s.i.s. newsletter
A Publication of The Society for Iranian Studies

Volume XII, Number 1-2, January-May 1980

Address all communications to:

May-July 1980  Lois Beck
Executive Secretary, Society for Iranian Studies
Department of Anthropology
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT 84112, USA

after
August 1, 1980  Lois Beck
Executive Secretary, Society for Iranian Studies
Department of Anthropology
Washington University
St. Louis, MO 63130, USA

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY-1979
The Society's Fourteenth Annual Meeting was held during 7-10 November 1979 in Salt Lake City, in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association's Annual Meeting. Our panel on United States-Iran Relations, organized and chaired by Richard Cottam, and our Current Issues Workshop on Iran, moderated by Farhad Kazemi, were extremely well attended and very successful. We thank those who participated: Richard Cottam, Thomas Ricks, Hamid Mowlana, Farhad Kazemi, Marvin Weinbaum, and Jerrold Green. We regret that William Miller was not able to present his paper due to his trip with Ramsey Clark on behalf of the situation in Tehran.

The annual business meeting was held on November 8th. Several reports were given, nominations for the Council were offered, and the 1980 SIS-sponsored panels were chosen. Ali Banuazizi reported on the SIS membership and on the status of the journal; his revised report is included in this Newsletter. Mary-Jo Good read the financial report sent by Michael Fischer (Treasurer); an updated report is also in this Newsletter. Society members present agreed to a dues increase because of spiraling printing and mailing costs; however, there are discounts for members who pay their dues two or three years in advance. Dues for single members are: $18 (one year), $34 (two years), and $50 (three years).
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY-1980

The Society's Fifteenth Annual Meeting will be held in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association's Annual Meeting, on 6-9 November 1980. The SIS Council will meet at noon on Thursday 6 November, and the SIS Business Meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on that same day. Additional information, including the time of the SIS panels (below), will be found in the October Newsletter.

SIS-sponsored Panels for the 1980 Meetings

SIS is co-sponsoring three panels at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, to be held in Washington, D.C., on 6-9 November 1980. John Perry (University of Chicago) is this year's Program Chair. The panels and a tentative list of participants are as follows:

SHI'I SM AND POLITICS IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY IRAN (Said Arjomand, Chair)

Said Arjomand, "Shaikh Fazlollah Nuri and Ayatollah Ruhullah Khomeini: Two Proponents of Islamic Traditionalism in 20th Century Iran"
Mary Hooglund, "Revolutionary Shi'ism and Local Level Politics"
Shireen Mahdavi, "How Shi'i is Iran?"
Manoucher Parvin (discussant)

MINORITIES AND THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL INTEGRATION IN IRAN
(Leonard Helfgott, Chair)

Leonard Helfgott, "Redefining Iran: The National Minorities and the Iranian Revolution"
Mary-Jo Good and Byron Good, "Azerbaijan: Political Integration and Cultural Conflicts with the Iranian National Center"
Lois Beck, "Revolutionary Iran and the Qashqa'i"
Eden Naby, "The Christian Minorities in Iran in the Early 20th Century"

MODERN INTELLECTUAL HISTORY (Mohamad Jazayery, Chair)

Panel on Kasravi
Participants to be announced in the October Newsletter.

ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

Three members of the SIS Council finished their three-year terms in 1979. They are Ali Banuazizi, Oleg Grabar, and Marvin Zonis. We greatly appreciate their continuing assistance to the Society.

Five persons were nominated for the Council at the fall's Council meeting and general business meeting, and Society members voted in January 1980. The election results place Ali Banuazizi, Richard Cottam, and John Perry on the Council for the 1980-1982 term.

We offer our thanks to the Election Committee: John Lorentz (Chair), Grant Farr, and Kazem Tehrani.
REPORT OF THE TREASURER (Michael Fischer)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS: THE SOCIETY FOR IRANIAN STUDIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Members</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$1149.52</td>
<td>$1974.92</td>
<td>$1936.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Members</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>318.00</td>
<td>308.00</td>
<td>387.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Subs.</td>
<td>$100.45</td>
<td>366.68</td>
<td>54.50</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Subs.</td>
<td>1691.10</td>
<td>2414.72</td>
<td>5164.93</td>
<td>904.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>1050.00</td>
<td>1093.00</td>
<td>292.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Sales</td>
<td>341.96</td>
<td>741.94</td>
<td>765.40</td>
<td>1297.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>88.19</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>4805.06</td>
<td>10,091.71</td>
<td>9650.75</td>
<td>4905.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>2417.34</td>
<td>6823.88</td>
<td>5008.20</td>
<td>5393.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typing</td>
<td>688.00</td>
<td>965.50</td>
<td>1476.00</td>
<td>316.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>652.60</td>
<td>648.47</td>
<td>1077.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editing</td>
<td>1148.41**</td>
<td>132.00</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xerox</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>182.21</td>
<td>69.07</td>
<td>36.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>1094.58*</td>
<td>171.02</td>
<td>213.66</td>
<td>295.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>297.65</td>
<td>1041.20</td>
<td>1777.50</td>
<td>708.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>65.42</td>
<td>108.82</td>
<td>327.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>196.52</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>576.19***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5842.50</td>
<td>10,481.45</td>
<td>11,927.76</td>
<td>8731.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FUND BALANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9553.48</td>
<td>9163.74</td>
<td>6886.73</td>
<td>1297.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The figure is derived from adjusted accounts due to misplaced records.

** The amounts indicated do not reflect the true balance in that category; the editor's account was dropped for 1977 and 1978 for example and other budget columns were added to more accurately reflect the disbursements.

*** Includes $223.88 penalty for early withdrawal of time accounts, and $274.25 in accountant's fees.

REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF IRANIAN STUDIES (Ali Banuazizi)

In a variety of ways—politically, intellectually and emotionally—the Iranian Revolution so fully preoccupied most of us during the past year-and-a-half that it was difficult to carry out the routine business of the Journal as usual. Delays in every phase of the operation became inevitable, though we were, nevertheless, able to bring out one special volume, "State and Society in Iran," in the course of the year. Judging by the number of orders from individuals, libraries and booksellers (over and beyond our regular subscribers), the volume appears to have been a very successful undertaking.
As this Newsletter is being prepared, we are sending the manuscripts for Volume XII, Nos. 1-2, containing several articles and some ten book reviews, to the printer. In addition, before the end of the current year, we will be publishing the remaining two issues of Volume XII and our long-delayed volume on "Studies in the Economic History of Iran in the Nineteenth Century."

Perhaps of greater topical interest to many of our readers will be a special volume of the Journal on the Iranian Revolution, which is under preparation currently, and we hope to bring out in the Spring of 1981. In addition to a number of original articles and book reviews, the volume will include a specially prepared and extensive chronology of major events and a bibliography of works on the Revolution. It might be pointed out, however, that not all manuscripts on the Revolution that we have accepted or will be accepting for publication in the Journal will be included in this special volume. We expect to publish some of them in the regular issues.

As in the previous years, the continued growth of the Journal, if not its very survival, has been possible because of the continued encouragement of members of the Society and the unstinting support and work of many individuals on the various phases of its production. In addition to Ervand Abrahamian (Book Review Editor), Anne Enayat and John Gurney and Vahid Nowshirvani (Associate Editors), Naomi Schorr (Copy Editor) and Kathleen McNally (Circulation Manager), I am deeply indebted to Lois Beck, Michael Fischer, Ahmed Ashraf, Farhad Kazemi, as well as a number of other scholars who willingly served as referees on manuscripts in their fields of specialty.

Finally, I must sincerely apologize for the very slow pace of my correspondence with many of our members and contributors over the past year. The punishment is a mountain of manuscripts and letters to be gotten through over the next couple of months—with agonizing guilt.

Ali Banuazizi
March, 1980

CONFERENCE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVOLUTION IN IRAN, 1905-1911

A conference on the Constitutional Revolution in Iran was held at Harvard University on 26-28 March 1980. It was co-sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard and the Society for Iranian Studies. We express our appreciation to Mangol Bayat-Philipp and Ervand Abrahamian who organized the conference. The Conference Proceedings are expected to be published in a forthcoming issue of Iranian Studies, as have two previous SIS Conference proceedings. The following persons participated in the conference:

Panel I: Iran on the Eve of the Revolution: The Economy
Chair: Ann K.S. Lambton
Gad Gilbar, "The Economic Origins of the Revolution"
Willem Floor, "The Economic Background"

Panel II: Iran on the Eve of the Revolution
Chair: Ali Banuazizi
Robert McDaniel, "The Military"
Panel III: Religious Forces in the Revolution
Chair: Roy Mottahedeh
Said Arjomand, "The Conservative Ulama"
Mangol Bayat-Philipp, "The Irreligious Element"

Panel IV: Secular Forces in the Revolution
Chair: Nikki Keddie
Amin Banani, "The Poets"
S. Soroudi, "Dekhuda"

Panel V: Tribal Forces in the Revolution
Chair: Pierre Oberling
Richard Tapper, "The Shahsevan"
Gene Garthwaite, "The Bakhtiyari"
Lois Beck, "The Qashqa'i"

A CONFERENCE ON TRIBE AND STATE IN IRAN AND AFGHANISTAN SINCE 1800

A conference on Tribe and State in Iran and Afghanistan Since 1800 was held at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London during 4-6 July 1979. It was sponsored by the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies at SOAS and by the Social Science Research Council of Great Britain. Conveners were Richard Tapper (SOAS) and David Brooks (Durham).

Papers and presenters were the following:

- Jon Anderson (N. Carolina; Oslo), "Khan and Khel: Dialectics of Charisma and Legitimacy in Pakhtun Society"
- Alfred Janata (Vienna), "Personality and Organization Patterns of Paktya Pashtuns"
- Bernt Glatzer (Heidelberg), "Direct and Indirect Influence of the State on the Political Organization of Nomads in Afghanistan"
- Klaus Ferdinand (Aarhus), "The Relations of Pashtun Nomads with the British and Afghan Governments"
- Lois Beck (Utah), "Iran and the Qashqa'i Tribal Confederacy"
- Philip Salzman (McGill), "Why Tribes have Chiefs: A Case From Baluchistan"
- Gene Garthwaite (Dartmouth), "Tribes, Confederation, and the State: An Historical Overview of the Bakhtiyari and Iran"
- Martin van Bruinessen (Utrecht), "Kurdish Tribes and the State"
- Malcolm Yapp (SOAS), "Tribes and States in the Khyber"
- Richard Tapper (SOAS), "Frontier Formations: The Shahsevan of Azerbaijan and the Durrani of Northern Afghanistan"
- Asger Christensen (Copenhagen), "The Role of State and Market in the Transformation of a Precapitalist Society: The Pashtuns of Kunar"
- Nikki Keddie (UCLA), "Precapitalist Structures in the Middle East"

Discussants: Andrew Strathern, David Brooks, Sue Wright, John Gurney, Ann Lambton, Ernest Gellner, David Marsden, R. Burrell, and others.

Richard Tapper is currently editing the revised versions of these and several additional papers (including those by Jean-Pierre Digard, Akbar Ahmed, Ernest Gellner, Andrew Strathern). The volume is tentatively entitled Tribe and State in Afghanistan and Iran From 1800 to 1980 and should be available early 1981.
IN MEMORIAM: Nader Afshar-Naderi

The death of Dr. Nader Afshar-Naderi in Iran in July 1979 is a painful loss to Iranian anthropology in specific, and the field of Iranian studies in general. As the first director of the Institute for Peasant and Rural Studies, established in Tehran in 1976, and formerly for many years associated with Tehran University's Institute (now College) of Social Studies and Research at Seh Rah-i Jaleh, Dr. Afshar-Naderi will be remembered by his hundreds of Iranian and foreign friends as a great scholar, innovative researcher, and fearless defender of objective social inquiry during the darkest days of censorship and repression under the former monarchical regime. Dr. Afshar-Naderi may be considered the father of applied anthropological research in contemporary Iran. He was trained in the scholarship and methodology of anthropology in France and returned to Iran to devote himself to the study of his country's rural population, especially the Kohgiluyeh pastoralists. His own field research was extensive and resulted in the publication of several important monographs in Persian, as well as the production of some significant motion pictures about tribal life, most notably the widely-acclaimed film BALUT. He also published in French and English.

During the last 15 years of his life Dr. Afshar-Naderi was involved in academic administration. His contributions in this field have had a very profound influence upon Iranian scholarship. It was during this period that he was instrumental in building the Institute for Social Studies and Research into a first rate research center which not only conducted important sociological and anthropological studies, but also published the results in a series of more than a score of excellent village monographs. Dr. Afshar-Naderi was very supportive of the young researchers at his Institute. He had good intuition for potential scholars and encouraged dozens of young men and women to go on to graduate work in the social sciences. He supported their research projects and provided a forum for their publications. His efforts in this regard have given Iran many excellent scholars whose works continue to enrich the field of rural studies.

For those of us outside of Iran, Dr. Afshar-Naderi was also supportive. He made available research facilities and was always ready to suggest possible research sites, methods, and ideas. Many non-Iranian scholars such as myself are indebted to him for introducing the scholars and scholarship of Iran to the world of Iranologists.

Dr. Afshar-Naderi will be sorely missed by hundreds to whom he warmly and generously extended his time and his friendship. But his memory shall live on, not just in his own research, but more importantly in the influence he has had upon the research and lives of so many, many scholars inside and outside of Iran.

Eric J. Hooglund

IN MEMORIAM: Margaret Gulick

Margaret E. Gulick, 56, wife of John Gulick, died of lung cancer on September 1, 1979. With her husband, she was co-author of an annotated bibliography of sources on Middle Eastern Women, and of six published articles on their research in Isfahan in 1970-71. In the fall of 1978, they lived in Shiraz and attempted to begin a new project on the marriage, educational, and occupational options of teenaged girls, in whose conception and design Margaret Gulick was instrumental. The project was funded for three years by the National Institute for Child Health and Development, but cannot be carried out in Iran under the conditions that have developed there during the past year.

John Gulick
Manoutchehr Mohandessi lived a varied and creative life and died too soon. He was born on April 27, 1923, and was not yet 56 on March 29, 1979, when he died of a liver ailment in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In his short career he made several contributions of real value to Persian letters and to Iranian studies in Germany and the United States. But had he lived longer it was his dream to bring something real of Iranian culture to Europeans and Americans, and in particular to show them how many scenes and motifs of European literature come ultimately from Iranian literature.

In his heart Mohandessi was not a scholar. He was a poet, a poet appreciated not only by a small number of Iranians but also abroad, and it seems that some of his poetry was anthologized in the Soviet Union. He wrote his poems in Persian. He wrote them in English. He wrote them beautifully and put them away or gave them to his friends. He scribbled them on napkins or on little pieces of paper that went with him, crumbled in his pocket.

Joseph Fletcher
Harvard University

NEWS OF SOCIETY MEMBERS

Nikki R. Keddie was elected President-Elect of the Middle East Studies Association for a term beginning November, 1980.

Mary Catherine Bateson has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Amherst College. Lois Beck has joined the Department of Anthropology at Washington University, St. Louis, effective July 1, 1980.

Four members of the Society participated in the "Conference on the Islamic Revival," held at the University of Chicago on May 28-31. Hamid Algar and Nikki Keddie presented papers at the Conference; Shahrouq Akhavi and Said Arjomand served as discussants.

At a panel on "Psychological Aspects of the Iranian Revolution" at the Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology held in Boston, June 4-7, four SIS members presented papers. The panel, which was chaired by Ali Banuazizi, included Ervand Abrahamian, William Beeman, Michael Fischer, Mary Hooglund and Bruce Mazlish.

A great many of our members have offered lectures and have appeared in local and national media with regard to the Iranian situation. It is regrettable that government policy makers appear not to read or listen to these reports.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Hamid Algar, trans., The Path of God's Bondsmen from Origin to Return by Najm al-Din Razi (Biblioteca Persica, 1979).
Patrick Clawson, an article on recent economic developments in Iran, in Oil and Class Struggle (London: Zed Press, 1979).
R. Ettinghausen and E. Yarshater, eds., Highlights of Persian Art (Biblioteca Persica, 1979).
Michael M.J. Fischer, Iran: From Religious Dispute to Revolution (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1980) [$17.50].
Richard Frye, Islamic Iran and Central Asia (Seventh to Twelfth Centuries) (1979).
Michael Bonine and Nikki Keddie, eds. Modern Iran: Dialectics of Continuity and Change (Albany: State University of New York Press, winter or early spring 1981). This edited collection of original articles stems from two conferences organized by Michael Bonine and held at the University of Arizona in 1977 and 1978. Volume chapters are written by the following, almost all of whom are Society members:

Nikki Keddie  
Mangol Bayat-Philipp  
Byron Good  
Willem Floor  
Lois Beck  
Daniel Bradburd  
Paul Barker  
Gene Garthwaite  
Roger Olson  
Eric Hooglund  
Ervand Abrahamian  
Michael Bonine  
Tom Thompson  
Mary-Jo Good  
William Royce  
Laurence Loob  
Michael Hillmann  
Hamid Naficy  
William Beeman  
Samuel Peterson

A shorter volume consisting of some of these chapters will be published simultaneously in paperback; its title is Continuity and Change in Modern Iran.

OTHER RECENT PUBLICATIONS ON IRAN AND RELATED TOPICS


Chapour Haghighat, Iran: La revolution inachevee et l'ordre americain (Paris: Editions Anthropos, 1980).


L'Iran d'hier et de demain (Quebec: Centre Quebecois de Relations Internationales, 1980). [Chapters by Cottam, Bayat-Philipp, Millward, Neuman, Cloutier and Derrien, and Gruszecka-Grant].


Roy Parviz Mottahedeh, "Iran's Foreign Devils," Foreign Policy, No. 38 (Spring 1980).


Martin van Bruinessen, Agha, Shaikh and State: On the Social Organization of Kurdistan (Utrecht 1979) [private printing; available from Luzac and Company, 46 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PE, England].

Patty Jo Watson, Archaeological Ethnography in Western Iran (Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona, 1979).

G.M. Wickens, trans., Haji Agha: Portrait of an Iranian Confidence Man by Sadeq Hedayat (Austin, TX: Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas, 1979).

BOOKS RECEIVED BY THE BOOK REVIEW EDITOR OF IRANIAN STUDIES (Ervand Abrahamian)


MERIP REPORTS (special issues on Iran)

Iran in Revolution--Vol. 9, Nos. 2/3 (March-April 1979)
Ervand Abrahamian, "Iran in Revolution: The Opposition Forces"
Documents (Oil Strikes, Islam and the Left), Interviews, Reviews

The Left Forces in Iran--Vol. 10, No. 3 (March-April 1980)
Ervand Abrahamian, "The Guerrilla Movement in Iran, 1963-1977"
Fred Halliday, "The Tudeh Party in Iranian Politics: Background Notes"
Fred Halliday, "Letter from Gilan"
Documents, Interviews (Fedayi, Mujahidin, Tudeh), Reviews (Zabih's Iran's Revolutionary Upheaval)

Eric Hooglund, "Rural Participation in the Revolution"
Mary Hooglund, "One Village in the Revolution"
Lois Beck, "Revolutionary Iran and Its Tribal Peoples"
Ervand Abrahamian, "Structural Causes of the Iranian Revolution"
Jim Cockcroft, "Letter from Tehran: The Embassy Takeover"
Fred Halliday, "Testimonies of Revolution" (review essay)
Documents

Iran's Revolution: The First Year--Vol. 10, No. 5 (June 1980)
Fred Halliday, "The First Year of the Islamic Republic"
Chris Goodey, "Workers' Councils in Iranian Factories"
Eva Cockcroft, "Iran's Revolution One Year Later: A Photoessay"
Joe Stork, "Iran's Oil Workers: Ominous Silence"
Interview, Documents, Reviews (Halliday's Dictatorship and Development)

Subscriptions to MERIP (9 issues/year; $12) and these and other special issues on Iran are available from the following address:

MERIP Reports
P. O. Box 1247
New York, NY 10025
RIPEH

RIPEH: The Review of Iranian Political Economy and History is in its third year of publication. It may be ordered from:

RIPEH
P.O. Box 61
Georgetown University
Washington, D.C. 20057

Annual rates (two issues) are $3 (students), $5 (regular), and $10 (institutions).

IRAN COUNCIL GRAPEVINE

The Asia Society publishes the "Iran Council Grapevine," which includes a chronology of events in Iran, notice of recent publications, many reprinted news clippings, and notices on conferences. Subscription rates are $5 a year (2 issues). Address: The Grapevine, The Asia Society, 112 East 64th Street, New York, NY 10021.

A LONDON BOOKSTORE

The Iran Book Center (223 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 OEA, London) is reported by several Society members to be a good bookstore dealing with Persian language books, plus some Azeri books. Mail orders are taken. A forty-page catalog is available from Mr. Hamid Habibi of the address above.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF IRANIAN STUDIES

The American Institute of Iranian Studies remained open in Tehran through the revolution, but has been effectively closed since last autumn largely because a hiatus in the directorship coincided with the taking of the hostages in the U.S. Embassy. Meanwhile, since we assumed that the hostages would be released "any day," we refrained from sending out dues notices to individual members until the future should become clearer.

We have now decided that it is no longer practical to await the return to normal relations. The Institute remains in existence, and Iranian Studies continue both in university programs and in the careers of individual scholars. There are still Americans in Tehran and at least some members of the Institute continue to go back and forth. Finally, since the present state of our finances will allow us to maintain the Institute for some time, we are sending out the dues mailing for 1980, and look forward to renewed and continued support. In addition, we are compiling a new list of members and associated institutions and organizations for general distribution and for the information of members and would be most grateful if you would list the names and addresses of persons who may be interested in joining the Institute.

It is anticipated that the next newsletter will be distributed at the end of the summer. (The last was dated 9/78. If you did not receive it for any reason, please write to us for a copy.) In the meantime any member expecting to visit Tehran and requiring up-to-date information on the Institute is urged to write to the Secretary at the address below.
THE STATUS OF IRANIAN STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES (as of 13 May 1980)

The Problem. Changes in regulations governing the status of non-immigrant Iranians in the U.S. can be expected to result in the expulsion of all Iranian students except those who have close personal relatives who are U.S. citizens or those who apply for political asylum. This means most of the forty to fifty thousand now here.

Generally Iranian students have two kinds of visas, the first has a definite expiration date and requires extension if the student needs to stay beyond that date to finish a course of study. The second type, the so-called "duration of status" visa, is good until the student completes a course of study.

In the case of students holding the first type of visa, all those who need "extensions of stay" in order to complete their course of study are having their requests denied under revisions of the regulations published in the Federal Register on 16 April 1980 (Page 26015), which prohibit extensions of stay to Iranians unless they are in need of immediate urgent medical treatment which is available only in the U.S. or they have a relationship (immediate family) to a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident. In fact, there are cases in which the Iranians are told that permanent resident status of a close relative will not help. Of course, extensions of stay for a year's practical training beyond the completion of a degree, once routinely granted, are also being denied, and this is particularly bad for students who have no chance of immediately going to work in Iran under the current unsettled conditions. Their skills will begin to atrophy. So students are now being expelled without their degrees or without the chance for practical training.

The future also looks bleak for the students holding "duration of status" visas. The Immigration and Naturalization Service is also preparing a regulation, published for comment in the Federal Register of 19 March 1980 (Pages 17590-17592), under which all duration of status for all foreign students will be revoked. Students will then be required to report and obtain extensions of stay for a definite period not to exceed one year. But, of course, when the Iranians report they will be denied an extension of stay under the 16 April regulation. It is not clear when this regulation will go into effect. Apparently it could be as early as 19 May, and Iranian students, once again singled out for special treatment, could be required to report as fast as the INS can handle their cases. The educated guesses around the University of Michigan are that the process is likely to begin in earnest around September unless the temper of the country and the course of the political campaign make it expedient to press for the earliest possible action.

In both cases, once the student has reported and been denied an extension of stay, he/she will be given an early hearing date in which the purpose is to "show cause" why the student should not be deported. Under current rules, the immigration judge apparently has no discretion except to allow a voluntary departure, which means that the student might be allowed to return at some
later date, or to order deportation, which means that the student can never return to the U.S. According to information received here, the judge at the hearing can allow the student no more than fifteen days in which to leave.

Some Comment. It is not clear why it is "in the national interest," as the regulations state, to deny these students an opportunity to finish their education and to do practical training if they need to do so. They are not responsible in any way for the current crisis. Most of them were in the U.S. before the Revolution itself began, and their role in the improving of U.S.-Iranian relations is a long-term one. If the Iranian Government takes a more moderate course, as may well be the case sometime after the hostage situation is resolved, it will realize that it needs these young people with their educations completed and their skills intact. And they in turn, if they are allowed to stay, will return home with at least some gratitude toward a country which was willing to treat them honorably in difficult circumstances. To send them back with their work unfinished, embittered, can hardly be in our own national interest. The bitterness will spread to their parents, relatives and friends.

They can apply for asylum, but this is not very attractive to them. They realize that, if the expulsion proceeds, remaining here will be proof that they have applied for asylum, and this might have an adverse effect on their families back in Iran under present circumstances.

Many of them have already been subject to verbal abuse, injury or the destruction of their property. Now their human rights are being violated by agencies of the U.S. Government in a clear case of discrimination based on national origin. To do injury to these innocent people because the rights of our diplomats in Iran are being violated is to deny our own tradition of justice and fairness.

What Can One Do? Apparently there are no legal remedies as long as the original court case, based on last winter's special registration of Iranian students, has yet to be reviewed or rejected by the Supreme Court. The ruling of the appeals court, allowing such discriminatory action, is in force. The only possible relief would seem to be intercession on their behalf with the President himself, since the impetus for the INS regulations came from the White House. People should write or telegram the President and ask him to reconsider our own long-term national interest and the human rights of the Iranian students and to revoke the regulations of 16 April and thus allow the Iranians the same privileges as the students of other nations.

K. Allin Luther
Professor of Persian Studies
The University of Michigan
Office: (313) 763 1597
Home: (313) 665 8106

IRAN SCHOLARS COMMITTEE FORMED

A number of Iran scholars met in New York City on June 2, 1980, in order to discuss the role of Iranian scholars in U.S.-Iran relations. The group designated itself the "Iran Scholars Committee."
Its first order of business was to form a working group on the visa status of Iranian students in the U.S., to be headed by K. Allin Luther and including William Hanaway, William Beeman, and Lois Beck. The group's charge was to provide information on the above issue to interested individuals and groups and to try to persuade the U.S. government to change its policies on visa restrictions for Iranians. The second order of business was to select an executive committee to direct and coordinate the activities of the Iran Scholars Committee. The executive committee presently consists of Jerome W. Clinton and Farhad Kazemi. Other members will be selected later. The Committee's concerns will be to draft by-laws for the group and to establish communications among members and other interested Iran scholars. The Committee's priorities are the visa issue, peaceful resolution of the U.S.-Iran crisis, and liaison activities with Congress and other policy-making bodies. SIS members and other Iran scholars who share these concerns are invited to join the Iran Scholars Committee by writing to the executive committee in care of:

Dr. J. W. Clinton
110 Jones Hall
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08540

A NOTE ON RECENT U.S. GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO IRAN

I hope this information is of use to members of the Society for Iranian Studies:

Executive Order 12211, "Further Prohibitions on Transactions with Iran," indicates that the import of any material—including periodicals published in Iran—is forbidden unless the material is "imported for news publication or news broadcast dissemination." This would seem to rule out subscriptions by university libraries, which is monstrous. We as a society should protest the inclusion of books and periodicals in the import ban.

One strategy for those wishing to import books and periodicals might be to file form TFAC-27 with the nearest Federal Reserve Bank, claiming that the books and periodicals are related to newsgathering.

The Executive Order and associated State Department regulations forbid the use of a U.S. passport for travel to Iran unless for the purpose of newsgathering. The Office of Foreign Assets Control in the U.S. Treasury Department, which is administering the regulations, takes a broad view of what constitutes 'newsgathering'. Mr. Summerhill, the head of that office, and Mr. Broderick, who works there, both indicated that authors of academic articles could under certain circumstances be considered to be 'newsgathering.' Note also that the regulations do not forbid travel to Iran: they forbid use of a U.S. passport to travel to Iran. Under similar circumstances in the 1960s, the Cuban government admitted people to Cuba without a U.S. passport. The U.S. government can prosecute only if it can demonstrate that a person used a U.S. passport to get into Iran.

Patrick Clawson
May 5, 1980

Society members are urged to send news of their professional activities and publications to the Executive Secretary.

Lois Beck
Executive Secretary