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The Society for Libyan Studies

The Society for Libyan Studies, founded in 1969, is established as a British International Research Institute (BIRI, affiliated to the British Academy), and a Registered Charity No. 259262. Its aims are to encourage and coordinate the activities of British scholars conducting research on Libya and its wider region. The Society originally supported research into the archaeology and ancient history of Libya. Its resources funded long-term archaeology projects and their subsequent publication, including excavations in Benghazi, Tolmeita, Ajdabiyah and Medinet Sultan, plus the multi-disciplinary projects in the pre-desert valleys of Tripolitania, around Jarma in the Fazzan and on the prehistory of Cyrenaica. More recently, the Society has expanded its scope to cover a wider range of research approaches, including the natural sciences, linguistics, history and the contemporary social sciences. It also aims to foster and develop relations between British and Libyan scholars, and others working on Libya and its wider region.

The Society's webpage address is: <http://www.societyforlibyanstudies.org>

Membership and Subscriptions

Those who wish to join the Society can apply online through the membership page of the Society's website, which also details payment methods, including credit card payments, or by contacting the General Secretary either by email GenSec@societyforlibyanstudies.org or in writing to Mrs Pauline Graham, General Secretary, The Society for Libyan Studies, c/o British Academy, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. The subscription rate is £30 per annum for those based in Britain or resident overseas.

Members receive the current issue of *Libyan Studies* by mail, they may attend lectures and other events, and they are entitled to use the Society's Library and Archive. They also have access to all the Society's journals online.

Meetings

The Society holds four Lecture Meetings in London each year (at the British Academy or in University of London colleges). The end of year Lecture Meeting is preceded by the Annual General Meeting, and details of this meeting are circulated in advance to all UK members.

The Library and Archive

The Society's Library has a considerable collection of books on Libyan and related North African studies. The collection is unique in Britain, and many items are rare and unavailable elsewhere. The Library is housed at the School of Oriental and African Studies Library, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG (Level F, Mobile Stacks). It is available for consultation during normal library opening hours, and books may be borrowed by members of the Society. The General Secretary will provide a letter of introduction for members of the Society who wish to obtain a membership card granting access to the Library.

The Society's Archive is hosted by the University of Leicester, and the catalogue is currently being put online. It may be accessed in person, by members of the Society.

Publications of the Society

The Society's academic journal, *Libyan Studies*, is published in November each year. It includes articles, reports, notes and reviews relating to current research on Libya and its wider region in North Africa and the Mediterranean. Guidelines for contributors are available online through the Society's webpage, and intending contributors should consult the Editor, *Libyan Studies*, editor@societyforlibyanstudies.org. The deadline for contributions is 31 January each year. Books for review should be sent to the General Secretary of the Society in the first instance. All enquiries for the current issue or for back-numbers of *Libyan Studies* should be addressed to Cambridge University Press, University Printing House, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK.

The Society publishes academic monographs, a series in collaboration with Cambridge University Press, and, under the Silphium Press imprint, popular works on Libya including its series of Libya Archaeological Guides. The Society also produces e-books for all new publications and some volumes in the backlist are also available Open Access through the Society's website. All publications are listed on the Society's website and may be ordered from the General Secretary by members with discounts of 25% or more. Orders from non-members should be addressed to our distributor Oxbow Books, Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1JE (or in North America, Casemate Academic, 1950 Lawrence Road, Havertown PA 19083, USA). They may also be ordered online through the Oxbow websites: see <http://www.oxbowbooks.com>.

Grants in Aid of Research

The Society for Libyan Studies offers grants for researchers to undertake research projects, or research programmes, upon Libya and its wider region. Our remit covers the broad range of the Humanities and the Social Sciences (as addressed by the British Academy). We will also consider applications for research in the Natural Sciences. Details of how to apply for a research grant are found on the Society's website under 'Research activity'.

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Edited by
Victoria Leitch BA, MPHIL, DPHIL

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Front Cover Photo: Clasped hand detail from IRT2009 322. In situ above the door from the orchestra into the east lateral corridor at the Theatre in Lepcis Magna. This image symbolises unity and harmony and perfectly captures the spirit of the Society for Libyan Studies, uniting studies of North African and the Mediterranean, from different periods and subject areas (photo: Dr Sophie Hay).

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