

## PRESS RELEASE

7 September 2010

### **AMAC organises a series of lectures Australia-wide for West Australian classicist professor and Chicago-based expert in Macedonian studies**

The Australian Macedonian Advisory Council (AMAC) is pleased to announce it has arranged for a series of lectures concerning Macedonian history to be given across Australia by two highly esteemed scholars.

The first of those scholars is Professor John Melville-Jones of the University of Western Australia. The professor is 1 of 7 Australians academics to have signed the Macedonia Evidence Petition (see <http://macedonia-evidence.org/>). The Petition has now been signed by 367, mostly non-Greek, academics world-wide and was sent to President Obama. It urges the President to 'help the government to Skopje to realise it cannot build a national identity at the expense of historical truth' and states that 'Alexander the Great was Greek, not Slavic, and Slavs and their language were nowhere near Alexander or his homeland until 1000 years later'.

Prof. Melville-Jones' lecture itinerary (all in Melbourne) is as follows:

Friday October 1 – **AMAC Annual Dinner Function** (622 Nicholson St, North Fitzroy), Topic: '*The Importance of Historical Truth*', at 7pm

Monday October 4 – **GOCMV** (Lvl 3/ 168 Lonsdale St), Topic: '*The 'Island' of Kassandreia*', at 7.30pm

Tuesday October 5 – **Melbourne University** (Theatre 1, ICT Building), Topic: '*The Deplorable Life and Disgusting Death of Andronikos I*', at 6:30pm

Wednesday October 6 – **Monash University** (Clayton Campus, Building 13a, Theatre M2), Topic: '*The Last Days of Byzantine Macedonia*' at 1.00 pm

Thursday October 7 – **La Trobe University** (Bundoora Campus, David Myers Building, East wing, Room E125) '*The Deplorable Life and Disgusting Death of Andronikos I*' at 12.05 pm

The second visiting scholar is Marcus Templar from the University of Chicago. Mr Templar is a well-known figure in Pan-Mac USA who brings an interesting perspective, having served in the Military Intelligence wing of the US Army working

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for the National Security Agency (NSA) and Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA). He is an expert in modern Macedonian history and the Macedonian issue.

Marcus Templar's lecture itinerary (Melbourne and interstate) is as follows:

Thursday September 30 – Melbourne

**Pan-Macedonian House** (470 Queens Pd, Clifton Hill), Topic: '*The Macedonian Issue Today*' (In Greek), at 7pm

Friday October 1 – Melbourne

**AMAC Annual Dinner Function** (622 Nicholson St, North Fitzroy), Topic: '*The History of Macedonia since 1870*', at 7pm

Sunday October 3 – Canberra

**Hellenic Club of Canberra** (Aegean Room), Topic: '*The Importance of Macedonia in Christianity*', at 6pm

Tuesday October 5 – Fremantle

**University of Notre Dame** (Corner Croke St and Cliff St., Education Theatre) Topics: '*The transformation of a Slav people to 'Macedonians''* and '*Hellenic Migrations and the Katadesmos: A Paradigm of Macedonian Speech*', at 7pm

Wednesday October 6 – Adelaide

**Odyssey Festival**, GOCSA (262 Franklin St, Adelaide), Topic: '*The transformation of a Slav people to 'Macedonians''* at 7pm

Thursday October 7 – Brisbane

**Brisbane Greek Club and Convention Centre** (29 Edmondstone St, South Brisbane) Topic: '*The transformation of a Slav people to 'Macedonians''*, at 7:30pm

Sunday October 10 – Sydney

**AHEPA Hall** (394 Princes Hwy, Rockdale), Topic and Time TBA

AMAC would like to thank the Australian Institute for Macedonian Studies and the Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne and Victoria for sponsoring the visits of Prof. Melville Jones and Marcus Templar by covering some of the travel and accommodation costs. We would also like to thank all those organisations who will be hosting Marcus Templar while interstate mentioned above, and also the Australian Hellenic Council in Sydney.

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