

MBS support to H.M. King Mohamed VI Fellowship on Moroccan and Mediterranean Studies at Saint Antony's at Oxford in 2006

This year, the MBS support to the Fellowship covered lecturers, students, and the library

1. Guest Speakers

In collaboration with the Fellowship at Oxford, three Moroccan speakers were sent by MBS to lecture in different areas:

- Mr. Ahmed OSMANE on Democracy and Political Evolution in post independence of Morocco.
- Mr. Hassan ABOUYOUB on the economic situation and future prospects for Morocco, and
- Mrs. Rahma BOURQIA on the recent family law reform and its social and legal implications on practice.

2. A round table on national reconciliation practices was held in June focusing on the example of the "*Instance d'Equité et de Reconciliation*" in Morocco, with the participation of some of its members along with academics

3. A scholar-in-Residence, Mr. Mohamed KENBIB spent 6 weeks at Oxford last Fall, serving as advisor and resource person for students and faculty conducting research on Morocco. During his stay Professor KENBIB also lectured on Morocco related topics at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester, and London.

4. Seven Oxford students researching various political, economic and social aspects of Morocco and recommended by Dr. WILLIS, The Mohamed VI fellow at Saint Antony's have benefited from MBS support either through financial support for the intensive study of Arabic at a summer institute

(3 students); or through the use of the office space and facilities at the association headquarters in Rabat (4 students). MBS officers have been instrumental for the Oxford student researchers in setting up appointments with scholars and administrative officers for interviews or access to primary data.

5. In consultation with Dr. WILLIS, the MBS sent a substantial set of books to the Oxford center for Middle Eastern Studies Library. These books are used by researching faculty and students working on Morocco related areas. The books were obtained by the MSB as donations from the publishing institutions or purchased for the Chair.

6. The MBS started the tradition of a yearly meeting with Oxford Faculty and officers to go over the relations of the realizations for the preceding year and the prospects for the following year. The MBS took note of areas where it can lend support to the Fellowship program.

7. The MBS started the tradition of a “Lecture Series”, organizing a conference in Rabat attended by diplomats, university professors and officers. The theme chosen was “The Presentation of Morocco through English Travel Literature,” and the lecture was given by Pr. Mohamed LAAMIRI of the Center for African Studies.