

Qatar National Library Helps to Fight Against the Trafficking of Cultural Artifacts and Documentary Heritage



Coverage Report

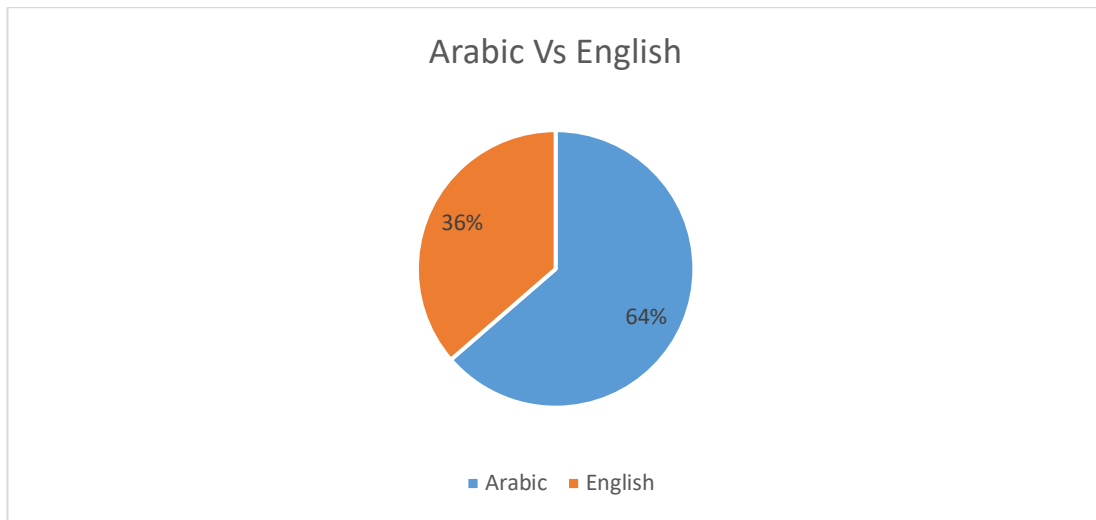
Qatar National Library Helps to Fight Against the Trafficking of Cultural Artifacts and Documentary Heritage

11 February 2021

Coverage Summary

Qatar Nationwide Library held a 2-day webinar entitled ‘What’s Antiquities Trafficking?’ exploring the sources, transit routes and market international locations of the criminal activity. A press release was sent to all media and the story was published by numerous newspapers in Qatar and the region.

7 Arabic, and 4 English media outlets published the news.



5 online and 6 print publications covered the story. The table of contents in the following section has list of all the media outlets which published the news story.

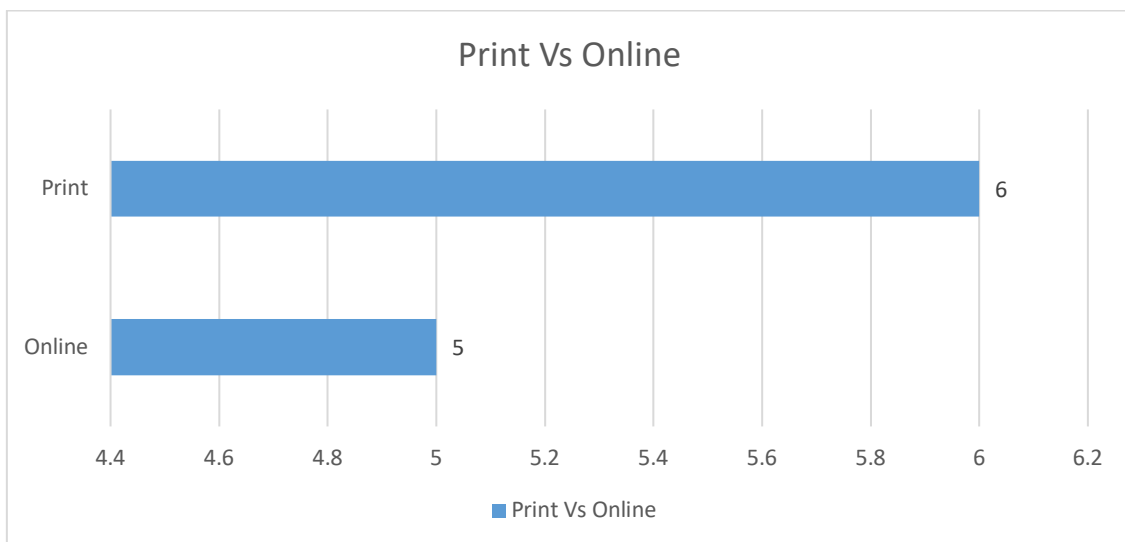


TABLE OF CONTENTS

EN/ AR	Publication	Date	Type	Print / Online
Arabic Outlets	Al Sharq	11/2	Local	Print
	Al Raya	11/2	Local	Online
	Al Arab	11/2	Local	Print
	Al Watan	11/2	Local	Print
	Lusail	11/2	Local	Print
	Al Bawaba	10/2	Regional	Online
	MENAFN	10/2	Regional	Online
English Outlets	Gulf Times	11/2	Local	Print
	Qatar Tribune	11/2	Local	Print
	9T News	11/2	Regional	Online
	Al Bawaba	10/2	Regional	Online

Publication	Section	Page	Link	Date
-------------	---------	------	------	------

Publication	Section	Page	Link	Date
Gulf Times	Local	12	http://bit.ly/2MVarY3	11/2

QNL steps up fight against trafficking of cultural artefacts, documentary heritage

Qatar National Library (QNL), held a special event this week bringing organisations together to counter the trafficking of cultural artefacts in the region. The two-day webinar, titled 'What is Antiquities Trafficking?' held recently discussed the structures of supply chains for the illicit trade of cultural items, identified key stakeholders involved in the criminal practice, and explored the sources, transit routes and market countries of the illegal activity.

The webinar was part of the Himaya Project Lecture Series, an initiative QNL launched to counter the trafficking and illegal circulation of documentary heritage in the Mena region and neighbouring countries. Himaya engages international agencies and regional organisations to protect heritage artefacts and thwart the trafficking of such items.

The discussions were led by Veronica Costarelli, project manager, Cross-Border Syrian Emergency Response with the UN's International Organisation for Migration and a post-crisis antiquity trafficking researcher and Dr Samuel Andrew Hardy, post-doctoral research fellow in



HE Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kawari along with other panellists.

cultural heritage and conflicts, Norwegian Institute in Rome, University of Oslo.

The speakers analysed case studies from Iraq and Syria to illustrate the different aspects and key features of antiquities trafficking and its transnational nature. HE the Minister of State and QNL President Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kawari, said: "For centuries, the Arab and Middle East region has been a melting pot of civilisations that produced many artefacts with historical, spiritual and aesthetic values, not to mention the

pride and respect of their owners and custodians."

"The trafficking and smuggling of antiquities is certainly not a new phenomenon, and activity has been rising in recent years. In the Mena and West and Central Africa regions, trafficking of such items is greater due to conflict and insecurity – notably in countries such as Chad, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Niger, Syria, Sudan and Yemen. It may often be linked to the activities of criminal and terrorist groups, who use it as a means to increase their income and launder mon-

ey," he explained. "Trafficking of such items is a robbery of the rights of peoples, a falsification of the history of nations, and a removal of their heritage and identity. While criminals make significant profits from this illicit trafficking, humankind is denied access to archaeological information and artefacts of its shared heritage," continued Dr al-Kawari.

Costarelli said: "This heritage of the Arab region and the number of impoverished and conflict-affected nations has led to increased trafficking and smuggling of antiquities and artefacts in the region, threatening its cultural heritage.

Professionals must act to spread awareness about antiquities trafficking and help law enforcement to counter this illegal activity."

"The international organisations in charge of countering the trafficking of artefacts have tended to focus on the illegal circulation of archaeological and artistic items. However, more also needs to be done with respect to documentary heritage, which is even more at risk because it is less protected by national legislation and is easier to move illegally," Dr Hardy added.

Publication	Section	Page	Link	Date
Qatar Tribune	Local	16	http://bit.ly/3tPhWQU	11/2

QNL helps fight against trafficking of artefacts and documentary heritage

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK
DOHA

QATAR National Library (QNL), in its role as the IFLA Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Regional Center for Arab Countries and the Middle East, brought organisations together to counter the trafficking of cultural artefacts in the region, at a recent webinar.

The two-day webinar, titled 'What is Antiquities Trafficking?', discussed the structures of supply chains for the illicit trade of cultural items, identified key stakeholders involved in the criminal practice and explored the sources, transit routes and market countries of the illegal activity.

The webinar was part of the Himaya Project Lecture Series, an initiative QNL launched to counter the trafficking and illegal circulation of documentary heritage in the MENA region and neighbouring countries. Himaya engages international agencies and regional organisations to protect heritage artefacts and thwart the trafficking of such items.

The discussions were led by Veronica Costarelli, project



The two-day webinar discussed the structures of supply chains for the illicit trade of cultural items, key stakeholders, transit routes and market countries of the illegal activity.

manager, Cross-Border Syrian Emergency Response with the UN's International Organization for Migration and a post-crisis antiquity trafficking researcher; and Dr Samuel Andrew Hardy, post-doctoral research fellow in cultural heritage and conflicts, Norwegian Institute in Rome, University of Oslo.

The speakers analysed case studies from Iraq and Syria to illustrate the different aspects

and key features of antiquities trafficking and its transnational nature.

Speaking at the webinar HE Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al Kawari, Qatar's Minister of State and QNL president, said: "For centuries, the Arab and Middle East region has been a melting pot of civilisations that produced many artefacts with historical, spiritual and aesthetic values, not to mention the pride

and respect of their owners and custodians.

"The trafficking and smuggling of antiquities is certainly not a new phenomenon and the activity has been rising in recent years. In the MENA and West and Central Africa regions, trafficking of such items is greater due to conflict and insecurity — notably in countries such as Chad, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Niger, Syria, Sudan and Yemen. It may often be linked to the activities of criminal and terrorist groups, who use it as a means to increase their income and launder money."

He added, "Trafficking of such items is a robbery of the rights of peoples, a falsification of the history of nations and a removal of their heritage and identity. While criminals make significant profits from this illicit trafficking, humankind is denied access to archaeological information and artefacts of its shared heritage."

"It is vital that the international community acts to correct and restore rights to the owners. We believe that people everywhere in the world have an ethical role in this issue and I hope this seminar played a


part in shedding further light on the trafficking of antiquities and in contributing to the scientific and equitable solution of the topic. Cultural property is part of the common heritage of mankind and it is in everyone's interests that we develop a framework to preserve cultural heritage in our region and further afield."

Costarelli said, "This heritage of the Arab region and the number of impoverished and conflict-affected nations has led to increased trafficking and smuggling of antiquities and artefacts in the region, threatening its cultural heritage. Professionals must act to spread awareness about antiquities trafficking and help law enforcement to counter this illegal activity."

Dr Hardy said, "The international organisations in charge of countering the trafficking of artefacts have tended to focus on the illegal circulation of archaeological and artistic items. However, more also needs to be done with respect to documentary heritage, which is even more at risk because it is less protected by national legislation and is easier to move illegally."

Publication	Section	Page	Link	Date
9T News	N/A	N/A	http://bit.ly/2ZjOWot	11/2

QNL steps up fight against trafficking of cultural artifacts, documentary heritage



Qatar Nationwide Library (QNL), held a particular occasion this week bringing organisations collectively to counter the trafficking of cultural artifacts within the area. The 2-day webinar, titled "What's Antiquities Trafficking?" held not too long ago mentioned the constructions of provide chains for the illicit commerce of cultural objects, recognized key stakeholders concerned within the prison apply, and explored the sources, transit routes and market international locations of the criminal activity.

The webinar was a part of the Himsaya Venture Lecture Collection, an initiative QNL launched to counter the trafficking and unlawful circulation of documentary heritage within the Mena area and neighbouring international locations. Himsaya engages worldwide companies and regional organisations to guard heritage artifacts and thwart the trafficking of such objects.

The discussions had been led by Veronica Costarelli, challenge supervisor, Cross-Border Syrian Emergency Response with the UN's Worldwide Organisation for Migration and a post-crisis antiquity trafficking researcher and Dr Samuel Andrew Hardy, post-doctoral analysis fellow in cultural heritage and conflicts, Norwegian Institute in Rome, College of Oslo.

The audio system analysed case research from Iraq and Syria for instance the totally different facets and key options of antiquities trafficking and its transnational nature. HE the Minister of State and QNL President Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kawari, stated: "For hundreds of years, the Arab and Center East area has been a melting pot of civilisations that produced many artifacts with historic, non secular and aesthetic values, to not point out the delight and respect of their homeowners and custodians."


"The trafficking and smuggling of antiquities is definitely not a brand new phenomenon, and exercise has been rising in recent times. Within the Mena and West and Central Africa areas, trafficking of such objects is larger attributable to battle and insecurity—notably in international locations corresponding to Chad, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Niger, Syria, Sudan and Yemen. It could typically be linked to the actions of prison and terrorist teams, who use it as a method to extend their earnings and launder cash," he defined.


"Trafficking of such objects is a theft of the rights of peoples, a falsification of the historical past of countries, and a removing of their heritage and identification. Whereas criminals make vital earnings from this illicit trafficking, humankind is denied entry to archaeological info and artifacts of its shared heritage," continued Dr al-Kawari.

Costarelli stated: "This heritage of the Arab area and the variety of impoverished and conflict-affected nations has led to elevated trafficking and smuggling of antiquities and artifacts within the area, threatening its cultural heritage. Professionals should act to unfold consciousness about antiquities trafficking and assist legislation enforcement to counter this criminal activity."

Publication	Section	Page	Link	Date
Al Bawaba	N/A	N/A	https://bit.ly/2Z71Lk4	10/2

Qatar National Library Helps To Fight Against the Trafficking of Cultural Artifacts and Documentary Heritage

PRESS RELEASE Published February 10th, 2021 - 09:54 GMT 



During the event.

Highlights

Qatar National Library held a special event this week bringing organizations together to counter the trafficking of cultural artifacts in the region.

Qatar National Library, in its role as the IFLA Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Regional Center for Arab Countries and the Middle East, held a special event this week bringing organizations together to counter the trafficking of cultural artifacts in the region.

The two-day webinar, titled "What is Antiquities Trafficking?" took place on 7 – 8 February. The event discussed the structures of supply chains for the illicit trade of cultural items, identified key stakeholders involved in the criminal practice, and explored the sources, transit routes and market countries of the illegal activity.

The webinar was part of the Himaya Project Lecture Series, an initiative the Library launched to counter the trafficking and illegal circulation of documentary heritage in the MENA region and neighboring countries. Himaya engages international agencies and regional organizations to protect heritage artifacts and thwart the trafficking of such items.

The discussions were led by Veronica Costarelli, Project Manager, Cross-Border Syrian Emergency Response with the UN's International Organization for Migration and a post-crisis antiquity trafficking researcher, and Dr. Samuel Andrew Hardy, post-doctoral research fellow in cultural heritage and conflicts, Norwegian Institute in Rome, University of Oslo.

The speakers analyzed case studies from Iraq and Syria to illustrate the different aspects and key features of antiquities trafficking and its transnational nature.

His Excellency Dr. Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al-Kawari, Minister of State, Qatar and President of Qatar National Library, spoke at the webinar, saying:

"For centuries, the Arab and Middle East region has been a melting pot of civilizations that produced many artifacts with historical, spiritual and aesthetic values, not to mention the pride and respect of their owners and custodians.

"The trafficking and smuggling of antiquities is certainly not a new phenomenon, and activity has been rising in recent years. In the MENA and West and Central Africa regions, trafficking of such items is greater due to conflict and insecurity—notably in countries such as Chad, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Niger, Syria, Sudan and Yemen. It may often be linked to the activities of criminal and terrorist groups, who use it as a means to increase their income and launder money.

"Trafficking of such items is a robbery of the rights of peoples, a falsification of the history of nations, and a removal of their heritage and identity. While criminals make significant profits from this illicit trafficking, humankind is denied access to archaeological information and artifacts of its shared heritage.

"It is vital that the international community acts to correct and restore rights to the owners. We believe that people everywhere in the world have an ethical role in this issue, and I hope this seminar played a part in shedding further light on the trafficking of antiquities and in contributing to the scientific and equitable solution of the topic. Cultural property is part of the common heritage of mankind, and it is in everyone's interests that we develop a framework to preserve cultural heritage in our region and further afield."

Veronica Costarelli, Project Manager, Cross-Border Syrian Emergency Response with the UN's International Organization for Migration and a post-crisis antiquity trafficking researcher, said:

"This heritage of the Arab region and the number of impoverished and conflict-affected nations has led to increased trafficking and smuggling of antiquities and artifacts in the region, threatening its cultural heritage. Professionals must act to spread awareness about antiquities trafficking and help law enforcement to counter this illegal activity."