

S.I.S. newsletter

The Society for Iranian Studies

Volume V Number 1 January 1973

Address all communications to the Secretary of the Society for Iranian Studies, P. O. Box 89, Village Station, New York, N. Y. 10014, U.S.A.

This issue of the Newsletter is reaching you late. A combination of several factors made this delay unavoidable. Please accept our apologies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF SIS

The Society's sixth annual meeting was held at Binghamton, N. Y. on Thursday, November 2, 1972. Our panels on the "Problems in the Historiography of Iran" and "Form and Content in Persian Literature and Society" were very well attended and extremely successful. Unfortunately, the rooms were not large enough and those who came late had difficulty getting a seat. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank our program director, Professor Gene R. Garthwaite, who took the overall responsibility for organizing these very fine panels. I am also thankful to our panel chairmen, T. Cuyler Young and William L. Hanaway, Jr., and all participants. Some of the papers presented at these panels will be published in the future issues of Iranian Studies.

The following three abstracts were received too late to be included in the October Newsletter:

Michael B. Loraine, "The Career of Miliku'l-Shu'ara' Bahar"

Bahar was born in December, 1886, in Mashhad. His father, a member of the prosperous mercantile community, was a poet himself, titled Saburi, and Bahar grew up in the company of a literary circle adhering largely to the ideas of the Bazgasht-i adabi. One of his teachers was Abid of Nishapur.

In 1904, Saburi died, and Bahar stepped into his position of official poet to the shrine of the eighth Imam, not without incurring some resentment and resistance from his older colleagues. Further, on addressing a formal panegyric to Muzaffaru'l-Din Shah, he was titled Maliku'l-Shu'ara' absolutely, not just for the Astan-i Quds-i Ridawi, as his father had been.

The revolution of 1906 drew him gradually into politics and journalism. By 1909, he was established as a poet of the Constitution, and soon moved to Tehran.

Thereafter, his verse follows his changing political and personal fortunes, in the Majlis, in Gaol, exile, forced retirement, illness and even treatment

in a Swiss hospital, up to his death in April, 1951.

As a poet, he illustrates with passion and humor the political and social changes in Persia during his lifetime. Almost uniquely, he spans the last of the pre-modern period, the Constitution, and the reign of Reza Shah.

Kenneth A. Luther, "Changes in the Ghaznavid and Saljuq Chancery Environments and their Effect on Historiography"

The conventional approach to historical writing is not adequate for much of the medieval period in the Iranian Culture Area. New methods based on new theoretical approaches must be found. The present paper attempts to provide a simplified example of the type of approach which might be attempted. It argues that changes in the attitudes of scribes and those associated with them toward history can be related to the changing environments in the Ghaznavid and Saljug chanceries.

Brian Spooner, "Poetry in Its Cultural Context: A Comparison of Selected Persian and Baluchi Forms"

Bearing in mind the literary applications of structuralism and a recent article by M. C. Hillman, certain comparisons are made between selected examples of Persian and Baluchi classical, religious, folk, and modern poetry. The relationship between metre, stress, rhyme and semantic structure is different in each example. These differences are investigated in the light of their respective cultural contexts.

Our annual business meeting was held in the afternoon and the following reports were submitted by the Society's officers (all these reports have been updated to include the period of November, 1972, to January, 1973).

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY (Kazemi)

Membership. The Society has continued to grow in the past year. The Society now has 167 members. This is an increase of 21 members or 14.3 percent in one year (January 1972-January 1973). Unfortunately, we had to drop 24 members for not having paid their dues. We hope that some of these former members would choose to rejoin the Society. In addition to our 167 members, there are approximately 50 individual and 85 institutional and library subscriptions to the Journal.

Our international membership has also increased modestly. 28 of our members (slightly over 16 percent) live outside of the United States. Of these 16 reside in Iran, 3 in Canada, 2 in Switzerland, and 1 each in Afghanistan, Australia, Egypt, England, Israel, Japan and Sweden.

As the following table indicates, more than half of the Society's membership (95 individuals, or 56 percent) are identified with the three disciplines of History, Near Eastern Languages and Literatures and Linguistics, and Political Science. Those 31 members whose disciplines are not identified, are mostly in the physical sciences or medicine.

<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>Number</u>
History	39
Near Eastern Language and Literature and Linguistics	31
Political Science	25
Anthropology	9
Economics	9
Art, Art History, Archaeology	7
Sociology	7
Psychology	3
Education	2
Musicology	2
Philosophy	2
Other or Not Known	<u>31</u>
Total	<u>167</u>

The Society's members are affiliated with a number of different institutions throughout the world. The majority, however, are scholars of Iranian society and culture engaged in teaching and research in American universities. More of the Society's members are affiliated with the University of California at Los Angeles than any other institution. UCLA leads the field in this area with 14 members, followed by Columbia (10), Michigan (6), New York (5), Princeton (5), Harvard (4), Yale (4) and CUNY branches (4).

Relationship with other Scholarly Associations. The Society has attempted in the past year to improve and expand informal relationships with other organizations with similar interests and concerns. We have informal contacts with the American Institute of Iranian Studies. These contacts have improved due to the recent appointment of Jerome W. Clinton as the director of the Institute in Iran. Our members are aware that Dr. Clinton is also a member of the SIS Council and associate editor of Iranian Studies.

Both Kenneth A. Luther and I have corresponded with the newly formed Afghan Studies Association to inquire into possible avenues of cooperation. The Afghan Studies Association is now formally affiliated with the Association for Asian Studies. There is, therefore, no real possibility for formal relationships between the Afghan Studies Association and our Society at this time. We have, however, left all doors open for any future cooperative relationship that would benefit both organizations. Professor Richard S. Newell, who is the chairman of the executive committee of the Afghan Studies Association, has agreed to include information about SIS in their newsletter; this will be reciprocated by our Society. Those who wish to join the Afghan Studies Association should contact Professor Richard S. Newell, Department of History, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613.

Our Society has benefited immensely from its relationship with the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) in the past few years. MESA has been extremely cooperative in allowing us to hold our conferences and annual meetings in conjunction with their yearly conventions. Since most of our members are also members of MESA, this arrangement has worked out very well. We hope to be able to continue this relationship in the future. On behalf of the Society for Iranian Studies, I would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to MESA and especially to its Executive Secretary, Professor I. William Zartman, for his help and cooperation.

Publicity. We have made every effort to increase exposure for the Society and publicize its activities. These efforts, however, have been modest simply

because we have limited financial resources and secretarial help for such purposes. Nevertheless, we have regularly advertized in Tahqiqat-e Eqtesadi and will continue to do so. Keyhan International has also published an article about the activities of the Society noting its success and expansion. I would like to urge all members of the Society to make every effort possible to make our Society known and to increase its individual members and institutional subscribers.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER (Schulz)

As the financial report shows, we are in the red. We badly need dues payments so that we can take care of the printing bills. The income for this period has largely been from institutional subscription renewals and from some welcome donations. The institutional subscriptions really keep us going, with no nagging required. If you can enlarge their members, you would be doing a great service to the Society. As ever, the support received at the MESA-SIS meetings was very encouraging. We are not doing badly, but we already have the next issue of the Journal to think about. Any overdue membership dues are welcome. (Membership renewal and library subscription forms are provided in the last page of this Newsletter). As you will note, we are forced, because of rising costs, to increase the dues slightly (\$2.00 for each category of membership and subscription).

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES (January 1, 1972-December 31, 1972)

<u>REVENUES</u>	\$ 2998.10
Membership dues, individual subscriptions, institutional subscriptions, Journal sales, contributions	
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
<u>Iranian Studies</u>	2593.51
Vol. IV, Nos. 1, 2-3, 4	
Vol. V, No. 1	
SIS Election	14.44
MESA list	25.00
Newsletters	157.67
Postage, bills, and other expenses	182.28
Debit from last year	315.46
Sub-Total	\$ 3288.36
 <u>BALANCE:</u> \$3288.36 - \$2998.10 = -\$290.26	

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY

The following individuals have been most generous in their financial support of the Society in the past year. We are grateful for their assistance.

- \$ 50.00: Yahya Armajani, Ahmad Ashraf, Ali Banuazizi, Kenneth A. Luther, Ehsan Yar-Shater
- \$ 30.00: Farhad Kazemi, Nikki R. Keddie, Arstnio P. Martinez
- \$ 25.00: Abbas Aryanpur Kashani, Amin Banani, Farshid Banani, Timothy Childs, Richard W. Cottam, Richard N. Frye, Mohamad Ali Jazayery, Michel Mazzaoui, Manoucher Parvin

\$ 20.00: Djamchid Momeni, Ann Schulz, M. Tabataba, Majid Tehranian
 \$ 12.00: Vahid Nowshirvani
 \$ 5.00: Mehdi Mohaghegh

REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF IRANIAN STUDIES (Banuazizi)

The past year has seen some improvement in the format and printing, modest expansion of circulation, and greater diversification of the contents of Iranian Studies. On the other hand, our inability to reduce the nine-month lag, carried over from the previous years in the publication schedule of the Journal in 1972 is, of course, a major source of disappointment. The continuation of this lag has been due primarily to the severe financial restrictions under which we have had to operate rather than a shortage of publishable manuscripts. In fact, in spite of a rejection rate of roughly 25-30 percent, we have accumulated a backlog of excellent articles--the equivalent of three or four issues--awaiting a much-hoped-for thaw in our financial situation.

In 1972, a total of four issues (Vol. IV, Nos. 2-3, 4; Vol. V, No. 1) were published. Their contents, broken down according to disciplines, were as follows:

<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>No. of Articles</u>	<u>No. of Reviews</u>	<u>No. of Pages</u>
History	4	1	88
Lang. & Lit.	-	3	15
Music	1	-	10
Economics	1	1	29
Political Science	-	2	18
Sociology	1	-	12
Archaeology	-	1	3

As in the previous volumes, there is an overrepresentation of history compared to other disciplines, which fairly accurately reflects the proportionately larger number of historians in the field.

One special feature of the Journal in 1972 was the publication of a special double-issue devoted entirely to essays on the "Administrative Developments in Qajar Iran." Judging by the response of our readers, devoting an entire issue to a particular theme was an especially successful venture, and we hope to do this on a more regular basis in the future. I would very much like to encourage the membership to suggest particular themes in the field of Iranian studies on which we may solicit several articles for an entire issue. It might also be desirable to invite "guest editors" to prepare particular issues that fall within their areas of expertise.

Beginning with the first issue of 1973, A. Reza Sheikholeslami will replace Jacqueline W. Mintz as an Associate Editor of Iranian Studies. Ms. Mintz's three-year association with the Journal was of immense value at a crucial stage of its development. In spite of her interest and devotion to the Journal, the choice between remaining as Associate Editor or accepting her new post as the Associate Provost of Yale University must not have been too difficult for her to make! Mr. Sheikholeslami is currently working on his doctoral dissertation on Qajar history at the University of California, Los Angeles, after a year of research on a Fulbright Fellowship in Iran. Jerome W. Clinton will, of course, be continuing as an Associate Editor from his post in Tehran as the Director of the American Institute of Iranian Studies.

A number of individuals have advised and assisted the editors at various stages of editing and preparation of the manuscripts for publication over the

past year. Among these we feel especially grateful and indebted to Ervand Abrahamian, Ahmad Ashraf, Marina Banuazizi, M. A. Jazayery, Nikki R. Keddie, Farhad Kazemi, Vahid F. Nowshirvani, Cynthia Sheikholeslami, Majid Tehranian, and Hossein Ziai. The continued publication of the Journal largely depends on the support of these and other members of the Society.

ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

William L. Hanaway, Jr., Kenneth A. Luther, and Djamchid Momeni were elected at the annual business meeting as the new members of the "Election Committee." The following nominations were submitted to the Society: Amin Banani, James Bill, Gene Garthwaite, William Hanaway, Parviz Morewedge, and Manoucher Parvin. The election was conducted by mail and according to the letter of Professor Momeni (chairman of the committee) the following three were elected to the Council of the Society for 1973-1975: AMIN BANANI, JAMES A. BILL, GENE R. GARTHWAITE. Many thanks are due to the members of the "Election Committee," especially Professor Momeni, for their work.

SIS COMMITTEE ON THE STUDY OF PERSIAN LANGUAGE

A committee made up of Mohamad Ali Jazayery (chairman), William Hanaway, Roger Savory, Brian Spooner, and Donald Stilo has been appointed to investigate the problems of the "study of Persian language." The committee has been given a broad mandate to look into all aspects of this problem and report its preliminary findings at the next annual meeting.

INCORPORATION OF THE SOCIETY

We have retained a new lawyer, Barbara E. Boettcher, for the purpose of incorporating the Society for Iranian Studies as a non-profit corporation in the State of New York. Since the Society has been in existence for some time, we need authorization from the members before we can proceed with the legal steps. Therefore, it is imperative that all members send their authorization AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the Society's address in New York City. A convenient form is included in the last page of the Newsletter. PLEASE DO NOT DELAY.

1973 ANNUAL MEETING IN MILWAUKEE

Professor Howard J. Rotblat has been appointed the program director for the Society's panels to be held on November 8, 1973, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Our panels which are co-sponsored by MESA will be devoted to two interesting and relevant topics: (a) The Population of Iran: Problems of Growth and Mobility; and (b) Culture and Personality in Iran. Those who want to present papers in these panels should contact Professor Rotblat as soon as possible at the following address: Professor Howard J. Rotblat, Department of Sociology, College II, University of Massachusetts at Boston, Mass. 02116.

PUBLICATION OF SIS MEMBERS

Hamid Algar. Mirza Malkum Khan: A Biographical Study in Iranian Modernism, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1973. 344. \$13.50.

Richard T. Antoun. Arab Village: A Social Structural Study of a Trans-jordanian Peasant Community. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1972. \$10.00.

Richard T. Antoun and Iliya Harik (eds.). Rural Politics and Social Change in the Middle East. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1972. \$13.50.

Richard W. Bulliet. The Patricians of Nishapur: A Study in Medieval Islamic Social History. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1972. \$10.00.

Robert A. McDaniel. The Shuster Mission and the Persian Constitutional Revolution. Minneapolis: Bibliotheca Islamica, 1973. 300. \$12.50.

Brian Spooner. Population Growth: Anthropological Impressions. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1972. \$15.00.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Rouhallah K. Ramazani. The Persian Gulf: Iran's Role. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1972. 150. \$7.50.

The Literary Review. Published by Farleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, N. J. 07070. The Review will have a special issue on "Contemporary Persian Literature" which will include translation of works of some key Persian authors, (e.g. Sadiq Hidayat, Nima Yushij, Ahmad Shamlu, Sadiq Chubak, Buzurg Alavi, Forugh Farrukhzad, Nadir Nadirpur, Ibrahim Gulistan, Mahdi Akhavan Salis, Jalal Al-i Ahmad, Bahram Sadiqi, Suhrab Sipihr). Some of these translations have been done by SIS members.

Rhea Talley Stewart. Fire in Afghansitan: 1914-1929. New York: Doubleday, 1973. \$17.95.

Anthony Welch. Sixteenth Century Persian Painting. Minneapolis: Bibliotheca Islamica, 1973. 175.

IRANIAN STUDIES

Volume V., Numbers 2-3 of Iranian Studies is currently in press. This is a double-issue and should reach all members within the next few weeks.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Society's secretary of any changes of address. We do not have correct addresses of the following members: Floria Behbin, Harvey Landress, Fatemeh Mercier, and John Workman.

NEWS AND NOTES

Ehsan Yar-Shater is scheduled to deliver a public lecture on "The Interrelation Between Persian Poetry and Music" as part of New York University's Near Eastern Round Table in honor of Professor Richard Ettinghausen's four decades of scholarship. William Hanaway is the discussant for this lecture. Jerome Clinton reports that the American Institute of Iranian Studies is holding a series of seminars in Tehran on different aspects of Iranian Society and culture. Reza Sheikholeslami, Donald Croll, Ahmad Ashraf, and Thomas Ricks are scheduled to speak in the series.

NEW MEMBERS

Farideh Abolfathi (Univ. of South Florida), Mehrdad Amanat (UCLA), Reza Baraheni (Univ. of Tehran), William Beeman (Wesleyan Univ.), Dale Bishop (Columbia Univ.), Cyrus Elahi (Central Michigan Univ.), Karim A. Fard (Davis, Calif.), J. Warren Frame IV (Ocean City, Md.), Geraldine Gillio (New York Univ.), Amir Hassan Pour (Univ. of Illinois), Gulshan Khakee (Florida State Univ.), Laurence D. Loeb (Lehman College, CUNY), Arstnio P. Martinez (SUNY at New Paltz), Winnifred E. Morgan (Shippensburg State College, Pa.), John R. Perry (Univ. of Chicago), Howard J. Rotblat (Univ. of Massachusetts at Boston), Richard E. Salzer (Texas Tech. Univ.), Mahmoud Sayrafiezadeh (Rutgers Univ.), Hamideh Sedghi (CUNY Graduate Center), D. A. Shojai (California State Univ. at San Diego), Diane Tehrani (Columbia Univ.), Kazem Tehrani (Columbia Univ.), Gholam Vatandust (Univ. of Washington), Ehsan Yar-Shater (Columbia Univ.), Hossein Ziai (Harvard Univ.), Mahasti Ziai (Cambridge, Mass.).

Farhad Kazemi
Executive Secretary

AUTHORIZATION FOR INCORPORATION OF SIS

I hereby authorize Farhad Kazemi and Barbara E. Boettcher to incorporate the Society for Iranian Studies as a non-profit corporation in the State of New York.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please sign and return this form immediately to: Secretary, The Society for Iranian Studies, P. O. Box 89, Village Station, New York, N. Y. 10014, U.S.A.

THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES: RENEWAL OF 1973 MEMBERSHIP

Name _____ Date _____

Address (if changed) _____

Membership Status: New _____ Old _____

 Supporting (\$50.00) _____ Contributing (\$25.00) _____

 Full (\$12.00) _____ Family (\$7.00) _____

 Student (\$7.00) _____ Subscriber (\$7.00) _____

Checks should be made payable to the Society for Iranian Studies and sent to: Professor Ann Schulz, Department of Political Science, University of New Hampshire, Durham, N. H. 03824, U.S.A.

RECOMMENDATION TO LIBRARY

To _____
(acquisition librarian at your institution)

From _____ _____
(Name) (Position)

I recommend Iranian Studies, Journal of the Society for Iranian Studies for our library.

(Signature)

Institutional subscription orders and/or remittance should be forwarded to Iranian Studies, Box E-154, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass. 02167. The institutional subscription rate for Volume VI (1973) is \$8.00. A limited supply of the back issues (Vols. I-V, 1968-1972) is still available and may be ordered at the same annual subscription rate (\$8.00).

THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES

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Supplement to S.I.S. Newsletter

Vol. v, No. 1, January 1973

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