

Dr AHMED SHAMS

Sessional Lecturer, Durham University

Research Officer, Henley Business School

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Mapping, mapmaking & geographical knowledge-making
Cartographic archaeology
Economic value of landscapes
Landscape, archaeology, politics

Watershed management
Middle East & European frontiers and borderlands
Desert and mountain/highlands development
Nomadism & Bedouin studies

EDUCATION

- Mar. 2010 – Mar. 2013 **PhD in MDCH - Management and Development of Cultural Heritage**
IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca, Italy, AlpEnv Institute for Alpine Environment, EURAC European Research Academy, Bozen/Bolzano, Italy
- Sep. 2000 – Sep. 2005 **BSc Engineering Management**
Excellent/Honors; Senior Graduation Project (Grade A)
Department of Industrial and System Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, MUST Misr University for Science and Technology, Cairo, Egypt

TEACHING, RESEARCH & REVIEWING

- May 2015 – current **Research Officer, Henley Business School, University of Reading, Reading, United Kingdom**
- Feb. 2014 – current **MA Sessional Lecturer, MA-ICHM International Cultural Heritage Management, Department of Archaeology, Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom**
- Mar. 2013 – Feb. 2014 **Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Department of Archaeology, Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom**
- Oct. 2011 – Jan. 2013 **Principal Researcher, AlpEnv Institute for Alpine Environment, EURAC European Research Academy, Bozen/Bolzano, Italy**
- Feb. 2009 – Mar. 2010 **Research Analyst & Assistant to Editor in Chief, CULTNAT Centre for Documentation of Natural and Cultural Heritage (European Commission project), Cairo/Sinai Peninsula, Egypt**
- Sep. 2007 – Jun. 2008 **Researcher, Sinai Peninsula Research, Cairo/Sinai, Egypt**
- May – Sep. 2007 **Environmental Management Specialist, EcoConServ Environmental Consultant, Cairo, Egypt**
- Sep. 2005 – Jun. 2007 **Teaching Assistant, Department of Industrial and System Engineering, MUST Misr University for Science and Technology, Cairo, Egypt**

MEMBERSHIP IN ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

- Jan. 2014 – current **UNESCO-ICOM – UK International Council of Museums, Paris/Edinburgh, United Kingdom**
- Jan. 2014 – current **PEF – Palestine Exploration Fund, London, United Kingdom**
- Jun. 2015 – current **MRS – Market Research Society, London, United Kingdom**

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

- Mar. 2010 – Mar. 2013 **PhD Fellowship of the Government of the Republic of Italy, IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca, Italy (2nd rank out of 6 awarded PhD students, out of 270 applicants ‘open international call’)**
- Sep. 2011 – Sep. 2012 **Research Collaboration Grant, EURAC European Research Academy, Bolzano/Bozen, Italy (AlpEnv Institute for Alpine Environment)**
- Mar. 2013 – Jun. 2013 **Cultural Engagement Fund, AHRC Arts and Humanities Research Council, London, United Kingdom (Department of Archaeology/Institute of Advanced Studies, Durham University)**
- Jun. 2014 – Jun. 2016 **Leverhulme Research Grants, BA British Academy – Humanities and Social Sciences, London, United Kingdom (SRG 2013-14 round ‘joint-application with Queen Mary University of London’)**

FIELDWORK & SCIENTIFIC VISITS

FIELDWORK

Middle East	Sinai Peninsula, Egypt
United Kingdom & Europe	Alto Adige-Südtirol, Italy

SCIENTIFIC VISITS

Hundreds of historic & archaeological sites, and natural & cultural landscapes in 18 different countries, including 50 plus UNESCO World Heritage Sites 'WHS' (please find enclosed the complete list)

Middle East	Egypt
United Kingdom & Europe	Czech, Germany, Greece, Denmark, France, England, Netherlands, Sweden, Austria, Estonia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Scotland & Switzerland

EXHIBITIONS & CATALOGUING

Nov. 2015 - Apr. 2016	Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF) – <i>Maps of the “Ordnance Survey of the Peninsula of Sinai” and “Jennings Bramley”</i> , London, United Kingdom (catalogued and attributed the 19th and 20th centuries maps of the British Royal Engineers and the Frontier Districts Administration (FDA))
Nov. 2-30, 2017	Royal Geographical Society & Saint Catherine Foundation – <i>Boissonnas in Egypt</i> , London, United Kingdom (provided and contributed to the attribution and description of the exhibitions entries)
Jan. 2018 - current	Library of the Congress – <i>Photograph collections of Eric & Edith Matson (Photograph Department of the American Colony of Jerusalem), Francis Frith, Bernhard Moritz, and Underwood & Underwood</i> , Washington, United States (provide the attributions, history and geography description/notes, for Sinai's 19th and 20th centuries photographic entries on the <i>Prints & Photographs Catalogue</i>)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Shams, A. August 2011e. *Eight years wandering in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula: A tale of two maps*. Cairo, Sinai Peninsula Research 2000-2013 CE

FUTURE BOOKS

Shams, A. In preparation (submission date: 2019). *The development handbook of the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula: Heritage, water, governance*.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

Shams, A. November 2017b. A Swiss Photographic Journey: Egypt's Landscapes from Alexander's Desert Temple to Mount Sinai, and Beyond. In *Boissonnas and Egypt*, ed. O. Baddeley, London: Saint Catherine Foundation & Royal Geographical Society

JOURNAL PAPERS

Shams, A. December 2012c. Towards a quantification model: The accountability of the for-profit and nonprofit organizations in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. *Int. J. Tourism Anthropology* 2(3):185-212

Shams, A. November 2014f. A rediscovered-new 'Qanat' system in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula, with Levantine reflections. *J. Aid Environments* 110: 69-74. (DOI: 10.1016/j.jaridenv.2014.06.006)

Shams, A. and U. Tappeiner. January 2015a. Semi-arid watershed management: The experimental farm and representative catchment of the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. *Int. J. of Water* 9(1):1-27

Shams, A. 2016g. Mapping and mapmaking in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula: A review and the revival of the 19th century practices. *Q. Palestine Exploration* 148(3):188-210

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Shams, A. June 2010b. Integrated cluster of centralized heritage-based nano-economies in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. In *Heritage 2010: Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Heritage and Sustainable Development*, ed. R. Amoêda, S. Lira and C. Pinheiro, 421-430, Barcelos: Green Lines Institute for Sustainable Development (*Theme: Heritage & Economics*)

Shams, A. April 2011b. Towards a quantification model: The impact of eco-cultural heritage-based mass tourism in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. In *Proceedings of Tourism in an Era of Uncertainty (ICOT 2011)*, ed. K. Andriotis and A. Theocharous, 672-683, Cyprus: International Association for Tourism Policy (*Theme: Sustainability & Environment in Tourism*)

- Shams, A. June 2011c. Themes of traditional-modernized daily life of the Gebaliya tribe in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. In *Sharing Cultures 2011: Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Intangible Heritage*, ed. R. Amoêda, S. Lira and C. Pinheiro, 585-594, Barcelos: Green Lines Institute for Sustainable Development (*Theme: Social Practices*)
- Shams, A. July 2011d. The treasures of the Holy Monastery of St. Catherine at Mount Sinai: From the treasury of 6th century CE to the museum of 21st century CE. *J. Predella* 29: Online (*Section: Museums*)
- Shams, A. B. Stoinschek and U. Tappeiner. June 2012b. Heritage-based land use patterns in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula and the Alps: A neo socio-ecological perspective. In *Heritage 2012: Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference on Heritage and Sustainable Development*, ed. R. Amoêda, S. Lira and C. Pinheiro, Barcelos: Green Lines Institute for Sustainable Development (*Theme: Heritage & Environment*)
- Shams, A. July 2014d. Trans-border impacts on governance decentralisation and landscape in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula: Review and alternatives. In *Heritage 2014: Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Heritage and Sustainable Development*, ed. R. Amoêda, S. Lira and C. Pinheiro, Barcelos: Green Lines Institute for Sustainable Development (*Theme: Heritage & Governance for Sustainability*)

REVIEWS

- Shams, A. June 2016e. Chambon, A. eds. Gaza from Sand and Sea: Art and History in the Jawdat al-Khoudary Collection, 2012. Pp. 204. Jerusalem: Ecole Biblique et Archeologique Française de Jerusalem. *Q. Palestine Exploration* 148(2):148-150

ABSTRACTS

- Shams, A. August 2011f. Dynamics of rural mobility in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula. In *Programme Book: Royal Geographical Society 'with IBG' Annual International Conference (AC2011)*, ed., sections: 132 and 171, London: Royal Geographical Society (*Themes: Rural Mobilities - Engaging with Rurality (Whilst) On the Move & Urban, Suburban and Rural Development*)
- Shams, A. October 2014e. Ancient agriculture in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula in the light of the new-rediscovered 'Qanat' system. In *The Qanāt: Archaeology and Environment*, ed., Durham: Department of Archaeology
- Shams, A. July 2015c. Mapping the vicinity of Mount Sinai: The representation of a sacred landscape (whilst) on the move. In *Portable Landscapes: Environments on the Move*, ed., Durham: Centre for Visual Arts and Culture

PRESS ARTICLES

- Shams, A. January 2010a. El Freish retreat. *Eternal Egypt* (1):48-75
- Shams, A. January 2012a. Twinned peaks: The 'SinaiAlps project'. *M. Academia* (57):24-25
- Shams, A. February 19, 2014b. The nature of trekking in the Sinai Mountains. *DailyNewsEgypt*
- Shams, A. March 1, 2014c. Rugum: Rescue plan for the Sinai Mountains. *DailyNewsEgypt*
- Shams, A. July 9, 2015b. The Sinai development syndrome. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1254)
- Shams, A. January 14, 2016a. Sinai development: From 1980s to 2000s. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1278)
- Shams, A. February 18, 2016b. Sinai water: Towards a sustainable strategy. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1283)
- Shams, A. March 17, 2016c. Sinai society: The Bedouin epicenter. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1287)
- Shams, A. April 21, 2016d. Sinai economy: Timely questions. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1292)
- Shams, A. June 30, 2016f. Sinai governance: Lines and boundaries. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1302)
- Shams, A. May 11, 2017a. From St. Catherine's to the Nile. *Al-Ahram Weekly* (1344)

ATLASES & MAPS

- Shams, A. July 2013a. *Pocket atlas of the Sinai Peninsula: Discovering a historical landscape*. Berlin, Holtzbrinck Publishing Group - epubli GmbH
- Shams, A. January 2011a. *Serabit el-Khadim regional map*. Tur, South Sinai Regional Development Program, EU-Commission

POSTERS

- Shams, A. January 2014a. *Tales of the Frontier (TotF) 'In the light of the inscription of the UNESCO transnational Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site (FREWHIS)'*. Liverpool, Foresight Centre, University of Liverpool - Cultural Engagement Fund Showcase

MEDIA & PRESS

Feb. 22, 2014	<i>BBC Xtra – Week Guest</i> , London, United Kingdom
Aug. 31, 2015	<i>Egyptian State TV / Channel One – Prime Talk-show Guest</i> , Cairo, Egypt
Jun. 9, 2016	<i>BBC Xtra</i> – London, United Kingdom
Other	I contribute articles to several UK-based/international newspapers/journal for wider public outreach and engagement: The Economist , New Statesman , UN-IRIN , Al-Ahram Weekly , Daily News Egypt , Al-Gomhuria , etc.

SELECTED CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & TALKS

Aug. 29 – Nov. 21, 2010	<i>Venice Biennale Architecture – 12th International Architecture Exhibition</i> , Venice, Italy
Apr. 27 – 30, 2011	<i>International Conference on Tourism (ICOT 2011)</i> , Rhodes, Greece (<i>Presenter</i>)
Aug. 31 – Sep. 2, 2011	Royal Geographical Society ‘with IBG’ – <i>Annual International Conference (AC2011)</i> , London, United Kingdom (<i>Presenter</i>)
Sep. 28, 2012	European Research Academy(EURAC), Institute for Alpine Environment (AlpEnv) – <i>Long Research Night</i> , Bolzano/Bozen, Italy
Nov. 9, 2012	<i>International Biennial of Cultural and Landscape Heritage (Florens 2012)</i> , Florence, Italy
Jan. 23, 2013	<i>World Citation and Collaboration Networks: Uncovering the Role of Geography in Science</i> , Lucca, Italy
Mar. 7, 2013	<i>Museum Finances: Challenges beyond Economic Crises</i> , Lucca, Italy
Jun. 5, 2013	Durham University – <i>Archaeology Research Seminar 2012-2013 Comparative, Landscape Dynamics at the Perimeter of the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula: Late Chalcolithic-Early Bronze Age New Sites Revealed</i> , Durham, United Kingdom (<i>Presenter</i>)
Jun. 7, 2013	Great North Museum Workshops – <i>Users, Fans and Followers: Engaging with Museums, Galleries and Heritage via Social Media</i> , Newcastle, United Kingdom
Oct. 17 – 19, 2014	Durham University – <i>The Qanāt: Archaeology and Environment, Ancient agriculture in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula in the light of the new-rediscovered 'Qanat' system</i> , Durham, United Kingdom (<i>Presenter</i>)
Nov. 4, 2014	ExCel London – <i>World Tourism Market London 2014</i> , London, United Kingdom
Apr. 14, 2015	Victoria & Alb <i>Culture in Crisis</i> , London, United Kingdom
Jun. 3, 2015	European Research Academy (EURAC), Institute for Alpine Environment (AlpEnv) – <i>The Traditional Irrigation Channels and Local Water Reservoirs in the High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula and the Alps: A Low Cost Water Supply System? Bolzano/Bozen, Italy (Presenter)</i>
Jun. 6, 2016	British Museum – <i>The Destruction of Memory</i> , London, United Kingdom
Feb. 1, 2017	Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology & Heritage Lottery Fund – <i>The 150 Years Gap in Mapping and Mapmaking in Sinai Peninsula and the Middle East</i> , London, United Kingdom (<i>Speaker</i>)
Oct. 26, 2017	School of Oriental and African Study (SOAS), Centre for Palestine Studies – <i>The Balfour Declaration, One Century After</i> , London, United Kingdom
Nov. 2, 2017	Royal Geographical Society & Saint Catherine Foundation (Ondaatje Theatre) – <i>(On) Geographical Knowledge and Mapmaking in Sinai Peninsula</i> , London, United Kingdom (<i>Speaker</i>)
Dec. 12, 2017	School of Oriental and African Study (SOAS), London Middle East Institute (LMEI) (Khalili Theatre) – <i>Lines or No Lines: The Reality of Maps in Sinai Peninsula and the Middle East</i> , London, United Kingdom (<i>Speaker</i>)
Jun. 7, 2018	University of Oxford, School of Archaeology, Endangered Archaeology of the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) project – <i>Sinai Peninsula: Landscape, Knowledge-making, and Remote Sensing Archaeology</i> , Oxford, United Kingdom (<i>Speaker</i>)
Jun. 26, 2018	Durham University, Department of Archaeology, UNESCO Chair on Archaeological Ethics and Practice in Cultural Heritage, Identity and Cultural Heritage (India) Workshop – <i>Heritage in Transitional Geographies: The High Mountains of Sinai Peninsula & the Himalayan Upper Mustang — Landscape, Knowledge-making, Politics & Investment</i> , Durham, United Kingdom (<i>Presenter</i>)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent); **Arabic** (fluent); **French** (basic)