
**INTERNATIONAL
TRAINING PROGRAMME**

2021 ANNUAL PROGRAMME

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PROGRAMME

2021 Biographies

The British
Museum

CHOKI TSHOMO

	Country	Bhutan
	Institution	Privy Council of Bhutan
	Job title	Chief Research Officer
	ITP year	2021

As Chief Research Officer at the Privy Council of Bhutan, Choki is responsible for keeping records and updating the activities of the Royal Families of Bhutan alongside researching issues and matters pertaining to Royal projects.

Choki's professional interests focus on historic events, traditions and culture and in particular, the history of Bhutan's museum. Choki is currently working on The Bhutan Development Museum which highlights the socio-economic development evolution of Bhutan and uses innovative and creative modern technologies in the exhibition galleries.

Personal interests for Choki include horticulture, hiking and travelling to places of interest.

Choki is interested in learning more about setting up a 'modern' museum during her time with the International Training Programme, prioritising museum management, collection management and fundraising. She also hopes to discover more about all aspects of running an institution such as the British Museum alongside gaining insight into smaller, regional museums through the International Training Programme UK Partners.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Choki will be based in the Asia Department and her partner placement will be spent at Norfolk Museums Service.

Choki's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

SANPISETH KIM

	Country	Cambodia
	Institution	National Museum of Cambodia
	Job title	Conservator
	ITP year	2021

Sanpiset is a conservator at the National Museum of Cambodia and for more than a decade, he has been focusing on and working in museums, especially in the areas of conservation and exhibitions. Notably, Sanpiset worked on the creation of a database of the whole museum collection.

During this time, he has developed knowledge and worked on various subjects related to museums. This interest and passion about museology has always encouraged him to enhance this knowledge and understanding of all aspects of museum work.

Research interests cover cultural management, conservation, museology and inventory and documentary work and he recently studied for a Masters degree in History of Art and Archaeology from SOAS University of London.

Through the International Training Programme, Sanpiset is looking forward to the opportunity to discuss museum collection issues with international experts and hopes to gain more knowledge and experience that will be highly valued in developing Cambodian museums.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Sanpiset will be based in the Asia Department and his partner placement will be spent at Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums in Newcastle.

SOPHEARA CHAP

	Country	Cambodia
	Institution	National Museum of Cambodia
	Job title	Chief of Education and Publication Office
	ITP year	2021

Sopheara began her role as the Chief of the Education and Publication Office at the National Museum of Cambodia last year. Previous to this, she was Head of the Ceramics Conservation Laboratory at the Museum where her main responsibility was to train and manage staff in the lab, whilst overseeing conservation work on selected ceramics, examining the objects, analysing data and writing reports and proposals for funding.

A primary research interest is interactive and 'hands-on' exhibits which engage visitors and relate to history, traditional production and conservation work. Currently Sopheara is preparing exhibitions in the museum including the labels and panel information for the collections on display in the gallery. She also assists and provides advice on these areas for various provincial museums.

Sopheara has an educational background in Archaeology, Asian Arts, and History of Art and Archaeology and is interested to meet conservators from other museums around the world to share experiences.


During the International Training Programme, Sopheara would like to learn more about conservation laboratories, exhibitions, storage management and fundraising. She is also hoping to develop leadership skills in relation to an interest in training young people, to hone their conservation and museum management skills.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Sopheara will be based in the Asia Department and her partner placement will be spent at Norfolk Museums Service.

Sopheara's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

WILLIAM NSUIBAN GMAYI

	Country	Ghana
	Institution	Ghana Museums and Monuments Board
	Job title	Head of Communications and Public Relations
	ITP year	2021

As the Head of Communication and Public Relations, William is responsible for the Ghana Museums and Monuments Board communication strategy, public education initiatives and press.

Primary professional interests are marketing and fundraising alongside a personal research interest in collections databases, storage and libraries. Another focus for William is communities and the challenge of engaging school groups, local communities, international visitors and members of the African Diaspora. Restitution, Repatriation and the return of illicit museum objects and conflictual patterns of authorship and agency in past and present narratives on slavery in Ghana, are amongst further professional interests.

William is currently working on the *Black Stars* project; a project initiated from a workshop that took place in Ghana in 2019 and was jointly organised by the British Museum and the Ghana Museums and Monuments Board. The *Black Stars* will be a project at the National Museum in Ghana that will offer a platform to celebrate illustrious people in society at the Museum - the concept is still being developed and William hopes that participation in ITP 2021 will enrich his contribution to this work.


Participating in the International Training Programme will provide William an opportunity to share experiences from Ghana and to learn from other participants and the British Museum. He is looking forward to exchanging knowledge and ideas on the diverse ways in which history and culture can become agents of socio-economic change.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, William will be based in the Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas and will spend his partner placement at National Museums Northern Ireland.

William's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Edith Murphy Foundation.

MEROPI ZIOGANA

	Country	Greece
	Institution	Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki
	Job title	Archaeologist
	ITP year	2021
	Professional profiles	https://www.linkedin.com/in/meropi-ziogana-0019593/

Meropi currently works in the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki in the Department of Exhibitions, Communication and Education within a team responsible for the organisation of permanent and temporary exhibitions. She also gives guided tours at the museum and works collaboratively with other international and national museums on exhibition projects. Previously, she has worked in press and media relations and also as an excavation archaeologist.

Research interests concern cultural management, museology and Greek and Roman Archeology. Museum management, marketing, fundraising and audience development are professional interests and Meropi would like to focus on these areas during the International Training Programme experience.

During the ITP, Meropi hopes to reinforce her professional background in interpretation, exhibition planning and educational programmes and would also like to discuss ethics, interpretation and the display of human remains in museums. She looks forward to the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from different countries and different cultures, facing different challenges in their work but also having a common goal; the protection and management of cultural heritage.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Meropi will be based in the Department of Greece and Rome and will spend her partner placement at The Collection: Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire and Nottingham University Museum.

Meropi's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Pears Foundation.

SIDDHANT SHAH

	Country	India
	Institution	Access For ALL
	Job title	Museum Access Consultant
	ITP year	2021
	Professional profiles	http://www.accessforall.co/

Siddhant is a museum accessibility and outreach consultant, and founder of Access For ALL, a national level award winning organisation aiming to bridge the gap between art, cultural heritage, museums and disabilities. Currently, Siddhant is the Access Consultant to The Prime Ministers of India Museum, New Delhi.

The flagship programme renders museums and visual arts accessible for visually impaired and autistic groups, integrating museum objects with arts-based therapy and traditional Indian art forms.

Core responsibilities include access audits, providing universal design solutions and developing inclusive outreach and capacity building and training. Siddhant also works on accessible content development and digital access projects, alongside consulting on how to make museum spaces more gender neutral, safer and approachable.

Siddhant is looking forward to hearing about similar access programmes across the globe and to learn about how they are planned, created and executed at the British Museum, UK Partner museums and the ITP 2021 cohort's museums.

Siddhant is a regular TedX speaker and UNESCO consultant alongside teaching exhibition, inclusive and universal design. A professional ambition is to develop a network of museum access experts with the goal being to make museum access a mainstream element of museology.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Siddhant will be based in the Asia Department and will spend his partner placement at National Museums Northern Ireland.

Siddhant's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Inlaks Shivdasani Foundation and Charles Wallace India.

SALAH SALIMI

	Country	Iran
	Institution	Institute of Archaeology of the University of Tehran
	Job title	Supervisor: excavation training, BA degree students
	ITP year	2021
	Professional profiles	https://tehran.academia.edu/ssalimi

Salah's main responsibility in his teaching role at the Institute of Archaeology is to train students in excavation fieldwork which also includes teaching them to research museum objects, how to conserve them, and how to transfer them to the museum.

Salah's main professional interests are archeological projects, museum research projects and museum management as one of his future responsibilities will be directing the research section in the museum.

Currently, he is working on a research project at the National Museum of Iran and the Urmia Museum (West Azerbaijan Province) which focuses on iron objects in the Hasanlu settlement, now kept in the National Museum and Urmia Museum. In 2018, he also started the *Mapping of Iron Mines and Evidence of Ancient Metalworking in Northwest of Iran* project, studying iron objects from northwest of Iran.

As a teacher, Salah is interested in education alongside photography, exhibitions and archive management and looks forward to learning more about these areas and new methods of museology during his time on the International Training Programme and communicating this experience to colleagues in Iran.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Salah will be based in the Departments of Middle East and Coins and Medals and will spend his partner placement at The Collection: Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire and Nottingham University Museum.

Salah's place on the ITP is generously supported by the the Soudavar Foundation and the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

OSARU OBASEKI

	Country	Nigeria
	Institution	Edo Global Art Foundation
	Job title	Studio Artist
	ITP year	2021
	Professional profiles	https://www.linkedin.com/in/osaru-obaseki-a72ab0116/

Osaru is a studio artist and her art is born out of history, alongside personal experiences and opinions. Responsibilities at Nosona studios include organising studio visits and shows involving indigenous artists on display at the studio, and curating and planning exhibitions held here. She also coordinates children’s holiday art workshops and gives guided tours of cultural and historical sites in Benin City.

Osaru’s professional interests are exhibition curation, display, storage and preservation of artifacts, collection databases and sustainability in museums.

Personal interests centre on the history of Benin, its mythology, folklore, artifacts and cultural heritage and Osaru hopes to contribute to these oral narratives.


During the International Training Programme, Osaru looks forward to learning more about regional museums, as well as the British Museum, to experience more of the UK’s culture and environment. She is also keen to learn more about curatorship and meet and interact with like-minded individuals.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Osaru will be based in the Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas and her partner placement will be spent at Glasgow Museums.

Osaru’s place on the ITP is generously supported by The de Laszlo Foundation.

ALEKSANDRA CHEVRESKA

	Country	North Macedonia
	Institution	National Archaeological Museum of Republic of North Macedonia
	Job title	Senior Curator of Iron Age Collection
	ITP year	2021
	Professional profiles	https://amm.org.mk/ https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6067143/?ref=ttfc_fc_cr21

Aleksandra mainly works with the Iron Age collection at the National Archaeological Museum of North Macedonia. As a senior curator, she is involved with the curation of permanent displays and temporary exhibitions. Aleksandra also organises educational and public programmes, workshops and lectures within the museum.

Professional interests include mainly archaeological excavations and exhibition design, museum marketing and current trends of virtual reconstructions at museums. Her field of research and subject of PhD thesis is the Iron Age Period at the Balkans. She is also interested in collecting data from archives and libraries, as well as mastering new technologies in photography and digitalisation.

Outside of museum and field work, a big personal interest for her is cinematography, more precisely production design. She has been involved in many North Macedonian movies, working as a set decorator in the Art Department. She also loves to travel a lot and is a huge fan of outdoor activities.

During her time with the ITP, Aleksandra looks forward to learning more about exhibition planning, new museum trends, digital and modern technology in museology, heritage virtualization from 3D reconstructions to virtual reality (VR and AR), museum documentation systems and to collaborating with colleagues from around the globe.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Aleksandra will be based in the Department of Greece and Rome and her partner placement will be spent at Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Museum and Whitworth Art Gallery.

Aleksandra's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

HANEEN SALEH MUKHO

	Country	Palestine
	Institution	The Palestinian Museum
	Job title	Media and Marketing Officer
	ITP year	2021

As a media and marketing officer, Haneen handles media plans and budgets and develops digital content and traditional media - developing new social media strategies and campaigns to strengthen the way her institution communicates.

An important step in Haneen's career was when the first archiving project in the Museum was launched, with Haneen handling the coordination of researchers and working alongside communities. Following this with the management of communications for the inauguration of the Museum, including the exhibition *Jerusalem Lives*.

Professional interests include the underground/alternative cinema scene in the Middle East and the combination of archival content and social media; exploring the relationship between social media as an accessible platform to communities and the archival content that was previously exclusive to museums. Haneen is also producing a series of podcasts as a personal project, highlighting stories from the archive at the Palestinian Museum.


During the ITP, Haneen looks forward to developing her marketing skills and meeting colleagues from around the world, for a broader perspective on communications and media.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Haneen will be based in the Middle East Department and her partner placement will be spent at Glasgow Museums.

Haneen's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Altajir Trust.

MARIO TUKI

	Country	Rapa Nui - Easter Island - Chile
	Institution	Rapa Nui Museum (MAPSE) National Heritage Service, Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage.
	Job title	Collections Manager
	ITP year	2021

Mario is of Rapa Nui descent from Easter Island and works as collections manager of the local museum.

Mario is interested in the protection, education and development of the culture of his community - in terms of the conjunction of ancient traditions, beliefs and practices that the Rapa Nui descendants call “the living culture”. Alongside this, raising awareness of current and future care of Rapa Nui tangible and non-tangible heritage is an important focus for Mario, looking for practical solutions to all kinds of challenges linked to the transference of traditional knowledge to new generations; how do we understand that process and provide the community with tools to carry out such a great and meaningful task?

Developing opportunities and tools for indigenous and native communities and younger generations, to lead their own path to develop and sustain their culture in their own terms, is a personal and professional interest which he believes will develop from education and a wider understanding of living culture.

As an indigenous artist, the arts and particularly music, are a strong personal interest of Mario’s. He is a renowned singer and songwriter in his homeland, leading and managing his own contemporary music group called *Amahiro*. He is currently acting as a key figure in the promotion and development of the Rapa Nui Music Scene.

Mario is looking forward to sharing the deep culture and heritage of his homeland with the ITP community and to then sharing his ITP experiences with the community back at home.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Mario will be based in the Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas and his partner placement will be spent at Glasgow Museums.

Mario’s place on the ITP is generously supported by the Aall Foundation.

NOSIBA MAHGOUN OSMAN ALI

	Country	Sudan
	Institution	Sudan National Museum, National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM)
	Job title	Curator
	ITP year	2021

Nosiba is a curator at Sudan National Museum which includes the documentation of objects and working with the object stores as well as leading guided tours of the museum and displays. She also assists researchers and students with their studies, alongside the coordination of festivals, exhibitions and workshops at the museum.

Museum interests include exhibition design and development, museum education and museum studies and the classification and documentation of objects. Nosiba is also interested in object photography, storage and libraries and archives. Personally, she is passionate about sharing the activities of museums.

During the ITP, Nosiba is keen to exchange knowledge of historical culture with colleagues from around the world and looks forward to working with the ITP Partner Museums. She would like to learn more about photography, storage and object display, as well as archives and collections databases.

Aiming to gain new experiences in museums in the UK and to learn about the diversity of civilisation, Nosiba is keen to share new knowledge with her museum in Sudan to help with development and updates.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Nosiba will be based in the Department of Egypt and Sudan and her partner placement will be spent at Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Museum and Whitworth Art Gallery.

Nosiba's place on the ITP is generously supported by The John S Cohen Foundation.

SIHAM ELSADIG EBDELSALAM ALGADI

	Country	Sudan
	Institution	Gebal Barkal Museum, National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM)
	Job title	Director
	ITP year	2021

Siham is the director of Gebal Barkal Museum which houses collections from the Meroitic and Napatan period and collections from Jebel Barkal and the surrounding sites.

Working in a team of four, her goal is to develop the museum with more galleries for stored collections in order to increase staff and visitors and is currently working on the museum renovation project. She is responsible for the displays at the museum and education and community engagement, as well as the curation of the collections.

Siham is interested in exhibitions and education in museums and archaeology, as the Gebal Barkal Museum is a world heritage property site museum (Gebal Barkal archaeological site) and plays a major role in community education as an information centre for the region. Pottery and human remains are research interests, alongside developing ways to communicate historical stories to visitors.

During the ITP, Siham would like to develop her knowledge of exhibitions in terms of communities and gain more understanding of educational programmes and processes surrounding partnerships and collaboration. She is interested in databases and storage systems and looks forward to sharing new knowledge with her colleagues in the museum.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Siham will be based in the Department of Egypt and Sudan and her partner placement will be spent at Tyne & Wear Archives and Museums in Newcastle.

Siham's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Aall Foundation.

DURAKHSHONA BOBOEVA

	Country	Tajikistan
	Institution	Republican Historical and Ethnographic Museum A. Rudaki
	Job title	Research Associate, Modern Department
	ITP year	2021

Durakhshona works as a research associate within the modern department of the museum, where she works on exhibitions, object labels, publishing and events.

Professional interests include collections, documentation and conservation of collections and in particular, the conservation of historical monuments. She is also interested in programmes for young people in museums, alongside the design and creation of dioramas. Research topics currently include *The Museum of the School and its Progress in Our Time*. Durakhshona is also interested in virtual museums and exhibitions.

Personally, she is interested in studying history and culture of other countries around the world, including developing English language skills.

Durakhshona looks forward to sharing the achievements of the museum she works in during the period of independence in Tajikistan. During the ITP, she would like to learn more about fundraising, conservation, collections databases and repositories.


Her goal is to learn new skills in order to modernise her museum in innovative ways, including the use of technology.

At the British Museum

During her time on the International Training Programme, Durakhshona will be based in the Middle East Department and her partner placement will be spent at Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Museum and Whitworth Art Gallery.

Durakhshona's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

EMRAH KAHRAMAN

	Country	Turkey
	Institution	Istanbul Archaeological Museums
	Job title	Curator
	ITP year	2021

Emrah is an archaeologist and works with the stone object collection at the Istanbul Archaeological Museums (IAM). The collection has a great number of artefacts dating from the prehistoric age to the Byzantine periods, which is a professional interest, particularly architectural sculpture. Documenting the collection is part of Emrah's role, alongside archaeological excavation work.

Aside from working on the collection, Emrah is also a member of the new exhibition team at the IAM which has allowed him to focus on modern exhibition principles and techniques. He is also a PhD candidate at the department of architectural history at Istanbul Technical University where academic interests focuses broadly on Byzantine architecture, and the Christian iconography on the Byzantine architecture and art is an important research area for Emrah.

Personal interests include camping and sports such as paintball, canoeing, handball and football. Travel is a passion which Emrah combines with research interests in terms of visiting locations related to this.

During the ITP, he would like to learn more about collections databases, the work of curators, collections care and storage at the British Museum. He is particularly looking forward to meeting colleagues from ITP Partner Museums in order to experience other regions in the UK.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Emrah will be based in the Department of Greece and Rome and will spend his partner placement at National Museums Northern Ireland.

Emrah's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Pears Foundation.

UKTAMALI RAVSHANOV

	Country	Uzbekistan
	Institution	Bukhara State Museum Reserve
	Job title	Head of History Department
	ITP year	2021

Uktamali is the head of the department of History at Bukhara State Museum Reserve and his role involves the logistical side of running the museum and monitoring the collection. He also works on scientific reports of the collections and object inventories, alongside developing concepts for new exhibitions.

Uktamali delivers lectures in higher education institutions about the museum and museum collections and also reports on the subject on TV and radio.

Research interests include the production of Muslim papers, the collections of the Bukhara emirs, ethnographic photographs and the study of materials related to Central Asia. Professional interests are exhibitions and calligraphy and Uktamai is currently conducting research on the topic of *Bukhara museums are a source of studying the history of local Iranians*.

Personal interests include history and architecture books, walking, birds, painting and photography.

During the ITP, Uktamali would like to develop his knowledge of exhibition design, conservation and modern technologies used in museums, and is keen to exchange skills and ideas with representatives of museums from around the world.

At the British Museum

During his time on the International Training Programme, Uktamali will be based in the Department of Middle East and will spend his partner placement at The Collection: Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire and Nottingham University Museum.

Uktamali's place on the ITP is generously supported by the Thriplow Charitable Trust.