Letter to SIS Members

There are more scholars around the world today who are working on subjects concerning Iranian societies, history, culture, language, literature, religion, and economy than ever before. The variety of changes brought about by the Iranian Revolution, both within Iran and outside, however qualitatively conceived, continue to grab the attention of scholars, journalists, political analysts, government officials, and the public throughout the world. It is my personal feeling that the academic community in the United States and elsewhere must conscientiously continue to promote scholarship and education on Iranian subjects, as well as promote the linkages within the academic and nonacademic communities in order to maintain a communication which fosters a genuine understanding of Iranian societies, past and present. The Society for Iranian Studies can serve as a strong force in the academic and professional communities today in several ways. First, it can provide an institutional forum within which dialogues and linkages may occur. Second, it can promote or perhaps even sponsor individual, joint, or institutional projects. Third, it can disseminate information through the Journal and the Newsletter, as it has done in the past, to a variety of interested audiences.

As Executive Secretary of the Society for Iranian Studies, I would like to call upon you to help me accomplish the goals we have established as a Society over the next few years. These goals, which concern the functions and activities of this organization, are as follows: first, to expand the membership of the society to include as many individuals and institutions as possible; second, to raise funds in order to support the ongoing activities of the Society, and to increase those activities if possible; and third, to expand the Newsletter in a way that reflects membership needs and interests and that promotes greater understanding of Iranian societies.

The Society for Iranian Studies is one of a handful of professional organizations whose membership consists of individuals either interested in or professionally devoted to the study of Iranian society and culture. Our membership has expanded over the past twenty years of our existence to over 420 individual members and over 190 institutional subscribers. However, this expansion has yet to reflect the potential membership in the United States and abroad. In order to increase our membership, we plan to recruit new members through mailings, contacts at conferences, and advertising. Here, current members can be extremely helpful in promoting the Society for Iranian Studies at professional conferences and seminars.

The Newsletter is our lifeline to members in the field of Iranian Studies. It reaches those members in the academic world and those who are active in other professions. Although it functions primarily to inform its membership, it also is a voice which reflects the richness and diversity of ongoing interests, activities, and events concerning Iranian societies, past and present. With this in mind, I plan to continue to include the useful information which has been included in past issues of the Newsletter. I also plan to expand our coverage of publications and activities abroad as well as to include one short special interest article per issue beginning with the Spring/Summer 1988 issue. Please continue to send information on professional news, seminars and conferences, books published, awards, and so on. If you wish to submit a short article (1-2 pages), please send me a brief abstract. Our aim is not to publish lengthy scholarly articles, since this is the domain of the Journal, but rather to further promote Iranian Studies and provide a conduit of communication for research and events on the area. The short articles will allow for more in-depth coverage of individual research projects, events, and news items.

The Endowment Fund which was begun in 1985 has reached nearly $19,000, which yields an income of approximately $1,000 per year. I set $24,000 as our goal for 1988, and appeal to you once again to contribute to this fund in order to help assure the future financial well-being of our organization.

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Editor's Report

After a long delay occasioned by editorial transition and a complete transformation of the design and production of Iranian Studies, the journal is now ready to make up for lost time. A triple-length issue on "Iranian Studies in Europe and Japan" planned and edited by Rudi Mathee and Nikki Keddie will be mailed in April. This will complete the 1987 volume year. A double-length issue on Central Asia planned and edited by Robert McChesney should be mailed in June. This should put the journal back on schedule. The Editor is most grateful for the patience and support of the membership during this transition period.
Council Meeting

The Annual meeting of the SIS Council took place on Saturday, November 14, 1987 at the Sheraton Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. The Executive Secretary, Habib Ladjovard, reported that 56 new members joined the Society in 1987. The total membership has increased to 552; there were 421 individual members and 177 institutional members as of November 1987. We now have 13 life members, each of whom have paid $500, and the Endowment/Life Membership Fund now stands at $18,755, producing an income of $1,000 a year.

At the Council meeting Jo-Ann Gross, of Columbia University was elected Executive Secretary for a three-year term, and Annabelle Srebbery-Mohammadi, of Queens College was elected Treasurer for a three-year term.

After the election, Jo-Ann Gross conducted the balance of the council meeting, during which time Val Moghadam, Brian Spooner, and Hamid Naficy were nominated for the office of council member for the 1988-1990 term. Mohammad Ali Jazayery and Michael Hillmann were selected as the members of the 1988 Election Committee.

During the Council meeting, it was decided that we establish contact with the European Association for Iranian Studies and with foreign representatives at universities abroad in order to expand our network and increase membership. In a discussion concerning advertising, it was suggested that we ask publishers to place advertising in IRANIAN STUDIES, send new rate sheets to publishers, and contact booksellers and university presses. Annabelle Srebbery-Mohammadi has agreed to take on the job of advertising development.

In a discussion concerning the expansion of the NEWSLETTER, Carol Bier volunteered to write a small column on Art in the Islamic World which would include museum exhibitions, conferences, and public lectures. Richard Bulliet reported that with the new printing methods now being employed for the Journal and Newsletter, we could expand the Newsletter with no great cost increase.

Treasurer's Report

The long-term financial picture of the Society continues to improve as efforts over the past several years to create an endowment fund have produced a steady increase in the principle of the fund. As of 30 September 1987, the total amount in the fund was nearly $19,000, very nearly at our goal of two years ago to reach $20,000 as a first stage. The several dozen members, especially Council members, who have contributed deserve warm thanks.

Income from this fund fluctuates but even the brightest prospects would yield an income under $1,000. Our immediate goal is to:

1. Achieve the $20,000 figure with one last push during the 1987 MESA conference.
2. Settle on an investment strategy that would provide reliable income.

Long term goals are to continue to search for means to increase the fund through innovative tactics evolving out of the deliberations of the new Executive Committee. A $50,000 endowment would meet our administrative expenses and the Newsletter, allowing for continued subsidies of membership fees.

The picture in terms of operating funds remains less rosy than the endowment fund. With payment of current printing bills and other expenses associated with it, we will have nearly exhausted our unrestricted assets. This does not mean that we will be insolvent since incoming dues and institutional subscriptions will adequately meet our ongoing expenditures, particularly as the new Executive Committee has been exploring means of reducing production costs for the Journal and the Newsletter. But our operating funds need to be supplemented.

Eden Naby, University of Wisconsin

Council Member Elections

The following seven members have been nominated for three-year terms on the SIS Council to replace Carol Bier, Richard Frye and Vahid Nowshirvan:

Hooshang Amirahmadi, Rutgers University
Sheila Blair, Harvard University
Eric Hooglund, Johns Hopkins University
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Washington, Seattle
Val Moghadam, New York University
Brian Spooner, University of Pennsylvania
Hamid Naficy, UCLA

Ballots have been sent out and the election results will be printed in the Spring/Summer Newsletter.

1987 SIS Panels

SIS members continued to be active participants in the panels presented at the Middle East Studies Association meeting this year. The following three panels were sponsored by the Society:

1. "Eighteenth Century Iran: Personal Reflections on Socio-Political Change"—Juan Cole (Chair), Thomas Ricks, Abbas Amanat (Chair), John Perry.


Conferences and Seminars

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Center for Iranian Research and Analysis (CIRA), co-sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago, will take place April 8-11, 1988. The conference is entitled "War, State, and Society in the Islamic Republic of Iran." For further information, contact Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi, Conference Coordinator, Center for Middle Eastern Studies (Kely 413), University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637.

The Annual Conference of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES) will be held at the University of Leeds, July 10-13, 1988. The theme of the 1988 conference is "Islam in the Modern World." If you are interested in participating, contact Dr. A. Shavitel, Department of Modern Arabic Studies, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK. The deadline for submission of papers is April 1, 1988.

A day-long program devoted to personal experiences, narratives and oral accounts of participants in recent Iranian history and politics was held last month in New York at Teachers College, Columbia University. The program was organized by the Committee for the Defense of the Democratic Rights of the Iranian People, and moderated by Dr. Mohsen Ghaemmagham.

Ohio State University, College of Humanities is sponsoring its Eighth Annual Symposium on the Humanities April 28-30, 1988. The topic will be "Renaissance Perspective: Italy, The Islamic World and China in the Age of the Italian Renaissance." The purpose of the conference is to 1) compare the culture and society of Renaissance Italy with that of the Islamic world and China in order to examine the degree to which Italian Renaissance culture was really unique and/or "modern" and 2) pose fundamental issues about Asian civilizations by raising questions associated with the Renaissance in Europe. For further information, contact: Artemis Leontis, Conference Coordinator; Center for Comparative Studies; 306 Dulles Hall; 230 W. 17th Avenue; Columbus, OH 43210-1311; Tel: (614) 292-2559.

The Sixth International Congress of Turcology organized by the Turcology Research Centre, Faculty of Letters, University of Istanbul, will be held in Istanbul September 19-25, 1988. Topics relating to Turcology will be treated, with special emphasis on Turkish language, literature, history, art, history, medicine, and Turkish-Islamic research. The deadline for submitting papers to the Secretary is May 31, 1988. All correspondence should be sent to: Dr. Osman F. Sertkaya, I. E Edibiyat Fakültesi, Türkiye Arastirma Merkezi, Fen Fakültesi, Istanbul, Turkey.

American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies will hold its fifth Annual Meeting May 20-21, 1988 at Villanova University. For further information, contact: Hafez Malik, Executive Director; 138 Tolentine Hall, Villanova University, Villanova, PA. 19085; Tel: (215) 645-4738 or 645-4791.

The Middle East Institute at Columbia University sponsored a Workshop entitled, "Approaches to Islam in Central and Inner Asian Studies" March 4-5, 1988. Topics included "Islam, Ethnicity, and the State in Medieval and Contemporary Societies," "Approaches to the Concept of Reform in Muslim Societies of Central Asia," and "Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Oppositional Movements." For further information, contact Jo-An Gross, Middle East Institute, Columbia University, International Affairs Building, New York, New York 10027. Tel: (212) 280-3996.

The Third International Conference on Central Asia will take place at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, April 27-30, 1988. The theme of the conference is "Central Asian Society, History and Culture." For further information, contact Kemal H. Karpat, President, ACAS; History Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.

The Central Asian Studies Association of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London is sponsoring an international conference on "Religions of Central Asia," to be held at SOAS on April 5-6, 1988. For further information, contact Dr. Shrinin Akiner, SOAS, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HP, UK.

Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad is planning a conference in August, 1988 as a follow-up to their 1983 conference on Karakoram culture at Gilgit. As before, a caravan march in coaches will form an integral part of the proceedings. The itinerary will be from Taxil to Turfan in China by way of Gilgit, Hunza, Tashkurgan, Kashgar, Aksu, Koche and Urumchi. Delegates contribute $50 a day towards the cost of transportation, accommodations, and food. For further information, contact: Prof. Em. Dr. Ahmad Hasan Dani, Hon Director, Centre for the Study of the Civilizations of Central Asia, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan.

April 24--May 1, Trinity College is cosponsoring with Hartford Seminary a series of events centered around Tafziya, or Persian passion drama. This project includes the first production of Tafziya drama in the United States and the first English production anywhere. There will also be a 3-day symposium, seminars, workshops, an exhibition of Persian painting, a concert of Persian music and a Spring lecture course by Professor Peter Chelkowski of New York University. For further information, contact Mrs. Carole Lawson, Office of Special Academic Programs, Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-3105.

The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University has introduced a new program of Iranian Studies, the objective of which is to sponsor major research projects on Iran. The first year's research topic is "Iranian Social History of the 19th and 20th Centuries: Reading the Sources Closely." One

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP IN IRANIAN STUDIES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Two to three post-doctoral fellowships will be available at Harvard Center for Middle Eastern Studies for specialists in Iranian Studies for the 1988-89 academic year. Fellows may be appointed for one semester or the entire year. The fellow will be expected to participate in an on-going seminar at the Center throughout the period of their appointment. The subject of the Seminar in the fall semester will be "The Iranian Revolution and the Comparative Study of Revolutions." The subject for the spring semester will be "Images of Government and the State in Iranian History." Fellows will receive a modest stipend and some support for research. Please address all applications, including a C.V., postmarked no later than April 1, 1988 to: Fellowship Program, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA. 02138.

FOUNDATION FOR IRANIAN STUDIES PRIZE

The Foundation for Iranian Studies announces a prize of $1,000 for the best Ph.D. Dissertation in the field of Iranian Studies. Any student completing their dissertation between July 1, 1987 and July 1, 1988 are eligible to apply for the 1988 Prize. Dissertations must be nominated by the author's advisor with a letter of acceptance for the degree accompanying the dissertation. Applicants for the 1988 award should submit two copies of the dissertation to: Secretary, Foundation for Iranian Studies, 4343 Montgomery Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817. Deadline for submissions is August 1, 1988.

MALCOLM H. KERR DISSERTATION AWARD COMPETITION

An award in the amount of $500 in each category (Humanities and Social Sciences) will be given for the best dissertation on a topic in medieval or modern Middle East studies. All students completing their dissertations between July 1, 1987 and July 1, 1988 are eligible to apply for the 1988 award. Dissertations must be nominated by the author's sponsor or advisor, with a letter of acceptance for the degree accompanying the dissertation. The applicant must specify the category for which he or she is applying: humanities or social sciences. Applicants should submit one copy of the dissertation, although two or three copies will facilitate reading by the committee. The copy (or copies) will be returned. Winners will be announced at the annual meeting in Los Angeles. Applicants for the 1988 awards should submit the dissertation copies to: CIRA, Department of Urban Planning and Policy Development, Kilmer Campus, LSH, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. 08903.

SOCIETAS IRANOLOGICA EUROPEA

The European Society of Iranian Studies, Societas Iranologica Europaea, is an organization founded to promote all scholarly aspects of Iranian studies. Among the activities of the Society is the organization of a program of conferences and seminars. The first of this program, a symposium on "Transition Periods in Iranian History" was held in Freiburg in Breisgau, May, 1985, the proceedings from which have been published as Cahier, No. 5 of Studia Iranica. The compilation of a Handbook of Iranian Studies in Europe is in progress. The Society seeks interested contact with organizations and individuals with a special interest in Iranian Studies. For further information, contact: Dr. Bo Utas, Societas Iranologica Europaea, Inst. of Asian and African Languages, Box 513, S-751 20 Uppsala, Sweden.

AFGHANICA

AFGHANICA is a new Newsletter for Afghan Studies edited by Jadwiga Pstrusinska. For further information, contact: Jadwiga Pstrusinska, Editor, P.O. Box 273, Oxford OX1 1AQ, United Kingdom.

PERSIAN SERIALS ON MICROFILM/MICROFICHE

Persian serials on microfilm/microfiche are available through the University of Chicago Middle East Documentation Center. This collection contains newspapers, political pamphlets, and magazines published around the time of the
Iranian Revolution in addition to other pre-revolution and post-revolution materials. For the catalogue and further information, contact: Laurie Abbott, Middle East Collection, 1100 E. 57th Street, JRL560, Chicago, IL 60637.

TEXTILE MUSEUM ART EXHIBIT

"Woven from the Soul, Spun from the Heart," an exhibit of the textile arts of Safavid and Ciear Iran organized by Carol Bier, Curator of Eastern Hemisphere Collections at The Textile Museum, was on display until January 29, 1988. The exhibit focused on urban, courtly textiles woven under the patronage of Safavid rulers, and on parallel developments within the Safavid and Ciear tribal and nomadic environments. Many participants of the MESA Conference in Baltimore attended a reception and special viewing of this exhibit on November 13, 1988. The exhibit will travel to the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (April 2-May 22, 1988) and the Detroit Institute of Arts (June 20-August 14, 1988).

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLE EAST STUDIES SOCIETY

The Middle East Studies Society at Columbia University announces the establishment of a new publication, The Journal of the Middle East Studies Society. The Journal is devoted entirely to the work of students. Discussion will center on significant changes experienced in the Middle East, focusing on the utilization of new methodologies for perceiving and evaluating these changes. One issue has been published in the Fall, 1987, and another is expected to come out in the Spring, 1988. For further information concerning submissions and/or subscriptions, write to: The Middle East Studies Society, 1111 IAB, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. 10027.

CENTER FOR IRANIAN STUDIES AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Center for Iranian Studies announces the following publications:

1. ENCYCLOPEDIA IRANICA - Fascicules 6 and 8 of the ENCYCLOPEDIA IRANICA were published, thus completing Volume II. The bound edition of Volume II was published and exhibited at the MESA conference in Baltimore in November. Fascicule 1 and 2 of Volume III were also published. Fascicule 3 is scheduled for publication in February, 1988.


4. Modern Persian Literature Series - An Anthology of Modern Persian Drama (Sa'edi, Bayza'i, and Na'ibBandan) by Gisèle Kapuscinsky, Bibliotheca Persica and the University Press of America was published in August. Bozorg Alavi's Her Eyes, trans. by John O'Kane is in press with the University Press of America.

SUMMER SESSIONS

Columbia University is offering Elementary and Intermediate Arabic this summer from May 31-June 24 (first term) and June 27-July 22 (second term). Each term is four weeks and carries four credits. These intensive courses cover the same material and follow the same syllabus as Arabic at Columbia during the academic year. For applications and housing information, write: Dean, Summer Sessions, 303 Lewisohn Hall, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. 10027.

The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Centre of Near and Middle Eastern Studies and External Services Division announces Summer School 1988 on the Contemporary Middle East. The session will run from June 27-July 22. The purpose of the program is to provide an intensive introduction to the Middle East. The course is suitable for students and individuals from business, banking and government wishing to gain an initial overview of the region. For details, program and reading list write: Middle East Summer School, External Services, School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet St., London WC1E 7HP, U.K.

The University of Michigan is offering intensive courses in Elementary and Intermediate Persian and Turkish from June 27-August 19. Fellowships are available. Apply before April 15. For further information and application write to: Summer Language Consortium in Persian and Turkish, Center for Near Eastern and Northern African Studies, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1290.

Society for Iranian Studies NEWSLETTER

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Address all communications to: Jo-Ann Gross, Executive Secretary, Society for Iranian Studies, c/o Middle East Institute, Columbia University, International Affairs Building, New York, N.Y. 10027.
News About Members


Habib Ladjevardi is currently Associate Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. He recently completed The Iranian Oral History Project, a six-year effort to record the recollections of people who played key roles in recent Iranian political history. The project comprises 126 interviews, ranging in length from one to 43 hours, with a total of 794 hours of tape. Nearly all have been transcribed, amounting to almost 16,000 pages. Interviews that are not restricted are available to researchers at Houghton Library, Harvard University, and the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, as transcriptions or in cassette form. A reference guide to the collection is available for purchase at $3.50 each. For further information, write to: IOHP, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.


Letter to Members

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These are my objectives for the future of the Society. I appreciate any advice and comments. Through the continued interests and initiatives of the Executive Committee, Council Members, and individual members of the Society, I hope we can continue to reach out to strengthen the many diverse links which already exist in the field of Iranian Studies.

It is an honor to have been elected to the position of Executive Secretary of the Society for Iranian Studies. I hope that during the next three years of my tenure I will get to know many more of you during the course of my activities. I would like to express my sincere appreciation of the devotion and hard work of our outgoing Executive Secretary, Habib Ladjevardi, and Treasurer, Eden Naby. I would also like to express my gratitude to the outgoing Council members whose terms expired at the end of 1987, Carol Bier, Richard Frye, and Vahid Nowshirvani.

Jo-Ann Gross, Executive Secretary

Conference...

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Reading the Sources Closely." One component of the program is a series of seminars at the Center. Among the talks presented thus far have been "Methodological Considerations of Biographical Dictionaries," by Richard Bulliet and "The Role of Ulama in Modern Iranian Politics: The Debate Revisited," by Nikki Keddie and Said Amir Arjomand.

The Middle East Studies Association will hold its second annual meeting at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, Beverly Hills, from November 2-5, 1988. The Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA will host the meeting. You may put your name on the mailing list for registration information by writing to: MESA Secretariat, Department of Oriental Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; Tel: (602) 621-5850.

NEW PERSIAN JOURNALS

RAHAVARD - a new quarterly Persian journal for Iranians in exile established to propagate Iranian culture among expatriate Iranians. For subscription information, write: P.O. Box 24640, Los Angeles, California 90024. Tel.: (213) 470-2276.

DABIREH - an anthology of literary and cultural writings published in Paris. The first issue has been published, included in which are articles by Shahrokh Meskoob, Daryouzh Ashouri, and Homa Nategh. For further information, write: Behrouz c/o Ronassi, P. B. n. 447, 75830, Paris, Cedex 17, France.

CHESHMANDAZ - a Persian-language journal which publishes articles on cultural, social, and literary topics, edited by N. Pakdaman and M. Yalfani. Write P.B. 61, 75662, Paris, Cedex 14, France.

KAAVOSHGHAR - a Persian-language journal of Iranian university professors in exile. The journal publishes articles on various aspects of educational topics affecting the Iranian intellectual community. For further information regarding subscriptions or the submission of articles, write to: Kaavoeshghar, L.U., P.O. Box 3016, New York, N.Y. 10027.

OMID REVIEW: A Persian Journal of Contemporary Literature and Arts - published by Omid Iran Broadcasting, Inc. and edited by Iraj Gorgin. Three issues have been published thus far, included in which are poetry, short stories, drawings, articles on literature and the arts, and book reviews. For further information, write to: Omid Review, P.O. Box 691398, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

NOTICE

The list of Ph. D. dissertations on Iranian subjects, 1966-87, will be continued in the Spring / Summer 1988 issue of the Newsletter.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF QAJAR PERSIA, ed. by Shoko Okazaki & Kinji Eura, Osaka University of Foreign Studies, Osaka, Japan, 1985.


LA REVOLUTION IRANIENNE DANS LA PRESSE ETYPIENNE, Dossier 4 (ancienne serie), CEDEJ, Centre d'études et de Documentation en Sciences Sociales, Cairo, 1987.


Bookstores Specializing in Books on Iran

The following is a list of bookstores which stock books on Iranian subjects as well as special order books on Iran. We would appreciate receiving additions to this list of bookstores or sellers located either in the United States or abroad. Please forward these to the Executive Secretary, Society for Iranian Studies.

Arthur Probsthain, 41 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PH, England

Asian Rare Books Inc., 234 Fifth Avenue (3rd Floor), New York, N. Y. 10001

McBlain Books, P. O. Box 5062, Hamden, Ct. 06518.

Worldwide Antiquarian, Catalogue 52, THE MIDDLE EAST, P. O. Box 938, Brookline, Ma. 02146.