

**ARAB CULTURE DAYS**  
**Vilnius, Kaunas, Visaginas, Rukla, 12–16 September 2017**  
**PROGRAMME**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time/location</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Organisation, Contact Person</b>
<b>12 September</b>	10:00-16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational activities for pupils and families</b>	Taking part in puppet shows based on the tales from One Thousand and One Nights.	Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum
	12:00-15:00 Theatre hall, Central building of Vilnius University	<b>Opening of Arabic Culture Days</b>	An opening ceremony for Arabic Culture Days. Organisers and participants' speeches. A concert by Kaunas Juozas Naujalis Music Gymnasium (led by Ilona Klusaitė). A concert of traditional music by artists from Saudi Arabia.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Anna Lindh Foundation, Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies, Arabic Culture Forum
	15:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Opening of an exhibition by calligrapher Salva Rasool</b>	Salva Rasool is a world-renowned artist famous for her unique works of calligraphy. Her abstract paintings fuse bright colours with graceful words thus creating a harmonious image and text synthesis characteristic of the Islamic World. During the opening Salva will lead a workshop about arabic calligraphy that will be combined with a lecture “Features of arabic calligraphy” led by Milda Petkauskaitė.	Arabic Culture Forum
	17:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational calligraphy workshop by a Palestinian artist Ahmad Dari</b>	Ahmad Dari has found arabic calligraphy during his studies in Damascus. Later while studying in Europe he has learned and experimented with colours and materials. Therefore, he has invented his unique style where modern shapes and colours are mixed with traditional arabic calligraphy. In this workshop the artist will welcome everyone to acquaint themselves with arabic culture as well as try out and experiment with it.	
	16:00	<b>A play Kuršiukas, educational activities</b>	Juokdarys, a pupil theatre company from Antakalnis, Vilnius (led by Aušra Grendaitė). An excerpt from Kuršiukas, a fairy	Public Institution Theatre "Teatriukas"

	Kirtimai Culture Centre, Dariaus ir Girėno g. 69		tale by Aldona Liobytė (30 min). Following the play, an educational activity with actors from Teatriukas (30 min) aimed at children and families for better understanding of Arabic fairy tales. More on: <a href="http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145">http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145</a>	
	18:00 UNESCO	<b>What does it mean to be a Muslim in Lithuania? The Story of Hala and Hassan. A performance by Forum theatre</b>	An interactive performance by Forum theatre reflecting daily lives and problems of people of Arabic origin living in Lithuania. The audience is invited to discuss and look for problem solutions together.	Europos namai
	18:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>A lecture from academic lecture series: The Quran as a literary monument of Late Antiquity</b>	Lect. Maritana Larbi, VU COS To a Muslim, the Quran is the direct and infallible word of God. Since the beginning, the Quran has been constantly compared to other holy scriptures, and many characteristics of the Quran remained unrecognised in Christianity. Presenting the reasons for the origination and history of the Quran and its literary style, the lecture will give you the opportunity to view the Quran as a Late Antiquity historical and literary monument originating from the early 7th century Arabian Peninsula.	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies
<b>13 September</b>	10:00-16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational activities for pupils and families</b>	Taking part in puppet shows based on the tales from One Thousand and One Nights.	Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum
	11:00 Kaunas Culture Centre of Various Nations	<b>A play Kuršiukas, educational activities</b>	Juokdarys, a pupil theatre company from Antakalnis, Vilnius (lead by Aušra Grendaitė). An excerpt from Kuršiukas, a fairy tale by Aldona Liobytė (30 min). Following the play, an educational activity with actors from Teatriukas (30 min) aimed at children and families for better understanding of Arabic fairy tales. More on: <a href="http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145">http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145</a>	Public Institution Theatre "Teatriukas"
	13:00	<b>Academic lecture: The concept of the West</b>	Dr. Saleh Alharbi, University of Medina, Saudi Arabia	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies /Ministry of

	VU COS Kovalevskio room			Culture and Information of Saudi Arabia
	15:00 Rukla Refugee Reception Centre, Rukla	<b>A play Kuršiukas, educational activities</b>	Juokdarys, a pupil theatre company from Antakalnis, Vilnius (lead by Aušra Grendaitė). An excerpt from Kuršiukas, a fairy tale by Aldona Liobytė (30 min). Following the play, an educational activity with actors from Teatriukas (30 min) aimed at children and families for better understanding of Arabic fairy tales. More on: <a href="http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145">http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145</a>	Public Institution Theatre "Teatriukas"
	15:00 Theatre hall, Vilnius University central building	<b>A lecture on Saudi Arabian archeology an history</b>	Dr. Saleh Alharbi, University of Medina, Saudi Arabia	Arabic Culture Forum
	17.00 val. Theatre hall, Vilnius University central building	<b>A concert of Arabic music</b>	A concert of traditional music by Saudi Arabian artists	Arabic Culture Forum
	18:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>A lecture from academic lecture series: The history of Islamic fashion</b>	Muslim women want to be individual and unique, so contemporary fashion trends with modern interpretations of hijabs, tunics, robes, dresses and shirts gave them the opportunity to express their originality and express their uniqueness through clothing. Since 2009, arabic fashion designers started to perform on the arabic fashion weeks in order to unite most famous and exclusive designers from all over the world. We invite you to acquaint with fascinating arabic fashion history with VU COS lecturer Milda Petkauskaitė.	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies
	18:00 Kaunas Culture Centre of Various Nations	<b>What does it mean to be a Muslim in Lithuania? The Story of Hala and Hassan. A</b>	An interactive performance by Forum theatre reflecting daily lives and problems of people of Arabic origin living in Lithuania. The audience is invited to discuss and look for problem solutions together.	Europos namai

		performance Forum theatre	by		
<b>14 September</b>	10:00-16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational activities for pupils and families</b>		Taking part in puppet shows based on the tales from One Thousand and One Nights.	Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum
	13:00 VU COS Kovalevskio room	<b>Academic lecture</b>		Dr. Mohammed Alhazmi, University of Medina, Saudi Arabia	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies /Ministry of Culture and Information
	15:00 Kirtimai Culture Centre (Dariaus ir Girėno g. 69, Vilnius)	<b>Sounds of Morocco: A creative workshop for children</b>		Ugnius Raugalas, a musician and traveller interested in World music will introduce the music of Morocco to children, present the instruments from this country and create musical interpretations of Moroccan music together with the workshop participants.	Kirtimai Culture Centre
	16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Henna evening</b>		Painting with henna dye, which is deep-rooted in Eastern cultural tradition, includes not only cultural and philosophical meanings with deep ancient traditions but also aesthetic properties, motives and symbols. We would like to invite you to familiarise yourselves with the historical development and symbols of the henna tradition in Eastern culture and spend an evening in a workshop together with an artist from Pakistan and VU COS lecturer Maritana Larbi. During the event, you will have the opportunity to create your own henna tattoo. Tea and warm atmosphere are guaranteed.	Arabic Culture Forum
	18:00 VU library, Lelevelio room	<b>Evening of literature</b>		Contemporary Arabic literature is still terra incognita for Lithuanian readers. We would like to invite you to a thought-provoking, intellectual discussion and presentation and interpretation of Arabic novellas. During the event, short stories and novellas by Muhammad Saif Al-Rahbi (Oman), Muhammad Ali Shuwayhidi, Yusuf Sharif	Arabic Culture Form/Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore/Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre

			(Libya) and Sahara Chalifeh (Palestine) will be read aloud. Discussion on contemporary Arabic literature will be hosted by Gintarė Sereikaitė, together with the translators of novels Aleksandras Makarenko and Deimantė Milerytė, LMTA and “Gal meno?“ lecturer Rita Juodelienė, professor of literature and ILLF assistant director prof. Aušra Martišiūtė-Linartienė.	
			Diskusijoje dalyvauja arabistė Gintarė Sereikaitė, vertėjai Aleksandras Makarenko ir Deimantė Milerytė, LMTA ir studijos „Gal meno?“ scenos kalbos dėstytoja Rita Juodelienė ir Literatūrologė, LLTI direktoriaus pavaduotoja mokslo reklams Aušra Martišiūtė-Linartienė.	
	18:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>A lecture from academic lecture series: Oriental dance</b>	Lect. Kristina Dolinina, VU COS Arabic dance is a multifaceted and controversial phenomenon. Characteristic of a pretty large area and related to many countries, dance has changed its form and content, significance and perception over the course of history because of multiple external factors. The aim of this lecture demonstration is to help you not to get lost in the intertwining of history, connections and concepts and give you the opportunity to try some basic dance moves well-known for their therapeutic characteristics.	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies
	19:00 Naugarduko 3, Vilnius	<b>A brain battle on Arabic culture</b>	Do you like having fun and taking up challenges? Do you want to have an intellectually-satisfying and entertaining evening? Build a team, sign it up and come to the brain battle on Arabic culture!	Active Youth
<b>15 September</b>	10:00-16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational activities for pupils and families</b>	Taking part in puppet shows based on the tales from One Thousand and One Nights.	Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum

<p>Official opening of the Fair of the Nations From 12:00 in the colorful tent of Oman in the heart of Vilnius, Gediminas Avenue (next to V. Kudirka Square)</p>	<p><b>Presentation of Arabic foods, customs and films</b></p>	<p>Oman will erect a colourful tent in the heart of Vilnius to display some of its national treasures and artefacts, from khanjars to frankincense, reflecting its glorious past and modern present.</p> <p>BEAUTY HAS AN ADDRESS! Discover Oman, a attractive and enchanting country. Films and photographs about Oman will help us perceive various aspects of the native land of Oman, from nature and people to history and modernity to culture and traditions.</p> <p>FRANKINCENSE Nature’s Treasure. Discover one of the ancient treasures of the nature – frankincense. Feel the smell of Omani frankincense, a great gift of nature. The smell of frankincense will take you to Oman!</p> <p>EXPERIENCE OMANI HOSPITALITY! Revealing the recipe of Omani coffee and tasting of fresh Omani dates and halva. Colourful national dresses of Omani women will reveal uniqueness of the country.</p>	<p>Ministry of Information of the Sultanate of Oman  Honorary Consulate of the Sultanate of Oman in Lithuania</p>
<p>13:00 VU COS Kovalevskio room</p>	<p><b>Lecture: “Palestinian cultural project in and out of Palestine“</b></p>	<p>Lecture given in English by a Palestinian artist Ahmad Dari.</p>	<p>Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies</p>
<p>16:00 The gallery of the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO (Šv. Jono g. 11, Vilnius)</p>	<p><b>A lecture Arabia felix: Where do scents originate from?</b></p>	<p>Historical trajectories of scent culture: myths and imagination. The lecture will be complemented by the artistic interpretation of incense burning, the poetry of smell and scent. <a href="http://hortusapertus.lt/">http://hortusapertus.lt/</a></p>	<p>Hortus apertus</p>

	17:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>A play Kuršiukas, educational activities</b>	Juokdarys, a pupil theatre company from Antakalnis, Vilnius (led by Aušra Grendaitė). An excerpt from Kuršiukas, a fairy tale by Aldona Liobytė (30 min). Following the play, an educational activity with actors from Teatriukas ( 30 min) aimed at children and families for better understanding of Arabic fairy tales. More on: <a href="http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145">http://www.teatriukas.lt/?id=145</a>	Public Institution Theatre "Teatriukas"
	18:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>A lecture from academic lecture series: The prosperity and decline of Arabic science and philosophy</b>	Lect. Ernestas Jančėnkas, COS lecturer Perhaps everyone has heard something about the prosperity of Arabic science in the Middle Ages. However, our knowledge about it is often superficial. Besides, the fate of Arabic science is a victim of various myths and stereotypes. The aim of this lecture is to overview what positions contemporary researchers have on this issue and debunk some myths on science developments in the Islamic civilisation.	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies
	19:00-22:00 Old Town, a stage on Kudirka Square	<b>Performances by participants of Mozaika 2017 street theatre festival</b>	Two-hour long performances of street fire theatres in the public space of Vilnius Old Town. Featuring show-like atmosphere, Sufi dances, stiltwalkers and a parade in the city streets. <a href="http://www.senamiescioteatras.lt">www.senamiescioteatras.lt</a>	Vilnius Old Town Theatre
<b>16 September</b>	10:00-16:00 Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum	<b>Educational activities for pupils and families</b>	Taking part in puppet shows based on the tales from One Thousand and One Nights.	Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum
	12:00 Sportima stadium, VU	<b>Football match</b>	We would like to invite our guests to support the teams of Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies and Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a friendly match between Lithuania and Arab countries. In this match, the representatives of Lithuania will compete against guests from different Arab countries. Come and support your team!	Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies

	<p>The Fair of Nations</p> <p>Colorful tent of Oman in the heart of Vilnius, Gediminas Avenue (next to V. Kudirka Square)</p>	<p><b>Presentation of Arabic foods, customs and films</b></p>	<p>Oman will erect a colourful tent in the heart of Vilnius to display some of its national treasures and artefacts, from khanjars to frankincense, reflecting its glorious past and modern present.</p> <p>BEAUTY HAS AN ADDRESS! Discover Oman, a attractive and enchanting country. Films and photographs about Oman will help us perceive various aspects of the native land of Oman, from nature and people to history and modernity to culture and traditions.</p> <p>FRANKINCENSE Nature's Treasure. Discover one of the ancient treasures of the nature – frankincense. Feel the smell of Omani frankincense, a great gift of nature. The smell of frankincense will take you to Oman!</p> <p>EXPERIENCE OMANI HOSPITALITY! Revealing the recipe of Omani coffee and tasting of fresh Omani dates and halva.</p> <p>Colourful national dresses of Omani women will reveal uniqueness of the country.</p>	<p>Ministry of Information of the Sultanate of Oman</p> <p>Honorary Consulate of the Sultanate of Oman in Lithuania</p>
	<p>17:00 Hotel GRATA</p>	<p><b>A lecture from academic lecture series: Middle-Eastern music</b></p>	<p>Middle-Eastern music is improvisational music full of unique tunes, rhythms and features complex melodies. Your guide for this journey into Middle-Eastern melodies and instruments will be lect. Eirimas Velička, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre.</p>	<p>Vilnius University Centre of Oriental Studies /Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre</p>
	<p>14.00-17.00 Martynas Mažvydas Library</p>	<p><b>Screening of a film Borders of Heaven</b></p>	<p>A lecture on Arabic cinema by arabist Gintare Sereikaite and screening of a Tunisian film Borders of Heaven (English subtitles). Directed by Fares Naanaa. 2015. 83 min.</p>	<p>Embassy of Tunisia in Warsaw/Arabic Culture Forum</p>
	<p>18:00 Hotel GRATA</p>	<p><b>Closing event of Arabic Culture Days</b></p>	<p>A concert of Ahmad Dari from Palestine. Awards of participants and sponsors. Light refreshments.</p>	<p>Anna Lindh Foundation</p>

