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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- The Ohio State University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Full Professor, Sofia Chair of Arabic (2018-present)
- Leiden University, Centre for Linguistics and Institute for Area Studies, Universitair Docent 1 (2012-2018)
 - Director of the Arabic Language Program (2013-2014)
 - Director of the Leiden Center for the Study of Ancient Arabia (2015-2018)

PUBLICATIONS

Databases

Scientific Director, Online Corpus of the Inscriptions of Ancient North Arabia [OCIANA] - <https://ociana.osu.edu/>.

Books and Edited Volumes

- Forthcoming: *The Word, the Blade, and the Pen: Three-Thousand Years of Arabic*. Princeton University Press (in Contract).
- Forthcoming (2025): *An Outline of the Grammar of the Safaitic Inscriptions*, 2nd edition. Leiden: Brill.
- 2022: *The Religion and Rituals of the Nomads of Pre-Islamic Arabia: A reconstruction based on the Safaitic Inscriptions*. Leiden: Brill.
- 2020: *The Damascus Psalm Fragment: Middle Arabic and the Legacy of Old Ḥigāzī*. Chicago: Oriental Institute, with a contribution by R. Vollandt.
- 2019: *A Dictionary of the Safaitic Inscriptions*. Leiden: Brill, with Karolina Jaworska.
- 2018: *To the Madbar and Back Again: Studies in the Languages, Cultures, and Archaeology of Ancient Arabia* (ed.). Leiden: Brill, with L. Nehmé.
- 2017: *Arabic in Context* (ed.). Leiden: Brill.
- 2015: *An Outline of the Grammar of the Safaitic Inscriptions*. Leiden: Brill.

Articles and Book Chapters

- 2025: Ancient Allāh: An Epigraphic Reconstruction. *Journal of Semitic Studies*. 1-45.
- 2025: Qaṭrāyīt and the Linguistic History of East Arabia. *Bulletin of the American School of Overseas Research*. 1-12.
- 2025: Pre-Arabic: A Toponymic Conspectus. in *Beyond Record History*. 1-28, Berlin: Language Science Press.
- 2025: The Epigraphy of the Tribe of ‘Ād, *Athīrat: Journal of Ancient Arabia* 1: 281-289.
- 2025: Towards the decipherment of Thamudic D: an identification of new glyphs and phoneme values, *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 1-28.
- 2024: The Roman annexation of the Nabataean kingdom: A Safaitic Witness. *Semitica et Classica* 17: 303-312, w. M.C.A. Macdonald.
- 2024: A Paleo-Arabic Inscription of a Companion of Muhammad? *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 83.1: 1-14, with Hythem Sidky.
- 2024: Arabian Names, in *Personal Names in Cuneiform Texts from Babylonia (c. 750–100 BCE) An Introduction*, ed. Caroline Waerzeggers and Melanie M. Groß, pp. 185–193. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2024: Valentina Grasso, Pre-Islamic Arabia: Politics, Cults and Identities during Late Antiquity: A Review Article, *Journal of Semitic Studies*, Volume 69.1: 687–705.
- 2024: Hasaitic. *Thematic Dictionary of Ancient Arabia*. Online edition. Available online at <https://ancientarabia.huma>.
- 2024: A Note on the Safaitic Calendar, *Journal of Semitic Studies* 69.1: 1–8.
- 2023: Lecture Report: The Religious Landscape of the pre-Islamic Higaz: a View from the Epigraphy. *The IASA Bulletin* 31: 12-13.
- 2022: Jesus in Arabia: Tracing the Spread of Christianity into the Desert. *Biblical Archaeology Review* Spring Issue: 40-46.
- 2022: A pre-Islamic basmala: Reflections on its first epigraphic attestation and its original significance. *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 52: 1-28.
- 2022: A Paleo-Arabic inscription on a route north of Ṭā’if. *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy* 33: 202–215, with Hythem Sidky.
- 2022: The Pre-Islamic Divine Name ‘sy and the Background of the Qur’ānic Jesus. *Journal of the International Qur’anic Studies Association* 6: 107-136, w. Ali al-Manaser.
- 2022: The Inscription of Zā’en son of Keḥsemān and Knowledge of Greek Among the Nomads east of Ḥawrān. *Adumatu*: 23-28.
- 2022: Old Arabic Minutiae II: Greek-Safaitic Bilinguals and Language Contact in

- the Syro-Arabian Ḥarrah. *Arabica* 69: 567-590, w. Ali al-Manaser.
- 2022: One Wāw to Rule Them All: The Origins and Fate of Wawation in Arabic and its Orthography, in *Scripts and Scripture*, ed. Fred Donner and Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee, pp. 87-103. Chicago: Oriental Institute.
 - 2022: Ancient North Arabian, in *A Companion to the Hellenistic and Roman Near East*, ed. Ted Kaizer, pp. 99-105. Hoboken: Wiley Blackwell.
 - 2022: Jesus in Arabia: Tracing the Spread of Christianity into the Desert. *Biblical Archaeology Review* (Spring 2022, Feature Article). 40-46.
 - 2021: The ʾي digraph in the Quranic Consonantal Text and the identification of a new letter shape for final hē in the 7th-8th century Arabic script. *Al-ʿUsūr al-Wuṣṭā*: 1-19.
 - 2021: Connecting the Lines between Old (Epigraphic) Arabic and the Modern Vernaculars. *Languages*. 1-11.
 - 2021: The ‘One’ God in a Safaitic Inscription. *Eretz-Israel* 34: 37-48.
 - 2021: The particle ʾkdy in the Namārah inscription and a new interpretation of line 4. *Journal of Semitic Studies*. 363-378.
 - 2021: Old Arabic Minutiae I: ḥattā, laysa, and more from the inscriptions of the Syro-Jordanian Ḥarrah. *Arabica* 68: 71-100.
 - 2021: The History of the am- Definite Article – South Arabian or Arabic?. *Zeitschrift für Arabische Linguistik* 73: 53-70.
 - 2021: On the origins of the god Ruḏaw and some remarks on the pre-Islamic North Arabian pantheon. *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 31.3: 559–571.
 - 2021: New Safaitic and Greek inscriptions from the Jordanian Ḥarrah relating to Roman military units. *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 171.1: 69-80, with Chams Bernard.
 - 2020: The Seven Stars, Allāt from ʾmn and Dusares from rqm: a new Safaitic astronomical text. *Semitica et Classica* 13: 303-314.
 - 2020: The Month ʾdr in Safaitic and the Status of Spirantization in ‘Arabian’ Aramaic. *Aramaic Studies* 18: 147-170.
 - 2020: The linguistic landscape of pre-Islamic Arabia: Context for the Quran. In M. Shah and M.A.S. Abdel Halim, *The Oxford Handbook of the Quran*, 111-127. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 - 2020: ʾArab, ʾAʾrāb, and Arabic in Ancient North Arabia: The first attestation of (ʾ)ʾrb as a group name in Safaitic. *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy* 31.2: 422-435.
 - 2020: Notes on the language of the Hismaic Inscriptions and a re-reading of Line 1

- of the Madaba Hismaic Inscription. *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 30.3: 561-569.
- 2020: Pre-Islamic Arabic. In Christopher Lucas & Stefano Manfredi (eds.), *Arabic and contact-induced change*, 3–21. Berlin: Language Science Press.
 - 2020: Gaius the Roman and the Kawnites: inscriptional evidence for Roman auxiliary units raised from the nomads of the ḥarrah. In P. M. M. G. Akkermans (Ed.), *Landscapes of Survival - The Archaeology and Epigraphy of Jordan's North-Eastern Desert and Beyond* (pp. 355–362). Leiden: Sidestone Press, w. Al-Salameen, Z., Shdeifat, Y., & Harahsheh, R.
 - 2019: "Safaitic." In Na'ama Pat-El and John Huehnergard (eds), *The Semitic Languages, 2nd Edition*, Routledge Language Family Series, pp. 342–366. New York: Routledge.
 - 2019: The Classification of the Languages of North Arabia: Remarks on the Semitic Language Family Tree of the 2nd edition of Routledge's *The Semitic Languages*. *The International Journal of Arabic Linguistics* 5.2: 86-99.
 - 2018: Safaitic Inscription C 4714 and the Old Arabic Names for the Planet Mars. *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes*. 108: 11-19.
 - 2018: What is Ancient North Arabian? In D. Birnstiel and N. Pat-El (eds.) *Re-Engaging Comparative Semitic and Arabic Studies*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. 1-45.
 - 2018: The History and Development of Arabic. A Review article of Al-Sharkawi (2017), with Special Focus on Archaeology and Epigraphy. *Bibliotheca Orientalis*. 49-59.
 - 2018: 'Moge God Yazīd de Koning indachtig zijn' Nadere beschouwingen over de Yazīd-inscriptie en de ontwikkeling van de Arabische schriften. In J. van den Bent, F. van den Eijnde, and J. Weststeijn (eds.), *Mohammed en de Late Oudheid*. Amsterdam: Zenobia Stichting, pp. 198-208.
 - 2018: The Arabic of the Petra Papyri. In A. Arjava, J. Frösén, & J. Kaimio (eds.), *The Petra Papyri*, vol. V. Amman: ACOR. pp. 35-55.
 - 2018: The Earliest Attestation of Laysa and the Implications for its Etymology. In M.C.A. Macdonald (ed.), *Languages, Scripts, and their uses in Ancient North Arabia: Papers from the Special Session of the Seminar for Arabian Studies held on 5 August 2017*. Oxford: Archaeopress. pp. 111-119.
 - 2018: The Thāj Archaeological Project: results of the first field season. *Proceedings of the Seminar for Arabian Studies*. 48: 287-302, with J. Rohmer, M. Al-Hajiri, R. AlKontar, T. Beuzen-Waller, P. Calou, D. Gazagne, & K. Pavlopoulos

- 2018: The Earliest Stages of Arabic and its Linguistic Classification. In E. Benmamoun and R. Bassiouney (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Arabic Linguistics*. New York: Routledge, pp. 315-331.
- 2018: The Etymology of Ḥattā. In L. Nehmé and A. Al-Jallad (eds), *To the Madbar and Back Again: Studies in the Languages, Cultures, and Archaeology of Ancient Arabia dedicated to M.C.A. Macdonald*. Leiden: Brill, pp. 338-345.
- 2018: A Fragmentary Ancient North Arabian Inscription from the Area of the Roman Fort of Hegra. In Laila Nehmé, Pierre-Marie Blanc, Thomas Bauzou, Caroline Durand, Zbigniew Fiema, et al. Report on the 2017 Season of the Madā'in Sālih Archaeological Project. HAL, pp. 37-40.
- 2018: The Online Corpus of the Inscriptions of Ancient North Arabia. In A. De Santis and I. Rossi (eds.), *Crossing Experiences in Digital Epigraphy*. Amsterdam: De Gruyter, pp. 102-117, with Dan Burt and M.C.A. Macdonald.
- 2017: An early Christian Arabic graffito mentioning 'Yazid the king'. *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy*. 28.2: 315-324, w. Y. Shdaifat, Z. al-Salameen, and Rafe Harahsheh.
- 2017: Graeco-Arabica I: The Southern Levant. In A. Al-Jallad (ed.), *Arabic in Context*. Leiden: Brill, 99-186.
- 2017: The Arabic of the Islamic Conquests: Notes on Phonology and Morphology based on Greek Transcriptions from the First Islamic Century. *BSOAS* 80: 419-439.
- 2017: Was it sūrat al-baqārah? Evidence for antepenultimate stress in the Quranic Consonantal Text and its Relevance for صلوه Type Nouns. *ZDMG* 167.1:81-90.
- 2017: The Case for Proto-Semitic and Proto-Arabic Case: A reply to Jonathan Owens. *Romano-Arabica* 17: 87-117, w. Marijn van Putten.
- 2017: Pre-Islamic "Ḥamāsah" Verses from Northeastern Jordan: A New Safaitic Poetic Text from Marabb al-Shurafā', with further remarks on the 'Ēn 'Avdat Inscription and KRS 2453. *Proceedings of the Seminar for Arabian Studies* 47: 117-128.
- 2017: Marginal notes on and additions to An Outline of the Grammar of the Safaitic Inscriptions (ssll 80; Leiden: Brill, 2015), with a supplement to the dictionary. *Arabian Epigraphic Notes* 3: 75-96.
- 2016: A few notes on the alleged occurrence of the group name 'Ghassān' in a Safaitic inscription. *Archiv für Orientforschung* 53: with M.C.A. Macdonald.
- 2016: New evidence from a Safaitic inscription for a late velar/uvular realization of ṣ in Aramaic. *Semitica* 58: 257-270.
- 2016: New Epigraphica from Jordan II: three Safaitic-Greek partial bilingual

- inscriptions, w. Ali al-Manaser. *Arabian Epigraphic Notes* 2: 55–66.
- 2016: An ancient Arabian zodiac. The constellations in the Safaitic inscriptions, Part II. *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy* 27: 84–106.
 - 2015: New Epigraphica from Jordan I: a pre-Islamic Arabic inscription in Greek letters and a Greek inscription from north-eastern Jordan. *Arabian Epigraphic Notes* 1: 51–70, with A. al-Manaser.
 - 2015: Echoes of the Baal Cycle in a Safaito-Hismaic Inscription. *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religion* 15.1: 5–19.
 - 2015: A Thamudic B Abecedary in the South Semitic letter order. In A. Butts (ed.), *Semitic Languages in Contact*. Leiden: Brill, pp. 1–15, with A. al-Manaser.
 - 2015: On the voiceless reflex of *š and *ṭ in pre-Hilalian Maghrebian Arabic. *Zeitschrift für Arabische Linguistik* 62: 88–95.
 - 2015: Yusap‘il or Yuhap‘il, that is the question – two solutions to sound change s1 > h in West Semitic. *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 165.1: 27–39.
 - 2015: What’s a caron between friends? A review article of Wilmsen (2014), with special focus on the etymology of modern Arabic š. *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 72: 34–46.
 - 2015: Provincia Arabia: Nabataea, the emergence of Arabic as a written language, and Graeco-Arabica. In G. Fisher (ed.), *Arabs and Empires before Islam*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 276–373, with Z.T. Fiema, M.C.A. Macdonald, and L. Nehmé.
 - 2015: De Talen van Arabië voor de Koran: Alfabetten en Shrijftradities. *Phoenix* 61.2-3: 59-70.
 - 2014: An ancient Arabian zodiac. The constellations in the Safaitic inscriptions, Part I. *Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy* 25.2: 214–230.
 - 2014: On the genetic background of the Rbbl bn Hf‘m grave inscription at Qaryat al-Fāw. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 77.3: 445–465.
 - 2014: Aš-šādu llatī ka-s-sīn: evidence for an affricated Ṣād in Sibawayh?: *Folia Orientalia* 51: 51–57.
 - 2014: Final short vowels in Gə‘əz, Hebrew attā, and the anceps paradox. *Journal of Semitic Studies* 49.1: 315–327.
 - 2013: The Arabic toponyms and oikonyms in 17. In L. Koenen, M. and J. Kaimio, and R. Daniel (eds.), *The Petra Papyri II*. Amman: ACOR, pp. 23–48, with R. Daniel and O. al-Ghul.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND EPIGRAPHIC CAMPAIGNS

- Missing Link Epigraphic Survey Project 2019-Present, Jordan, Al-Ḥuṣn Research Center, Director.
- Badia Epigraphic Survey Project, 2019-present, Jordan, Co-Director.
- Ṭā'if-Mecca Epigraphy Survey Project 2021-2022, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies, Director.
- Thaj Archaeological Project 2016-2018, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Co-Director w. J. Rohmer.

GRANTS, FUNDED PROJECTS AND AWARDS

- Guggenheim Fellowship, 2025
- OSU Digital Laboratory for Ancient Textual Objects (DLATO) Project, OSU, ASC Humanities Large Grant Program 2023, co-PI w. James Moore
- Gratama Science Prize (Netherlands), 2017
- NWO VENI grant: *The Writings on the Rocks: Thamudic and Arabia's Linguistic Past*, PI. 2015-2019.
- NWO PhD Scholarships in the Humanities: *Linguistic Variation at Dadān*, Supervisor, PhD student Fokelien Kootstra, 2015-2019.
- Royal Dutch Academy honours programme for young artists and scientists, 2016-2017.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Podcasts

- Byzantium and Friends: [Who was Allah before Islam?](#), with Ahmad Al-Jallad (2025)
- TEDx Talk: [From History to Myth, and Back Again](#) | Ahmad Al-Jallad | TEDxOhioStateUniversity (2024).
- Afikra: [When Did Arabic Start](#) | Ahmad Al-Jallad (2024).
- Exploring the Qur'an and the Bible: [A NEW Paleo-Arabic Inscription by a COMPANION of Muhammad?](#) | Ahmad Al-Jallad and Hythem Sidky (2024).
- Mythvision Podcast: [Exploring Pre-Islamic Arabia: New Discoveries Revealed!](#) | Dr. Ahmad Al-Jallad.
- Skepsislamica: [Epigraphy and Religion and Language in Pre-Islamic Arabia](#) (2023).
- Religion for Breakfast: [The origin of the Qur'an's name for Jesus](#) (2023).
- Exploring the Qur'an and the Bible: [What Pre-Islamic Arabia was like based on the epigraphic evidence](#) (2023).

- New Books Network: [The Religion and Rituals of the Nomads of Pre-Islamic Arabia](#) (2022).
- Exploring the Qur'an and the Bible: [Ancient Arabic inscriptions and the rise of Islam](#) (2021).
- IQSA Zoom Seminar #6 Ahmad al-Jallad, "[Pre-Islamic Arabic inscriptions and Qur'anic orthographies](#)." International Quranic Studies Association (2020).
- 15 Minute History Podcast: [The Yazid Inscription](#) (2018).
- 15 Minute History Podcast: [What writing can tell us about the Arabs before Islam](#) (2016).

Recorded Public Lectures

- Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies: [Construction of identities in Pre-Islamic Arabia](#) (2024).
- University of Chicago: [Defining the role of the article in Arabic and Semitic historical linguistics](#) (2021).
- ACOR Lecture: "[An Invocation to Jesus in a Safaitic Inscription?](#)" (2021).
- [Death and Remembrance in Pre-Islamic Arabia. Princeton Lunchtime Lecture](#) (2019).
- [Writing and Rock Art in the Black Desert of Northern Jordan](#). Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University (2019).
- [The Rise of Arabic: From an epic past to an evidence-based history](#). Dār al-āṭār al-islāmiyyah, State of Kuwait (2019).
- [Digital Approaches to Ancient Literacy: the case of Safaitic](#). Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University (2017).