Conference

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ن المناضلین

FFE136

میرزا محمد نجفی

سال 1328 هـ

دوره حضرت میرزا حسن شامشیری
It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Eighth Biennial Conference of the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS). The celebration of the 90th birthday of ISIS’s first president, Dr. Ehsan Yarshater, is a special feature of this year’s conference. ISIS was established in 1967 as the Society for Iranian Studies and held its first conference in Los Angeles on 26-27 June 1969. Organized by Professor Amin Banani, the 1969 conference on the “Structure of Power in Islamic Iran” included 5 panels and 20 participants. “Starting with 9 members at the time of its inception,” the Society today has approximately 500 members from all over the world. As it was observed in 1968, “the combined list of our members and subscribers reads literally like a Who’s Who in the field of Iranian Studies . . . .” While in 1968 membership was “limited to North America,” ISIS today is the largest and the most cohesive Iranian Studies scholarly society with members hailing from countries from all over the world. This year’s conference is a testimony to the widening international scope of the Society’s membership and the impressive diversity of topics covered in the field of Iranian Studies. A new generation of Iranian Studies scholars are taking the field beyond the territorial boundaries of
Iran and past the earlier nationalist paradigm into globally framed explorations of social, cultural and literary conventions, interactions and transformations.

At the time of its inception, “only Iranians were eligible for Full Membership while non-Iranian students and scholars could apply for the Society’s Associate Membership.” As the image on the back of the front-cover illustrates, this was changed in 1968 with the introduction of an amendment changing the full membership to “[a]ny person sharing the objectives of this Society and engaged in research or study in social sciences and humanities . . . .” Taking into account the breadth of political changes since the 1960s, the longevity of ISIS is due to this inclusivity and unwavering “non-partisan” commitment. This was explained in the following manner in the Society’s original constitution: “The society as such is non-partisan. It will not support political parties or candidates nor commit its members on questions of public policy.” Now as then, ISIS has remained fully committed to academic freedom. As noted in Article II of the original constitution, “The society shall, however, work for the safeguarding of freedom of inquiry and expression for its members and other scholars in the field.”

In view of the intense national, regional and global conflicts that have arisen since its founding, ISIS has sought to remain inclusive of all competing perspectives while concurrently resisting its instrumentalization as a venue for the advancement of particularistic and extra-academic agendas. With its strong commitment to the autonomy of scholarly inquiry and to academic civility, ISIS has effectively addressed issues of concern to its members through reasoned deliberation and via its own constitutional principles of non-partisan inclusivity. With the Society’s development into a global network of scholars and academics, the preservation of these well-tested principles are fundamental to our ability to advance social science and humanities research in an area that has become the object of increased politicization and ideologization by extra-academic forces.

With its relatively limited resources drawn from the membership, this year’s conference has been the product of a labor of love and invaluable support from many colleagues. In addition to Dr. Rivanne Sandler, who has ably placed ISIS on a solid organizational and financial foundation, I have enjoyed working with Dr. Marta Simidchieva, the 2010 Conference Program Chair. Dr. Simidchieva and
the program committee put together an excellent academic program. With many new scholars in this year’s conference, we will be meeting researchers who will be shaping scholarly agendas in the field for the next few decades.

ISIS is especially grateful for the invaluable support and dedication of Dr. Hossein Ziai, the 2010 Conference Chair. Dr. Ziai and the organizing committee, consisting mainly of UCLA students and faculty, have made this a historically special conference. Dr. Ziai and his team have been a great source of support as we have prepared for this 2010 Iranian Studies Biennial Conference. I would like to express my gratitude to the organizing committee, specifically to Jonathan Friedlander and Dr. Latifeh Hagigi. Special thanks to the dedicated members of our award committees. I would also like to express my gratitude to the institutional cosponsors of this year’s conference: the American Institute for Iranian Studies, the Farhang Foundation, the Friends of Encyclopaedia Iranica, the Foundation for Iranian Studies, the Persian Heritage Foundation, and the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute. Special thanks to Mahnaz Afkhami, Frank Lewis, Elahé Mir-Djalali Omidyar, Vahid Nowshirvani, Homa Sarshar, and Javad Tavakoli. The opening reception, which is cosponsored by the Farhang Foundation, would not have been possible without the organizational skills and elegant sensibility of Bita Milianian and Haleh Emrani. The Ehsan Yarshater 90th Birthday Tribute & Reception is made possible with the wise counsel of Dr. Ahmad Ashraf and the foresight of Homa Sarshar and other committed Friends of Encyclopaedia Iranica.

Very special thanks go to Ustad Khosrow Bayat, Pendar Yousefi, and Shabnam Rahimi-Golkhandan for their dedication and outstanding graphic design. I am also grateful to Arash Afsar of Printup Press & Graphics for his quality work and invaluable last minute support. For extending the hospitality of the Doubletree Guest Suites Santa Monica, I am also indebted to Beth Hansler.

Please join me in thanking all of our volunteers, committee members, cosponsors, and conference presenters whose contribution to the advancement of Iranian Studies is appreciated in the previous pages. I wish you all an intellectually inspiring experience in Santa Monica.

Best regards,
Mohamad Tavakoli
Foremost I welcome everyone to the conference. The conference is yours, and we all share in its success. Now more than ever in recent history it is crucial to conduct research on every aspect of the Iranian civilization and be able to freely express the results. The biennial ISIS conference is the premier such forum where scholars from around the globe can engage in debate and freely express diverse opinion. We are not bound by governmental censorship nor by any other type of external constraint. Let us recognize this important fact and rejoice, and let us draw on the diversity of our opinions and positions to make us stronger as a group.

Iran is undergoing fundamental change. The people no longer support the culture of violence and death and wish to embrace freedom, equality, justice, and replace hatred with love. We must recognize the historical significance of the manifest and unfolding processes that aim at the ideals of the democracy and support it.

Allow me to express my heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who have given freely of their time and have worked hard to ensure the successful operation of our conference.

Hossein Ziai
The International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS), originally the Society for Iranian Cultural and Social Studies, was founded in 1967 as an academic society for the advancement of Iranian Studies at the international level. ISIS, an affiliated member of the international Middle East Studies Association (MESA), is a private, not-for-profit, non-political organization of persons interested in Iranian Studies in the broadest sense. An elected council and an executive council run the affairs of the organization. The objectives of the Society are to promote high standards of scholarship in the field, to encourage the teaching of Iranian Studies at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and to encourage and facilitate scholarly exchange amongst its international membership.

The International Society for Iranian Studies publishes *Iranian Studies*, a journal that continues to serve as the principal journal in the field. Its current editor is Dr. Homa Katouzian (University of Oxford).

As an independent, non-partisan, non-political, multi-disciplinary international community of over 500 scholars, students, academic and non-academic researchers,
and aficionados of Iranian studies, ISIS is committed to promoting the free exchange of ideas, freedom of expression in all forms and all media, and the unrestricted pursuit of (academic and non-academic) research, instruction, publication, and presentation (in Iran and beyond) without fear of intimidation and persecution.

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Janet Afary, 2005-2006
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Shahrokh Akhavi, 2003
Richard Nelson Frye, 2002
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Nicholas Sims-Williams, University of London
Aleksandr Naymark, Hofstra University
Jaleh Amouzegar, Tehran University
Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi, University of Toronto

The Latifeh Yarshater Award
Mahnaz Afkhami, Foundation for Iranian Studies
Shahla Haeri, Boston University
Azar Nafisi, Johns Hopkins University
Houra Yavari, Columbia University
Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine
Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi, University of Toronto
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Maria Subtelny, University of Toronto
Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi, University of Toronto

Saidi-Sirjani Award
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Shahzad Bashir, Stanford University
Sheila Blair, Boston College
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Ehsan Zahedani
Iranian Studies is a peer-reviewed journal devoted to Iranian and Persian history, literature, culture and society. Its scope includes all areas of the world with a Persian or Iranian legacy, especially Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asia, the Caucasus, and northern India. The Journal welcomes submissions in all disciplines. It publishes articles and reviews in the fields of history, literature, culture and the social sciences, covering all aspects of Iranian and Persianate societies and cultures from ancient to modern times.

Over the past 43 years, virtually all scholars in the field of Iranian studies have contributed to Iranian Studies and/or been involved with its editorial work in various capacities. These include the journal’s seven successive editors (Ali Banuazizi, 1968-81; Ervand Abrahamian and Farhad Kazemi, 1982-86; Richard W. Bulliet, 1987-1989; Abbas Amanat, 1990-97; Robert McChesney, 1998-2003; and Homa Katouzian, 2004-present) the associate editors (Roy Mottahedeh, Jacqueline Mintz, Jerome W. Clinton, A. Reza Sheikholeslami, Anne Enayat, Mangol Bayat Philipp, Vahid Noshirvani, and John Gurney); the book review editors (Ervand Abrahamian, Shahrough Akhavi, Rudi Matthee, William L. Hanaway, Houchang Chehabi, Kamran Talattof, Bernie Tucker, Cyrus Shayegh, Roham Alvandi, and Rivanne Sandler); and several capable and dedicated assistant editors, currently Dominic Brookshaw and Hossein Shahidi. To these and countless other individuals who have given
so much of their valuable time and energy, the journal owes its continued, regular publication, rigorous editorial standards, and the steady improvements in its design and format.

Today, Iranian Studies is the leading scholarly periodical and the principal forum for the publication of scholarly research on all aspects of Iranian and Persianate culture and civilization by scholars in all fields of the humanities and social sciences. The journal’s longevity, the high quality of its contents, and the many fields of study which it covers reflect the enormous growth and flourishing of Iranian studies as an academic field, as well as the broader public interest in Iran itself. For its success we are all indebted to the hundreds of scholars who have contributed to its pages, to scores of others who have worked selflessly in various editorial capacities, and to still others who have helped promote the journal and make it available to students and scholars at libraries and research centers around the world. No less important in accounting for the success of Iranian Studies has been the continued vitality, non-exclusionary and non-ideological orientation of its sponsoring academic association, the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS), which has provided the journal with the necessary institutional and professional support, financial resources, and personnel to continue and expand its operation.

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The digital back issues of the journal are available to ISIS members via our website: Iranianstudies.com.

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Mina Marefat, United States Library of Congress
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The American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIIRs)  

Founded in 1967 the American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIIRs) is a non-profit, non-governmental overseas research organization. It is an academic consortium, in which the members are universities and museums in North America with interests in the study of Iranian culture and civilization. Its officers and committee members are scholars representing member institutions as Trustees, who serve voluntarily in order to promote international scholarly exchange and independent research in Iranian Studies.

In representing the interests of member organizations the American Institute seeks to support the advancement of knowledge and understanding of Iran and Iranian culture and civilization from the earliest periods to the present. The Institute’s purview comprises the historical Iranian world of Central Asia, the Middle East and South Asia as well as the modern political state of Iran. The Institute also works with Iranian humanists and social scientists to promote and facilitate their research in the United States.
Website: Simorgh-aiis.org
The Foundation for Iranian Studies

The Foundation for Iranian Studies (FIS) was established in 1981 as a non-profit educational and research institution to preserve, study, and transmit Iran’s cultural heritage and to study contemporary issues in Iranian society. Non-partisan and non-political, FIS believes authentic, objective scholarship can and should encompass a multiplicity of intellectual contributions and a diversity of opinions. The Foundation for Iranian Studies is registered under the laws of the states of New York and Maryland and is classified as a Section 501 (c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

The Foundation for Iranian Studies programs and archives, including Iran Nameh, the oral history archives, awards, cooperative activities, publications, and resources are on the Web and may be accessed at www.fis-iran.org.

Iran Nameh, the Foundation’s quarterly journal of Iranian studies, provides a forum for original research on Iranian literary and artistic heritage as well as social, economic, and political issues. Now in its 25th year of publication, Iran Nameh is circulated widely in the US, Canada, Western Europe, Russia, East Asia, South Asia, Australia, North Africa, and Iran. Articles are in Persian, with summaries in English.

The Oral History Program compiles a record of the history of contemporary Iran through interviews with Iranian statesmen, diplomats, scholars, officials, artists, literary figures, newspaper editors, and other decision-makers as well as witnesses to the events that have shaped recent Iranian history. An invaluable resource for future scholars, the archival collection may be accessed at the Foundation’s Website.

The Foundation awards annually the best Ph.D. dissertation in a field of Iranian studies. Initiated in 1984, the award is conferred for imagination, novelty of approach, clarity in stating the problematic, theoretical and methodological rigor, efficient and intelligent use of primary source material, quality of fieldwork among others.

As part of resource production FIS publishes monographs and other material, including a series on the 20th century Iran’s social and economic development, women’s issues, fact books, and Iranian music and photo albums. The resources may be accessed on FIS Web.
FIS welcomes cooperation with other institutions with similar interests and goals. Over the years, it has developed special collaborative relations with several institutions, chief among them the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS), the George Washington University, and, in the world of culture and the arts, the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution.
Website: fis-iran.org

**Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute**

Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute is a nonprofit organization supporting the preservation, transmission, and instruction of Persian ‘culture’, as defined below. The Institute is guided by those values and principles that uphold a community: fairness, tolerance, respect, and the desire to improve communication and understanding among people from diverse backgrounds. We believe that cultural understanding can, and should be, achieved through community education and communication.

Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute supports cultural and educational activities that bring to light the richness and diversity of Persian culture. Through partnerships with other nonprofit organizations and institutions such as schools, universities, libraries, museums, and private sector donors, the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute is dedicated to fostering community among Persian people and those interested in Persian cultural heritage. Thus, the Institute encourages inter-cultural communication and community interaction between people of all cultures.
Website: Roshan-institute.org

**Farhang Foundation**

Farhang Foundation is the brainchild of its Chairman, Mr. Ali Razi, and its founding president, Dr. Touraj Daryaee, who envisioned a cultural entity dedicated to the celebration of Iranian Heritage in Southern California by gathering a number of like-minded Iranian-Americans who shared their passion of their common culture and history.

Founded in 2008, Farhang Foundation is a non-religious, non-political and not-for-profit foundation that celebrates and promotes Iranian art, culture and heritage for the benefit of the community at large. The foundation supports academic activities in Southern California by funding university programs, publications and conferences. The foundation also supports cultural programs such as celebration of Nowruz and Mehregan, theater, dance performances, films screenings and poetry reading in Southern California. Farhang
Foundation, in cooperation with various cultural and academic institutions plans major programs and exhibitions about Iran and its culture.
Website: Farhang.org

**Persian Heritage Foundation**

The Persian Heritage Foundation was established through the efforts of Professor Yarshater in 1983 to conduct and carry out research on all aspects (including, without limitation, educational, cultural, historical, demographic and ethnic) of Iranian, Islamic, Indo-Iranian, Central Asiatic and Perso-Judaic studies and, either alone or in combination with another or other organizations, to publish, disseminate and distribute and help others to publish, disseminate, and distribute the results of such research; to provide gifts, funding etc. to deserving students, researchers, institutions and organizations for further study in this area; to facilitate the continuation of the publication of the Encyclopaedia Iranica and the Bibliotheca Persica Series.

Currently, the Foundation offers Grants in Aid of Publication. These grants are specifically to enable a completed manuscript to be published. They are not for scholarships, works in progress or research.
Website: Columbia.edu/cu/center-for-iranian-studies/programs-and-pubs/main/projects/phf.html

These grants are specifically to enable a completed manuscript to be published. They are not for scholarships, works in progress or research.
Website: Columbia.edu/cu/center-for-iranian-studies/programs-and-pubs/main/projects/phf.html
Iranian Studies at UCLA

Iranian Studies has had a long, distinguished past at UCLA. For many decades M.A. and Ph.D. degree programs in Iranian studies have been offered in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures. Many graduates of the program are now themselves distinguished and creative members of the academic community throughout the world. The new challenges and demands on the study of humanities and languages, brought about by the unfolding awareness of the creative role of cultural diversity in our world, has been met by UCLA in establishing the first Bachelor of Arts program in Iranian in the U.S. The B.A. in Iranian, offered since the academic year 1989-1990 in addition to the M.A. and the Ph.D., allows undergraduate students to study Iranian civilization as an integral component of the overall study of humanities. The program
offers a wide range of courses on: ancient Iranian languages, including Avestan and Middle Persian languages; Ancient Iranian cultural and religious history and archeology; Persian language and literature, including the study of classical prose and poetry, stylistics and poetics; contemporary belles lettres; the cultural and intellectual history of Islamic Iran; and Persian philosophical texts as part of the integral field of Islamic philosophy. Iranian Studies at UCLA continues to educate a large number of undergraduates, and graduates students. At present there are several hundred annual enrollments in undergraduate and graduate courses in Iranian Studies and many graduate students, who are working in multiple domains such as philology and textual analysis, literary criticism and comparative literature, philosophy, mystical traditions in Persian poetry and prose, and other areas. There have been several Ph.Ds granted in recent years to young scholars who are now teaching at universities such as: Berkeley, Columbia, the University of Washington (Seattle), Harvard, Tehran University, Pitzer College, Amherst College, and at other institutions. UCLA Ph.Ds are now part of the current generation of scholars and their work helps define the contemporary trends and methodologies of the state-of-the-art research and teaching in Iranian Studies.

The UCLA program is a leader among the few worldwide programs in Iranian Studies that offer a comprehensive set of courses in a well-defined curriculum covering ancient Iranian languages, culture and history and the languages and textual traditions of New Persian including classical Persian poetry, metrics and stylistics, plus Persian intellectual traditions from the 4th c. A.H. to the present. The emphasis of the classical and medieval side of the UCLA program in Iranian Studies is on a wide range of Persian texts of the classical schools and of the
medieval intellectual traditions. Special emphasis is placed on the genesis and development of philosophy in Iran from the 4th c. A.H. to the present.

The following are the major components of the UCLA program in Iranian Studies that have been established by the generous endowments and donations of Iranians with vision:

- Jahangir and Eleanor Amuzegar Chair.
- Musa Sabi Term Chair.
- Habib Levi Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Judeo-Persian.
- Amuzegar Chair Lecture Series.
- Yarshater Lecture Series.
- The Roshan Fellowship.
- The Metghalchi Fellowship.
- Fund For Excellence.

Our aim at UCLA is to make the Iranian experience part of the creative unfolding processes that shape our response to the human predicament; especially in areas relating to the mind—probing the foundations of knowledge other than the strictly Aristotelian; and analyzing the creative role of “poetic wisdom” in the attainment of happiness—cornerstones of what the Iranian experience has to offer us as we enter a new age of synthesis, but also of diversity, reaching for new vistas in the human experience.
The Lifetime Achievement Award

In 2006 ISIS instituted two new awards for Lifetime Achievement in Iranian Studies: The Lifetime Achievement Award for an Iranian Studies Scholar Residing and Working in Iran was presented to Iraj Afshar, Professor Emeritus of Tehran University at the ISIS conference in London in the summer of 2006. Iraj Afshar worked for more than half a century to construct a foundation for Iranian Studies scholarship. Through his efforts to locate, compile, catalogue, critique, publish, and write the histories of thousands upon thousands of manuscripts, documents, writings, artefacts, persons, libraries, sources, and genres, he has enabled the work of several generations of Iranian Studies scholars. The breath of Iraj Afshar’s scholarship is astounding, and his scholarly output has been prodigious. His sons printed a bibliography of his scholarly publications in 2003, with an addendum in 2004. Ahmad Ashraf, Mary Elaine Hegland, and Homa Katouzian served on the award committee.

The award for Lifetime Achievement in Iranian Studies, for a Scholar Residing and Working Outside of Iran goes to Hagop Kevorkian Emeritus Professor of Iranian Studies and Editor of the Encyclopedia Iranica, Ehsan Yarshater. Like Iraj Afshar, Dr. Ehsan Yarshater has devoted a lifetime to enabling the work of other Iranian Studies scholars through gathering, compiling, editing, and publishing materials. Through his scholarship, editing, and teaching, he has made extremely significant contributions to a variety of Iranian Studies fields. Dr. Ehsan Yarshater served as chief editor of Bongah-e Tarjomeh va Nashr-e Ketab for many years. He has produced sixteen books and 250 articles and continues his extremely significant work as EI Editor and also through editing and contributing to a ten volume history of Persian literature. Ali Banuazizi, Mary Elaine Hegland, and Sholeh Quinn served on this award committee.
Born in Brooklyn New York, schooled in Manhattan, Dr. Keddie attended Radcliffe College where she graduated Magna cum laude, Stanford University where she obtained her M.A and U.C. Berkeley for her Ph.D. She taught at the University of Arizona, Scripps College in California, and UCLA where she became a full Professor. Her courses have ranged over diverse fields and disciplines, but her main focus is on Middle Eastern and Iranian history. She is interested in non-written sources (oral history, interviewing) in the teaching and research of History and has maintained an abiding interest in photography. Dr. Keddie photographs people from all over the world; her photographs were the centerpiece of an exhibit and catalogue on the Qashqai people of Iran at UCLA’s Fowler Museum in 2007.

Dr. Keddie is the recipient of major fellowships: American Association of University Women (1954-55), Guggenheim (1963-64), SSRC (1959-60, 1966), Rockefeller (1980, 1982; Bellagio, 1992). Lifetime awards include Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1994), Scholarly Distinction Award from the American Historical Association (2001), Persian History award from the Encyclopedia Iranica Foundation (2002), and Middle East Studies Honorary Fellow (2003). In 2004 Dr. Keddie was awarded the International Balzan
Foundation Award which enabled her to bring two post-doctoral fellows in women’s studies to UCLA for each of three years.

Dr. Keddie founded and edited the journal Contention: Debates in Society, Culture and Science from 1991-96. She is the author of over a hundred articles which are listed in the bibliographies of her Iran and the Muslim World (New York University Press, 1995), and Women in the Middle East: Past and Present (Princeton University Press, 2007).

Her many books include:
ROOTS OF REVOLUTION: An Interpretive History of Modern Iran (Yale University Press, 1981);
IRAN: Religion, Politics and Society (London, 1980);

Opinion Pieces and Newspaper Reviews written since 2000 include:
“Don’t judge a woman by her cover: life is not all bad in Iran,” The Times (London) (February 9, 2004);

Dr. Keddie’s research has taken her on travels to Iran where she spent a total of three years, to Europe, the Middle East, and to Southeast Asia, and Africa. A woman of diverse interests and talents, Dr. Keddie has contributed to Iranian Studies not only as an eminent researcher and scholar, but as a teacher and mentor to a host of students who have followed her lead into the field of Iranian Studies.
Richard Nelson Frye is a well known scholar in central Asian studies who has written many books on Iran. Graduating from Harvard in 1946, he taught at Habibiya College in Kabul (1942-44), Harvard University (1948-90), Frankfurt University (1959-60), Hamburg University (1968-69), Pahlavi University of Shiraz (1970-76), and University of Tajikistan (1990-92).

Professor Frye founded the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard. He served as Director of the Asia Institute in Shiraz (1970-1975), was on the Board of Trustees of the Pahlavi University at Shiraz (1974-78), and was also Chairman of the Committee on Inner Asian Studies, at Harvard (1983-89), and Editor of the Bulletin of the Asia Institute (1970-1975 and 1987-99).

Professor Frye has published numerous works, including: Notes on the Early Coinage of Transoxiana (1949); The United States and Turkey and Iran, (with Lewis V. Thomas, 1951); The Near East and the Great Powers (ed., 1951); History of the Nation of Archers (1954); The Heritage of Persia (1962); Bukhara (1965); The Golden Age of Persia (1975); The History of Ancient Iran (1983); and The Heritage of Central Asia (1996). He was also the editor of
Vol. IV of The Cambridge History of Iran (1975).

Professor Frye’s publications include:

- The Near East and the Great Powers, Harvard University Press, 1951
- Iran, George Allen and Unwin, London, 1960
- Bukhara: The Medieval Achievement, University of Oklahoma Press, 1965
- The Histories of Nishapur, Harvard University Press, 1965
- The United States and Turkey and Iran, Archon Books, 1971
- Neue Methodologie in der Iranistik, Wiesbaden, 1974
- The heritage of Central Asia from antiquity to the Turkish expansion, Markus Wiener, Princeton, 1996
- Greater Iran, Mazda Publishers, 2005
Jaleh Amouzegar is a distinguished scholar of Ancient Iranian Languages and Culture who has trained many leading students in her field. Born in the city of Khuy in Azerbaijan in 1939, she attended Irandukht High School in Tabriz. She obtained her Bachelors Degree in Persian Literature from the University of Tabriz. She received a scholarship to pursue her studies at the Paris-Sorbonne University, and completed her Ph.D. thesis on “Studies of Mazdean Language and Literature in Persian” in 1967 under the supervision of the Mazdean scholar Jean-Pierre de Menasce. Beginning her career as a researcher at the Iran Cultural Foundation (Bunyad-i Farhang-i Iran) in 1968, Amouzegar became a faculty member of the Department of Literature at the University of Tehran in 1970. She has since been teaching ancient languages, mythology, and ancient Iranian culture and religions at the same institution. She has been honored nationally and internationally for her groundbreaking scholarship.

Her research includes works in French as well as ten volumes in Persian, five of which have been written in collaboration with the late Dr. Ahmad Tafazzoli. Her recent major work is the translation...
of the fifth book of the 9th-10th century Dēnkard Encyclopedia into French, Le cinquième livre du Dēnkard: Transcription, traduction et commentaire, Studia Iranica 23, Paris, 2000. Amouzegar has overseen the publication of several books, including the Literature of Pre-Islamic Iran (upcoming). She is the author of nearly a hundred articles in the languages of Persian, English and French. She has served on numerous editorial boards and has cooperated with Encyclopaedia Iranica, Name-ye Iran-e Bastan, The International Journal of Ancient Iranian Studies, Abstraca Iranica, The Great Encyclopedia of Islam, and the Iranian Academy of Persian Language and Literature. Professor Amouzegar is known not only for her learned scholarship and contributions to the academic study of ancient Iran, but is greatly admired by several generations of students in Iran and beyond.

The following are a few of her many publications:

- Tarikh-i Asatriri-i Iran (Tehran: Samt, 1995).

For a list of her awards and publications visit: literature.ut.ac.ir/literature/faculty-member/amouzegar/amouzegar.htm.
Amin Banani was born in Tehran on September 23, 1926, the first of six siblings. He received his elementary education at the Zoroastrian School and attained the first rank in the all-Tehran final exams for the sixth grade. He completed the first three years of high school at the Alborz School and in 1943, in the midst of the Second World War, he came to the United States on board a U.S. troopship, arriving in February 1944. Due to the more advanced curriculum of the Persian schools at the time he was able to graduate from high school by June of 1944 as the valedictorian of his class. In September 1944 he was admitted to Stanford University and he graduated in 1947 with a major in history. He obtained his M.A. from Columbia University in 1949 and returned to Stanford for his Ph.D. He passed his oral exams with great distinction in October 1950, and then he left for Europe for a number of years and returned to finish his dissertation and receive his degree in 1959.

His academic career began with teaching history at the Overseas Program of the University of Maryland in Athens, Greece in 1956-58. Then he taught for one year as an Instructor at Stanford University in 1958-59; two years as an Assistant Professor of Humanities at Reed College, 1959-61; two years as Research Fellow and Assistant Professor at Harvard University in 1951-63. In September 1963 he was invited to UCLA by Professor Gustave
von Grunebaum to start the program of Persian studies. From the start his teaching was not narrowly focused but covered both history and literature. This broad encompassing of Persian cultural history has been reflected in his research and scholarship. From his first book, The Modernization of Iran, published in 1961 to his latest contribution to the volume published by the Danish Academy of Sciences in 2008 entitled Religious Texts in Iranian Languages he has concerned himself with vital aspects of a living and continuing cultural tradition.


In the course of more than thirty years of teaching at UCLA he laid the foundation of a broad and integrated program of Iranian Studies culminating in the establishment of the first Undergraduate Major in Iranian Studies at any American university. His graduate teaching has yielded a number of outstanding scholars who have occupied tenure positions at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the University of Oxford, the University of Virginia, the University of Michigan and the University of California, Berkeley.

Amin Banani has served on the Board of Directors of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, the Executive Council of the Society for Iranian Studies and Vice President of the American Association of Iranian Studies.

He is a passionate lover of music both eastern and western, and finds his spiritual fulfilment in enjoyment of that art.
The Saidi-Sirjani Book Award is granted biennially by the International Society for Iranian Studies on behalf of the Persian Heritage Foundation. Established in 1995, the purpose of the Award is to promote and encourage scholarship in the field of Iranian studies, as well as to honor the memory of Ali-Akbar Saidi-Sirjani (1931-1994), the noted Iranian historian, literary critic, and author, in appreciation for his scholarship, his courage, and his indefatigable struggle for freedom of expression.

Works qualifying for the prize will consist of (a) original studies or syntheses in Persian, English, and European languages of a topic in the Iranian field; (b) critical editions of significant texts in Iranian languages and (c) translations from an Iranian language, only if accompanied by scholarly annotations requiring extensive research. Works of fiction and poetry and edited collections are excluded. To be considered for the prize, works should be of monograph length and published by a recognized publishing house. The Award currently carries a cash stipend of $2,000 for the First Prize and $500 for each of two Honorable Mentions.
The following is the list of previous recipients of the Saidi-Sirjani Book Award since its inception:


**2004 First Prize:** Maria E. Subtelny, Le monde est un jardin: Aspects d’histoire culturelle de l’Iran medieval, 2002.


**2006 First Prize:** Rudi Matthee, The Pursuit of Pleasure: Drugs and Stimulants in Iranian History, 1500-1900, 2005.

The Latifeh Yarshater Award was 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 focused on the condition of women in Persian-speaking societies and to promote women’s rights in these societies. The award, in the amount of $3,000, is biannual, granted to a work of superior scholarship published within two years prior to the award that will satisfy the following criteria of eligibility:

☞ Cover one of the areas of women’s studies related to Persian-speaking societies and make a direct or indirect contribution to the improvement of the status of women in those societies.

☞ Be innovative in subject matter and approach and expand the parameters of the field.

☞ Works in English are the primary focus of the award. Persian, French, and German works are considered only exceptionally when there is unanimous agreement on their high merit.

Members of the award committee are: Mahnaz Afkhami, Shahla Haeri, Azar Nafisi, Houra Yavari, Nasrin Rahimieh, Mohamad Tavakoli Targhi, and Massumeh Farhad. The 2008 Latifeh Yarshater Award was given
to Negar Mottahedeh for her work Representing the Unrepresentable: Historical Images of National Reform from the Qajars to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syracuse University Press, 2007, and Gina Nahai for her novel Caspian Rain, MacAdam/Cage, 2007.

Negar Mottahedeh’s work, Representing the Unpresentable, is a sensitively written narrative that by successfully converging text and image creates a powerful intellectual and artistic device for decoding expressive forms of Iranian national behavior. By efficient use of primary source material, it analyzes and elucidates the social and cultural dynamics that propel or hinder reform, and by being acutely aware of the role of symbol, sign, and nuance in conferring meaning to individual and social behavior it unveils the contradictions that underlie women’s struggles for rights, equality, and justice.

In Caspian Rain, Gina Nahai beautifully and poignantly reveals the trials and tribulations of the narrator, a 12 years old Jewish girl named Yaas, and her family in pre-revolutionary Iran. The most touching characters in this story are its women, struggling to preserve their sense of dignity and independence in a society torn by the conflict between tradition and modernity. Nahai’s lyrical prose and powerful narration place the reader within the context of these women’s experience as they try to create a space for themselves outside of the limitations imposed on them by their minority status, gender and class. The reader feels empathy with their plight while admiring their resilience and generosity of spirit.

Past recipients of the award have been:

2000
Mehrangiz Kar, Violence Against Women in Iran (First Prize)

2002
Goli Taraghi, Elsewhere (First Prize)
Reza Afshari, Human Rights in Iran: The Abuse of Cultural Relativism (Honorable Mention)
Pouran Farrokhzad, Encyclopedia of Women Creators of Culture in Iran and in the World (Honorable Mention)

2004

2006
Ehsan Yarshater Named Honorary Member of SIS

The Council of the Society for Iranian Studies has named Professor Ehsan Yarshater as an Honorary Member of the Society. According to the Constitution of the Society, "honorary membership shall be limited to outstanding, internationally recognized scholars who have made major contributions to the field of Iranian Studies." SIS President Farhad Kazemi made the announcement at The Society’s Business Meetings at the 1999 MESA meetings held in Washington, D.C., where Professor Yarshater graciously accepted the nomination.

Commenting on the contributions of Professor Yarshater to the field of Iranian Studies, Dr. Kazemi explained, “Ehsan Yarshater needs no introduction. It suffices to point out that his scholarly contributions to the field of Iranian Studies are not easily matched. He has been a beacon of scholarship and unofficially but deservedly the dean of Iranian Studies for several decades. He has also been a tireless supporter of our Society in every possible way. In addition to intellectual and financial contributions, Dr. Yarshater also served as our first elected president. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this honor. I extend my personal congratulations to this remarkable individual, scholar, and institution builder. He is an inspiration to all of us.”

On many levels, Professor Yarshater’s life has been entwined with the field of Iranian Studies. Born in 1920 in Hamadan, he went on to study at the University of Tehran under scholars such as Ebrahim Pour-Davud, Mohammad Taqi Bahar, and ‘Ali Asghar Hekmat. He received a D. Lit. with distinction in Persian Literature from the University of Tehran in 1947. At the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, Yarshater undertook the study of Iranian linguistics under the supervision of W. B. Henning. Upon receiving his M.A. degree in 1953, Yarshater returned to Iran, joining the Faculty of Letters at Tehran University as a lecturer in ancient languages. He became the Vice-President of the Société de la dialectologie iranienne and helped to establish the Institute for the Translation and Publication of Books (Bongah-i Tarjomanah va Nashri Kitab) and the Book Society (Anjoman-i Kitab). In 1960, he received a Ph.D. from the University of London with a thesis entitled, “The Tati Dialect Spoken to the South of Qazvin.” In 1961, he married Latifeh Alviev, who became a lifelong companion sharing his interest in and devotion to Iranian Studies.

In 1961, Yarshater was named the Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies at Columbia University. He soon undertook work on the Persian Heritage Series. Yarshater continued his scholarly investigation into Iranian dialects, leading to the publication of Median Dialect Studies I. In 1966, he founded the Center for Iranian Studies at Columbia University. In the 1970s, Yarshater established the Encyclopaedia Iranica. In a recent interview published in the journal Iranian Studies (volume 31, numbers 3 – 4, 1998), Yarshater explained the purpose of this project, “For
The Ehsan Yarshater Book Award


The largest part of the book (pp. 9-263) consists of a new edition -- text, translation, historical and philological commentary, glossary -- of the Sogdian legal documents and letters from Mt Mug near Panjikent. The present book supersedes what has been up to now the standard edition, the same author’s earlier work published in Moscow in 1962. It updates both in general (e.g. by adopting a revised transliteration system for Sogdian) and in particulars (taking into account more recent studies of specific documents such as those of Gershevitch, Sims-Williams, Yakubovich, Grenet and de la Vaissière). Unlike the previous edition, this one includes photographs of all the documents.

As the only significant Sogdian texts actually written in the Sogdian homeland and as a primary source for the period of the Arab invasions in the early 8th century CE, the documents
from Mt Mugh are immensely important both to linguists and to historians. They include letters written by Dewashtich, the last independent Sogdian ruler, and his subordinates, a letter in Sogdian from the Arab amir Abd al-Rahman b. Subh, a pair of marriage contracts, a contract for the lease of a dakhma -- documents which throw light on both the political and the social history of the period. The script and language differ in many respects from those of other Sogdian materials. While some details still remain and perhaps will always remain debatable, Livshits’s ability to interpret these exceptionally difficult documents deserves our deepest respect and admiration.

The second part of the book (pp. 265-388), which is also very valuable, is a collection of Livshits’s papers concerning Sogdian inscriptions from Sogdiana and from further east. One article deals with a Buddhist Sogdian manuscript fragment. Most of these papers have been published before, but where necessary they are revised, and some sections (on the late Sogdian inscriptions of Semireche and Kirgizia) are new.

This work can be seen as a summation of Vladimir A. Livshits’s life’s work in Sogdian epigraphy, approached with the instincts of a historian and a philologist, who also has excellent knowledge of archaeology and numismatics. It reflects not only the author’s achievements as an epigraphist and linguist, but also demonstrates the advantages of a complex approach when the work of a philologist is combined with archaeology and numismatics. The Ehsan Yarshater Book Award recognizes not only this remarkable book, but also a lifetime’s distinguished contribution to Ancient Iranian Studies.

Selected for Honourable Mention:

The book is a meticulous edition of a group of 40 new Middle Persian documents in the Pahlavi cursive script which appeared in the international market for antiquities in the late 1980s in Europe and the USA. The vast material written on leather and linen also includes letters and other unique texts (among them economic lists and a magical text). According to D. Weber’s dating the documents in his edition belong to the period between ca. 660 to 680 C.E., hence to the very early Islamic period from which almost nothing else has survived. The find is important not only because of its unique value as a source for this otherwise completely dark period of Iranian history, but also since few original documents of economic and legal provenance have survived from any age of Iran’s past up to the 10th century C.E. The cursive script can only be read if the reader is well acquainted with
legal and economic terminology, the precise formulae used in all kinds of documents and, besides, knows the exact content of the text beforehand.

D. Weber’s edition of these texts is the admirable work of an expert who has spent all his life deciphering documents written in the extremely difficult Pahlavi cursive script. His treatment of these texts is one of the most reliable editions of the past years, dealing, moreover, with original sources of great interest for the reconstruction of the economic and legal history of Iran in the very first decades of the Muslim era.


While the text of the Qešše-ye Sanjān (QS) has been readily available in Gujarati and English translations since the 19th century, the Persian original has been little known. For the first time Williams now provides the text not only in romanized transcription and a parallel English version, but also in facsimiles of the best and oldest manuscript, SH, which he rediscovered in the library of the Cama Oriental Institute, Mumbai. While Williams’ text is mainly based on the readings of SH, his is the first ever edition of the QS with any claim to being text critical. In addition to SH, Williams records variant readings of M.R. Unvala’s 1922 lithographed reproduction of the ms. MU, the whereabouts of which are currently unknown, and of five other manuscripts. Williams also offers a detailed commentary on individual passages and argues convincingly that the text emulates the national epic tradition of Iran in miniature and aspires to be the national epic of the Parsis. Williams shows that, rather than being viewed as a very imperfect history of the Parsi community, the text is much better understood as a “mirror” of the Sanjāna priestly tradition, the stewards of the Irān Shāh fire: it tells the story of that fire and of its priesthood.
The Lois Roth Prize for Literary Translation from Persian to English

The Lois Roth Prize for Literary Translation from Persian to English is awarded by a jury appointed by the American Institute of Iranian Studies.

This prize was established in memory of Lois Roth, whose interest in and affection for Iran and Iranian culture dates back to the late 1960s, when she lived and worked in Iran as Assistant, and then Deputy Cultural Attaché, in the USIA and as Director of the Iran America Society. At that time Lois was one of a group of persons who helped initiate and encourage the foundation of the American Institute of Iranian Studies (or AIIrS - www.simorgh.aiis.org). After her untimely death in 1986, the Lois Roth Endowment was created.

Since 1999 this endowment has included, among many contributions to international programs, funding for the Lois Roth Persian Translation Prize of the AIIrS. The prize is awarded in recognition of demonstrated excellence in translating Persian (including Tajik) literature into English.

This year’s winner is: Simin Behbahani, A Cup of Sin: Selected Poems, edited and translated by Farzaneh Milani and Kaveh Safa (Syracuse University Press, 1999).

In A Cup of Sin, Farzaneh Milani and Kaveh Safa introduce a distinctive and often compelling poetic voice to English-speaking readers. Simin Behbahani, Iran’s most celebrated living poet, writes courageously and incisively – a compelling female voice that does not flinch from poetic, personal or political engagement. Behbahani’s poetry is grounded in the fixed forms and traditional versification of the Persian literary heritage, but is modern in its themes and speech rhythms, as well as thoughtfully innovative in its adaptation and expansion of prosodic conventions.

A poet much concerned with form and metrics, like Behbahani, presents an immense challenge for translation, but Milani and Safa have pioneered the path to a convincing English idiom. Unlike Farrokhzad or Sepehri, whose poems were more readily portable into an “international” lyric idiom (one thinks here of the relative mobility across European language boundaries of poets like Lorca, Paz, Célan, Rilke or Milosz), Behbahani’s mode of lyricism is rooted in its Persianness, more particularly in the ghazal form. Milani and Safa’s approach to translating the modern Persian ghazal is exciting, and the engaging explication and analysis (including an autobiographical essay by Behbahani herself) creates a contextual framework for new readers to approach the poems of this immensely talented, yet to English-readers almost unknown poet.

Given the sizeable proportions of Behbahani’s still expanding oeuvre, the translators’ careful culling of the poems to present in translation is to be much commended. The informative discussion of translation considerations and practices in Safa’s afterword will provide food for thought for future translators, as it also deepens our appreciation of the notable achievement of A Cup of Sin.
Namâd Ensemble connects contemporary audiences to classical Persian music. It was formed by five outstanding musicians who create original compositions based on both the modern and classical poetry of Iran. Passionate and haunting melodies that are performed by Kourosh Taghavi on the Setar, and Saeed Kamjoo on the Kamanche and Queychak, poetically fuse with percussions by Mehrdad Arabi and Afshin Mehrassa colorfully creating the needed space in which the beautiful voice of Khosro Ansari tells the stories of our times. Namâd Ensemble has been promoting Classical Persian Music and Poetry through a series of concerts in North America and Europe. They have released their first album, OSSYAN, based on the poetry of Forough Farrokhzad and Siavosh Kasraei (both contemporary poets of Iran) and are currently recording their second album based on the Poetry of the legendary H. A. Sayeh.

The title of this performance and accompanying CD, Ossyan, is based on one of Farrokhzad’s most legendary poems, exclaiming:
“In a silenced land, rebellion is the voice of voiceless people. Its holler reverberates through the ups and downs of this silent land, only to enlighten the heart with the sound of love!”

Khosro Ansari

Khosro Ansari is a renowned vocalist of Persian classical music. Khosro began his formal training of the Persian classical music at an early age under the tutelage of Master Ali Asghar Shahzeidi in Isfahan, Iran. He migrated to the United States in 1988 where he continued his research and study of vocal music of Iran. He performed in numerous concerts in North America as the feature vocalist where he was received enthusiastically by large audiences. Khosro who is one of the most exceptional vocalists of Persian Classical music abroad was also featured in numerous motion pictures and TV series such as Spy Game, Man on Fire, ER and Third Watch to name a few. His recent outstanding compositions on contemporary poetry of Iran was one of the highlights of Namaad Ensemble’s recent performance. Khosro resides in Los Angeles where he pursues Persian and World music.

Mehrdad Arabi

www.persiandrums.com

Internationally acclaimed Master of Persian music, Mehrdad Arabi has received numerous awards for his work from the likes of Daytona Symphony Society, University of Borneo, the City of Madrid and the City of Nicosia in Cyprus. He was recently awarded the prestigious Master Musician Fellowship from the Durfee Foundation in Los Angeles. Arabi began studying Tombak as a teenager with the renowned Morteza Ayan & Nasser Eftetah. In addition to Tombak and Daf, he is proficient in the Kemanche and Violin. Arabi is one of a handful of musicians who has studied both the traditional and the contemporary approaches to the Tombak and utilizes both in his compositions as a soloist as well as an accompanist. His signature style of Tombak playing is clear and crisp. Arabi has participated in more than 20 recordings as a performer, composer and arranger. The highlights of this collection are his recordings with two of the legends of Persian music,
Hassan Kasaie and Jalil Shahnaz, with whom he has also appeared in concert. He has also recorded sound-tracks for Hollywood films including The Passion of Christ, Hidalgo and Helen of Troy. He has composed the score and played a full orchestra for the first Iranian American cartoon in the United States, Babak’s First Norooz.

Afshin Mehrassa

Afshin Mehrassa, born in 1964 in Sanandaj started learning Santour (dulcimer) at age 9 under the supervision of the late Master Biazar. Very soon however, he realized his passion was greater in percussive instruments. Soon after he began taking classes on Tombak and Daf, and eventually he picked the Daf as his main instrument. Daf is a spiritual instrument among Kurds and must be played with passion as well as skill. These elements are clearly noticeable in Mehrassa’s technique. Mehrassa has lived in California since 1984 and has toured as a guest performer with many ensembles such as Dastan, Oshagh and has performed with many renowned artists such as Housain Alizadeh, Pejmon Haddadi, Shahram Nazeri, Ali Akbar Moradi, Ardessir Kamkar and Hussein Omoumi. He is currently a member of Namâd Ensemble.

Kourosh Taghavi

Kourosh Taghavi was born in Gorgan, Iran in 1965. After his migration to the United States in 1984 he began studying the Setar with Ms. Partow Houshmand-Rad. He later had the great fortune to continue his studies of the Setar and classical music of Iran with Ostad Mohammad Reza Lotfi and Ostad Hossein Alizadeh. These ongoing studies are the source of his unique approach to the art of Iranian music. Taghavi’s passionate and melodic approach to music is the foundation of his many collaborations and recordings with numerous artists performing both the traditional and modern art forms of Iranian music. Taghavi is one of the founding members of Goosheh, Seda, and Namâd Ensembles with which he...
has toured throughout the US and Europe. He is also a founding member of The Sayeh Poetry and Music Society. His recent collaborations, celebrating the poetry and life of Rumi, with renowned master artists such as Hossein Omoumi, Robert Bly and Coleman Barks are some of the highlights of his efforts in promoting Persian classical music and poetry. As a faculty member of San Diego State University, Taghavi taught the Radiff of Persian classical music and oversaw related theses. He has been teaching the Setar throughout California, lecturing, composing original music for plays, creating compositions based on contemporary Iranian poetry, and recording passionate solo pieces. These are only few of many goals Taghavi has accomplished in his passionate quest for introducing and promoting Persian classical music.

Saeed Kamjoo

www.saeedkamjoo.com

Saeed Kamjoo, born in 1965 in Tehran, Iran, is a Persian musician and composer. He started learning Kamanche at the age of seventeen under supervision of Ardeshir Kâmkâr. He furthered his studies in instrumental and vocal repertoires of Persian classical music under the guidance of such renowned masters as Ali Akbar Shekârchi, and Ustad Asghar Bahârî. He is also a graduate of the School of Fine Arts from Tehran University.

His approach in playing Kamanche is based on his perception of values inherent in Classical Persian music. Kamjoo’s style of playing Kamanche combines creativity and authenticity with innovation. Although his music has its roots in classical Persian music, he allows himself to explore the new. Kamjoo moved to Montreal, Canada in 1997 and has since been collaborating with various ensembles in Canada, U.S.A and Europe. He has recorded many albums and performed in numerous music festivals around the world. Saeed Kamjoo has also performed with Dastan Ensemble, one of the most renowned Persian musical groups, as a guest artist. He is a cofounder of Namâd Ensemble.
THE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 27th

DOUBLETREE LOBBY
2:00-8:00 P.M.
Onsite Registration

PRE-SESSION 1 | GALLERY
NORTH | 3:00-5:00 P.M.
ISIS Board Meeting

PRE-SESSION 2
CAROUSEL C | 6:00-7:30 P.M.
ISIS General Meeting

PRE-SESSION 3
MARQUEE BALLROOM
8:00-9:00 P.M.
Jaleh Amouzegar, University of Tehran
On Persian Language
SESSION 1 | CAROUSEL A
Harvard Digital Archive Project: Women’s Worlds in Qajar Iran
Manoutchehr Eskandari-Qajar, President, International Qajar Studies Association (IQSA)
Nahid Mozaaffari, Independent Scholar, WWQI Project

SESSION 2 | CAROUSEL B
Engagements with Reason: Shi’ism and Iran’s Intellectual Culture
Chair: Rula Jurdi Abisaab, McGill University
Discussant: Arash Naraghi, Moravian College
Setrag Manoukian, McGill University
Eclecticism and the Reasoning Individual: Fursat Shirazi’s (d.1923) Journey of Self-Discovery
Aun Hasan Ali, McGill University
Formative Texts and Contexts for Rationalist and Traditionalist Shi’ism
Reza Pourjavady, McGill University
Reviving Shi’i Theology: Najm al-Din al-Nayrizi and His Commentary on Tusi’s Tajrid al-I’tiqad
Rula Jurdi Abisaab, McGill University
Skeptics of Juridical Rationalism: Epistemology and the Structure of Power in Sixteenth Century Iran

SESSION 3 | CAROUSEL C
Mediums of Storytelling: Narratives of 20th Century Iranian Jews
Chair/ Discussant: Nahid Pirmazar, University of California, Los Angeles
Wendy Wolfe Fine, Independent Scholar
Addressing the Jewish Exodus from Iran in the 70s and 80s through the Medium of Film
Jaleh Pirmazar, University of California, Berkeley
Memoirs and Novels by Iranian Jewish Women: New Voices
Farideh Dayanim Goldin, Old Dominion University
Love and Marriage among Middle Class Iranian Jewish Women in Southern California

SESSION 4 | MARQUEE 1
TBA

SESSION 5 | MARQUEE 2
Windows On The Past
Chair: Ahmed Alwishah, Pitzer College
Gholam R. Vatandoust, American University of Kuwait/Shiraz University
Recreating the Past and Embracing the Future: The First Private Museum in Iran
Tofigh Heidarzadeh, University of California, Riverside
Contextual Displays of Persian Astronomical Books: Samples from 1000 to 1800 AD
Elaheh Kheirandish, Harvard University
Windows into Early Science: Persian Scientific Traditions on Exhibit
Abbas Hosseini, Artist and Independent Scholar
Historical Background of Copyright in Iran

Break | 10:30-11:00 a.m.
SESSION 6 | CAROUSEL A
Persian Literary and Cinematic Representations of a Society in Transition I
Chair: M. R. Ghanoonparvar, University of Texas at Austin
Discussant: Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine
Ahmad Aminpour, University of Texas at Austin
The Liminal World of The Blind Owl
Nastaran Kherad, University of Texas at Austin
Ahmad Mahmud and Socialist Realism
Hanan Hammad, University of Texas at Austin
Mourning Locality: Community Versus Globalization and Nationalism in The Drowned and Cities of Salt
Sahar Allamezade, University of Maryland
Iraj Mirza’s Sexual Poetics: Writing Like a Man, Reading Like a Man

SESSION 7 | CAROUSEL B
Dialogues and Contestations
Chair: Sharon Baradaran, UCLA
Ali A. Jafarey, The Zarathushtrian Assembly
Zoroastrian Religion and Modernity
Keyvan Geula, Center for Global Integrated Education
Owning The Story of Our Persecution: The Role of Human Rights Efforts in Helping the Baha’is of Iran to Claim Real Victory
Ronen Cohen, Ariel University Center
The Hajjatiyeh: The Real Creators of the Islamic Revolution of Iran
Judea Pearl, UCLA
Carving a Dialogue Between Muslims and Jews

SESSION 8 | CAROUSEL C
Rural and Tribal Communities and the State
Chair: Fariba Zarinebaf, University of California at Riverside
James M Gustafson, University of Washington
Land Investment and Household Networks in Southern Iran under the Qajars
Anja Manthey, Yale University
The Iranian Nation-State and Assertions of Khuzistan’s Geopolitical Importance Before and After World War I
Gholam Reza Heydari, Islamic Azad University
Agricultural Development and Nomadic Settlement A Case Study of Shahsavan Tribal Community
Bernard Hourcade, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
The Making of a New Society in Rural Iran
SESSION 9 | MARQUEE 1
The Art of the Book
Chair: Charles Melville, Cambridge University
Raisa Amirbekyan, Yerevan State University
Safavid-Mughal Cultural Interrelations as Reflected in Matenadaran’s ‘Bayaz’ Manuscript Illumination
Paul Losensky, Indiana University
The Role of the Anthology in Defining a Literary School: The Maktab-e Voqu’ and India Office Ms. 2678.1
Chad Kia, Columbia University
Spinning Pictures: Reading Nizami as Jami

SESSION 10 | MARQUEE 2
The Ambit of Printing in Qajar Iran: Continent, Nation & Province
Chair: Nile Green, University of California, Los Angeles
Discussant: Abbas Amanat, Yale University
Nile Green, University of California at Los Angeles
Printing Persian in Saint Petersburg: Eurasian Networks of Evangelical Bible Production, c.1815-30
Arash Khazeni, Pomona College
“Land of the Rising Sun”: Printed Geography and Natural History in Nineteenth-Century Iran

Lunch 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Workshop on Dissertation Writing, Gallery South
SESSION 11 | CAROUSEL A
Persian Literary and Cinematic Representations of a Society in Transition II
Chair: M. R. Ghanoonparvar, University of Texas at Austin
Discussant: Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine
Somy Kim, University of Texas at Austin
Mapping Dystopia in Ebrahim Golestan’s Mud Brick and Mirror
Mahyar Entezari, University of Texas at Austin
The Šā‘iziyeh Topoi of Gholamhoseyn Ša‘edi’s Drama
Blake Atwood, University of Texas at Austin
Urbanism and the Representation of Reform in Two Films by Rakhshan Bani-Etemad
Sahba Shayani, UCLA
An Exile in Native Soil: An Analysis of Exile in the Later Works of Nader Naderpour

SESSION 12 | CAROUSEL B
Shi’i Modernity
Chair: Bahar Davary, University of San Diego
Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh, University of California, Santa Barbara
Shiism, Mullahs, and the Iranian Constitutional Revolution
Mateen Rokhsefat, University of Toronto
Clerical Modernism Beyond Wahhabism and Salafism
Sussan Siavoshi, Trinity University
The Mentor and the Pupil: Montazeri and Kadivar
Arash Naraghi, Moravian College
Iranian Shiism and the Contemporary Debate on the Human Rights of Sexual Minorities

SESSION 13 | CAROUSEL C
Constitutionalism, Elections, and Factional Politics
Chair: Janet Afary, University of California, Santa Barbara
Siavush Randjbar-Daemi, University of London, UK
Leyla Mostafavi, London School of Economics
From 1906 to 1979: The Role of Constitutions in Democratization in Iran
Luciano Zaccara, Autonoma University of Madrid
Elections and Factional Politics in Iran: Limiting the Change
SESSION 14 | MARQUEE 1
Reconstructing the Forgotten Female: Women in the Realm of the Shahnama
Chair: Alyssa Gabbay, University of Washington
Discussant: Firuza Abdullaeva, University of Oxford
Alyssa Gabbay, University of Washington
From Ill-Starred to Auspicious: Depictions of Daughters in Firdawsi's Shahnamah
Kumiko Yamamoto, Institute of Iranian Studies, University of Gottingen
Unfolded Self: Women in the Naqqali Tradition
Rana Salimi, University of California, San Diego
A New Voice on the Public Stage: Gordafarid, the First Female Naqqal in the Islamic Republic of Iran
Nahid Pirnazar, UCLA
Djalal Khaleqi Motlaq's Women of the Shahnameh: An Introduction

Break | 3:30-4:00 p.m.

SESSION 15 | MARQUEE 2
Media and Society
Chair: TBA
David Arn, University of Zurich
Shahla Talebi, Arizona State University
From the Moon to Television: A story of the Iranian Revolution of 1979
Saeid Golkar, Stanford University
Liberation or Suppression Technology: The Internet, the Green Movement and State in Iran
Davar Iran Ardalan, NPR News
You are the Media: How Iran's Women and Youth Reboot Journalism
SESSION 16 | CAROUSEL A

The Language of Literature
Chair: Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland
Dénes Gazsi, University of Iowa
Sa‘di as an Innovator in Arabic Semantics
Jocelyn Sharlet, University of California, Davis

Language Three Ways in the ‘Ushshaqnamah of Fakhr al-Din Iraqi
Jeannine Fontaine, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Two Writers, Two Linguistic Worlds: Simin Daneshvar and Shahrnoush Parsipour

SESSION 17 | CAROUSEL B

Shi‘i Rituals and Beliefs
Chair: Bahar Davary, University of San Diego
Babak Rahimi, University of California, San Diego

Ashura in the Arab-Iranian Community of Bushehr, Iran
Reza Masoudi Nejad, Max-Planck Institute

The Social Dynamic of Shawl in the Ashura Ritual
Tomoko Morikawa, Hokkaido University

Ziyarat and Ziyaratgah in 19th Century Iran

SESSION 18 | CAROUSEL C

Modern Iran and the World
Chair: Camron Amin, University of Michigan-Dearborn
Jennifer Jenkins, University of Toronto

Iran in the 19th Century Global Economy
Lior Sternfeld, University of Texas at Austin

Between Abadan and Suez: The Rise of Mossadeghism and the Anti-Colonial Struggle in Egypt
Sam Razavi, University of Montreal

The Eisenhower Administration and the Mossaddegh Overthrow
Ali Dizboni, Royal College of Canada

Two Irans in Two Regions? The Eurasia and the Middle East

SESSION 19 | MARQUEE 1

The Borderless World of Premodern Arts and Literature
Chair: Marianna S. Simpson, Baltimore, MD

Iván Szántó, Eötvös Loránd University of Sciences, Hungary

New Evidence on Medieval Hungaro-
Khwarazmian Artistic Contacts
Sinem Arcak, University of Minnesota
Ottomans Displaying Safavid Gifts
Keelan Overton, University Of California, Los Angeles
From Rustam to Jami: Persian Heroes and Manuscripts at the Court of Ibrahim Adil Shah II (r. 1580-1627).
Nahid Pirnazar, UCLA
The Account of Joseph in the Works of Shahin and Jami: A Parallel Study of a Cross-Cultural Theme

SESSION 20 | MARQUEE 2
Religions of Abbasid Iran: Beliefs and Controversies
Chair: Michael Cooperson, UCLA
David Bennett, UCLA
The Refutation of Dualist Heresies
Awad Awad, UCLA
The Intellectual History of Persian Nestorian Physicians in the Early Abbasid Period
Hassan Hussain, UCLA
Shu’ubiyyah and Iranians in Contemporary Arabic Literature
Najm al-Din Yousefi, Virginia Tech
The Early Diwan, Persian Mawali and the Miscarriage of a New Discourse

PLENARY SESSION 21 | MARQUEE BALLROOM| 6:00-7:00
Memories and Memoirs
Chair: Mahnaz Afkhami
Goli Taraghi
Roya Hakakian
Tara Bahrampour

Break | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Opening Reception | CAROUSEL BALLROOM | 8:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.

The Lifetime Achievement Award
The Saidi-Sirjani Book Award
The Latifeh Yarshater Award
The Lois Roth Prize
Special Service Recognition Award

Namâd Ensemble
Khosro Ansari (Vocal), Mehrdad Arabi (Tombak, Daf, Frame Drums), Saeed Kamjoo (Kamâncheh, Queychak), Kourosh Taghavi (Setâr)

Break | 5:30-6:00 p.m.
SESSION 23 | CAROUSEL A
Zones of Exploration: Society, Literature, and Film
Chair: Amy Motlagh, American University in Cairo
Parvaneh Hosseini, University of Arizona
Identity Formation as a Means of Bringing Desirous Subject into Being in the Novels of Simin Danishvar
Mehrak Kamali, University of Arizona
Cinema and the Decline of Iranian Village Life: Khak by Masoud Kimiai
Philip Grant, University of California, Irvine
Another Birth: Gender, Agency, and Activism in the Contemporary Iranian World
Maryam Ghorbankarimi, University of Edinburgh
Redefining the Filmic Genres Of Iranian Cinema: The Generic Qualities Of New Iranian Cinema

SESSION 24 | CAROUSEL B
Clerics and Esoterics
Chair: Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh, UCLA
Mehrdad Shabahang, Ecole Pratique Des Hautes Etudes
Comparison of Old Iranian Dualism and Shiite Dualism
Maryam Moazzen, University of Toronto
Safavid Madrasas and Framing the Collective Memory of the Shi’ites in the Early Modern Iran
Mahdi Touraj, University of Western Ontario
Of God And Ayatollahs: Theological Implications Of Contemporary Iranian Jokes

SESSION 25 | CAROUSEL C
The Challenges of Publishing Persian Journals
Chair: Homa Katouzian, Editor of Iranian Studies
Hormoz Hekmat, Editor of Iran Nameh
Sholeh Shams, Editor of Rahavard
Nahid Tavassoli, Editor of Nafeh
Ali Dehbashi, Editor of Bokhara

SESSION 26 | MARQUEE 1
American Association of Teachers of Persian Round-table at ISIS
Chairs: Pardis Minuchehr, University of Pennsylvania and Latifeh Hagigi, UCLA
Participants:
SESSION 27 | MARQUEE 2
Issues of Demography and Public Policy
Chair: Victoria Tahmasebi-Birgani, University of Toronto
Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, Virginia Tech and Harvard University

The Changing Pattern of Marriage in Iran: Responses to the Marriage Squeeze

Mahvash Shahegh, John Hopkins, Fereshteh Amanat-Kowsar, Yale University
Ramin Sarraf, National University
Azita Mokhtari, National University
Maryam Borjian, CUNY
Haideh Sahim, Hofstra University
Parvaneh Hosseini, University of Arizona
Anousha Shahsavar, University of Texas, Austin
Manouchehr Kasheff, New York University
Niloufar Yarmohammadi, University of Maryland
Anousha Sedighi, Portland State University
Habib Borjian, New York City

Maryam Rezaee, University of York
Reasons for Not Pursuing Tertiary Education Among Women

Azim Fazilpour, Sorbonne University
Iran Narcotics Control Strategy & Geography of Drugs

Break | 10:30-11:00 a.m.
SESSION 28 | CAROUSEL A
Gender and Diaspora in Literature and Film
Chair: Amy Malek, UCLA
Manijeh Mannani, Athabasca University
Censorship and Autobiography: The Plight of Iranian Female Memoirists
Leila Pazargadi, UCLA
What’s so funny?: Investigating Humor in the Memoirs of Firoozeh Dumas and Marjane Satrapi
Nima Naghibi, Ryerson University
Feeling Nostalgic: Remembering Iran in Nahid Person’s The Queen and I
Rivanne Sandler, University of Toronto
Journeys From the Past: Diaspora Memoirs

SESSION 29 | CAROUSEL B
Roundtable Discussion and Readings: Daftarha-ye Shanbeh (Saturday Books) in a Historical Perspective. In Memoriam Mansour Khaksar
(Sponsored by the Persian Flagship Program at the University of Maryland)
Chair/Discussant: Majid Roshangar

SESSION 30 | CAROUSEL C
Safavid Persia: Tribal Policies and Travel Narratives
Chair: Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware
Akihiko Yamaguchi, University of the Sacred Heart
Shah Tahmasb’s Kurdish Policy
Saeid Hooshangi, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Iberian Travelers in Persia in the Safavid Period
Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware
From Rose Gardens to Bloody Anarchy: European Enlightenment Imagines of Early Modern Iran

SESSION 31 | MARQUEE 1
Curriculum Design Guidelines and Persian Materials Development. Part II
American Association of Teachers of Persian Round-table at ISIS
Chairs: Pardis Minuchehr, University of Pennsylvania and Latifeh Hagigi, UCLA

Participants:
Majid Naficy
Mehrnoush Mazareie
Khosrow Davami
Alireza Tabibzadeh
Shirin-dokht Daghighian
Davoud Gholam-hosseini

Partow Nooriala
Fariba Sedighim
Sheida Mohamadi
SESSION 32 | MARQUEE 2
Myth, Epic, and Kinship in Iranian Antiquity
Chair: Touraj Daryaee, University of California, Irvine
Azadeh Fadaie Tehrani, Tehran University

Stone: Silent Presence in Old Iranian Beliefs
Matthew Canepa, University of Minnesota

Iranian Kingship in Global Context and as a Global Commodity between Alexander and Islam.
Khodadad Rezakhani, UCLA

Prosopography of the Late Sasanian Empire: Sasanian Elite After the Reforms
Sara Mashayekh, University of California, Irvine

Ancestry and the Myth of Royal Origins: the Sasanian Royal Identity as Reflected in Karnamag-i Ardaxshir-i Pabagan
Khodadad Rezakhani, UCLA

Prosopography of the Late Sasanian Empire: Sasanian Elite After the Reforms
Sara Mashayekh, University of California, Irvine

Workshop on Academic Publishing, GALLERY SOUTH
Iradj Bagherzade, I.B. Tauris
Mohammad Batmanglij, Mage Publishers
A. Kamron Jabbari, Mazda Publishers
Farideh Koohi-Kamali, Palgrave Macmillan
SESSION 33 | CAROUSEL A
Family (secrets), Politics, and Nation: Filiations and Affiliations in the Literature of the Iranian Diaspora
Chair: Amy Motlagh, American University in Cairo
Discussant: Babak Elahi, Rochester Institute of Technology
Amena Moinfar, University of Texas at Austin
The Child in European Exile in Marjane Satrapi’s Persepolis
Manijeh Moradian, New York University
Hyphenated by Politics: Memoirs by Children of Iranian Leftists
Sanaz Raji, University of Leeds
The Mystery of the Past: Gendered Responses to Family History in Jasmin Crowther’s Saffron Kitchen and Porochista Khakpour’s Sons and Other Flammable Objects
Laetitia Nanquette, School of Oriental and African Languages, London
The Persian Novel in French: A Hybrid Genre

SESSION 34 | CAROUSEL B
Re-Reading Iranian Shi’ism: International and Transnational Connections and Influence
Chair: M.R. Ghanoonparvar, University of Texas at Austin
Christine D. Baker, University of Texas at Austin
Rebels, Revolutionaries, and Assassins: A Historiographical Analysis of European Portrayals of Shi’ism
Hanan Hammad, Texas Christian University
Rapprochement of Islamic Sects and Authoritarian Nationalism: Dar al-Taqrib 1948-1980
Banafsheh Madaninejad, University of Texas at Austin
Islamic Hermeneutics in Iran: A Rereading of Revelation
Faegheh Shirazi, University of Texas at Austin
When Not Equal in Life, “Almost” Equal in Death

SESSION 35 | CAROUSEL C
Looking at Each Other: Iran and Russia in the 17th through Early 20th century.
Chair: Jennifer Jenkins, University of Toronto
Discussant: Firuz Kazemzadeh, Yale University
Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware
Everyone an Orientalist: Russian-Iranian Relations in the Mid-Seventeenth Century
Maziar Behrooz, San Francisco State University
Contradictory Perceptions: Iranian Views of the Russian Myth During the Period 1825-1828
Elena Andreeva, Virginia Military Institute
Visual Representations of Iran in Russian Travelogues of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries

SESSION 36 | MARQUEE
The Urban Environment: Public and Private Spaces
Chair: Pamela Karimi, MIT and UMass Dartmouth
Fariba Kermani, Research Center of Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization
Safavid Bazaars and the Effects of Climate
Mehrnoush Soroush, New York University
Emad Kazaree, Drexel University
Reconstruction of Kerman under the Governance of Zahir al-Dawlah: A Comprehensive Master Plan in the Traditional Society of Iran
Farhad Roozbeh, University of Versailles
Tehran and Paris, Capitals of the 19th Century: A Historical Comparison
Azita Rezvan, Independent Scholar
Iranian Domesticity in the Houses’ Semi-open Spaces

SESSION 37 | MARQUEE 2
Author Meets Critic: The Life and Times of the Shah
Author: Gholam Reza Afkhami
Critic: TBA

Break | 3:30-4:00 p.m.
SESSION 38 | CAROUSEL A
Screening Iran: New Approaches to Contemporary Iranian Film and Television
Chair: Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine
Saeed Zeydabadi-Nejad, University of London
Film Censorship and the Problem of Reception
Saeed Talajooy, University College London
Iranian Cinema and Intercultural Adaptation: The Case of Dariush Mehrjui
Taraneh Dadar, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
To Laugh or Not to Laugh: A Discussion of Hegemony and Television Comedy in Post-Revolutionary Iran

SESSION 39 | CAROUSEL B
The Politics of the Possible in Iran
Chair: Afshin Matin-asgari, California State University, Los Angeles
Discussant: Farzin Vahdat, Harvard University
Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta
Post-Islamism in Iran: Neo-Shariati’s Post-Liberal Discourse and Soroush’s Liberal Islam
Omid Peyrow Shabani, University of Guelph
Between Revolution and Reform: The Prospect of Non-Violence Politics in Iran
Peyman Vahabzadeh, University of Victoria
The Politicization of Shi’ism in Iran and Its Possible Futures
Victoria Tähmasebi-Birgani, University of Toronto
Engendering Ethics: The Production of Ethico-Political Discourse in Post-Revolutionary Iran

SESSION 40 | CAROUSEL C
Pre-Modern and Modern Historiography
Chair: Touraj Atabaki, International Institute of Social History
Ghazzal Dabiri, Columbia University
Competitive Impetus and the Representation of Prophets and Kings in Iranian Historiography from the Ninth to Eleventh Century
Sholeh Quinn, University of California, Merced
Persian Historiography under the Gunpowder Empires
Yadullah Shahibzadeh, Oslo University
Ideology and Modern Historiography of Iran
Shahram Kholdi, University of Manchester
Agents of Revolution and Agents of History in the Islamic Republic of Iran
**SESSION 41 | MARQUEE 1**  
**Issues of Diaspora in North America and Iran**  
Chair: Roxanne Varzi, University of California, Irvine  
Amy Malek, UCLA  
*Visual Representations of Iranian-American Subjectivities: Public Contestations and the Influence of the Local*  
Janet Alexanian, University of California, Irvine  
*Engineering the Diaspora: Claims to Authority among Privileged Cultural Producers in Tehran and California*  
Camron Amin, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
*Murder, Madness and Assimilation: The Case of Brian Yasipour*  
Vahideddin Namazi, Université de Montréal  
*Iranians’ Motivations for Immigration to Canada*  

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**SESSION 42 | MARQUEE 2**  
**Legacies: Remembered, Living, Preserved**  
Chair: Rahim Shayegan, UCLA  
Haleh Emrani, UCLA  
*Family Law in the Religious Communities of the Late Sasanian Empire: Indicator of Social Change and Continuity*  

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**PLENARY SESSION 43 | MARQUEE BALLROOM | 6:00-7:00 P.M.**  
**Ehsan Yarshater’s Contribution to Iranian Studies**  
Chair: Richard N. Frye, Harvard University  
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland  
Oktor Skjaervo, Harvard University  
Charles Melville, University of Cambridge  
William Hanaway, University of Pennsylvania  

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**Yarshater Tribute | CAROUSEL BALLROOM | 8:00-10:00**  
The Ehsan Yarshater 90th Birthday Tribute & Reception
SESSION 45 | CAROUSEL A

Iranian Literature: Reflections on Modernity and Gender
Chair: Kamran Talattof, University of Arizona
Ali Mir-Ansari, Centre for the Great Encyclopaedia of Islam
The Iranian Constitutional Revolution and the Plays of Mirza-zadeh Eshghi
Kourosh Kamali Sarvestani, Fars Encyclopedia
Modernity, Enmity and Infatuation with Sa’di
Azita Hamedani, University of Payam-e Nur
Early Twentieth Century Persian Literature in Transoxiana and Persia: The Role of History and Modernity in the Rise of New Literature
Lyudmila Yaneva, University of Sofia, Bulgaria
Gender and the Creative Impulse in the Short Stories of Zahra Hakimi, Farideh Kheradmand, Moniru Ravanipur and Zoya Pirzad

SESSION 46 | CAROUSEL B

Modern Iran and the World II
Chair: Maziar Behrooz.
Majid Tafreshi, University of London
The first Soviet Ambassador in Persia: Theodore Rothstein and his life and times in Russia, Britain and Persia

SESSION 47 | CAROUSEL C

Interpretations and Reinterpretations of Myth and History in Premodern Persian Literature
Chair: Mahdi Touraj, University of Western Ontario
Koorosh Angali, Independent Scholar
The Case of Purandokht and Ferdowsi’s Chauvinism
Lale Uluc, Bogazici University
Ibrahim Sultan’s Iskandarnama and Its Importance
Pegah Shahbaz, University of Strasbourg
Guile and Its Various Symbolic Representations in Touti-Nâmeh

SESSION 48 | MARQUEE 1

Topics on Journalism: Views from Iran (In Persian)
Chair: Fariba Amini, Independent writer and journalist
Discussant: Kazem Alamdari, California State University
Fariba Amini, Independent Writer and journalist
*Interviews with the Interviewers*
Soheil Asefi, Independent Journalist
*Journalism in Iran: Perspectives and Analyses. Where Do Independent Journalists Stand?*
Fereshteh Ghazi, Journalist, Rooz Online
*Journalists: Prisoners of Pen in Iran*

**SESSION 49 | MARQUEE 2**
**Women’s Issues In Modern Iran**
(In Persian)
Chair: Victoria Tahmasebi-Birgani, University of Toronto
Fatemeh Masjedi, Independent Scholar
*Feminist Historiography*
Nahid Tavassoli, Editor-in-Chief of Nafeh
*Wives Who Kill Their Husbands (Shawharkushi)*
Soheila Vahdati, Independent Scholar
*In Search of Identity: The Iranian Women’s Movement*
Partow Nooriala, Poet, Critic, Commentator
*The Role of Women in the Presidential Elections of 2009 / 1388 AHSh, and in the Post-Electoral Green Movement*

*Break | 10:30-11:00 a.m.*
SESSION 50 | CAROUSEL A
Culture, Art, and Society in Modern Iran
Chair: Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland
Golbarg Rekabantaei, University of Toronto
Iranian Counter Cinema: The Transformation of Pre-Revolutionary Iranian Cinema
Shabnam Rahimi-Golkhandan, University of Toronto
Tuisigh Advertisements: The Formation of a Modern Visual Vernacular
Hamid Rezaei Yazdii, University of Toronto
Fictions of Modernity: A Postcolonial Reading of 20th Century Iranian Novels
Ida Meftahi, University of Toronto
Dance and “Counter-Dance” in Modern Iran

SESSION 51 | CAROUSEL B
The Mandate and Experience of Clerical Rule in Post-revolutionary Iran
Chair: Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta
Alireza Shomali, Wheaton College
Political Mysticism and Post-Revolutionary Iran

SESSION 52 | CAROUSEL C
Farsi Shekar Ast? The Language(s) of Belonging in Iran and its Diaspora
Chair: Guilan Siassi, UCLA.
Discussant: Kamran Talattof, University of Arizona
Guilan Siassi, UCLA
Mother-Tongue and Father-Word in Jamalzadeh’s ‘Farsi Shekar Ast’
Amy Motlagh, American University in Cairo
Writing Reform from the Margins: Minor(ity) Voices and the Question of Civil Society
Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California, Irvine
Translating Tāghi Modarresi’s Writing with an Accent
Babak Elahi, Rochester Institute of Technology
The Fleshless Word: Defamiliarizing Language and Literature in the Iranian Diaspora

Sunday, May 30th
11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
SESSION 53 | MARQUEE 1
Sociolinguistics and Linguistics
Chair: Ramin Sarraf, National University, La Jolla
Negar Davari-Ardakani, Shahid Beheshti University
Iranian Linguistic Attitudes and Persian Language Planning (A Case Study in Tehran)
Ladan Hamedani, University of Ottawa
Pluralization and Mass/Count Distinction in Persian
Pouneh Shabani Jadidi, McGill University/University of Ottawa
Processing Compound Verbs: Evidence from Persian

Yuhan S.-D. Vevaina, Harvard University
The Zoroastrian Communities’ Response to Islam: Text, Debates and Interaction
Samuel Secunda, Hebrew University
Talmudic and Middle Persian Texts in Late Antiquity: Common Challenges and Discourse

Lunch | 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Workshop on Academic Employment, Gallery South

SESSION 54 | MARQUEE 2
Debate, Dialect, Magic and Discourse in Late Antique Iran
Chair: Touraj Daryaee, University of California, Irvine
Charles G. Häberl, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Aramaic Incantation Bowls and Late Sasanian Mesopotamia
Kevin van Bladel, University of Southern California
Arabic Testimonies Concerning Western Iranian Dialects
SESSION 55 | CAROUSEL A
Discourses on Self And Other
Chair: Houri Berberian, California State University, Long Beach
Reza Zia-Ebrahimi, University of Oxford
Self-Orienationalisation and Dislocation: The Roots of the Aryan Discourse in Iran
Mina Yazdani, University of Toronto
The Islamic Revolution’s Internal ‘Other’
Mona Khademi, Independent Scholar
Laura Dreyfus-Barney: An American Woman’s Connections with Iran and Iranians

SESSION 56 | CAROUSEL B
Economics and Society
Chair: Roksana Bahramitash, Université de Montréal
Touraj Atabaki, International Institute of Social History
From Ámalah to Kargar: The Making of Working Class in the Iranian Oil Industry
Pamela Karimi, MIT and Umass Dartmouth
The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company as Cultural Entrepreneur: Architecture and Urban Space in Abadan
Mikiya Koyagi, University of Texas at Austin
An Iranian Project? The Trans-Iranian Railway and Nation-Building in the Reza Shah Period
Thierry Coville, Negocia
The Foundations in Iran: An Obstacle to the Globalization of the Iranian Economy

SESSION 57 | CAROUSEL C
War in Persian Literature
Chair: Faridoun Farrokh, Texas A&M International University
Discussant: Paul Sprachman, Rutgers University
Mohammad-Reza Ghanoonparvar, University of Texas at Austin
Modern Warfare in Persian Literature
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland
Russo-Iranian Wars of the Early 19th Century in Persian Poetry
Mehdi Khorrami, University of New York
Moments of Silence: The Authentic Narratives of War in Recent Persian Fiction
Faridoun Farrokh, Texas A&M International University
The Nobility of Battle and the Scourge of War
SESSION 58 | MARQUEE 1

**Cultural Politics and Urban Poetics**

Chair: Nima Naghibi, Ryerson University

Alice Bombardier, University of Geneva
*Cultural Policy and Painting under Reza Shah Pahlavi (1925-1941)*

Gai Brey, Ethnomusicologist
*‘Waking Up the Colours’: Candour and Allegory in Women’s Rap Music*

Afsaneh Kalantary, Loyola University, Chicago
*The Spirit of Carnival in the Iranian Presidential Election Campaign of 2009*

Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi, University of Toronto
*Cultural Engineering in Contemporary Iran*

SESSION 59 | MARQUEE 2

**Dissemination of Iranian Languages and Iranian Studies**

Chair: Jasamin Rostam-Kolayi, California State University, Fullerton

Dariush Borbor, Arya International University, Yerevan
*The Diachrony, Synchrony, Etymology and Gloss of the New Persian bōr as a Category of Color*

Byung-Ock Chang, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
*Iranian Studies in Korea*

Yashar Abdulselyamoglu, University of Sofia, Bulgaria

*Kurdish Studies: The Need for a New Approach*

Break | 3:30-4:00 p.m.
SESSION 60 | CAROUSEL A
Women without Men: Novel to Film
Shahrnoush Parsipour
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Maryland

SESSION 61 | CAROUSEL B
The Nation and its Ethno-Religious Communities
Chair: Afshin Matin-asgari, California State University, Los Angeles
Discussant: Nikki Keddie, UCLA
Nayereh Tohidi, California State University, Northridge
Ethnic and Religious Minority Politics in Contemporary Iran
Fereydoun Safizadeh, Boston University
Ya Husseini: Religion, Ethnic Identity, Ethnic Relations and Ethnicity in Iran
Rasmus Christian Elling, University of Copenhagen
National Unity, Ethnic Diversity and the Islamic Republic of Iran
Mehrdad Amanat, Independent Scholar
Set in Stone: Religious Ambiguity and Postmortem Identity

SESSION 62 | CAROUSEL C
TBA

SESSION 63 | MARQUEE 1
Information Communication Technology, Politics, Social Movements and Post-Revolutionary Iran
Chair: Babak Rahimi, University of California at San Diego

SESSION 64 | MARQUEE 2
Sufism: Poetry and Practice
Chair: Paul Losensky, Indiana University
Nasrollah Pourjavady, University of Tehran
Violence and Nonviolence in Persian Mysticism
Eliza Tasbihi, Concordia University
Nay Nameh or “The Song of the Reed” in Rûmî’s Mathnawî through the Prism of the Commentators.
Chad Lingwood, Grand Valley State University
The Political Significance of Jami’s Salamân va Absâl, an Allegorical Persian Romance Addressed to the Aq Qoyunlu Court
Firoozeh Papan-Matin, University of Washington
An Early Chishti Leader of the Deccan and the Twelfth-Century Mystics of Iran

Elham Gheytanchi, Santa Monica College
ICT and the 2009 Electoral Politics in Iran
Mahmood Enayat, University of Oxford
Converging or Diverging Weblogistan?
Adam Greenfield, Nokia
Network City and Citizenship in Post-Revolutionary Tehran
Mehdi Yahyanejad, Balatarin
Blogging Iran

Sunday, May 30th
4:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.

Break | 5:30-6:00 p.m.
Sunday May 30th

PLENARY SESSION 65
MARQUEE BALLROOM
6:00-7:00 P.M.
Boundaries between Scholarship and Activism: A Public Discussion
Chair: Nahid Mozaffari, Independent Scholar
Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi, University of Toronto
Nayereh Tohidí, California State University, Northridge
Victoria Tahmasebi-Birgani, University of Toronto

Break | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

SPECIAL RECEPTION
CAROUSEL BALLROOM
8:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.
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(Volume 25, No.4, Winter 2009)
on:
“Iran’s Political Crisis: Roots and Challenges” (2)

Contributors include:
Gholamreza Afkhami, Ahamad Ashraf, Farhad Khosrokhavar, Ali Alfonceh, Mehdi Khalaji, Saeed Payvandi, Esmail Nouriala and Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi

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“Simin Behbahani”, “Iran and the Challenges of the 21st Century”,
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