



Dr. Harriet Nash

Honorary Research Fellow

*UNESCO Chair on Aflaj Studies - Archaeohydrology
University of Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman*

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Office Location: .

Time at UoN: Since 2022

Marital Status: ...

Harriet Nash is a hydrogeologist, geographer and ethnographer. Her research on the traditional management of falaj systems, mainly in the Sultanate of Oman, started in 2005. It represents a significant contribution to the knowledge of the oral heritage of star use for timing water shares and is recognised by the International Astronomy Union as important to the World Heritage of astronomy, on the same level as Stonehenge. This research has extended to Qatar and to Iran, where there are similar irrigation systems. Her professional background in hydrogeology, combined with this more recent ethnographic work, brings a unique set of skills to UCASA, including a thorough scientific understanding of water resources in the region and the problems of climate change and over-abstraction.

Academic Qualifications

PhD Water Management: the use of stars in Oman, University of Exeter , 2009

B.Sc. Hydrogeology, University of London, 1976

BSc Hons Geography and Geology, Univesrity of London, 1972

Research Activities

- Publications

Article:

1. 2020 Traditional Star Knowledge for Falaj Al Hammam, Rustaq, Oman, with Wadha Al-Shukaili and Talib Mohammed Al-Rumhi, J Oman Studies 22: 228-240
2. 2016 [Star use by fishermen in Oman](#), with D A Agius, Ali H. Al-Mahrooqi and Said A. Al-Yahyai, International Journal of Nautical Archaeology, 00.0: 1-13, DOI: 10.1111/1095-9270.12204
3. 2014 Timing falaj water shares in the Hajar ash Sharqi, with M Al-Musharifi and A Al-Harhi, J Oman Studies 18: 63-75
4. 2013 Star Charts from Oman, with D A Agius. Proceedings of the 24th Congress of the Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants Leipzig, 24 - 28 September 2008. Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta, Peeter Leuven-Paris-Walpole: 479-490
5. 2013 Timing water shares in Wadi Bani Kharus, Oman, with A Al-Ghafri and M Al-Sarmi, Proceedings of the Seminar for Arabian Studies, 43: 1-10
6. 2012 Traditional timing of water shares, with M Khaneiki and A Yazdi Proceedings of the International Conference on Traditional Knowledge for Water Resources Management, Yazd, Iran 21-23 Feb. 2012
7. 2011 Star Lore and Use in Oman, with D A Agius Journal of Semitic Studies LVI/1:167-182
8. 2011 Management of Water Shares for Falaj Al-Hamra and Falaj Al-Kasfa, with S Al-Shaqsi, Journal of Oman Studies 17: 101-111
9. 2007 [Stargazing in Traditional Water Management: a case study in Northern Oman](#), Proceedings of the Seminar for Arabian Studies 37: 157-170
10. 2007 [The Social Importance and Continuity of Falaj Use in Northern Oman](#), with Z Al-Sulaimani and T Helmi, International History Seminar on Irrigation and Drainage, Tehran-Iran May 2-5, 2007
11. 1994 Vulnerability to Pollution of Karst Aquifer System in Southern Dobrogea, with F Zamfirescu (main author) et al., Proceedings International Hydrogeology Symposium, Constantza, Romania, May 1994: 591-602
12. 1991 Water Supply in a Rural Area of White Nile Province, Proceedings 2nd International Conference, Sudan Societies of UK and USA and Inst African and Asian Studies, U of Khartoum, Durham, UK, 1991: 307-314
13. 1987 Modern and Fossil Groundwater in an Arid Environment: A look at the hydrogeology of Southern Oman, with I Clark (main author) et al., International Atomic

Energy Authority (IAEA) SM 299/15, Vienna, 1987: 167-187

Book:

1. 2011 Water Management: the Use of Stars in Oman, Society for Arabian Studies Monographs No. 11, Archaeopress, Oxford
2. 1997 Mineral and Thermal Groundwater Resources, with M Albu and D Banks. London: Chapman & Hall
3. 1997 Groundwater in the Urban Environment: Problems, Processes and Management, co-editor with J Chilton et al. Rotterdam: Balkema
4. 1995 Groundwater Quality , ed. with J G H McCall, London: Chapman & Hall
5. 1995 Report of a Workshop on Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment` 4-14 June 1994, Amman, Jordan, ed. with J Bartram. GEMS Report Series No 3, UNEP, Nairobi
6. 1990 Pilot scheme for rehabilitation of wells in South Darfur, Hunting Technical Services Report 381AZ
7. 1979 Review of Hydrogeology and Groundwater Resource Studies in the Sudan, Report WD/OS/79/23, Institute of Geological Sciences, UK
8. 1977 Groundwater Resources of the Sahel, Report WD/OS/77/3 Institute of Geological Sciences, UK

Membership in Professional Bodies

1980-2018: Fellow, Royal Geographical Society

1980-Present: International Association of Hydrogeologists

1980-Present: Chartered Geologist, Geological Society of London

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