

# NINEVEH ACADEMIC CHAIR

## SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

### Assyrian Language, History and Identity

11-13 SEPTEMBER 2023

**Director: Prof. Dr. Efrem YILDIZ**

**University of Salamanca**



*At this second international Congress the experts will address three main themes: Assyrian language, history and Identity. The aim of this Congress is to continue working in the scientific field that the Assyrian people need most: Education in its linguistic, historical aspects and Identity. The Nineveh Chair has these three areas as the main pillars of its research initiative. Invited experts in the three mentioned fields are chosen to discuss and present the topics covered in the Programme. Participants will have the opportunity to attend lectures and panel discussions that will shed much light on the three main topics of the conference. We aim to provide an innovative insight into historical, linguistic aspects and Identity of the Assyrian people. The venue for the congress is the University of Salamanca, which created the Nineveh Academic Chair to promote the study of the Assyrian linguistic, historical and cultural legacy. Below, we provide you with detailed information about the Programme of the Congress.*

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## University of Salamanca



## Programme

### Monday 11 September

- 09:30-13:30**      **Registration | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology**
- 09:30-10:30**      **Inauguration of Nineveh Academic Chair Congress | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.**
- Raúl Sánchez Prieto Vice-Chancellor of the University**  
**Manuel González, Dean of the Faculty of Philology**  
**Efrem Yildiz, President of Nineveh Academic Chair**
- Inaugural conference: Efrem Yildiz | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.*  
*The Revival of the Modern Assyrian Language through Nineveh Chair and its Teaching activities and research projects.*
- 10:30-11:30**      **Coffee break**
- 11:30-12:30**      **Language Panel: Conference: Moderator: Efrem Yildiz | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.**
- Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge. The Classification of the Modern Assyrian Neo-Aramaic dialects.*
- 12:30-13:10**      **Conference | Moderator: Shabo Talay | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.**
- Samir Khoshaba, Linnaeus University. Transmissions in different machines as an example of development of the Assyrian language in the field of mechanical engineering.**
- 13:10-13:50**      **Conference | Moderator: Efrem Yildiz/ Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology. Vega García González. University of Salamanca. The development of Late Eastern Aramaic Studies in Europe.**
- 14:00-15:45**      **Spanish Wine Welcome Lunch**

- 16:00-16:40**      **Conference** | Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology. **Michael Abdalla**, University of Poznan, *Linguistic image of the body in the Tur Abdin dialect.*
- 16:40-17:20**      **Conference** | Moderator: **Geoffrey Khan** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Shabo Talay**, Freie Universität Berlin. *Turoyo/Surayt a Peripheral Dialect of NENA? Reflections on the Eastern Neo-Aramaic Dialect Continuum.*
- 17:20-17:50**      **Conference** | Moderator: **Geoffrey Khan** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Mikhael Benjamin**, Nineveh Centre for Minority Rights, Duhok. *Documentation of Assyrian dialects, Nahla dialect as a case study.*
- 17:50-18:20**      **Conference:** Moderator: **Eve Georges Sada** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Susan Khoshabah** University of Salamanca. *Symbols of ancient Assyrians in Assyrian literature after Christianity.*
- 18:20-19:45**      **City Walk**
- 20:00-21:30**      **Dinner**

## Tuesday 12 September

- 09:30-12:30**      **Registration** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology
- 09:30-10:10**      **ASSYRIAN IDENTITY Panel| Conference** | Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz**. Aula Magna Faculty of Philology.  
**Aryo Makko**, Stockholm University. *Assyrian Youth Activism in the Western Diaspora: Roads to Salvation, Perdition or Nowhere?*
- 10:10-10:50**      **Conference** | Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz**. Aula Magna Faculty of Philology. **Shana Zaya**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. *Assyria, Identity, and Empire.*
- 10:50-11:20**      **Coffee break**
- 11:20-12:00**      **Conference** | Moderator: **Aryo Makko** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Nicholas Al-Jeloo**, Duhok University. *Exploring Psychological Reasons for the Rejection of Assyrian Identity.*

- 12:00-12:40** **Conference** | Moderator: **Nicholas Al-Jeloo** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Zeitoun Hadad**, Midyat/Tur ‘Abdin. *How do we enquire our identity, a work of the Assyrian identity.*
- 12:40-13:20** **Conference** | Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology. **Samira Sare**, Bielefeld University. *The Protection of Minority Identity as a Human Right, using the example of the Assyrians.*
- 13:20-14:00** **Conference** | Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology Philology.  
Members of Assyrian Art Institute. **Nora Betyousef Lacey**, **Dalia Ashurina**; **Omar Bashir**, **Sargon Youkhana**.
- 14:00-15:30** **Lunch**
- 16:00-16:40** **Conference:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
Robin Bet Shamuel, Former member of Salahadeen University. *The Mother Tongue and Identity.*
- 16:40-17-20** **Conference:** Moderator: **Aryo Makko** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Abdul-Massih Saadi**, Baylor University. *The Syriac Literature in History and Self Identity.*
- 17:20-18:00** **Conference:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.  
**Eve Georges Sada**, University of Harvard and **Lolita Emmanuel**, University of Sydney. *Preserving and Documenting the Assyrian Musical Legacy: A Valuable Contribution to the Global Cultural Heritage.*
- 18:00-18:30** **Coffee break | Hospedería**
- 18:00-20:30** **Assyrian Art:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Amphitheatre Juan de Encina/University of Salamanca.  
**Assyrian Art Institute:** **Nora Betyousef Lacey**, **Dalia Ashurina** *Assyrian Music Concert.*
- 20:30** **Dinner**

### Wednesday 13 September

- 9:30-10:10** **ASSYRIAN HISTORY Panel** | **Conference:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology. **Etlal Al Kass Hanna**, Alhamadanya University. *Identity struggle and biblical prophecies: The Great Middle East and the Prophecy of the Egyptian-Assyrian-Israeli Alliance.*

10:10-10:50

**Conference:** Moderator: **Shabo Talay** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Abdulmesih Bar Abraham**, Mor Afrem Foundation.  
*Missionary Activities in the Vilyat of Diyarbakir: An Overview.*

10:50-11:20

**Coffee break**

11:20-12:00

**Conference:** Moderator: **Samir Khoshaba** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Rony Beth Yawalaha**, PhD Freie Berlin University. *The Literature of Durekyatha and their Starting. The Example of Mar Khnanisho of Rustaqa.*

12:00-12:40

**Conference:** Moderator: **Shabo Talay** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Lawrence Nader**. Zakho University. *Panqitha Journal 1951-1953 a Study in Content.*

12:40-13:20

**Conference:** Moderator: **Eve Georges Sada** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Kristina Benjaminova**. Russian State University for the Humanities. *Object markers in Modern Assyrian Aramaic dialect of Tal.*

13:20-14:00

**Conference:** Moderator **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology. **Michel Shamoon-Pour**, Binghamton University. *Assyrian Identity in the Genomic Era: What Paleogenomics and Population Genetics Can and Cannot Tell Us.*

14:00-15:30

**Lunch**

16:00-16:40

**Conference:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Alda Benyamen**, Berkeley University. *Assyrians in Iraq: History, Politics and Archives.*

16:40-17:20

**Conference:** Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz** | Aula Magna/Faculty of Philology.

**Sargon Donabed**, Roger Williams University. *An Overview of Assyrian History Through a Lens of Assyrian Studies: Obstacles, Theories, and Narrative.*

17:20-18:30

**NAC General Assembly:** Present and Future of NAC Projects and constitution of the Assyrian Academic Council. Closing of the International Congress.

20:30

**NAC Gala Dinner**