

The Association for the Study of
Persianate Societies



انجمن مطالعات جوامع فارسی‌زبان

FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Plans for our great Eighth Biennial Convention in Shiraz are proceeding on course, and the Organizing Committee has worked hard since the last week of August, accepting over 250 individual and a number of pre-organized panels for what promises to be our largest convention to date and the largest academic gathering in Iran since the Islamic Revolution. Letters of acceptance are going out as I write and should have reached the prospective participants by the time you read this.

I am also extremely pleased to announce the signing of an agreement between me and Dr. Younes Nourbakhsh, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tehran, for the opening of a permanent ASPS office at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Tehran. A formal announcement of the opening and initial programs of our Tehran office will be made in Shiraz.

Lastly, I am very pleased to report that the *Journal of Persianate Studies* has been published regularly and on time under its new Associate Editor, Dr. Gershon Lewntal, and that Professor Beatrice Manz of Tufts University, Professor Kazuo Morimoto of the University of Tokyo, Dr. Asghar Seyed Gohrab of the University of Leiden, Dr. Ali Ashraf Sadeghi of the Iranian Academy of Language and Literature, and Professor Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi of the University of Toronto have accepted my invitation to join the JPS Editorial Board, effective January 1, 2016.

NEWS FROM THE JOURNAL



SPECIAL ISSUE ON MODERN KHVĀRAZM

GUEST EDITOR: PAOLO SARTORI

VOLUME NO. 9.2

CONTENTS

PAOLO SARTORI, Introduction: On Khvārazmian Connectivity: Two or Three Things that I Know about It

JAMES PICKETT, Enemies beyond the Red Sands: The Bukhara–Khiva Dynamic as Mediated by Textual Genre

ALFRID K. BUSTANOV, The Bulghar Region as a “Land of Ignorance”: Anti-Colonial Discourse in Khvārazmian Connectivity

JEFF EDEN, A Persian Captive’s Guide to Khiva: Esmā’il Mir-Panja’s Satirical Recollections

PAOLO SARTORI, Seeing Like a Khanate: On Archives, Cultures of Documentation, and Nineteenth-Century Khvārazm (Khorezm)

ASPS welcomes papers from members and other scholars for the *Journal of Persianate Studies*.

Please send your submissions to Saïd Amir Arjomand, Editor-in-Chief:
said.Arjomand@stonybrook.edu

NEWS FROM THE OFFICES

ARMENIA

2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ZAZA STUDIES (PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS)

The 2nd International Conference on Zaza Studies “THE ZAZA PEOPLE AND THE ANATOLIAN ALEVI PHENOMENON,” organized by the international journal *Iran and the Caucasus* (ed. Garnik Asatrian; BRILL, Leiden-Boston) in cooperation with Russian-Armenian University, (Yerevan), Modus Vivendi Center (Yerevan), and Caucasian Centre for Iranian Studies, was held in Yerevan, on June 4-5, 2016.

The Program and Abstracts can be downloaded here:

<http://armacad.info/confabstracts-the-zaza-people-and-the-anatolian-alevi-phenomenon-4-5-june-2016-yerevan>

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “20 YEARS OF *IRAN AND THE CAUCASUS: A BREAKTHROUGH*”

The Editorial Board of *Iran and the Caucasus* (Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden-Boston, www.brill.nl/ic) has the honor to organize an international multidimensional conference dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the Journal.

It was back in 1996 when the first volume of *Iran and the Caucasus*, now a renowned and exemplary periodical, was published with the efforts of scholars from Armenia and abroad. That very first volume comprised the best academic directions regarding a broader geographic area of Iran and the Caucasus, including articles from the fields of history, literature, religion, linguistics, ethnography, and

anthropology. Since then, 20 volumes have been published, each including several issues (during the last several years each volume included four issues per year). Currently, *Iran and the Caucasus* is available both in print and online.

By organizing this conference, the Editorial Board of *Iran and the Caucasus* and the Organizing Committee, alongside with many contributors of the journal and peer-reviewers, aim at hosting academically oriented scholars in the field, who would like to further advance research through publishing new scholarly materials in *Iran and the Caucasus*.

Details: <http://armacad.info/confcfp-20-years-of-iran-and-the-caucasus-a-breakthrough-21-23-oct-2016-aghveran-armenia>

IRANIAN STUDIES AND INDOLOGY MA PROGRAMS ARE LAUNCHED AT RUSSIAN- ARMENIAN UNIVERSITY, YEREVAN

New MA programs, “Iranian Studies” and “Indology,” are launched at Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University in Yerevan.

The programs combine both the academic traditions of Oriental Studies and methodology of modern political, economic, and cultural analysis of the region. General training is in Oriental Studies with an emphasis on concrete fields of knowledge, such as modern history, political science, economics, religious studies, social anthropology, and Oriental philology. The programs provide an individual approach to students, depending on their interests and preferences.

The programs host a solid academic staff, including prominent scholars, experts in Oriental languages and native speakers; it offers the opportunity to practice languages in the countries they are spoken; participate in research projects and scholarly gatherings, publish research-papers in academic periodicals; offers access to a unique and rich library in

Oriental and European languages; all of which is designed to guarantee a high level of training in the relevant fields of Oriental Studies.

Details: <http://armacad.info/iranian-studies-and-indology-new-masters-programmes-at-russian-armenian-slavonic-university-yerevan>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOB OPENING

JOB TITLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Job Description: The School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS) at **The University of Arizona** invites applications for a **tenure-track position in Persian and Iranian Studies at the Assistant Professor level**, to begin in the fall semester 2017.

MENAS offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts (BA), Master of Arts (MA), Accelerated Masters (AMP), and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in Middle Eastern and North African Studies, with courses in Anthropology, Art and Architecture, Geography, History, Linguistics, Islamic Studies, Literary Studies, Mass Culture and Media Studies, Minority Studies, and Political Science.

MENAS offers, in conjunction with other departments, a Dual MA in MENAS and Journalism, a Dual MA in MENAS and Library Science, a Dual MA-MPA in MENAS and Public Policy, and a Dual PhD in MENAS and Anthropology. Minor Programs in MENAS are offered for PhD students in other departments.

The UA features an extensive program in Middle Eastern and North African Studies, with scholars located across the university. MENAS

is home to an Arabic Flagship program. SBS departments currently offer Persian and Iranian Studies courses related to anthropology, cinema, Persian language, literature, and linguistics. Also located in SBS are the American Institute of Maghrib Studies; Arizona Center for Judaic Studies; Center for Middle Eastern Studies, a Title VI National Resource Center; and the Middle East Studies Association. Tucson features a vibrant Iranian community in addition to a strong Iranian student organization.

The successful candidate will join interdisciplinary communities of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Middle East and North African studies specialists, including Persian and Iranian Studies.

A Ph.D. upon date of hire is required, as is a demonstrated potential for excellence in research and teaching; the areas of specialization and discipline are open. However, scholars of Iranian history and literature are particularly encouraged to apply.

The School seeks to hire a candidate who is able to work with diverse students and colleagues and one who is familiar with a variety of teaching methods. She/he will play a key role in developing the newly established Roshan Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Persian and Iranian Studies at the University of Arizona. Review of application materials will begin October 14, 2016 and continue until the position is filled.

Outstanding UA benefits include health, dental, and vision insurance plans; life insurance and disability programs; UA/ASU/NAU tuition reduction for the employee and qualified family members; state and optional retirement plans; access to UA recreation and cultural activities; and more!

For a copy of the job ad as posted on the University of Arizona Human Resources website, please see:

<https://uacareers.com/postings/13768>

VISITING ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSORSHIP

Description: Middle East Studies at **Brown University** invites applications for a **Visiting Assistant/Associate Professorship in modern Iranian Studies** (post 1800). The position is open to all disciplines in the humanities and the social sciences. This is a one-year position with a strong possibility of renewal for a second year. We especially welcome candidates who thrive in an interdisciplinary environment, whose work is informed by comparative and global perspectives, and who have experience teaching and supervising undergraduates. The successful candidate will teach three classes a year and is expected to actively cultivate broad interest in Iranian Studies at Brown and to contribute to the intellectual life of the university. Additional funding for programming and research expenses will be considered.

Qualifications

Scholars at the Assistant or Associate level are eligible to apply. Teaching experience and a record of publication and professional service are desirable. Residence in the Providence area is required for most of the duration of the appointment.

Application Instructions

Review of applications will begin November 1, 2016 and will continue until the position is filled. For full consideration, the following materials should be submitted prior to that date to the application portal in Interfolio (<https://apply.interfolio.com/37453>):

1. A cover letter stating the applicant's academic field, area of specialization, and teaching experience.
2. A curriculum vitae.
3. A detailed statement describing the applicant's research. The statement should not exceed 2,000 words, including all bibliographic references and supplementary material.

4. Three references for scholars familiar with the applicant's research, who will be contacted for shortlisted candidates.
5. Writing sample.
6. Proposed class syllabi.

Interviews will be conducted by Skype and/or at the MESA conference. Campus visits will be conducted in early 2017.

For further information, please visit the Middle East Studies website:

(<http://www.middleeastbrown.org/>).

To contact us, send an email to:

mes_director@brown.edu

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

REGIONALITY: LOOKING FOR THE LOCAL IN THE ARTS OF ISLAM

Historians of Islamic Art Association, 2016 Biennial Conference, 20-22 October 2016

Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, The Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 0RN

For registration and full program: <http://courtauld.ac.uk/event/regional-arts-islam>

The Fifth Biennial Conference of the Historians of Islamic Art Association celebrates the European 'roots' of the study of the arts that fall under the cultural umbrella of Islam, and the formation of the important early collections and exhibitions that launched its scholarship. Those early, mostly connoisseurial categories of regional types and styles – the “Moresque”, Persian painting, Turkish tiles, Indian decorative arts – formed the foundations from which universalizing narratives of “Islamic” arts emerged, especially in the period after the Second World War. Some fifty years later, we are witnessing a resurgence of the study of

regional specificities, augmented with deeper research into the diverse facets of any given locality or artistic form, and a greater commitment to the linguistic and cultural particularities that shaped the arts, architecture and archaeology in a specific locale. Rigorous application of trans-disciplinary research strategies have contributed to the deepening of our understanding of the arts of Islam in local terms, and have allowed us to embrace broader historical trajectories to include the modern and contemporary in our field.

The conference is organized by Dr. Sussan Babaie, The Courtauld Institute of Art and The Historians of Islamic Art Association

The conference program consists of 6 panels and object-handling sessions in London museums. In addition, there are four keynote speakers:

Finbarr Barry Flood, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University; *Prescriptive piety as material practice in Islamic art*

Jeremy Johns, University of Oxford; *'Fings ain't wot they oughto be': making things & the art history of early & medieval Islamic societies*

Talinn Grigor, University of California Davis; *Modernism as (a)politics: religious minorities and the discourse on architecture in Pahlavi Iran*

Mary Roberts, University of Sydney; *Leighton House, Islamic Art and Collector-dealer Networks*

WORLDING IRAN: CONTEMPORARY IRANIAN CULTURE AND THE WORLD

School of Arts and Media, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
8-9 December 2016

Organizers: Dr Michelle Langford and Dr Laetitia Nanquette

Keynote speaker: Associate Professor Amy Motlagh (The American University in Cairo)

For centuries Iran stood at the crossroads of civilizations and was a pivotal site for the exchange of cultures. However, the contemporary focus on its politics tends to obfuscate how Iran continues to contribute to the global circulation of ideas and cultural products. The success of Iranian cinema globally is a key example reminding us of the connectedness of Iranian culture to the world. This symposium will study how Iranian local/global culture dynamically exchanges with the world.

20 YEARS OF "IRAN AND THE CAUCASUS:" A BREAKTHROUGH CONFERENCE

Aghveran Crystal resort Aghveran, Armenia
21-23 October, 2016

This round table is presented to consider the life and work of Dariush Borbor by a number of distinguished scholars and professionals each having been involved with different aspects of his various activities.

Convenor, Carlo G. Cereti, Professor of Iranian Studies, University of La Sapienza, Rome and Italian Cultural Counsellor at the Embassy of Italy, Tehran

Chair and Introduction, Garnik S. Asatrian, Professor Caucasian Centre for Iranian Studies, Editor-in-Chief, Iran and the Caucasus, Yerevan, Armenia

Short Biographical Film: The Life and Work of Dariush Borbor

Discussants:

Arash Tabibzadeh Nouri, Architect, Compiler of Oral History of 20th Century Iranian Architects, Tehran, Iran

Iraj Kalantari, Practicing Architect and Architectural Critic, Tehran, Iran

Ahmad Saeidnia, Professor of Urban Planning, University of Tehran, Iran and Former Head of Urban Planning Department of BORBOR Consultants

Adriano V. Rossi, Professor of Iranian Philology, University of Naples and President of IsMEO, Rome, Italy

Dariush Borbor, Architect, Urban Planner, Iranist, Tehran, Iran Director Research Institute and Library of Iranian Studies (RILIS)

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE STONY BROOK LINGUISTICS FIRST NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE IN IRANIAN LINGUISTICS (NACIL)

[HTTP://WWW.STONYBROOK.EDU/NACIL/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/nacil/)

Stony Brook, NY
April 27-30, 2017.

Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2016 Decisions on submitted abstracts: February 10, 2017 *Conference program posted online: April 20, 2017*

CONTACT: nacil1@stonybrook.edu

We warmly welcome abstracts on all topics related to Iranian languages and linguistics. Submissions are invited for 20-minute talks (plus 10 minutes for discussion) and/or posters (posters should measure approx. 3ft x 4ft or 90cm x 120cm) on any aspect of Iranian Linguistics.

Abstracts are invited from all areas of grammar (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics) and their interfaces. Abstracts on language acquisition, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics,

sociolinguistics and computational linguistics are also encouraged.

We strongly encourage contributions exploring approaches to language diversity and typological works (including but not limited to sign languages, under-represented languages and comparative studies).

To propose a paper/poster for presentation at *NACIL 1*, upload an **abstract conforming to the guidelines below to the EasyAbs site:**

<http://linguistlist.org/easyabs/nacil1>

Invited Speakers

Jila Gomeishi, University of Manitoba

<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/linguistics/people/3474.html>

Geoffrey Haig, Universität Bamberg

<https://www.uni-bamberg.de/orientalistik/aspra/mitarbeiter/prof-dr-geoffrey-haig/>

Simin Karimi, University of Arizona

<http://www.u.arizona.edu/%7Ekarimi/>

Pollet Samvelian, Université Paris III

<http://perspred.cnrs.fr/team/pollet-samvelian>>

Abstract guidelines

In order to be eligible for consideration, abstracts should conform to the following requirements.

1. Abstracts, including references and data, must not exceed two A4 pages in length, have 2.5 cm (1 inch) margins on all sides, and be set in Times New Roman with a font size no smaller than 11pt.

2. Examples, tables, graphs, etc. must be interspersed into the text of the abstract, rather than collected at the end.

3. The submission must not reveal the identity of the author(s) in any way.

4. Submissions are limited to two per author, with at most one paper being single-authored.

5. Abstracts must be submitted in PDF format through EasyAbs by Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 11:59pm EST.

RECOVERING 'LOST VOICES'

The Role and Depiction of Iranian/Persianate Subalterns from the 13th Century to the Modern Period

A multi-year research project funded by the British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS).

The second of four workshops – on subalterns across the entire Persianate world in the Safavid and Afsharid periods (1501- 1747) – will be held at the University of Edinburgh, UK, on 19-21 May, 2017.

Accommodation provided. Further, limited support is available, especially for Ph.D. students and unaffiliated scholars. Abstracts due by 6 January, 2017.

Full details:

<http://www.shii-news.imes.ed.ac.uk/projects/the-subalterns-project/the-second-workshop-edinburgh-19-21-may-2017/>

ROSHANGAR: ROSHAN UNDERGRADUATE PERSIAN STUDIES JOURNAL

CALL FOR PAPERS

A new undergraduate initiative at the Roshan Institute for Persian Studies. Under the supervision of the Roshan Institute for Persian Studies, students at the University of Maryland have created a new group called Roshangar. Roshangar is a blog; it features articles, events and movie reviews, interviews with artists and scholars, cultural analyses and more written by a diverse group of students.

www.roshangarumd.com

Roshangar is also an academic journal. It recently published its first issue which includes

[HTTP://WWW.PERSIANATESOCIETIES.ORG](http://www.persianatesocieties.org)

submissions from undergraduate students from around the world and with a wide range of academic backgrounds. A free downloadable copy is available:

<http://www.roshangarumd.com/#!/the-journal/jyxq3>

Roshangar is now accepting submissions for the next issue. The call for papers for undergraduate students who wish to be featured in the next issue may be accessed on our website:

<http://www.roshangarumd.com/#!/journal-submission/kbpfm>

PUBLICATIONS

Saïd Amir Arjomand's collected essays has just been published:

[*Sociology of Shi'ite Islam, Collected Essays*](#)
Brill, 2016

He has also published the following articles that apply the approach to integrated social theory and regional studies he has advocated at the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies and in its Pangaea II book series, *Social Theory and Regional Studies in the Global Age*, (the State University of New York Press, 2015):

_____, "Unity of the Persianate World under Turko-Mongolian Domination and Divergent Development of Imperial Autocracies in the Sixteenth Century," *Journal of Persianate Studies*, 9.1 (2016), pp. 1-18.

_____, "State Formation in Early Modern Muslim Empires: Common Origin and Divergent Paths," *Social Imaginaries*, 2.2 (2016), pp. 35-51.

_____, "The Rise of Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Sciences and Humanities and the Challenge of Comparative Sociology," *European Journal of Social Theory*, 20.2 (2017). (published online May 4, 2016 and accessible at:

<http://est.sagepub.com/content/early/recent>)

Rudi Matthee, co-edited (with Enrique García Hernán and José Cutillas Ferrer), *The Spanish Monarchy and Safavid Persia in the Early Modern Period: Politics, War and Religion* (Madrid: Albatros Ediciones, 2016), contributing the introduction, pp. 17-27.

_____, “From Splendour and Admiration to Ruin and Condescension: Western Travellers to Iran from the Safavids to the Qajars,” *Iran: British Journal of Persian Studies* 54 (2016): 3-22.

Janet Afary and **John Perry**, Ali-Akbar Dehkhodā, *Charand-o Parand: Revolutionary Satire from Iran, 1907-1909*. Translated with an Introduction and Notes by Janet Afary and John R. Perry. Yale, 2016. It is part of a new Yale series, World Thought in Translation.
<http://yalebooks.com/book/9780300197990/charand-o-parand>

The Persian Literary Studies Journal, volume 4, issues 5-6 of the Persian Literary Studies Journal has been published (a joint publication of Shiraz University and Iran Academy of Literary Criticism). It is available online:
<http://plsj.shirazu.ac.ir/>

Editorial Notes

The **deadline** for the **next Newsletter** will be **March 01, 2017**

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible.

Your continued support is now made easier with online membership renewal. Please visit: <http://www.persianatesocieties.org/index.php/membership> to access the online form and link to PayPal (which accepts multiple currencies). ASPS' online form should reflect the address to where you would like your issues of *JPS* to be

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sent and your preferred e-mail address for ASPS communications. Please note, the PayPal site requires your billing address. If you have paid, but have not received the latest volume of the *Journal of Persianate Studies*, please let us know.

Please send your news and all items of professional interest to **Mehdi Faraji** at: newsletter@persianatesocieties.org