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TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

INSTITUTE OF  
EAST ASIAN ART HISTORY



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Heinz Götze Special Lecture

# Chinese Ceramics Unearthed from the Julfar Site in Ras Al-Khaimah, UAE

Prof. Zhai Yi, Palace Museum, Beijing

14th Heinz Götze Visiting Professor

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From January 2019 to March 2024, a collaborative archaeological team from the Palace Museum, the Department of Antiquities and Museums of RAK, and Durham University in the UK conducted surface surveys and field excavations in the two main areas of Julfar, Ras Al-Khaimah, UAE: the ancient trading ports of Al Nudud and Al Mataf. By combining the unearthed ceramic collection housed in the Ras Al-Khaimah National Museum from previous excavations of ancient Chinese ceramics with the latest ceramic finds from 2024, the lecture will introduce the characteristics of imported Chinese ceramics and their impact on the development of Gulf ceramic industries. Based on this collaborative project, insights on Chinese ceramics in overseas archaeological excavations will be discussed.

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Image: Excavation at Al-Mataf site (south area) of Julfar, in Ras Al Khaimah U.A.E.