

About us

The Invisible East programme at the University of Oxford's Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies brings the medieval Islamicate East to the forefront of historical research by studying texts written in the multilingual world of medieval Iran, Afghanistan and Central Asia.

This vast region, nowadays often described as the cradle of terrorism, violence, and war, in medieval times witnessed a **mixing of cultures and religions that was both unique and extraordinarily influential** upon neighbouring societies.

To share the knowledge about the rich past of this fascinating region, the Invisible East Team offers **free of charge** school outreach sessions for secondary school pupils of all key stages.

Our team

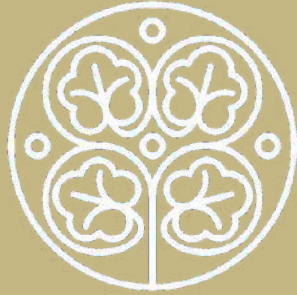
Arezou Azad, Invisible East Programme Director, is a historian of the medieval Islamicate East from the coming of Islam in the 7th century CE to the Mongol Empire of the 13th century, and all its various component cultures and societies.



Zaiba Patel, Invisible East's Education Advisor and Session Facilitator, is a former secondary school history teacher. She completed a Master's in Learning and Teaching at the University of Oxford, exploring decolonisation, race and the history curriculum.

Invisible East

Our sessions



WHAT WILL YOU DO

In each 90 minute session, pupils will encounter and work closely with a primary source, puzzle through the ethics of working with primary sources, explore the day-to-day working of historians, and curate a museum exhibition.

IN THEIR WORDS

"I found the session particularly interesting because of my own heritage"

"It was interesting to learn about the misconceptions we have of the East"

"I liked how interactive it was. I especially enjoyed trying to work out what the source meant"

CONTACT US

We look forward to expanding the programme over the next academic year so please do get in touch!

If you are interested in discussing a free session for your school, contact the Invisible East Team: invisible_east@orinst.ox.ac.uk

More details and resources are available on our website: invisibleeast.web.ox.ac.uk/school-outreach