



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA | DEPARTMENT  
OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

MiSAK



# The 6th International Scientific Conference

## The Enduring Legacy of Garmian region: Archaeology, Identity and historical significance

(ISC-AIHS-2026)

University of Garmian in joint collaboration with Karim Alaka Foundation, the Department of Cultural Heritage and the PAST Lab of the *Alma Mater Studiorum* - University of Bologna, and the Historical Archaeological Italian Mission in Kurdistan (MiSAK) is pleased to announce its sixth international scientific conference entitled “The Enduring Legacy of Garmian region: Archaeology, Identity and historical significance” The Conference will be held in the University of Garmian, Kalar, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

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### Conference aims:



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- To assemble and synthesize novel archaeological and historical data pertaining to the Garmian region, with the objective of uncovering hitherto concealed historical realities.
- To elucidate Garmian's role in the dissemination of cultural and civilizational advancements, belief systems, religions, and artistic traditions, contextualizing its influence beyond the local level and within the broader spectrum of regional civilizations.
- To deliberate upon the archaeological, cultural, and historical value inherent to the Garmian region, and to cultivate awareness among both domestic and international audiences of its rich archaeological repository.
- To highlight the importance of Garmian's multi-national and multi-religious history and to foster a spirit of coexistence and mutual acceptance among present and future generations.
- To disseminate cutting-edge research and innovative technological methodologies that provide novel solutions to persistent archaeological and historical challenges.
- To establish a collaborative framework across academic, governmental, and relevant organisations aimed at elevating public awareness and promoting archaeological literacy to inform future societal development.

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### Topics



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#### Cultural interaction and Geo-political strategy of Garmian region

This conference topic explores the profound political, military, and cultural transformations of the Garmian region during two pivotal eras of exceptional complexity: First, The Late Bronze Age (The Kassites, Assyrians, Mitanni, and Elamites). Second, the Neo-Assyrian Period: Imperial Hegemony and Local Agency.

#### The Administration, Religion, and Culture of the Garmian Region from the 1st Millennium B.C. to the 1st Millennium A.D.

This panel examines the administrative, commercial, military, and cultural legacy of the Achaemenid, Parthian, and Sasanian empires within the historical region of Garmian.

#### Garmian at the Crossroads: Conquest, Coexistence, and Conversion

This panel focuses on two primary themes: first, the repercussions of the military confrontations between the Sassanian Empire and the emerging Islamic state within the Garmian region; Secondly, Garmian's role in the inter-factional power struggles of the Caliphal period.

#### Garmian in the Age of Kurdish Dynasties

This panel encourages researchers to focus on the most significant Kurdish ruling dynasties that governed the Garmian region, such as the Hasanwayhids and the Annazids.

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### Topics



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#### Religious Diversity and Intellectual Life

This panel examines the pivotal role of religious beliefs in the social and cultural formation of the Garmian region across millennia. We seek papers that explore the evolution of religious life from the Late Bronze Age through the Islamic era, with particular focus on Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Yarsanism, alongside indigenous traditions.

#### Garmian in Regional and Global Historiography

This panel explores the construction of Garmian's identity through the lens of local and foreign historians, travellers, and scholars in their references to the Garmian region from historical, social, intellectual, and cultural viewpoints during the middle Ages.

#### Archaeology and Material Culture of Garmian

This panel examines the archaeological findings, such as architecture, coins, ceramics and pottery, and manuscripts and historical records.