

# ASPS NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF  
PERSIANATE SOCIETIES

[www.persianatesocieties.org](http://www.persianatesocieties.org)

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انجمن مطالعات  
جوامع فارسی‌زبان

**Call for Papers**  
**Fourth ASPS Convention**  
**Lahore, Pakistan, Feb 27 – March 1, 2009**

New Extended Deadline: October 31, 2008.  
Contact: [sbashir@stanford.edu](mailto:sbashir@stanford.edu)

We are pleased to announce the ASPS Fourth Biennial Convention, which will take place from February 27-March 1, 2009 in Lahore, Pakistan.

Lahore is the cultural center of Pakistan and the Mughal ruler Jahangir's capital in the 17th century. The city boasts some of the wonders of Islamic architecture, including Shahi Qila (the Lahore Fort), Badshahi Mosque, Shalimar Gardens, and the buildings of the old, walled city. Not far away from Lahore is the prehistoric site of Harappa, the ancient city of the Indus Valley Civilization.

We look forward to an exciting fourth convention. Our first biennial convention took place in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in September 2002, with the cooperation of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Rudaki Institute of Language and Literature, and the National Commission of UNESCO, Tajikistan. The Dushanbe Conference brought together over 80 scholars from thirteen countries. ASPS's second biennial convention, on "Society, History and Culture in the Persianate World," in Yerevan, Armenia in 2004, brought together 90 scholars from 18 countries. During the third conference in Tbilisi, Georgia in June 2007 at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University and the Tsereteli Institute of Oriental Studies, the ASPS opened its new branch office at the Institute of Oriental Studies.

The conferences have provided a rare and valued opportunity for scholars from West, Central and South Asia, Europe and North America to participate in an interdisciplinary dialogue. The interchange of ideas has also found its place in our publication, *Journal of Persianate Studies*.

## Tentative Program

Thursday, Feb 26

Registration: 9:00-16:00

Presidential Address: 16:30-18:00

Reception: 18:00-20:00

Friday- Sunday, Feb 27- March 1: 24 Regular Sessions

Sunday, March 1: Banquet

Monday, March 2: Excursions (Optional)

All submissions in humanities and social sciences related to Persianate Societies are welcome. We encourage pre-organized panels, but also welcome individual papers. Submissions for pre-organized panels must include a panel abstract of no more than 300 words plus individual abstracts of no more than 300 words for each panelist. Panels must be limited to a minimum of three panelists and a maximum of five. Panels and individual abstracts must contain a clearly stated thesis.

Paper and panel proposals should be sent to:  
Dr. Shahzad Bashir: [sbashir@stanford.edu](mailto:sbashir@stanford.edu)

In addition, proposals from Iran should be sent to:  
Dr. Habib Borjian: [hb146@columbia.edu](mailto:hb146@columbia.edu)

New deadline for submissions: October 31, 2008.

## **Report from Tajik Regional Offices**

In July and August 2008 Board Member Jo-Ann Gross traveled to Tajikistan where she met with the directors of the ASPS branches in Dushanbe and Khorogh. Jo-Ann met with Lola Dodkhudoeva, director of the Dushanbe office, which is located in the Institute of Oriental Studies and Written Heritage. Among the planned activities of the Dushanbe branch is a roundtable scheduled for November 2008 with the President of the Academy of Sciences on the status of Iranian Studies in Tajikistan and the launching of new publication featuring research on Iranian history and culture in Tajikistan. The Dushanbe branch has also organized a panel for the upcoming ASPS conference in Lahore.

Jo-Ann Gross also met with the director of the new ASPS branch in Khorogh, Umed Mamadsherezodshoev. The Khorogh office is now organizing activities for fall 2008 and spring 2009, including a seminar on the historiography of Badakhshan. Dr. Mamadsherezodshoev also is planning to publish a bi-annual *majalah* in Tajik and Persian on Badakhshan studies, with the assistance of Sabohat Donayorova, co-director of the Khorogh office. Dr. Mamadsherezodshoev will participate in a panel on Badakhshan organized for the ASPS Lahore conference.

## **New Website Up!**

<http://www.persianatesocieties.org> The new ASPS website is online! We owe sincere thanks to Chad Johnson and Peter Angelos at the University of Minnesota Duluth for the fancy new design!

## New Student Member on the ASPS Board

ASPS members voted a new student member to the ASPS board of directors in March 2008. Roja Fazaeli received the largest amount of votes.

**Roja Fazaeli** is now a lecturer in Islamic Studies at Trinity College Dublin. She received her PhD from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland, Galway, in July 2008. Her thesis was a study of women's rights in Iran, comparing and critiquing international human rights law and Islamic law. Roja was the recipient of the Government of Ireland scholarship for Humanities and Social Sciences. She has been a visiting scholar to the Feminist Legal Theory Project at the Emory School of Law, Atlanta, GA, and the Institute for the Study of Women and Gender (IRWaG) at Columbia University, New York. In 2006, Roja served as the human rights trainer for Amnesty International, Irish Section. She has also worked as a consultant to Frontline (Defenders of Human Rights Defenders) and several NGOs in Iran. Roja was the chair of the South-West Asia Millennium Development Goals Youth Leadership Initiative with the United Nations and is a member of the executive committee of UNIFEM Ireland. She is also one of the co-founders and was the vice-president of the Iranian Society of Ireland.

## Elections for the ASPS President and Secretary-Treasurer

Ballots for the election of the ASPS President and for the Secretary-Treasurer will be sent out electronically in mid-October 2008. Please watch out for emails from Habib Borjian.

## ASPS Panel at MESA 2008: Civil Society and Constitutionalism in Iran and Egypt

The ASPS is sponsoring a thematic conversation at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association to be held in Washington DC, November 22-25, 2008. The panel, titled "**Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law in Egypt and Iran**," will feature Atef Said (University of Michigan), Mehrangiz Kar (Harvard University), Mehrzad Boroujerdi (Syracuse University), Samer Shehata (Georgetown University) as participants and Farideh Farhi (University of Hawaii at Manoa) as conversation leader.

## ASPS Business Meeting and Reception at MESA 2008

All ASPS members shall be encouraged to attend the ASPS Business Meeting at MESA as well as the Reception the same evening. The ASPS Business Meeting will be held Saturday, November 22, 2:00-3:00 PM, in Jefferson. The ASPS reception will take place from 8:00-10:00 PM in the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel (more precisely: in a suite reserved in Said Ar-

jomand's name. Please check at the hotel reception desk for the number.)

Further, the following ASPS meetings will be held (closed to the public):

- Board Meeting, Saturday, Nov 22, 3:00-4:00PM, Jackson.
- JPS editorial board meeting, Saturday, Nov 22, 5:00-6:30PM, Jackson.
- Lahore Conference Organizing Committee Meeting: Sunday, Nov 23, 9:00-11:30AM, Tyler.

## ASPS at ISIS 2008

The workshop "Encounters Between Early Modern Sanskrit and Persian Cultures" took place in conjunction with the Seventh Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies in Toronto from July 31-August 3, 2008. Organized by Prof. Ajay Rao (University of Toronto) and Prof. Chris Minkowski (University of Oxford) along with several graduate students, it focused on relationships between Sanskrit and Persian scholastic and courtly cultures in the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. One objective of the workshop was to bring scholars into dialogue with each other, providing a site for collaborative partnership while addressing larger historical and theoretical issues. Sessions dealt respectively with *Ethical and Political Texts*, *Practical Arts and Sciences*, and *Mystical and Metaphysical Texts*. The texts that were compared included the Mahabharata/Razmnamah, Yogavasistha/Muntakhab-i Jug Basisht, Ratirahasya/Lizzat al-nisa, and Siddhantasarvaraja/Zij-i Shah Jahani. A special session on *Mughal and Post-Mughal Translations* was chaired by Prof. Muzaffar Alam (University of Chicago), in which three graduate students presented papers. A public discussion was also held that opened up the floor to other participants and the audience. The workshop was well attended and proved to be a success.

"The Eighteenth Century Fracturing of the Persianate World" was a discussion organized by Mana Kia (Harvard University) and chaired by Paul Losensky (University of Indiana at Bloomington). The panelists and their topics were: Mana Kia, "Accounting for Difference: A Comparative Look at the Autobiographical Travel Narratives of Muhammad Ali Hazin Lahiji and Abd al-Karim Kashmiri"; Rajeev Kinra (Northwestern University), "The Place of Place in Early Modern Indo-Persian Comparative Philology"; Matthew Smith (Harvard University), "A Debate on Authenticity: Literary Return and the Indian Style"; Sunil Sharma (Boston University), "From Aisheh to Nur Jahan: Women Poets and the Shaping of the Classical Persian Literary Canon". Several papers presented at this panel are scheduled to appear in a future issue of the ASPS' *Journal of Persianate Studies*.

## Conference Reports

A three day conference "Persian Literature in Multilingual India: Genres, Contexts, Styles" was held at the University of Cambridge, 16-18 June 2008. The convenors of the conference were Francesca Orsini (SOAS), Stefano Pello (University of Venice) and Christine van Ruymbeke (University of Cambridge). The papers dealt with the issue of localism and internationalism in the Persian context.

## The Central Eurasia Research Fund (CERF)

The ASPS is happy to announce that it is once again accepting CERF grant applications. The deadlines for receipt of electronic submissions are January 15, 2009 and June 15, 2009. The dates of the announcement of awards are March 1, 2009 and August 1, 2009. The award period is for one year.

CERF grants support research and publications concerning Persianate culture by individual scholars from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Northwest China.

**Eligibility:** a minimum degree equivalent to a B.A. Grantees may only reapply for a CERF Grant after five years from the receipt of a previous CERF award.

Grants do not exceed US \$1500 and provide funding for the following: book or monograph publication costs (includes 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:** Awards made twice a year. An ASPS evaluation committee reviews applications. Every effort is made to provide regional balance in the distribution of grants based on:

- 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

CERF candidates must submit an electronic application in MS Word format to the Director of the CERF program, Dr. Jo-Ann Gross, at [gross@tcnj.edu](mailto:gross@tcnj.edu) with the following required information:

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)

Please keep a copy of the application requirements for your records and check off each category prior to application submission. Incomplete applications will be invalidated.

**Award and Final Report:** Grant recipients must submit a written report and two copies of any publication resulting from the award within two months of the award completion period. 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.

Final reports, including receipts of all expenses, must be remitted at the end of the project period in order for the Research Fund to meet its own internal accounting requirements that ensure the Research Fund's continued operation.

## Member News and Announcements

**Ishtiyaq Ahmad Zilli** has taken over as the Director of Darul Musannefin Shibli Academy, Azamgarh, India, and editor of its monthly organ '*Maarif*'. This Academy was founded by Maulana Shibli Nomani in 1914. *Maarif* has been in circulation since July 1916 without any break. Shibli Academy has published many books on Persianate Studies including the much celebrated *Shira ul Ajam* of Shibli. In *Maarif* virtually hundreds of papers on various aspects of Persianate Studies have been published during the period of almost one century that it has been in circulation.

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**Mehrzad Boroujerdi** (Syracuse University) received a major grant from the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) for a large-scale empirical study of post-revolutionary political elites in Iran.

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**Rudy Matthee** published the book, *Eqtesad va siyasat-e khareji-ye Iran dar 'asr-e Safavi*, trans. Hasan Zandieh (Tehran: Pazhuhsagah-e Hawzeh va Daneshgah, 1387/2008) – a translated collection of four of his articles dealing with economic and political issues. Rudy Matthee was also appointed Unidel Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Delaware.

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**Rosemary Stanfield-Johnson** was promoted to tenured Associate Professor of Religious History at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

## New Programs in Iranian and Persianate Studies at OSU, Rutgers and TCNJ

A new Ph.D. program in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC) at The Ohio State University builds on linguistic, literary, and cultural studies to support a selection of interdisciplinary studies. The four primary languages taught in NELC (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, and Turkish) can each be the basis of a course of study leading to the Ph.D. The program offers an intellectually rigorous but flexible set of core courses providing the student with a foundation for the pursuit of more specific individual research interests, which may include language pedagogy, relevant cultural studies, history, ethnology, coordinated theoretical grounding in one or more disciplines, and the mastery of two NELC languages as well as competence in at least two professionally relevant European research languages besides English. By "mastery" of language it is envisaged that the student will be able to function as a proficient speaker and reader of his or her chosen primary NELC language; while speaking proficiency in the designated second language will certainly be encouraged, reading

proficiency will be seen as the more important requirement. Some students will specialize in periods of a language which are not now spoken; here reading proficiency is all that will be required. Students will choose one or two departmental theoretical foci in areas such as comparative literary or cultural studies, folklore and ethnology, language pedagogy and applied linguistics, gender studies, or historiography. Plans of study also would normally include selected, pertinent courses in other departments, as negotiated with the appropriate units depending on individual students' qualifications and specializations.

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The **Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Rutgers University** received in 2007 the first ever US Department of Education Title VIa UISFL (Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program) **grant awarded specifically for the study of Iran**. This two-year grant has enabled the creation of new courses, preparing the way for the establishment of a **minor in Iranian Studies**, and also the "Persianization" of the curriculum by supporting the introduction of content about Iran into relevant high-enrollment general history, literature and arts courses. It also provided the funding for the conference on *Iran Today*, which was held last April, and it will fund a conference on the theme "The Iranian Revolution: Thirty Years" on February 7-8th, 2009. In addition, the grant has funded faculty workshops about Iran in the classroom, the enhancement of existing Iranian Studies courses, and the purchase of books and multimedia resources. For more information about the activities of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Rutgers, please visit <http://mideast.rutgers.edu>, or contact Jawid Mojaddedi, the PI of the grant and Director of the Center ([mideast@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:mideast@rci.rutgers.edu)).

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The **College of New Jersey** received a **grant** from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) to fund the project, *Iran and Beyond: Strengthening the International Studies and Foreign Language Curriculum in Middle Eastern and Central Eurasian Studies*. The project was designed and is directed by Jo-Ann Gross, Professor of History, and Deborah Hutton, Associate Professor of Art History. The two-year project, which begins in the fall of 2008, strengthens three interrelated components of international studies – **foreign language, curriculum development, and study abroad** – through a series of interdisciplinary initiatives. These initiatives focus on two critical world regions in the International Studies Program: Middle Eastern Studies and Central Eurasian Studies, and on two critical languages: Arabic and Persian. As part of the project, TCNJ will expand the modern language program in Arabic to include additional instruction at the advanced level. The College will also implement a two-year language program in Persian through an innovative arrangement with Rutgers University Center for Middle Eastern Studies that makes use of Internet technology. The grant will further expand the curriculum in Middle Eastern and Central Eurasian Studies. A series of faculty development workshops led by scholars in the fields of Iranian and Central Eurasian Studies will be held over the two years. Select faculty in the School of Culture and Society, the School of the Arts and Communication, and the School of Business, will attend these workshops, and out of those experiences, they will develop 18 new courses. Two new study abroad/exchange programs are being developed in conjunction with the pro-

gram: one in Dushanbe, Tajikistan and one in Istanbul, Turkey. Additionally, a special seminar on Central Asia will be offered in the spring of 2010, and the seminar will be linked to a student-faculty study tour in May 2010 to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. Finally, the project will involve a special campus-wide cultural event held each year to broaden awareness and appreciation of the arts and literature of these regions. The two featured speakers at the fall 2008 faculty workshops are Parvaneh Pourshariati, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Ohio State University, who will speak on "The Idea of Iran," and Hossein Kamaly, Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University, who will speak on "Iran and Shi'a Islam."

## Conferences

### **Iranian Jewry: From Past to Present**

November 1-3, 2008  
University of Maryland

An International Conference Sponsored by:  
The Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies.  
The Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute Center for Persian Studies. University of Maryland, Collage Park  
Co-hosted by: The Hebraic Section and Near East Section, African and Middle Eastern Division; Library of Congress, Washington DC

This interdisciplinary conference will bring together leading scholars in Judeo-Persian studies from around the world with the aim gradually to fill some of the lingering gaps in our knowledge about Iranian Jewry, ultimately to enrich both fields of Iranian *and* Jewish studies. In this spirit, the conference comprises seven panels focusing on a broad range of investigations into previously unexamined or under-explored historical and cultural contributions of Iranian Jews to Persian and/or Jewish cultures. In addition to these panels, the conference will also present a live concert by Ezro Malakov's Bukharan Jewish Folk Ensemble.

For further information, please contact the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center at 301-405-4975 or the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute Center for Persian Studies at 301-405-3147. You can also visit us on the web for updates and details of the conference: [www.languages.umd.edu/persian](http://www.languages.umd.edu/persian) or [www.jewishstudies.umd.edu/events](http://www.jewishstudies.umd.edu/events).

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### **Empires and Revolutions: Iranian-Russian Encounters since 1800**

Date: Friday, 12 June-Saturday, 13 June, 2009  
Venue: Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS

Conference Organized by: the Iran Heritage Foundation, the London Middle East Institute, SOAS.  
Convened by: Dr Stephanie Cronin, Iran Heritage Foundation Fellow, University of Northampton.

This conference will explore the myriad encounters which have taken place between Iranians and Russians since the early nineteenth century up to the present. It will include some discussion

of diplomacy and foreign policy but a central objective of the conference will be to widen the scholarly perspective to incorporate an understanding of other types of encounter, whether political, economic, social, cultural, or intellectual, and both friendly and hostile, especially as these developed beyond the official and elite levels. In particular it will attempt to understand the complexities of the impact on Iran of the Russian presence on its northern borders: the very expansion of Tsarist empire during the nineteenth century threatening Iran's independence yet bringing ideas of social-democracy to its doorstep, the Soviet Union in the twentieth century similarly contradictory in its effect, sustaining a version of radical Iranian politics while advancing its own strategic interests. The conference will conclude with some consideration of the current state and likely future trajectory of Iranian-Russian relationships.

The topics the conference hopes to examine include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The impact on Iran of military defeat by Russia in the early nineteenth century, especially the incentive given to modernization and reform.
- Iranian military reform and Russia: Abbas Mirza's regiment of Russian deserters; the Cossack Brigade.
- The Griboyedev affair
- Shaping the Iranian reform agenda: the role played by diplomatic service in the Russian Empire in the development of officials such as Amir Kabir and Mushir al-Dawlah.
- Qajar politics: Russian interventions in the concession era, Liazonov and the Caspian Fisheries, opposition to the Reuter concession and the Tobacco Regie
- Conceptualizations of Iran and Iranian society formed by Russian "Orientalism." Views of the Russian Empire formulated by Iranians.
- The political and social impact on Iran of the massive migration of the Iranian poor to work in the Russian Empire.
- The significance of the links formed by Iranian Social-Democrats with parent organizations in the Caucasus.
- Cultural exchanges: Iran's adoption of Russian architectural styles, linguistic terminology, styles of dress etc.
- Revolutions in Iran and Russia, 1905-6: The Constitutional Revolution and the 1905 revolution.
- The suppression of Iranian constitutionalism by Russia in 1908 and subsequently in 1911 and the Russian occupation of northern Iran
- The impact of the 1917 Russian revolution: the formation of the Iranian Communist Party; the Jangali movement
- The Soviet occupation of northern Iran 1941-1946: the formation of the Tudeh party; the republics of Azerbaijan and Mahabad
- The Soviet Union and the Islamic Revolution
- The effect on Iran of the collapse of the Soviet Union
- Future relationships: oil, nuclear power and strategic interests

Abstracts of 250 words should be emailed to:

Dr Stephanie Cronin: [scronin2002@aol.com](mailto:scronin2002@aol.com)

Closing Date: 1 February 2009.

<http://iranheritage.dijit.net/iranian-russian-encounters/default.htm>

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### **Workshop: "A Social History of Labour in the Iranian Oil Industry, 1908-2008"**

International Institute of Social History (IISH), Amsterdam

December 12-13, 2008

Deadline for abstract submissions: October 15, 2008

The International Institute of Social History (IISH) is directing a workshop on the project "A Social History of Labour in the Iranian Oil Industry, 1908-2008." The workshop will take place in Amsterdam on 12th and 13th December, 2008. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is 15th October, 2008 and the organising committee aims to finalise the workshop programme and notify abstract-senders by 31st October, 2008. The IISH will cover the cost of travel and accommodation expenses for those who present papers in the workshop.

This project, which is in the preliminary stages of background research and planning, has been inspired by a major programme on Global Labour History at the IISH, and the associated discourse that has been developed by debates over the past few years. Evidently, over the past three decades, the monopoly of European and North-American labour historiography has been challenged by the growth of studies on labour history in Africa, Asia and Latin America. However, developments in this terrain have been very slow concerning the Middle East in general and Iran in particular. This project seeks to fill this critical gap.

By exploring themes related to the formation and development of working class within the Iranian oil industry; this workshop aims to investigate three thematic strands. First, it seeks to discuss intensively relevant methodological and conceptual underpinnings as well as historical perspectives as an area of enquiry in constructing a social history of labour in the Iranian oil industry. Second, it intends to examine, interpret and analyse primary sources as well as the context in which these sources were generated. Third, it attempts to map as many relevant connections and relationships as possible and to place the case of Iran in a comparative framework, leading to the formulation of a well-reasoned set of arguments about the historical process of Global Labour History.

Please send your abstracts or any further enquiries to:

Touraj Atabaki ([tat@iisg.nl](mailto:tat@iisg.nl)) or

Reza Jafari ([rja@iisg.nl](mailto:rja@iisg.nl))

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Abstracts should be sent as PDF or MS Word documents and should include full contact information and a brief academic biography.

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**Future Generation Committee (FGC) Partnership Scheme supports projects related to Iranian culture.** The FGC Partnership Scheme was established by the **Iran Heritage Foundation** to provide support to projects that:

a) promote Iran's heritage to future generations

b) raise awareness of young Iranians' contributions to international arts and culture

If you are organising an educational, cultural or social project or event, visit [www.iranheritage.org/fgc](http://www.iranheritage.org/fgc) and submit an online application form.

Successful applicants will receive support from the IHF's Future Generation Committee in a number of ways, including:

- 1) Grants
- 2) Promotion of Event
- 3) Access to IHF's network
- 4) Back Office Administration

For more information on the criteria for eligible projects, the support provided to successful applicants as well as the application process, visit [www.iranheritage.org/fgc](http://www.iranheritage.org/fgc)

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#### **Early Modern and Colonial Central Asia in Arabic-Script Documents** (17th-Early 20th Centuries), Halle/Saale, Germany, June 2009

Call for Papers: The Centre of Oriental Studies of the Martin-Luther University is organizing an international workshop on Early Modern and Colonial Central Asia in Arabic-Script Documents (17th-Early 20th Centuries).

The aim of this workshop is to bring together researchers in order to explore the social, economic, and legal history of Central Asia (here defined as the area including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan), taking documents written in the Arabic, Persian and Turkic languages as the main point of reference.

We are especially, but not exclusively, interested in the following themes:

- 1) How were land-holding and property rights defined in pre-colonial Central Asia? How did they change under Tsarist rule?
- 2) Which were the fiscal policies of the Central Asian principalities (khanates and emirates)?
- 3) How the Central Asian principalities established and maintained their hold over nomadic and tribal groups? Which state appointments were bestowed upon members of nomadic and tribal groups?
- 4) What was the role of descent groups in pre-colonial Central Asian communities? What was their relationship with the state and what did their status imply in economic and legal terms? Did these features change with the establishment of colonial power?

The workshop will be open to the public. The workshop language will be English and Russian.

Scholars who are interested in participating at our workshop are requested to send the title of their presentation, along with an abstract of up to 500 words, their CV and publication list to Paolo Sartori at [paolo.sartori@orientphil.uni-halle.de](mailto:paolo.sartori@orientphil.uni-halle.de). Funding of participation is subject to the success of our application for a workshop grant. The deadline for the submission of proposals is **October 20, 2008**.

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#### **Conference on "Trade and Traffic of Persia", Claremont, California, 17-19 October 2008**

A Mellon conference at Pomona College to explore the accounts of those who have traveled, traded, and trafficked across the Persianate world and beyond. The connections of trade and traffic provide a point of entry for approaching the history and anthropology of Iran from a global perspective.

Contacts: Pardis Mahdavi ([pardis.mahdavi@pomona.edu](mailto:pardis.mahdavi@pomona.edu)) and Arash Khazeni ([arash.khazeni@cmc.edu](mailto:arash.khazeni@cmc.edu)).

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The **1st International Conference on Languages and Dialects in Iran** will be held Tuesday, October 28 – 31, 2008, at the University of Sistan and Baluchestan, Zahedan, Iran. <http://www.lingfil.uu.se/info/ldiran08.html>

### **Employment**

#### **Associate Professor in Islam Studies at the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS), University of Oslo**

The position is available from 1st of August 2009. Applicants must document academic qualifications in disciplines that employ historical and / or synchronic perspectives on the study of Islam. Applicants must also document qualifications within religious studies pertaining to Islam in the Middle East, South Asia or Europe. Weight will be given to competence in Arabic and / or other languages of particular significance to the study of Islam.

The appointee should lead and initiate research, and will be required to teach, supervise and participate in exams at all levels, and carry out administrative duties in accordance with the needs of the Department. Within his/her normal working duties and academic competence, the appointee may also be obliged to undertake duties outside the Department. The appointment is subject to any changes in working area or job description decided by the Faculty of Humanities.

The Department aims to strengthen its research profile in area studies through the study of religion, culture, language and history. Applicants are required to outline one or several research projects and show how these tie on to existing research and scholarly interests at the Department. The outline should also include themes for possible MA and PhD theses.

The minimum requirement for the position of Associate professor is a PhD degree, other corresponding doctoral degree or equivalent academic qualifications.

On the appointment of a candidate who is not fluent in Norwegian, Swedish or Danish, the appointee will be expected within reasonable time to learn enough Norwegian to be able to participate actively in all functions the position may involve.

The University of Oslo also has a goal of recruiting more immigrants to Norway in academic positions. Immigrants are encouraged to apply.

Closing date for applications: **October 14, 2008**.

Further information: <http://www.admin.uio.no/opa/ledige-stillinger/2008/vit/associateprofessorIslamiKOS-2008-14079.html>

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An der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (ÖAW) ist per 1. Jänner 2010 die Stelle einer / eines **LEITERIN / LEITERS DES INSTITUTS FÜR IRANISTIK** (IfI) neu zu besetzen.

Das IfI erhebt soziokulturelle Modernisierungsprozesse der iranischen Kulturregion (Iran, Kaukasus, Zentralasien bis nach China und dem indischen Subkontinent). Wie steht Autochthones zu Übernahmen aus dem Westen, was verändert sich strukturell? Methoden kommen aus Literatur- und Sprachwissenschaft, Historie und Mentalitäten- sowie Kunstgeschichte. Den zeitlichen Rahmen setzt das frühe 20. Jahrhundert.

Die Forschungen des Instituts sollen den Prozess der Modernisierung in einer für komparatistische Studien geeigneten Großregion in West-, Süd- und Zentralasien während der Neuzeit beleuchten, Eigenes und Fremdes voneinander zu differenzieren und einen Beitrag zur Modernisierung nicht-westlicher Räume liefern.

Dazu treten traditionelle sprachwissenschaftliche Aufgaben, vor allem im Bereich der Iranischen Onomastik (Iranisches Personennamenbuch, "IPNB"). Ferner wird auf Iranforschung mit Österreichbezug großes Augenmerk gelegt. Das Institut soll als eine international besetzte Einrichtung geführt werden und als zentraler Punkt internationaler, vor allem aber auch zentraleuropäischer Forschungsnetzwerke dienen.

Das Anforderungsprofil für die Leitungsposition und weitere Informationen finden Sie unter [www.oeaw.ac.at/shared/news/2008/pdf/Ausschreib\\_Iranistik.pdf](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/shared/news/2008/pdf/Ausschreib_Iranistik.pdf)

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The Faculty of Historical and Cultural Studies of the University of Vienna announces the position of a **Full Professor of Islamic Art History**.

As stated in its development plan (<http://www.univie.ac.at/rektorenteam/ug2002/entwicklungsplan.html>) the University of Vienna aims at strengthening its position as a major research-oriented university. Key elements of this strategy include the provision of an attractive range of research-based study programmes, support for furthering the work of junior academic colleagues, and high-calibre professorial appointments.

The Faculty of Historical and Cultural Studies of the University of Vienna announces the position of a Full Professor of Islamic Art History (full time permanent position under private law, expected to start on October 1st 2009). The University of Vienna intends to increase the number of women on its faculty, particularly in high-level positions, and therefore specifically invites applications by women. Among

equally qualified applicants women will receive preferential consideration.

The Institute is seeking a distinguished scholar with an international reputation in the field of Islamic Art History. The candidate will be expected to teach courses on the history of Islamic art including the contemporary art of the Islamic world.

The University of Vienna, with its unusually broad spectrum of subjects, and the city of Vienna, with its libraries, archives, museums and other institutions, provide ideal surroundings for research and teaching in the humanities.

- Successful candidates will have the following qualifications:
- PhD and post-doctoral experience at a university or other research institution.
  - (Austrian or equivalent international academic degree in the relevant field)
  - Outstanding research and publication record, with an excellent reputation as an active member in the international academic community (Habilitation (venia docendi) or equivalent international qualification in the relevant field is desirable)
  - Experience in designing, procuring and directing major research projects, and willingness and ability to assume the responsibility of team leadership
  - Experience in university teaching, and willingness and ability to teach at all curricular levels, to supervise theses, and to further the work of junior academic colleagues

The University of Vienna expects the successful candidate to acquire, within three years, proficiency in German sufficient for teaching in Bachelor programmes and participation in committees

The University of Vienna offers

- Attractive terms and conditions of employment with a negotiable and performance-related salary, associated with a retirement fund
  - A "start-up package" for the initiation of research projects
  - An attractive and dynamic research location in a city with a high quality of life and in a country with excellent research funding provision
  - Support for relocation to Vienna, where appropriate
- Candidates should send an application containing at least the following documents:

- Academic curriculum vitae
- Brief description of current research interests and research plans for the immediate future
- List of publications together with
  - a) specification of five key publications judged by the applicant to be particularly relevant to the advertised professorship together with an explanation of their relevance
  - b) PDF versions of these five publications provided either as email attachments or through URLs of downloadable copies (PDF versions of monographs need only be provided if easily available.)
- List of talks given, including detailed information about invited plenaries at international conferences
- List of projects supported by third-party funds
- Short survey of previous academic teaching and list of supervised PhD theses

Applications in English or German should be sent to the Dean of the Faculty of Historical and Cultural Studies, Dr. Karl-Lueger-Ring 1, 1010 Vienna and submitted per e-mail (preferably as pdf attachments) to

[Guntram.Schneider@univie.ac.at](mailto:Guntram.Schneider@univie.ac.at) no later than **September 30th, 2008** with reference 14/19-2007/08.

\* \* \*

The **Iranian Scholarship Foundation** offers very generous financial support (up to \$10,000 yearly) to qualified UNDERGRADUATE students. These are both merit and need-based scholarships for the duration of the recipient's studies in any field and at any undergraduate American institution. For applicants' eligibility, requirements, and further information, please go to: <http://www.iranianscholarships.com>

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Cornell University: With the sponsorship of the Society for the Humanities, the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Cornell University welcomes candidates in the area(s) of Ottoman History and/or Iranian Studies for a **two-year Mellon Postdoctoral fellowship, 2009-2011**. We are especially interested in candidates with broad borderlands and comparative interests, such as the Safavid-Ottoman/Qajar-Ottoman frontiers, religious and/or ethnic minorities in Ottoman-Iranian studies, Turkish and Persian cultures, literatures, film, or art. Postdoctoral fellows teach one course per semester, a lower-level survey course and one upper-level seminar. Applicants must have received their Ph.D. after September 2003; applicants who will have received the Ph.D. degree by June 30, 2009, are eligible to apply.

Applicants should submit a full dossier (including a curriculum vitae, a detailed statement of research interests, an article-length writing sample, two course proposals with syllabi for courses he/she would teach at Cornell, and three letters of recommendation) to Department Manager, Department of Near

Eastern Studies, 409 White Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853; telephone: (607) 255-5553; e-mail: [jlg58@cornell.edu](mailto:jlg58@cornell.edu). **Deadline: November 1, 2008.** Cornell University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and educator. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

<b>Editorial Notes</b>
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Suggestions for future panels or programs to be sponsored by the ASPS may be sent to the following:

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The deadline for the next issue is **March 10, 2009**. Calls for papers and other time-sensitive news of professional meetings, if submitted promptly, will be posted on the website. Please send your news and all items of professional interest to Mirjam Künkler, [kuenkler@princeton.edu](mailto:kuenkler@princeton.edu).

