

From Closure to Sharing: Exploring Research Data on the Heritage of Afghanistan and Neighbouring Territories

Second French–Italian Summer School
Paris, 15–19 June 2026

PROGRAM

Monday, June 15th 2026

Venue: Musée Guimet, Hôtel Heidelberg (salon Pelliot)

19 avenue d'Iéna, 75016 Paris (metro 9: Iéna)

- 10.00 **Welcome of participants**
- Welcome address, Sandra Aube (CNRS)
- Inaugural address, Adriano Rossi (President of ISMEO — The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies)
- Participants' introduction round
- 11.00 - **Visit of the Guimet collection**, by Nicolas Engel (curator, musée Guimet) and Anna Filigenzi (professor, Università di Napoli "L'Orientale")
- 13.00 - Lunch at the Hotel Heidelberg, musée Guimet, offered by the Inalco
- 14.00-17.00 **Session "Archiving Heritage of Afghanistan: Exploring Italian Archival Collections"**
- 14.00 - Roberta Giunta (Head of the Dept. of Asia, Africa and the Mediterranean, Università di Napoli L'Orientale):
The Archives of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Afghanistan: Safeguarding, Digitizing, and Sharing the Legacy
- 14.45 - Federica Olivotto and Lorenzo Declich (ISMEO - Associazione Internazionale di Studi sul Mediterraneo e l'Oriente):
From Archive to Access: Digitization, Metadata and Publication of the ISMEO Photographic Archives
- 15.30 - Giulia Forgione (post-doctoral researcher, Università di Napoli L'Orientale):
The archaeological documentation of the Buddhist site of Tepe Narenj (4th-8th cent. CE): A tool to reframe the Afghan clay/stucco sculpture
- 16.15 - Arturo Annucci (Postdoc Fellow, Giunta Storica Nazionale - Istituto Italiano di Numismatica) (with Michael Alram):
Numismatic Data through Archives and Databases: The Coins from Tapa Sardar and Ghazni

Venue: École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO)

22, avenue du Président-Wilson, 75016 Paris

- 17.00-19.00 Welcome address and presentation of the EFEO, by Saarthak Singh (associate professor at the EFEO)
Cocktail offered by the DAFA

Tuesday, June 16th

Venue: Campus Condorcet (Recherche Sud, room 0.033)

5 cours des Humanités, 93300 Aubervilliers (metro 12: Front Populaire)

- 9.00 Invited Speaker TBC

"For Open Science"

- 9.45-13.00 **Session "Navigating a Corpus"**
- 9.45 - Arezou Azad (professor junior, Inalco) and Ed Shawe-Taylor (**status? Intitution?**):
The Invisible East Digital Corpus: Behinf the Scenes
- 10.45 - Coffee Break
- 11.00 - Arezou Azad and Ed Shawe-Taylor:
Workshop: "Navigating a Corpus": Part 1. A case study: The Invisible East project"
- 12.00 - Barbara Bonazzi (CNRS, distam+):
Workshop: "Navigating a Corpus": Part 2. From Metadata to Corpus Filtering
- 13.00 - Lunch offered at the Faculty Club
- 14.30-18.00 **Session "Designing a Metadata Scheme"**
- 14.30 - Viola Allegranzi (researcher, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna):
Where words meet stone: New perspectives on architectural inscriptions from medieval Afghanistan
- 15.15 - Martina Massullo (musée du Louvre):
Presentation of the photographic archives held by the French Institute of research in Iran (IFRI, Tehran)
- 15.30 - Coffee break
- 15.45 - Marie Bizais (University of Strasbourg, distam+), Barbara Bonazzi (distam+):
Workshop: "Designing a Metadata scheme" – based on the IFRI's data set (2 groups: rooms 0.033 and 2.122)

Wednesday, June 17th

Venue: BULAC (Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations), room RJ.24
65 rue des Grands Moulins, 75013 Paris (metro 14: Bibliothèque François-Mitterrand)

- 10.00 Presentation of the BULAC's Persian collections, by Benjamin Guichard (scientific director of the BULAC) and Martina Massullo (musée du Louvre)
- 11.00-16.00 **Session "From Metadata to Automatic Image Classification"**
- 11h - Martina Massullo (musée du Louvre):
From Archival Records to Digital Research Data: The Viollet and Godard Collections on Iranian and Afghan Architecture
- 12.00 - Lunch at Plan Libre restaurant (Cité de Refuge, 12 rue Cantagrel, 75013 Paris)
- 13.30 - Sipana Tchakerian (Institut national d'histoire de l'art):
An Introduction to the INHA Fonds Thierry corpus
- 14.00 - Denise Atzori (Università di Pisa, ENC-PSL), Chiara Tedesco (ENC-PSL) and Thaïs Raffray (ENC-PSL):
Workshop: "From Metadata to Automatic Image Classification", based on the Thierry Dataset (2 groups: rooms RJ.24 and RJ.23)

Venue: Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH)
54 boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris (metro 10 or 12: Sèvres Babylone)

- 17.00-18.30 **Round-table "Ethics and the Afterlife of Manuscripts in Contexts of Conflict and Poverty"**, with Maja Kominko (Director of Projects at The Heritage Management Organization), Gil Stein (Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology in MES and at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, Director of the Chicago Center for Cultural Heritage Preservation), Ahmad Laeiq (PAUSE).
Discussant: Arezou Azad

18.30-20.30 ***The Islamicate East: New Approaches to Texts & History*** and ***Ancient and Medieval Afghanistan***: Launch for two book series of Edinburgh University Press offered by the Chair of the Art and heritage of Afghanistan at Inalco.
Keynote by Frantz Grenet.
Presentations & roundtable with the authors. Drings reception.

Thursday, June 18th

Venue: Campus Condorcet

9.30-10.30 **Visit of the Campus Condorcet:**

- introduction to the **Humathèque** Library, by Shakiha Daword,
- visit of the **temporary exhibition** “Même la poussière se souvient de moi” (Even the dust remembers me) of the Afghan photographer **Rada Akbar**, presented by the artist,
- presentation of the **documentary exhibition** “De la terre à l’écrit” (Memory and transmission: The archives of the French missions in Afghanistan held at the MSH Mondes) by Laeiq Ahmadi

10.30-13.30 Option 1:
at the Campus Condorcet:

12.00-13.45 Option 2:
at the BnF – site Richelieu:
(on inscription only)

Opening of the Hospitality and Academic Freedom Week

- Round-table “Knowledge and Creative Practices in Exile: University Hospitality and Academic Freedom”, with Alka Patel, Özgür Sevgi Göral, Aleksandr Musin, Neda Soltani, Rada Akbar, Denis Merklen. Discussants: Sandra Aube (CNRS) and Julie Trebault (Artists at Risk)
- Cocktail and concert (Duo Farhang Habibi & Hamed Zoheiri) offered to the participants

Presentation of manuscripts at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, by Arezou Azad and Michele Bernardini

Venue: Institut national d’histoire de l’art (INHA), room Benjamin

2 rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris (metro 14: Pyramides, or metro 3: Bourse)

14.00 Introductory visit of the INHA, by Sipana Tchakerian and Louisa Torres (meeting-point at the rotonda of the Galerie Golbert)

14.45-18.15 **Session “A Text Extraction Workflow”**

14.45 - Francis Richard:

Manuscript heritage and research on Afghanistan. Focus on the National Archives of Kabul

15.30 - Laurianne Sève (Délégation archéologique française en Afghanistan / DAFA):

A Century of Archaeological Exploration in Afghanistan: DAFA and its Scattered Archives

16.00 - Break

16.15 - Chahan Vidal-Gorène (Calfa, ENC-PSL, distam+), Marie Bizais

Workshop: “A Text Extraction Workflow”, based of the DAFA dataset

18.15 - Break

18.30-19.45 ***Qur’anic Manuscripts from Medieval Afghanistan and Pre-Mughal India: A Conversation on The Forgotten Qur’ans and Prisme Indien***

Discussion with the authors Alya Karamé (Research Associate, Orient-Institut Beirut) and Éloïse Brac de la Perrière (professor, Sorbonne Université & INHA, Centre André-Chastel) led by Finbarr Barry Flood (professor, New York University)

Friday, June 19th

Venue: Campus Condorcet (Recherche Sud, room 0.033)

5 cours des Humanités, 93300 Aubervilliers (metro 12: Front Populaire)

9.00-12.00 **Session “Structured Data”**

9.00

- Alka Patel (CNRS, LA3M):

Archives in Dialogue: Medieval Sistan in the 20th Century

9.45

- Coffee break

10.00

- Workshop: “Structured Data”, by Maxime Létoffé (ENC-PSL, EPHE) and Mathieu Rivière (ENC-PSL) (2 groups: rooms 0.033 and 2.122)

12.00

- Lunch offered at the Faculty Club

13.30-15.00 **Session “Spatialization”**

13.30

- Workshop: “Spatialization”, by Maxime Létoffé, Mathieu Rivière, and Barbara Bonazzi (2 groups: rooms 0.033 and 2.122)

15.00

- Conclusion. Building a Project: The Toolbox, by Marie Bizais and Barbara Bonazzi

16.00

- End of the Summer School.

Saturday, June 20th

Guided tour of the Musée de l’histoire de l’immigration – Palais de la porte dorée (on registration)

If participants might be interested to visit the following museums, please contact the organisers to arrange a free visit:

Institut du monde arabe

Cité de l’architecture et du patrimoine (exhibition: “Patrimoines en résistance. De Tombouctou à Odessa”)

Musée du Louvre

The summer school is organized by:



UNIVERSITÀ DI NAPOLI
L'ORIENTALE

DAAM
DIPARTIMENTO ASIA,
AFRICA E MEDITERRANEO



The organizing committee:

Sandra Aube Lorain (CNRS)

Arezou Azad (Inalco)

Michele Bernardini (Università di Napoli “L’Orientale”)

Marie Bizais (Université de Strasbourg, distam+)
Barbara Bonazzi (CNRS / distam+)
Anna Filigenzi (Università di Napoli “L’Orientale”)
Roberta Giunta (Università di Napoli “L’Orientale”)
Adriano Rossi (ISMEO)
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In collaboration with:

