

FRED M. DONNER continued work on a study of the development of early Arabic historiography. He also prepared a paper on "Tribal Settlement in Basra (Iraq) during the First Century A.H.," which was presented at the International Conference on Land Tenure in the Near

East held at the American University of Beirut in February, 1983. In April, he read a paper entitled "Administrative Bureaucracy in the Umayyad State" at the symposium on "The Organization of Power" organized by Professor Gibson. A certain amount of time was also dedicated to helping organize the annual conference of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, to be held in Chicago in November, 1983, and for which he serves as co-chairman of the program committee. Finally, he ushered in his inaugural year at the Institute by undertaking the study of some early Arabic inscriptions, including a number from the Institute's collections.