

# *Introduction*

from the Editorial Board

**A**s we release the second issue of *Nidaba*, we are delighted to present five outstanding pieces of scholarship across a range of issues, in keeping with our multidisciplinary ethos. Our contributors have written articles on diverse topics from young Palestinian's lived citizenship in the city of Nablus, to Iraqi literature in the last years of Saddam Hussein's rule, to human rights in US foreign policy towards Iran in the 1970s. We publish them with confidence that they represent high quality and valuable academic research. Included are reviews of Peter Frankopan's

*The Silk Roads*, and the two-part edited collection *Syria from Reform to Revolt*, two important contributions to the field of Middle Eastern Studies.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Lukas Herbers for his dedicated effort to help get *Nidaba* off the ground. As he leaves *Nidaba* for more challenging work, his contributions to the first two issues will always be appreciated.

We are sure that you will find this issue insightful, inspiring, and most of all a joy to read.