

**Clerical Authority in Shi'i Islam:
Culture and Learning in the Seminaries of Iraq and Iran**

**A collaborative project of the British Society for Middle Eastern
Studies (BRISMES) and
the British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS), sponsored by the
British Academy, March 2009-March 2012.**

**VISITING FELLOWSHIP SCHEME
APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

1. The project "Clerical Authority in Shi'i Islam: Culture and Learning in the seminaries of Iraq and Iran" is to award at least one Visiting Fellow from outside of the United Kingdom, to spend one month during the project year 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2012, working on a project related to the themes of the Project. To qualify for this scheme, the visiting fellow must be ordinarily resident outside of the UK. Further details concerning the project and its programme of activities can be found at: www.thehawzaproject.net. The scholar must have acquired the acceptance of a "host" department in a British university, and a contact scholar within that department. The maximum amount of funding available for a visiting scholar is £2850 (which includes travel costs, visa costs and maintenance costs whilst in the UK).

2. Applications are welcome from researchers proposing to complete a programme of research which is connected to any of the annual themes of the project:

1. Knowledge and Authority within the Hawza
2. The History and Development of the Hawza
3. Prospects and Challenges for the Hawza

It is preferable, though not essential, that the scholar time their visit so that they can attend and present their research at one of the regular project workshops (held in June, November and March each project year). Expenses for attending these workshops do not form part of the visiting scholar's budget. Applicants for a visiting fellowship may, if they wish, also submit a workshop paper proposal (see www.thehawzaproject.net/workshops) and/or a Research Programme Grant application (see www.thehawzaproject.net/funding): the submissions (Research Programme application, the workshop paper proposal and the Visiting Fellowship Scheme) are to be assessed separately, though one person will not be permitted to hold more than one of these grants.

3. The closing date for applications for the Visiting Fellows is 12.00noon (UK time), 25th March 2011. Applications should be sent, in electronic form only to the Project Administrator, Ms Jane Clark (admin@thehawzaproject.net) as WORD or PDF attachments. Applicants should follow the instructions contained in this document very carefully, as failure to do so may lead to your application being rejected.

4. Applications must be in English, and consist of a single MICROSOFT WORD or PDF document, divided into two sections:

- (i) the CV of the programme coordinator/proposer (2 sides of A4, max)
- (ii) CASE FOR SUPPORT for the research project (not more than 4 sides of A4), including a description of the aims, objectives and research questions of the proposed research, the methodology by which these aims and objectives

might be met and the research questions answered, the proposed output of the research, the benefits to the individual researcher and the institutions with which the researcher is associated, the timing of the proposed visit (approximately), the annual theme under which the visiting fellowship would most easily fit.

The total length of the application should not be more than 6 sides of A4. The font size used in the document should be no smaller than point 12 in the text itself and point 10 in footnotes. These materials should be sent as a single MICROSOFT WORD or PDF attachment to the project's administrative assistant, Ms Jane Clark (admin@thehawzaproject.net) by 12.00noon, Friday 25th March 2011. If you intend to use extensive transliteration within the text (this is not essential), you should make a PDF of the document to preserve the transliteration. Late applications will not be accepted. Ms Clark will send you an email acknowledgement of receipt.

5. The grant is fixed at a total amount of £2850 block grant. The applicant therefore does not need to submit a proposed budget.

6. Programme proposals which are particularly encouraged from scholars based in Iraq and Iran (particularly those with a Hawza background) and scholars who have trained in Hawzas elsewhere.

7. Applications will be considered by the Project Steering Committee, and successful applicants informed in early April 2011. Any queries concerning the above should be addressed to the project director, Professor Robert Gleave.

Clerical Authority in Shi'i Islam:
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