

ATENEO CIENTÍFICO, LITERARIO Y ARTÍSTICO DE MADRID

Explorers, Adventurers and Scholars The Ateneo of Madrid and the oriental adventure in the XIXth century

Location

Ateneo Científico, Literario y Artístico de Madrid
Prado, 21
28014 Madrid

Organizers

Joaquín M^a Córdoba
Montserrat Mañé

In the XIXth century, the majority of the most active intellectuals in Spain met in Madrid's *Ateneo*. There they recounted to Spanish society the boldest and most interesting initiatives for Europe at that time.

The library of the Ateneo is still home to historical publications by Spanish travellers and some of the members immortalized in its portrait gallery were involved in the Spanish adventure in the Near East. Paintings, books, letters and other related documents bring home to us the controversies and the special vibrancy of that period.

Motives for this initiative

The choice of venue for the 5th ICAANE, itself recognition of the effort made by scholars in Spain in the last few years, has inspired us to prepare a series of exhibitions which will reveal unknown realities.

The subjects proposed are the astounding tradition of travel which has existed in Spain since Mediaeval times, the peculiar history of our collections, the achievements of recent excavations, the efforts at reform and the oriental adventure among the intellectuals of the XIXth century, the history of twenty years of research and studies at the Universidad Autónoma on the Near East and the wealth of teaching resources at our University. We invite the scientific community from all over the world and the general public to rediscover forgotten horizons and to learn about the chequered history of a bold, impassioned yet little known pursuit: the Spanish adventure in the Near East.

Address

5th ICAANE
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Co-ordination and scientific committee

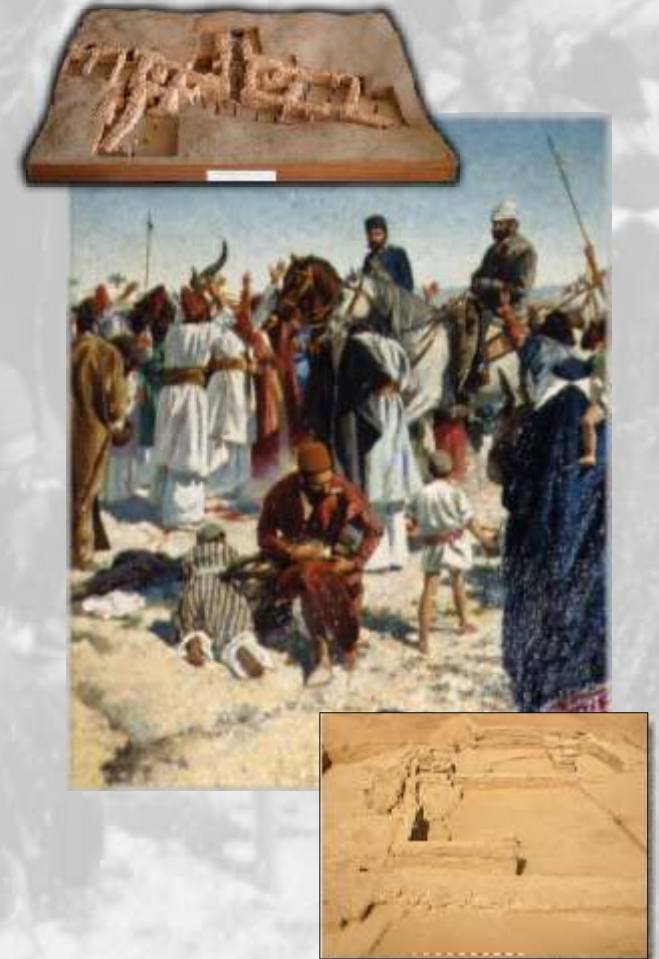
Fernando Escribano
Montserrat Mañé

Collaboration

Vicerrectorado de Extensión Universitaria y
Cooperación

5 ICAANE

PROGRAMMED EXHIBITIONS



*5th International Congress
on the Archaeology
of the Ancient Near East
3-8 April, 2006*

**MUSEO
ARQUEOLÓGICO
NACIONAL**

**UNIVERSIDAD
AUTÓNOMA DE
MADRID**

**UNIVERSIDAD
AUTÓNOMA DE
MADRID**

**The Spanish Adventure
in the Near East (1166-2006)
Travellers, museums and scholars in the
rediscovery of the Ancient Near East**

Location

Museo Arqueológico Nacional
Serrano, 13
28001 Madrid

Organizers

Joaquín M^a Córdoba
M^a Carmen Pérez Díe

Scientific co-operation

Fernando Escribano

On the occasion of the International Congress, we have prepared a national exhibition on the life, work and environment of Spanish travellers, from Benjamín de Tudela until the end of the XIXth century, the history of Spanish collections from the Ancient Near East and, finally, on the archaeological excavations conducted by Spain in that region and the contribution which these excavations have made.

The contents of this exhibition will be included in a bilingual catalogue in Spanish and English to ensure that the event reaches as wide an audience and has as lasting an effect as possible. It is our hope that the catalogue will serve to introduce a little known aspect of our history to not only the Spanish society but also to the international academic community.

**Beyond the horizon
Pathways, studies and discoveries at the
Universidad Autónoma on the Near East
(1986-2006)**

Location

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Pabellón B
Cantoblanco s/n
28049 Madrid

Organizers

Joaquín M^a Córdoba
M^a Carmen del Cerro

Since 1986, the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid has stood out as a pioneer in the Spanish archaeological excavations in Syria, Iraq, the Persian Gulf or Central Asia and in several related initiatives in the fields of teaching, research and international co-operation.

The exhibition aims to convey the results achieved in various areas of research, teaching, and publishing as well as the interdisciplinary scientific activity which has influenced the work of several departments and faculties.

In a way, the exhibition chronicles twenty years of work and is an expression of gratitude both to the general public and to members of the scientific community at home and abroad who have lent their support to our endeavours.

**Studying the Near East and Egypt
Reality and functionality of a humanistic
laboratory**

Location

“Antonio Blanco Freijeiro” lecture theatre
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - Aula Didáctica
Cantoblanco s/n
28049 Madrid

Organizers

Joaquín M^a Córdoba
Covadonga Sevilla Cueva

The celebration of the 5th ICAANE will coincide with the inauguration of the permanent premises of the *Aula Didáctica (lecture theatre)* “Antonio Blanco Freijeiro”, a collection of models, graphic and archaeological material and multimedia resources which have been collected since the eighties with the purpose of creating a venue for practical training.

In addition to several activities linked to daily academic work, the *Aula Didáctica* will organise small temporary exhibitions on current UAM research projects, or on topics or studies developed by other scientific institutions. So, for the year 2006, on the occasion of the Congress, we will present an exhibition on *Iraqi Heritage (1990-2006)*. *Origins, decay, looting and current situation* with the co-operation of the Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage of Iraq.