

Visiting Speaker Series

The Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies is
pleased to present a talk by esteemed academic

Professor Hugh Kennedy, SOAS University of London

"Writing the Caliphate"

Wednesday, 22 March 2017, 5.15 pm

LT1, IAIS Building, Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4ND

Tea & Coffee to be served from 4.30 pm in the Common Room,
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies.

All are welcome – no registration required.



In this talk, I will discuss the problems and opportunities offered in writing a history of the idea of caliphate from the time of the death of Prophet Muhammad down to the present century.

The main theme will be the variety of attitudes to and opinions about caliphate in the Muslim world and the importance of historical precedent rather than legal definition in the understanding of the office.

Hugh Kennedy, FRSE, FRAS, FBA is a British medieval historian and academic who specialises in the history of

the early Islamic Middle East, Muslim Spain and the Crusades.

He obtained his PhD from the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Cambridge. From 1997 to 2007, he was Professor of Middle Eastern History at the University of St Andrews and since 2007 he has been Professor of Arabic at SOAS, University of London.

His most recent publication is entitled *"The Caliphate: a Pelican Introduction"* (Penguin, London) published on 7 July 2016.