

پانزدهمین کنفرانس دوسالانه انجمن ایران پژوهی

The Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference

Program Committee co-chairs: **Professor Dominic Parviz Brookshaw** (Oxford)
and **Professor Asghar Seyed-Gohrab** (Utrecht)

5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University *Utrecht, The Netherlands*



Organized by The Association for Iranian Studies in collaboration with The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Utrecht University



Association for
Iranian Studies
انجمن ایران پژوهی



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Fifteenth Biennial

Iranian Studies Conference

5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University



Association for
Iranian Studies
انجمن ایران پژوهی



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University**



**Funded by
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Introduction

Persian culture has shared a historical bond with the Netherlands for at least four centuries, dating back to the seventeenth century. The relationship was shaped not only by artistic and cultural exchanges, but also by commercial and religious interests, which encouraged the expansion of Dutch contacts with Persia. The religious motivations were closely connected to Biblical Studies, as scholars searched for a deeper understanding of the cultural world in which the Holy Book was created. It was in this context that scholars such as Franciscus Raphelengius (1539–1597) discovered that the Persian language differed from Arabic and Hebrew, and that it showed more similarities to Dutch and Latin. Although these early observations were not made systematically, they anticipated later linguistic discoveries. But it was not until the 19th century that the theory of the Indo-European language family was conceptualised and it was established that Persian belonged to that Indo-European family. This linguistic kinship can be seen in semantic, syntactic and morphological structures, especially in cognate words shared with Dutch such as *dochter* (*dochter*), *pedar* (*vader*), *madar* (*moeder*), etc.

The masterpieces of Persian literature such as Sa‘di’s *Rose-Garden* (*Gulistān*) were translated several times in the 17th century in the Netherlands, and later inspired European intellectuals such as François-Marie Arouet Voltaire (1694–1778) and Denis Diderot (1713–1784). Sa‘di’s *Orchard* (*Būstān*) was partly translated by Daniel Harvart (ca. 1656, d. between 1702 and 1718) and was entitled *De Persiaansche Boomgaard* (published in Amsterdam in 1688). Harvart worked for the Dutch East India Company (*Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, V.O.C.), founded in 1602. The year 1623 marked the start of the

commercial and political relationship between Persia and the Netherlands. The company became the most important single foreign trading firm in Persia (Floor, *Elr*, s.v. Dutch-Persian Relations; Floor 2009). There are also works in the field of exact sciences such as mathematics. Jacobus Golius (1596–1667), who focused mainly on medieval Persian literature, was also active in studying and translating treatises in the fields of mathematics and astronomy. As Jan Hogendijk states, Golius published a Latin translation of a book about the construction of the universe by the Persian astronomer al-Fargani [Abu al-‘Abbās Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad ibn Kathīr al-Faraghānī] (who flourished ca. 850), as well as a text by Ibn al-Haytham (who flourished ca. 1040) concerning the determination of the celestial north pole (Hogendijk 2009, 161). He also engaged with the mathematics of the Persian sage, Omar Khayyam (ca. 1048–1131), and in particular his cubic equations.



During the 17th century, Dutch interest in the Persian language became increasingly

obvious, as evidenced by several publications. Mention should be made of Louis de Dieu's (1590–1642) Persian Grammar entitled *Rudimenta linguae persicae*, which was published in 1639. In that same era, Jacobus Golius in 1643 completed what was probably the first Persian-Latin Lexicon. These scholarly efforts, together with other activities, stimulated a growing interest among students and scholars.

A remarkable example of such interests is the first female Dutch student from Utrecht, Anna Maria Schurman (1607–1678), who is described as “very experienced in Persian, to which she began to apply herself especially when Louis de Dieu had published” his grammar (Schotel 1855, 35).

Although a number of studies have examined Dutch-Persian relations throughout history, many such relations remain to be explored, and many aspects of this long-standing relationship remains a desideratum. By hosting the Fifteenth Biennial of Iranian Studies in the Netherlands for the first time in the historic city of Utrecht in August 2026, we will add a new chapter to this enduring and rich relationship. I warmly hope that the colleagues, participants and all those interested in this scholarly meeting will enjoy not only the lectures and discussions, but also the vibrant cultural life of the city of Utrecht. On behalf of my colleagues and the organising committee, I wish you a very inspiring, informative, and enjoyable stay at Utrecht University.

Asghar Seyed-Gohrab
Utrecht University

This piece is based on my chapter, “Teaching Persian Literature in Europe: A Case from the Netherlands”, in *The Art of Teaching Persian Literature from Theory to Practice*, eds., Franklin Lewis, Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, Leiden / Boston: Brill, 2024, pp. 74-101.

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Welcome to the City of Utrecht

At the moment you are reading this, many Utrecht citizens are leaving their residence for their yearly summer holidays.

Those who stay get to experience the peacefulness of our squares, canals and parks in the summer, at their most peaceful. And so do you, as participants of the Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference. You will experience that same Utrecht. And in return, you bring something of your own: you provide a welcome infusion of different cultures and new perspectives, just like Persian culture has influenced Dutch culture for centuries. Through literature and poetry, the fine arts, through trade and the sciences, religion and philosophy. Persian civilization has helped shape the intellectual and cultural heritage we share today. Much about this relationship remains to be explored.

Precisely at a time when relations between Iran, Europe and the United States are under considerable strain, this conference provides an opportunity for dialogue and mutual understanding. Academic exchange can deepen our understanding of our histories, cultures and societies.

So please, have a look beyond the programme you find in this book. Enjoy the city where Belle van Zuylen lived and

worked in the 18th century, and where Dick Bruna dreamed up the world-famous Miffy children's books. Visit the Rietveld-Schröder House, a marvel of the Stijl-design. Climb the stairs of our famous Dom, or visit one of our many other churches. And of course, have a stroll past our canals and into one of our many parks – perhaps while having a dialogue with a colleague from a different country.

In short: welcome to the heart of the Netherlands and enjoy your stay.



Sharon Dijksma
Mayor of Utrecht

Welcome to Utrecht University

Utrecht is a historical city with deep roots. Utrecht University, founded in 1636, celebrates its 390th anniversary this year. The ties between Iran and the Netherlands roughly cover the same timespan and stretch back at least four centuries.

From 1623 onwards, the Dutch East India Company (*Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, V.O.C.) intensified its trading activities with Persia. Simultaneously, Persian culture captivated Dutch scholars, who translated and studied a wide range of texts spanning mathematics, astronomy, literature, poetry and philosophy. That tradition of exchange lives on in Utrecht today.

The broader Iranian world has given us a remarkable heritage. Iran's robust scientific tradition dates back to the Middle Ages, combining astronomy and mathematics with philosophy and poetry. This is embodied by individuals such as Omar Khayyam, who was both mathematician and poet. Iranian languages were and are spoken in a vast region, from Tajikistan and Afghanistan to the Caucasus and beyond. This is a civilisation that rewards every discipline it touches.

At Utrecht University, the study of the Persian and Iranian world consolidates our understanding of culture, religion, history, and the geopolitics of a region that matters greatly to global security and the world economy.

That scholarly work can also be deeply personal. For months now, and also in the years before, people in Iran and across the region have been living through extremely difficult and uncertain times and worse. This reality is closely felt by many students

and colleagues within our own community and beyond. As Dean and members of the Executive Board, we try to stand beside them and offer our support as much as we can. One specific gathering in March 2026 - where voices from Iran were shared through music, art, and poetry - was a moving reminder of what a university community can be: not only a place of knowledge, but of solidarity and care.

We welcome everyone to the Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference in Utrecht, and hope it does justice to the richness of the field.



Thomas Vaessens

Dean of the Faculty of Humanities



Hans Brug

President of the Executive Board



Wilco Hazeleger

Rector Magnificus

Welcome Address from AIS President

پایان شب سیه سپید است

نظامی گنجوی، لیلی و مجنون

To all those attending the Fifteenth
Biennial of Iranian Studies,

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

These are testing times in which to gather for a scholarly conference on Iranian Studies. Just in these past few months, as the preparations for this international gathering were intensifying, we witnessed the massacre of thousands of peaceful protesters by government forces on the streets of Iran; the US/Israeli war on Iran and the loss of civilian life, damage to educational institutions, and destruction of public infrastructure it caused; the economically and socially crippling internet blackout imposed by the Iranian government on its own citizens; and a massive surge in executions, detention of dissidents, and persecution of minorities by the Islamic Republic. We are witnesses to one of Iran's darkest nights, in which hope is perhaps opaquer than ever and yet, in the consoling words of Nizami (d.ca. 1209) cited above, there is much hope in amongst the despair, and we must have faith that this gloom will be followed by the brightest of lights.

As we come together to share our passion for Iran and the broader Persophone / Persianate world, I hope that, in the words of Hafiz, we will seek to plant the tree of true friendship. If we abide by the principles that inform the AIS Code of Conduct, this

در نومیادی بسی امید است

year's biennial will be a welcoming scholarly gathering, in which we will inspire each other through presenting our current research, exploring future collaborations, and renewing our friendships. AIS honours the diversity in our field in the broadest sense, and our conferences must manifest the highest professional standards. The current political situation has created a context which makes it hard for all of us to agree, but we owe it to one another to interact with all those participating in our Fifteenth Biennial with kindness, civility, and courtesy.



With my best wishes for a fantastic conference,

Dominic Parviz Brookshaw
AIS President (2024-26)

Conference and Programme Co-Chairs' Welcome

کرم نما و فرود آ که خانه خانه توست

رواقِ منظرِ چشم من آشیانه توست

My mind's eye, an open window: you flew in and nested there.
Do me a favour: stop a while. This house is your home.

(Hafez of Shiraz, 1315-1390, free adaptation)



It is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome colleagues in Persian and Iranian Studies and related fields to the Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference at Utrecht University's Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, during 5th to 8th August 2026. This year has been heartrending and painful due to the bloodbath of 8 and 9 January in which thousands (possibly more than 30,000) were killed, followed by arrests, executions, and then the US-Israeli war against Iran, which killed more than 3,000 people. The Iranians are having to process the traumatic impact of this unprecedented violence, inflicted on a people who have been suffering under the totalitarian Islamist regime for 47 years. The situation is so fragile and changing. As I am writing these words of welcome, I am hoping that the situation will have improved by August, so

that we can celebrate and cherish the same freedom and dignity for Iran that we have in Europe.

One reason for the heartrending situation in Iran is the lack of freedom, a treasure that the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences can safeguard. The decline of these faculties in recent decades, in Iran, has been accompanied by crumbling national institutions, lack of freedom, and disregard for human dignity. Censoring Humanities and Social Sciences in Iran has led to the exclusion of critical minds, creative artists and engaged intellectuals. Several uprisings in the last 20 years illustrate how people have wished to move the political situation towards democracy. The 2022 revolutionary movement "Woman, Life, Freedom," which started after the killing of the young girl Mahsa Jina Amini, was met with violent repression. It represented one of the most powerful recent expressions of the demand for the rule of law in Iran. The harsh crackdown on this movement foreshadowed subsequent waves of protests, the most dramatic of which culminated in the demonstration of 8 and 9 January, whose suppression has made a profound, and probably enduring, impact on Iranian society.

Utrecht is a lovely city, and an old city, rich in historical buildings, museums, churches, cafés, and restaurants located along cobblestone streets and charming canals. It was known to Islamic scholars such as al-Iḍrīsī (d. 1165), who alludes to Utrecht as Ustrīt, describing many of her beautiful vineyards, meadows, horses, and rivers. Al-Iḍrīsī says that its people are noble, brave, and proud.

Utrecht University was founded 390 years ago, in 1636. It is the largest university in the Netherlands with a rich tradition, 39,000 students, and 12 Nobel Prize winners. The University's influential tradition of Oriental Studies goes back to the 17th century, with luminaries such as Adriaan Reland (d. 1718). Reland's inaugural lecture in 1701 was entitled *Oratio pro Lingua Persica et Cognatis Literis Orientalibus* ("Discourse in Defence of the Persian Language and Related Oriental Scripts"). He emphasized the importance of studying eastern languages, especially Persian, to understand the intellectual traditions, cultural history, and religious beliefs of other peoples. Reland's masterpiece *De religione mohammedica* helped launching the academic study of Islamic culture. A best-selling book, it was translated into several European languages in the 18th century but was banned under Papal censorship in 1725.

Another celebrated figure was Martinus Houtsma (1851-1943), a historian of the Seljuk period and the editor of the first edition of the prestigious *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. The author of a well-known handbook on Islamic law, Theodoor Willem Juynboll (1866-1948), also hails from

Utrecht. Today, Persian and Iranian Studies is embedded in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies of the Faculty of the Humanities, whose premises cluster around the magnificent Utrecht Cathedral in the city centre.

In recent years, Utrecht University have been promoting the study of Islamic world, including Persian culture and Iranian history. In 2022, our Department hosted the 30th UEAI-congress Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants (UEAI) at Utrecht. In addition, we have been



inv.nr. 10801; Pieter Stevensz. van Gunst (1659-1724); Portret van Adriaan Reland (1676-1718) ca. 1712; kopergravure op papier; Collectie Centraal Museum, Utrecht/aankoop 1951 © Centraal Museum Utrecht

organising conferences, workshops, and lectures to inform students, scholars and interested people about developments in the Islamic world. The project team of the ERC Advanced Grant *Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam* (www.beyondsharia.nl) has contributed by

initiating regular conferences, symposia and workshops, hosting young scholars as well as eminent established scholars from around the globe.

I would like to express my gratitude to the previous President, Professor Firoozeh Kashan-Sabet (University of Pennsylvania), the present President, Professor Dominic Parviz Brookshaw (Oxford University), and the President-Elect, Professor Claudia Yaghoobi (University of North Carolina), as well as to the Council and Board of the Association of Iranian Studies for their trust in our team, giving us the opportunity to organize this international conference this year, the 390th anniversary of Utrecht University. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to individual members of the Board, particularly Hamoun Hayati, who has handled hundreds of emails relating to this conference.

The work of organising this conference would have been impossible without the invaluable support of my colleagues, with whom I initially developed our application

to be conference hosts. I would, therefore, like to thank Dr Diede Farhosh-van Loon, dr Zhinia Noorian and Dr Arash Ghajarjazi. I would also like to thank the many colleagues at our university whose unabated support has helped us to organise this event. My gratitude goes to Marijke Bakker and to the Board of our Department: Professor Annemarie Kalis, Katie Smith, Dr Christoph Baumgartner, Dr Katja Rakow and Dr Rianne van Lambalgen. I would also like to warmly thank the people of the Beyond Sharia team, especially Dr Bodil Ponte-Kok, whose enthusiasm and tremendous contribution have been indispensable. My sincere thanks also go to our student assistant Rojin Soroudi, who has shown dedication in various ways to make the programme book take shape in the best possible fashion.

Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

Professor of Iranian and Persian Studies,
Department of Philosophy and Religious
Studies

Utrecht University
Utrecht, April 2026

Statement from Editor-in-Chief of Iranian Studies



I am honored to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of Iranian Studies, a quarterly journal published by Cambridge University Press. The journal receives submissions that reflect our commitment to a diverse range of disciplinary and scholarly fields of inquiry from antiquity to the present. Along with articles, book reviews, special issues, and special sections, the journal also publishes roundtables on topical issues.

Iranian Studies follows a rigorous anonymous review process: all submissions are sent to at least two reviewers. We use the electronic platform ScholarOne, which facilitates timely assignment of submissions to reviewers and adherence to prescribed deadlines. The production turnaround times have steadily improved.

In addition to the Deputy Editor, Farshad Sonboldel, I have the pleasure of working

with eight subject area Associate Editors: Habib Borjian (linguistics), Cameron Cross (classical literature), Sheragim Jenabzadeh (History), Hamid Keshmirshekan (art and architecture), Norma Claire Moruzzi (social sciences), Laetitia Nanquette (modern literature), Khodadad Rezakhani (antiquity and late antiquity), Paola Rivetti (social sciences), and Deborah Tor (medieval history). We are capably assisted by our book review editors: Shervin Farrinejad (antiquity and late antiquity), Maziyar Ghiabi (social Sciences), Jane Mikkelsen (classical literature), Amy Motlagh (literature and cultural studies), and Leila Pourtavaf (History).

I am honored to have the support of Dr. Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, the President of the Association for Iranian Studies, and I look forward to serving our scholarly community across the globe. I am hopeful that the biennial conference in Utrecht will provide an occasion for more scholars to become acquainted with Iranian Studies and submit their work to our journal.

I invite you all to visit the journal's website: <https://associationforiranianstudies.org/Journal>.

Nasrin Rahimieh

Editor-in-Chief, Iranian Studies

AIS Executive Director's Statement

As Executive Director, I make it my responsibility to respond daily to members' emails, using both my own account and the Executive Director's inbox. I either respond directly or forward messages to the appropriate officers of the AIS Executive Committee. A biennial year is always a peak year for correspondence, and 2026 has been particularly busy. This is due in large part to a new approach to managing conference presentations, which will become evident to attendees of Biennial26. In addition to conference-related matters, I communicate regularly with a broad audience—primarily AIS members—through the Listserv, providing updates and information about ongoing activities and developments. Taken together, this volume and variety of communication make it clear that AIS is moving in a new direction,



characterized by increased engagement, transparency, and responsiveness.

Rivanne Sandler
AIS Executive Director

AIS Treasurer's Statement

Welcome to the 15th Biennial Conference of the Association for Iranian Studies in Utrecht, Netherlands!

Every two years, scholars of Iranian Studies writ large come together to share research, collaborate, and reconnect with colleagues. AIS has long been at the forefront of public discourse surrounding Iran. We all recognize that this year's event is taking place in the midst of warfare and crisis in Iran. The importance of scholarship, creative work, and ethical engagement within our discipline is more important today than ever.

It has been my honor to serve as the Treasurer of AIS since 2019. Over the past seven years, I have worked to make AIS a more inclusive organization, professionalize our operations, and grow the Association's general fund to help support programs that directly benefit our members. AIS is in a strong financial position today. We have passed that along directly to you. While inflation is rising at historic rates, we have once again held our conference without any increase to our low membership and registration rates to allow everyone to participate in our academic programs and professional activities.

We are grateful for the support of two major sponsors who have helped to put on a wonderful event for you this year. The Iran Heritage Foundation has provided funding for our opening reception, during which time we will welcome members from around the world and present our biennial awards. The ILEX Foundation has provided direct financial support for up to ten graduate students to help offset the cost of airfare and accommodations to ensure



equitable access to our conference this year. We are extremely thankful for their support and are fortunate to have partners committed to our vision of AIS as an inclusive space for all members.

A special thank you to AIS President Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, President-elect Claudia Yaghoubi, Executive Director Rivanne Sandler, editor-in-chief of the journal Iranian Studies Nasrin Rahimieh, members of the AIS Council, and above all our conference chair Asghar Seyed-Gohrab. These individuals have worked tirelessly for months to make this conference a success. Above all, we have worked to put on a world class event that highlights the diversity and vitality of Iranian Studies. We sincerely hope you enjoy this event and find it to be an enriching and rewarding academic experience.

Prof. James Gustafson

Professor of History, Indiana State
University Treasurer, Association for
Iranian Studies

AIS Governance and Committees, 2026

Executive Committee 2026

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- Claudia Yaghoobi, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, President-Elect (2025-2026)
- Nasrin Rahimieh, Journal Editor, University of California, Irvine (2023-2028)
- Rivanne Sandler, Executive Director, University of Toronto (2008-)
- James Gustafson, Treasurer, Secretary for Financial Affairs, Indiana State University (2021-)

AIS Council 2026

- Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, University of Oxford, President (2024-2026)
- Claudia Yaghoobi, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, President-Elect (2025-2026)
- Rivanne Sandler, University of Toronto, Executive Director (2008-)
- James Gustafson, Treasurer, Secretary for Financial Affairs, Indiana State University (2021-)
- Nasrin Rahimieh, Editor-in-Chief Iranian Studies, University of California, Irvine (2023-2028)
- Negar Habibi, University of Geneva (2025-2028)
- Anousha Sedighi, Portland State University (2025-2028)
- Mejgan Massoumi, Carnegie Mellon University (2026-2029)
- Laetitia Nanquette, University of New South Wales (2026-2029)
- Denis Hermann, Centre de Recherche sur le Monde Iranien (2026-2027)
- Domenico Ingenito, University of California, Los Angeles (2023-2026)
- Bahar Abdi, University of California-San Diego (2024-2026)

- Hannah Hassani, University of St Andrews (2025-2027)

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- Leila Rahimi Bahmany, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
- Anousha Sedighi, Portland State University
- Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, Utrecht University
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- Stella van Zelst

AIS Code of Conduct

The Association for Iranian Studies (AIS) encompasses a global community of scholars committed to producing well-grounded and high-quality academic work related to Iran and its historical dimensions. It nurtures a supportive and inclusive environment for its organizational participants and prohibits any form of prejudice or harassment, including misconduct stemming from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, ability, age, gender, national, ethnic, religious, or racial identity. AIS honors the diversity in the field, including political diversity, and welcomes different scholarly perspectives, approaches, and engagements with a range of subjects. All our scholarly conferences, symposia, and related activities and events adhere to these ethical and professional principles. Organizational participants in the Association must abide by this policy and adhere to a code of conduct that requires all its participants and partners (including vendors and audience members) to interact with others in a civil, courteous, and professional manner.

In collaboration with

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies,

<https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/departement-of-philosophy-and-religious-studies>



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Institutional Members

The Association for Iranian Studies would like to thank its institutional members:

- Brown University Center for Middle Eastern Studies
- Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Michigan- LSA
- Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas- Austin
- Crown Center for Middle East Studies
- Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies
- Farzaneh Family Center for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, University of Oklahoma
- Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies and the Iranian Studies Initiative, New York University
- Hamid and Christina Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University
- Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, Oklahoma State University
- King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies, University of Arkansas
- Middle East Institute, Columbia University
- North Carolina Consortium for Middle East Studies
- Roshan Institute for Persian Studies, University of Maryland
- Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies
- South Asia Center, University of Pennsylvania
- The Alliance Center for Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv University
- The Center for Middle Eastern Studies – University of Arizona
- The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University
- UCLA Program of Iranian Studies
- Yale Program in Iranian Studies
- University of Southern California
- University of Maryland/SLLC

Book Exhibit

The book exhibit will be held on Thursday, August 6, and Friday, August 7, at the Sacristie in the Dom Church from 9:00 to 17:00. We hope you will stop by to browse the books on display and meet the publishers in attendance.

Location: Dom Church (Domkerk), Domplein 31, Utrecht 📍





Encyclopædia Iranica



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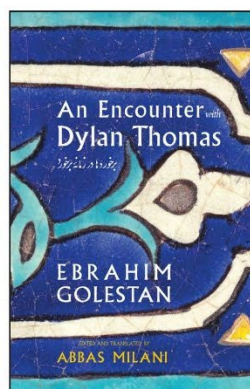
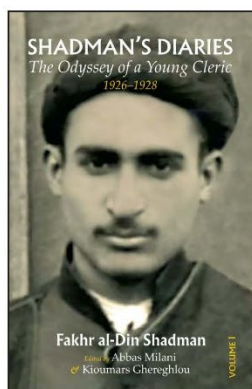
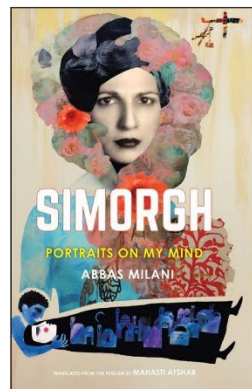
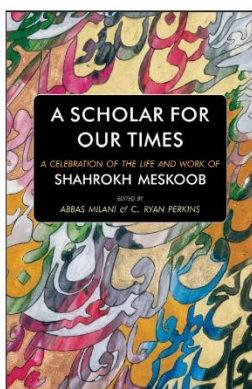
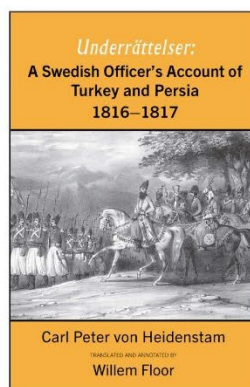
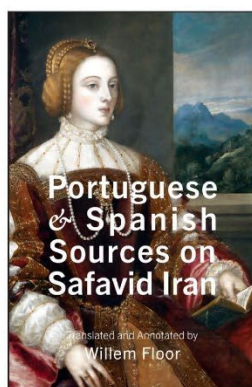
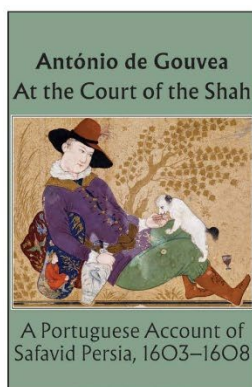
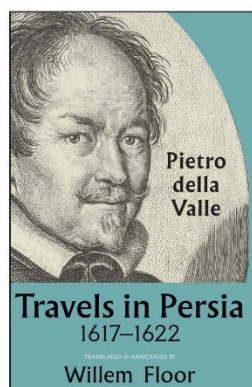
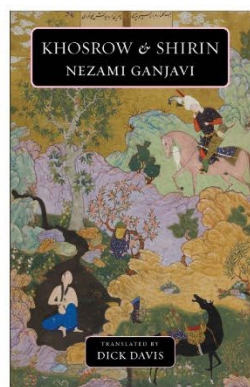
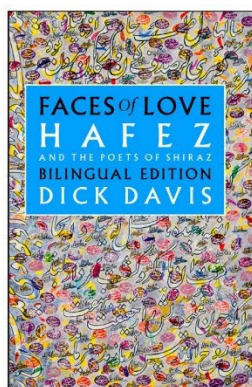
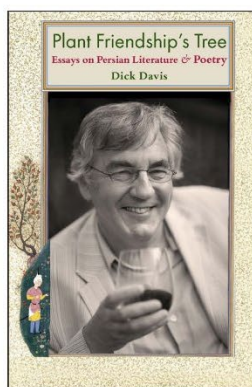
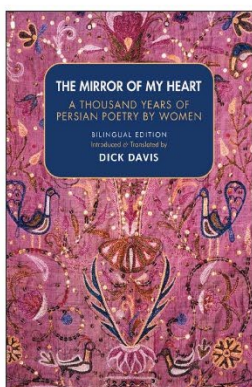
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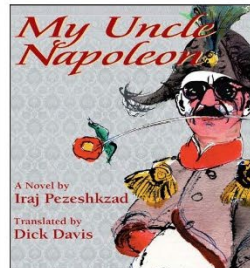
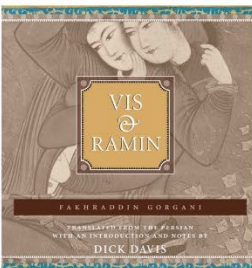
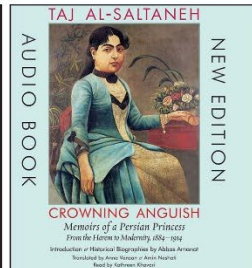
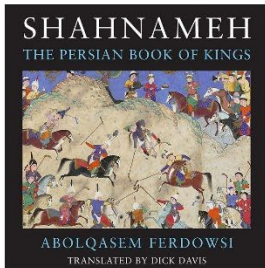
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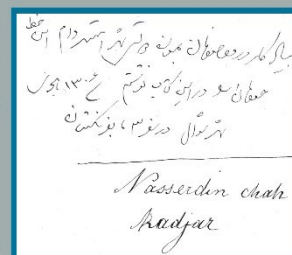
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DUTCH–PERSIAN ENCOUNTERS tells the remarkable story of a small group of Dutch and Iranian travelers, merchants, diplomats, engineers, physicians, and cultural brokers who forged unexpected connections between their two countries during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Though few in number, these men and women left an outsized legacy. Johannes Lodewijk Schlimmer helped create the foundations of modern Persian medical terminology and medical education. Charles R. Keun advanced Dutch commercial interests in the Persian Gulf. Albert Hotz became one of the most influential foreign entrepreneurs in Iran, helping to develop trade, transportation, banking, and retail commerce. Dutch engineers proposed ambitious irrigation schemes that sought to transform the plains of Khuzestan, while diplomats, scholars, and collectors introduced Dutch audiences to the richness of Iranian history, art, and culture.

Meanwhile, Persian shahs, diplomats, and consuls brought Iran to the Netherlands, fostering a growing fascination with Persia that culminated in the extraordinary ceremonial entry of Shah Abbas the Great into Delft during the celebrated student festivities of 1913.

Drawing on archives, newspapers, memoirs, and unpublished sources in both countries, Willem Floor and Forough Sajadi illuminate a fascinating but little-known chapter in the history of Dutch–Iranian relations. Rich in vivid personalities and surprising encounters, this book reveals how a handful of determined individuals helped shape the relationship between two nations far apart in distance, yet connected by commerce, curiosity, and cultural exchange.

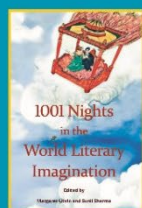


Entry by Naser al-Din Shah in the museum's Golden Book, written during his third European tour (1889). The Persian inscription reads in part: "As a memento of our visit to the State Museum of Amsterdam, we have inscribed these words in our own hand in this book ..."

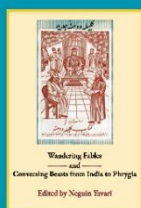




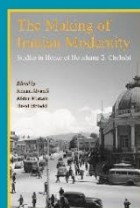
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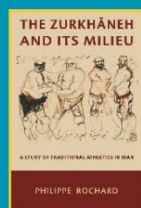
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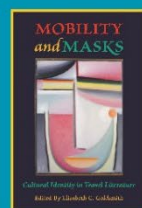
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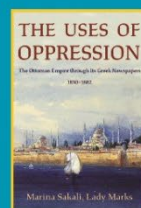
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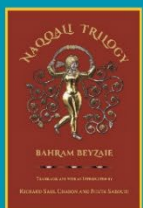
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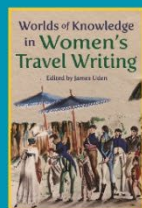
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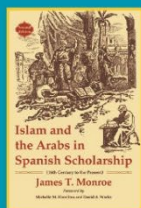
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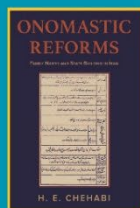
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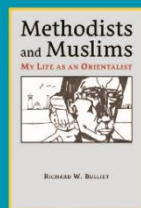
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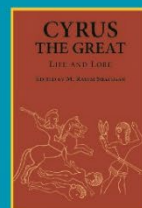
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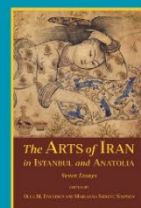
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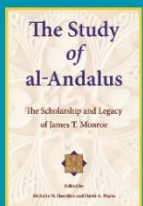
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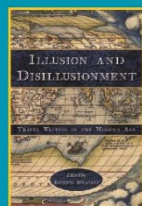
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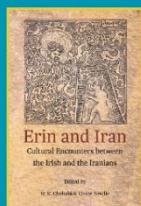
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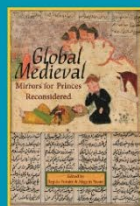
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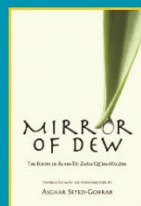
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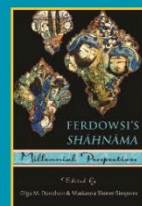
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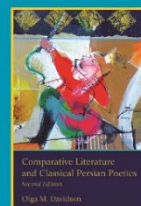
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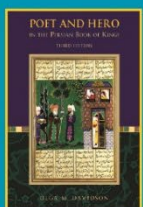
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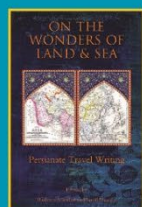
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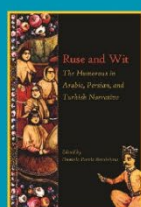
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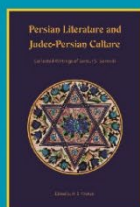
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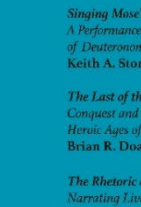
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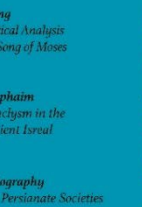
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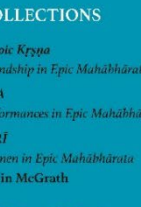
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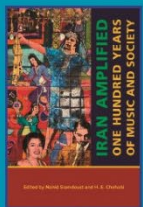


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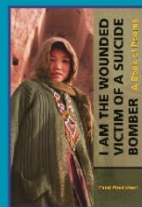
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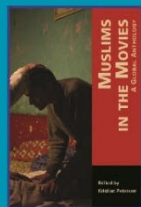
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The IHF Academic Grants Programme

The IHF Academic Committee, chaired by Professor Robert Hillenbrand, awards grants across a range of disciplines including archaeology, arts, history, linguistics and literature. Our supported projects include fieldwork, workshops, database creation, digitisation and research.

In 2025 the IHF Academic Committee received 22 applications and granted funding for twelve projects.

The IHF Modern Iran Series

The IHF Modern Iran Series publishes innovative Open Access books in partnership with Bloomsbury Academic with a broad thematic focus that covers the period from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Areas covered include cultural and social as well as political and economic issues.

Funded by the IHF and housed within Bloomsbury's I.B. Tauris academic publishing division, the series is edited by Professor Hassan Hakimian with the support of a distinct group of Editorial Advisory Board members.

Restoration of Classic Iranian Films

In 2025 we launched a major initiative to restore classic Iranian films in partnership with Cineteca di Bologna, one of the world's leading film archives and restoration laboratories, internationally recognised for its work in preserving and promoting global film heritage.

The IHF's first restoration project was *Secrets of the Jinn Valley Treasure* (1974), directed by Ebrahim Golestan and starring Parviz Sayyad and Mary Apick. The restored film was screened at the Barbican Centre, London, as part of its "Masterpieces of the Iranian New Wave" series in February 2026.

The Barbican granted IHF partnership status for its "Masterpieces" series.

Duty to Protect Sites of Cultural Heritage in Times of War Under International Law

In 2026 the IHF launched a significant initiative to draw attention to the damage caused to Iran's sites of cultural heritage in recent military conflicts.

In May 2026, in partnership with The Courtauld Institute, we organised a highly significant conference under the title 'Iran: International Law and the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Times of War' to draw attention to the legal duty of combatants under international law to avoid damage to and protect sites of historic and cultural significance.

Utrecht Conference

The IHF is pleased to support this important gathering of Iranian Studies academics in Utrecht. We are represented at the event by Professor Hassan Hakimian.



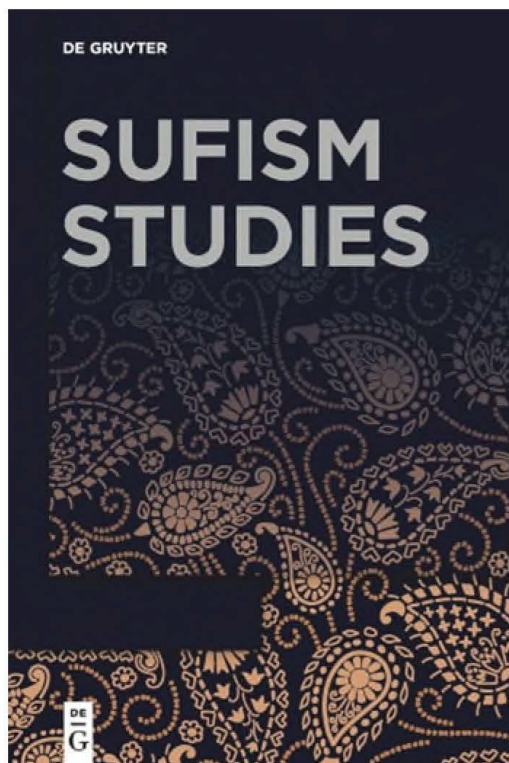
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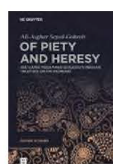
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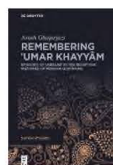
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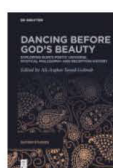
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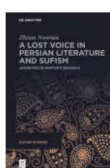
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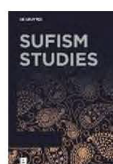
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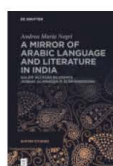
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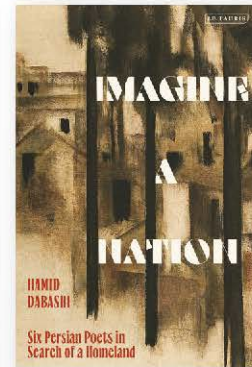
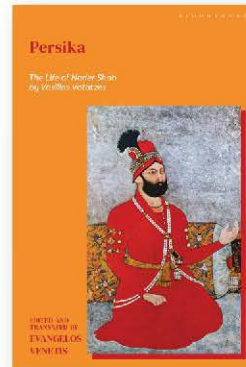
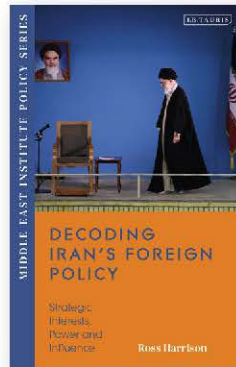
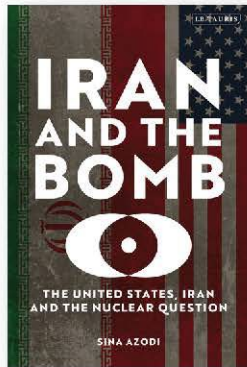
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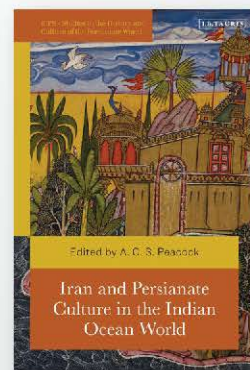
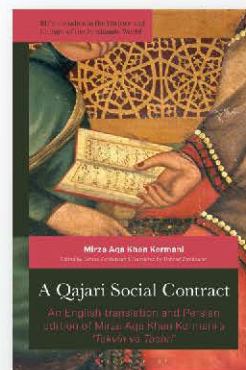
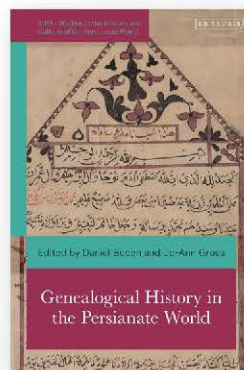
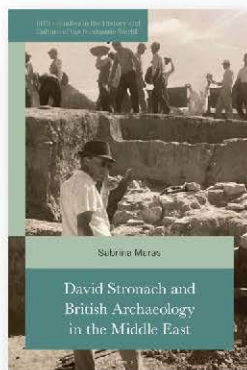
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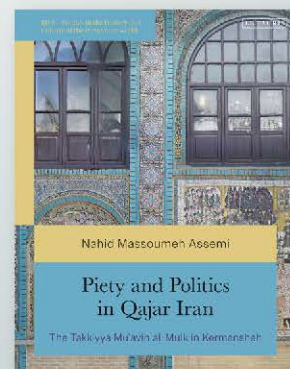
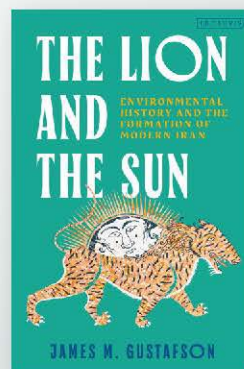
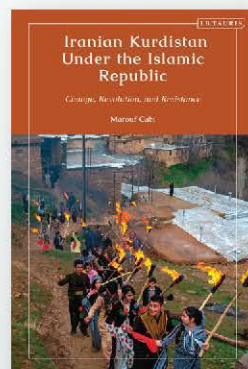
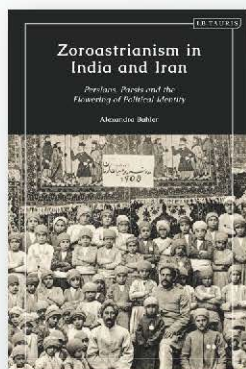


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BLOOMSBURY ACADEMIC



Musical Performances

Rokus de Groot, musical composition

"The Excuse of the Nightingale"

William Knight (tenor)

Marieke Franssen (flute)

Eduard van Regteren Altena (violoncello)



Based on Faridoddin Attar, "The Conference of the Birds", in the English translation by Dick Davis, and Afkham Darbandi, *Farid ud-din Attar: The Conference of the Birds*, Penguin Classics, 1984, reprint 2011, pp. 45-47 and 234-235)

This parable is about a group of birds which sets out to find their king (their true nature) which will lead them through seven valleys with all kinds of challenges. Initially most birds are not attracted to engage in this endeavour and raise all kinds of objections. One of them is the nightingale (*bulbul*). His argument for not joining the group is that he cannot leave his great love, the rose (*gul*), even for a single night. And she cannot accompany him, since she is bound to a fixed place in her garden. The leader of the birds, the hoopoe, points to the fact that the rose is not a trustworthy orientation for one's life: today she blooms, tomorrow she has withered. And while she seems to laugh to you, she may be actually laughing at you. The composition ends with an abundant vocalise, without disclosing whether it is in defiance to, or in surrender to the hoopoe's address.

"The Concourse of the Birds", Folio 11r from a *Mantiq al-Tayr* (Language of the Birds), Metropolitan Museum of Art, objectnr. 63.210.11

The Excuse of the Nightingale

The nightingale made his excuses first.
His pleading notes described the lover's thirst,
And through the crowd hushed silence spread as he
Descanted on love's scope and mystery.

'The secrets of all love are known to me,'
He crooned. 'Throughout the darkest night my song
Resounds, and to my retinue belong
The sweet notes of the melancholy lute,
The plaintive wailing of the lovesick flute;

When love speaks in the soul my voice replies
In accents plangent as the ocean's sighs.
The man who hears this song spurns reason's rule;
Grey wisdom is content to be love's fool.

My love is for the rose; I bow to her;
From her dear presence I could never stir.
If she should disappear the nightingale
Would lose his reason and his song would fail,

And though my grief is one that no bird knows,
One being understands my heart – the rose.
I am so drowned in love that I can find
No thought of my existence in my mind.

Her worship is sufficient life for me;
The quest for her is my reality
(And nightingales are not robust or strong;
The path to find the Simorgh
[the birds' King; the Lord] is too long).
My love is here; the journey you propose
Cannot beguile me from my life – the rose.

It is for me she flowers; what greater bliss
Could life provide me – anywhere – than this?
Her buds are mine; she blossoms in my sight –
How could I leave her for a single night?'

The hoopoe (the guide of the birds) answered him: 'Dear nightingale,
This superficial love which makes you quail
Is only for the outward show of things.
Renounce delusion and prepare your wings
For our great quest; sharp thorns defend the rose
And beauty such as hers too quickly goes.
True love will see such empty transience



For what it is – fleeting turbulence
 That fills your sleepless nights with grief and
 blame –
 Forget the rose's blush and blush for shame!
 Each spring she laughs, not *for* you, as you say,
 But *at* you – and has faded in a day.

[The End of the Quest: The birds discover the
 Simorgh (the Lord)]

Their souls rose free from all they'd been before;
 The past and all its actions were no more.
 Their life came from that close, insistent sun
 And in its vivid rays they shone as one.

[The birds ask inwardly:
 ' - how is it true
 That 'we' is not distinguished here from 'you'?'
 And silently their shining Lord replies:]

'I am a mirror set before your eyes,
 And all who come before My splendour see
 Themselves, their own unique reality;'



Persian Music Sepideh Ensemble

Maryam Imanizadeh (vocals & *daff* / *tanboor*), Mehmet Polat (oud), Milad Ahmadi (vocals), Karvan Mustafa (*kamanche*), Arman Kavian (*tombak*), Ali Soltaninejad (*santur*), Pouria Jabbari (*daff*)



Fifteenth Biennial

Iranian Studies Conference

5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University

CONFERENCE

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, August 5th – Schedule

Dom Church (Domkerk),
Domplein 31, Utrecht 

13:00-17:00	Registration	Dom Church (Noordertransept)
14:00-14:30	Opening Remarks Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, co-chair of programme committee Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, president of AIS and co-chair of programme committee	Dom Church
14:30-14:45	Rokus de Groot, musical composition "The Excuse of the Nightingale" William Knight (tenor) Marieke Franssen (flute) Eduard van Regteren Altena (violoncello)	
14:45-16:25	Awards Ceremony	Dom Church
16:25-16:45	Sepideh Ensemble Maryam Imanizadeh (vocals & <i>daff / tanboor</i>), Mehmet Polat (oud), Milad Ahmadi (vocals), Karvan Mustafa (<i>kamanche</i>), Arman Kavian (<i>tombak</i>), Ali Soltaninejad (<i>santur</i>), Pouria Jabbari (<i>daff</i>)	

University Museum (UMU),
Lange Nieuwstraat 106, Utrecht 

17:00-18:30	Opening Reception Opening Reception with drinks and light refreshments at the Historic Botanical Garden <i>Oude Hortus</i> (Sponsored by Iran Heritage Foundation)	UMU Oude Hortus
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Thursday, August 6th – Schedule

Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht 

8:30-10:30	Panels 1-15	Janskerkhof 2/3
1. Dutch Perspectives on Safavid Iran		Room 0.13
2. Architectural Technology Transfer on the Silk Road: Iranian Double-Shell Domes and the West		Room 0.17
3. Techno-politics in Iran across the Twentieth and Twenty-First centuries		Room 0.19
4. Entangled Histories: Ottoman-Iranian Encounters across Centuries		Room 0.21
5. The Emancipatory Aesthetics of Contemporary Iranian Theatre		Room 0.22
6. Tehranto: Beyond Tehran and Toronto - Iranians in Canada		Room 1.09
7. Histories of Circulation: People, Books, and Ideas between Iran and India (1500–1800)		Room 1.10
8. From the Alborz to the Caspian: Environmental Histories of Northern Iran		Room 1.11
9. Patronage and Governance in Medieval Azerbaijan		Room 1.15
10. Authorship, Desire, and Authority in Persian Literary Traditions		Room 1.16
11. Persian Sufi Poetics: Perspectives from within the Tradition		Room 1.17
12. Iranian Studies in Korea		Room 1.18
13. Economic and Social Policies and Institutions in Iran, 1920s–1970s		Room 2.17
14. Discourse, Narrative, and Global Frames of the 1979 Iranian Revolution		Room 2.18
15. Transregional intellectual and literary links within the Persian-speaking world in the 19th-20th centuries		Room 2.19
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	Janskerkhof 2/3
10:45-12:45	Panels 16-30	Janskerkhof 2/3
16. Revisiting Reza Shah's Rule at the Centennial of the Pahlavi Monarchy		Room 0.13
17. Iranian Art and Material Culture in Switzerland: Toward a New Perspective		Room 0.17
18. Innovations and Challenges in Teaching Persian Language and Culture: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Persian Studies		Room 0.19
19. Panel: Navigating the Margins: A Transnational Perspective on Iranian Women's Music-Making		Room 0.21
20. Gendered Constraints and Aesthetic Expression in Iranian Film and Visual Production		Room 0.22
21. The Politics of Positionality: Critique and Self-Critique in the Study of the Iranian Diaspora in Western Europe, Turkey and Canada		Room 1.09
22. The Letter and the Spirit: Law, Legal Norms, and the Making of Modern Iran, 1919-1979		Room 1.10
23. Unpackaging Modernisation: the Manifestations of Reform in Iran, 1900-79		Room 1.11
24. New approaches and methods in the study of modern Iranian history		Room 1.15
25. Iran's Layered Temporality in European Women's Travel-Writing (1888-1936)		Room 1.16
26. Language, Power, and Resistance: The Kurdish Struggle Through Translation		Room 1.17
27. Critical Approaches to Sensory Histories of Iran		Room 1.18
28. Iranian Politics and International Relations (20th–21st Century)		Room 2.17
29. Resurrections of Kings and Heroes: Epic Narratives, Transmediality, and Cultural Memory Across Media		Room 2.18
30. Zoroastrianism: contacts and interchange between India and Iran		Room 2.19
12:45-13:45	Lunch Break	
13:45-15:45	Panels 31-45	Janskerkhof 2/3

31. Iran Academia: An Evolving Model of University Beyond Borders	Room 0.13
32. Panel: Navigating the Margins (moved to slot 19)	Room 0.17
33. Creative, Tenacious Lion Women of Iran (SHIR ZANAN-E IRAN)	Room 0.19
34. Roundtable - Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part I	Room 0.21
35. Mapping the Imaginary of the Iranian World in Spain: Space, Borders, and Ethnicities	Room 0.22
36. The Iranian diaspora: Intersections, Dialogues, and Perspectives from Spain	Room 1.09
37. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources I	Room 1.10
38. The Transnational Fabric of the Iranian Revolution: Micro-Historical Perspectives	Room 1.11
39. Circulation of Knowledge in Persian between Anatolia and China	Room 1.15
40. The Many Faces of Kaveh: Power, Myth and Resistance Across Borders	Room 1.16
41. "Citizens of the World": Modern Kurdish Literature Between Different Languages, Genres and Countries	Room 1.17
42. Learning Across Borders: Activism, Family, and Knowledge in the Iranian Diaspora	Room 1.18
43. Zoroastrianism and Iranian Literary Traditions: Continuity, Transformation, and Memory	Room 2.17
44. Diversity and Modernity in Contemporary Shi'i Iranian Thought and Practice	Room 2.18
45. Bridging Scholarship and Devotion: The Twelver Shi'i Supplication (du 'ā) Corpus in its Persianate Context	Room 2.19
15:45-16:00	Coffee Break Janskerkhof 2/3
16:00-18:00	Panels 46-60 Janskerkhof 2/3
46. Iranian Studies in a Time of War: Crisis, Continuity, and the Future of the Field	Room 0.13
47. Sensuous Sheets: Decorated Papers in Premodern Manuscript Cultures	Room 0.17
48. Iranian Queer Imaginaries Across Media	Room 0.19
49. Roundtable - Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part II	Room 0.21
50. Cultural Psychopathology: Negotiating with Power and the Unconscious Structures of Social Order in Iran	Room 0.22
51. Diasporic Revolutionary Imaginaries and Woman Life Freedom Uprising	Room 1.09
52. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources II	Room 1.10
53. Persian literature of the early Ilkhanate: stories of rebellion and poems of decline	Room 1.11
54. Dimensions of the Iran-Iraq War and Its Extensions: Bottom-up Perspectives on Unintended Consequences of Strategic Decisions and Encounters	Room 1.15
55. Persian Manuscripts under the Microscope: Problems of Identification, Transmission, and Interpretation	Room 1.16
56. Idols, Lovers, and Manuscripts: Reassessing the Early Persian Romance Tradition	Room 1.17
57. Shahnameh Beyond Borders	Room 1.18
58. Connectivity and Mobility in the Premodern Iranian World	Room 2.17
59. Challenges in Studying Religions of Modern Iran	Room 2.18
60. Popular Shi'i Observances: Narrative, Ritual, and Identity in Early Modern and Contemporary Iran	Room 2.19

Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht

18:30-19:30	Keynote Session Leeuwenbergh
Christine van Ruymbeke "Changes, challenges and opportunities. Persian literary studies in this second quarter of the 21st century." <i>(Drinks available to purchase)</i>	

Friday, August 7th – Schedule

Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht 

8:30-10:30	Panels 61-75	Janskerkhof 2/3
61. Enduring Signs: Text, Image, and the Afterlives of the Ancient Iranian World		Room 0.13
62. Negotiating Modernity through Space: Reform, Gender, Perception, and Representation in Nineteenth-Century Qajar Iran		Room 0.17
63. Short Story as Material for Teaching Persian as a Foreign Language		Room 0.19
64. Iran in the Second World War		Room 0.21
65. Navigating the Persianate Cosmopolis: Pre-modern and Modern Ottoman Intellectuals in the Face of Persian Cultural and Scientific Heritage		Room 0.22
66. The Constitutional Revolution (1906–11) and Beyond – Spatial, Temporal, and Relational Dimensions		Room 1.09
67. Broadening histories of Iran in the long nineteenth century through the study of commodities		Room 1.10
68. Translating Identities: Iranian Jews Between Community, Nation, and Diaspora		Room 1.11
69. New Perspectives on Endangered Iranian Languages of Eastern Transcaucasia and Central Asia		Room 1.15
70. The Eloquent Body: Rewriting Love, Gender, and Eroticism in Indo-Persian Narratives		Room 1.16
71. Persian Literary Domination and Vernacular Resistance: Case Studies from Kurdish, Baluchi, Pashto and Shughni		Room 1.17
72. Speculative Iran: Between haunting and futurity		Room 1.18
73. Working Around the Sanctions in and Around Iran		Room 2.17
74. Reason, Revelation, and Revival: Esoteric Hermeneutics from Nāṣir i Khusraw to Rūmī and the Present		Room 2.18
75. Between Conformity and Resistance: Cultural and Institutional Performances of Power in Post-Revolutionary Iran		Room 2.19
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	Janskerkhof 2/3
10:45-12:45	Panels 76-90	Janskerkhof 2/3
76. Revisiting Hedayat 1: His Drawings, and Art in his Fiction		Room 0.13
77. Concepts and Narratives in the Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture		Room 0.17
78. Roundtable Festschrift in honour of Houchang Chehabi		Room 0.19
79. Social Histories of Technology and the Environment		Room 0.21
80. The Afterlife of Sadi Shirazi's Legacy in the Persianate World: Print Culture in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries		Room 0.22
81. Landscapes of Transition: Routes, Landscapes, and Cultural Interaction in the Zagros in the First Millennium CE		Room 1.09
82. The Many Worlds of Tārīkh-i Qum: Local Governance, Urban Growth, and Shi'ī Identity in Tārīkh-i Qum		Room 1.10
83. Media, Modernity, and Public Life in Iran, in the Late nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries		Room 1.11
84. Tracking the Indo-Iranian Origin: Syntactical and Etymological Discussions		Room 1.15
85. Global Afterlives: Contemporary Translations of Persian Literature		Room 1.16
86. Negotiating Worlds: Adaptation and Interpretation in Indo-Persian Literary Thought		Room 1.17
87. War and Polyphony: Representing and Remembering the Iran-Iraq War in Contemporary Cultural Production		Room 1.18
88. Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom		Room 2.17
89. Rethinking Political Islam in Revolutionary and Post-revolutionary Iran: Apparatus of Control,		

90. Embodied Cosmologies: Devotion, Knowledge, and Esoteric Traditions in the Premodern Islamicate World	Room 2.18 Room 2.19
12:45-13:45	Lunch Break
13:45-15:45	Panels 91-105 Janskerkhof 2/3
91. Revisiting Hedayat 2: The Blind Owl - Interpretations and Translations	Room 0.13
92. Law, Space and Subjectivity: Institutional Regulation and the Reconfiguration of Urban Space in Tehran (1850s–1940s)	Room 0.17
93. Teaching Persian in a Changing World Order: Language Education, Cultural Understanding, and Strategic Role of Language	Room 0.19
94. Past and Present: Revisiting the 1979 Iranian Revolution through the Lens of Iran's Current Sociopolitical Dynamics	Room 0.21
95. Texts of Dominion, Acts of Dissent: Iranian Gender Politics from Andarz to Instagram Title	Room 0.22
96. The Legacy of the Sasanian Empire in Contemporary Iran Through the Perspectives of Language, Art, and Culture	Room 1.09
97. State, Society and Religion under Reza Shah	Room 1.10
98. The 1979 Revolution: Historical Contingencies, Unrealized Possibilities, and Imagined Futures	Room 1.11
99a. Conversation analytic studies of Persian talk-in-interaction: Making visible jointly accomplished practices	Room 1.15
99b. Disinformation and misinformation on social media in Iran	
100. Circuits of Persian Publishing: Materiality, Networks, and Canon Formation	Room 1.16
101. Philology I: Persian and the Critique of Philology	Room 1.17
102. Evolving Traditions: Creativity, Memory, and Musical Agency in the Global Iranian Soundscape	Room 1.18
103. Reimagining Freedom: Gender, Myth, and the Narrative Politics of the "Woman, Life, Freedom" Movement	Room 2.17
104. Beyond Sharia: The role of Sufism in Shaping Islam I	Room 2.18
105. Roundtable: Israel's June 2025 War on Iran: Reflections on Contested Publics and Media	Room 2.19
15:45-16:00	Coffee Break Janskerkhof 2/3
16:00-18:00	Panels 106-120 Janskerkhof 2/3
106. Revisiting Hedayat 3: His Works in Cultural Context	Room 0.13
107. Calligraphy and the Collective Consciousness: Reimagining the Nasta'īq script as a Cultural Vector	Room 0.17
108. Studies in Early Modern Persian Literature	Room 0.19
109. Propaganda and Cultural Diplomacy in Pahlavi and Post-Revolutionary Iran	Room 0.21
110. Persianate Women in Unexpected Spaces: Sensing Presence and Power	Room 0.22
111. Translation and Multilingualism in the Jewish-Iranian World	Room 1.09
112. Persianate Banaras: An Untold Story of Early Modern Multilingualism	Room 1.10
113. New Approaches to the Persian Majmū'a(s) and Jung(s) [book compilations]	Room 1.11
114. The Familiar Stranger. Encounters with the Iranian and non-Iranian 'Other' in Persian Literature	Room 1.15
115. Persian and German Literary Encounters	Room 1.16
116. Philology II: "World Philology" and the Adab Disciplines	Room 1.17
117. Thinking Farsi-zaban Geographies through Afghanistan: Knowledge Production, Archives, and Politics in Transnational Perspective	Room 1.18
118. Iranian Encounters: Americans with and in Iran, Iranians with America and in the Region	Room 2.17
119. Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam II	Room 2.18

120. Faith, Culture, and Their Interplay in Iranian Artistic and Literary Traditions

Room 2.19

Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht 

18:30-19:30

Keynote Session

Leeuwenbergh

Janet Afary

"On the 120th Anniversary of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution:
Reflections from Diaspora"

Drinks are available at Leeuwenbergh to purchase

Saturday, August 8th – Schedule

Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht

8:30-10:30	Panels 121-132	Janskerkhof 2/3
121. Iranian Engagement with Asia and Latin America in Late Qajar and Early Pahlavi Times		Room 0.13
122. On Consumption Across Persian & Arabic Sources		Room 0.17
123. Constraint and Creation: Contemporary Persian Literature and Iranian Cinema as Sites of Social Transformation		Room 0.19
124a. Modern Iranian Intellectual History in an Age of Global History		Room 0.21
124b. Hidden Voices, Veiled Desires: Gender and Eroticism in Early Modern Persian Poetry		
125. Echoes Across Borders: Persian Literature in Comparative Perspective		Room 0.22
126. The Role of Education in the Modernization Project of the Reza Shah Government		Room 1.09
127. New Perspectives on the Iranian Revolution		Room 1.10
128. Unions with the Supernatural in Popular Persian Literature and Devotional Drama		Room 1.17
129. Itinerant Voices: Musico-Poetic Performance On the Borders of Iran		Room 1.18
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	Janskerkhof 2/3

Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht

11:00-12:30	Annual General Meeting	Leeuwenbergh
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**Speakers and panels displayed in grey
were originally scheduled but have
since been cancelled**

Thursday, August 6th – Panel sessions

8:30-10:30

Janskerkhof 2/3 

Room 0.13

1. Dutch Perspectives on Safavid Iran

Rudi Matthee

Room 0.17

2. Architectural Technology Transfer on the Silk Road: Iranian Double-Shell Domes and the West

Chair: Hadi Safaeipour

Revisiting the Mausoleum of Oljaytu's Structural System within the Iranian Dome-Making Tradition
Hadi Safaeipour

From Soltaniyeh to Florence: Historical Contexts for the Transmission of Dome-Building Knowledge
Lorenzo Vigotti

The Mausoleum of Oljaytu through the Lens of Archival Resources
Farzad Zerehdaran

The Mausoleum of Oljaytu through the Lens of Scientific Surveys
by Manizheh Khademi

Room 0.19

3. Techno-politics in Iran across the Twentieth and Twenty-First centuries

Chair: Farzin Vejdani, Gunha Kim | Discussant: Mikiya Koyagi

Politics of Suicide Science in Pahlavi Iran
Gunha Kim

Digital Panopticon and Everyday Resistance : The Hijab Politics of Iranian Women
Gi Yeon Koo

"We do have engineers": Building the state and technological trust through small technologies in the early-20th century Iran
Ata Heshmati

Borders of Plunder: Environmental Miscontrol and Infrastructural Violence in Iran
Rouzbeh Akhbari

Room 0.21

4. Entangled Histories: Ottoman-Iranian Encounters across Centuries

Chair: Rudi Matthee, Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer

"I Am Shah Ismail!": The Pseudo-Shah Ismail Incidents of the Late Sixteenth Century and the Entangled Histories of Anatolia and Iran
Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer

Symmetrical Diplomacy: New Gifts between Ottoman-Safavid Courts in a Trade-Oriented Global World
Sinem Arcak Casale

Ottoman Eastern Policy within Sectarian Dynamics in the Early Modern Era
Habib Saçmalı

Constituting Change: Women in the Ottoman and Iranian Constitutional Revolutions
Serpil Atamaz

5. The Emancipatory Aesthetics of Contemporary Iranian Theatre

Chair: Saeed Talajooy

The Emancipatory Aesthetics of Parallel Narratives on Page and Stage

Saeed Talajooy

Staging the Forbidden: Theatre as an Emancipatory Space for Dance, Voice, and Popular Music in Post Revolutionary Iran

Parmis Mozafari

From Text to Process: The Politics of Dramaturgy in Contemporary Iranian Theatre (2009–2024)

Amin Azimi

All Languages are one: Linguistic Hybridity, Identity, and Culture in Three Iranian Plays

Naghmeh Samini

Room 1.09

6. Tehranto: Beyond Tehran and Toronto - Iranians in Canada

Chair: Amin Moghadam, Nima Naghibi

Bala shahr ya Paeen shahr? (Uptown or Downtown?): Stories of Iranian Settlement in Tehranto

Amin Moghadam and Nima Naghibi

Healing in fragments: 1.5-generation Iranians' well-being trajectories in diaspora

Shiva Mazrouei

From Kharej to Ghorbat: Migration Dreams and Diasporic Experiences of Iranians in Canada

Sara Hormozinejad

Diaspora politics in Tehranto: an urban analysis of Woman, Life, Freedom movement

Maryam Lashkari

Room 1.10

7. Histories of Circulation: People, Books, and Ideas between Iran and India (1500–1800)

Chair: Mahdieh Tavakol | Discussant: Sholeh Quinn

Eighteenth-Century Circulations: Imprint of the times on manuscripts and its marks in texts

Mana Kia

Collecting Islamic knowledge across seventeenth century western Asia – Muhaddhib al-Dīn Aḥmad al-Ḥillī al-Baṣrī (d. 1084/1673) and his Majmū'a

Christopher Bahl

Circulating Devotion: Manuscript Endowments across Iran and India (16th–17th c.)

Mahdieh Tavakol

Room 1.11

8. From the Alborz to the Caspian: Environmental Histories of Northern Iran

Chair: Amit Sadan, Saghar Sadeghian | Discussant: James Gustafson

Forestry, Global Scientific Expertise, and State Power during the 1950s and 1960s

Amit Sadan

Forests Before Decline: Visual and Textual Traces of the Caspian Forests in Qajar Iran

Saghar Sadeghian

The Making of Shomal: Filmfarsi's Role in Crafting a Site of Memory

Arash M. Avvali

How can chronicles allow an environmental history of medieval Iran? The example of Ṭabarī's text (839-923)

Camille Rhoné-Quer

Room 1.15

9. Patronage and Governance in Medieval Azerbaijan

Chair: Colin Mitchell

The Eldigüzids in the Shaykh Safi al-Din Ardabili Archives

David Durand-Guédy

Rehabilitating A Frontier Military Governorship: the Eldiguzids of Azerbaijan

Colin Mitchell

Persian Prose at the Eldiguzid Court: Literary Style, Education, and Patronage

Nasrin Askari

Reconfiguring Power in Medieval Iran: Gender, Governance, and the Seljuq–Atabeg Transition

Amin Mahini

Room 1.16

10. Authorship, Desire, and Authority in Persian Literary Traditions

Chair: Abolfazl Moshiri

Constructing Authorship in Pseudo-Ferdowsi's Yusof and Zolaykhā

Austin O'Malley

Authority and the Poetics of Desire in Sanā'ī's Qaṣīdas

Parisa Zahiremami

Feminine Desire and Authority in Rumi's Poetics of Love

Mahdieh Vali Zadeh

The Third Lion: 'Ārif Chalabī and the Making of Heterodox Authority in the Mevlevi Tradition

Abolfazl Moshiri

Room 1.17

11. Persian Sufi Poetics: Perspectives from within the Tradition

Chair: Fateme Montazeri

The Poetics of Piety – 'Ayn al-Qoṣāt Hamadānī and The Sacralization of Persian

Ahmad Rashid Salim

Persian verse or Divine names? Forgotten Functions of Abu Said's Quatrains

Fateme Montazeri

Keys to the Meanings: Reading the Poetry of Shīrīn Maghribī in Light of His Prose

Arjun Nair

Pearls of Meaning, Words of Wonder: Reading the 'Depth Dimension' of Early Persian Sufi Poetry

Nicholas Boylston

Room 1.18

12. Iranian Studies in Korea

Chair: Yongjeong Kim; Saera Kwak

Phonological and Semantic Shifts in Persian–Urdu Vocabulary: An Exploratory Study Conducted as Part of Ongoing Persian Research in Korea

Taejin Koh

Trends in Iranian Studies in Korea: A Quantitative Analysis of Academic Publications

Dayeon Chu

Persian language education in Korea

Saera Kwak

Room 2.17

13. Economic and Social Policies and Institutions in Iran, 1920s–1970s

Chair: Mary Yoshinari

Iran's Postwar Economic Development and the Czech Connection, 1950s–70s

Mary Yoshinari

The Rise of Social Insurance in Iran and the Trans-Iranian Railway's Role, 1920–1940

Reza Omid

Institutional Weakness and Economic Representation: The Chamber of Commerce in Pahlavi Iran

Ali Saeidi

Room 2.18

14. Discourse, Narrative, and Global Frames of the 1979 Iranian Revolution

Chair: Claudia Yaghoobi

Discussant: Mehdi Ganjavi

The Construction of Revolutionary Discourse in Iranian Press: A Diachronic Discourse Analysis

Masoumeh Rahimi

The Iranian Revolution as a Global Event of Multiplicities (with Niloofar Hooman)

Dilyana Mincheva

From Throne to Theory: Beyond Foucault's Framework in Iranian Revolution Studies

Kamran Talattof

Room 2.19

15. Transregional intellectual and literary links within the Persian-speaking world in the 19th-20th centuries

Chair: Edmund Herzig, Kamila Akhmedjanova

The Concept of Persian Reciprocity in Muhammadjon Shakuri's and Muhammad Osimi's Thought

Martin Dixon

Gharbzadegi and the Decline of Persian Civilization: Jalal Al-e Ahmad's Critique in the Context of Iranian Intellectual Thought

Iqan Shahidi

The legacy of Dilshād Barnā and Ahmad Dānish within the context of 19th-Century Persian-speaking literary and intellectual trends.

Kamila Akhmedjanova

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

16. Revisiting Reza Shah's Rule at the Centennial of the Pahlavi Monarchy

Chair: Afshin Matin-Asgari; discussant: Touraj Atabaki

The First Pahlavi Era: Intended & Unintended Consequences of Social and Religious Reforms

Janet Afary

State Transition in Iran from the late Qajar to early Pahlavi Periods: Constitutional Experience, Parliamentarism, and Governance

Ali Gheissari

Significance of Reza Shah?

Ervand Abrahamian

Understanding Reza Shah through his opponents

Stephanie Cronin

Room 0.17

17. Iranian Art and Material Culture in Switzerland: Toward a New Perspective

Chair: Negar Habibi

Iranian Heritage in Geneva: From Collection to Exhibition

Negar Habibi

The Transnational Carpets of Ziegler & Co.: Rolling between Tehran and Zürich

Kimia Maleki

Understanding Museum Representation: Toward a Better Accessibility of Persian Art in Geneva

Quentin Arnoux

Iranian Art Revisited at the Museum Rietberg

Axel Langer

Room 0.19

18. Innovations and Challenges in Teaching Persian Language and Culture: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Persian Studies

Chair: Azita Taleghani, Mahbod Ghaffari

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and Persian Diaspora Students: Preserving or Losing the Mother Tongue

Fatemeh Faroughi

Using Contemporary Persian Films in Language Teaching: Bridging Linguistic Competence and Cultural Literacy

Mahbod Ghaffari

Persian Performed: Performance Pedagogies across Song and Stage

Behzad Borhan

Teaching Cultural Narratives through Women-Centered Iranian Films: A Cultural Semiotic Approach for Course Content Design

Shadi Shajiei

Room 0.21

19. Navigating the Margins: A Transnational Perspective on Iranian Women's Music-Making

Chair: Hadi Milanloo

Transnational Transformations: Women and Iranian Classical Music in Canada

Hadi Milanloo

Singing Under Surveillance: Women's Music Education and Resistance in Post-Revolutionary Iran

Sepideh Raissadat

The Politics of Musical Participation: An Ethnographic Research on the situation of Female Singers in Post-Revolutionary Iran

Yalda Yazdani

Creating from the Margin: A Feminist Reading of Limitation and Possibility in Iranian Music

Solmaz Shakerifard

19. Constructors of an Image

Chair: Juan Cole

Algernon Swinburne's Rubáiyát: Sexual Liberation and Political Liberty

Juan Cole

Threshold Goddesses: Climbing the gates of Tehran University, March '79

Negar Mottahedeh

Western Travelers to the Court of Timur

Sholeh Quinn

Dutch Perspectives on Safavid Iran

Rudi Mathee

Room 0.22

20. Gendered Constraints and Aesthetic Expression in Iranian Film and Visual Production

Chair: Adela Chiru

Gendered Expressions in Music Videos by Payam Ghorbani

Siavash Rokni

Touch without Touching: Poetic Resistance and the Aesthetics of the Unseen in Maryam Tafakory's Films

Adela Nicoleta Chiru

Aesthetics of Metareflexivity, Deliberation, and Affective Liminality as Forms of Expression under Gendered Censorship

Maryam Kolly

Room 1.09

21. The Politics of Positionality: Critique and Self-Critique in the Study of the Iranian Diaspora in Western Europe, Turkey and Canada

Chair: Rasmus Christian Elling

Honorary Insider, Emphatically Outsider: Positionality and Ethnography in the Iranian Diaspora in Denmark

Rasmus Christian Elling

"Open to Work": Iranian Women Activists Facing Defunding Measures under Trump 2.0

Kristin Soraya Batmanghelichi

How Universal Are Research Ethics?

Minoos Mirshahvalad

Building Trust and Conducting Critical Research in Polarized Diaspora Communities: Navigating Iranian Identity Politics in Canada
Ehsan Kashfi

[Room 1.10](#)

22. The Letter and the Spirit: Law, Legal Norms, and the Making of Modern Iran, 1919-1979

Chair: Peyman Jafari, Bitá Mousavi

The Legal Life of Land

Bitá Mousavi

Swinging like a State: the International Labor Organization and Iran's Quest for Sovereignty, 1919-75

Zep Kalb

Human Rights Tribunals

Arash Davari

The Constitutional Struggle over the Economy in Post-Revolutionary Iran

Vahid Mazdeh

[Room 1.11](#)

23. Unpackaging Modernisation: the Manifestations of Reform in Iran, 1900-79

Chair: Siavush Randjbar-Daemi, Guan Kiong Teh

The gender politics of British and US relations with Iran during the Constitutional Revolution, 1905-11.

Jan-Willem Gray

The 'national car' and its discontents: Mohammad Reza Shah's development of the Iran National Peykan, 1965-79.

Guan Kiong Teh

From Mostofi to Ebtehaj: The Changing Face of the Iranian Bureaucrat, 1900-1966

Hannah Hassani

Myth, Meaning, and Future: Pahlavi's Iconography and Persian Revivalism in Times of Crisis

Bitá Nienhaus - Naghashian

[Room 1.15](#)

24. New approaches and methods in the study of modern Iranian history

Chair: Khosrow Tousi, Robert Steele

Writing or re-writing history? Revisionism in the historiography of Pahlavi Iran and the Iranian Revolution

Robert Steele

Iran Air and Aviation Diplomacy: Rewriting Iran Cold War History

Golbarg Rekabtalaei

Performing the Past: The (Auto)Biographical Construction of Theatre History

Anna Dorothee Heller

Iran and Global Environmental History: Past, Present and Future Trajectories

Mattin Biglari

[Room 1.16](#)

25. Iran's Layered Temporality in European Women's Travel-Writing (1888-1936)

Chair: Julia Hartley, Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet

The Temporality of Archaeology according to Jane Dieulafoy

Julia Hartley

Time and space, antiquity and modernity in Vita Sackville-West's Iran

Lindsay Allen

Everyday Modernity: Freya Stark, Visual Politics, and the Edges of Empire in Iran

Michelle Clement

Room 1.17

26. Language, Power, and Resistance: The Kurdish Struggle Through Translation

Chair: Farangis Ghaderi

Reading Franz Kafka in Kurdistan

Haidar Khezri

Politics of translation from Kurdish: challenges and opportunities of translating from under-represented languages

Kareem Abdulrahman

Ulysses in Kurdish: Kawa Nemir's Kurmanji Translation of James Joyce's Novel: Linguistic strategies, Language Revitalization, Political Resistance

Margreet Dorleijn

Translation as Political Agency in Multicultural Contexts: Rethinking Power and Voice in Contemporary Iran

Azad Rahim Hajiagha

Room 1.18

27. Critical Approaches to Sensory Histories of Iran

Chair: Laudan Nooshin | Discussant: Amir Moosavi

Embodied Verses: A Sensory Exploration of the Exilic Mode in Afghan and Iranian Exile Poetry

Fatemeh Shams

The Sounds and Silences of Qajar-era Executions

Farzin Vejdani

Listening Iran: Radio and the Aural Social Life of Pahlavi Iran, 1930s-1940s

Babak Rahimi

Petrosonic Modernity: Cinema, Sound, and Everyday Life in Abadan (1920s–1979)

Armaghan Fakhraeirad

Room 2.17

28. Iranian Politics and International Relations (20th–21st Century)

Chair: Neda Jahanbani; discussant: Salomé Michel

Mixed Messages: The United States and Iran's Framing of Sanctions During Trump's Maximum Pressure Campaign

Neda Jahanbani

Modernizing the Orient: Iran, the United States, and the Politics of Development, 1960–1979

Reza H. Akbari

Sanctions and the Political Economy of Disillusionment: Iran's Student Movement in Retrospect

Vahid Abedini

The emerging Iranian-Israeli conflict and the GCC

Arash Azizi

Room 2.18

29. Resurrections of Kings and Heroes: Epic Narratives, Transmediality, and Cultural Memory Across Media

Chair: Naghmeh Esmaeilpour

Transmediality and Resurrections of Kings and Heroes in Video Games

Naghmeh Esmaeilpour

Chupā Rostam: 'The Hidden Rostam' in South Asian Cultural Imagination

Fatima Fayyaz

Room 2.19

30. Zoroastrianism: contacts and interchange between India and Iran

Chair: Jaime Martínez Porro

The Persian Revāyāt: Names, Letters, and Networks

Niloofar Homayoonzad

Avestan manuscript contacts between India and Iran

Jaime Martínez Porro

The Peri (Fairy) Women's Ritual Tables: Folk Practice in Zoroastrian Communities of Iran and India

Ramin Shahzadi

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45-15:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

31. Iran Academia: An Evolving Model of University Beyond Borders – Achievements, Challenges and Future Directions (A Case Study)

Chairs: Ali Banuazizi, Touraj Atabaki

Presentations:

Ali Reza Kazemi – Managing Director, Iran Academia

Saeed Paivandi – Academic Director, Iran Academia

Sajad Sepehri – Educational Development and Innovation Strategist, Iran Academia

Alireza Behtoui – Lecturer Perspective

Reyhane Gholami – Alumni Perspective

Originally: Indo-Persianate Wisdom and Esoteric Zoroastrianism in Modern Iran and India

Chair: Mohamad Tavakoli, Delbar Khakzad

Illuminating Modern Science: The Legacy of Azar Kayvan and Indo-Persian Wisdom in Revisiting Islamic Cosmology

Delbar Khakzad

Masters of the Unseen: Religious Revelation and Social Recognition of Minocher Pundol

Mariano Errichiello

The Sound of Silence: Meher Baba's Doctrine of Language between Zoroastrianism and Universal Religion

Afshin Marashi

On Illumination and Transcendence: Suhrawardi in 19th-Century America

Daniel Sheffield

Room 0.17

32. Navigating the Margins: A Transnational Perspective on Iranian Women's Music-Making

Chair: Hadi Milanloo

Transnational Transformations: Women and Iranian Classical Music in Canada

Hadi Milanloo

Singing Under Surveillance: Women's Music Education and Resistance in Post-Revolutionary Iran

Sepideh Raissadat

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Yalda Yazdani

Creating from the Margin: A Feminist Reading of Limitation and Possibility in Iranian Music

Solmaz Shakerifard

Room 0.19

33. Creative, Tenacious Lion Women of Iran (SHIR ZANAN-E IRAN)

Chair: Mary Elaine Hegland

Gender Dynamics in Traditional and Cross-Border Kurdish Music

Parang Farazmand

From Safe Space to Stronger Together: The Story of an Iranian Women's Activist Network

Jamileh Davoudi

The Subtle Struggles of Ordinary Baluch Women

Azadeh Kian

From Village Circles to Digital Streets: Translocal Iranian Feminism in the Vernacular

Janet Bauer

Room 0.21

34. Roundtable: Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part I

Chair: John W.I. Lee, Janet Afary

Lineage and Hegemonic Masculinity: Procreation and Dynastic Legitimacy in Sasanian Iran

Haleh Emrani

The Gender-benders of Samak-e 'Ayyār: Cross-dressing, Female Masculinity, and Transgender Capacity in a Premodern Persian Prose Romance

Alexandra Hoffmann

Patriarchal Masculinity, Iranian Fatherhood, and the Challenge of Modern Education

Sivan Balslev

Negotiating Patriarchy, Performing Masculinity: Reconstructing Male Body and Identity in the Art of Khosrow Hassanzādeh and Fereydoun Ave

35. Mapping the Imaginary of the Iranian World in Spain: Space, Borders, and Ethnicities

Chair: Farshad Zahedi, Fernando Camacho Padilla

Ethnic and Religious Minorities from the Iranian World in Spain: Making Perceptions and Visibility Count

Fernando Camacho Padilla

Visualizing Borders on the Spanish Screen: Human and Political Frontiers in Ghobadi's Turtles Can Fly (2005)

Farshad Zahedi

Iraqi Kurds, the Curse of Borders in Middle East

Yashmina María Shawki-Aziz Gómez

Imaginary of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq in Spain in the 21st Century

Darya Monastyrskaya

36. The Iranian diaspora: Intersections, Dialogues, and Perspectives from Spain

Chair: Sheida Besozzi

"Persian Sevillanas": Music as an Archive of Iranian Transgenerational Diasporic Trauma in Spain

Leila Marandi Lopez

Iranian Diaspora Non-Activism: an intersectional reading of human rights activism from Spain

Sheida Besozzi

From Page to Stage: Iranian Cultural Production and Diasporic Belonging in Spain

Parisa Delshad

37. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources I

Chair: Alberto Tiburcio

Reading Shi'i Akhlaq in the Deccan: The Translation of the Makārim al-akhlāq in the Jung-i Quṭub-Shāhī

Alberto Tiburcio

The Nujūm al-ʿulūm: translation and compilation in an encyclopedia from the Deccan

Eva Orthmann

Reading Ibn Khallikān's Wafayāt al-A'yān in Persian: Translation Practices in Late Fifteenth-Century Western India

Philip Bockholt

38. The Transnational Fabric of the Iranian Revolution: Micro-Historical Perspectives

Chair: Kamila Akhmedjanova, Ashkan Hashemipour

Revolutionaries without Borders: A Transnational History of the Iranian Guerrilla Movement (1963-1979)

Ashkan Hashemipour

The Transnational Foundations of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Bureaucracy

Guillaume Beaud

Between Boroujerdi and Khomeini: Institutional Developments and Revolutionary Formation in the Qom Seminary, 1961–1979

Abid Zaidi

The Tudeh Party in 1970s Britain: Comrades from Afar

Rowena Abdul Razak

Room 1.15

39. Circulation of Knowledge in Persian between Anatolia and China

Chair: Iskandar Ding, Aslisho Qurboniev

Figures of Speech in the Khatāynāmeḥ

Ruinong Yin

Persian Texts from Alamut: Reconsidering Narratives of Loss and Evidence of Survival

Aslisho Qurboniev

Persianizing Encyclopedic Knowledge: Quṭb al-Dīn al-Shīrāzī's Durrat al-Tāj's from the Ilkhanate to the Persianate World

Carina Dreyer

Room 1.16

40. The Many Faces of Kaveh: Power, Myth and Resistance Across Borders

Chair: Alyssa Gabbay

Kaveh and Kurdish Horror

Edith Szanto

Who Empowers Kaveh? The Popular Reception of Kaveh the Blacksmith in Naqqāli

Kumiko Yamamoto

Reforging myth: The After-lives of Kāveh the Blacksmith in Iranian, Kurdish, and Tajik nationalisms

D Gershon Lewental

Zhan Zhian Azadi: The Revival of an Ancient Myth

Sara Molaie

Room 1.17

41. "Citizens of the World": Modern Kurdish Literature Between Different Languages, Genres and Countries

Chair: Joanna Bocheńska

Enacting Kurdish Poetry in Kurdish Cinema: Arjen Arî's Poems and Bilal Korkut's Film Bîraxane as Examples of Interrelated Heritage-Making

Joanna Bochenska

From Love Quest to World Map: Literary Cartography in Bakhtiar Ali's Mansion of the Sad Birds

Ebrahim Barzegar

A Kurdish Poetics of Witnessing Catastrophe with Sultan Yaray, Choman Hardi, and Ronya Othmann

Hevin Karakurt

"Erased from the margins": Reclaiming Kurdish Women's Place in the Canon

Farangis Ghaderi

Room 1.18

42. Learning Across Borders: Activism, Family, and Knowledge in the Iranian Diaspora

Chair: Shirin Vossoughi

Pedagogies of Political Life: Leftist Families and Intergenerational Learning in the Iranian Diaspora

Mona Hajnaghizadeh, Shirin Vossoughi, and Mahdi Ganjavi

Ordinary Women and Dominant Diasporic Narratives: Voices from the Zan, Zendegi, Azadi Movement

Shima Tadrissi

Becoming and Being an Activist: Stories of Exile and In-Between Belonging among Iranian Women

Azadeh Pourzand

Iranian Families Navigating Language, Identity, and Belonging in the United States

Yalda M. Kaveh

Room 2.17

43. Zoroastrianism and Iranian Literary Traditions: Continuity, Transformation, and Memory

Organizer: Manya Saadi-Nejad

Zarathustra Across Time: Tradition, Adaptation, and Narrative

Massimiliano Vassalli

The Legacy of Miθra for the Iranian Nationalist Sentiment

Nina Mazhjo

Ancient Iranian Mythological and Religious Reminiscences in the Medieval Georgian Chronicle “Life of Kartli”

Helen Giunashvili

The Primal Man and the Dragon: Zoroastrian Mythological Motifs in the Šāh-nāme

Manya Saadi-Nejad

Room 2.18

44. Diversity and Modernity in Contemporary Shi'i Iranian Thought and Practice

Chair: Meir Litvak

Apostasy in Modern Iranian-Shi'i Discourse

Meir Litvak

Beyond the Epic of Karbala: The Political Myth of Imam Hasan's Peace as a Vehicle for Justifying Compromise in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Omer Carmi

"Resisting and Embracing Existence and Historicity: Contemporary Iranian Intellectuals and the Lessons of Heidegger"

Ezra Tzfadya

"Tradition, Belonging, and Cultural Agency: Voices from Azeri Iran"

Elisheva Machlis

Room 2.19

45. Bridging Scholarship and Devotion: The Twelver Shi'i Supplication (du'a) Corpus in its Persianate Context

Chair: Sarah Aziz

Transforming Prayer: An Inquiry into Quṭbuddīn Nayrīzī's (d. 1173/ 1760) Poetic Reconfiguration of Du'a-yi Šabāḥ

Sarah Aziz

Technologies of Du‘ā’: Bilingualism and the Aesthetics of Supplication

Rana Ghuloom

The devotional confessions of an Infallible Imam: A Study of Safavid Era Du‘ā’ Commentary

Vinay Khetia

Guiding Spirits, Guarding Doctrine: Reading Muḥammad Karīm Khān Kirmānī’s (d. 1288/1871) ‘Ilāj al-arwāḥ in Qajar Iran

Gianni Izzo

15:45 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-18:00

Janskerhof 2/3

Room 0.13

46. Iranian Studies in a Time of War: Crisis, Continuity, and the Future of the Field

Chair: Claudia Yaghoobi

Dr. Houchang Chehabi, Dr. Touraj Atabaki, Dr. Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet; Dr. Bahar Abdi, Dr. Pooyan Tamimi Arab, Dr. Arash Ghajarjazi

Room 0.17

47. Sensuous Sheets: Decorated Papers in Premodern Manuscript Cultures

Chair: Ilse Sturkenboom

Motifs in Motion: Stencilled Designs in Persianate Manuscripts

Theresa Zischkin

Silhouetted Paper: A Lost Tradition of Royally Favoured Decoration

Negar Kazemipourleilabadi

Turco-Persian Masked Marbling and Its Impact

Jake Benson

Meanings of ‘Chinese’ paper in Timurid-era manuscripts and in Ming China

Ilse Sturkenboom (co-authored with Yih-chuen Liao)

Room 0.19

48. Iranian Queer Imaginaries Across Media

Chair: Ladan Rahbari

Scripts from the Foyer: Deferred Liberation of queer and trans Iranians

Faezeh Daemi

From Visibility to Care: The Emergence of a Queer Iranian Counterpublic through Early Queer Magazines (1990s–2000s)

Meraj Sharifi

“Persistent Moves: Trans* Narratives on Iranian Screen”

Shekoufeh Behbehani

Room 0.21

49. Roundtable: Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part II

Chair: Haleh Emrani, Janet AFary

Ekhraghi-ha (The Outcasts): The Role of the 'Lat' in Constructing the 'Ideal Man' of the Islamic Republic's Discourse

Ali Papolizyazdi

Mainstream Masculinities in 1990s Iranian Popular Cinema and Society

Nacim Pak

Who is my desired man in intellectual cinema?

Khatereh Sheibani

Governable Masculinities: Iranian Cinema Between Neoliberalism and State Ideology

Mozhgan Fazli

Recasting Heroes: The Shāhnāme and Emerging Iranian Masculinities

Karolina Rakowiecka-Asgari

Room 0.22

50. Cultural Psychopathology: Negotiating with Power and the Unconscious Structures of Social Order in Iran

Chair: Mahrou Zhaf

Obedience and Defiance in the Consulting Room: The Politics of Authority in the Iranian Therapeutic Relationship

Fatemeh Hosseini Ghaffari

Intergenerational Transmission of Hierarchical Dynamics: Mothers' Emotion Socialization Practices in a Collectivist Context

Fateme Aghaie

The Pedagogy of Humiliation: Shame, Authority, and the Colonial Unconscious in Psychoanalytic Training in Iran

Arash Mohagheghi

The Pleasure of Power: Cultural Sadomasochism and the Iranian Social Unconscious"

Mahrou Zhaf

Room 1.09

51. Diasporic Revolutionary Imaginaries and Woman Life Freedom Uprising

Chair: Nader Talebi

Jina Revolutionary Momentum and the Question of (Transnational) Solidarity

Nader Talebi

Regressive Imaginaries of Return: Iranian Nationalism, Iranian Diaspora, and the Rupture of Woman, Life, Freedom

Ali Niroumand

Willful Self-Exile as Feminist Resistance in the Iranian Diaspora

Bahar Oghalai

Hip-hop, Revolution and Diaspora

Aryasp Delvarani

Room 1.10

52. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources II

Chair: Alberto Tiburcio

First Organ of Life: Indo-Persian Medical Science on Embryogenesis

Mohammad Golshan

Sanskrit Nights: The Fourth Chapter of Kalyāṇamalla's *Sulaimaccaritra* and Its Sources

Fabio Pagliani

The Rise and Fall of the Barmakids: Humour, Statecraft, and Memory in a Forgotten Indo-Persian Manuscript

Arezou Azad

Room 1.11

53. Persian literature of the early Ilkhanate: stories of rebellion and poems of decline

Chair: Stefan Kamola

Jūzjānī and his Mongol Sources. On Some Mongol Narratives from the *Ṭabaqāt-i Nāṣirī*

Simon Berger

Astrological visions of Chinggis Khan from the margins of the Ilkhanate

Stefan Kamola

Religious Revolt in the Mongol Empire: The Cases of Maḥmūd Tārābī and Sharaf al-Dīn Ibrāhīm

Tobias Jones

Spring and Upheaval: Politics and Poetic Voice in Vaṣṣāf's *Bahār-nāma*

Sara Mirahmadi

Room 1.15

54. Dimensions of the Iran-Iraq War and Its Extensions: Bottom-up Perspectives on Unintended Consequences of Strategic Decisions and Encounters

Chair: Yasuyuki Matsunaga

Khormashahr, Khomeini, and His Forever War

Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh

Revisiting the 1988 Halabja Attack: How the Activities of the Qarargah Ramazan Inadvertently Helped to Cause It

Yasuyuki Matsunaga

Beyond the Trigger: Iraqi Soldiers, Civilian Networks, and the Unfolding of the 1991 Uprising

Amir Taha

Room 1.16

55. Persian Manuscripts under the Microscope: Problems of Identification, Transmission, and Interpretation

Chair: Shiva Mihan, Maria Subtelny

The Problem of the Unicum: A Manuscript of the Persian Translation of the Pseudo-Aristotelian *Kitāb al-siyāsa fī tadbīr al-riyāsa*, known as *Sirr al-asrār*, from the Ottoman Palace Library

Maria Subtelny

Marginal Designs as Liminal Bodies in the "World" of the Persian Illustrated Manuscript

Michael Chagnon

A 'period's Eye': An Early Safavid Manuscript of *Aḥsan al-kibār* and its Paintings

Ruba Kana'an

Timurid Historiography: Ḥāfiẓ Abrū and the Chronicles of Bāysunghur

Shiva Mihan

56. Idols, Lovers, and Manuscripts: Reassessing the Early Persian Romance Tradition

Chair: Kristof Szitar

How to Be a Non-Man? Constructions of Masculinity and Gender in the Pornographic Mathnawī Alfiyya u Shalfiyya

Kristof Szitar

An early Persian verse narrative in mutaqārib - the Humāynāma

Gabrielle Van den Berg

Paronomasia in the Narrative Poem of 'Ayyūqī: Stylistic Reflections and Reconsiderations

Dario Mazzocchi

'Unşurī at the Border: Reappraising His Project as a Writer of Romance

Cameron Cross

57. Shahnameh Beyond Borders

Chair: Noonik Darbinian

On Kurdish Narratives of Rostam Zal

Tereza Amryan

Armenian versions of "Shahnameh"

Arpine Arushanyan

"Reinterpreting the Shahnameh in the Contemporary Global Political and Cultural Sphere"

Noonik Darbinian

Naqqāli, narrating or acting?

Mohammadali Mirzaee Jadideslami

58. Connectivity and Mobility in the Premodern Iranian World

Chair: Olga M. Davidson, Ilex Project; Discussant: Neguin Yavari

Achilles, Hector and the Wooden Horse in Rayy: The Account of the Siege of Troy in al-Ḥaṭīb al-Iskāfī's Luṭf al-tadbīr

Marianna Zarantonello

Reception Histories Compared II: 'Life of Ferdowsi' and 'Life of Homer' Narratives

Gregory Nagy

Reception Histories Compared I: 'Life of Ferdowsi' and 'Life of Homer' Narratives

Olga Davidson

The Works of Ibn al-Muqaffa' and the Book Pahlavi Corpus

Thomas Benfey

59. Challenges in Studying Religions of Modern Iran

Chair: Marcin Rzepka, Paulina Niechciał

Reconceptualizing Religion: Introducing the Themes of the Báb's Persian Bayan

Navid Fozi

Challenges in Studying Modern Zoroastrianism

Paulina Niechciał

60. Popular Shi'i Observances: Narrative, Ritual, and Identity in Early Modern and Contemporary Iran

Chair: Najm Yousefi

Rowḍeh as Social Commentary and Dissent

Najm Yousefi

Amīr Pāzvārī: Memory, Identity, and Vernacular Shi'ism in Mazandaran

Nazak Birjandifar

Contesting Twelver Shii Devotional Practices in Contemporary Iran

Oliver Scharbrodt

From Martyrdom to Mystical Manifestation

Reza Tabandeh

18:15 – 19:15

Keynote Christine van Ruymbeke

"Changes, challenges and opportunities. Persian literary studies in this second quarter of the 21st century."

Leeuwenbergh

Servaasbolwerk
1a, Utrecht 

Friday, August 7th – Panel sessions

8:30-10:30

Janskerkhof 2/3 

Room 0.13

61. Enduring Signs: Text, Image, and the Afterlives of the Ancient Iranian World

Chair: Touraj Daryaee

The “Eyes of the King” in Late Antique Iran

Touraj Daryaee

Recasting Antiquity: Visual Mediation and the National Imagination in Iran, 1900–1925

Amirali Ardekanian

The Magical Function of Nishapur Ceramics in Relation to Zoroastrian and Jewish Healing Bowls

Simin Amini

From Ornament to Sign: The Sasanian Diadem and the Semiotics of Kingship

Layah ZiaiiBigdeli

Room 0.17

62. Negotiating Modernity through Space: Reform, Gender, Perception, and Representation in Nineteenth-Century Qajar Iran

Chair: Robert Steele

Women and the Quiet Reformation of Qajar Madrasas

Maryam Heydarkhani

Mapping Modernity: Cartography, Power, and the Representation of Urban Space in Qajar Tehran

Boshra Moossavi

Architecture and the Desire for Political Reform: Sepahsalar’s Architectural Ideas

Mahnam Najafi

The Relationship with the West, the Transformation of Spatial Perception, and Its Manifestation in Architecture

Sahra Aberi Zahed

Room 0.19

63. Short Story as Material for Teaching Persian as a Foreign Language

Chair: Mahdi Touraj, Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

The Persian Short Story and Translation: Journey to course development

Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

Improving Language Skills and Enriching Literature Learning through Short Stories: A Data-Driven Strategy for Persian Second Language and Contemporary Literature Classes

Azita H. Taleghani

Teaching Persian through Short Stories: When Worlds of Words Collide

Yass Alizadeh

Harnessing the Power of Short Stories in the Persian Language Classroom: Strategies for Maximized Student Engagement and Proficiency Development

Nahal Akbari

Room 0.21

64. Iran in the Second World War

Chair: Rudi Matthee, Elena Andreeva

The “Persian corridor” in photographs made by Western Allies

Elena Andreeva

A Path Dependent Perspective on Occupation and Famine in Wartime Iran: The Roots of Delayed Development, Aspirational Independence, and Anti-Imperialist Ideology

Eric Lob

Peering Through the Cracks. Polish Musicians in Tehran 1942 to 1945: The Case of Irena Valdi-Golebiowska

Laudan Nooshin

The battle that never was: Iran in the British and German grand strategy, 1939-1943

Roman Siebertz

Room 0.22

65. Navigating the Persianate Cosmopolis: Pre-modern and Modern Ottoman Intellectuals in the Face of Persian Cultural and Scientific Heritage

Chair: Ahmet Baris Ekiz

Philosophy and Empire: Ottoman Engagements with Persian Metaphysics in the Age of Rival Sovereignities

Ahmet Baris Ekiz

Late Ottoman Persophilia: The Case of Feylesof Rıza Tevfik (Bölükbaşı)

Mert Aydemir

Redrawing the Border: Diplomatic and Historiographic Developments in Mehmed Tahir Münif Pasha’s Iranian Epistle

Kyle Capps

War, Diplomacy, and Hostility: Ottoman Perceptions of Iran in Mehmed Refi Efendi’s Sefâretnâme

Gul Banu Kayir Ucsu

Room 1.09

66. The Constitutional Revolution (1906–11) and Beyond – Spatial, Temporal, and Relational Dimensions

Chair: Salomé Michel, Anja Pistor-Hatam

Advocates from afar? Iranians in Egypt and the Constitutional Revolution (1906-1911)

Sara Zanotta

The Legacy of Anti-Constitutionalism in the Twentieth-Century Iranian Discourse on Islamic Council (showra)

Alisa Shablovskaya

The constitutional movement from below: the case of Khurasan

Nader Sohrabi

Between Tolerance and Intolerance: Heterodox Intellectuals and the Constitutional Movement in Iran

Anja Pistor-Hatam

Room 1.10

67. Broadening histories of Iran in the long nineteenth century through the study of commodities

Chair: Joanna de Groot

Threading gender with 'history from below': textile histories as pathways to gendered social histories of nineteenth century Iran

Joanna de Groot

The Rise of Qajar Rule in Gilan: A Merchants' Revolt?

Kevin Gledhill

Peasants, Peddlers, and Purveyors in the Social History of Opium in Qajar Iran

Ranin Kazemi

Room 1.11

68. Translating Identities: Iranian Jews Between Community, Nation, and Diaspora

Chair: Lior Sternfeld, Isabelle Headrick

Cultural Friction and Mutual Support in Wartime: Iranian Jews and the Alliance Israélite Universelle During World War I

Isabelle Headrick

The Iranian Jewish Journalist between the Communal, National, and Ideological

Daniel Amir

Judeo-Persian Translations of the Bible from the Vecchiotti Collection at the Bibliothèque nationale de France

Jason Mokhtarian

The Question of Jewish Iranian Zionist Identity in Iran, 1944–1947

Sarah Nehzati

Iranian Jews and the Making of Tehrangeles

Lior Sternfeld

Room 1.15

69. New Perspectives on Endangered Iranian Languages of Eastern Transcaucasia and Central Asia

Chair: Hakob Avchyan

Who Owns What? Possessive Constructions in Northern Talyshi (Anbarāni and Lankarani Dialects)

Hakob Avchyan

The Yaghnobi Mirror to the Sogdian 'Have-Perfect': Preliminary Observations

Iskandar Ding

Tracing the origins of the different converb systems in the dialects of Caucasian Tat

Artyom Tonoyan

Room 1.16

70. The Eloquent Body: Rewriting Love, Gender, and Eroticism in Indo-Persian Narratives

Chair: Mehdi Sham Roshan

In Between Problem and Protest: Employing Sexually Reductive Language against an Authoritarian Regime

Shubham Goswami

Pedagogy of the Body and Polity of the Soul: The Female Figure in Jāmi's Haft Awrang

Farinaz Kavianifar

The Body as a Political Text: Sovereignty and Suffering in Amir Khusraw's Deval Rānī Khizr Khān

Mehdi Sham Roshan

Feminine Wiles, Authorial Hands: Gender Dialectics in Nakhshabi's *Tuṭīnāma*
Sajedah Hosseini

Room 1.17

71. Persian Literary Domination and Vernacular Resistance: Case Studies from Kurdish, Baluchi, Pashto and Shughni

Chair: Michiel Leezenberg

The process of standardizing the Shughni language and the policy towards minority languages in Tajikistan

Zuzanna Blajet

Beyond Persian: Reclaiming Afghanistan's Vernacular Histories.

Mateusz Klagisz

Classical Kurdish Poetry as Subaltern World Literature: The Case of Ehmedê Xanî's *Mem û Zîn*

M.M. Leezenberg

Room 1.18

72. Speculative Iran: Between haunting and futurity

Chair: Babak Rahimi

Haunting Futures: Folk Horror and Collective Paranoia in Arsalan Amiri's *Zalava* (2021)

Maryam Ghorbankarimi

Uprising of the Thirsty: Speculative Mourning and the Afterlives of Water in Iran's Environmental Protests

Bahar Abdi

Chronic Refusal: Chronic Bodies as Transnational Figures of Resistance across 19th Century Iran and the Americas

Nilufar Karimi

Room 2.17

73. Working Around the Sanctions in and Around Iran

Chair: Moslem Ghomashlouyan

Workarounds: Cryptocurrencies, Trade, and Leapfrogging in and around Sanctioned Iran

Moslem Ghomashlouyan

Lingering hopes; Iranian women's multi-entrepreneurship and their negotiations of boundaries set by sanctions

Elaheh Eslami

Room 2.18

74. Reason, Revelation, and Revival: Esoteric Hermeneutics from Nāṣir-i Khusraw to Rūmī and the Present

Chair: Daryoush Mohammad Poor, Rahim Gholami

Striking with Part of It: Rūmī's Re-readings of Qur'ān 2:67–73 in the *Mathnawī*

Rahim Gholami

Empowerment under Constraint: Ismaili Women's Responses to Educational Barriers in Iran

Maryam Rezaee

"Are you in obeisance or not?" Navigating Egyptian Politics with Nāṣir-i Khusraw.

Alice Hunsberger

Reconciling Faith and Intellect: Nāṣir-i Khusraw's Rationalism

Daryoush Mohammad Poor

Room 2.19

75. Between Conformity and Resistance: Cultural and Institutional Performances of Power in Post-Revolutionary Iran

Chair: Nima Rahmani

Social Resistance Patterns in Kurdistan: A Historical Reappraisal of Social Struggle and Cultural Resistance in Kurdistan after the 1979 Revolution

Mohammadreza Rahimi

Aesthetics of Resistance and Reaction: Protest Music in the Woman, Life, Freedom Movement and the Twelve-Day Iran–Israel War

Melika Moghaddam

Reflection of Iranian Women's Issues in the Mirror of Scientific Articles from the 2010s : A Critical Review of Sociological Studies in the Field of Women and Its Relation to the University Institution.

Sepideh Rasekhian

Performing Hypocrisy: Cultural and Institutional Dimensions of Taqiyya in Iran's Political Modernity

Nima Rahmani Ghanavizbaf

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

76. Revisiting Hedayat 1: His Drawings, and Art in his Fiction

Chair: Nasrin Rahimieh

The Writer as a Painter: Sadeq Hedayat's Drawings During His Sojourn in France (1928–30)

Marta Simidchieva

The Lonely Gazelle: Visual Experimentation of Sadegh Hedayat

Marziyeh Kameli

Persian Visual Motifs Translated in The Blind Owl

Shafigheh Keivan

Outside the text

Michael Beard

Room 0.17

77. Concepts and Narratives in the Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture

Chair: Reza Masoudi Nejad, Haleh Hajjasini

Rereading Sarāmadān-e Honar; Uncovering the Hidden Logic of the First Modern Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture

Shima Boka

Key Notions of "Iranian Architecture" in Twentieth-Century Scholarship

Haleh Hajjasini

Room 0.19

78. Roundtable Festschrift in honour of Houchang Chehabi

Chair: Roham Alvandi

Participants: Afshin Marashi, David Motadel, Olga Davidson, Babak Fozoon, Afshin Matin-Asgari, Nahid Siamdoust, Robert Steele, Lior Sternfeld, Farzin Vejdani

Room 0.21

79. Social Histories of Technology and the Environment

Chair: James M. Gustafson

Environmental Engineering as Anti-Colonial Resistance: Mirza Riza Muhandis' 1904 Report on the Newcomen Mission

James M. Gustafson

The German Factory Persische Teppich-Gesellschaft (PETAG): A laboratory for Technological Intervention in Early Twentieth Century Iran

Fatemeh Masjedi

Synthetic Society: PVC Production and the Promotion of Plastics in Iran

Ciruce Movahedi-Lankarani

"The Amsterdam of Iran": The Provincial and National Politics of Cycling in Isfahan

Mikiya Koyagi

Room 0.22

80. The Afterlife of Sadi Shirazi's Legacy in the Persianate World: Print Culture in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries

Chair: Roxana Zenhari

Commentaries on the Gulistan: Print Culture and Interpretation in Colonial India

Zahra Shah

Reproducing Sa'di Shirazi in Lithographed Artifacts of the Persianate World: Tehran, Tashkent and Lucknow

Roxana Zenhari

The Ethics of Erotics: Reading the Gulistan in Colonial India

Hasan Hameed

Room 1.09

81. Landscapes of Transition: Routes, Landscapes, and Cultural Interaction in the Zagros in the First Millennium CE

Chair: Touraj Daryaee

Across the Border of Āsōrestān: Imperial Itineraries and Territorial Strategies in Sasanian Garmīgān and Syārazūr

Carlo Giovanni Cereti and Gianfilippo Terribili

From Syarazur to Garmegan: archeological landscapes of Sasanian period in the upper Diyala region

Giulio Maresca and Luca Colliva

Yasin Tepe and Neighboring Sites in the 1st Millenium CE: A Historical and Archaeological Archetype for Agrarian Landscapes under Iranian Empires?

Mark K. Gradoni, Giulio Maresca and Jacopo Bruno

Straddling Qaradagh and the Lower Zagros: Routes Connecting Sharazur to Garmian

Melissa DePierro and Camilla Insom

Room 1.10

82. The Many Worlds of Tārīkh-i Qum: Local Governance, Urban Growth, and Shi'i Identity in Tārīkh-i Qum

Chair: Zahra Azhar

Unmarried Daughters? Marriage, Inheritance, and the 'Alid Family in Ta'rīkh-i Qum

Zahra Azhar

History and Historiography of the Age of Transition in Central Iran: Evidence from Tarikh-e Qom Reconsidered

Khodadad Rezakhani

[title unknown]

Ed Hayes

Room 1.11

83. Media, Modernity, and Public Life in Iran, in the Late nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries

Chair: Hanieh Bakhtiari

Women, Sexuality, and the Public Sphere: Negotiating Modernity in the Iranian Women's Press (1925–1941)

Hanieh Bakhtiari

Visual Public Sphere and Iranian Women, late 19th and early 20th century

Leila Moslemi Mehnani

A Media Archaeology between Paper and Air: Wireless Media and the Transformation of the Public Sphere in Early Pahlavi Iran, 1922–1939

Arash Ghajarjazi

The Cinematic Laboratory of Intimacy in Mid-20th Century Iran

Negar Banisafar

Room 1.15

84. Tracking the Indo-Iranian Origin: Syntactical and Etymological Discussions

Chair: Yuchen Hu

Case Theory Illustrated: the Development of Split Ergativity in Indo-Iranian Languages

Yuchen Hu

Gods of the Other: Re-examining the Vedic Counterparts of Avestan Daēvas

Nezih Seven

Hypotaxis with subordinating conjunctions in Avestan

Myriadne Wang

Room 1.16

85. Global Afterlives: Contemporary Translations of Persian Literature

Chair: Laetitia Nanquette, Samad Alavi

Translation as Social Integration: Persian Poetry Commissioned for Norwegian Publics

Samad Alavi

Afghan Women's Literature in English Translation: Contemporary Anglophone Literary Politics

Anna Learn

New Pathways for Persian Literary Translation in Italy: Ponte33, Brioschi, and the Making of a Market

Giacomo Longhi

Room 1.17

86. Negotiating Worlds: Adaptation and Interpretation in Indo-Persian Literary Thought

Chair: Zakir Hussein

Between Epic and History: The Shāhnāmaic Imagination in Indo-Persian Literature

Zakir Hussein Gul

Seven Faces in a Mirror: Amīr Khusraw and The Poetics of Knowing

Ilma Qureshi

Transmigrating Meanings: The Poetics of Tanāsukh in Bēdil's Masnavi 'Irfān

Hajnalka Kovacs

Reading a Saint: Text, Body, and Sanctity in Ḥaqīqat al-Fuqarā'

Ilgin Nas

Room 1.18

87. War and Polyphony: Representing and Remembering the Iran-Iraq War in Contemporary Cultural Production

Chair: Nahid Siamdoust, Amir Moosavi

Who Cares about a "Forgotten War?": The Iran-Iraq War in recent works of English language literature.

Amir Moosavi

Tactile Memories: Objects of the Iran-Iraq War in the Work of Contemporary Iranian Artists

Hoda Nedaeifar

Hunting the Serial Killer: War Story, Crime Fiction, or Human Rights Manifesto?

Goulia Ghardashkhani

Dead Men Make Good Heroes: Biography and the Cinema of the Iran-Iraq War

Niki Akhavan

Room 2.17

88. Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom

Chair: Ladan Rahbari

Anti-Colonial Rhetoric, (Neo)colonial Violence: "Woman, Life, Freedom" and Unmasking Political Myths through a Gendered Lens

Ladan Rahbari

Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom

Somita Sabeti

Visualizing a New Martyrdom: Who Becomes a Hero in Post-WLF Iran?

89. Rethinking Political Islam in Revolutionary and Post-revolutionary Iran: Apparatus of Control, Embodied Resistance, and Languages of Liberation

Chair: Ehsan Kashfi

From Liberation Theology to Clerical Hegemony: Progressive Muslims and the 1979 Revolution

Mojtaba Mahdavi

Political Islam and Progressive Politics: Post-Islamist Muslim Left à la Habibollah Peyman

Siavash Saffari

The Female Body and the Subject of Resistance: Beyond the Reductionist Logics of "Islamic Authenticity" and "Islamic Oppression"

Azadeh Shabani

90. Embodied Cosmologies: Devotion, Knowledge, and Esoteric Traditions in the Premodern Islamicate World

Chair: Laura Tribuzio

Semen as Frot: Occult and Living Cosmologies of Political Power in the Mujmal al-ḥikma

Laura Tribuzio

Rustamdārī's Lettrist, Practice-Oriented Cosmologies and the Classification of the Occult Sciences in his Encyclopedia *The Gardens of the Righteous*

Dominique Sirgy

Wondrous Ways of Worldmaking: Magic, Marvel, and Miracle in the Miftāḥ al-sa'āda

Ahmed Tahir Nur

Connecting Hindu-Muslim cosmology: Creator, creation and Hindu Gods in the world of Malik Muhammad Jayasi

Anwesha Sengupta

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45-15:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

91. Revisiting Hedayat 2: The Blind Owl - Interpretations and Translations

Chair: Saeed Talajooy, Nasrin Rahimieh

The Irrational Miracle of the Imagination: A Key to Reading the Surreal Works of Sadegh Hedayat

Zeynab Sadeghi

Abraded or burnt eyes in Hedāyat's fiction

Julie Duvigneau

The Underlying Mechanism of Forgetting: A Stylistic Feature of The Blind Owl

Ali Rahmani Ghanavizbaf

The Blind Owl in a Blind Alley of Translations: A Case Study

Rouhollah Zarei

Room 0.17

92. Law, Space and Subjectivity: Institutional Regulation and the Reconfiguration of Urban Space in Tehran (1850s–1940s)

Chair: Zahra Ahari, Fatemeh Tavanaei Marvi

Baladiyeh and the Formation of the Form and Identity of Modern Urban Streets in Tehran (1920–1930)

Fatemeh Ahmadi

Architecturalizing Hygiene: The Shift from Medical to Technical Surveillance in Residential Construction in Iran (1850s–1942)

Fatemeh Tavanaei Marvi

Instituting Spatial Order: Ehtesabyeh, Baladiyeh, and the Gendered Regulation of Space in Modernising Tehran

Sadaf Tabatabaei

Room 0.19

93. Teaching Persian in a Changing World Order: Language Education, Cultural Understanding, and Strategic Role of Language

Chair: Dr. Nahal Akbari

Persian as a Strategic Language in the Age of Immersive Technology: Building Cultural Diplomacy and Educational Resilience

Peyman Nojournian

Sustaining Persian Language Programs: Addressing Students' Needs, Advocacy and Institutional Challenges

Anousha Sedighi

Reimagining Persian Language Teaching: Technology, Multimodal Pedagogy, and Cultural Engagement in a Changing World

Neda Sahranavard

Room 0.21

94. Past and Present: Revisiting the 1979 Iranian Revolution through the Lens of Iran's Current Sociopolitical Dynamics

Chair: Ali Banuazizi

Revolution and Violence: Iran, Russia, and the Afterlives of Revolutionary Power

Touraj Atabaki

Islam and Socialism in Global Perspective: The Tudeh Party of Iran and the Politics of Alliance in Iran 1979 Revolution

Shahab Daneshvar

Islamic Socialists and Secular Marxists: Relationship and interplay on the Eve of Iran's 1979 Revolution

Alirez Behtoui

Leftist intellectuals and the concept of democracy in the 1979 Revolution

Saeed Paivandi

Room 0.22

95. Texts of Dominion, Acts of Dissent: Iranian Gender Politics from Andarz to Instagram

Chair: Mostafa Abedinifard

Advice on Trial: Bibi Khanom Astarabadi and the Forensic Turn in Late Qajar Andarz

Mostafa Abedinifard

Women who own women: African slavery and legacies of Iranian feminism

Wendy DeSouza

My Act Belongs to Me and You: Rethinking Body Performance in the Context of Oppression

Morteza Farhadytooli

Digital Activism and Women's Rights: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Social Movements in Iran

Rahil Golgiri

Room 1.09

96. The Legacy of the Sasanian Empire in Contemporary Iran Through the Perspectives of Language, Art, and Culture

Chair: Pouran Lashini

Echoes of Divine Water in Aesthetic Symbolism From Antiquity to Pre-Modern Art

Pouran Lashini

Sassanian Artistic Heritage in the Visual Arts of Iran, Case Study: The Use of Symbolic Motifs of the Sassanian Era in Contemporary Iranian Graphic Design

Farzaneh Farrokhfar

The Sasanian Legacy in Post-Islamic Persian Literature: Cultural Continuities and the Reinvention of Iranian Identity

Seyedeh Fatemeh Hosseini Mighan

The Role of Mediators in the Linguistic Transmission of the Sasanian Legacy

Neda Sharifi Oroumi

Room 1.10

97. State, Society and Religion under Reza Shah

Chair: Elyas Pirasteh

Reading Order: Police, Pedagogy, and Ideology in Reza Shah's Iran

Elyas Pirasteh

From Justice to Repression: Reza Shah's Shifting Treatment of the Baha'is of Iran

Mina Yazdani

Faith, Faithfulness, and Loyalty: The Formation of Iranian Protestantism during the Reign of Reza Pahlavi

Marcin Rzepka

The Ravanduz Route: The failed attempt of the opening of a commercial road from Tabriz to Mediterranean Sea (1923-1939).

Thomas Bedrede

Room 1.11

98. The 1979 Revolution: Historical Contingencies, Unrealized Possibilities, and Imagined Futures

Chair: Kevan Harris, Peyman Jafari

The Strength of Weak Organizations: How Radicals Captured the State in 1979 Iran

Maryam Alemzadeh

Year One of the Iranian Revolution

Afshin Matin-Asgari

Workers' showras: a revolution within the revolution

Peyman Jafari

The Year of Imagination and Action: Turkmen Council Movement and Beyond

Peyman Vahabzadeh

Room 1.15

99a. Conversation analytic studies of Persian talk-in-interaction: Making visible jointly accomplished practices

Chair: Ali R. Abasi

Describing discourse markers: The affordances of conversation analysis

Ali R. Abasi

On the interface of social cognition and interaction: Face in Persian medical interactions

Ahmad Izadi

99b. Disinformation and misinformation on social media in Iran

Chair: Hossein Kermani

Killing #MahsaAmini on Twitter: An analysis of the dark side of disinformation on Persian Twitter

Hossein Kermani

Rallying around the Flag: Imperial Nostalgia and the Spectacle of Monarchy

Hoornaz Keshavarzian

Room 1.16

100. Circuits of Persian Publishing: Materiality, Networks, and Canon Formation

Chair: Laetitia Nanquette

Informal book circulation in 21st century Iran

Laetitia Nanquette

Visualizing Literary Affiliation, Bad Poetry, and Shadow Canons in 18th- and 19th-Century Persian Manuscripts

Farshad Sonboldel

Purveyors and Pundits: Persian Publishing in the Ottoman Empire and Beyond

Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet

Room 1.17

101. Philology I: Persian and the Critique of Philology

Chair: Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi, Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr

'Its Very Perfection a Danger:' Persian and the Deconstruction of Language

Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr

Against Nativist History: Houshang Golshiri's Prince Ehtejab

Atefeh Akbari Shahmirzadi

The Caucasian Talk Circle: Persian Philology between Klaproth and Akhundzadeh

Amir Izadpanah

Muallim Naci (1850-1893) and The Philological Ends of World Literature

Mehtap Ozdemir

Room 1.18

102. Evolving Traditions: Creativity, Memory, and Musical Agency in the Global Iranian Soundscape

Chair: Hesam Abedini

Ghazal as Formal Structure in Music: The Poetic Architecture Underlying Classical Persian Music in Hossein Omoumi's Voices of Spring

Hesam Abedini

Beyond the Radif: Innovation, Identity, and Instrumental Agency in Ardavan Kamkar's Santur Playing

Mehdi Rezaei

Echoes of Home: Nostalgia and Musical Memory in the Works of Sadegh Nojouki

Behzad Namazi

Room 2.17

103. Reimagining Freedom: Gender, Myth, and the Narrative Politics of the "Woman, Life, Freedom" Movement

Chair: Azadeh Momeni

Narrating "Woman, Life, Freedom": Literary Forms, Diasporic Storytelling, and the Narrative Memory of a Movement

Bahar Momeni

Woman, Life, Freedom: Taboos of sexual freedom and queerness

Shirin Khayambashi

"From Myth to Movement: The Simurgh and the 'Woman, Life, Freedom' in Iran"

Azadeh Momeni

Materials of Resistance: Female Hair in Contemporary Iranian Art

Yasaman Bathaee

Room 2.18

104. Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam

Chair: Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

Literary Qalandars: Ḥakīm Sanā'ī's Qalandariyyāt Poetry and Society

Alexandra Nieweg

Who was Threatened by Jahān-Malik Khātun's Ghazals?

Zhinia Noorian

Antinomian poetics and the Mughal Aesthetics of Unbelief: the Case of Feyzī Fayyāzī

Fatemeh Naghshvarian

Searching for God in the Tavern (Kharābat): The Appeal of Rūmī's Qalandarī Motifs in the Modern World

Maarten Holtzapffel

Room 2.19

105. Roundtable: Israel's June 2025 War on Iran: Reflections on Contested Publics and Media

Chair: Nahid Siamdoust

Messaging Iran: Israeli Propaganda in Persian During the 12-Day War

Rasmus Christian Elling

"Not in Our Name": Insights from an Archive on Iran's Women's (Rights) Advocates

Kristin Soraya Batmanghelichi

The Israeli media and the public perspectives on the war and Iran

Lior Sternfeld

Current and Former Iranian Political Prisoners' Perspectives Regarding Israel and the June 2025 War

Alborz Ghandehari

15:45 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-18:00

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

106. Revisiting Hedayat 3: His Works in Cultural Context

Chair: Michael Beard, Nasrin Rahimieh

Historicizing Hedayat: Archaeotopia to Shitopia

Mohamd Tavakoli-Targhi

Revisiting Realism: Hedayat and the Anthropological Orientation of Persian Fiction

Amy Motlagh

The Formal Aestheticization of Peripheral Modernity Hedayat's Fiction

Omid Azadibougar

Weaving Indian Cultural Nuances into Persian Modernism in Sadegh Hedayat's Works

Nadeem Akhtar

Room 0.17

107. Calligraphy and the Collective Consciousness: Reimagining the Nasta'liq script as a Cultural Vector

Chair: Pouya Jahanshahi

Form, Language, and Identity: Nasta'liq and the Eastern Tradition of Arabic Script

Amirmahdi Moslehi

Performing Beauty: A Filmmaker's Journey with Nasta'liq

Mehran Haghighi

Nasta'liq and Persianate Consciousness? Evidence and Narratives

Seyed Abdolreza Hosseini

Typographic Poetics: Nastalique and the aesthetics Iranian Graphic Design

Pouya Jahanshahi

Room 0.19

108. Studies in Early Modern Persian Literature

Chair: Shaahin Pishbin

The School of Astonishment: Ḥayrat in the Seventeenth-Century Persian ghazal

Shaahin Pishbin

The Mutable Ghazal: Qahramān's Edition of Divān-e Sā'eb and the Manuscript Archive

Paul E. Losensky

Holi in Safavid Verse: Ashraf-i Māzandarānī's Poetic Negotiation of Cultural Encounter

Shahla Farghadani

The dawn of Fayḍī's dīwān: The making of Tabāshīr al-ṣubḥ

Thibaut D. Hubert

Room 0.21

109. Propaganda and Cultural Diplomacy in Pahlavi and Post-Revolutionary Iran

Chair: Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, Dmitry Asinovskiy

Failing Attempts at Fixing Iranian Anti-Imperialism. Soviet Cultural Diplomacy and Propaganda Efforts in the Islamic Republic (1979-1983).

Dmitry Asinovskiy

Politics of Iranian Folklore: From Molla Nasreddin to the USIA

Perin Gurel

The USSR and the Islamic "Cultural Revolution" in Iran: Exporting Anti-Imperialism

Siarhei Bohdan

Capturing the Conference Circuit, Translating the Revolution: The Role of Iranian Arabic Language Journals in Promoting the Islamic Republic in the Early 1980s

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs

Room 0.22

110. Persianate Women in Unexpected Spaces: Sensing Presence and Power

Chair: Amanda Leong

"Interfering in Men's Affairs:" A Qajar Queen Mother and Her Affective Power

Belle Cheves

"Do they have such umbrella-shaped tents and arches?": Recovering and Teaching Early Mughal Women's Architectural Accomplishments

Amanda Leong

The Androgyny of my Soul – Transcending Limitations in Afghanistan's Sufi Practice

Annika Schmeding

The Bibi of Pentacles: Playing Cards, Touch, and the Erotic Female Body in Qajar Visual Culture

Natasha Morris

Room 1.09

111. Translation and Multilingualism in the Jewish-Iranian World

Chair: Jonathan Brack

Writing Persian Jerusalem: Language in the Memoirs of Rafael Haim Hacohen

Eirik Kvindesland

Writings of the Illiterate: Women as Creators of Judeo-Persian texts

Ariane Sadjed

Judeo-Persian Bible Translations and the Early Modern Jewish-Iranian World

Dennis Halft

Aramaic Targumim and Judeo-Persian Bible

Ali B. Langroudi

Room 1.10

112. Persianate Banaras: An Untold Story of Early Modern Multilingualism

Chair: Ojaswini Shekawat

“The Perfect Place for Flirting and Lovemaking”: Unexpected Narratives about Banaras in Seventeenth Century Persian Mathnawīs

Ojaswini Shekhawat

“If There is a Paradise on Earth”: Praising Banaras in Eighteenth-Century Persian Translations from Sanskrit

Ayelet Kotler

Persian literacy and cultural brokerage in the city of pandits

Jean Arzoumanov

A theatre on the Ganges: water and the ascetic body in and around Matan Lal Afarin’s Kashi-stut.

Stefano Pello

Room 1.11

113. New Approaches to the Persian Majmū’a(s) and Jung(s) [book compilations]

Chair: Mahroo Moosavi

Early Modern Persian Majmū’a(s) as Devised Topographies of Sub-texts: The Case of MS. or. fol. 209 in the State Library of Berlin

Mahroo Moosavi

Documentation or Evocation?, Compiled Landscapes and other Nature Images

Margaret Shortle

Majmū’as as Pedagogical Archives: The Kāteb Stemma and the Didactic Function of Safavid Compilations

Gennady Kurin

Room 1.15

114. The Familiar Stranger. Encounters with the Iranian and non-Iranian ‘Other’ in Persian Literature

Chair: Renata Rusek-Kowalska

Shahrnush Parsipur and Her Prison Archipelagos

Renata Rusek-Kowalska

Familiarized strangers – Polish 2nd World War women in the Iranian society

Anna Krasnowolska

Meeting the 'Other': Linguistic and Narrative Strategies in Farhād Ja’fari’s "Café Piano"

Katarzyna Wąsala

Room 1.16

115. Persian and German Literary Encounters

Chair: Annie Pfeifer

Writing Kabul in Berlin After 2021

Michael Swellander

Speaking for Zarathustra: Nietzsche’s Encounter with Zoroastrianism

Annie Pfeifer

Form as Desire: Rückert’s Ghazals between Hafez and Rumi

Yarden Yosef Ben Zur

The Hafez in Platen's Mirror

Amir Irani-Tehrani

116. Philology II: “World Philology” and the Adab Disciplines

Chair: Samuel Hodgkin

Learning, Translation, and Mystical Imagination: Kurdish Engagements within the Persianate Intellectual Geography

Serdar Şengül

Remembering Adab as Discipline and Profession

Samuel Hodgkin

Grammar and Rhetoric in Persianate Islam

Alexander Jabbari

A Mughal Farhang (1608) and a British Colonial Grammar (1771): A Comparative Analysis

Rajeev Kinra

117. Thinking Farsi-zaban Geographies through Afghanistan: Knowledge Production, Archives, and Politics in Transnational Perspective

Chair: Ahmad Rashid Salim, Paniz Musawi Natanzi

Feeling Blackness in Persian-speaking Afghanistan: Masculinity, Politics and the Intellectual in the Dari Underground Rap of Soaban

Paniz Musawi Natanzi

Women, Translation and Farsi-zabān Geographies of Reform

Marya Hannun

Translating Afghanistan: Jonas Hanway Sexualizes the Siege of Isfahan

Mursal Sidiqi

118. Iranian Encounters: Americans with and in Iran, Iranians with America and in the Region

Chair: Norma Claire Moruzzi

The Ties That Bind: U.S.-Iran Relations, 1905-1953

Kelly Shannon

Tied Up in Tehran: Perspectives on Women, Social Change, and Politics of Daily Life

Norma Claire Moruzzi

Mission Manifest: American Evangelicals and Iran in the Twentieth Century

Matthew Shannon

Iran's Rise in the Middle East and its Ramifications

Mohsen Milani

119. Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam II

Chair: Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

Crafting Sufi Authority: Kaygusuz Abdal in the Mirror of the Menâkıbnâme

Leila Rahimi Bahmany

Shams-i Tabrīzī and the Medieval Culture of Listening: Majlis-gū'ī and Oral Transmission

Kourosh Beigpour

‘Aṭṭār and the role of the Wise-Fools in his works

Amin Ghodratzadeh

Normativity in Islamic Studies and the Paradoxes of the Persianate

Matthew Lynch

Room 2.19

120. Faith, Culture, and Their Interplay in Iranian Artistic and Literary Traditions

Chair: Shekoufeh Mohammadi Shirmahaleh

From kīš to dād: reflections on a religious conflict in Ferdowsi's Shahnameh

Shekoufeh Mohammadi Shirmahaleh

Ta'ziyeh Beyond Faith: The Theatrical Body and the Transformation of Ritual in Iranian Cultural Memory

Maryam Palizban

Twilight of Tales: The Real and the Imaginary in Iran, 1850s–1920s

Jaleh Ebrahimi

Five Prominent Archetypes in Persian Folktales Present in Modern Beliefs of Iranian People

Mahboubeh Khorasani

18:15 – 19:15

Keynote Janet Afary

“On the 120th Anniversary of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution:
Reflections from Diaspora”

Leeuwenbergh

Servaasbolwerk
1a, Utrecht 

Saturday, August 8th – Panel sessions

8:30-10:30

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

121. Iranian Engagement with Asia and Latin America in Late Qajar and Early Pahlavi Times

Chair: Houchang Chehabi

Discussant: Roham Alvandi

Revolutionary Mexico in the Eyes of Post-Constitutional Iran

Leonardo Alagband

Mirrors in the East and West: Competitive Solidarities of Iran in the Global 1919

Khosrow Tousi

Iran and the Far Eastern Countries at the League of Nations: An Asian Solidarity?

Leila Koochakzadeh

China Through Iranian Eyes: Looking East in the Constitutional Era, 1901-1911

William Figueroa

Room 0.17

122. On Consumption Across Persian & Arabic Sources

Chair: Ammar Farra, Riwa Roukoz

Alcohol bans, fermentation, and addiction in Safavid Iran

Indran Fernando

Consuming Passion: The Persian Wise Woman in Arabic Erotic Texts

Riwa Roukoz

Philology, History, and Islamic Thought in *Nahj al-Balāgha*: A Study of a Sermon and its Commentators

Ammar Farra

Room 0.19

123. Constraint and Creation: Contemporary Persian Literature and Iranian Cinema as Sites of Social Transformation

Chair: Kamran Talattof, Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani

Eight Stories and the Power of Detail: How Descriptive Realism Reshaped Iranian Literary Resistance

Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani

"I Untie the Knot of Fate from My Hair": Gendered Poetic and Revolutionary Agency in Batul 'Azizpur's Revolutionary Poetry

Eszter Melitta Szabo

From Homeland to Exile: Negotiating Identity, Belonging, and Home in the Novels of Simin Daneshvar, Zoya Pirzad, and Hamed Esmaeilion

Parvaneh Hosseini

Room 0.21

124a. Modern Iranian Intellectual History in an Age of Global History

Chair: Negin Nabavi, Assef Ashraf

Economic Thinking in Qajar-Era Political Thought

Assef Ashraf

Portrait of a Perso-Ottoman Intellectual at the 'Edge' of Empire: Hüseyin Daniş

Tanya Lawrence

Translation of Philosophy into Persian: Scholarship as Activism

Roman Seidel

124b. Hidden Voices, Veiled Desires: Gender and Eroticism in Early Modern Persian Poetry

Chair: Paul E. Losensky

Crossing Borders and Boundaries: Shahrbānū Begum and the Gendered Experience of Sacred Travel

Maryam Moazzen

A Prince, a Sufi, and the Polysemous Eroticism of Hilālī's Shāh va Darvīsh

Chad Lingwood

Recognising Plato's Kingdom in the Cataclysm of Greece episode in Amir Khusrau Dehalvi's Ā'īna-ye Sikandarī?

Ankur Desval Fehrani

Room 0.22

125. Echoes Across Borders: Persian Literature in Comparative Perspective

Chair: Ankur Desval Fehrani

Recognising Plato's Kingdom in the Cataclysm of Greece episode in Amir Khusrau Dehalvi's Ā'īna-ye Sikandarī?

Ankur Desval Fehrani

Polyphonic Histories: Narrative Fragmentation, Collective Memory, and National Decline in Abbas Maroufi's Symphony of the Dead and William Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury

Farahnaz Orandi

Irony and Modern Consciousness in Franz Kafka's A Hunger Artist and Bahram Sadeghi's Mr. Novelist Is a Beginner

Nadere Jaladat

Echoes of a Fractured Home: A Computational Study of Hybrid Identity in Diasporic and Domestic Novels by Iranian women writers

Elham Vatankhahan Esfahani

Room 1.09

126. The Role of Education in the Modernization Project of the Reza Shah Government

Chair: Saeede Soltanimoghadam

Theatre and Politics under Reza Shah

Hasan Noori

Literary Reflections on Modern Educational Discourse in Reza Shah's Iran

Sara Shafieezadeh Garousi

Negotiating Tradition and Modernity: Women's Education Policies During Reza Shah Pahlavi's Era

Hamideh Mohammadi

Room 1.10

127. New Perspectives on the Iranian Revolution

Chair: Ali Banuazizi

Actors, Classes, and Provincial Divergence: Revolutionary Mobilization in Gilan, 1978–79

Misagh Javadpour

The Gathering Storm: The Rastakhiz Party Facing Revolutionary Turmoil (November 1977–October 1978)

Salomé Michel

The Ettihad-e Demokratik-e Mardom-e Iran and the Iranian Revolution, 1978-79

Siavush Randjbar-Daemi

Room 1.17

128. Unions with the Supernatural in Popular Persian Literature and Devotional Drama

Chair: Babak Rahimi, Sara Khalili Jahromi

Cain's Appointed Wife: Human or Pari?

Sara Khalili Jahromi

An Entrance from the Divine: Tavalod-e Isa (The Birth of Jesus) a Shi'i Devotional Drama

E. Lucy Deacon

From Fairy Tale to Legend: The Pari–Human Marriage Motif in Persian Fairy Tales

Davood Khazaie

Room 1.18

129. Itinerant Voices: Musico-Poetic Performance On the Borders of Iran

Chair: Marie Huber

Sounding Time: Musico-Poetic Devotion among the Mojaddedi Naqshbandis of Torbat-e Jām

Marie Huber

Afghan Rubab in the Herat–Khorasan Frontier

Miguel Ángel Gasco Rodríguez

Sounds of a thousand hills: Making music in and around Sanandaj

Gay Jennifer Breyley

Preserving Memory in Motion: The Status of Balochi Pahlawāns in Contemporary Iran

Maryam Nourzaei

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30

Annual General Meeting

Leeuwenbergh

Servaasbolwerk
1a, Utrecht 

List of Participants AIS Utrecht 2026

Abasi, Ali R.	Azhar, Zahra	Cereti, Carlo Giovanni
Abdi, Bahar	Azimi, Amin	Chagnon, Michael
Abdul Razak, Rowena	Aziz, Sarah	Chehabi, Houchang
Abdulrahman, Kareem	Azizi, Arash	Cheves, Belle
Abedini, Hesam	Bahl, Christopher	Chiru, Adela Nicoleta
Abedini, Vahid	Bakhtiari, Hanieh	Chu, Dayeon
Abedinifard, Mostafa	Banisafar, Negar	Clement, Michelle
Aberi Zahed, Sahra	Balslev, Sivan	Cole, Juan
Abrahamian, Ervand	Baltacioglu-Brammer, Ayse	Colliva, Luca
Afary, Janet	Barzegar, Ebrahim	Cronin, Stephanie
Aghaie, Fateme	Bathae, Yasaman	Cross, Cameron
Ahari, Zahra	Batmanghelichi, Kristin	Daemi, Faezeh
Ahmadi, Fatemeh	Soraya	Daneshvar, Shahab
Akbari Shahmirzadi, Atefeh	Banuazizi, Ali	Darbinian, Noonik
Akbari, Nahal	Bauer, Janet	Daryae, Touraj
Akbari, Reza H.	Bayat, Asef	Davari, Arash
Akhavan, Niki	Bazyar, Marziyeh	Davidson, M. Olga
Akhbari, Rouzbeh	Beard, Michael	Davoudi, Jamileh
Akhmedjanova, Kamila	Beaud, Guillaume	De Groot, Joanna
Akhtar, Nadeem	Bedrede, Thomas	Deacon, Lucy
Alaghsband, Leonardo	Behbehani, Shekoufeh	Delshad, Parisa
Alavi, Samad	Behtoui, Alirez	Delvarani, Aryasp
Alemzadeh, Maryam	Beigpour, Kourosh	DePierro, Melissa
Alizadeh, Yass	Ben Zur, Yarden Yosef	DeSouza, Wendy
Allen, Lindsay	Benfey, Thomas	Desval Fehrani, Ankur
Alvandi, Roham	Benson, Jake	Ding, Iskandar
Amini, Simin	Berger, Simon	Dixon, Martin
Amir, Daniel	Besozzi, Sheida	Dorleijn, Margreet
Amryan, Tereza	Biglari, Mattin	Dreyer, Carina
Andreeva, Elena	Birjandifar, Nazak	Durand-Guédy, David
Arcak Casale, Sinem	Blackthorne-O'Barr, Erik	Duvigneau, Julie
Ardekanian, Amirali	Blajet, Zuzanna	Ebrahimi, Jaleh
Arnoux, Quentin	Bochenska, Joanna	Eghbalizarch,
Arushanyan, Arpine	Bockholt, Philip	Mohammadreza
Arzoumanov, Jean	Bohdan, Siarhei	Ehsani, Kaveh
Ashraf, Assef	Boka, Shima	Ekiz, Ahmet Baris
Asinovskiy, Dmitry	Borhan, Behzad	Elling, Rasmus Christian
Askari, Nasrin	Boylston, Nicholas	Emrani, Haleh
Atabaki, Touraj	Brack, Jonathan	Errichiello, Mariano
Atamaz, Serpil	Breyley, Gay	Eslami, Elaheh
Avchyan, Hakob	Brookshaw, Dominic Parviz	Esmailpour, Naghmeh
Avvali, Arash M.	Bruno, Jacopo	Fakhraeirad, Armaghan
Aydemir, Mert	Camacho Padilla, Fernando	Farazmand, Parang
Azad, Arezou	Capps, Kyle	Farghadani, Shahla
Azadibougar, Omid	Carmi, Omer	Farhadytooli, Morteza

Faroughi, Fatemeh	Heller, Anna Dorothee	Kazemipourleilabadi, Negar
Farra, Ammar	Herzig, Edmund	Keivan, Shafigheh
Farrokhfar, Farzaneh	Heshmati, Ata	Kermani, Hossein
Farzaneh, Mateo	Heydarkhani, Maryam	Keshavarzian, Hoornaz
Mohammad	Hodgkin, Samuel	Khademi, Manizheh
Fayyaz, Fatima	Hoffmann, Alexandra	Khalili Jahromi, Sara
Fazli, Mozghan	Holtzapffel, Maarten	Khayambashi, Shirin
Fernando, Indran	Homayoonzad, Niloofar	Khazaie, Davood
Figueroa, William	Hoodfar, Homa	Khetia, Vinay
Fozi, Navid	Hooman, Niloofar	Khezri, Haidar
Fozoon, Babak	Hormozinejad, Sara	Khorasani, Mahboubeh
Fuchs, Simon Wolfgang	Hosseini Ghaffari, Fatemeh	Kia, Mana
Gabbay, Alyssa	Hosseini, Parvaneh	Kian, Azadeh
Ghaderi, Farangis	Hosseini, Sajede	Kim, Gunha
Ghaffari, Mahbod	Hosseini, Seyed Abdolreza	Kinra, Rajeev
Ghajarjazi, Arash	Hosseinioun, Delaram	Kiong Teh, Guan
Ghandehari, Alborz	Hossini Mighan, Fatemeh	Kjaran, Jon
Ghardashkhani, Goulia	Hu, Yuchen	Kłagisz, Mateusz
Gheissari, Ali	Huber, Marie	Koh, Taejin
Ghodratzadeh, Amin	Hubert, Thibaut D.	Kolly, Maryam
Gholami, Rahim	Hunsberger, Alice	Koo, Gi Yeon
Ghomashlouyan, Moslem	Hussein Gul, Zakir	Koochakzadeh, Leila
Ghorbankarimi, Maryam	Insom, Camilla	Kotler, Ayelet
Ghuloom, Rana	Irani-Tehrani, Amir	Kovacs, Hajnalka
Giunashvili, Helen	Izadi, Ahmad	Kowalska, Renata Rusek
Gledhill, Kevin	Izadpanah, Amir	Koyagi, Mikiya
Golgiri, Rahil	Izzo, Gianni	Krasnowolska, Anna
Golshan, Mohammad	Jabbari, Alexander	Kurin, Gennady
Goswami, Shubham	Jafari, Peyman	Kvindesland, Eirik
Gradoni, Mark	Jahanbani, Neda	Kwak, Saera
Gray, Jan-Willem	Jahanshahi, Pouya	Langer, Axel
Gurel, Perin	Jaladat, Nadere	Langroudi, Ali B.
Gustafson, James	Javadpour, Misagh	Lashini, Pournan
Habibi, Negar	Jones, Tobias	Lashkari, Maryam
Haghighi, Mehran	Kalb, Zep	Lawrence, Tanya
Hajiagha, Azad Rahim	Kamali Sarvestani, Mehrak	Learn, Anna
Hajyasini, Haleh	Kameli, Marziyeh	Lee, John W.I.
Halft, Dennis	Kamola, Stefan	Leezenberg, Michiel
Hameed, Hasan	Kana'an, Ruba	Leong, Amanda
Hannun, Marya	Karakurt, Hevin	Lewental, D Gershon
Hart, Fuchsia	Karimi, Nilufar	Lingwood, Chad
Hartley, Julia	Kashani-Sabet, Firoozeh	Litvak, Meir
Hashemipour, Ashkan	Kashfi, Ehsan	Lob, Eric
Hassani, Hannah	Kaveh, Yalda	Longhi, Giacomo
Hayes, Ed	Kavianifar, Farinaz	Losensky, Paul E.
Headrick, Isabelle	Kayir Ucsu, Gul Banu	Lynch, Matthew
Hegland, Mary Elaine	Kazemi, Ranin	Mahdavi, Mojtaba
Heller, Anna	Kazemi, Ali Reza	Maleki, Kimia

Marandi Lopez, Leila	Mousavi, Razieh S.	Rahimi, Masoumeh
Marashi, Afshin	Movahedi-Lankarani, Ciruce	Rahimi, Mohammadreza
Maresca, Giulio	Mozafari, Parmis	Rahimieh, Nasrin
Martínez Porro, Jaime	Musawi Natanzi, Paniz	Rahmani Ghanavizbaf, Ali
Masjedi, Fatemeh	Nabavi, Negin	Rahmani Ghanavizbaf, Nima
Masoudi Nejad, Reza	Naghibi, Nima	Raissadat, Sepideh
Matin-Asgari, Afshin	Naghshvarian, Fatemeh	Rakowiecka-Asgari, Karolina
Matsunaga, Yasuyuki	Nagy, Gregory	Randjbar-Daemi, Siavush
Matthee, Rudi	Nair, Arjun	Rasekhian, Sepideh
Mazdeh, Vahid	Najafi, Mahnam	Rashid Salim, Ahmad
Mazhjoo, Nina	Namazi, Behzad	Rekabtalaei, Golbarg
Mazrouei, Shiva	Nanquette, Laetitia	Rezaee, Maryam
Mazzocchi, Dario	Nas, Ilgin	Rezakhani, Khodadad
Michel, Salomé	Nedaeifar, Hoda	Rezania, Mehdi
Mihan, Shiva	Nehzati, Sarah	Rhoné-Quer, Camille
Milani, Mohsen	Niechciał, Paulina	Rodriguez, Miguel Angel
Milanloo, Hadi	Nienhaus-Naghashian, Bita	Gasco
Mincheva, Dilyana	Nieweg, Alexandra	Rokni, Siavash
Mirahmadi, Sara	Niroumand, Ali	Römer, Benedikt
Mirshahvalad, Minoo	Nojournian, Peyman	Roukoz, Riwa
Mirzaee Jadideslami,	Noori, Hasan	Rzepka, Marcin
Mohammadali	Noorian, Zhinia	Saadi-Nejad, Manya
Mitchell, Colin	Nooshin, Laudan	Sabeti, Somita
Moazzen, Maryam	Nourzaei, Maryam	Saçmalı, Habib
Moghadam, Amin	O'Malley, Austin	Sadan, Amit
Moghaddam, Melika	Oghalai, Bahar	Sadeghi, Zeynab
Mohagheghi, Arash	Omidi, Reza	Sadeghian, Saghar
Mohammadi Shirmahaleh,	Orandi, Farahnaz	Sadjed, Ariane
Shekoufeh	Orthmann, Eva	Saeidi, Ali
Mohammadi, Hamideh	Ozdemir, Mehtap	Safaeipour, Hadi
Mokhtarian, Jason	Pagliani, Fabio	Saffari, Siavash
Molaie, Sara	Paivandi, Saeed	Sahranavard, Neda
Momeni, Azadeh	Pak, Nacim	Salim, Ahmad Rashid
Momeni, Bahar	Palizban, Maryam	Salmasi, Aysa
Monastyrskaya, Darya	Papoliyazdi, Ali	Samini, Naghmeh
Montazeri, Fateme	Pello, Stefano	Scharbrodt, Oliver
Moosavi, Amir	Pfeifer, Annie	Schmeding, Annika
Moosavi, Mahroo	Pirasteh, Elyas	Sedighi, Anousha
Moossavi, Boshra	Pishbin, Shaahin	Seidel, Roman
Morris, Natasha	Pistor-Hatam, Anja	Şengül, Serdar
Moruzzi, Norma	Poor, Daryoush	Sengupta, Anwesha
Moshiri, Abolfazl	Pourzand, Azadeh	Seven, Nezh
Moslehi, Amirmahdi	Quinn, Sholeh	Seyed-Gohrab, Asghar
Moslemi Mehnai, Leila	Qurboniev, Aslisho	Shabani, Azadeh
Motadel, David	Qureshi, Ilma	Shabani-Jadidi, Pounesh
Motlagh, Amy	Rahbari, Ladan	Shablovskaya, Alisa
Mottahedeh, Negar	Rahimi Bahmany, Leila	Shafiezhadeh Garousi, Sara
Mousavi, Bita	Rahimi, Babak	Shah, Zahra

Shahidi, Iqan
 Shahzadi, Ramin
 Shajiei, Shadi
 Shakerifard, Solmaz
 Sham Roshan, Mehdi
 Shams, Fatemeh
 Shannon, Kelly
 Shannon, Matthew
 Sharifi Oroumi, Neda
 Sharifi, Meraj
 Shawki-Aziz Gómez,
 Yashmina María
 Sheffield, Daniel
 Sheibani, Khatereh
 Shekhawat, Ojaswini
 Shortle, Margaret
 Siamdoust, Nahid
 Sidiqi, Mursal
 Siebertz, Roman
 Simidchieva, Marta
 Sirgy, Dominique
 Sohrabi, Nader
 Soltanimoghadam, Saeede
 Sonboldel, Farshad
 Steele, Robert
 Sternfeld, Lior
 Sturkenboom, Ilse
 Subtelny, Maria
 Swellander, Michael

Szabo, Eszter Mlitta
 Szanto, Edith
 Szitar, Kristof
 Tabandeh, Reza
 Tabatabaei, Sadaf
 Tadrissi, Shima
 Taha, Amir
 Tahir Nur, Ahmed
 Talajooy, Saeed
 Talattof, Kamran
 Talebi, Nader
 Taleghani, Azita
 Tamimi Arab, Pooyan
 Tavakol, Mahdieh
 Tavakoli, Mohamad
 Tavakoli-Targhi, Mohamad
 Tavanaei Marvi, Fatemeh
 Terribili, Gianfilippo
 Tiburcio, Alberto
 Tonoyan, Artyom
 Touraj, Mahdi
 Tousi, Khosrow
 Tribuzio, Laura
 Tzfadya, Ezra
 Vahabzadeh, Peyman
 Vali Zadeh, Mahdieh
 Van den Berg, Gabrielle
 Vassalli, Massimiliano

Vatankhahan Esfahani,
 Elham
 Vejdani, Farzin
 Verij Kazemi, Abbas
 Vigotti, Lorenzo
 Vossoughi, Shirin
 Wang, Myriadne
 Wąsala, Katarzyna
 Yaghoobi, Claudia
 Yamamoto, Kumiko
 Yazdani, Mina
 Yazdani, Yalda
 Yekta, Nilou
 Yin, Ruinong
 Yoshinari, Mary
 Yousefi, Najm
 Zahedi, Farshad
 Zahiremami, Parisa
 Zaidi, Abid
 Zannota, Sara
 Zarantonello, Marianna
 Zarei, Rouhollah
 Zenhari, Roxana
 Zerehdaran, Farzad
 Zhaf, Mahrour
 ZiaiiBigdeli, Layah
 Zischkin, Theresa

List of Spaces and Events

REGISTRATION

August 5th: **Domkerk** - Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht. (Click  to see location on Google Maps)

August 6-8th: **Domkerk, Sacristie** - Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht. (Click  to see location on Google Maps)

On **Wednesday 5 August**, registration will be open from **13:00 – 17:00** in the **Domkerk** (Dom Church). Please follow the signs to 'Registration' when entering the building. This is where we will be ready to hand out your badge to you. The registration desk will be available prior to the opening ceremony, which will also take place in the Domkerk.

On **Thursday 6 and Friday 7** badges can be collected at **Domkerk, Sacristie** - Domplein 31, between 9:00 and 17:00. Please note that badge pickup will **not be available on Saturday 8 August**.

CONFERENCE BADGE

On Saturday, Utrecht University is open to AIS participants and visitors only, not to students. Please wear your badges at all times, to ensure that security will recognize you and allow you to enter the conference buildings.

CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Utrecht University is not located on a single campus; instead, its faculties and departments are spread throughout the city of Utrecht.

All panel sessions will take place at:

- Janskerkhof 2/3 (3512 BK Utrecht), a historic building in the city centre. 
- Keynotes will take place at Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht

Below you will find pictures of the different panel rooms. For more information, you can also visit this album: <https://myalbum.com/album/pEhuzTZZbyV7>



Room 0.13 (150 people)

Room 0.17 (26 people)



Room 0.19 (50 people)



Room 0.21 (50 people)



Room 0.22 (26 people)



Room 1.09 (26 people)



Room 1.10 (26 people)



Room 1.11 (26 people)



Room 1.15 (26 people)



Room 1.16 (26 people)



Room 1.17 (26 people)



Room 1.18 (26 people)



Room 2.17 (26 people)



Room 2.18 (26 people)



Room 2.19 (26 people)



Most plenary sessions will be held at other venues, all within walking distance of Janskerkhof:

- Domkerk Utrecht – Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht, a medieval church and iconic city landmark. 📍
- Utrecht University Museum – Oude Hortus, Lange Nieuwstraat 106, 3512 PN Utrecht, a historic botanical garden and museum of science. 📍
- Leeuwenbergh – Servaasbolwerk 1A, 3512 NK Utrecht, a historic former church now hosting cultural events. 📍

Scan the blue QR code to access the interactive map with all conference venues. (Or click [here](#))



Scan the orange QR code to access the interactive map with all the conference hotels. (Or click [here](#))



ACCESSIBILITY OF CONFERENCE BUILDINGS

Nearly all conference areas are accessible to wheelchairs. Janskerkhof 2-3 and 15A have a special side door.

Please ask one of the volunteers if you need help accessing one of our buildings.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE ONLINE

The entire conference schedule is also to be found at <https://associationforiranianstudies.org/conferences/2026> and <https://beyondsharia.nl/>

AV AND MEDIA NEEDS

All rooms are equipped with a computer and a projector. All rooms are Windows orientated, so if you plan on using a Mac computer, please make sure you bring the right cables and/or adapters (also, most rooms do not have international sockets).

AIS staff and volunteers are present in each building in case assistance is required. Below you will find pictures of the different panel rooms. For more information about the different panel rooms, please visit <https://myalbum.com/album/pEhuzTZZbyV7>.

WIFI

Eduroam Wi-Fi is available in all Utrecht University buildings. Log in with your personal user account from your own institution.

Guests who do not have access to eduroam can use eduroam **Visitor Access** (eVA), the guest network of eduroam. Access can be obtained as follows: several screens at UU display a **daily code** (keyword) and a phone number for accessing eduroam. When you text the daily code (keyword) from your mobile phone to the displayed phone number, you will receive a username and password by text message to log in. Access remains valid for the entire day.

BOOK EXHIBIT

The book Exhibit will take place in the Sacristie of the Domkerk, on Thursday and Friday between 9:00 en 17:00.

REFRESHMENT AREAS

Coffee, tea and water will be available at regular intervals throughout the conference.

Note that in the Netherlands, it is totally safe (and delicious) to drink water from the tap. In order to reduce waste, please bring your own water bottle with you.

WHERE TO EAT

Utrecht has a vibrant selection of restaurants, cafés, and bars offering cuisines from around the world. Since Utrecht is a relatively small city and many restaurants can become busy in the evenings, we recommend making reservations in advance whenever possible. Please note that most kitchens close around 22:00.

For reservations, you may find the online booking platform [TheFork](#) useful.

Below is a selection of restaurants located in or near Utrecht's city centre.

International

- Winkel van Sinkel
- International · Oudegracht 158
- Luc Utrecht
- International · Voor Clarenburg 8
- Restaurant Loof
- International · Domplein 8
- KARAF Food & Drinks
- International · Korte Jansstraat 13–15
- Copper Branch Utrecht
- Plant-based / Vegan · Steenweg 37
- Heaven & Earth
- Fine Dining / International · Keistraat 8

Central Asian/ Asian

- Silk Road Utrecht
- Asian / Central Asian · Oudegracht aan de Werf 159
- Sarban Afghan Restaurant
- Afghan · Oudegracht aan de Werf 161
- Mahanakorn
- Thai · Oudegracht aan de Werf 140
- Konnichiwa
- Japanese · Mariaplaats 9
- Ulu Bar
- Asian · Voorstraat 102
- India Port
- Indian · Oudegracht aan de Werf 144
- Veg Nation
- Indian (Vegetarian) · St Jacobsstraat 323

Mediterranean

- The Qataris
- Mediterranean · Mariaplaats 24
- Restaurant Istanbul
- Turkish · Zadelstraat 26
- Ana's Meze & Mangal
- Turkish · Voorstraat 62
- Greek Restaurant Taverna
- Greek · Oudegracht aan de Werf 101
- **Grill**
- Meat & More
- BBQ / Grill · Mariastraat 8
- Balkangrill Boro
- BBQ / Grill · Oudegracht 63

European

- Ndujame
- Italian · Oudegracht 210
- Florent
- French · Visschersplein 75
- The Mignon
- French · Boterstraat 15
- Koenraad Utrecht
- European · Voorstraat 14
- The Little Chicken
- European · Van Asch van Wijckskade 26
- Zala's
- European Fine Dining · Trans 7
- Mick O'Connells
- Irish / European · Jansdam 3

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

Participants are advised to ensure that they have appropriate **personal insurance coverage** for their attendance at the conference and their stay in the Netherlands, including travel and health insurance. Utrecht University does not accept responsibility for any loss, injury, damage, or unforeseen circumstances that may occur in connection with participation in the event.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency, always call our university security number: + 3130 253 44 44. The Dutch emergency number in order to directly reach emergency services (ambulance, police, fire and rescue) is 112.

TRANSPORT TO, IN AND AROUND UTRECHT

Public transportation (openbaar vervoer, OV)

It is easy to get around with public transport in the Netherlands. You can plan your trip using apps like 9292 or Google Maps, which cover all types of public transport.

To use public transport in Utrecht, you'll need to pay with an OV-chipkaart, or use a contactless payment option. You can buy a single use / disposable OV-chip card at the yellow machines at the train station. Visit www.ns.nl/en to plan your trip by train from the airport to Utrecht.

By bike

The fastest way of getting around in the city centre of Utrecht is by bike. There are various places where you can rent a bike. Please be careful to always park your bike in a bicycle stand or shed. Please also make sure to lock your bike whenever you park it, preferably to a physical object.

By foot

The city centre of Utrecht is quite small and very walkable. If you stay close to the conference locations, you will probably not need to make use of public transportation.

We would recommend downloading the map of Utrecht on your phone before your arrival. That way, you can navigate your way through the city using GPS.

Venues

Domkerk



Domkerk, Sacristie



Janskerkhof 2/3



Leeuwenbergh



Universiteitsmuseum / Oude Hortus

