentaries on celebrities of the 20th century such as Zakariyya Ahmad, Mohammed Abdel Wahab, Asmahan, Oum Kalthoum, Abdel Halim Hafez, Farid al-Atrash, Laila Murad, Mohamed El Qasabgi and Fairuz. One of his plays, Ru'ya (Vision), was staged at the UNESCO Theatre in Beirut in 2000. He wrote Al-Tayoun, Khirbat al-Nawwah, Ma'bar al-Nadam and Hafat al-Nisyan. The Edge of Oblivion, the first volume of his Thulathiyat Abdul Jalil Ghazal trilogy. In 2003, he started shooting a series of documentaries entitled Rawafed on Al Arabiya News Channel. Rawafed was awarded the Golden Prize for the best cultural and educational programme at the 10th Gulf Media Festival.



Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh

Minister of State in the UAE Government.

He has been active in Government service and interpreter for Presidents of United Arab Emirates since 1968. He was Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation at Foreign Ministry and the Cultural Advisor at UAE Presidential Court. Born in Jerusalem and educated in Jerusalem and the United Kingdom, he began his career as a journalist in 1967. He became Director of Information in Abu Dhabi. In 1975 Mr. Nusseibeh became the Director of the Press Office for HH the President and subsequently Advisor while continuing his role as President's personal interpreter. He has also served on several public and private bodies dealing with the development of cultural and educational strategies.



Yusuf Fadl Hasan

Director of Omdurman Islamic University.

Founding Chancellor of the University of Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates

He received his PhD in the Islamic History from SOAS, University of London, and a certificate of Higher Law from the Ministry of Justice. Professor of Turkish Studies at the Institute of African and Asian Studies. Director of University of Khartoum, and Omdurman Islamic University. He has many writings including: "Introduction to the History of Islamic Kingdoms in the Eastern Sudan", "The Relationship between Arab Culture and African Culture", "The Islam in Africa" and many scientific sheets in the different languages.



Rita Awad

A literary critic
an expert in cultural affairs, arts,
cultural heritage and cultural
relations

Dr. Awad holds M.A in comparative critic and critic of modern Arab poetry, and PhD in the study of the Al-Jahily (pre-Islam) poetry. She published several books and papers on modern and classic Arab poetry and literary critic theories. She edited many books in art, culture, heritage, Palestine and Jerusalem in particular, in addition to being the editor in chief of the Arab Culture Magazine. She is a juror in a number of academic and scientific journals, literary and awards. She was the head of the culture department and Palestine unit in ALECSO. She organized and participated in a large number of conferences, seminars, and regional and international forums.

She gained a wide experience in cultural work, cultural diplomacy, cultural management and international relations. She cooperated with a number of international organizations, especially UNESCO, ICCROM and WIPO in implementing projects, and organizing conferences, workshops and training courses for Arab Region. Since 2012, she is an independent consultant in the culture field: writing, publishing in literary criticism in modern and old Arab poetry.



Rasem Badran

Architect and the Head of
Dar Al Omran Co., the Hashemite
Kingdom of Jordan
One of the leading figures in the
contemporary architectural
design and thought in the Arab
world.

Works as architectural consultant for the reevaluation of main plan and design of International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur. He is an elected member of the Academic Council for International Architecture in Sofia and a member of arbitration committee for the ICCROM-Sharjah Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation in the Arab Region. One of his most important projects is the Qasr Al Hukm in Riyadh, the Husainiyya Library in the Yarmouk University in Irbid, the building of Greater Amman Municipality and Al Masjid Al Kabir in the Saudi Arabia.



Ricardo Karam

Media figure and host

One of the most prominent media figures in Arab World. He hosted a number of prominent Arab and international personalities in his programs that were highly rated including: "With Ricardo Karam", "Another Talk," "Faces of the City," "Iraqis," "Beyond Faces" and "Mirrors." He has launched "Takreem" award as a platform to annually honor a number of leading Arabs figures in the fields of humanitarian aid, art, culture, science, environment, education and business. He published two books: "I Interviewed Them", and: "The Lebanese Paris". He was awarded many decorations and prizes, including: the French national order of merit, Beirut international festival award, the award of American-Lebanese society for achievement, Sheikh Ibrahim bin Muhammad Al-Khalifa's Centre for Culture and Researches Award.

"Time Out" magazine listed him among "The most effective ten men in Beirut" and "The most prominent forty Lebanese in the capital".



Naseer Shamma

Composer Artist and Oud player
Goodwill Ambassador, UNESCO

He graduated from Institute of Music studies, Baghdad, in 1987, and specialized in playing on the Oud instrument. Since his beginnings he was attracted to Sufism, and read the Ten Sufi Schools and its later branches and great Sufis' narratives. A lot of his work concerns the read of poetry in music. He composed a number of musical records including Oriental Love Story, Sunshine, for the Children of Iraqi, a Status of Love, and the Journey of Spirits. He composed the soundtrack for numerous Iraqi and Arab theatrical works as well as for radio, TV, and documentaries. He has extensive experience with many international artists. He was awarded many prizes and recognition, the most recent of which is being named the UNESCO Artist for Peace 2017.

Currently, he manages his own school, the home of Arab Oud in Cairo, as well as supervises the home of Arab Oud in Abu Dhabi, the home of the Oud in Constantia in Algeria, and the home of the Oud in Alexandria. He is interested in the Way of Rose organization which cares for the treatment and the education of Iraqi children, and the humanitarian issues in the Arab world and around the world.



Hassan Ashkanani

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Archeology of the Ancient Arabian Gulf, Faculty of Social Sciences, Kuwait University

He received his PhD from University of South Florida, USA, 2014, and contributed to the establishment of the first museum of anthropology at the University of South Florida – USA. He writes in the Heritage journal, and the Al-Nibras Magazine issued by the Kuwaiti Students Union of the United States of America, Detroit, Michigan, USA. A member of the World Folklore Organization IOV in Vienna, member of the National Geographic Society of America, member of the American Institute of Archeology SAA – and the Museum and institute of Oriental Studies ASOR. He wrote a book titled: “The Power of Dilmun and the Cultural Interaction in the Bronze Age” (in English), and a writer in the Arab Museum Journal.



Hassan Aourid

Writer and politician

He holds a State Doctorate in Political Sciences, a former diplomat who worked as a political consultant in Moroccan embassy in Washington, royal palace official spokesman for the royal palace, governor and kingdom chronicler who got The Pushkin Prize in literature from the union of Russian writers. Recently he is a professor of political science in Mohammed V University and Purdue University, in addition, he is the co-founder of Tarek Ibn Ziad studies and researches center and a scientific consultant for Zaman (the Moroccan) magazine in Arabic and French. Some from his literary and scientific works: political Islam at stake (Moroccan case), the roots of Arabian weakness (in French)

Aux origines du marasme arabe, glances of west (in French) Regards sur l'Occident, 2017, the Moorish (novel) in three editions in Morocco in Arabic and French, it will be published soon by General Egyptian Book Organization, donkey biography (novel) four editions (Dar Al-Aman) and Cordoba spring (novel) Arab cultural center. He also a columnist at the Middle East, Al-Hayaa and Al-Bayan in the United Arab of Emirates, opinion writer in Al Quds Al Arabi newspaper and Zaman magazine (The Moroccan) in Arabic and French. He took a part in the coverage of the funeral of Hassan ii for BBC in English also in the coverage of United States presidential elections 2012 and a contributor in France 24 after Bataclan attacks.



Bilal AL-Budoor

President of the Dubai Culture,
Arabic Language Protection
Society

Researcher, writer and poet

He worked as Minister Plenipotentiary in the Foreign Service in 2014, and served as Undersecretary for Culture and Arts in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development. He also served as ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Jordan and was elected president of the Arabic Language Protection Society and Vice-Chairman of the Cultural and Scientific Association. He is also a member of Secretariat of the Mohammed bin Rashid Arabic Language Award. Al-Budoor is considered a distinct figure in enriching the cultural movement within and outside the United Arab Emirates, and has many research books especially on the UAE heritage.



Youssef Al-Hassan

Researcher, Writer and a former
diplomat

Dr. Al-Hassan has a PhD in Political Science and has worked in the diplomatic corps since 1972. He represented his country in many regional and international conferences and symposia and the meetings of the UN General Assembly (UN GA), the League of Arab States (LAS), and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). Since 1986, Dr. Al-Hassan has been supervising the annual diplomatic symposium, which is held under the auspices of the UAE Foreign Ministry. He was also appointed as editor-in-chief of The Diplomat magazine. He is a member of many Arab and international cultural, intellectual and humanistic associations and organizations.

Dr. Youssef Al-Hassan was among the founders of the UAE's Gulf newspaper first issued in 1970, and was its first editor-in-chief. He has written and published many scientific studies and articles in Arab and international magazines and newspapers. He is a researcher specialized in international relations, the dialogue between civilizations, and Arabian Gulf security. Dr. Al-Hassan has many publications, the foremost of which are: "The Christian Fundamentalist Movement in the USA", "Integration: A Study of Special Israel-USA Relations", "Towards a Contemporary Arab Diplomacy", "The Future of the Welfare State in the Gulf", and "The Islamic-Christian Dialogue". Dr. Al-Hassan also edited many works, including "Security of the Gulf", "Dialogue Among Civilizations", and the "UAE and Human Rights".



Muhammad Sobhy

Theatre, TV and Cinema
Star and Director

Graduated from the Higher Institute for Performing Arts from the Academy of Arts, Acting and Directing department, Egypt. He founded the first scene laboratory titled "Actors studio" in 1970, through which he presented a number of his works, including Hamlet (Shakespeare), and Media (Jean Anouilh), then he established "Studio 80" group, through which he presented works including: Mahzouz, Baghbaghan, Hamajy, Takhareef, and directed several plays such as: Al-Ziyarah, Ala Balatah. He also acted and directed Mama America, Wanees: Family, Art is the Origin of Civilization, and Carmen. He has contributed to the development of Art and its institutions as he founded and established a number of equipped

theatres like Lycee theatre in Alexandria, New Opera theatre in Opera Square, Al-fardous theatre in Islamic Mission City. In charitable work, he founded the Sounbul City on Egypt-Alexandria desert road to educate homeless and orphan children fine arts and primary education. The city also includes a state elderly home for artists and an Arts Museum. He is a goodwill ambassador for FACE, also a former member in the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights, a member in the National Council for Women, and a member in the Counter-Terrorism High Council. He has numerous of movies, including Karnak, Wara Al-Shams (Beyond the Sun), Bilwalidayn Ihsana , Alshaytana Allaty Ahabbatny (The she-devil who loved me), Mouhamy Taht Al-Tmreen (Trainee lawyer), Batal Min Al-Saiyd (A hero from Upper Egypt), Rajul Bisabaat Arwah (and A man with seven souls). He starred in a big number of TV series such as: Jannat Al Fardous (The Paradise), Fi Baytina Rajul (A man in our house), Ayyam Al-Marah (days of joy), Milh Al-Ard (salt of the earth), Ana Wa Ha'oula' (Me and those), Rajulun Ghany Faqueer Jiddan (A rich very poor man), Wanees and his grandchildren- six seasons, No problem program on CBC channel. He was awarded many prizes such as Dr. Souad Al-Sabah's prize for intellectual creation, honor of the Arab theatre festival in Tunisia, honor by HH Sheikh Sultan Al-Qasimi, Ruler of Sharjah for volunteerism, and honor of CBC channel for Art and volunteerism. He holds an honorary doctorate from the American University of California, and honorary MA from University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.



Suad Amiry

Writer, conservation architect,
and political and social activist.

The author of the internationally acclaimed Memoirs: "Sharon and My Mother in Law" (Random House, 2005), which uses humor and irony to describe the absurdity, and cruelty, of living under prolonged Israeli Occupation. The book has been translated into 20 languages and has won the prestigious Italian Literary Award "Premio Viareggio" 2004. She is also the author of "Nothing to Lose but Your Life: an 18 hour Journey with Murad" (Bloomsbury, 2010). Her latest book "Golda Slept Here" (Bloomsbury 2015) describes what it means to lose one's home and not to "feel at home" ever again, won the Italian Nonino Prize (2014). Amiry, who says she had become a writer by pure accident at the age of 50, is a conservation architect.

She is the Founder of RIWAQ: Centre for Architecture Conservation- an NGO based in Ramallah, Palestine, which won several international awards (Prince Clause Award, Carry Stone Social Design Prize, and Aga Khan Award for architecture 2014). Riwaq has succeeded in transforming the process of Rehabilitation (and gentrification) of historic centers and buildings into a vehicle of poverty elevation, job creation and a tool for social and economic development for marginalized groups (women and children) in rural Palestine, what Amiry refers to as "Public Spaces and buildings for Social Change". To get to know Suad Amiry watch her TED Talk: "My Work my Hobby: Simply Look inside You Never at Others".



Mourad Bouteflika

Director of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage in the Algerian Ministry of Culture.

Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Blida, Algeria.

He is an architect specialized in the preservation and conservation of historic monuments and completed his PhD in Urban Restoration in the Faculty of Architecture at the Politecnica di Bari with a thesis entitled : 'Tartous (Syria). He assumes responsibility for and coordination of a number of research and training projects, in particular the Post-Graduate Specialization course on "The Recovery and Valorization of the Casbah of Algiers according

to Traditional Techniques and their Innovative Use" and "in situ training of the Department of Architecture of Blida to aid the Algerian Ministry of Culture". He is the author of several publications on cultural heritage conservation.



Salma Samar Damluji

Architect, Professor, Binladin Chair for Architecture in the Islamic World at the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, American University of Beirut

Damluji graduated from the Architectural Association School of Architecture and the Royal College of Art in London. She worked with the Egyptian Architect Hassan Fathy (1976-1975) and (-1983 1984). In 2008 she established with colleagues in Yemen the Daw'an Mud Brick Architecture Foundation in Mukalla, Hadramut, and has been working there on earthen construction and rehabilitation projects. Damluji carried out extensive fieldwork and research on architecture in Arab region. She is author of over 12 titles including Zillij: the Art of Moroccan Ceramics (1993) with John Hedgecoe, the Architecture of Oman (1998), the Architecture of the UAE (2006), and the Architecture of Yemen (2007).

Her latest "The Other Architecture: Geometry, Earth and Vernacular (Leçon Inaugurale de l'École de Chaillot)" was published in Paris in 2015 and short-listed at the Académie d'Architecture for the Prix du Livre d'Architecture.



Tarek Waly

Architect and Urban designer

He established the TWC (Tarek Waly Center for Architecture & Heritage) to be one of the architecture platforms in Egypt, aiming for the wellbeing of man and society. Waly received his Ph.D. in Urban Planning from Cairo University 1995. He also received many certificates of recognition and awards including the Islamic Capitals and Cities Organization Award for architectural writing, first-rank in 1998. He published extensively on issues of architecture and heritage, his books include: Theory of Urbanism as Derived from the Khaldouny Paradigms, In A Quest of an Approach for Existence in Desert Architecture, Statement and Elaboration on Architecture and Urbanism; In A Quest of the (One) Path in Mosques Architecture, Private Skies: The Courtyard Pattern in the Architecture of the House.



Talal Akily

Architect, Researcher & Writer

He received his PhD in Architectural Engineering from the Berlin Institute of Technology. He is the former Dean of Faculty of Architecture in Damascus University, Professor of Urban Planning, lecturer in a number of Arab and foreign universities, institutes and scientific institutions, and researcher in Arabic and Islamic architecture. He published his research on traditional architecture, urban planning and regional planning. One of his best known books is the "Umayyad Masjid in Damascus".



HRH Princess Wajdan AL Hashemi

President of the Royal Society of Fine Arts

She received her PhD. in Islamic Art History from the SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London). She is the former Jordanian ambassador to Rome, Italy, and the founder and dean of the Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Jordan, and founder of the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts, and the Royal Society of Fine Arts, a delegate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whereby she was the first woman to join the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jordan. She has 16 books on Islamic art published in English and Arabic, and 38 exhibitions and 100 joint and biennial exhibitions in Arab world, Europe, Asia and United States.



Waciny Laredj

Novelist and Professor

PhD on "The Theory of the Hero in the Arab Novel" from Damascus University, and a professor at University of Central Algeria, and Sorbonne University. Before dedicating himself to writing fiction, he was the Vice-President of the Algerian Writers Union, and founded and supervised Al Etihad Magazine. He supervised the publication of the literary series "Voices of the Present", which focuses on the young literary experience in Algeria. As a novelist, he participated in many Arab and international symposia related to the topics of writing, challenges of Arab intellect and many others. He produced TV program "Ahl Al-Kitab" which discusses books and the passion for reading in Algeria and the Arab world.

He also produced the TV program "Al Diwan" in which he tried to compile a visual anthology of the book from the beginning of the 20th century. His literary works include: Nawar al-Luz, The Conscience of the Absent, The Seventh Night After One Thousand, The Lady Of The Shrine, The Guardian Of Shadows, The Memory Of Water, The Balconies Of The North Sea, The Jasmine Bracelet, The Andalusian House, Ashes Of The East, Lolita's Fingers, The Kingdom Of The Butterfly, The Last Arab, Algerian Poetry. He was awarded the Algerian Novel Prize for all his works, the First Television Award for special cultural programmes, The Golden Book Award, The Arab Creativity Award, The Katara Prize for Arabic Novel.



Jad Tabet

An architect and planner

He is the President of the Arab Architects Association and Lebanese Chapter of Engineers and Architects and a Member of UNESCO World Heritage Committee. Working between Beirut and Paris, his practice extends over several dimensions of design and research, spanning across the fields of historic urban landscapes, public space design, rehabilitation and revitalization of traditional urban fabric, development of strategies for sustainable community growth as well as social housing and public facilities. He is the author of several academic publications on war and reconstruction, and on the relationship between heritage and modernity. He taught architecture at the National Institute of Fine Arts at the Lebanese University, the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture at American University of Beirut, Belleville School of Architecture in Paris, as well as Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po in Paris.



Muawiya Ibrahim

Archaeologist and Historian

The former representative of Jordan in the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and former President of the of Friends of Archaeology Society. He was a professor and dean of Research and Graduate Studies at Al-Isra Private University, Jordan. He received his PhD from the Free University of Berlin, and he is the Founding Director of the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology in Yarmouk University in Jordan; he also founded and lectured in the Department of Archaeology at Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. He carried out excavations and research projects in Palestine, Jordan, Germany, Bahrain, Kuwait, Yemen, and Oman. He received the das Grosse Bundesverdienstkreuz from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Arab Archaeologists Association Award, and the University of Philadelphia Award among many other awards. He is an author/editor of several volumes and over 100 articles in specialized journals and books.



Soheir Zaki Hawas

Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Department of Architecture at Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University

She is a consulting expert and coordinator for the Ministry of Housing and New Communities. She currently is the head of training unit at the National Organization of Urban Harmony. She is a pioneer in documenting Cairo's 19th Century architecture; she published the Encyclopedia of Khedivial Cairo in 2002, and six other books, she also has more than 50 published papers in national and international journals. She is a member of many national and international organizations and committees, and a board member in NOUH, a member of the committee mandated by the Supreme Council of Antiquities to prepare a draft the 'Arab Charter on the Preservation of Architectural Heritage in the Arab Countries.'

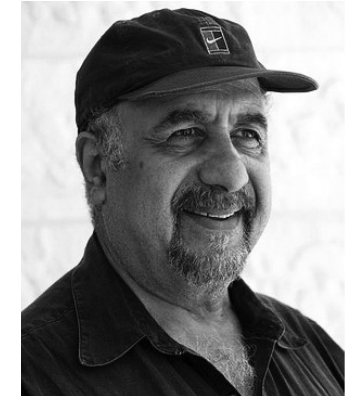
She is also a member of the committee preparing the new building code being discussed by People's Assembly in the chapter containing laws and regulations of urban harmony.



Saad AL-Massoudi

Professor and media specialist

Focusing on media and culture studies, Mr. Massoudi, together with heritage experts, established a forum for the restitution of looted antiquities, that succeeded in restoring many antique objects to be restituted through embassies. He is careful to participate in UNESCO conferences and other international conferences that aim at spreading a culture of peace and tolerance and the conservation of antiquities. He calls for temporary removal of antiquities from conflict zones to safe places till the conflict ends. He is a media figure working in RMC (Radio Monte Carlo) in France and correspondent reporter for Al-Arabiya channel. He covered the Iraq-Iran war, Kuwait, Afghanistan wars and the American invasion of Iraq. He documented the looting of Baghdad museum, and published the names of people involved in the trafficking of antiquities in the Iraqi media.



Ihsan Fethi

Art and architecture historian, critic Professor of Architecture, Amman University, Jordan.

Prof. Fethi obtained his Doctorate in Urban Conservation from Town & Regional Planning Department, Sheffield University (UK), 1978. He published more than 100 books and research papers, participated in numerous world conferences and was keynote speaker in 10 of them. He is founding Dean of several colleges of Architecture in various parts of the Arab World. He founded the Heritage Department at Baghdad Municipality in 1983. He was chairperson of the Baghdad School of Architecture from 1986 to 1991. He worked as conservation expert and consultant to UNESCO, the Getty Conservation Institute, World Monument Fund and ICCROM. He also served as Director of Iraqi Architects Society.



Monther Dahash Jamhawi

Director General of Antiquities in Jordan.

PhD in Cultural Resources Management from Oxford School of Architecture / Oxford Brookes University - England. He is an associate professor of Conservation and Management of Cultural Heritage and Planning and Design in the College of Architecture and Design at Jordan University of Science and Technology. Member of many national and international councils such as ICCROM Board Council, The Jordan National Council of Tourism, and World Association for Tangible Cultural Heritage. He published many articles on Management and Protection of Cultural Properties, Planning for Cultural Tourism, Sustainable Tourism, Heritage Restoration and Revitalization, and New IT Applications in Heritage Management.



Hamdan Taha

Archaeologist and Historian
Former deputy Minister of Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.
Former director general of Department of Antiquities

Taha is currently an independent researcher (2014-2012), who served since 1994 as the director general of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine. He directed a series of excavations and restoration projects and co-directed the joint expeditions at Tell es-Sulatn, Khirbet Bal'ama, Tell el-Mafjar, Kh. El-Mafjar and Tell Balata. He worked also as a national coordinator of the World Heritage Programme in Palestine. He is the author of many books, field reports and scholarly articles.



Hossam Mahdy

Architect and writer

He graduated as an architect from Ain Shams University, Egypt. He obtained a M.Sc. in the conservation of historic buildings and towns from University of Leuven, Belgium (Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation, and a Ph.D. from University of Glasgow. U.K., with the title "Attitudes towards architectural conservation- the case of Cairo". He was the Building Conservation Supervisor at Tourism and Culture Authority of Abu Dhabi (TCA). He was responsible for planning, implementation and management of the conservation for the built heritage of the Abu Dhabi Emirate. He led a multidisciplinary team of building conservation professionals and coordinated the work of consultants and contractors for architectural conservation projects across the Emirate.

He worked as a freelance architect, researcher, consultant and lecturer on the conservation of architectural and urban heritage. Commissioned on numerous assignments by UNESCO, UNDP, E.U. and World Bank funded projects on cultural heritage, architectural and urban conservation, and management of archaeological sites. Research, teaching and training are significant aspects of his work profile. He was elected the Vice-President of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Built Heritage (CIAV). Since 2000, he worked with ICCROM-Sharjah on "A Glossary of Arabic terms of the conservation for cultural heritage, with English equivalents". He has a lifetime commitment to contributing to the establishment of a culture-specific approach, philosophy and practice of conservation for cultural heritage in Arab region.



Rashad Mohammed Salem

Chancellor of Alqasimia
University, Sharjah
Professor and Head of
Department of Arabic Language
and Literature at the Faculty of
Arts & Sciences

PhD in the Arabic Jurisprudence,
a Master of Origins of Language
from Al Azhar University. Prof. Salem
has many books and writings such
as: "The Biography and History
of Arabic Letters", "The Linguistic
Approach of Fundamentalists",
"The Beauty & Perfection of Arabic
Language", "The Voice Performance",
"The Civilizational Necessity of
Arabization", "The Poor Linguistic
Performance in Media" and "The
Sources of Islamic and Arabic
Studies and Ways to develop them".



HH Princess Dana Firas

President of the Petra National
Trust (PNT) UNESCO Goodwill
Ambassador

HH Princess Dana Firas is a global
advocate for heritage protection
and preservation as a foundation for
development, responsible tourism,
political identity and participation.
She currently serves as President
of the Petra National Trust (PNT),
Jordan's oldest national non-
governmental organization in the
field of heritage protection and
preservation. She was designated
a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
in June 2017. Since the early 1990s,
she has worked to promote cultural
heritage preservation, education
and sustainable development in
various capacities in the three
sectors: private, public and civil
society, both in Jordan and in
United States.

She worked in the office of
HM Queen Noor on projects
that promoted sustainable
development, peace and human
rights. She holds a BA degree from
Boston University in Economics
and International Relations. She
also holds a MSc in Development
Studies from the London School of
Economics and Political Science and
a MBA from Harvard University's
Kennedy School of Government
that focused on sustainable
development and environmental
policy.



Sulaiman Ibrahim AL-Askari.

Head of the Arab Center for Educational Research in Gulf Countries.

Dr. Al-Askari completed his undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Dar Al Uloom - Cairo University, and received his MA and PhD on the History of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula in the Islamic era from Manchester University, United Kingdom. He was the teacher of History of the Gulf and Arab Islamic civilization, in Kuwait University, Department of History. He became Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture between 1993 and 1998, and worked on the establishment of the National Library of Kuwait and the annual Al-Qureen Cultural Festival. In 1999, Dr. Al-Askari was appointed editor in chief of Majallat Al-Araby magazine, and remain in this position till 2013.

He edited and launched several important periodicals including the Al-Araby Al-Ilmy magazine in June 2011. He received the Kuwait State Appreciation Award in 2009, and was honored by the Union of Arab Historians Association in Cairo in 2007. During his time in Majallat Al-Araby, the magazine received the Al-Owais Foundation Award for Cultural and Scientific Achievements, and the Al-Ahram prize for the best Arabic cultural magazine, both in 2002. Dr. Al-Askari is a Member of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature- Kuwait, the Board of Trustees of the Arab Cultural Council – Beirut, the Board of Trustees of the National Center for Translation in the Arab Republic of Egypt, and a correspondent member of the Arab Academy – Damascus, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Center for Translation – Cairo, the Board of Trustees of the Arab Council for Children and Youngsters - Cairo, the Board of Trustees of the Union of Arab Historians – Cairo, the GCC Society for History and Archaeology, the Supreme Council of Kuwait University, Board of Trustees of the Institute for the History of Arabic-Islamic Science at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University – Frankfurt. He is currently a member of the Supreme Education Council of Kuwait. He authored several books on various themes including the trade and navigation in the Arabian Gulf, disclosure of difficulties in the history of Oman, the dream of Arab enlightenment, Kuwait and cultural development, challenges of Arab culture.



Mina Elmhhari

Professor in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Mohammed V University in Rabat.

State Doctor of in the History of Islamic Architecture: "The City of Mukador / Essaouira: An Historical and Archaeological Study" Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Rabat. Doctorate of the third corps in Archeology and History of Islamic Art: "Mosques University in The Sultan Mullah Suleyoman's Reign " University of Paris 4, Sorbonne, Paris. Professor and researcher at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Mohammed V University in Rabat. Secretary-General of the Moroccan Commission for UNESCO from June 2005 to February 2010. Professor at the National School of Architecture, History and Theory of Architecture (2005 - 2004). Professor of Heritage Issues for Ph.D. Students at the School of Architecture, and of heritage issues for the master students on the desert social mechanisms. Vice-President of the Moroccan Committee of ICOMOS.

Chairperson of the Heritage Committee (Mokador Essaouira Association). Chairperson of the Memory of the World Committee 2013-2008. Member of the ICOMOS Executive Council. Member of the Expert Committee of the World Villages and Historical Cities.



Rawiya Magthoub

Founding Director of Restoration Graduate Studies Center in the Lebanese University

She holds PhD in History and Civilization from the University of Lyon, PhD in the History of Art and Archaeology from Sorbonne University/ Paris IV, Prof. and served as director of Fine Arts Institute, Lebanese University. She is the Founder of Restoration Graduate Studies Center of Lebanese University, based in Tripoli, in cooperation with Chaillot School in Paris and LA Sapienza University in Rome. In 2005, she was honored by the French government for her contributions to the Lebanese government and communities.



Manal Ataya

Director General of Sharjah Museums Authority

Museum specialist with 12 years' experience in cultural heritage conservation, museum development and cultural diplomacy. As Director General of the Sharjah Museums Authority she is responsible for the overall management of 16 museums in the emirate of Sharjah. Ataya holds a BA in Studio Art and Communication Studies from Hamilton College and a Graduate Degree in Museum Studies from Harvard University, USA. She is a Clore Fellow having completed the distinguished UK cultural leadership program in 2010. She currently serves on the advisory boards of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences-University of Sharjah and ICCROM's Regional Conservation Centre in Sharjah for cultural heritage preservation in the Arab region. She also serves as a member of the Supreme Committee for the File of Sharjah – The Gateway to Trucial States.



Stefano De Caro

Former Director-General of ICCROM.

Archaeologist, author, lecturer in several Italian universities. Former Director-General of Antiquities of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism.

His early career was defined by his experience managing the aftermath of the earthquake in Irpinia, Italy in the early 1980s. He was first Director of the Excavations Office of Pompeii, then Superintendent of Antiquities of the provinces of both Naples and Caserta, and finally Regional Director of Cultural Heritage of Campania Region. As Regional Director, he was a forerunner in the management of European projects for the conservation of cultural heritage under the Regional Operational Programme.

Among other successes, he managed to draw audiences to cultural heritage by re-organizing many of the most prominent permanent sections of Archaeological Museum of Naples as well as by promoting special exhibitions and the development of local museums. He is acknowledged as a visionary, and his perspectives have greatly influenced national conservation programmes. He supported the development of the very first national guidelines on rescue archaeology and has been invited to represent Italy at various international conferences and meetings. He published over 300 scientific books and articles on topics ranging from archaeology to the Greek and Roman preservation of historic centers, cultural landscapes and intangible assets. De Caro has also curated exhibitions on Italian cultural heritage in China, France and Russia, among other countries. Grande Ufficiale of the Italian Republic and Knight of the Légion d'Honneur of French Republic, he is also a member of British Academy, Deutsche Archäologische Institut and Scientific Advisory Board of the Herculaneum Conservation Project run by the Packard Humanities Institute. In addition, he has been honored with the "Outstanding Public Service Award" from the Archaeological Institute of America.



Jukka Ilmari Jokilehto

Architect-City Planner (Helsinki), DPhil (York, UK).
Extraordinary Professor, University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia.
Honorary Visiting Professor, University of York.
UK Special Advisor to the Director-General of ICCROM
Honorary Member of ICOMOS

Born in Helsinki, Finland, Jokilehto graduated in architecture and urban planning, Polytechnic University of Helsinki. He participated in the International Architectural Conservation Course (ICCROM, 1971), and holder of a DPhil degree, University of York (1986). Jokilehto taught history and theory of conservation, planning and management of the built heritage at ICCROM from 1972 to 1998. He was responsible for Architectural and Urban Conservation.

Representation and technical missions to Member States. Retired from his position as Assistant Director General, in 1998. At ICOMOS, he was President of International Training Committee, CIF, World Heritage Advisor to ICOMOS on evaluation and presentation of World Heritage nominations to the World Heritage Committee. After 1998, he was engaged in Architectural practice in Finland, urban planning, residences, offices, and industrial buildings; Development of conservation master plans and management plans (e.g. Iran; Georgia, Eritrea, Azerbaijan), Advisor on World Heritage; Advisory missions on behalf of UNESCO, ICCROM and ICOMOS. He published some 300 publications, including: A History of Architectural Conservation (Butterworth-Heinemann, 1999, also published in Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Iran, Estonia, Georgia); Management Guidelines for World Cultural Heritage Sites (with BM Feilden; ICCROM, 1993, translated into several languages); The World Heritage List, Filling the Gaps – An Action Plan for the Future (with M. Petzet, H. Cleere, S. Denyer, ICOMOS, Monuments and Sites, XII, 2005); The World Heritage List: What is OUV? (ICOMOS, Monuments and Sites, XVI, 2008); ICCROM and the Conservation of Cultural Heritage: A History of the Organization's first 50 Years, 2009-1959, ICCROM, Rome 2011.



Susan Denyer

World Heritage Adviser, ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites)
Secretary of ICOMOS-UK

She has undertaken international missions for ICOMOS in Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa. She previously worked for the National Trust, in museums, and as lecturer, including six years in East and West Africa, and has been Chair of BASIN, an international network for low-cost housing, and Secretary of INTACH UK, (the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, UK). She has published widely on cultural landscapes and is an occasional lecturer at various universities.



Patricia Kell

Vice Chair of the Council of ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property)

She was appointed Director General of the Canadian Conservation Institute in January 2014 and assumed the broader role of Director General of Heritage in August 2016. She leads the Canadian Conservation Institute, the Canadian Heritage Information Network, and programs in the Department of Canadian Heritage related to museums. Dr. Kell worked for over 15 years in a wide variety of jobs with Parks Canada, including Director of Heritage Conservation and Director of the National Historic Sites Policy Branch. Her academic credentials include Master's degrees in museum studies and in science as well as a Doctorate in the history of museums from Oxford University. Her career focused on defining and implementing policy and programs in history, cultural resource management and heritage conservation.



John Robbins

Deputy Director for the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC.
Vice Chair of the Council of ICCROM

John Robbins is deputy director for the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, responsible for day-to-day operations of the museum, and for design and construction projects. Robbins served previously as executive director of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Assistant Director for Cultural Resources, and Manager of the National Center for Cultural Resources, all in the US National Park Service. Robbins is a licensed architect in US. His significant projects experience includes restoration of Statue of Liberty and Liberty Island in New York, and the design and installation of the decorative arts and other galleries at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

Robbins was the first laureate of the Richard Morris Hunt Prize in historic preservation, and a current member of the Council of the International Centre for Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM).



Jean-Louis Luxen

Former Secretary General of ICOMOS

After obtaining a doctorate in law from the University of Louvain, Belgium, Jean-Louis Luxen completed studies in economics at Stanford University in California. From 1973 to 2006, he was a Director-General at the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Belgium. From 1989 to 1993, he chaired the Cultural Heritage Committee of the Council of Europe, before being elected Secretary General of ICOMOS from 1993 to 2002. In this capacity, he supervised the participation of the advisory body at sessions of the World Heritage Committee and participated in several expert meetings, including the Nara meeting in 1994 and the intangible World Heritage meetings held in Zimbabwe in 2000 and 2003. Since 2002, he presided over CHEDI (Culture, Heritage and Development - International) and has been Treasurer of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience since 2010.

He has written extensively on heritage as a vector of economic development and on the immaterial dimension of built heritage. He recently published an analysis of the relevance of charters and conventions. He has in-depth knowledge of ICOMOS also offers an interesting perspective on the work of the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee.



Nazmi Jubeh

Associate Professor of history and archaeology at Birzeit University in Palestine

He received his Master's and PhD in oriental studies and archeology from the University of Tübingen in Germany after completing his undergraduate studies on Middle Eastern Studies and archaeology in Birzeit University in Palestine. He was Co-Director of Riwaq: Centre for Architectural Conservation in Ramallah (2010-1992). And the director of the Islamic Museum – al-Haram al-Sharif- Jerusalem (1984-1980). Jubeh's research addresses archeology, history, politics and architecture. He is an expert on Jerusalem and Hebron in general and the holy sites in particular. Jubeh currently serves on the board of trustees of several cultural institutions and museums in Jerusalem and in the West Bank. He published several books and a large number of articles on history, archaeology, politics and architecture.



Ridha Fraoua

Former head of the Legislative Unit I at the Federal Office of Justice, Switzerland.

Holds a PhD in law from University of Fribourg, Switzerland. His PhD thesis was on the illicit trafficking and restitution of cultural property. He worked at the Federal Office of Justice for 31 years (until December 2016 ,31), where he headed the Legislation Unit I for 16 years. Dr. Fraoua has been a UNESCO consultant since 1986. As such, he has participated in numerous international seminars and conferences, under the auspices of UNESCO, ICCROM, Council of Europe and European Union on the protection of cultural heritage, in general, and the illicit trafficking of cultural property, in particular. As an international expert in cultural heritage legislation, he has conducted numerous assistance missions and drafted legislative evaluation reports in the field of cultural heritage protection, management and promotion.



Abdulaziz Almusaallam

Chair of Sharjah Institute for Heritage Member of ICCROM Council

Dr. AlMusallam is an author, researcher, and cultural heritage consultant. He received his PhD in History and Heritage from Hassan II University-Casablanca, Morocco. His research interest focuses on heritage issues in the Gulf and Arab cultural heritage in general. Al-Musallam has significant contributions in supporting heritage researchers and relevant institutions. He is currently the Chairman of the Sharjah Heritage Institute and the Editor in Chief of the "Al Mawrouth" Magazine. He is also an executive member of a number of international organizations and associations concerned with cultural heritage. He was received numerous awards and decorations from the United Arab Emirates and GCC countries.

He has a large collection of publications in culture, fairy tales, heritage and Gulf Poetry. Some of his works is translated into English, Italian, Spanish and Czech. He was nominated to the Memorial Award of the Swedish Streed Linderger Sweden in the year 2016. He devotes his efforts and potentials to his scheme (the dream), in which he wishes to make the folktales available easily to children so as to preserve the oral narratives of the lovely past and to enable all children to read and to understand.



Amir Pasic

Consultant to Director General
for Architectural Heritage in
IRCICA.

Commissioner at the Commission
to Preserve National Monuments
of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He was professor of architecture,
and urban planning, and theory and
history of architecture and historic
preservation, and he is currently
affiliated with the University of
Sarajevo. He lectured in more
than 30 universities worldwide.
He served as the consultant for the
Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Geneva;
the World Monuments Fund; and
ICOMOS. He won the 1986 Aga
Khan Award for Architecture for
the restoration of the Old Town of
Mostar, and he was coordinating ten
years' activities on rehabilitation of
the town after 95-1992 war.

He is the author or co-author of
21 books and 52 articles, and also
author of the Nomination dossier
for the WH property "Old Town of
Mostar" (2005). He is the regional
editor in the "Journal of Cultural
Management and Sustainable
Development" London.