

# THE WORLDS OF MANDAEAN PRIESTS

19 October – 22 December 2017



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## Documenting an endangered religion

You are warmly invited to the opening reception of the exhibition with a chance to view documentary films and hear an introductory talk by Professor Christine Robins.

Thursday 19 October 2017 at 6pm

The Street Gallery, Institute of Arab  
and Islamic Studies, University of  
Exeter, Exeter EX4 4ND

Exhibition open weekdays: 9am-5pm  
Thursday 19 October –  
Friday 22 December 2017

For more information please  
telephone Melanie Williams:

**01392 724039**

[www.exeter.ac.uk/iais/events/  
exhibitions](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/iais/events/exhibitions)

Mandaeans, sometimes called Sabians, practise an ancient and endangered religion. Conflict in the Middle East has forced them out of their homelands in Iraq and Iran in ever greater numbers. Although Mandaeans depend on their priests for preserving religious knowledge and performing complex rituals, fewer than 50 priests now remain worldwide. We have interviewed priests, recorded the key rituals and shot documentary films in the largest communities of Australia and Sweden.

Our project is a collaboration between the universities of Exeter and Leiden, with the generous support of the Arcadia Fund. The data collected can be seen on an open-access digital archive at:  
[mandaeanpriests.exeter.ac.uk](http://mandaeanpriests.exeter.ac.uk).