



THE NEAR EASTERN ARCHAEOLOGY FOUNDATION

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

SOMEWHERE SOUTH OF THE GOBI

THE SAND BURIALS OF XINJIANG

by Dr Alison Betts University of Sydney

Thursday 19th July 2007

6.30 - 8.30 pm

Women's College University of Sydney



01r 王子容貌复原图 Portrait of the King

Lecture will be from 6.30-7.30 pm followed by a light supper

The desert sands of the Taklamakan Desert in western China have preserved a most remarkable legacy of past peoples. The arid climate and saline soils have preserved cities, manuscripts, weapons, furniture, fabrics and the bodies of the people themselves. Archaeologists can unwrap blankets four thousand years old, uncover brilliant silks woven when the Han Empire traded luxury goods to the Roman world, and touch the cheeks of babies who seem simply to have fallen asleep a long time ago. In this talk Dr Betts will take you on a tour of a remote and beautiful region and introduce you to the very people who lived in these historic lands.

Dr Alison Betts is Associate Professor of Western Asian Archaeology at the University of Sydney. Dr Betts is the Director of the University of Sydney Central Asian Programme and her current activities include two ARC funded projects. One of these projects is looking at the Bronze Age in Western China and connections with the Eurasian steppe, the other is a study of ancient religion in western Uzbekistan (ancient Chorasmia) in the period from c. 5th cent. BC to 2nd AD. Dr Betts has several other projects in Western Asia and has worked previously in Jordan and Syria.

NEAF Members: \$18.00
Student Members of NEAF: \$5.00
Non members: \$22.00

Bookings are essential for this event, please forward your payment by 16th July 2007. All prepaid tickets will be available for collection at the door. We prefer prepayment for our events this year - payment at the door will attract a fee of \$30.00 for all entries.

Name _____ Number of tickets _____

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Phone: (02) 9351 4151 Fax: (02) 9552 1412 neaf@arts.usyd.edu.au