



the CERF grant program, we have been able to extend our regional representation in Central Asia. The recent creation of a local branch in Khorog in Badakhshan has contributed to this as well. In 2003, a branch of ASPS was established in Shiraz under the able directorship of Dr. Kourosh Kamali. Coinciding with my trip to Hyderabad in April of this year, a local ASPS branch was founded in that city as well. We are currently working to provide this and other branches with financial resources to initiate local programs and projects.

Unfortunately, the publication of this Newsletter had to precede the pending decision of OSI about the renewal of our Travel Fellowship. We will post this decision on our website as soon as it arrives. The recent elections and subsequent developments in Iran have also complicated our plans to organize the next biennial conference in Shiraz. We are working to resolve the issue of our third biennial meeting and will notify our members as soon as we have a better sense about possible venues.

Much work remains to be done. We are especially concerned to strengthen our financial base, so as to be able to initiate new programs and projects. But I am confident that under the expert leadership of several new officers, we will be able to accomplish this and other objectives.

Rudi Matthee  
President ASPS

## Travel Fellowship Program

ASPS expects a final decision on or before December 1 on the travel fellowship renewal by OSI. We will immediately post any updates on the website ([www.persianatesocieties.com](http://www.persianatesocieties.com)). Please check the ASPS Website for updates.

**Qualifications:** Upon announcement of available funding, applicants who are Iranian and engaged in teaching or research in the humanities or social sciences, and have a formal invitation or acceptance of a paper from an academic institution or sponsors of a conference in the United States, may submit (1) a letter explaining the research, the title of the paper, and details of the conference; (2) a letter of acceptance from the conference, and; (3) a *curriculum vitae*, to:

Dr. Colin Mitchell  
Dept. of History  
6135 University Ave.  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, CANADA  
(902) 494-2788 [c.mitchell@dal.ca](mailto:c.mitchell@dal.ca)

**Please Note:** The Travel Fellowship will only reimburse against **original receipts** for expenses including travel, lodging, meals, and conference registration, up to a limit of \$3,000. Those who receive Travel Fellowships agree to write a report of their travel and to submit a copy of the paper delivered.

## The Central Eurasia Research Fund (CERF)

The Central Eurasia Research Fund provides grants of up to \$1500 to support the research and publications of individual Central Asian scholars in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Northwest China.

### General Grant Provisions

**Eligibility:** CERF grants are available to individual applicants from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Northwest China who demonstrate how their research will make a substantive contribution to the knowledge of historical, political, economic, or cultural developments in the region of Central Eurasia. Applicants must hold a minimum degree equivalent to a BA. Grantees are not eligible to reapply for a CERF Grant for five years from the receipt of a previous CERF award.

**Financial Provisions:** Grants do not exceed US \$1500 and provide funding for the following:

- Publication costs for books or monographs (including translations from English)
- Technical equipment necessary for specific research projects, such as computers, printers, scanners, voice recorders, or digital cameras
- Travel expenses for archival research that will result in a scholarly publication

**Selection Process:** CERF grants are awarded twice a year with submission deadlines of September 15<sup>th</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be reviewed by an ASPS evaluation committee consisting of the grant director, Dr. Jo-Ann Gross, and two persons currently serving on the Board of Directors of ASPS. The CERF Committee will make an effort whenever possible to provide regional balance in the distribution of grants.

- Importance of the topic
- Academic merit of the proposed project
- Demonstrated career commitment to the field
- Feasibility of the project
- Potential impact of the research
- Adequate academic and professional experience of the candidate

**Application:** CERF candidates are required to submit an electronic application in MS Word format that includes the following:

1. Name and address, email address, fax number
2. Place and date of birth
3. Citizenship
4. Institutional name and address
5. Research field or discipline

6. Highest degree obtained

7. Title and description of research proposal (1-2 pages) that includes objectives and potential impact of research and/or publication

8. Budget (included detailed account of specific expenses)

**Award and Final Report:** The grant period is for one year. Of the award, \$200 will be held until the receipt of a one page final report (sent electronically) within two months of the completion of the award, and the receipt of two copies of any publication resulting from the award. The report must include the following:

- Name of project and objectives
- Extent to which the objectives were met
- Impact of project
- Receipts of all expenses

**Current CERF Recipients:** Congratulations to Kudratbek Elchibekov, Larisa Dodkhudoeva, Amriyazdon Alimardonov, and Tajiddin Mardoni, all of whom received CERF grants this year.

### Studies on Persianate Societies

After considerable delay in preparation and printing—mostly having to do with our change of publishers to Manohar in Delhi —*Studies on Persianate Societies* 2 (2005/1384) will soon be ready for shipment directly from India.

We have set the annual institutional subscription at the low level of \$75 to make the journal widely available at libraries and university centers. It goes without saying that we critically need your support at this stage. Please make sure your library subscribes. Subscription forms should shortly be available on the publisher's website (manoharbooks.com) and that of ASPS.

Saïd Amir Arjomand, Editor-in-Chief

### Member News and Announcements

#### Member News:

**Sa d Amir Arjomand** will become a Director of the new Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies. The Institute's first projects are a co-sponsored conference on political culture, "From Persianate Statecraft to Constitutional Democracy and Human Rights" and a five-year joint research project, "Addressing the Knowledge Deficit: Social Sciences in the Arab World and Iran. Other suggestions and proposals will be appreciated (said.arjomand@stonybrook.edu). Dr. Arjomand is also editing selected papers, including some by other ASPS members, from a conference held in April of this year at the International Insti-

tute for the Sociology of Law in Onati, Spain, on "Constitutional Reconstruction in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and Turkey."

**Bill Beeman's** latest book: *The "Great Satan" vs. The "Mad Mullahs": How the United States and Iran Demonize Each Other* has been published by Praeger/Greenwood. For more information go to the publisher's site for the book: <http://www.greenwood.com/books/BookDetail.asp?sku=C8214>

The book is also available through Amazon.com [http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0275982149/qid=1129951580/sr=8-1/ref=pd\\_bbs\\_1/104-4910105-3374367?v=glance&s=books&n=507846](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0275982149/qid=1129951580/sr=8-1/ref=pd_bbs_1/104-4910105-3374367?v=glance&s=books&n=507846)

as well as through Barnes & Noble <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbnInquiry.asp?userid=qF5sATWBd3&isbn=0275982149&itm=1> <<http://www.bn.com>>

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**Nayereh Tohidi** has been awarded a Keddie-Balzan Fellowship at UCLA for the academic year 2005-2006 to work on her new book project on the global-local interplay of feminism and the women's movement in Iran.

Her recent publications are: Tohidi, Nayereh. "Women at the Forefront of the Democracy Movement in Iran." *The International Journal of Not-for-Profit Law*, 7, no. 3 (June 2005), <[http://www.icnl.org/JOURNAL/vol7iss3/ar\\_tohidi.htm](http://www.icnl.org/JOURNAL/vol7iss3/ar_tohidi.htm)>

Tohidi, Nayereh. "Women, Building Civil Society, and Democratization in Post-Soviet Azerbaijan." In *Post-Soviet Women Encountering Transition*, edited by Kathleen Kuehnast and Carol Nechemias. Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press and the John Hopkins University Press, 2004: 149-171.

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A Russian translation of **Jo-Ann Gross'** collected works entitled *Musulmanskaia Tsentral'naia Aziia: religioznost' i obshchestvo* (Islamic Central Asia: Religion and Society) was published with a critical introduction by Lola Dodkhudoeva (Dushanbe, 2004):

Dr. Gross also had a photographic exhibition last summer in Tajikistan entitled, "The Islamic Shrines of Tajikistan." The exhibit was supported by a grant from the Swiss Cooperation Office in Dushanbe. The opening was in July at the National Museum named Bihzad in Dushanbe. From Dushanbe the exhibit traveled to Soghd, Khatlon, Khojand, and Badakhshan.

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**Rudi Matthee's** new book entitled *The Pursuit of Pleasure: Drugs and Stimulants in Iranian History, 1500-1900* has been published by Princeton University Press, 2005. For more information, please go to: <http://pup.princeton.edu/titles/8041.html>

### **Conferences and Exhibitions:**

The Iran Heritage Foundation and Oxford University announce **The Iranian Constitutional Revolution 1906-1911: Centenary Conference**, Oxford, 6–9 July 2006.

**Organisers:** Prof. Abbas Amanat, Prof. Houchang Chehabi, Dr. John Gurney, Mr. Farhad Hakimzadeh, Dr. Vanessa Martin, Prof. Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi.

The Conference Committee proposes to organise panels on the following subjects, and is open to innovative ideas:

The coming of the Revolution; Ideologies and identities; Established organisations and institutions; New organisations and institutions; The Arts; Women; Ethnicity and the making of identity; Religious minorities: Religio-ideological groups; The regions; Global dimensions; The Revolution and memory; Perspectives and narratives.

Prospective participants should send an abstract of 300 words (in digital form, using Microsoft Word) by 1st January 2005 to Farhad Hakimzadeh <mailto:farhad@iranheritage.org> It is anticipated that papers will last 25 minutes. For further information, visit the conference site at

<<http://www.iranheritage.org/mashrutehconference>>

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**Sixth Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies:** 3-5 August 2006, SOAS

Organized by the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS), the Iran Heritage Foundation (IHF), and the London Middle East Institute (LMEI) 3-5 August 2006, at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

The conference will take place immediately after the Centenary Conference on the Iranian Constitutional Revolution, which will be organized by the Iran Heritage Foundation and the University of Oxford and held 30 July–2 August 2006 at Oxford [see ASPS Newsletter No. 13, and <<http://www.iranheritage.org/>>].

The Programme Committee welcomes contributions in all fields of Iranian studies, especially new areas of investigation and/or novel approaches to traditional fields. Those wishing to submit a proposal for a pre-arranged panel should provide four abstracts and the name of a discussant in their proposals. The primary language of the conference will be English, but proposals for papers in Persian will be considered as well. Up-to-date information on the Sixth Biennial Conference will be available at <<http://www.iranianstudies.net/>>www.iranianstudies.net and at <<http://www.iranheritage.org/>>www.iranheritage.org.

The deadline for the submission of proposals is **October 1, 2005**. Abstracts must be limited to 250-300 words. Proposals should be sent by e-mail to: [isislondon@hotmail.com](mailto:isislondon@hotmail.com). Confirmation will be sent by e-mail. Please also send a paper copy of the abstract to:

Professor H. E. Chehabi  
Programme Committee Chairman  
Department of International Relations  
Boston University  
152 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215 USA

The conference will be held at SOAS, and participants should contact the Iran Heritage Foundation ([info@iranheritage.org](mailto:info@iranheritage.org)) if they require an invitation in order to obtain a visa for entry into the UK or if they wish to make arrangements for accommodation at student halls of the University of London.

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**The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shiism:** July 7-8, 2006, Oxford, UK

Despite the numerous studies of Iranian art and material culture, covering architecture, object studies, flat art and photography, very little work has been published on the subject of Shiite art per se. This interdisciplinary conference aims to address this problem by bringing together historians, art historians, numismatists, anthropologists and folklorists in order to try and identify what is specifically Shiite in the art and material culture of Iran.

The conference will cover Iran from earliest Islamic times until the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, but expects to focus on four main periods: Safavid, Qajar, Pahlavi and post-Revolutionary Iran. It will also include Iranian Shiism as it has spread to other areas of the Islamic world, in particular India and East Africa.

Call for papers: titles of papers and abstracts should be sent to Professor James Allan at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford OX1 2PH, UK, or to Pedram Khosronejad [pedram.khosronejad@orinst.ox.ac.uk](mailto:pedram.khosronejad@orinst.ox.ac.uk)

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **July 1, 2005**.

## Positions

### **Indo-Islamic Studies**

The Department of Middle East and Asian Languages and Culture at Columbia University announces a **position in Indo-Islamic Studies**, with specialization in either history or literature and expertise in the use of Persian texts. The rank is open. Applications with c.v., cover letter, representative samples of scholarship and three letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Sheldon Pollock  
Chair, Indo-Islamic Search Committee  
MEALAC  
Columbia University  
605 Kent Hall, Mail Code 3928  
New York, NY 10027

