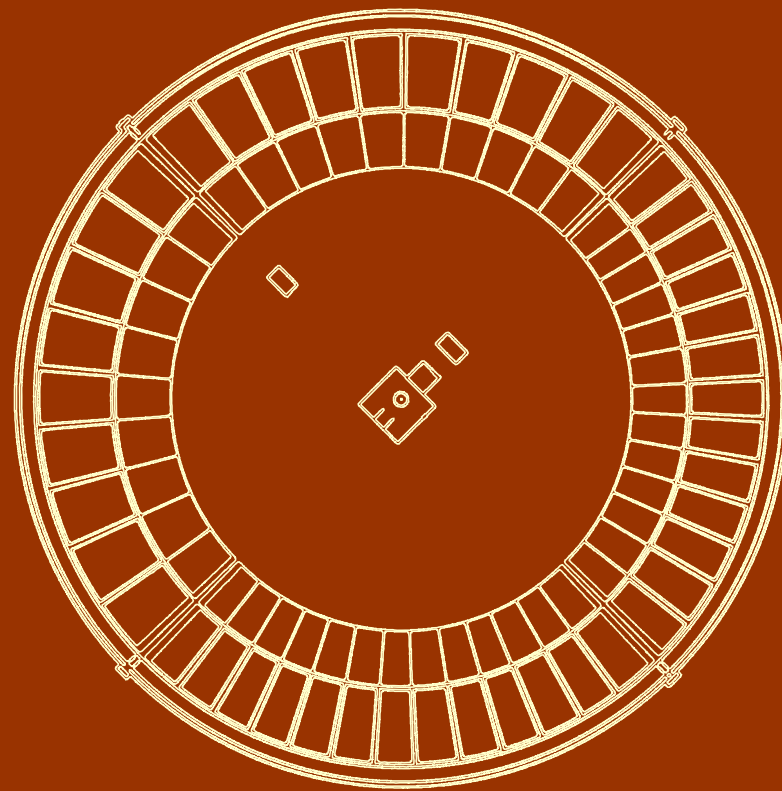


# ISLAMIC CITIES IN THE CLASSICAL AGE

a symposium sponsored by the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT



**MAY 6, 2005**

2:00 - 5:30

**MAY 7, 2005**

10:00 - 12:30 & 2:00 - 6:00

**MIT room 6-120**

Event is free and open to the public. For information: call 617 253 1400 or e-mail <akpia@mit.edu> or on the web <http://web.mit.edu/akpia/www/symposium05.html>

## PROGRAM

**FRIDAY, MAY 6**

2:00 - 5:30

**Irfan Shahid**

Georgetown University

*The Arab Background, Islamic and Pre-Islamic, of Umayyad Urbanism in Bilad al-Sham*

**Annabel Wharton**

Duke University

*Classical Jerusalem and Its Post Classical Apparition*

**Hugh Kennedy**

University of St Andrews

*From Shahrستان to Medina*

**SATURDAY, MAY 7**

10:00 - 12:30

**Claus-Peter Haase**

Museum of Islamic Art, Berlin

*Early Islamic Urban Foundations in the Light of Archaeological Evidence from Madinat al-Far/Hisn Maslama in Northern Syria*

**Frank Trombley**

Cardiff University

*Towns and their Territories in Egypt and Syria: An Interregional Comparison*

**Alan G. Walmsley**

University of Copenhagen

*Mosques-Money-Memory. The Placement of Mosques and Their Impact on Towns in Early Islamic Bilad al-Sham*

2:00 - 6:00

**Stefan Heidemann**

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena

*Shaping an Imperial Metropolis: Al-Raqqa - Al-Rafiqa*

**Chase Robinson**

University of Oxford

(This presentation has unfortunately been cancelled)

*Baghdad, Samarra and Abbasid Authority*

**Marcus Milwright**

The University of Victoria

*Industrial Zones and the Urban Space in the Early Abbasid Period: The Case of Raqqa, Syria*

**Alastair Northedge**

Université de Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)

*'Askar al-Mu'tasim: An Analysis of the Central City of Samarra*

**Donald Whitcomb**

The University of Chicago

*Archaeology in "The Places where Men Pray Together"*

This symposium will bring together leading historians, archaeologists, art and architectural historians of late Antiquity and Early Islam to assess the current state of our knowledge on the context of urbanism in that transitional period. The focus will be on the urban development and cultural climate of the nascent Islamic world from the eve of the Islamic conquests through the early Abbasid period (7-10 century).

Symposium organized by Nasser Rabbat, Aga Khan Professor at MIT