



SIS NEWS

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THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES



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THE SECOND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE ON IRANIAN STUDIES: THE FINAL REPORT

ALI BANUAZIZI

The Second Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies was held in Bethesda, Maryland, on May 22-24, 1998. Cosponsored by the Society for Iranian Studies (SIS) and the American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIIS), the conference brought together nearly 400 scholars, researchers, and students from all fields of Iranian studies, as well as representatives from the media and interested members of the public.

The scope of the program was remarkably broad, covering all periods of Iran's history, from the Achaemenids to the present, and representing the various disciplines that contribute to the richness and diversity of the field, including art and architecture, archaeology, history, linguistics, literature, religion, and the social sciences. In all there were 29 panels and 5 workshops, falling roughly into the following nine categories:

Art & Architecture

- Art and Architecture in the Qajar Period
- Collecting Persian Art

Archaeology & Pre-Islamic History

- Archaeology of Iran
- The Achaemenid Period
- New Aspects of Sasanian History

Medieval & Qajar History

- Mint and Money in Pre-Modern Iran
- Crafts, Trade, & Social Change from the Safavids to the Qajars
- New Elites of Isfahan: Patronage, Esthetics, & Power in Safavid Iran
- Science, Technology, & Culture in Qajar Iran
- Aspects of Medieval Shi'ism
- Iran in the Aftermath of the Constitutional Revolution

Historiography

- Persian Historiography: Pre-Modern Period
- Aspects of Time and Space in Persian History

Literature & Linguistics

- Persian and Iranian Linguistics
- Classical Persian Culture and Literature
- History as Literature, Literature as History
- Modern Persian Narratology
- Wiles of Women—and of Men
- Exile and Imagination

Post-Revolutionary Iran

- Iran's Economy at the Threshold of the 21st Century
- Women in Contemporary Iranian Society
- Tradition and Modernity in

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IRANIAN STUDIES

ROBERT D. MCCHESENEY

It is an honor to have been asked to assume the editorship of *Iranian Studies* for a three-year term beginning July 1, 1998. The editorship is a considerable challenge and a great opportunity. The challenge will be to maintain the high academic quality that the journal has achieved under its previous editors, most notably the current editor, Abbas Amanat, whose shoes will be hard to fill. The opportunity lies in internationalizing the journal's editorial board, in extending the scope of its coverage to the greater Persian world, those areas beyond present-day Iran where Persian culture and civilization left an indelible mark, and in widening its coverage of Iranian history, culture and society.

I have been fortunate in enlisting a board of editorial advisors distinguished in scholarship and diverse in interests.

Janet Afary (Purdue University)

Ali Banuazizi (Boston College)

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Stephen Frederick Dale (Ohio State University)

Richard Davis (Ohio State University) (Associate Editor for Literature)

William Hanaway (University of Pennsylvania, emeritus)

Masashi Haneda (University of Tokyo)

Bernard Hourcade (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique)

Farhad Kazemi (New York University)

Rudi Matthee (University of Delaware) (Associate Editor for History and Book Review Editor)

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THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN
STUDIES

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- Islamic Movements
- Prospects of Pluralism in Post-Revolutionary Iran
- Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, & Central Asia*
- Iran, Central Asia, and India in Safavid Times
- Iran and Azerbaijan: Recent Trends in Identity Formation
- Perspectives on the Study of Persian-Speaking Societies (Workshop)
- History & Politics of Modern Afghanistan (Workshop)
- Culture, Geography & Social History*
- Lessons from the Ethnographic Process in Iran
- Changing Iranian Identities (Workshop)
- Geographical Perspectives on Iranian Studies
- Sports as a Social Institution
- Current Issues Workshops*
- Iranians in Cyberspace (Workshop)
- Iran & Persian Gulf Security (Workshop)

In addition to the above panels and workshops, there were two plenary sessions organized around somewhat broader themes of potential interest to all the participants. The first, a symposium on "Iranian Studies at the Millennium," brought together four distinguished scholars, Professors Shahrough Akhavi (social sciences), Juan R. Cole (history), J.T.P. de Bruijn (literature), and Priscilla Soucek (art history), to take stock of the recent developments in major subareas of Iranian studies, to identify promising areas of research, and, more generally, to share with the audience their evaluation of the future prospects of the field. The second plenary session, on "Modes and Mediums of Intellectual Exchange in Iran," featured a wide-ranging lecture on the "Culture of the Book in Contemporary Iran," by the noted Iranian critic and publisher, Mr. Karim Emami, followed by two presentations in Persian, one by Professor Javad Tabatabai, and the other by the prominent Iranian attorney and women's rights activist, Ms. Mehrangiz Kar.

A particularly encouraging aspect of the conference was the substantial representation of women (nearly one-third) and the younger generation of scholars among the 150 individuals who presented papers or spoke at the workshops. Similarly, the presence of several invited guests from Iran, Europe, and the Middle East added significantly to the diversity of the conference.

Two associated cultural events enriched the experience of the conference for the participants. The first was a showing of Abbas Kiarostami's award-winning film, *A Taste of Cherries*, introduced by Dr. Jamsheed Akrami. The other was an evening of Persian poetry and music, featuring the poetry of Hafez, sung and performed by the small ensemble of Elizabeth Gray and associates. Both events drew large audiences from among the conference participants as well as the public at large.

The initial plans for the conference were developed and set in motion by our Past President, Professor Ehsan Yarshater, whose unstinting support and wise counsel continued through its final implementation. The AIIRs provided critical financial support for the conference, and the valuable advice assistance of the President of the Institute, Professor Michael Bonine, and several of its trustees helped to increase the coverage of the earlier periods of Iranian history, art, and archaeology in the planning of the program.

Five other organizations also provided financial and personnel support to the conference. These were the Foundation for Iranian Studies, Iran Heritage Foundation (London), The newly formed International Association for the Study of Persian Speaking Societies, Persian Heritage Foundation, and Mage Publishers. On behalf of the Society, I would like to offer our sincere thanks to the directors of these organizations.

The Society is deeply indebted to Professor Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak whose tireless efforts at every phase of planning and execution of the conference ensured its every success. In this work, he was aided by a distinguished and dedicated Program Committee, made up of Professors Abbas Amanat, Said Amir Arjomand, Anne Betteridge, Nader Entessar, Robert D. McChesney, Priscilla Soucek, and William M. Sumner, to whom the Society is most grateful.

Drs. Roya Marefat and Mohammad Gudarzi, as Co-Chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee in Washington, spent countless hours in taking care of myriad details of logistics, staffing, and overall coordination.

The Society is, also, most grateful to Ms. Mahnaz Afkhami, who, together with her colleagues at the Foundation for Iranian Studies, organized the two major cultural events during the conference, and to Mr. Mohammad Batmanglij and Ms. Najmieh Batmanglij (Mage Publishers), who prepared the program brochure and helped coordinate the publishers' exhibits with the same high artistic and professional standards that we have learned to associate with the Mage imprint.

Finally, I should like to express my personal thanks to the other members of the Executive Committee, Farhad Kazemi, Kambiz Eslami and Vahid Noshirvani, as well as to Ahmad Ashraf, who contributed significantly to the conference's planning and execution in its every phase. The conference took place under Kambiz Eslami's watch as the Society's Executive Secretary, and it was he who bore final administrative responsibility for its successful implementation.

Held some five years after the Society's first general conference back in 1993 (also in the vicinity of Washington), this year's conference not only liberalized the meaning of word "biennial," but it testified, as well, to the Society's renewed level of activity after its thirtieth anniversary in 1997. More important still, it showed the remarkable vitality of the field and the high standards of scholarship evident in the work of its practitioners. Based on the positive feedback that we have received from the many participants during and after the conference, the Executive Committee of the Society has decided to begin preparations for the Third Biennial Conference to be held in the year 2000—again in the Washington area. It is hoped that by holding regular biennial conferences the Society could provide a major forum for the presentation of new research and scholarship in the field—a principal goal of SIS since its inception.

THE NEW PUBLISHER OF Encyclopædia Iranica

Henceforth the Encyclopædia Iranica will be published by the *Bibliotheca Persica Press (BPP)* of New York and distributed by *Eisenbrauns Publishers Inc.*, P.O. Box 275 Winona Lake, IN 46590
Phone: (219) 269-2011 Fax: (219) 269-6788. Fascicle 1 of Volume IX of the Encyclopædia is currently in press.

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Charles P. Melville (Cambridge University)
Jürgen Paul (University of Halle)
Priscilla Soucek (New York University)
Maria E. Subtelny (University of Toronto)

My immediate goal is to bring the journal up to date and get it back on a regular publishing schedule. I am very mindful of the fact that in return for your annual membership dues you expect to receive the journal in a timely way. There are currently four issues in the works, which when published will complete the 1998 year. These are: one on Iranian literature since 1977, guest-edited by Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, an issue devoted to reviews of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*, one on Iranians in America, and an issue on the Safavid period.

Ultimately the success of the journal rests not with the editor and the board but with the contributors. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to think of the journal as the first venue for publishing your work on Iran. Your submissions will receive prompt and careful review by at least two experts in the field and, if your work is accepted, we will give you a clear idea of the date of publication.

THE NEW ISSUE OF *IRANIAN STUDIES*

The next issue of *Iranian Studies* (Volume 30, numbers 3-4) is finally in press. This special issue, guest edited by professor Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak of the University of Washington, features "Selections from the Literature of Iran, 1977-97." It was due to appear last October, but the copy editing and formatting stages of the production process took far longer than anyone expected. We hope the issue will be ready in October, but given the length of the printing stage, it may be available in time for distribution at the next MESA meeting in December.

Fortunately, the delay in the Journal's production is compensated handsomely by a menu of contents that promises to make this a truly exceptional and memorable issue. It features an encompassing selection of the topical literature of Iran in the last two decades, translated by a large number of our colleagues engaged in the study of Iran's literature. The texts have been selected from among works written between the "Ten Nights" of poetry reading at the Goethe Institute in Tehran in October 1977 to the election of Mohammad Khatami as Iran's president last year. These events bracket two of the most eventful decades of literary activity unique in the annals of modern Iran. In his foreword to the issue, *Iranian Studies* editor professor Abbas Amanat characterizes the contents of this issue in these words:

Perhaps the first publication in English on this subject, in this issue the revolution and its aftermath are, of course, recurring

themes with different reactions and depictions. Other relevant themes such as the lives of women, history, religion, life in exile, and the role of the writer, are also present, thus bringing together a wide variety of voices ranging from the exiled dissidents to the victims of the Iran-Iraq war.

In his introduction, the guest editor presents the historical background to this body of texts and develops a theoretical framework for the understanding of topical literature that goes well beyond the collection of texts featured in the issue and promises to become a model for analyzing all literary works that address significant issues of sociopolitical import in any society at any given time. He then discusses each work within that framework, thus helping the reader to view each text in its appropriate social context. In its 18 sections, the issue features the works of twenty-five contemporary poets and writers of Iran, as translated and introduced by seventeen prominent scholars active in translating and interpreting works of literature. For these reasons, in addition to its scholarly significance, the selections may serve important pedagogical purposes. This issue of *Iranian Studies* also features ten book reviews and a number of other sections.

Contents include:

Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak	<i>Introduction</i>
Ahmad Shamlu	"End of the Game" "Morning" (Tr. Firoozeh Papatn-Matin & Arthur Lane) "In This Blind Alley" (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak)
Mohammad Hossein Shahriyar	"To My Brother, Suleyman Rustama" "I Turned It into a Sea" (Tr. Hadi Sultan Qurraie)
Hushang Golshiri	"The Victory Chronicle of the Magi" (Tr. M. R. Ghanoonparvar)
Mehdi Akhavan-Saless	"I Love You, Ancient Homeland" (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak)
Simin Behbahani	"The Broken Cup" (Tr. Kamran Tallatof)
Mitra Davar	"Homework" (Tr. Nasrin Rahimieh)
Zoya Pirzad	"A Lifetime" "Winter" (Tr. Mariana Kargar-Samani)
A Compendium of the Wills of Iranian Martyrs	(Tr. Nader Nazemi)

Ayatallah Khomeini	Five Mystical Ghazals (Tr. William Hanaway)
Six Poems on the Death of Ayatallah Khomeini	(Tr. Paul Losensky)
The Statement by 134 Iranian Writers	(Tr. Hammed Shahidian)
Simin Behbahani	"Necklace" "And See" "From the Street (VI)" "The Child Followed" "The Man Who Lost One Leg" (Tr. Farzaneh Milani and Kaveh Safa)
Nader Naderpur	"The Cross and the Clock" "A Spring Tale" (Tr. William Hanaway) "A Leaf in the Rain" (Tr. Farooq Hamid)
Nasim Khaksar	A Play (Tr. Firoozeh Papatn-Matin & Arthur Lane)
Esmā'il Kho'i	"Return to Borgio" "Verezzi" "What a Sense of Being" "Lost" "Getting adjusted" (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak and Michael Beard)
Djavad Djavahery	"Flying" (Tr. Houra Yavari)
'Ali Akbar Saidi-Sirjani	"Bichareh Esfandiyar" : an Excerpt (Tr. Jerome W. Clinton)
Goli Taraqqi	<i>A Home in the Sky</i> (Tr. Kambiz Eslami)
Massoud Sepand	<i>The Air at Home</i> (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak)
Khalil Kalbasi	<i>Halloween</i> (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak)
Mohammad Mokhtari	<i>From the Other Half</i> (Tr. Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak)
Faraj Sarkuhi	A letter (Tr. A. Jayran)
NaaNamm [Hossein Fazeli]	Seven Poems (Tr. Peyman Vahabzadeh)

Reviews:

Roger Allen

(My Uncle Napoleon / Iraj Pezeshkzad ; tr. Dick Davis)

Touraj Daryaei

(Les Textes vieil-avestiques / ed. Jean Kellens, Eric Pirart [vol. 1])

Gene R. Garthwaite

(Reading nasta'liq / Willaim L. Hanaway, Brian Spooner)

Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak

(Az Nima ta ruzegar-e ma / Yahya Aryanpur)

Julie Scott Meisami

(The green sea of heaven / tr. Elizabeth T. Gray, Jr.)

John R. Perry

(Iran und Turfan / Christiane Reck, Peter Zieme)

Morgan Reid

(The history of al-Tabari ; v. 33 : Storm and stress along the northern frontiers of the 'Abbasid Caliphate / tr. C.E. Bosworth)

Darius Rejali

(Tales of two cities / Abbas Milani)

Marta Simidchieva

(Avicenna and I / Manoucher Parvin)

Judith Terry

(In a voice of their own : a collection of stories by Iranian women written since the Revolution of 1979 / tr. Franklin Lewis, Farzin Yazdanfar)

painting rarely seen elsewhere in the Islamic world. The Persian tradition of figural designs was rooted in monumental pre-Islamic wall paintings and sculpture produced more than two thousand years before the Qajar period. After the advent of Islam in Iran in A.D. 641, this tradition continued only in small scale until the late seventeenth century, when monumental and life-size painting of the human figure reemerged. Large-scale figural painting culminated during the Qajar era, becoming its principal artistic legacy.

During the seventeenth through twentieth centuries, Iran's interaction with the West intensified. This exhibition charts how European artistic conventions influenced paintings of the period and how the major subjects of Qajar painting—royalty, women, and religious themes—reflect the political and social changes of this era. To examine these themes, the exhibition builds on the work of primarily Iranian scholars.

Royal Persian Paintings, which is accompanied by the first full-length scholarly catalogue on the subject, has been organized by Dr. Layla Diba, Hagop Kevorkian Curator of Islamic Art at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, with Dr. Maryam Ekhtiar, Senior Research Associate. The exhibition will travel to the Armand Hammer Museum of Art in Los Angeles, where it will be on view from February 24, through May 9, 1999, and to the Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, where it will be presented from July 5, through September 26, 1999.

THE ROYAL QAJAR PAINTINGS
EXHIBITION

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART

Royal Persian Paintings: The Qajar Epoch 1785-1925—the first major exhibition to feature the visual arts of Iran's Qajar dynasty—will be on view at the Brooklyn Museum of Art from October 23, 1998, to January 24, 1999. The exhibition has been assembled from thirty-six internationally renowned private and public collections such as the Louvre in Paris, the State Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, as well as the Brooklyn Museum of Art's own celebrated collection of Qajar art.

The 104 works in the exhibition include oil paintings, manuscript illustrations, works on paper, and decorative arts. One of the highlights of the show is an exquisite painted ceiling which measures more than 200 square feet. The paintings range in size from miniature to monumental; many of the life-size paintings were originally intended as integral elements of decorative wall treatments for architectural interiors.

The use of the human figure was an anomaly in Islamic culture, which generally approached human representation with caution. Qajar artists revived an indigenous tradition of life-size figural

THE COMPLETION OF
THE TABARI TRANSLATION PROJECT

With the forthcoming publication of Volume V, the 39-volume translation and annotation of the monumental *History (al-Tarikh)* of al-Tabari will be completed in 1999. Translated and annotated by Prof. C. E. Bosworth, this volume covers one of the most important sections of al-Tabari's work, containing the most extensive information available on Persian history from the 3rd to the 7th centuries (the Sasanian period). Prepared under general editorship of Prof. Ehsan Yarshater and published by the SUNY Press, the translation and annotation of Tabari's monumental work has generated great excitement and high praise and has received numerous reviews in a wide range of academic journals. An index volume of names, places and subjects of this colossal work is under preparation and will be published as a separate volume.

*The Executive Committee of The Society for Iranian Studies
would like to extend its most sincere condolences to
Dr. Layla Diba on the tragic passing of her husband,
Mr. Mahmood Diba*

THE RICHARD W. COTTAM MEMORIAL PRIZE FUND

The University of Pittsburgh has announced a fund-raising project to honor Richard W. Cottam, its recently deceased University Professor emeritus of political science. Pitt seeks an endowment to support doctoral students in political science and allied fields and programs who are at the dissertation stage working on subjects pertinent to Cottam's interests in the following areas: International relations theory, foreign policy, nationalism and ethnicity, diplomacy, theories of peace and conflict, and the international politics of the Middle East.

In announcing the project, political scientist Bert Rockman spoke of Cottam's dedication to "all the facets of his calling. His scholarship on Iran, international relations and diplomatic theory, foreign policy and nationalism was notable and provocative. His dedication to teaching in all of its aspects was legendary."

Referring to Cottam's influence on his colleagues in the academy, Rockman said: "He challenged us all in ways that made us rethink what it is we thought we knew." Speaking of Cottam's intense interest in foreign policy, Rockman said that Cottam was "motivated to connect the world of scholarship to the world of practical affairs in a way that would make the world we all live in safer."

Contributions to the "Richard W. Cottam Memorial Prize Fund" should be mailed to the Office of Development, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-3700.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Travel Fellowships for Iranian Scholars

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF PERSIAN-SPEAKING SOCIETIES

The International Association for the Study of Persian-speaking Societies is pleased to announce the availability of ten Travel Fellowships for scholars and researchers from Iran to take part in academic and cultural conferences and conventions in the United States. Each Travel Fellowship covers all travel and lodging expenses of the recipient subject to a limit of \$2500. The conditions for eligibility are engagement in teaching or research in the humanities or social sciences and an invitation or acceptance of a paper from the sponsors of the conference. No special application form is required. Applications must be received as long ahead of the time of travel as possible, and no later than three months before the conference to be attended. Those interested should submit a letter of application, together with a curriculum vitae and the letter of acceptance from the appropriate convention to:

S.A. Arjomand/ IASPS Department of Sociology State University of New York Stony Brook, NY 11794-4356

Conference sponsors may also apply on behalf of participants by submitting the same documentation.

PERSIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN

During the summer of 1998, I participated - along with 8 other American graduate students - in the first academic exchange between the United States and Iran since the Islamic revolution nearly twenty years ago. The program was organized on the US side by the American Institute of Iranian Studies, and it was facilitated by the cooperation of both governments. Our airfare to Iran was funded by the American government, while the Iranian government covered tuition and all of our living costs in Tehran.

The program consisted of approximately twenty hours' per week of instruction in Persian grammar, literature and history at the International Center for Persian Studies, which is administered by the renowned Moasese Loaghtnameh Dehkoda. Outside of class, we had the time to roam around Tehran - haunting the bookstores along Enghelab Avenue, plunging through the Grand Bazaar, hiking in the mountains on the weekends, and generally joining in Iranian social life in the city's many parks and teahouses. We were also completely free to explore the rest of Iran on our own, and among our group, individuals visited Qom, Kashan, Isfahan, Shiraz, Mashhad, Ardabil, Tabriz, Yazd, and the Caspian area.

The reaction we received from Iranians - whether it was from the taxi drivers who took us on death-defying spins through Tehran traffic, the friends of friends from the U.S. who invited us to their homes, or the random people on the street who stopped to query our nationality - was almost uniformly enthusiastic and welcoming. Wherever we went, Iranians greeted us with kindness, hospitality and a tremendous amount of curiosity. Most were eager to discuss Iranian politics, including the trial of Tehran Mayor Gholamhossein Karabaschi which was taking place at the time, as well as the future of relations between our countries. It was not uncommon to hear Washington

criticized, particularly after the U.S. missile strikes on Afghanistan and Sudan, but it seemed as though most Iranians genuinely distinguish between governments and peoples.

Our time in Tehran was profoundly informative on many different levels. Our language skills – which in most cases were at an elementary level when we arrived – advanced rapidly in the context of constant exposure to Persian. This is particularly true of our oral proficiency. The intensive language instruction that I had received prior to the trip focused almost exclusively on grammar. The daily demands of immersion – communicating and understanding everything from class assignments to restaurants menus – proved to be the best method for learning to speak and listen in Persian.

For those of us involved in doctoral research, the program also offered a unique opportunity to access Iranian sources. Research in Iran still poses considerable challenges – from the cultural differences in the approach to politics and history to the restrictions imposed on the discussion of sensitive topics. The two-decade absence of American academics in Iran contributes to the problem; the networks of contacts and resources that formerly existed will need to be reestablished. But despite these obstacles, we found a vibrant intellectual life in Iran, a readiness to explore modern history and current events, and surprisingly candid discussions with government officials.

Most importantly, the program exposed us on a first-hand basis to the complex beauty of Iranian culture and society. We learned a few stanzas of Hafez and Ferdousi, absorbed the subtle guidelines of proper hijab, and negotiated – awkwardly, I'm sure – the ever-important territory of ta'aruf speech and behavior. In short, we became familiar with Iran and its people in a more personal way than any book could ever teach us. I hope that other American students will have the same opportunity.

Suzanne Maloney
Ph.D. Candidate
Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
Tufts University

THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL ROUND TABLE ON SAFAVID PERSIA

The Third Round Table on Safavid Persia was held at The University of Edinburgh from August 19 to 22, 1998. It was organized by Dr. Andrew Newman and supported by the Iran Heritage Foundation, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the University of Edinburgh's Arts, Divinity and Music Faculty Group Research Fund, the Barakat Trust, the British Institute of Persian Studies, the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh, the Binks Trust, the Out of the Nomad's Tent, Edinburgh, the British Academy, and the University of Edinburgh Development Trust.

The following is the Round Table's list of speakers and the titles of their papers:

Simin Abrahams, Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Edinburgh / Afzal al-Tavarikh and the Battle of Jam (935/1529): A Reassessment.

Adel T. Adamova, Curator of the Iranian Collection, State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia / Muhammad Qasim and the Esfahan School of Painting.

Iraj Afshar / "Majmu'ehs" and "Maktubs" as Essential Sources for Safavid Research.

Sussan Babaie, Assistant Professor, Department of Art, Smith College / The Houses of Isfahan: Architecture, Patronage, and Social History.

Kathryn Babayan, Assistant Professor of Iranian History and Culture, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan / From Tabriz to Isfahan: The Reconfiguration of the Safavi Household (Dudman).

Ebadollah Bahari / The Sixteenth-Century Bokhara School of
(Continued on page 11)

NEW JOURNAL OF THE ZOROASTRIAN EDUCATION & RESEARCH SOCIETY

In March 1998, the Zoroastrian Education and Research Society announced the launching of its Journal. The topics covered will be the Gathas, Young Avesta, Pahlavi, Persian Zoroastrian literature, rituals, and socio-cultural traditions.

Submission of papers (not more than 6000 words) on the above subjects is encouraged. The papers will be peer reviewed by the International Board of Editors.

Please send your paper to:

Editor-in-Chief
Journal of the Zoroastrian Education and Research Society
253 Adam's Drive
Womelsdorf, PA 19567

or

Publisher
Journal of the Zoroastrian Education and Research Society
11415 Overbrook Lane
Houston, TX 77077

NEW BOOKS BY BIBLIOTHECA PERSICA PRESS (BPP)

The following books will be published by Bibliotheca Persica Press (BPP) by the end of 1998.

1. *Collected Poems of Obayd Zakani* (in Persian), a critical edition of the collected works of the celebrated humorist and satirical writer of the 14th century, edited by the late Prof. Mohammad Ja'far Mahjoub, xciii + 440 pages (altogether 533 pages).
2. *Personalities of Mithra in Archaeology and Literature*, by Prof. David Bivar of University of London, viii + 140 pages, with 29 plates. The book is based on Prof. Bivar's lectures in the Ehsan Yarshater Lecture Series delivered at UCLA in 1995.
3. *Fiscal History of Iran in the Safavid and Qajar Periods, 1500-1925*, by Dr. Willem Floor of the World Bank, 573 pages.

CALL FOR PAPERS THE 17TH ANNUAL CIRA CONFERENCE

The 17th Annual CIRA Conference will be held in Boston April 23-24, 1999.

The theme of the conference is Iran at the Threshold of the New Millennium

Abstracts of papers are solicited as well as proposals for complete sessions or discussion panels. Topics may include all aspects of society and culture in Iran as well as the Middle East and the Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union. In particular papers are welcome on the following subjects:

Iran in the international community
 Dialogue of civilizations
 Transfer of technology: problems and prospects
 US-Iranian relations
 Shi'ism and democracy
 Women and Islam
 Islam and nationalism
 Monetary policy and inflation
 Resources of the Caspian Sea
 Economic sanctions and free trade
 International trade among Middle Eastern and Central Asian countries
 Iranian media and freedom of expression
 Foreign policy of Iran
 International market for oil
 Macroeconomic issues facing Iran
 Iran and the Persian Gulf states
 Civil Society in the Middle East

Please send abstracts and proposals before November 30, 1998 to:
 Kamran Dadkhah, Dept. of Economics Northeastern University
 Boston, MA 02115

Sponsored by Northeastern University

PROMOTION

Effective September 1, 1998, Dr. Rudi Matthee advanced from assistant to associate professor at the University of Delaware.

THE 4TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF IRANIAN STUDIES

PARIS, 6-10 SEPTEMBER 1999

The Fourth European Conference of Iranian Studies will be held at Paris, from Monday 6 to Friday 10 September 1999. Papers, in one of the official languages of the Societas (French, English, German and Italian) should not exceed 20 minutes so as to allow ten minutes for discussion. The Conference will be held at the "Cite Universitaire internationale de Paris" where student-type accommodations will be available. Further details will be given in the registration documents.

REGISTRATION FEES: Members of the Societas Iranologica Europaea: 300 FFR / 45 EUR / 60 USD Non-members: 600 FFR / 90 EUR / 120 USD Students: 100 FFR / 15 EUR / 20 USD. This fee does not include travel and accommodation costs.

Deadline for registrations (title and abstract of paper): 15 October 1998. Deadline for payment: 15 June 1999. Subscription after this date will be surcharged by 200 FFR / 30 EUR. / 40 USD Registration documents can be obtained from the Conference organizer.

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TRANSLITERATION SCHEME USED HERE IS BASED ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS' ROMANIZATION SYSTEM

- Asar-i bastani va tarikh-i Luristan.** Hamid Izadpanah. Vol. 3. Tihiran : Anjuman-i Asar va Mafakhir-i Farhangi, 1377 [1998]
- Asnad-i ahzab-i siyasi-i Iran.** Ed. Bihruz Tayrani. 2 vols. Tihiran : Sazman-i Asnad-i Milli-i Iran, 1377 [1998]
- Asnad-i maadin-i Iran.** Ed. Mahshid Latifiniya. Tihiran : Sazman-i Asnad-i Milli-i Iran, 1376 [1997]
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- Asnadi az ravabit-i Iran va Faransih dar dawrah-i Fathalishah.** Ed. Muhammad Hasan Kavusi Iraqi. Tihiran : Vizarat-i Umur-i Kharijah, 1377 [1998]
- Asrari az Kunitah-i Mujazat : khatirat-i Ali Akbar Ardaqi.** Tihiran : Ilm, 1377 [1998]
- Bayan al-adyan : bar asas-i nuskhah-i tazahyab.** Ed. Muhammad Taqi Danishpizhuh. Tihiran : Mawqufat-i Duktur Mahmud Afshar, 1376 [1997]
- Baztab-i usturah dar Buf-i kur.** Jalal Sattari. Tihiran : Tus, 1377 [1998]
- Chahar guzarish az Tazkirat al-awliya.** Babak Ahmadi. Tihiran : Nashr-i Markaz, 1376 [1997]
- Dirakht-i marifat : jashnnamah-i Abd al-Husayn Zarrinkub.** Tihiran : Sukhan, 1376 [1997]
- Farhangsitizi dar dawrah-i Riza Shah.** Ed. Mahmud Dalfani. Tihiran : Sazman-i Asnad-i Milli, 1375 [1996]
- Fihrist-i si salah-i Salnamah-i dunya.** Ed. Muhammad Gulbun. Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1377 [1998]
- Guzidah-i asnad-i ravabit-i Iran va Alman.** Mina Zahirnizhad. Tihiran : Vizarat-i Umur-i Kharijah, 1377 [1998]
- Haft nigar dar haft tatar.** Aliquli Mahmudi Bakhtiyari. Tihiran : Atati, 1377 [1998]
- Hukumatha-yi mahalli-i Qafqaz dar asr-i Qajar.** Ali Pur Safar. Tihiran : Muassasah-i Mutalaat-i Tarikh-i Muasir-i Iran, 1377 [1998]
- Kasravi va Tarikh-i Mashrutah-i Iran.** Suhrab Yazdi. Tihiran : Nashr-i Nay, 1376 [1998]
- Khaqani dar Ayvan-i Madayin.** Aliquli Mahmudi Bakhtiyari. Tihiran : Kitabsara, 1377 [1998]
- Kudita-yi Lahuti : Tabriz, Bahman-i 1300.** Kavah Bayat. Tihiran : Nashr-i Shirazah, 1376 [1997]
- Majlis va intikhabat az Mashrutah ta payan-i Qajariyah.** Mansurah Ittihadiah. Tihiran : Nashr-i Tarikh-i Iran, 1377 [1998]
- Mururi bar panjah sal-i bastanshinasi-i Iran.** Izzat Allah Nigahban. Tihiran : Sazman-i Miras-i Farhangi-i Kishvar, 1377 [1998]
- Namahha-yi Birlin.** Buzurg Alavi. Ed. Iraj Afshar. Tihiran : Farzan, 1377 [1998]
- Nuh-i hizar tufan.** Bastani Parizi. Tihiran : Nashr-i Namak, 1377 [1998]
- Pizhuhishi dar qissah-i Ashab-i Kahaf : dastan-i haft khuftagan.** Jalal Sattari. Tihiran : Nashr-i Markaz, 1377 [1998]
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- Tabriz, khishti ustovar dar mimari-i Iran.** Husayn Sultanzadah. Tihiran : Daftar-i Pizhuhishha-yi Farhangi, 1376 [1997]
- Taranahha-yi Khayyam.** Ed. Muhammad Rawshan. Tihiran : Sada-yi Muasir, 1377 [1998]

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IRAJ AFSHAR FESTSCHRIFT

Iran and Iranian studies : essays in honor of Iraj Afshar
Edited by Kambiz Eslami. Princeton : Zagros, 1998.

ISBN: 0966344200

In recognition of over fifty years of remarkable contribution to Iranian studies, Iraj Afshar was presented with a volume of twenty-two essays written by some of his colleagues and virtual students. The scope of the Festschrift reflects as diverse a scope as *Ustad Afshar's* own interests and achievements, and covers such areas as Iranian historiography, local histories, fine arts, and literary studies.

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Geoffrey Roper

(Continued from page 7)

Painting and the Art of the Book.

Shahzad Bashir, Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, College of the Holy Cross / *After the Messiah: The Nurbakhshiyya in Safavid Times.*

Michele Bernardini, Professor of Persian Language and Literature, Istituto Universitario Orientale, Naples / *Some Safavid Historical Books of Kings: Hatefi's Timurname and Fotuhat-e Shahi and Qasemi's Shahname-ye Esmail.*

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Thanks to the efforts of the Fund-Raising Committee, several people have made generous donations to the Society since March of this year. They are:

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And seven anonymous donors

We would like to acknowledge our gratitude to all of them for their generous contributions.

Also, Mrs. Arlene M. Alligood of Washington DC donated several Persian and Arabic manuscripts to the Society. The manuscripts will soon be cataloged and housed in a permanent research library for use by scholars. We are grateful to Mrs. Alligood for her contribution.

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Please send notices about

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EUROPEAN RESEARCH WORKSHOP THE SHI' I CENTURY AND THE IRANIAN MILIEU: A REPORT

JULIE MEISAMI

The European Research Workshop on "The Shi'i Century and the Iranian Milieu" was held at Wolfson College, Oxford, 11-14 June 1998. The objective of the Workshop was to examine and discuss various aspects of culture, religion, and politics in the Eastern Islamic world in the 4th/10th century, and to consider plans for future research in this area.

Eleven speakers delivered papers at the Workshop; a list of the speakers and their papers follows, together with a brief summary of their contents.

Professor Wilferd Madelung (University of Oxford): "The Zaydiyya in 10th-Century Iran."

Professor Madelung briefly outlined the history of the Shi'i/Zaydi movement in Daylam and eastern Gilan (Tabaristan) from its beginnings in the late 2nd/8th century. His paper focussed primarily on the establishment of the Buyid dynasty, with capitals in Shiraz, Isfahan, Rayy, and, ultimately, Baghdad, where from the mid-4th/10th until the mid-5th/11th century the Buyids controlled the Abbasid caliphate. The Buyids revived pre-Islamic traditions of Persian kingship; they and their officials sponsored extensive scientific and literary activity in Arabic.

Professor Elton Daniel (Encyclopedia Iranica, New York/University of Hawaii): "Attitudes Towards Shi'ism in the Persian Prose of the Samanid Period."

Professor Daniel discussed the 4th/10th century as a transitional phase in the development of Islam in Iran, and connections between religion and the rise of Persian prose literature. Examining the extent to which the latter phenomenon might be connected to attempts on the part of the Samanid rulers to combat various heterodox movements in their domains of Khurasan and Transoxiana, he concluded that although the problem of heterodoxy looms large in the prose texts of the period, it is difficult to pinpoint specific "heresies" at which these texts were aimed. (Professor Daniel's participation was made possible by a grant from Wolfson College.)

Dr. Hans-Hinrich Biesterfeldt (Landesspracheninstitut Nordrhein-Westfalen, Bochum): "Political Aspects of Ibn Farighun's Jawami' al-'ulum."

This Arabic work, written in the mid-4th/10th century for the

local Muhtajid rulers of Chaghaniyan (southern Transoxiana), is an encyclopedia of sciences written for the instruction of court secretaries and officials. It is of particular interest as it employs the tashjir form (entries are composed in the shape of an inverted tree, a method of composition which can only be conceived and practiced in a written medium); it contains an important chapter on history which integrates a variety of historical traditions.

Prof. Dr. Jurgen Paul (Institut fur Orientalistik, Halle): "The Histories of Isfahan."

Professor Paul's paper discussed the development of the genre of local histories (that is, biographical dictionaries centered on a given town or region) with reference to two Arabic histories of Isfahan written in the 4th/10th century, and examined the extent to which such sources can be used to shed light on issues of cultural and social history. (Professor Paul was unable to attend the Workshop; his paper was read by Dr. Julia Ashtiany-Bray of the University of St. Andrews.)

Professor Wadad al-Qadi (University of Chicago): "Al-Tawhidi: A Sunni Voice in a Shi'i Century."

Abu Hayyan al-Tawhidi (d. 411/1023) viewed the period in which he lived as one of religious, intellectual and moral decline. A militant Sunni, in a Baghdad ruled by the Shi'i Buyids, in many of his writings he attacks Shi'ism on historical, theological and experiential grounds, and expresses particular alarm at the expansion of Shi'ism due largely to Isma'ili missionary activities.

Professor Joel Kraemer (University of Chicago): "The Ancient Sciences in the Shi'i Century: Appropriation or Marginalization?"

Professor Kraemer questioned the view that the appropriation of the Greek philosophical and scientific heritage, through Arabic translations, commentaries, and original works, was a marginal phenomenon, arguing that it was widely supported by dynastic and other patronage and by the foundation of institutions for the purpose of preserving and disseminating this heritage. He raised the question possible connections between Shi'ism and this flourishing of philosophy and science, but concluded that the period represents a particularly dynamic phase in the constant evolution of Islamic civilisation. (Professor Kraemer's participation in the Workshop was made possible by a grant from the British Academy.)

Professor Dr. Lutz Richter-Bernburg (University of Leipzig): "Marble, Wood, Lead, and a Glass Crab: Architecture in 4th Century Islamic Geography."

Professor Richter-Bernburg's paper examined the treatment of architectural "wonders" in Arabic geographical works of the 3rd/9th and 4th/10th centuries. He argued that whether writers drew their information from conventional literary tradition or

from autopsy, in such writings "architecture is a signifier of meanings which are extra-architectural".

Annabel Keeler (University of Cambridge): "Two Early Persian Tafsirs."

This paper compared two early Persian Koranic commentaries: the Persian "translation" of Tabari's (d. 301/923) Arabic commentary, and the so-called "Cambridge Tafsir". Both these works were written in Eastern Iran, within no more than 100 years of each other (late 4th/10th and early 5th/11th century), and probably represent the Hanafi school of Sunni Islam. They are, however, remarkably different with respect to form, style, and overall content, examination of which may tell us much about the development of religious writing in Persian.

Prof. Dr. Tilman Seidensticker (University of Jena): "Arabic and Persian Four-Line Poems."

Professor Seidensticker surveyed various accounts, both indigenous and orientalist, concerning the origins of the Persian quatrain (*rubai*). He himself argued for the theory of Arabic origins (first suggested by Fritz Meier), based on the tendency towards four-line poems among the poets of the Abbasid period, in particular the secretary-poet Khalid ibn Yazid al-Katib, who used the form for love poems. It was later expanded (in both Arabic and Persian) to include other themes, and became a popular form for mystical poetry.

"Some Considerations on the Dualistic Aspects of Zandaqa." Prof. Giovanni M. D'Erme (Istituto Universitario Orientale, Naples)

This paper (which was illustrated by slides) discussed various types of dualistic beliefs in Iranian religions and their transmission in symbolic form, and stressed the importance not only of conflict but of balance between the forces of good and evil. This concept of balance is expressed iconographically in such diverse sources as the Luristan bronzes (8th-7th century BCE), the 10th-century Palatine Chapel in Palermo, and 12th-century Saljuq buildings in Anatolia and in Eastern Iran.

"The King From the East and the End of Days: Myth, History and Politics in the Samanid Milieu." Dr. Julie Scott Meisami (University of Oxford)

This paper discussed the persistence and conflation of apocalyptic legends surrounding such figures as Bahram Chubin and Abu Muslim and their influence on Zoroastrian apocalyptic texts written in Islamic times in both Middle and New Persian, in the contexts of Samanid politics and legitimacy strategies, the rise of New Persian literature and the revival of Persian cultural traditions under the Samanids, and the eschatological expectations current during the 4th/10th century, which included predictions of a "King from the East" prior to the End of Days who would restore justice in the world.

The Workshop concluded with a discussion session on Sunday morning. Participants were asked to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the Workshop; on what subjects might have been covered that were not; on specific topics meriting further research; and on what form future joint activities might take.

It was generally thought that the Workshop would have benefited from papers on the development of Twelver Shi'ism in this formative period (no speaker could be found to address this topic), on Isma'ili activities in the Samanid domains (the invited speaker was unable to attend), on the Karramiya movement and on the development of Sufism (again, speakers could not be found to discuss these topics). All felt that papers tied to specific texts, and of a detailed analytical nature, were more valuable than attempting generalizations on, for example, "humanism" in the period, and that textual and case studies would provide valuable data on which to base broader research projects.

Several topics (in addition to those mentioned above) were identified as crucial areas requiring further research:

- Issues of patronage and of audience: who commissioned what, who read what, what was the purpose in writing a specific work? This should be extended to incorporate material culture, in particular building projects, their supporters and their beneficiaries.
- Conversion, both of minority confessional communities (Jews, Christians, Zoroastrians) and sectarian conversions (for example, to Isma'ilism), and the relation of missionary activities and of conversion to the larger religio-political context.
- Relations between the Eastern and Western Iranian traditions, the transmission of knowledge, and questions of continuity and change with respect to earlier and later periods.
- The formation of identity—religious, social, ethnic—and the forms of self-identification and group identity.
- Material culture, and royal and religious iconography, as expressed both in texts and in architecture.
- The implications of the use of the Persian language, both for poetry and for specific (and limited) types of prose writing; the relation of style to authorial intent and to audience expectations.

It was agreed that the Proceedings of the Workshop should be published. The question was raised as to whether additional papers might be included dealing with subjects not covered at the Workshop (for example, on Sufism, Twelver Shi'ism and Isma'ilism; on consideration, although this suggestion is attractive it is probably not feasible in practice, and coverage of such subjects should be incorporated into future activities. There was some discussion as to deadlines, style, length of papers, and the preparation of a general bibliography of relevant research; these details will be transmitted to the participants separately.

The ESF has agreed to provide a subvention, from the funds remaining from the Workshop budget, for assistance with publication; negotiations with a prospective publisher are currently in progress.

All the participants in the Workshop agreed on the need for an ongoing, international research project which would build on the results of the Workshop in an effort to expand research on this crucial period in the development of Iranian-Islamic civilization, and to recruit other scholars to take part both in collective research and in future events. The project would be titled, "Cultural Dynamics in Tenth-Century Iran", and would in its initial stages take the form of a European Scientific Research Network. A separate application for funding for this Network is currently in preparation.

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on Intellectual Life in Uzbek Mavarannahr and Safavid Khurasan in the 16th and 17th Cent.

Ernest Tucker, Associate Professor, Department of History, United States Naval Academy / The "Safavid Nostalgia" of the Ottomans: 1722-1750.

Anthony Welch, Department of the History of Art, University of Victoria / Iran Seen Through Venetian Eyes.

Akihiko Yamaguchi, Research Fellow, The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Area Studies, Section of Asian Area Studies / Early Eighteenth-century Iranian Society as Seen from Ottoman Tapu Registers: Settlement Patterns in the Province of Ardalan.

Dzul Haimi bin Md Zain, Faculty of Art and Design, Institut Teknologi MARA, Malaysia / The Definition of Safavid Style and its Relation to Ottoman and Mughal Qur'ans.

(Continued from page 9)

Tarikh-i Isfahan. Jalal al-Din Humai. Tihiran : Pizhuhishgah-i Ulum-i Insani va Mutalaat-i Farhangi, 1375 [1996]

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