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1985 Annual Meeting

The Society's Annual Council and Business Meetings were held on Friday, November 22, 1985, at the Middle East Studies Association annual conference. A summary of reports and decisions made at the two meetings follows.

Report by the Executive Secretary

There were 240 dues-paying members in 1984, and 335 in 1985, a 39% increase. There was an increase in institutional subscriptions of about 7%.

A membership drive will be mounted this winter, using the new brochure. Invitations to join the Society are being mailed out, and members have been asked to recruit one or two new members.

The Council approved an increase in membership dues and subscription rates as of January 1, 1987.

The Newsletter has an improved format and is now issued three times a year.

Treasurer's Report

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Treasurer's Report (see below)

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Editors' Report (see p.2)

The Editors' Report was approved.

Awards by Associated Foundations

The Persian Heritage Foundation awards were announced (see p.4).

The Tahereh Foundation was unable to make an award for political biographies because only one proposal was received. Consequently, the Foundation contributed $1000 to the Society's Endowment Fund.

Selection of Executive Secretary

Habib Ladjevardi was reelected Executive Secretary for a three-year term ending December 31, 1988.

Treasurer's Report

By Eden Naby

The Society has taken several major steps this year to improve the quality of its work. The main effort has been improvement of the Journal print quality, and to this end we have purchased an IBM computer.
(Treasurer's Report, cont.)

The second important step taken this year was to have our financial records audited for one year, 1984, as decided during the Society's Council meeting last year. Our auditor's report is available for inspection. The major result of the audit has been the inclusion of the back issues of the Journal in our list of assets. This step has increased the worth of the Society by about $20,000, making us now far wealthier on paper than before. We now have a better idea of how much the back issues are worth and the importance of advertising their existence and their availability for purchase.

The most dramatic changes in our financial standing come from added administrative and typing costs. In the past, our administrative costs have been absorbed or, more frequently, simply not incurred since the Society pursued record keeping with less vigor. Greater devotion to meeting membership needs, increasing membership, and collecting dues has brought in larger income; at the same time it has meant increased expenses.

In the same manner, acquisition of the computer has increased our costs in the short run, but over time we will make up these costs by paying comparatively less for typing. Nevertheless, despite the upgrading of our technological support system, the fact remains that if we are to function efficiently and serve the membership well, we have to be prepared to meet higher administrative costs.

In comparing 1985 with 1984, we have to accept that our financial position is different this year from last year. We have used our excess monies from the sale of back issues and membership dues to make a major purchase. This has depleted our reserve funds, and thus we have a reduced operating budget. For the next year we will need both to raise operating funds and to explore ways of reducing costs in certain categories.

Raising membership dues is one way of raising income. Another important method for raising our operating budget is to vigorously add to our endowment fund so that the interest accruing from this fund will increase sufficiently to be of use in meeting operating costs. In this regard, I am happy to note the donation of $1000 to the endowment that has increased our fund figure to over $3000. This donation, I hope, will kindle a similar spirit among other members and friends of the Society.

Editors' Report

By E. Abrahamian and P. Kazemi

The editors of IRANIAN STUDIES were able to publish four issues of the journal since the last MESA/SIS meeting in 1984. We are, however, behind in our publication schedule as not all issues of 1985 have been yet printed. These issues are currently in press and should appear in the early part of 1986. The first issue for 1986 is also in press and includes articles and/or translations by S. Akhavi, P. Losemsky, F. Milani/J. Hart, and S. Shahshahani. This issue also includes several reviews and a special review of the film Mission, written by M. Rosen.

As most members of the Society are aware, we have purchased a special IBM computer to facilitate the editorial tasks and production of the journal. With this computer we will be able, for the first time, to print the pages of our journal with justified margins. Diacritical marks have also been eliminated altogether except in very unusual pieces where, in the view of the editors, their inclusion is essential. All issues of the journal currently in press will appear with the new justified margins.
format. It is our hope that both the efficiency and the esthetic appearance of the journal will be greatly improved with our new purchase.

Three new members joined the editorial board of the journal in 1985. They are Professors Richard W. Bulliet (Columbia), Marvin Zonis (Chicago), and Ehsan Yarshater (Columbia). The full editorial board now can claim expertise in most areas of Iranian studies.


Meeting of IRANIAN STUDIES

Editorial Board

The meeting came to the consensus that in the next few years the journal should try to publish special issues on the following topics:

1. Isfahan (a follow-up on the earlier double issues on Isfahan). Holod as Guest Editor.
2. Central Asian History (13th-18th centuries). McGhesney as Guest Editor.

4. Farrokhzad. Hillmann as Guest Editor.
5. Shah Abbas (anniversary). McGhesney as Guest Editor.
6. The Regional Dimensions in Iranian History. Bulliet as Guest Editor.
7. The State and Local Politics. Beck as Guest Editor.

Council Elections

The following members accepted the nomination to run for places vacated by Peter Chelkowski, Guity Nashat, and Ehsan Yarshater:

Abbas Amanat
Hooshang Arirahmadi
Muriel Atkins
Afaaneh Najmabadi
Gregory Rose

The Elections Committee will consist of William Hanaway and Hamid Dabashi, who will be responsible for counting the ballots. The results of the election will be announced in the Spring 1986 issue of the Newsletter.

Current Council members and their terms are:

1984-86
Willem Floor
Nikki Keddie
Farzaneh Milani

1985-87
Carol Bier
Richard Frye
Vahid Nowshirvani

SIS NEWSLETTER

We would like to have more news items for the Newsletter. However, we need your help. Please call us or send us a note if you publish something, go to a conference, or have any information which you think would be of interest to members of the Society.
1986 SIS Panels

Dr. Afsaneh Najmabadi of Harvard has agreed to serve as Program Coordinator for the 1986 MESA/SIS meeting in Boston, November 19-23, 1986.

The following panel topics were selected and the members noted invited to organize them:

Persian Music -- Organizer: Margaret L. Caton (3458 Centinela Avenue, #16, Los Angeles, CA 90066).

Classical Persian Poetry: A Comparative Reassessment -- Organizer: Michael Hillmann (Persepolis Enterprises, PO Box 8016, Austin, TX 78713).

Foreign Scholarship on Iran Outside of the United States -- Organizer: Rudy Matthee (UCLA, Center for Near Eastern Studies, Bunche Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024).

The Constitutional Revolution and Kasravi -- Organizer: Mohammad Ali Jazayery (University of Texas, Department of Oriental & African Languages, Austin, TX 78712).

The Impact of the Iran-Iraq War on Iranian Society -- Organizer: Hooshang Amirahmadi (128 Hempstead Drive, Somerset, NJ 08873).

Women, Culture and Ideology in Contemporary Iran -- Organizer: Afsaneh Najmabadi (Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge MA 02138).

Iranian Labor Movement -- Organizer: Val Moghadam (New York University, Department of Sociology, 269 Mercer Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10003).

Anyone wishing to participate in one of these panels should contact the Organizer as soon as possible, because the complete packages must be at MESA by March 15, 1986.

Persian Heritage Awards

By William L. Hanaway, Jr., Secretary

The Committee on Awards of the Persian Heritage Foundation consists of Ali Banuazizi, William L. Hanaway, Jr., and Ehsan Yarshater. The Committee met three times during 1985. Its general procedure is for all manuscripts submitted for the award to be read by at least one of the committee members, and by an outside reader if necessary.

Awards were made to:

-- Hubert Drake for volume VII of the Cambridge History of Iran
-- Michael Hillmann for a special issue of Literature East & West on Nader Naderpur
-- Julie Scott Meisami for a book on classical court poetry
-- John Yohannan for a book on Sa'adi

The Foundation is actively negotiating with individuals in France and Germany to organize the solicitation and evaluation of manuscripts for submission to the Foundation from those countries.

Announcements

IRANIAN STUDIES

The editors apologize for the delay in publication of Vol. XVIII (1985), nos. 2-4. They will appear as a triple issue on "The Sociology of the Iranian Writer" in March, 1986. Part of the delay was caused by the decision to dedicate the
(Announcements, cont.)

issue to Gholam Hossein Saedi, who died late in November, 1985, and to include a translation of his play, THE COW.

Vol. XIX (1986), no. 1 will be published at about the same time, and the editors are very hopeful that there will be no more long publication delays.

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ALL FALL DOWN: AMERICA'S TRAGIC ENCOUNTER WITH IRAN, by Gary Sick, was chosen by THE NEW YORK TIMES as one of the 10 Best Books of 1985. As far as we know, this is the first time a book on Iran has been honored in this way.

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CALL FOR PAPERS

IRANIAN STUDIES invites papers (reports on research or "think pieces" on a variety of topics) for a 1986 or 1987 special issue devoted to IRANIAN EXILES. The papers should be typed double-spaced, using IS style, not exceeding 30 pages. Authors should submit three (3) copies and a 150-200 word abstract to:

Asgar Fathi
Department of Sociology
University of Calgary
25090 University Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2N 1N4

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AWARDS & GRANTS

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF IRANIAN STUDIES announces the availability of a small number of grants for amounts up to $1000 each to assist dissertation research on any topic in Iranian studies.

Eligibility: Candidates must be in good standing at a dues-paying institution, and have a research project which requires work away from their home institution.

Contact: Fellowship Committee, American Institute of Iranian Studies, Middle East Studies Center, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637.


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PERSSIAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION AWARDS

Aid to authors and translators for publication of their work

The Persian Heritage Foundation grants annual awards of up to $5000, in three categories, as an aid towards publishing.

1. Scholarly works dealing with Iranian humanities when they qualify as original research or synthesis of a high standard.
2. Translations of works of merit from Persian or other Iranian languages which conform to the required standards of accuracy and readability.
3. Booksize manuscripts of poetry or creative prose in English by Persian writers.

Minimum length requirements:
Scholarly prose: 60,000 words
Creative prose in English or in translation: 50,000 words
Poetry: 100 typescript pages

Publishers or authors may apply. Dissertations should be made "publishable" in book form and be accompanied by two letters from scholars in the field expressing clearly that the work is suitable for publication in its present form.

The granting of the awards is administered by the Society for Iranian Studies and Columbia university's Center for Iranian Studies. The deadline for 1986 is March 1. Two copies of the final, edited manuscript, ready for printing in
(Announcements, cont.)

every respect (including introduction and notes if pertinent), should be sent to:

The Executive Secretary
The Society for Iranian Studies
c/o Center for Middle Eastern Studies
Harvard University
1737 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

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TAHEREH FOUNDATION PRIZE FOR WORKS ON TWENTIETH-CENTURY IRANIAN POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY

To promote biographical studies of major political figures in twentieth-century Iran, including statesmen, notable politicians, journalists, leaders of oppositional movements, political essayists, etc., the Tahereh Foundation, Inc. awards annual prizes to outstanding unpublished works in the following two categories:

1. Article-length essays (40-50 double-spaced pages)
2. Book-length manuscripts.

The competition is open to all scholars and students of Iranian studies, and the contributions will be accepted in either English or Persian. The award will be administered by The Society for Iranian Studies, and the selection of the works will be made by the Editorial Board of IRANIAN STUDIES in consultation with other specialists in contemporary Iranian history and politics.

The amount of the prize will be $1000 for essays and $2500 for book-length manuscripts.

Individuals who wish to have their works entered in this competition for 1986 should submit two copies of their manuscripts, together with a 300-word abstract of the work and a copy of their curriculum vitae to the following address by March 1, 1986: Executive Secretary, Society for Iranian Studies, c/o Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Room 521, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA.

The awards will be announced by October 15, 1986.

Recent Books on Iran

(* Books by SIS members.)


INTRODUCTION TO IRANIAN STUDIES: A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SURVEY. By Gholam R. Vatandoust. Seattle, WA: Middle East Center, University of Washington, 1985. Middle East Center Occasional Papers, # 1. 104pp. $10.00 Available from the Middle East Center. Sections on reference and bibliography; history, including the Pahlavis; politics and foreign affairs; the Islamic revolution; language and literature; art, architecture and archaeology; religion, philosophy, Sufism, science, medicine; sociology, anthropology, minorities, education; economics, business, agriculture, industry; miscellaneous. Author index.


PERSIAN MINIATURE PAINTING AND ITS INFLU-
(Recent Books on Iran, cont.)


