



Dear Woolf Friends,

My official affiliation with the Woolf began 12 months ago when Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner encouraged me to apply to become an Honorary PhD scholar. I'd attended many events hosted by the Woolf and always enjoyed them. One, however, stands out particularly for me and that is the Iftar, the meal that breaks the fast in Ramadam, which was hosted by the institute. The Iftar was an opportunity for my colleagues to both break the fast and also to discuss Islam in an informative and engaging way.

Discussing their faith with Muslim friends made me realise how some of the things I was researching about Islam were foreign ideas for them and opened the door for interesting dialogue. I found the occasion incredibly important in allowing us to ask questions and learn from each other.

My research sits well within the remit of the institute's interests. I compile biographical and genealogical data on 7th century governors under the caliphates of 'Uthmān b. 'Affān and 'Alī b. Abī Tālib. In the course of my research I have found marriages contracted between people from the new faith and the Christian and Jewish communities. In many ways my research highlights the ongoing relationship between Muslims, Jews and Christians since Islam's inception.

One of the pleasures I've encountered as a student at the Woolf is the interaction with existing scholars who have had a big impact on my work. Sometimes they have offered advice on manuscripts to read and at other times they've suggested scholars they think could help me. The supportive and collegial way we

all work together is for me a defining quality of the Woolf and one of the reasons I enjoy being here so much. The importance of our research into aspects of different faiths helps us better understand the long history between the communities and through our work we create constructive dialogue – and enjoy each other's company. For me, the Woolf has provided a place to study, learn, inform and – most important – have fun with new friends.

With best wishes,

Aliya Ali
Honorary PhD Scholar, Woolf Institute



Upcoming Events

27 March

Barbarians and
Romans: dynamics
of integration in Late
Antique Hispania



28 March

Canada's Special
Envoy on Preserving
Holocaust
Remembrance



30 March

Iftar



4 April

Antisemitism from
without and Racism
from within.



27 April

Woolf Institute in
New York



6 June

Woolf Institute
Garden Party





RAMADAN MUBARAK

Ramadan Mubarak to all our friends and supporters observing the holy month! May this month bring you peace, blessings, and spiritual fulfilment. The Woolf Institute wishes you a blessed and meaningful Ramadan.

WEBINAR 27 MARCH @17:00

Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval
Mediterranean present:

Barbarians and Romans: Dynamics of integration in Late Antique Hispania



WEBINAR 27 MARCH @17:00

The Woolf Institute together with the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean invite you to their webinar series.

This session will delve into the interactions that took place between the various ethnic and religious groups of Late Antique Hispania. It will try to cast light on the factors and strategies that led to their integration, as well as the role played in this process by the civil and ecclesiastical institutions and the common population. Particular attention will be devoted to the strategies and resources employed for coexistence, integration and collaboration among the different Late Antique Hispanic communities. The session will also examine individual and collective attitudes favourable to integration and their effectiveness in mediation and social structuring.

The speakers are: Purificación Ubric Rabaneda (Universidad de Granada), Pablo Poveda Arias (Universidad de Valladolid), Oriol Dinarés Cabrerizo (Universidad de Alcalá) and Mattia C. Chiriatti (Universidad de Granada)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

The Woolf Institute invites you to break fast with us in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

Iftar

THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2023 19:00

The Woolf Institute invites you to break fast with us on Thursday 30 March in the KC Shasha Suite in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

19:00 Doors open
19:25 Sit down and supplication
19:33 Breaking of the fast
19:40 Maghreb prayer in the quiet room
20:00 Talk and meal

If you have any additional needs or requirements please let us know in advance so we can do our best to accommodate you by contacting Flora Moffie on fm547@cam.ac.uk.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Woolf Institute In New York

27 April 2023



THE WOOLF INSTITUTE IS GOING TO NEW YORK

At the end of April, The Woolf Institute will be visiting New York. We will be meeting alumni and friends, and Dr Katherine O'Lone will be giving a talk entitled *'Belfast; Have the Ghosts Left?'* based on her research. This will take place at the Cambridge in America premises at 1120 Avenue of the Americas.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. In this talk, Dr Katherine O'Lone will explore the psychological and moral landscape of post-conflict Northern Ireland. Dr O'Lone argues that we can better understand peace by exploring the patterns surrounding how people think about reconciliation, forgiveness and justice in the aftermath of violent conflict. In Northern Ireland, despite the passage of twenty-five years since the GFA, the scars of 'The Troubles' continue to influence how people reason and

think about moral issues, such as fairness, harm and justice. The conflict has ended but this talk suggests the ghosts are still there.

The talk will be followed by questions and discussion, and a reception to which all are welcome.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

[FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT FLORA MOFFIE](#)

THE POLITICS OF MUSIC

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

IN THE BLUE CORNER: NATIONAL ANTHEMS
AND MILITARY MARCHES; IN THE RED
CORNER: PROTEST SONGS. POLITICS AND
MUSIC OFTEN COINCIDE...



PODCAST: THE POLITICS OF MUSIC

In the blue corner: National Anthems and military marches; in the red corner: protest songs. Politics and music often coincide.

Music - that most abstract of arts - can of course express religious feeling but it can also be directly or obliquely political, especially when lyrics are involved. Think, National Anthems or protest songs. Ed Kessler, Dunya Habash and Jonas Otterbeck reflect.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

COMING SOON

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

TURN THE OTHER CHEEK

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

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