

[Afghanistan: Architectural Heritage and Global Politics](#)

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Afghanistan: Architectural Heritage and Global Politics

October 20, 2022: 11am (USA-EST), 4:00pm (London, UK), 7:30pm (Kabul, Afghanistan)

[REGISTRATION LINK](#) For the programme, please scroll down.

Can architecture survive politics? Marking one year after the Taliban's return, the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain (SAHGB)—in collaboration with the Society of Architectural Historians in the USA (SAH)—cordially invites the public to join an online international symposium to discuss architecture, built heritage, and global politics in the past, present, and future of Afghanistan. Invited panelists are Afghan and international architects, UNESCO directors and representatives in Kabul (Afghanistan) and Baghdad (Iraq), archaeologists, cultural specialists, and historians. Each will share their insights about how global politics impacts Afghanistan and how each panelist has worked to protect and preserve Afghan built heritage amidst wars, political turbulences, and international pressure.

Afghanistan: Architecture and Global Politics

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PROGRAMME (The following schedule is listed with the UK Time Zone. For USA-EDT, count back 5 hours. For USA-PDT, count back 8 hours. For Afghanistan's Time, count forward 3.5 hours. For Japan's Time, count forward 13 hours.)

4:00-4:05pm Introduction and Welcome

Murray Fraser (President, SAH-GB) & **Patricia Morton** (President, SAH-USA)

Panel A: Architecture in Face of Political Transitions

Moderator: Vimalin Rujivacharakul (SAH, USA)

4.05-4.20pm **Jolyon Leslie**, Architect and Advisor, Afghan Cultural Heritage Consulting Organization (ACHCO), Kabul, Afghanistan

Monuments and Memory: Reflections on the Politics of Built Heritage

4.20-4.35pm **Susan Huntington**, Co-founder of the Huntington Archive & Distinguished University Professor (Emerita), Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

The Huntington Archive and Afghan Monuments Before the Soviet-Afghan War

4.35-4.50pm **Sayed Mossadeq Khalili**, Former Deputy Minister of Culture of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Paris, France

Afghanistan's Current Approach to Architectural Heritage: Case Studies of Timurid Architecture

4.50-5.05pm **Paolo Fontani**, Director, UNESCO Field Office, Baghdad, Iraq

& Former Director, UNESCO Field Office, Kabul, Afghanistan

Heritage for Peace and Nation Building: the Case of Afghanistan

5.05-5.25pm **Q&A**

5:25-5:40pm **Comfort Break**

Panel B: Strategies for Built Cultural Heritage in Afghanistan

Moderator: Max Sternberg (SAHGB, UK)

5.40-5.55pm **Brendan Cassar**

Head of Cultural Programs, UNESCO Field Office, Kabul, Afghanistan

UNESCO in Afghanistan: Architecture and Cultural Programs at Present and into the Future

5.55-6.10pm **Georgios Toubekis**, Researcher and ICOMOS Expert,
Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Information Technology,
Aachen, Germany

Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley: Preserving UNESCO World Heritage in Afghanistan

6.10-6.25pm **Shumpei Iwai**

Curator, Ryukoku Museum, Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan

Bamiyan Buddhist Caves and Squinches: Contributions from the Japanese Research Team in Afghanistan

6:25-6:40pm **Fotini Christia**, Professor of Political Sciences

Nikolaos Vlavianos, Graduate Student, MIT, Cambridge, USA

Ways of Seeing: Documenting and 3D Scanning of Endangered Built Heritage in Afghanistan

6:40-7:00pm Q&A / symposium conclusion