



ASSOCIATION FOR IRANIAN STUDIES

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<http://associationforiranianstudies.org>

AIS Newsletter | Volume 41, Number 2 | October 2020

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

This has been an eventful year for the Association for Iranian Studies. We conducted our first ever virtual workshop in August and September. We were able to offer this virtual workshop for free because the net costs of administering it turned out to be relatively low and partially offset by the addition of a new institutional member. The relatively low cost was also important because we were able to preserve resources for our long-awaited conference at the University of Salamanca. Although participation was optional, the AIS 2020 Virtual Workshop had 122 participants and featured about 40 papers and presentations. Looking forward, we may want to consider virtual workshops to facilitate more frequent scholarly interaction between biennial conferences and/or as a way to reduce the economic threshold for participation in our biennial conferences by adding a more robust simultaneous virtual component. For the foreseeable future, however, we still have to think about how best to advance the AIS mission despite an ongoing pandemic.

When we cancelled AIS 2020 in March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we hoped to reschedule for 2021. Continuing pandemic conditions have made holding our conference in 2021 impractical. Therefore, AIS Council, on the recommendation of AIS Executive Committee, has decided to hold the AIS conference in Salamanca in 2022. Those who registered for AIS 2020 will have their registrations honored for AIS 2022 so long as their membership dues are up-to-date. In addition, AIS 2020 registrants will have the option of presenting their paper as planned, or opting to submit a new proposal for adjudication. In this way, AIS 2022 will be a venue both for work that was delayed due to the pandemic and for any new projects that are under development. We thank our Conference Chair, Dr. Miguel Angel Andrés Toledo, for being willing to oversee another adjudication process. Details on the new submission process of AIS 2022 will be made available in the new year.

This year we also conducted a successful search for the new editor of Iranian Studies, Dr. Sussan Siavoshi, who will assume her post in January 2021. At this moment, we are also in discussions with the journal's publisher, Taylor & Francis, regarding the new publishing agreement that will take effect in January 2022.

We also created a new standing AIS Committee on Academic Freedom. The new AIS CAF will announce its members before the end of this year. My thanks to the members of the Academic Freedom Task Force – Dr. Mirjam Künkler, Dr. Siavosh Saffari, and Dr. Fatemeh Shams Esmaeili – for their report that helped inform AIS Council's creation of AIS CAF.

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS CONT'D

Despite the disruptions of the pandemic, we have also been able to conduct our latest nomination and election process for AIS Council (filling one student and two faculty vacancies). My thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee: Dr. Peyman Jafari, Dr. Fatemeh Shams Esmaili, Dr. Nahid Siamdoust, Leila Zonouzi and AIS Executive Director, Dr. Rivanne Sandler.

We were also able to recognize colleagues this year for the Lifetime Achievement Award, Saidi-Sirjani Award, Latifeh Yarshater Award, Ehsan Yarshater Book Award, the Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award and the new Parviz Shahriari Award (for scholarship in the History of Mathematics, Science and Technology in Iran and the Persianate World). I want to thank the sponsors of the awards and the committees who worked tirelessly to complete their work despite challenging circumstances.

As I plan step down as AIS President on December 1st 2020, I cannot help but reflect on all that we achieved even before this dreadful year. In 2018, AIS improved financial operations by staffing a long-vacant Treasurer position and creating an Honorarium and Reimbursement Policy. We restored US banking services in 2019 after they were lost in late 2017. We adopted a new Diversity and Inclusion Policy which has guided the efforts of our program committee, search committees and nominating committees. We updated options for individual and institutional membership in ways that give more value to faculty, student and institutional participants in our conferences. With donor support, we initiated an outreach effort to student and non-tenured faculty to facilitate their participation in future conferences. Due to the pandemic, not all of these efforts could bear fruit. But they will.

Some new work is just beginning. With the assistance of legal counsel, AIS Council has begun revising our Bylaws. This work is necessary in order to stay in compliance with the laws of New York State, where we are incorporated as a non-profit. It also provides an opportunity to improve governance for the benefit of the scholars, students, donors and institutions that support the AIS mission. Expect to see draft bylaws made available early next year for your review and input to complete a process of approval.

I leave office full of confidence that our new President, Dr. Naghmeh Sohrabi, who has already been very involved in the progress we have made over the past two years, and her colleagues on AIS Council, which Khodadad Rezakhani, Lior Sternfeld and Rowena Abdul Razak have just joined, will build on what we have accomplished. My thanks to all of you for making this a most meaningful experience of my professional life.

Camron Michael Amin • (Soon to Be Past) President of AIS

JOURNAL NEWS

Note by the Editor of Iranian Studies

2020 is the fifty-third year anniversary of Iranian Studies. With broad international reception it currently stands as a leading scholarly periodical in the field of Iranian studies. This achievement is due to an outstanding pool of scholars worldwide whose contributions have expanded the field of Iranian studies in depth and breadth, and also to the journal's successive editorial teams for their commitment and dedicated hard work. As the journal editor I have been particularly privileged to work with an exemplary team of both current and former core editorial colleagues whose command of their respective fields of specialization combined with erudition, professionalism, and collegiality has been instrumental in making a highly demanding and complex operation into a pleasant and rewarding experience. I would like to take this opportunity to record my deep gratitude to my colleagues on the Editorial Office, individually and collectively. 2020 also shows a particularly strong pool of general submissions and hence a relatively lower rejection rate in comparison with previous review cycles. This, in turn, has been a reflection of the journal's raised status in the field and also of its inclusion of diverse disciplines, subfields and periods. The journal, however, has maintained no overriding preferential criteria other than high scholarship.

We also owe the journal's growth and circulation to its publishers for providing an online submission platform which facilitates efficient editorial work as well as timely publication and distribution. The publishers have also maintained the journal's historic archive which is a valuable research tool for accessing the journal's 53-year inventory. The operational value of the journal's production alone is paramount when we consider that Iranian Studies publishes scholarly, at times highly technical, material in all relevant disciplines from pre-Islamic Iran to medieval and modern. The journal has recently achieved its highest Impact Factor to date and has also been listed as one of the most valued academic journals in WoS/Scopus 1st Quartile. The publishers have been a major contributor to these achievements.

Beginning with Vol. 52 (2019), the journal's print edition began to appear as three double issues annually. This frequency and format has been very well received by readers. The new format allows for a better balance between diverse range of material from regular articles and book reviews to memorial notes and the occasional reports on primary sources and archival notes. Change in the format of the print edition, however, does not impact the ongoing and regular publication of the journal's online edition. For all practical purposes such as referencing, sharing, or inclusion in the academic file the online edition (complete with DOI number) is just as good as the print version which will then appear in due course. Two other changes that were also introduced in 2019, include the journal's significant increase in the word limit for all

EDITOR'S NOTE CONT'D

submissions and also the adoption of a more reader friendly format of using footnotes instead of endnotes. Beginning with Vol. 53 (2020), the journal has also added a new section on Recent Titles in Iranian Studies which presents a selective list of recent scholarly books in different languages and in different disciplines within the general scope of Iranian studies. Now two years into these changes we have noticed that all these measures have been widely welcomed by the journal's readership and prospective authors.

In addition to its regular articles and book reviews, and in line with its past tradition, from time to time the journal also continued to allocate special thematic sections. Earlier in 2020 two such special sections were allocated. First in issue (01-02) under "Medicine and Public Health in Modern Iran: Historical and Sociological Perspectives." This special issue was initiated by the *Iranian Studies* Editorial Office, and Amir A. Afkhami of George Washington University was invited to serve as Consulting Editor. Although work on this issue had begun in 2018, its publication coincided with 2020 pandemic crisis and its various contributions were particularly well received by readers across the field. The second thematic section was incorporated in issue (03-04). It focused on "Endangered Iranian Languages: Language Contact and Language Islands in Iran," and was Guest edited by Saloumeh Gholami of the Goethe University Frankfurt. This special issue consisted of a broad range of systematic surveys of Iran's linguistic context and was also very well received by specialists and non-specialists alike.

Presently Iranian Studies has a strong reserve of material on its Online Edition. These materials consist of regular articles, review essays and book reviews that will appear in the forthcoming issues of the journal's Print Edition in 2020 and 2021.

I close by welcoming Professor Sussan Siavoshi as the next Editor-in-Chief of *Iranian Studies* in 2021, and wishing her every success in leading the journal forward.

Ali Gheissari
Editor-in-Chief, Iranian Studies

IRANIAN STUDIES

Volume 53, Numbers 3-4, May-August 2020

SPECIAL SECTION: COMMEMORATING EHSAN YARSHATER

- Endangered Iranian Languages: Language Contact and Language Islands in Iran

GUEST EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

- Saloumeh Gholami, "Endangered Iranian Languages: Language Contact and Language Islands in Iran"

LANGUAGE CONTACT IN IRANIAN LANGUAGES

- Mohammad Dabir-Moghaddam, "A Linguistic Survey of Khorasan: Implications for Language Isolation, Language Change, and Contact Linguistics"
- Habib Borjian, "The Perside Language of Shiraz Jewry: A Historical-Comparative Phonology"
- Bashir Jam, Pariya Razmdideh and Zohreh Sadat Naseri, "Final /n/ Deletion in Ghayeni Persian: Opacity in Harmonic Serialism and Parallel Optimality Theory"

ARAMAIC AND ARABIC LINGUISTIC ISLANDS

- Geoffrey Khan, "The Neo-Aramaic Dialects of Iran"
- Dina El Zarka and Sandra Ziagos, "The Beginnings of Word Order Change in the Arabic Dialects of Southern Iran in Contact with Persian: A Preliminary Study of Data from Four Villages in Bushehr and Hormozgan"



IRANIAN STUDIES CONT'D

GEORGIAN LANGUAGE ISLANDS IN FEREYDANSHAHR IN ISFAHAN

- Lia Bakuradze, Marina Beridze and Zakharia Pourtskhvanidze, "A Georgian Language Island in Iran: Fereydani Georgian"
- Tea Shurgaia, "The Proverbial Wisdom of a Georgian Language Island in Iran"

TURKIC LANGUAGE ISLANDS AND LANGUAGE CONTACT WITH TURKIC LANGUAGES

- Elisabetta Ragagnin, "Major and Minor Turkic Language Islands in Iran with a Special Focus on Khalaj"
- Erik Anonby, Laurentia Schreiber and Mortaza Taheri-Ardali, "Balanced Bilingualism: Patterns of Contact Influence in L1 and L2 Turkic and Bakhtiari Speech in Juneqan, Iran"

PRIMARY SOURCES AND ARCHIVAL REPORTS

- Faryar Akhlaghi, "Iran Linguistic Atlas Project (ILA): Past and Present"

REVIEWS

- Mohammad Rasekh-Mahand, Review of Geoffrey Haig and Geoffrey Khan (eds.), *The Languages and Linguistics of Western Asia: An Areal Perspective* (The world of Linguistics Series, volume 6)
- Zaniar Naghshbandi, Review of Anousha Sedighi and Pounesh Shabani-Jadidi (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Persian Linguistics*
- Mahrokh Shojaei, Review of Saloumeh Gholami (ed.), *Endangered Iranian Languages*

BOOK REVIEW FORUM

- Hussein Banai, Introduction to the Review Forum, Mehrzad Boroujerdi and Kourosh Rahimkhani, *Postrevolutionary Iran: A Handbook*
- Mirjam Künkler, Review of Mehrzad Boroujerdi and Kourosh Rahimkhani, *Post-Revolutionary Iran: A Handbook*
- Farideh Farhi, Review of Mehrzad Boroujerdi and Kourosh Rahimkhani, *Post-Revolutionary Iran: A Handbook*
- Maryam Alemzadeh, A Political Prosopography of the Islamic Republic: Review of Mehrzad Boroujerdi and Kourosh Rahimkhani, *Postrevolutionary Iran: A Handbook*
- Kevan Harris, A Political Prosopography of the Islamic Republic: Review of Mehrzad Boroujerdi and Kourosh Rahimkhani, *Postrevolutionary Iran: A Handbook*

IN MEMORIAM

Ali Gheissari, Memorial Note on Khalil Mostowfi (b. Tabriz, 1941–d. Tehran, 20 February 2020): Bookseller, Assessor of Manuscripts, Lithographs, and Rare Titles in Iranian Studies

RECENT TITLES IN IRANIAN STUDIES

- Books in Persian and Arabic
- Titles in European Languages

Ali Gheissari

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JOURNAL NEWS: EDITOR SEARCH

Announcement from Prof. James Gustafson, the chair of the Search Committee for a new Iranian Studies Editor-in-Chief:

The Association for Iranian Studies is pleased to announce that the governing council has appointed **Prof. Sussan Siavoshi** (Una Chapman Cox Professor of International Relations, Trinity University) to serve as the next editor-in-chief of our flagship journal *Iranian Studies* for a five-year term effective January 1, 2021.

The search for a new editor-in-chief yielded a particularly strong and diverse pool of candidates this year. In March, the AIS Council appointed a committee composed of James Gustafson (Chair, Indiana State University), Naghmeh Sohrabi (Brandeis University), and Maryam Moazzen (University of Louisville) to conduct an extensive, open, and international search. The search committee publicized the position in March and conducted outreach to solicit applications throughout Spring 2020. After reviewing letters of interest and CVs from candidates, the committee identified five finalists to interview in May 2020. The search committee then solicited feedback from two external reviewers during the interview stage: Prof. Dominic Brookshaw

JOURNAL NEWS: EDITOR SEARCH CONT'D

(Oxford University; former Assistant Editor of *Iranian Studies*) and Prof. Beth Baron (CUNY; former editor of *International Journal of Middle East Studies*). After reviewing the written applications, conducting interviews with candidates, and considering the written feedback of the external reviewers, the committee members and AIS Council unanimously voted to recommend Prof. Sussan Siavoshi as the next editor-in-chief of *Iranian Studies*.

Prof. Siavoshi is an accomplished scholar and skilled administrator. She is the author of two well-regarded monographs and numerous articles published in a wide range of journals, including *Iranian Studies*. She received the Houshang Pourshariati Biennial Book Award in 2018 for her latest work: *Montazeri: The Life and Thought of Iran's Revolutionary Ayatollah* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017). She served as the chair of the Political Science Department at Trinity University from 2006 to 2013 and was promoted to Distinguished Professor in 2012. Prof. Siavoshi has frequently dedicated her time and energy to the service of the Association for Iranian Studies and the Middle Eastern Studies Association. Through her scholarship and service work, she will bring to *Iranian Studies* both a broad view of the field and a collaborative approach to managing the journal's editorial work. The committee was particularly impressed with Prof. Siavoshi's vision for *Iranian Studies* as the leading platform for the publication of outstanding work in the field, but also one that encourages and develops a diverse range of perspectives and disciplinary approaches, particularly from younger scholars. It is also noteworthy that Prof. Siavoshi will be the first female editor of *Iranian Studies* in its fifty-four-year history.

I wish to thank the members of the search committee Prof. Sohrabi and Prof. Moazzen for the significant time and energy they committed to conducting this search, and our reviewers Prof. Brookshaw and Prof. Baron for their valuable input on our candidates.

The committee and AIS Council especially wish to express our appreciation to Prof. Ali Gheissari for the outstanding work he has done during his term as editor-in-chief of *Iranian Studies*, which has seen the journal reach new heights in its impact and vitality. We are confident that we are placing our flagship journal in excellent hands with Prof. Siavoshi.

James M. Gustafson
Search Committee Chair

Syracuse University Press



Hafez in Love

A NOVEL

Iraj Pezeshkzad

Translated from the Persian by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and Patricia J. Higgins

"Pezeshkzad is one of Iran's beloved modern writers."—Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine

Paper 24.95\$ 9780815611288

eBook 9780815655121



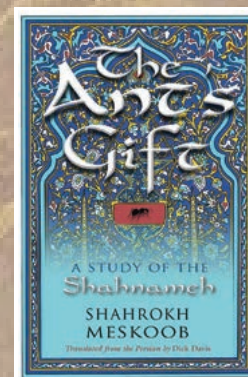
Iranian Women and Gender in the Iran-Iraq War

Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh

"A pioneering work. We here in the US hear extremely little about the Iran-Iraq war and what was going on on the ground in Iran during those eight horrible, long years."—Mary Hegland, author of *Days of Revolution: Political Unrest in an Iranian Village*

Paper 49.95\$s 9780815637103

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The Ant's Gift

A STUDY OF THE SHAHNAMEH

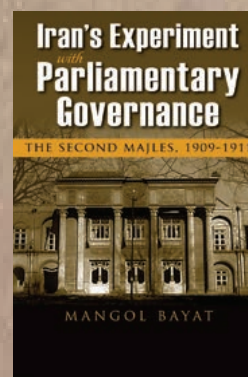
Shahrokh Meskoob

Translated from the Persian by Dick Davis

"This work is of utmost importance not only as a cultural literary source but also due to the fact that the translation has been accomplished so diligently."—Alireza Korangy, coeditor of *The Beloved in Middle Eastern Literatures*

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Iran's Experiment with Parliamentary Governance

THE SECOND MAJLES, 1911-1909

Mangol Bayat

"This is one of the finest works on the Iranian Constitutional Revolution. . . . Bayat's meticulous scholarship has substantially raised the stakes in analyzing Iran's Constitutional Revolution."—Mehrzad Boroujerdi, author of *Postrevolutionary Iran: A Political Handbook*

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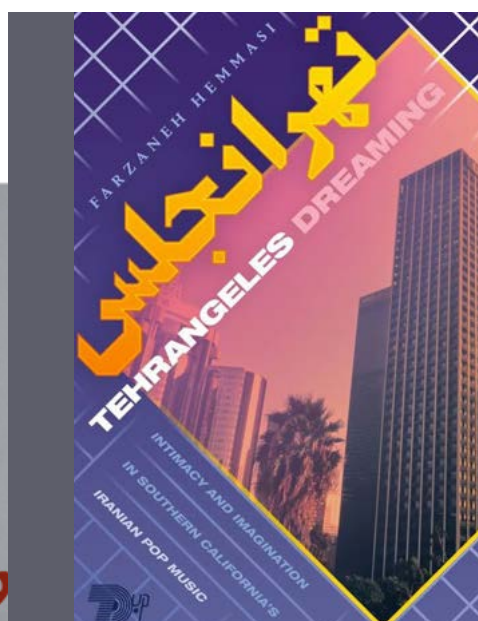
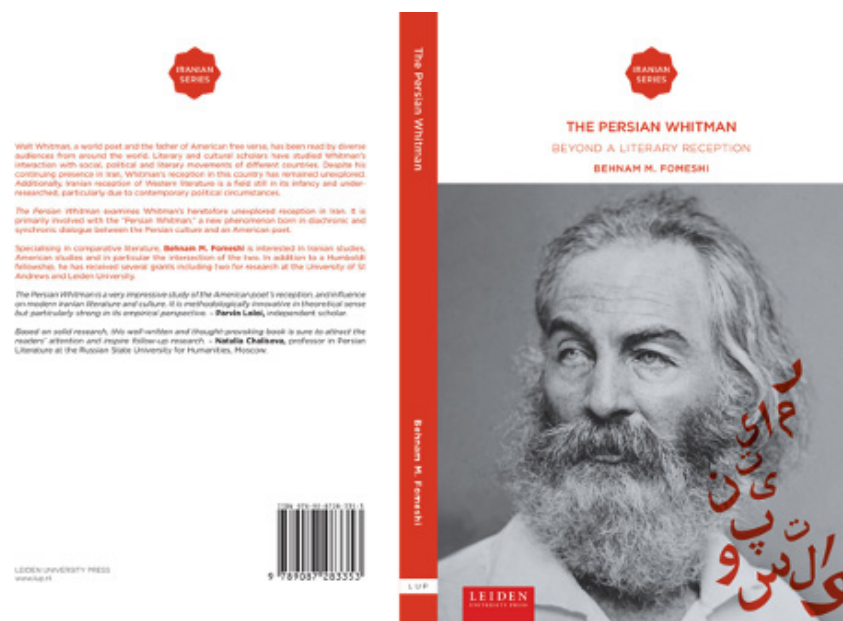
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MEMBER NEWS

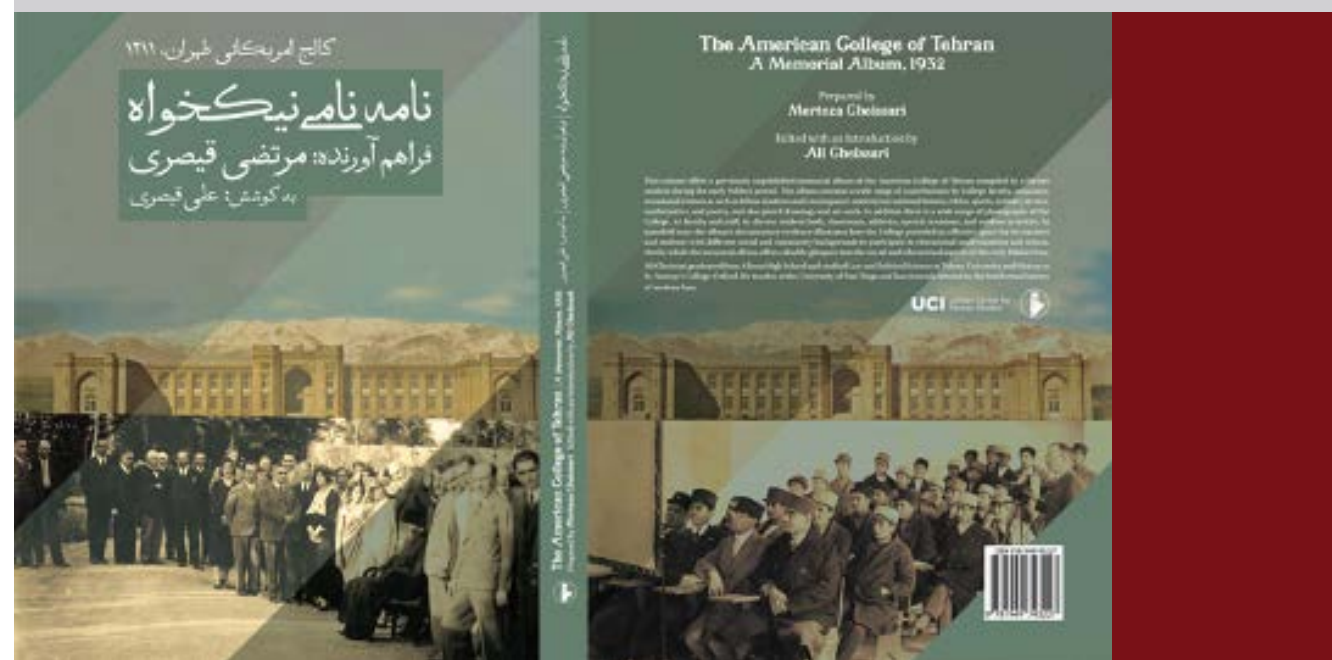
Juan Cole has published a new translation: *The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyam: A New Translation from the Persian* (IB Tauris, 2020). The book also contains an historical epilogue on the evolution of this corpus in Iran. Further, Cole's book *Muhammad: Prophet of Peace amid the Clash of Empires* (Bold Type Books, 2018) has been translated into Persian: *Mohammad: Payambar-i solh dar garmagarm-i setiz-i emperituriha*, trans. Saleh Tabataba'i (Tehran: Entesharat-e Rozanih-e Ketab, 2020).

Willem Floor has published the books *German Sources on Safavid Persia* (13 German sources reporting on events in Iran from 1580 to 1722, translated and annotated by Willem Floor) (MAGE, 2020); and, together with Hasan Javadi, *Persian Pleasures. How Iranians Relaxed Through the Centuries. Food, Drink & Drugs* (MAGE, 2019). Floor has also published the following book chapters and articles: "The Iranian Economy in the Eighteenth Century: A Dismal Record," in *Crisis, Collapse, Militarism & Civil War: The History & Historiography of 18th Century Iran*, ed. Michael Axworthy. New York: Oxford UP, 2018, pp. 125-50, and "Tribal resurgence in the eighteenth century, a useful label?" in *ibid*, pp. 151-62; "Qal'eh-ye Mehrab Khan: The First Leprosarium in Iran," *Iranian Studies* 2019, pp. 9-41; and "English Ceramics in Iran 1810-1910," *Northern Ceramic Society Journal* 36 (2020), pp. 91-125 with Jaap Otte.

Behnam Fomeshi has published the book *The Persian Whitman: Beyond a Literary Reception* (Leiden University Press, 2019).



Ali Gheissari's volume, *The American College of Tehran: A Memorial Album, 1932*, prepared by Morteza Gheissari, edited and with an introduction and notes by Ali Gheissari, is forthcoming by the University of California, Irvine: Jordan Center for Persian Studies, 2020.



Farzaneh Hemmasi's book *Tehrangeles Dreaming: Intimacy and Imagination in Southern California's Iranian Pop Music* has been published by Duke University Press, 2020.

Mana Kia's book *Persianate Selves: Memories of Place and Origin before Nationalism* has been published by Stanford University Press, 2020.

Rudi Matthee's book, *Portugal, the Persian Gulf and Safavid Persia* (Leuven: Peeters, 2011, coedited with Jorge Flores) has been translated into Persian: *Keshvar-e Portugal, Khalij-e Fars va Iran-e Safavi*, trans. Hamidreza Ziba'i (Tehran: Bonyad-e Iranshenasi, 1399/2020). Matthee has also published "Neither Eastern nor Western, Iranian': How the Quest for Self-Sufficiency Helped Shape Iran's Modern Nationalism," *Journal of Persianate Societies* 13 (2020), pp. 59-104.

Marjan Moosavi has been appointed The Roshan Lecturer in Persian Studies by the Roshan Institute for Persian Studies at the University of Maryland.

MEMBER NEWS CONT'D

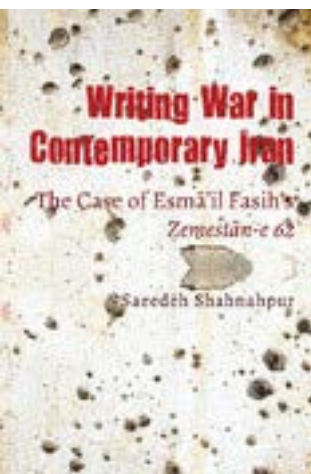
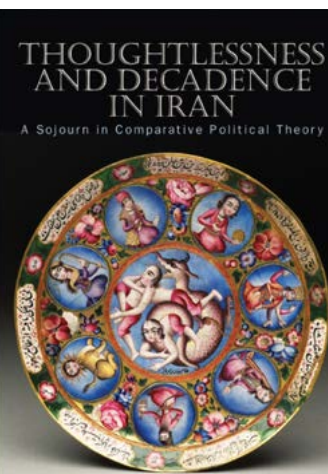
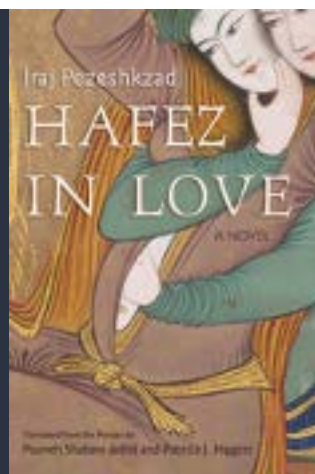
Hamid Naficy has published “Collecting Pre- and Post-Revolution Iranian Movie Posters in the US and in Iran,” in Ruth E. Iskin and Britany Salsbury (eds.), *Collecting Prints, Posters, and Ephemera: Perspectives in a Global World* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2020), pp. 245-261; as well as “Slow, Closed, Recessive, Formalist, and Dark—the Cinema of Sohrab Shahid Saless,” in Azadeh Fatehrad (ed.), *ReFocus: The Films of Sohrab Shahid Saless: Exile, Displacement and the Stateless Moving-Image* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020); and “Ellis Island, A Troubled Home Away from Home,” in Rush Little (ed.), *Ellis Island Commune* (Los Angeles: self-published, 2019), pp. 86-90.

Monica M. Ringer has published the monograph *Islamic Modernism and the Reenchantment of the Sacred in the Age of History*, Edinburgh University Press, 2020, as well as the edited volume (with Etienne Charière) *Ottoman Culture and the Project of Modernity*, I.B. Tauris, 2020.

Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and **Patricia J. Higgins** have published a translation of *Hafez in Love: A Novel* by Iraj Pezeshkzad (Syracuse University Press, 2020).

Saeedeh Shahnaipur has published *Writing War in Contemporary Iran: The Case of Esmail Fasih's 'Zemestan-e 62'* (Peter Lang, 2019).

Alireza Shomali's book *Thoughtlessness and Decadence in Iran: A Sojourn in Comparative Political Theory* has been published by SUNY Press, 2019.



DISSERTATION NEWS

Noşrat Amin (1886/87-1983): A Female Mojtaheh in the Pahlavi Monarchy and the Islamic Republic of Iran

by Maryam Javanshir Rutner, Ph.D. dissertation defended at the Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University, September 2020

The dissertation examines the life, scholarly legacy, public achievements, and the path to religious authority of the most prominent female religious scholar of twentieth-century Iran, Noşrat Amin (1886/87-1983). Amin authored multiple works in the Islamic sciences, including a fifteen-volume Qur'an commentary (tafsir). Influential contemporaneous Shi'i scholars recognized Amin's expertise in various branches of the Islamic sciences—including Islamic law, legal theory and Qur'anic exegesis. Yet, Amin's scholarly work has received scant attention in Iran; and she is still largely unknown in the West.

Based on a pre- and post-revolutionary sources collected during three stays of fieldwork and archival work in Iran—including Amin's written works and sermons, entries about her in biographical dictionaries, newspaper and journal articles, biographies, MA theses, material from public and private archives, and interviews with former students and affiliates of the school she founded—the dissertation reconstructs Amin's life and path to religious authority in twentieth century Iran. As the most outstanding woman jurist (mojtahedeh) in twentieth-century Iran, she gained the reputation as a point of reference for the lay people and lower-ranked 'ulama in Isfahan as well as nationally and even beyond Iran's borders.

DISSERTATION NEWS CONT'D

China and the Iranian Left: Transnational Networks of Social, Cultural, and Ideological Exchange, 1905-1979

by Bill Figueroa, Ph.D. dissertation defended at the Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, October 2020

This dissertation is a historical survey of Sino-Iranian relations from the early 1900s to the foundation of the Islamic Republic, with a focus on the impact of Maoist politics on the Iranian left. Figueroa's research shows that both Iranian and Chinese intellectuals were aware of and inspired by one another's political movements, which culminated in a series of robust, unofficial connections between Iranian Communist organizations and the Chinese Communist Party. Through this exchange, Maoism for a brief moment became a major ideological force among leftist Iranian student activists in Europe and the United States, and left an unmistakable mark on the rhetoric, ideology, and tactics of opposition groups of all stripes, both inside Iran and abroad. The revolution is shown to be an intensely global affair, with centers of gravity from Berlin to Beijing. The tangled relationship between the Chinese state, the Iranian state, and the Iranian opposition reveals the complex and sometimes controversial historical reality that is often glossed over by modern narratives of perpetual friendship and mutual co-operation. Primary sources include Iranian and Chinese newspapers and periodicals, Iranian travelogues, and interviews with Iranian student Maoists who travelled to China for military and ideological training.

PROGRAM NEWS

MASSIAH FOUNDATION GIFT TO ESTABLISH UCI CHAIR IN ZOROASTRIAN STUDIES, THE FIRST CHAIR OF ITS KIND IN THE U.S.

July 29, 2020

The University of California, Irvine has received a \$1.5 million challenge commitment from the Massiah Foundation to establish the Ferdowsi Presidential Chair in Zoroastrian Studies – the first of its kind in the United States. Additionally, the University of California will support the chair with up to \$500,000.

The Massiah Foundation was founded by Fariborz Maseeh, Ph.D., an Iranian-American businessman and pioneer in the field of microelectromechanical systems who lives in Newport Beach. Maseeh has a history of making philanthropic investments in education, the arts and health-related causes through the organization.

In 2005, the Massiah Foundation funded the creation of UCI's Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture, the first independent, interdisciplinary center focused on Iran within the UC system. The new Ferdowsi Presidential Chair in Zoroastrian Studies will be affiliated with the Jordan Center.

"We are incredibly grateful to Dr. Maseeh for establishing this new chair to expand research into Zoroastrian studies," said UCI history professor Touraj Daryaei, the Maseeh Chair in Persian Studies and Culture and director of the Jordan Center. "The chair will enhance the already rich global historical and cultural study that takes place in the center, further raising its distinction not just at UCI but throughout the world."

The new chair is named in honor of Ferdowsi, the 10th-century Persian poet who is often credited with saving the Persian language by writing *Shahnameh* (Book of Kings), the national epic of Greater Iran. Maseeh hopes the chair will challenge and inspire the diasporic Parsi community – the ethnoreligious group of followers of Zoroastrianism who immigrated to the Indian subcontinent during and after the Muslim conquest of Persia – to help him revive an ancient Persian philosophy.

"By broadening UCI's Persian studies program to include Zoroastrianism, we encourage young people to enrich their multicultural awareness – an essential component of working and living in a modern, multi-ethnic society," Maseeh said.

The Jordan Center is both UCI's dedicated hub for Persian studies and a global destination for Persian scholars. Since its inception, the center has hosted international conferences on the Iranian world and created clusters uniting researchers from a multitude of disciplines across campus. It has also established an online, peer-reviewed journal called the *Digital Archive of Brief Notes & Iran Review*.

UCI students can minor in Persian studies and take courses about ancient and modern Iran; graduate students can pursue a specialization in ancient Iran and the premodern Persianate world. The Ferdowsi Chair will be UCI's fifth endowed chair in Persian studies – more than any other university in the United States.

The holder of the chair – which will be supported by the Department of Classics and the Program in Religious Studies – will be a recognized expert in Zoroastrianism, one of the world's oldest continuously practiced religions.

"Zoroastrianism has been one of the leading religious and philosophical forces of the ancient world," said Andromache Karanika, associate professor and chair of classics. "The establishment of the Ferdowsi Chair will enhance the understanding of antiquity and its vast legacy in today's world and bring exciting new intersections for scholars at UCI."

PROGRAM NEWS CONT'D

Brian T. Hervey, vice chancellor for university advancement and alumni relations, added: "Zoroastrianism represents a cultural legacy for tens of thousands of Persians, many of whom live right here in UCI's surrounding Southern California region. Through Dr. Maseeh's generous gift, we will grow our offerings in Persian studies and serve the public interest."

The Massiah Foundation's \$1.5 million gift elicited an additional \$500,000 from the UC Presidential Match for Endowed Chairs program.

YALE PROGRAM IN IRANIAN STUDIES

The Yale Program in Iranian Studies (YPIS) is delighted to announce that the Persian Heritage Foundation of California (PHF) has generously committed to full funding for the continuation of the Ehsan Yarshater Postdoctoral Fellowship in Iranian Studies at Yale for the duration of four years (2021-2025). The Yarshater Postdoctoral Fellow will be appointed through an international search. Qualified applicants in all fields related to Iranian and Persian studies are eligible to apply. The announcement for the 2021-2022 fellowship will appear in fall 2020. The Yale Program in Iranian Studies is also delighted to announce the program of its Fall 2020 Iran Colloquium:

Exile and the Nation: The Parsi Community of India and the Making of Modern Iran

Prof. Afshin Marashi, University of Oklahoma
Friday, September 25 | 12:00 pm | Online Webinar

Satan Conquered: The Iranian Revolution and its Demons

Prof. Alireza Doostdar, University of Chicago
Friday, October 16 | 12:00 pm | Online Webinar

The Politicization of the Female Body in the Context of Sigheh Marriages

Prof. Claudia Yaghoobi, University of North Carolina
Friday, October 30 | 12:00 pm | Online Webinar

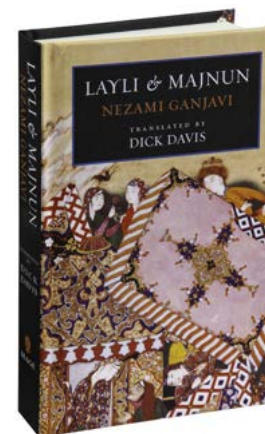
Hafiz and His Contemporaries: Time, Place, and Dialogue in the Post-Mongol Persian Ghazal

Prof. Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, University of Oxford
Friday, November 13 | 12:00 pm | Online Webinar

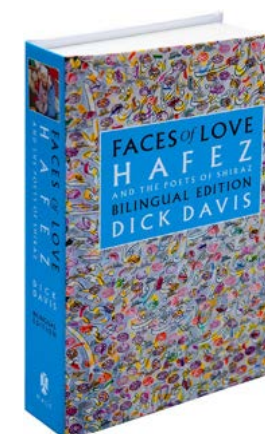
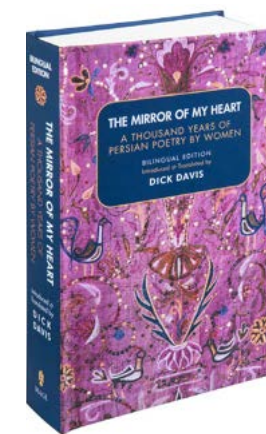
Re-discovering a Literary Treasure: The Anvar-e Sohayli Written by Vaez Kashefi in Fifteenth-Century Herat

Prof. Christine van Ruymbeke, University of Cambridge
Friday, December 4 | 12:00 pm | Online Webinar

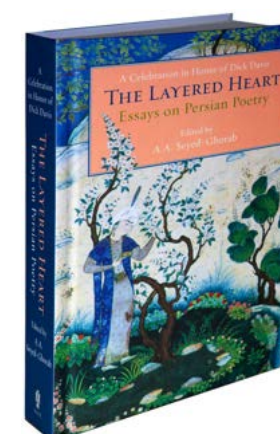
MAGE PUBLISHERS RECENT TITLES & eBOOKS



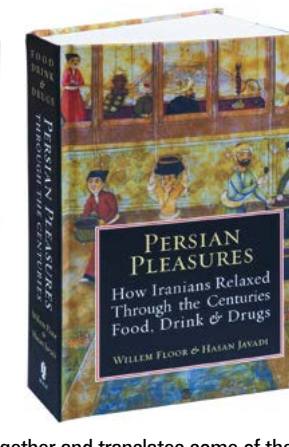
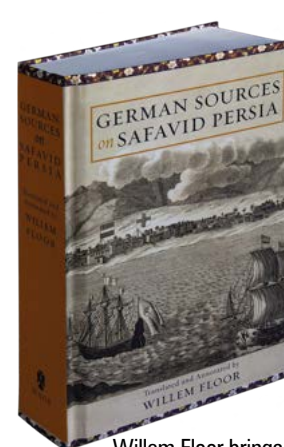
Highly engaging—*Publishers Weekly* Outstanding—*Washington Post*



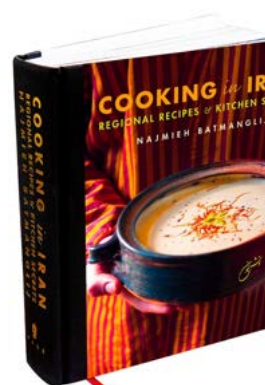
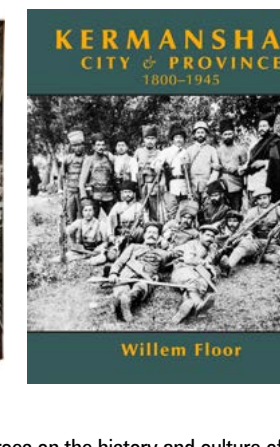
Superb—*Choice*



Glow—*Bibliotheca Orientalis*



Willem Floor brings together and translates some of the most important (often unknown) sources on the history and culture of Iran



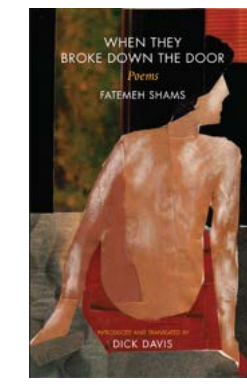
Magisterial...Visual feast of modern Iran—*New York Times*



Incisive and detailed—*Publishers Weekly*



Lovely, tender, funny...—Said Sayrafiezadeh



Weaves between the personal and the political—*PBS*

AWARD NEWS

This fall, the AIS made awards in six categories:

- The AIS Lifetime Achievement Award
- The Ehsan Yarshater Book Award to recognize scholarship on Ancient Iranian Civilization
- The Latifeh Yarshater Book Award to recognize scholarship in Iranian Studies focused on the condition of women and women's rights
- The Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award presented to the author of an exceptional Ph.D. dissertation dealing with the broad themes of politics and the public sphere in Iran
- The Saidi-Sirjani Book Award to recognize and promote scholarship in the field of Iranian studies
- The Parviz Shahriari Book Award to recognize and promote scholarship in the History of Mathematics, Science, and Technology in Iran and the Persianate world

The Association of Iranian Studies Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2020 AIS Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to Emerita Professor of Anthropology **Erika Friedl** of Western Michigan University.

In the words of Dr. Anne Betteridge, Dr. Friedl “pioneered the study of children in Iran” in her ethnographic work. The committee noted also her willingness to take stock of her earlier work and consider its implications for longitudinal research. Her research in Lorestan resulted in some of the most widely read works in Iranian Studies, such as *The Women of Deh Koh* (1989) and *The Children of Deh Koh* (1997), and are part of her enduring legacy. But as impressive to the committee were the many colleagues who shared with us the profound effect Dr. Friedl had on them as a colleague and mentor.

The 2020 AIS Lifetime Achievement Award Committee consisted of

- Kamran Scot Aghaie, University of Texas Austin
- Sussan Siavoshi, Trinity University
- Camron Amin (Chair), University of Michigan-Dearborn

Ehsan Yarshater Book Award 2020

The Ehsan Yarshater Book Award is granted biennially by the Association for Iranian Studies on behalf of the Persian Heritage Foundation. The purpose of this award is to advance the scholarship on Ancient Iranian Civilization and its cognate fields. Professor Ehsan Yarshater was an internationally recognized scholar who made major contributions to the field of Iranian Studies. The AIS Council designated Professor Yarshater an honorary member in 1999.

This year the committee received several impressive nominations dealing with different aspects of pre-Islamic Iran, each important in its own field. The committee closely examined all nominations and with its unanimous vote decided to present this year's award to **Rika Gyselen** (Directrice de Recherche émérite, CNRS: Histoire ancienne – Iran) for her book ***La géographie administrative de l'Émpire Sassanide. Les témoignages épigraphiques en moyen-perse*** (Res Orientales XXV, Groupe pour l'Étude de la Civilisation du Moyen-Orient, 2019).

Also with unanimous vote, the committee further decided to present its Honorable Mention to **Matthew Canepa** (Professor of Art History and Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Presidential Chair in Art History and Archaeology of Ancient Iran at University of California, Irvine) for his book ***The Iranian Expanse: Transforming Royal Identity through Architecture, Landscape, and the Built Environment, 550 BCE-642 CE*** (University of California Press, 2018).

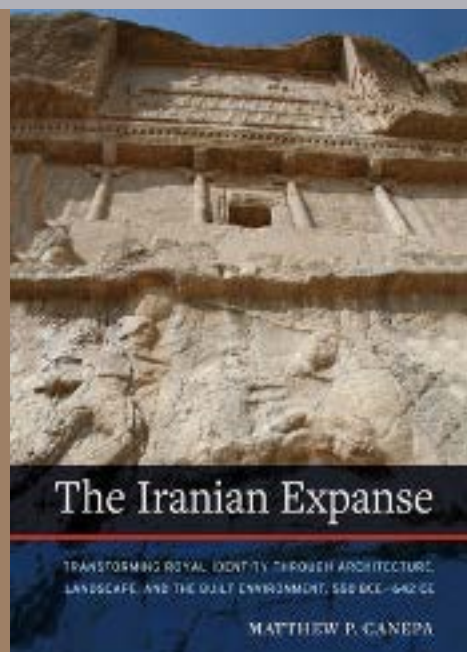
Rika Gyselen's book presents an impressive range of results of a long research project that has carried out throughout the author's research career. In fact, the author has opened an entirely new field of studies, using administrative glyptics and other primary sources to understand the structure of Sasanian administration. Her work has been proved true by the discovery of new documents, such as the Tabarestān archive and the Pahlavi documents that allow new insights in late Sasanian and early Islamic society. *La géographie administrative de l'Émpire Sassanide* contains detailed information on the administrative structure, on the geography of the empire and on the diverse administrative offices known to this day, remarkably adding a host of innovative information to our knowledge of pre-Islamic Iran and stands out to be one of the most important contribution to Iranian studies in recent decades.

AWARD NEWS CONT'D

Matthew Canepa, *The Iranian Expanse: Transforming Royal Identity through Architecture, Landscape, and the Built Environment, 550 BCE-642 CE*, presents a detailed and innovative interpretation of the anthropized landscape of the Iranian highlands from the rise of the Achaemenid Empire to the fall of the Sasanians. Building on the methodological foundations of his earlier works, Canepa traces the lines of continuity and highlights originality in the use of spaces by pre-Islamic Iranian kings and élites showing that Iranian civilization, while open to productive contacts with other coeval cultures, has always demonstrated a degree of originality and independence.

The 2020 Ehsan Yarshater Book Award Committee consisted of

- Carlo Giovanni Cereti (Chair), Sapienza University of Rome
- Samra Azarnouche, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris
- Touraj Daryaee, University of California, Irvine



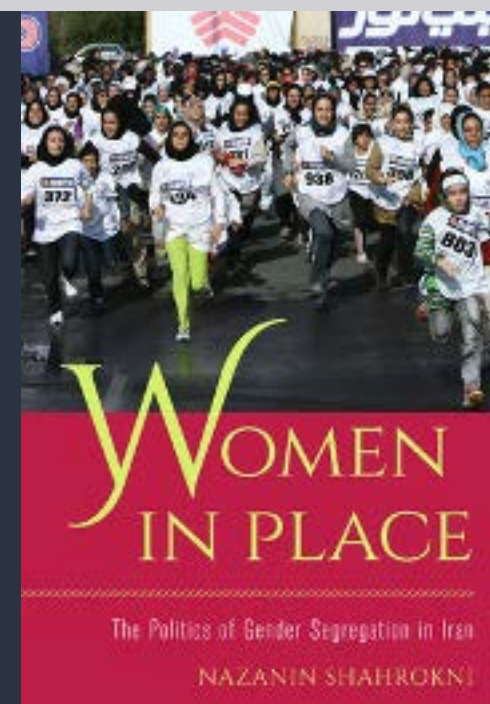
Latifeh Yarshater Book Award 2020

The Latifeh Yarshater Book Award is instituted by the Persian Heritage Foundation to honor the memory of Latifeh Yarshater and her lifelong dedication to the improvement of Iranian women's human rights. The purpose of the award is to encourage scholarship in Iranian Studies that is focused on the condition of women in Persian speaking societies and to promote women's rights in these societies.

The Latifeh Yarshater Book Award committee is pleased to announce as its 2020 Award recipient **Nazanin Shahrokni's** monograph ***Women in Place: The Politics of Gender Segregation in Iran*** (University of California Press, 2019). Dr. Shahrokni's ambition, intelligence, and accomplishments complement precisely the stellar community of past recipients and make her highly deserving of the honor and opportunity bestowed by the Award. *Women in Place* is an important work in the field of women equality pertaining to Islam and public space in Iran, as well as a contribution to the study of the Iranian state. By analyzing multiple sites of gender segregation in post-revolutionary Iran, the author opens the view to the multifaceted relationship between gender equality and space segregation policies and addresses an essential question as to how gender inequality persists in Iran.

The 2020 Latifeh Yarshater Book Award Committee consisted of:

- Mojdeh Yarshater, Chair
- Mirjam Künkler, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Netherlands
- Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware



AWARD NEWS CONT'D

The Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award

The Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award is presented biannually to the author of an exceptional Ph.D. dissertation dealing with the broad themes of politics and the public sphere in Iran, written in Persian or English. This award is established by the Mehrdad Mashayekhi Foundation in memory of his dedication to the cause of democracy and social justice in Iran.

The 2020 Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award committee decided to award the prize to Dr. Peyman Jafari, for his thesis **Oil, Labor and Revolution in Iran; A Social History of Labor in the Iranian Oil Industry, 1973-83**, submitted to the University of Leiden, October 2018. Advisors: Prof. Touraj Atabaki and Prof. Marcel van der Linden.

Combining history from above and history from below, this is a groundbreaking dissertation inserting social history into political analysis of labor in the oil industry and its contribution to the 1979 revolution. By engaging in archival research, fieldwork, and interviews with oil workers and employees, it combines both secondary and primary sources and relocates oil workers from the margins of Iranian labor history into the spotlights. Its approach provides a perspective for understanding “the specific nature of the capitalist development in Iran and the transformation of state-society relations.”

The Committee further decided to award an Honorable Mention to Dr. **Sheida Dayani**, for her thesis: **Juggling Revolutionaries: A Theatrical History of Indigenous Theatre and Early Playwriting in Iran**, submitted to New York University, 2018. Advisors: Prof. Mohammad Mehdi Khorrami and Prof. Arnold Aronson.

Examining play-writing mainly as a theatrical phenomenon grounded in its sociopolitical context, this thesis examines the development of modern Iranian theatre and European-style playwriting in their theatrical contexts in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It is a bold analysis of art as mirror or reflector of the subtler changes in the socio-political realities of the country. Deeply familiar with several European national theatrical productions, Dr. Dayani offers a successful analysis of the interactions between those productions and Iranian works. Wonderfully researched across Persian and English sources, and written with erudition and meticulous details, this is a groundbreaking work steering the field to new directions.

The 2020 Mehrdad Mashayekhi Dissertation Award Committee consisted of

- Professor Ali Akbar Mahdi (Chair), California State University, Northridge
- Professor Azadeh Kian, University of Paris
- Dr. Nahid Siamdoust, Yale University
- Professor Thomas M Ricks, Independent Scholar
- Professor Kevan Harris, University of California - Los Angeles

The Saidi-Sirjani Book Award

The Saidi-Sirjani Book Award is granted biennially by the Association for Iranian Studies on behalf of the Persian Heritage Foundation. The award is given to original studies or syntheses in the field of Iranian Studies, critical editions of significant texts in Iranian Studies, or translations from an Iranian language, based on extensive research and accompanied by scholarly annotations. Established in 1995, the Award aims to recognize and promote scholarship in the field of Iranian studies, as well as to honor the memory of Ali-Akbar Saidi-Sirjani, the noted Iranian historian, literary critic, and author, in appreciation of his scholarship and his courage in the struggle for freedom of expression.

This year the Committee had a particularly difficult task, given the exceptional caliber of the submissions, both studies by established scholars and works by a new generation of specialists in the field. The committee decided to award the prize to **Dominic Brookshaw** for his monograph **Hafiz and His Contemporaries: Poetry, Performance and Patronage in Fourteenth-Century Iran** (London: I.B. Tauris / Bloomsbury, 2019). The Committee found Dominic Brookshaw's book original, bringing new elements to our knowledge of an important period in Persian culture, and using a wide array of primary source material and secondary literature in Persian as well as in English. The Committee found the book particularly compelling in that it explores Hafez in innovative ways, offering a novel way of reading the great poet. The book employs a sophisticated methodology putting Hafez in context, combining the concepts of place and space by showing us Shiraz as seen through the eyes of Hafez.

The 2020 Saidi-Sirjani Book Award Committee consisted of:

- Sussan Babaie, Courtauld Institute of Art, London
- Ali Banuazizi, Boston College
- Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware
- Yann Richard, Sorbonne Nouvelle
- Ali Gheissari, University of San Diego (Chair)



AWARD NEWS CONT'D

The Parviz Shahriari Book Award

The purpose of the Parviz Shahriari prize is to recognize and promote scholarship in the History of Mathematics, Science, and Technology in Iran and the Persianate world. This biennial award is to honor Parviz Shahriari (1926-2012) who through his voluminous writings and translations had a significant role in popularizing mathematics in Iran, and who relentlessly promoted scholarship in the History of Mathematics in Iran. The prize has been established by Shahriar, Mojdeh, Shervin, and Tooka, the children of Zomorod Behizadeh (1931-2012) and Parviz Shahriari.

The winners of the 2020 Parviz Shahriari Book Award are **Keiji Yamamoto** and **Charles Burnett** for their edited volume *The Great Introduction to Astrology by Abu Ma'sar* (2 vols.), Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2019.

The 2020 Parviz Shahriari Book Award committee consisted of

- Dr. Mohammad Bagheri, Historian of Mathematics and Astronomy, Tehran, Iran
- Dr. Sonja Brentjes, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany
- Dr. Arash Khazeni, Department of History, Pomona College, Claremont CA, USA
- Dr. Camron Amin (ex officio), President of AIS and Department of History, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Dearborn MI, USA
- Dr. Shahriar Shahriari (ex officio), Department of Mathematics, Pomona College, Claremont CA, USA

Vol. 53 (nos. 03-04), May-August 2020, of Iranian Studies has been published and posted on the publisher's website:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cist20/53/3-4?nav=tocList>

The contents may also be viewed on the home page of the AIS website

<https://associationforiranianstudies.org/home>

Journal archives are accessible to AIS members

<https://associationforiranianstudies.org/journal/archives>

UPCOMING EVENT

LIVE WEBCAST | UPCOMING EVENT

Private Film Screening: "NASRIN"

October 26, 2020. 2:00-4:00 PM

Secretly filmed in Iran by women and men who risked arrest to make this film. NASRIN is an immersive portrait of the world's most honored human rights activist and political prisoner, Nasrin Sotoudeh, and of Iran's remarkably resilient women's rights movement. In the courts and on the streets, Nasrin has long fought for the rights of women, children, LGBT prisoners, religious minorities, journalists and artists, and those facing the death penalty.

A discussion between Director Jeff Kaufman and Haleh Esfandiari will follow the virtual screening.

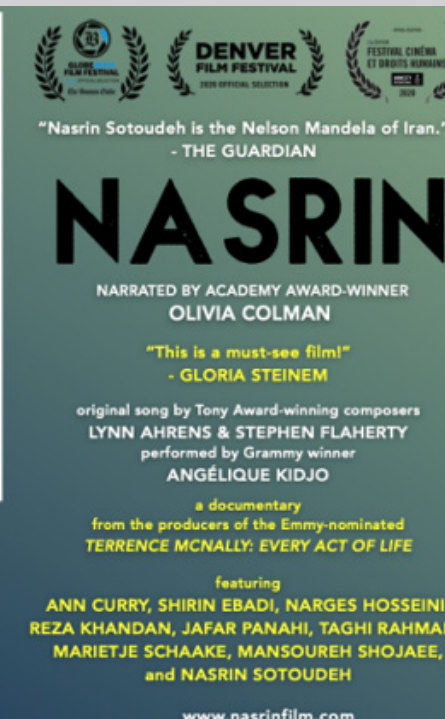
Space for this screening and discussion is LIMITED. The Wilson Center will provide a free ticket to the first 200 attendees. In order to register for the film screening, follow the RSVP link and use the code below to secure your seat. You will then be prompted to create a username and password on the Eventive platform and be provided with a link to watch the film and discussion at the scheduled date.

Click to
RSVP



October 26, 2020. 2:00-4:00 PM

Registration code: Wilson



NASRIN SOTOUDEH

The Pride and Moral Voice of Iran

By Haleh Esfandiari

Nasrin Sotoudeh, the fearless Iranian human rights lawyer, was sentenced in March 2019 to a lengthy prison term on multiple charges: propaganda against the state, advocating against the death sentence, membership in a human rights organization, appearing in public without the hijab, disturbing public order, and “encouraging corruption and prostitution.” Sotoudeh was already serving a five-year prison sentence, probably for representing a group of women who, in protest against the forced wearing of the hijab, removed their head coverings in public. In the lexicon of the Iranian judiciary, removing your hijab in public is equivalent to advocating prostitution.

Sotoudeh was sentenced in absentia, refusing to appear in court because she was denied a lawyer of her own choice. She was protesting a regulation requiring defendants in political cases to select their lawyers only from a list approved by the judiciary. Her refusal to appear in court probably suited the prosecutor and the judge who no doubt preferred not to face Sotoudeh and hear her demolish their case against her.

The exact length of Sotoudeh’s sentence remains unclear. She told her husband, Reza Khandan, that she had been sentenced to 34 years in prison and 148 lashes. The hardline judge, Mohammad Moghiseh, said on state-affiliated television that she had been sentenced to seven years. This, in any case, came on top of a five-year sentence issued to her in absentia by Judge Moghiseh in 2015, about which she learned only when arrested in June 2018, on a common spate of multiple and baseless charges.

The news of the court’s harsh sentence then resulted in an international uproar. The European Union, the United States, human rights organizations and women activists condemned the sentence and called for Sotoudeh’s release. President Emmanuel Macron of France pointedly invited Sotoudeh to the G7’s Gender Equality Advisory Council.

Sotoudeh is well known for her advocacy for children’s rights, women’s rights, and human rights. She is a member of a group in Iran opposed to capital punishment. Her long opposition to the obligatory hijab, her defense of political prisoners and minority rights are well-known. She was one of the founders in 2005 of the movement “The One Million Signatures Campaign for Equality under the Law,” which aimed at collecting one million signatures to remove discriminatory laws against women.

Sotoudeh was initially arrested in 2010 and served three years in prison before being suddenly released, on the eve of President Hassan Rouhani’s trip to New York to attend the opening of the UN General Assembly session. Her 2018 arrest, alongside the arrest of a number of other human rights lawyers, places Iran solidly among the handful of countries which arrest lawyers simply for defending those accused of political offenses.

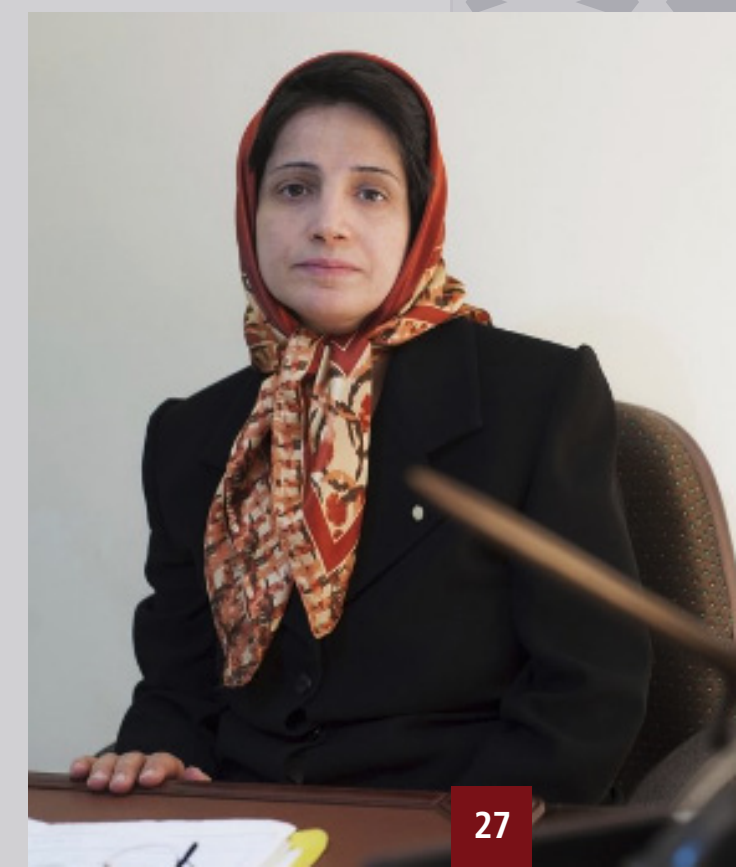
In a letter written from prison on March 6, 2020, on the occasion of International Women’s Day, she described her arrest and conditions in the women’s ward for political prisoners at Evin Prison: “Forty inmates are squeezed into three rooms, the majority of them human rights activists, political activists, women’s rights activists.”

Sotoudeh is concerned about the spread of the novel coronavirus. Despite reports on the spread of the virus in prison, the authorities in Evin released many prisoners, but only a limited number of political prisoners. To protest this cruel decision of her jailers and the blatant denial of due process to prisoners, and in a demand for the release of all political prisoners, Sotoudeh went on a hunger strike on August 11, 2020, which she carried on until late September 2020. Sotoudeh is a petite, 57-year old woman who has developed heart problems. After 43 days into her hunger strike, on September 19, she was rushed to Taleghani Hospital. Her family was denied a visit or reliable information about her condition. She was taken back to Evin Prison on September 24, while still requiring medical treatment—treatment the medical clinic at the ward for political prisoners in Evin Prison cannot provide. I know the clinic from my own 105-days stay at Evin Prison in solitary confinement in 2007. It is not equipped to deal with serious problems such as heart failure, the effects of a long hunger strike, or the breathing problems from which Nasrin suffers.

Nasrin’s husband Reza Khandan said in a statement on September 22: “As relatives of Nasrin Sotoudeh, we neither have access to medical documents nor do we have the opportunity to inquire about the treatment or the medical results and findings. As relatives, we are constantly being verbally abused by the security team and threatened with arrest.”

Nasrin Sotoudeh has devoted her life to speaking out against the injustices of the Iranian regime’s systematic violations of human rights, women’s rights, the rights of minorities, political rights, the freedom of speech, and other rights enshrined in the Iranian Constitution. She remains as she has always been—a fighter for these rights; she will continue this struggle no matter how long the authorities keep her in prison. She and other Iranian women activists are models of the women’s struggle for equality and justice in Iran. Women, young and old, look up to Nasrin and these other activists, many also in prison, as their role models.

The international uproar by women’s groups, human rights, and civil society advocates and also by heads of governments, and the expression of concern for Nasrin and other human rights activists, and dual citizens in Iranian prisons, should continue without pause until they are released. This is the least we owe to such outstanding examples of the human aspiration for freedom and the rule of law.



RESEARCH REPORT

The Idea and Practice of Justice represented in Bactrian Documents

Said Reza Huseini (Leiden University)

What do we know about the idea and practice of justice in Bactria in late antiquity? The short answer is: not much. The scarcity of primary sources seems to have been the main obstacle that has made this subject unfamiliar to scholars of Iranian Studies. However, that reason is not valid anymore, because a number of Bactrian documents found in late antique Bactria (corresponding roughly to the northern region of modern-day Afghanistan) provide firsthand information on this topic. These documents are written in Bactrian, the only Middle Iranian language inscribed in cursive Greek alphabet, and dated between the early 4th and the late 8th century. They are varied: from administrative, economic and legal documents, to official and private letters reflecting the socio-political circumstances in Bactria. These documents have been translated by professor Nicholas Sims-Williams and my understanding of these documents is largely indebted to his work.

For this short note, I have looked at several petitions presented to the authorities, and letters exchanged between officials reflecting issues related to justice. How did people seek judgments and from whom? What did they complain about? How were their petitions brought to the attention of the authorities, and how did the authorities reply to the petitions? Likewise, it is important know if there was any standard procedure for justice.

The earliest Bactrian documents relating to the issue of justice are four letters possibly produced in ca. 350 CE., in the Rob region of southern Bactria. Two of them highlight the importance of the commander of the fortress (*lizbid*, λίζοβιδό), who was responsible for ensuring that justice was carried out and was expected to be a just man (μαρδο λαδιγηιο). The commander was a military position stationed in the citadel/fortress within the city. He had several groups of armed guards under his command, which possibly functioned like the city police. He had authority to investigate, make judgments, and punish culprits. Likewise, he had the power to prevent aggressive actions of government agents. In a letter to the commander, the steward (*farmalar*, φαρμαλαρο), a non-military official, informed him that an agent named Sag entered the house of the Absigan family and disrespected the lady of the house and the inhabitants of the inner quarter. A certain Ohrmuzd, the weaver of damask, appealed to the steward asking for his help, but having no authority over the agent, the steward wrote to the commander to stop Sag. The steward had authority to make judgment himself or to carry out the judgment already made by the ruler. In another letter, the steward informed the commander that a certain Mihr-Guzg had appealed (πιδοοαυαδο) to the lord regarding the property of his partner. Mihr-Guzg may have claimed the property for himself.

Then, the lord ordered him to pledge faith (οαοαπο) to him by making an oath (οαπο) with one man, perhaps a witness, and another man from Mihr-Guzg's side. After making a judgment, the lord ordered the steward to look after them till the claimant presents his witnesses and give statement. Unable to do that personally, the steward wrote to the commander asking him to protect Mihr-Guzg from being accused, disputed, penalized or detained till a statement was made in the presence of the steward.

Several Bactrian letters exchanged between officials show that people were very concerned that their properties should not be disputed, claimed or damaged by others. The properties could have been inherited, purchased, given by the ruler, or gifted for good service. In a letter produced in the month of Sharewar 239 of the Bactrian calendar (which corresponds to December 561 or January 462 CE) in the Kadagstan region in eastern Bactria, Meyam "the king of the people of Kadag, and governor of Kadagstan", loyal to the Sasanian king of kings Peroz, informed four officials that he had given some properties to a certain Shabur. Possibly, Shabur's ownership was disputed by some people and he had to complain to the king for a judgment. As a result, the king ordered the officials that Shabur's ownership over the properties was legal and no one should disturb him or dispute his ownership.

Similarly, some other Bactrian letters show that if government agents acted unjustly, then people complained to higher officials. For instance, if tax-collectors pressurized people or forcefully took their properties, people would appeal to the taxation authorities. If a steward or his friends forcefully used people for their personal work then people would complain to the governor. If a stronger person disturbed people, deprived them of their rights, abused them or molested their women, people expected the authorities to protect them. They would complain individually or as a group. They would go to the local king or the governor directly and appeal. However, in most cases the petitions were brought to the attention of the local king or the governor by servants, or other lower authorities. The rulers' treatment of the cases and their decisions reflected their concern about the petitions. Their reactions varied from simple instruction and friendly advice to warning and serious action. In most cases, letters bearing the ruler's decisions were conveyed not to the petitioners, but were sent to the related authorities where the petitioners came from.

In some cases, requests would reach certain authorities through intermediaries, whose words were effective in ensuring that the task would be performed. In a letter possibly written between ca. 380-466 CE., in the Rob region, Wind-Fruma-Yamsh informed Pidik the Persian Satrap that the ruler had bound (imprisoned) a certain Yamsh-Wanind. The sender was not in the position to approach the ruler directly, but expected the addressee to be able to help release that person. To secure his request, the sender reminds the addressee about the "bread and salt" (ναγανο οδο ναμιλγο) that they ate together in Rob. Eating "bread and salt" may have been rhetoric here to remind the addressee of the actual meeting he had with the sender in Rob. The feast they had together created ties that bound the two persons, and as a result, it created

RESEARCH REPORT CONT'D

a sense of responsibility towards each other. The sender asked the addressee to write to the ruler so that he may release Yamsh-Wanind. If he does, then the sender will acknowledge the addressee's action as a great favor and will repay it by doing something that pleases the addressee.

When regime changed, people's expectations for justice remained the same. That is, they expected the new rulers to be just and protect them from unlawful acts, and that the institutional channels for ensuring this protection would remain the same. Regime-change did not mean that local authorities lost their right to make judgments. A letter issued by Kilman, "the king of the people of Kadag and governor of Kadagstan," loyal to the Yabghu of the Hephthalites, possibly written in ca. 485 CE, mentions that a certain Zhun-Bandag appealed to him saying that someone named Tos had taken some things from. Possibly, Zhun-Bandag did not pay his debt (παρο) and Tos took something from him that they did not agree. This led Zhund-Bandag to complain. Hence, Kilman ordered the addressees, who were officials, to take back the things from Tos and return them to Zhun-Bandag. It also warns the addressees not to do clandestine evil.

Some Bactrian letters apply the title of "judge" (λαδοβαρο) to the ruler, reflecting the interrelation between politics and justice. The ruler is always a person from an elite family in Bactrian documents, indicating that nobility was fundamental element for being a ruler/judge. An undated sealing belonging to someone called "Spring" calls him the "just judge of Arzind" (ραρταγο αρζινδο λαδοβαρο). His portrait displays him with a crown, a diadem and a neckless made of a double row of pearls, suggesting that he was either a ruler or an important political figure.

There is more evidence to suggest that judges were political figures in Bactria and that the performance of justice was characterized by certain systematic administrative procedures. The terms "justice" and "law" are also used synonymously in some Bactrian documents. Several legal documents from Samangan in eastern Bactria and Guzgan in western Bactria written in the second half of the 7th century mention fines payable to the judge or judicial treasury (γαζνο λαδοβαραγγο). The legal documents written in ca. 693, 705 and 722 CE., in Guzgan, constantly refer to the judicial treasury. Usually, fines were paid to the royal treasury (γαζνο παογανο) as mentioned in earlier legal documents. Possibly, by the second half of the 7th century, the court of law had a financial section that received the fines. In any case, these legal documents are witnessed and sealed by government agents, suggesting that they were associated with the system of governmental administration.

After all, Bactrian documents (only some of which are discussed here) suggest that to the Bactrians, justice, which guaranteed security for their lives, their properties, their social positions and their honour, was provided by the government at all levels. Any act that could deprive people of these rights was considered unjust and unlawful. If the regime changed, people expected the new authorities to be just and perform justice for them. The government officials were the main performers of justice in Bactria. In times of need, people presented their petitions to the authorities directly or their messages were conveyed to the authorities by other officials. If necessary, people sent their requests or petitions through intermediaries and promised compensation to them.

The terminology for just, unjust, judge, law, unlawful, making judgment, and appealing, remained the same from the middle of the 4th century to the late 8th century. This highlights the continuity of these institutions in spite of regime-change. Also, the process in which a petition reached the authority and a judgment was remained the same. This reflects administrative and cultural continuities which mean that the concept of justice and its related procedures remained intact throughout this period. Equally important is that Bactrian documents relating to justice suggest the existence of a fixed "legal system" that had certain administrative procedures for presenting petitions and making judgments.



Bactrian Document no. 0125, letter of the steward to the commander of the fortress regarding the judgment made by the ruler related to the petition presented by Mihr-guzg. Courtesy of The Khalili Collections, London.

OBITUARY

Badrozzaman Qarib 1928-2020

Persian language and literature scholar, writer and linguist Badrozzaman Qarib died on July 28, 2020 at the age of 91, apparently of COVID19.

Qarib was a permanent member of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature and famous for her research work on a dictionary of the Sogdian language.

Born in 1929, Qarib studied Persian and history with great scholars such as Mohammad Moin, Ehsan Yarshater and Ebrahim Pourdavoud. She received her first degree in Persian literature from the University of Tehran, before moving on to the University of Pennsylvania where she attained a Ph.D. in ancient languages.

Qarib was an expert on the Sogdian language, one of the Eastern Middle Iranian languages once spoken in Sogdiana (northern Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) before the Islamization of the area in the 10th century. Sogdians were traders along the Silk Roads and founded many diasporas along the routes, with the result that the bulk of Sogdian material was discovered in Turfan and Dunhuang in western China.

The Sogdian language was written in three scripts, Sogdian, Manichean and Syriac. While only religious texts were written in Manichean and Syriac scripts, other kinds of texts, both religious and secular, were recorded in Sogdian script, which originated from Aramaic script.

Qarib's noteworthy credits are a dictionary of the Sogdian language into Persian and English, "Structural Analysis of Verbs in the Sogdian Language", "Silent Languages" and "Sogdian Studies".

Badrozzaman Qarib cuts her birthday cake in a celebration held at the Academy of Persian Language and Literature in Tehran in an undated photo.



In August 2020, the Academy of Persian Language and Literature opened a small museum and library in her name. The museum is located in Qarib's former office in the academy, where she was a permanent member, and includes a number of her awards, family photos, letters and memorabilia.

Her personal library, which is home to a collection of rare books on ancient languages as well as her documents and personal writings, have also been placed at the central library of the academy next to other scholars' collections.

Sajidullah Tafhimi 1941-2020

Sajidullah Tafhimi, a scholar of Persian language and literature at the University of Karachi's Department of Persian, passed away on September 2, 2020.

Tafhimi was born in India's Panipat city in 1941, and after Partition moved with his family to Pakistan to settle in Punjab's Jhang city. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of the Punjab in 1964 and completed his master's degree in Persian at the University of Karachi in 1967.

After completing his PhD thesis titled 'Shaikh Sharafuddeen Bu Ali Qalandar Panipati: His Life and Persian Works', he left Karachi for Tehran to improve his knowledge of modern Persian language and literature.

He returned to Pakistan to become Professor of Persian Language and Literature at the University of Karachi. Tafhimi has written 14 books, among them 'A Glossary of Literary Terms' in two volumes that was published by the Iran Pakistan Institute of Persian Studies in Islamabad in 1996. Another Tafhimi-led research project, which was titled 'A Concordance of Allameh Iqbal's Persian Works' and published in four volumes, was widely appreciated in both Pakistan and Iran. He retired from the University of Karachi in 2001, but continued his research activities and teaching at the university for several more years.

Tafhimi's colleagues at the University of Karachi remarked that Prof. Tafhimi's passing had caused an irreparable loss not only to academic circles but also, especially, to Persian language and literature. Prof Dr Shakeelur Rehman Farooqi said that Prof. Tafhimi had been one of those few people who were still active in promoting the Persian language in Pakistan.

"I don't think that the gap created by Dr Sahib's departure will ever be filled," he said, adding that Tafhimi was a shining star of Persian literature not only in Pakistan, but also well-known beyond, especially Iran, Afghanistan, India and Bangladesh.

OBITUARY CONT'D

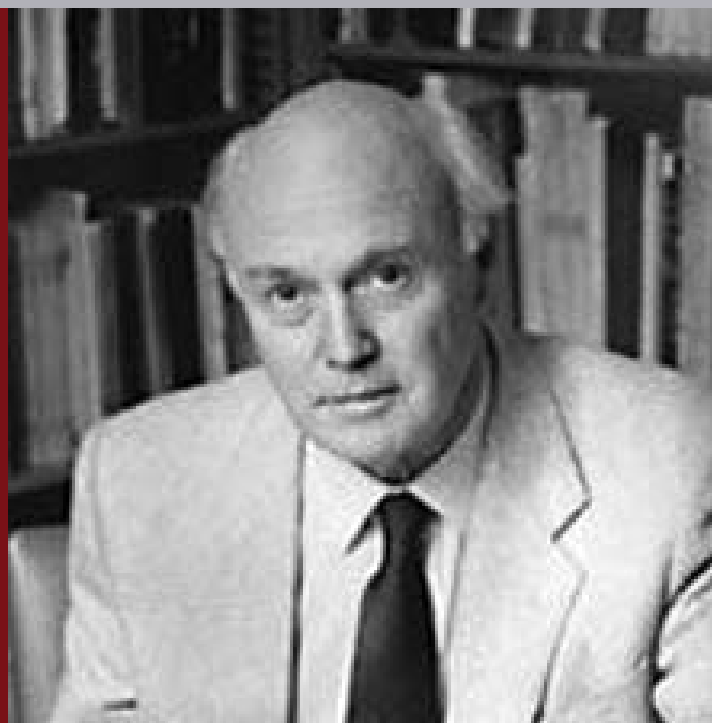
David Stronach 1931-2020

The British archaeologist David Stronach, OBE, passed away on 27th June 2020 at the age of 89. He was the founding Director of the British Institute of Persian Studies 1961-1979, and from 1981 he was Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of California at Berkeley.

During the course of a long and illustrious career, he directed excavations in Iran, including Yarim Tappeh in 1960 and 1962, Pasargadae between 1961 and 1963, a joint excavation with John Hansman at Shahr-i Qumis near Damghan between 1967 and 1976, and his excavations at the Median site of Tappeh Nush-i Jan near Malayer between 1967 and 1978.

During his directorship the British Institute of Persian Studies in Tehran was a popular destination for international scholars researching various aspects of Iranian studies, and it was particularly popular with archaeological missions who often stayed there before and after embarking on excavations.

Stronach left Iran after the 1979 Revolution, and after a brief stay in London moved with his family to the US, where he first found a post at the University of Arizona, and in 1981 was appointed Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology at the University of California at Berkeley.



Geneviève Dollfus 1938-2020

French archaeologist Geneviève Dollfus, who conducted extensive excavations in southwest Iran in the 1960s and 1970s, died on 29 August 2020, aged 82.

Dollfus is most famed for conducting archaeological excavations at Tepe Djafarabad, Tepe Djowi, and Bandebal (Khuzestan).

After becoming a member of the French National Center for Scientific Research, Dollfus joined the Susa Archaeological Expedition in Iran from 1968 to 1979, which she led as Jean-Perrot's deputy from 1976 onwards.

In addition to her numerous field projects in West Asia, Dollfus played an important role in the publication of fifteen volumes of Reports of the French Archaeological Delegation in Iran (DAFI) and was also the editor of the *Paléorient* journal for a decade.

Tehran in the 1970s was a hotbed of groundbreaking artistic activity that synthesised thought from Western modernist movements with Persian culture and tradition. This discussion reunites Fereydoun Ave and Kamran Diba, two key figures from that era to discuss the ways in which Iran's modernist legacy impacts the boom in Iranian contemporary art.

See the video by the Global Art Forum here: <https://vimeo.com/channels/179555>

Moderator: Negar Azimi, Senior Editor, *Bidoun*, New York

Speakers: Fereydoun Ave, Artist and Curator, Paris and Tehran & Kamran Diba, Architect, Paris

THE FAIRIES

An English Opera Setting of Persian Poetry by Ahmad Shamlu

The Persian Dutch Network has released a recording which has been banned in Tehran for three decades: an opera based on a famous poem by Ahmad Shamlu (1925-2000), known as the ‘Poet of Liberty’. Shamlu was an outspoken advocate for freedom of speech in Iran, which caused serious restrictions to his activities, imposed by both the monarchy and the Islamic regime. Shamlu was given a Freedom of Expression award by Human Rights Watch in 1991. His poems have been translated into various languages.

In 1989 the Persian-Canadian composer Sheida Gharachedaghi composed an opera based on the English translation of Shamlu’s *The Fairies*. The poem is an allegory of freedom and slavery, and of the complex dependence of absolute human values on particular traditions and cultures. The first Persian opera with an English libretto, it was translated by Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, former Founding Director of the *Center for Persian Studies* at the University of Maryland.

The Fairies faced restrictions in Iran because of the official ban on solo female singing imposed by the regime since the 1979 Revolution. *Tehran Opera Company* was also dissolved at this time, but the opera was nevertheless premiered in Toronto in 1989.

The year 2020 marks the 20th anniversary of Ahmad Shamlu’s death and, in commemoration, the Amsterdam-based *Persian Dutch Network* (PDN) has released the 1989 live recording of *The Fairies* for the first time.



Following the 2018 album *Choral Music from Persia* (performed by Farah Choir in 1978), *The Fairies* is the second album, banned in Tehran, that PDN is releasing in Europe. The release of these recordings is an attempt to introduce the unknown, yet fascinating, works of Persian composers to an international audience, and to form a resistance against the censorship imposed by the government in Tehran. This 2020 production is funded by *The Iranian Women’s Studies Foundation*, based in the United States. The CD is available on [Amazon](#).

Sheida Gharachedaghi (b. 1941) studied at the Vienna Music Academy and began her professional career in Tehran. Gharachedaghi founded the music department of the Institute for

the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in 1971 and was its director for five years. Whilst there, she wrote forty motion picture scores including *Downpour*, directed by Bahram Beyzaie. Shortly after the 1979 Revolution, she left for Germany, and in the mid-1980s moved to Canada. She currently lives in Montreal.

MARZIEH

10th Anniversary of Persian Diva’s Death in Exile

13 October 2020 marked the 10th anniversary of Marzieh’s death in exile. She was one of the celebrated singers of 20th-century Persia.

Ashrafossadat Mortezaei, commonly known under her stage name Marzieh, started her professional activities in the 1940s at Barbad Society in Tehran under the direction of Esmaeil Mehrtash. Through the musical “Khosrow & Shirin”, her mezzo-soprano voice gained popularity. She continued to study Persian vocal repertoire (Radif-e Avazi) with one of the iconic masters of this field, Abdollah Davami.



Marzieh, Radio Tehran, ca. 1957

At Radio Tehran, Marzieh had the chance to work with celebrated songwriters and lyricists of her time. Among her most famous works in this era are “Buye-Juye-Muliyān”, a vocal setting by Rouhollah Khaleghi of 10th-century Rudaki’s poem by the same name, and “Sang-e Khara”, written by Ali Tajvidi, with lyrics by Moeini Kermanshahi.

Following the 1979 Revolution and the official ban on solo women singing in public, Marzieh was prevented from performing. She lived in a village close to Tehran with no media presence, but in 1994 publicly joined the controversial Mujahedin-e Khalq Organisation; a decision which shocked many of her fans. MKO rented large orchestras and world-famous venues for Marzieh and she started the second phase of her career in exile. In this period, she performed new arrangements of her old songs, MKO political songs and also a few classical and patriotic works including “Mesl-e Jangal” by Mohammad Shams, with lyrics by Mohammad-Ali Esfahani. Marzieh performed her last concert at The Olympia in Paris in 2006 which was warmly received by the community and reviewed positively in the media.

Marzieh died from cancer on 13 October 2010. She was 86 years old.

(Pejman Akbarzadeh, BBC Persian Service. For more details, see <https://youtu.be/VmlEqm1uide>)

MAZANDARANI RHAPSODY

First-ever Publication of any Orchestral Scores by Hormoz Farhat

For the first time, orchestral scores by the Persian composer and ethnomusicologist Hormoz Farhat have been published. In particular, the publication concerns his piece Mazandarani Rhapsody, written in 1958.

The Rhapsody was first premiered in 1970, when it was performed by the Tehran Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Farshad Sandjari.

For the thematic content of the piece, the composer draws on three folk songs from Mazandaran, one of Persia's provinces bordering on the Caspian Sea, which is rich in folk music and dance. The folk melody (A) with which the Rhapsody begins is lyrical and slow. The next theme (B) is slightly energetic but has a reclining movement. The third theme (C), which forms the middle section of the Rhapsody, is bright and fast moving. A return to theme B followed by A and a brief coda bring the piece to its conclusion.

Hormoz Farhat (b. 1928, Tehran) earned a BA degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where his composition teacher was Boris Kremenliev. He received an MA from Mills College, where he was a pupil of Darius Milhaud. Back at UCLA, Farhat obtained a PhD in composition and ethnomusicology. His composition teachers were Lukas Foss and later Roy Harris. His PhD dissertation, "The Dastgah Concept in Persian Music", was later published by Cambridge University Press in 1990.

Hormoz Farhat

Mazandarani Rhapsody

for orchestra



Hormoz Farhat has had a long career as an academic. In the 1960s he was a faculty member in the Music Department of California State University, Long Beach, followed by several years at the School of Music of UCLA. In the 1970s he was back in his native Persia as the Head of the Music Department, University of Tehran. Since 1979 he has been in Ireland, first as a Visiting Senior Fellow of the Queen's University in Belfast and from 1981 to his retirement in 1995 in the Republic of Ireland as the Professor and Head of the School of Music, University of Dublin, Trinity College.

Hormoz Farhat has written a sizable body of works including concertos for piano, for flute and for clarinet; six string quartets, numerous other chamber works, songs, choral pieces and 5 motion picture scores. Most of Farhat's orchestral works have not been recorded yet due to a lack of financial sources.

The scores of Mazandarani Rhapsody can be purchased on amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B086XL5SLY/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=Hormoz+Farhat&qid=1586468195&sr=8-2

National Symbols in Modern Iran



Identity, Ethnicity, and Collective Memory

Menahem Merhavy

Now more than ever the role of icons and monuments in shaping a national identity is a subject of vital importance to scholars of both nationalism and memory studies.

"This book represents a rich mixture of textual, archival, and interpretative approaches to the topic."

—Ali Mozaffari, author of *Forming National Identity in Iran*

"The topic is of great interest right now among both academics and non-academics. It is well written and thoroughly researched. . . . While Iranian nationalism has been heavily studied, this book explores the topic in new ways and with new insights."

—Kamran Scot Aghaie, author of *Rethinking Iranian Nationalism and Modernity*

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PERFORMANCE IN CYBERSPACE

Iranian musicians residing in Iran and American Opera singers living in Washington, DC, have collaborated together for a performance in cyberspace.

A group of Iranian and American musicians are using digital media to create music together, which they hope will spread joy and promote unity at a time when the two countries with strained relations are reeling from the coronavirus pandemic.

Singers from Washington, DC-based opera company **IN Series** and members of the Solidarity Chamber Orchestra of Tehran collaborated over video and other digital media to perform a rendition of German-British composer Georg Friedrich Händel's "Serse," an operatic series based on the story of Xerxes I of Persia.

A video of the performance, produced with help from the North American Iranian Friendship Association (NAIFA), was released in August 2020. In the video, 19 musicians performed the musical composition in a socially distanced setting at Tehran's famed Roudaki Hall, while seven American opera singers in Washington sang along. The performance was overlaid with recitations of poetry from Rumi, the 13th century Persian poet and philosopher.

Fatemeh Keshavarz, director of the Roshan Institute for Persian Studies at the University of Maryland, and Vahid Abideh, founder of the NAIFA, came up with the idea in April. Besides a beautiful performance, Abideh said they wanted to combine Western music with Persian poetry to help bridge the cultural divide between the United States and Iran.

"The musicians on both sides are tremendously excited about helping us transcend the toxic threats of war and sanctions, rise above politics, and acknowledge each other's art and humanity," Keshavarz said in a statement.

This is particularly needed at a time like this when the world is in the grips of a ferocious pandemic," she said. It is a time to see each other's humanity and help each other heal. Nothing can do this better than art."

Timothy Nelson, artistic director for IN Series, described the collaboration as an effort to "make the impossible possible."

The clip of just over six minutes of the performance can be viewed here:
<https://www.cnn.com/style/article/iran-us-musicians-collaborate-trnd/index.html>

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ONLINE CONFERENCE

Mirrors of Iran: A continuing legacy of Persian poetry and music



The Association of Iranica in Australasia in collaboration with the Australian National University is inviting scholars, musicians, academics and researchers to participate in the upcoming virtual conference scheduled for November 27th, 2020.

Persian Music, Poetry and related disciplines are the focus of the conference.

Papers and presentations are sought to explore a broad spectrum of music and poetry that could include the following themes:

- Persian Music and Classical Poetry
- Persian Ceremonial Music and Epic Poetry
- Persian Religious Music
- Persian Folk or Ethnic Music
- Persian Urban Popular Music

Online conference date: 27 November 9 am – 5.00 pm (Australian Eastern time)
 Dr Zahra Taheri
 M Masoud Rowshan

For more information, please visit [here](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Tudeh Party of Iran at 80: A Critical Re-Appraisal and ReEvaluation

Organised by Leonard Michael and Siavush Randjbar-Daemi, School of History and Institute of Iranian Studies, University of St Andrews.

To be held online week commencing 29 March 2021. The deadline for paper submissions is Friday, December 4, 2020.

The year 2021 marks the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Tudeh (Masses) Party of Iran, a political formation which has played an important role in shaping the modern and contemporary history of the country. Throughout its existence, the Tudeh has deeply polarised the Iranian political community and has caused a considerable amount of controversy. A considerable number of the country's leading political figures, intellectuals and statesmen have at least briefly transited through its complex structures. The Tudeh is still considered by many observers as Iran's most significant and structured political party of the 20th Century.

This conference seeks to explore the various dimensions of the Tudeh Party from its inception in 1941 to the present era. It aspires to focus on both the party's political evolution through decades of upheaval in Iran and exile in Europe, as well as the impact of the Tudeh on the Iranian arts, literature and cultural scenes. The conference is particularly keen to provide an avenue for the discussion of new research on understudied elements in the party's history, such as its attitudes towards gender and ethnic minority questions, the everyday activism of lower ranking cadres and sympathisers both during the periods in which the party was able to operate legally or overtly in the country and those during which it had to operate in a clandestine manner and its relationship with other components the Iranian and international Left. The organisers are also keen to ensure a cross-generational presence and approach at this conference.

The organisers intend to produce an edited volume which will include a number of the conference's submissions. Submissions in English are therefore preferred; however, the organisers will also consider talks to be delivered in Persian.

Due to the current COVID-19 related restrictions, the conference will be held entirely online, with proceedings broadcast live and publicly via YouTube. The deadline for paper submissions is Friday, December 4, 2020. Successful applicants will be notified by the middle of January.

Please visit <https://bit.ly/36dB>. Try to fill in the paper submission form. The organisers may be contacted for any questions regarding the conference on tudehconference2021@gmail.com

Iran Namag: A Quarterly of Iranian Studies

Call for Papers for a special issue on Radio

Editors: Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi and Khatereh Sheibani



The first public radio broadcast in Iran was presented in 1940, by employing a short-wave transmitter initially used for telegraph and telephone transmissions. Improved radio technology was a dream to be fulfilled in the coming years. Immediately after the launch of radio, it became the most popular form of media in the country and played a significant role in Iran's sociocultural and political arenas. After the advent of radio, the print industry lost its monopoly on mass communication in the country. Radio, as the most widespread form of media, eliminated discriminations based on age, gender, social class, and economic status. People from all walks of life, including adults and children, women and men, literate and illiterate, rich and poor, were able to listen to radio. Radio amplifiers in city centers, public spaces, and cafés made radio the most accessible form of mass media in 1940s and 1950s Iran. The shared experience of listening to popular radio programs created social and emotional connections among a single generation and even multiple generations. Unlike many other forms of entertainment, such as theatre and cinema, radio was home based, so it was available to women and children in the comfort of their homes. In the age of digital technology and the abundance of information and entertainment provided by social media platforms such as YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook, radio has not vanished but has transformed into a decentralized medium by employing new communication platforms. Even though radio has had a tremendous role in the historical, sociocultural, and political affairs of Iranians, it has not been thoroughly studied in academia. This special issue of Iran Namag is dedicated to radio. The editors seek well-documented research articles that explore topics such as the following:

- The role of radio in social and political changes in Iran
- Documentary programs, dramas, or fictional series in radio
- Radio for children and young adults
- Censorship and national, governmental, and global policies in radio programming
- Satire and comedy in radio
- Pop culture in radio
- Radio, democracy, and public domain
- Privatization in radio
- Cultural diversity, globalization, and radio
- Dubbing and international programs in radio
- Radio in the Iranian provinces

CALL FOR PAPERS CONT'D

- Persian radio in other countries
- Religious radio programs
- Relations between music, audience, and radio
- Radio in the digital age

Please send your abstracts, in Persian or English, of no more than 500 words, along with a short bio (100 words) by November 30, 2020, to Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi (editor@irannamag.com) and Khatereh Sheibani (sheibani@yorku.ca). As a bilingual quarterly, Iran Namag accepts articles for review in Persian and English.

Authors of the selected abstracts will be asked to submit the final drafts of their articles (6000 to 8000 words) by July 1, 2021.

Iran Namag is committed to responsible authorship, intellectual honesty, the appropriate assignment of credit and responsibility, and ethical publication practices. It encourages contributors to be explicit and generous in acknowledging their intellectual debts to other scholars through commensurate citations. To promote scholarly collaboration and the free exchange of ideas, authors are expected to give due credit to collaborators and to acknowledge assistance received from colleagues, students, and research assistants.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

The National Library and Archives of Iran @nlai_ir has made available digitized journals from the Qajar period to the post-revolution era. Access is free but signing up for an account is required: <https://sana.nlai.irps://sana.nlai>.

CONTEMPORARY IRAN FORUM

Yale's Contemporary Iran Forum facilitates a better understanding of issues related to contemporary Iran. It brings together leading experts from different fields to discuss various Iran-related topics and look at Iran in broader regional and global contexts. Its video archive can be visited at <https://iranianstudies.macmillan.yale.edu/iran-forum-videos>

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Conference: The Life and Work of Shahrokh Meskoob

October 29, 2020 - 10:00am

Event Sponsor:

Hamid and Christina Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University Libraries

Scholars will discuss the life and work of Shahrokh Meskoob, one of modern Iran's most respected and acclaimed public intellectuals, literary critics, and memoirists. His papers were recently donated to Stanford's Green Library and include hundreds of letters from some of Iran's most prominent intellectuals, thousands of pages of notes, and first drafts of many of his manuscripts. This conference celebrates the launch of the archive. Links to panelist presentations will be emailed one week before the discussion. Join the live Zoom webinar on October 29th for a discussion with the panelists, chaired by Dr. C. Ryan Perkins, Stanford University.

PRESENTATIONS

Ali Banuazizi: Meskoob and the Question of Iranian Cultural Identity

Bahram Beyzaie: Meskoob's Reading of Mythology

Reza Farokhfal: Meskoob: A Contemporary Voice Who is Still Contemporary

M.R. Ghanoonparvar: Translating Meskoob: In Pursuit of Iranian Cultural Identity

Hassan Kamshad: 63 Years of Friendship

Sorour Kasmai: Leaving, Remaining, Returning: The Question of Form in Three of Meskoob's Narrative Texts

Abbas Milani: Meskoob and Modernity

Zoom webinar

[RSVP for this event](#)

Contact Email:

iranianstudies@stanford.edu



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CONT'D

The Legacy of Forugh Farrokhzad

Event Date: Thursday, December 3 - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

The Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies and The Poetry Center at San Francisco State University proudly present a celebration of the life and poetry of Forugh Farrokhzad, the most iconic female poet of Iran, whose work changed the landscape of contemporary Persian poetry on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 4:00 pm (PST). More than fifty years after her death, Forugh's poetry resonates with global readers and writers. This program features the work of three writers/poets of the Iranian diaspora. Co-presented by the Poetry Center and the Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies.

Free and open to the public.

Please register for this Zoom webinar at tinyurl.com/LegacyofForugh.

Jasmin Darznik is the author of "Song of a Captive Bird" which was selected as a New York Times Book Review "Editors' Choice" book and a Los Angeles Times bestseller. She is also the author of the New York Times bestseller "The Good Daughter: A Memoir of My Mother's Hidden Life." She is a professor of English and Creative Writing at California College of the Arts.

Shabnam Piryaee is an award-winning poet, playwright, media artist, and filmmaker. In addition to her books, "Nothing is Wasted," "FORWARD," and "ode to fragile," she wrote and directed three poetry films that have screened at film festivals and art galleries around the world. She is an assistant professor in the Department of Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts at San Francisco State University.

Sholeh Wolpe is an Iranian-born poet, writer and playwright. She is the recipient of the 2014 PEN/Heim, 2013 Midwest Book Award, 2010 Lois Roth Persian Translation prize as well as artist fellowship and residencies in the US, Mexico, Spain, Australia, and Switzerland. Her literary work includes five collections of poetry, several plays, four books of translations, and three anthologies.

E-mail: iraniandiasporastudies@sfsu.edu



The Legacy of Forugh Farrokhzad

New event date and time on Zoom:

Thursday, December 3, 2020, 4:00 pm (PST)

Registration: tinyurl.com/LegacyofForugh

A celebration of the life and poetry of Forugh Farrokhzad, the most iconic female poet of Iran, whose work changed the landscape of contemporary Persian poetry. More than fifty years after her death, Forugh's poetry resonates with global readers and writers. This program features the work of three writers/poets of the Iranian diaspora. Co-presented by the Poetry Center and the Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies. *Free and Open to the Public*



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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CONT'D

Covid-19 in the Middle East and North Africa: What Have We Learned?

22-23 January 2021

Conference Organizers: Dr. Manijeh Mannani (Athabasca University); Dr. Iman Mersal (University of Alberta); Dr. Khatereh Sheibani (York University)

How has the Covid-19 pandemic affected the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), a region that was already in socio-political, economic, and ecological turmoil —a volatile area that has witnessed a great deal of human suffering, abuse of power, and human rights violations? How are the people in this region coping with this pandemic compared to other parts of the world, including the Global North? What do we need to learn about the MENA in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic?

The compounding impact of the pandemic on MENA, given its tumultuous history and the existing layers of man-made and natural disasters in the region prior to Covid-19, constitute the rationale behind this conference and the ensuing publication. We call for scholarly papers and testimonials that reflect on the pandemic in the MENA region from a variety of perspectives, including but are not limited to cultural studies, literary studies, and visual/performing arts.

Topics of interest include the following:

- human rights and gender issues (as basic rights and gender equity tend to be further compromised during times of crisis)
- violence
- sociopolitical boundaries
- restrictions of age and class
- mobility, migration, and (self)exile
- conspiracy theories
- ethics
- empathy
- humour
- grieving
- victimhood

All abstracts/papers must be in English. Please send a 250-word abstract and a 100-word academic bio to: mideast.conference@gmail.com by November 2, 2020.

Following the conference, an edited volume, comprising selected conference papers and additional solicited articles, will be prepared and submitted for publication to an academic publisher.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)

The Call for Applications for the 2021 Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is now open at: <https://www.clscholarship.org/apply>

CLS enables students to learn a critical foreign language next summer on a fully-funded study abroad program.

Applications are due Tuesday, November 17, 2020 by 8:00pm EST.

The CLS Program is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program for American students enrolled at U.S. colleges and universities. Students spend eight to ten weeks abroad studying one of 15 critical languages. The program includes intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences designed to promote rapid language gains. Most languages offered by the CLS Program (9 of 15) do not require applicants to have any experience studying critical languages.

CLS, a program of the U.S. Department of State, is part of a wider government initiative to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering foreign languages that are critical to national security and economic prosperity. CLS plays an important role in preparing students for the 21st century's globalized workforce and increasing national competitiveness.

The CLS Program offers instruction in the following languages: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, **Persian**, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Swahili, Turkish, and Urdu. Resources for advisors are available on our web site at: <https://clscholarship.org/advisors>

The CLS Program will host weekly **webinars** for students and advisors throughout the fall. Each webinar will begin with a brief informational presentation about the program followed by ample time for audience questions and answers.

A full calendar of these events and corresponding registration links is available on our web site: <https://clscholarship.org/events>
For other questions, please contact us at: cls@americancouncils.org

JOBS

Modern Middle East History (Assistant or Associate Professor, tenure-track)
Canada Research Chair (CRC-T2)
Department of History, University of British Columbia

Deadline: Review of applications will begin 1 November 2020 and continue until the position is filled.

For the job posting, click [here](#).

The Department of History, in the Faculty of Arts, at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver), invites applications for an appointment of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Tier 2 Canada Research Chair with a focus on the history of the modern Middle East, broadly construed both temporally and geographically. The thematic focus is open. Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars (i.e., candidates must have been active researchers in their field for fewer than 10 years from their degree at the time of nomination). Please view the job ad for further details.

The University of British Columbia, a top-ranking research-intensive public university located in Vancouver, Canada, is actively looking to grow Middle East Studies in all departments, and particularly those such as Political Science that have no Middle East representation. History and Anthropology are explicitly for candidates who work on the Middle East, including Iran. The History department and the search committee are particularly interested in a strong pool of Iranianist candidates and this department has a broad and loose definition of 'modern'.

Sociocultural Anthropology (Assistant Professor, tenure-track)

Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia
Deadline: Review of applications will begin on 23 October 2020 and continue until the position is filled.

For the job posting, click [here](#).

The Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in sociocultural anthropology specializing in theoretical and/or ethnographic approaches to the study of race and racialization and/or queer theory. Regional focus is open, though the department has identified a strong interest in scholars working in Asia, the Middle East and/or Oceania.

Yale Program in Iranian Studies: Ehsan Yarshater-PHF Post-Doctoral Fellowship, 2021-2022

The Yale Program in Iranian Studies, part of the Council on Middle East Studies, accepts applications for the Ehsan Yarshater-Persian Heritage Foundation Fellowship in Iranian and Persian Studies for 2021-22.

The Post-Doctoral Associate will teach one undergraduate seminar in the Fall or Spring semester, pursue their own research, and help to organize the activities of the Yale Program in Iranian Studies (YPIS). Post-doctoral Associates are expected to work collaboratively with the Council on Middle East Studies and be in residence from August 2021 to May 2022.

Applications will be accepted from October 2020 and review will begin in early January 2021.

Qualifications

Applicants in all fields of humanities and social, political and environmental sciences who have recently received their PhDs or are in the early stages of their academic career may apply.

Application Instructions

To apply, please send a one-page statement, *Curriculum Vitae*, short synopsis of a viable research project, and draft of a syllabus for a 13-week seminar. You will also need to have two letters of recommendation submitted on your behalf.

All materials should be submitted electronically through apply.interfolio.com/79421.

Please contact Cristin Siebert by email, cristin.siebert@yale.edu, for any questions related to the application process. The Program in Iranian Studies website is accessible here: <http://iranianstudies.macmillan.yale.edu/>

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