



LECTURE by Mrs **ALIA FARES**

Title:
**Creating a Domus worth of the Gods –
Constructing the Roman Empire**

Welcome note by Dr. Rachid Chamoun,
President of the Phoenicians' Route
& Director of LAU Louis Cardahi Foundation

Friday JUNE 26th, h. 6pm (Beirut time)
Webinar – 60 minutes

link : <https://lau.webex.com/meet/rchamoun>

About the speaker Mrs Alia Fares



As a German Lebanese, AUB educated archaeologist and Germany trained building historian, Alia Fares has been working as an archaeologist and cultural heritage consultant in the Middle East for decades. She also works as a cultural tour guide with local Lebanese tour companies. At the moment, she is finishing her PhD in Roman architecture at the Department of Archaeology of the Roman Provinces at the University of Cologne, Germany. Her main pivotal interests are devoted to the rugged mountainous roman temples of Lebanon, with a focus on 2 adjacent antique sacred buildings in Ain Akrine, North Lebanon. She has also been teaching history of Art and Architecture at various universities since 2011, such as AUB, LAU and NDU. Her curiosity for this ancient heritage stems from a lifelong passion to protect and preserve it in a country that is one of the culturally richest regions in the world. Her longing to protect built cultural heritage and its rural natural environment have pushed her to become an active member of the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association, for which she has been working with since 2014 to create a database and highlight all the archaeological and cultural heritage along a 470km trail crossing all of Lebanon. Her interests vary from prehistoric caves to crusader medieval citadels, ruined ancient churches and antiques tombs, all abandoned along this hiking path comprising more than 76 villages.

www.aliafares.webnode.com

Abstract

The roman empire was able to spread its built architectural heritage to the farthest regions of the Mare Nostrum, compelling researchers today foremost to try to understand its forms and typologies at an unfortunate loss of information of the actual constructors and architects behind these masterpieces of the antique world. There is a need to give credit to some of those roman scholars as the lecture focuses on the building mechanisms and techniques of the period, the military programs leading to this architectural expansion, identified with the help of that tiny bit of archaeological evidence found on few diverse stelae and carved reliefs. In a final act of gratitude to the local engineers, pagans who designed and funded these works of architectural perfection, credit is given to one of the very few inscriptions left on the roman temple facades of Sfire, on top of one of the highest mountain cliffs of Northern Lebanon.

The webinar will be broadcast live on:
www.facebook.com/larottadeifenici
www.facebook.com/LAULouisCardahiFoundation/