



**ACOR**  
**JRSI**

AMERICAN CENTER OF  
ORIENTAL RESEARCH

# SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PROMISING JORDANIAN GRADUATE STUDENTS IN CULTURAL HERITAGE STUDIES

In 2008, the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, Jordan, launched a program to provide financial and academic support to promising Jordanian graduate students studying cultural heritage topics in Jordanian universities.

Each scholarship helps prepare a Jordanian graduate student to assume a professional role in the stewardship of Jordan's cultural heritage resources.

Training the next generation of specialists to protect and manage Jordan's cultural heritage professionally is essential to ensure the long-term viability not only of these precious resources but also for this national revenue stream.

## BACKGROUND:

In 2008, the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, Jordan, launched a program to **provide financial and academic support to promising Jordanian graduate students studying cultural heritage topics in Jordanian universities**. Since that time, ACOR has **been able to offer support only to two to four Jordanian graduate students each year** – but each year ACOR has to say no to many qualified candidates, due to lack of funds.

## NEEDS:

There are very few existing financial aid options for Jordanian graduate students. Most of the existing opportunities go to students in fields other than cultural heritage studies (e.g., hard-sciences, medicine, engineering, etc.). However, cultural heritage resources – such as Petra, Jerash, and the early Islamic “Desert Castles” – represent one of Jordan's major sources of revenue (more than 1.3 billion JD in 2012). **Training the next generation of specialists to protect and manage Jordan's cultural heritage professionally is essential** to ensure the long-term viability not only of these precious resources but also for this national revenue stream.

## BENEFICIARIES:

**These scholarships benefit Jordanian graduate students who are enrolled in cultural heritage studies** (e.g., archaeology, anthropology, history, linguistics/epigraphy, museum studies, conservation and cultural resource management-related issues) at Jordanian universities. **The number of annual scholarships we are able to award is determined by the available funding.**

Each scholarship **provides the student with funding to cover the costs of tuition, books, and travel for two academic semesters (one academic year)**. Students who demonstrate excellence are eligible to apply for funding in subsequent years, to finish their degrees.

## A SUCCESS STORY:

**Nizar Al-Adarbeh was one of the first Jordanian students to receive an ACOR scholarship, to complete his studies in a cultural heritage-related field.** Upon graduation, he worked as the Executive Director of the Jordanian Tour Operators Association promoting Jordan as a destination. He was then chosen to be the Project Manager for the Jordan Department of Antiquities' ATHENA Project (Ancient Theaters Enhancement for New Actualities), an international project funded by the European Union under the EuroMed Heritage IV Program ([www.athenaproject.eu](http://www.athenaproject.eu)).





## OUTCOMES:

Each scholarship helps prepare a Jordanian graduate student to assume a professional role in the stewardship of Jordan's cultural heritage resources. Administration of these scholarships by ACOR, an independent American non-profit academic institution, ensures that the selection process for the recipients is non-partisan and based on merit and need.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- A donation of \$4,250/JD 3,000 covers the cost of each scholarship for one year. A two-year scholarship support of \$8,500/JD 6,000 is welcomed.
- Establish an endowment fund named for a donor, family, or corporation, to support these scholarships, with a gift of \$75,000/JD 50,000 (or combined gift and pledge).

## BENEFITS TO DONOR:

- The knowledge that they will have a significant, long-term impact on helping to protect and manage Jordan's cultural heritage and world heritage sites.
- Donor's name associated with scholarships awarded from named endowed funds (e.g., the <Donor's Name> Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship).
- Recognition in ACOR's Newsletter, on ACOR's website, and in social media.
- The opportunity to meet and communicate with the sponsored student and discuss his/her studies.
- Acknowledgment of donor at academic conferences and in their published work.
- Additional benefits that cater to the donors' needs will be provided in accordance to the level of support.

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The number of annual scholarships we are able to award is determined by the available funding.

**EVERY CONTRIBUTION LEAVES A SIGNIFICANT, LONG-TERM IMPACT ON HELPING TO PROTECT AND MANAGE JORDAN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE AND WORLD HERITAGE SITES.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ACOR is a public 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (EIN: 23-7084091). Donations to ACOR are tax-deductible per U.S. IRS regulations.