



# CENTER FOR IRANIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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## *Encyclopædia Iranica*: Volume X Published Fascicle 1, Volume XI in Press

With the publication of fascicle 6 in the Summer of 2001, Volume X of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* was completed. The first fascicle of Volume XI is in press and will be published in December 2001. The first fascicle of volume XI features over 60 articles on various aspects of Persian culture and history.

### PRE-ISLAMIC PERSIA

Nine entries feature Persia's Pre-Islamic history and religions: "Gnosticism" in pre-Islamic Iranian world, by **K. Rudolph**. "Gobryas," the most widely known form of the old Persian name Gaub(a)ruva, by **R. Schmitt**. "Giyān Tepe," large archeological mound located in Lorestan province, by **E. O. Negahban**. "Godin Tepe," Median archeological site in central Zagros, by **T. Cuyler Young, Jr.** "Gobadshah," name of a mythical ruler first appearing in medieval Zoroastrianism, by **D. N. Mackenzie**. "Golinduch," 6th century female Christian martyr, by **S. Brock**. "Robert Gobl," noted Austrian numismatist, by **M. Alram**. "Gobayra," medieval township in Kerman province, by **A. D. H. Bivar**. And "Gold" i.e. production of gold in Persia in the pre-Islamic period, by **J. Ross**.



### ISLAMIC PERSIA: HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

Eight entries treat Persian history from medieval to modern times, including "Golden Horde," name given to the Mongol Khanate ruled by the descendents of Juji, the eldest son of Genghis Khan, by **P. Jackson**. "Golshan-e Morad," a history of the Zand Dynasty, authored by Mirza Mohammad Abu'l-Hasan Ghaffari, by **J. Perry**. "Golestan Treaty," agreement arranged under British auspices to end the Russo-Persian War of 1804-13, by **E. Daniel**. "Joseph Arthur de Gobineau," French man of letters, artist, polemist, Orientalist, and diplomat who served as Ambassador of France in the court of Naser al-Din Shah and wrote on Persia, by **J. Calmard**. "Jacobus Golius," Orientalist of the Safavid period, by **J. T. P. De Bruijn**. "Major Gen-

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## Gala Benefit Dinner Los Angeles, March 9, 2002

Annual gala benefit dinners organized by Friends of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* are becoming a feature of our fundraising activities. The recent series of such galas began in New York in 1999, followed by a gala in Washington D.C. in 2001, both characterized by excellent programs, large attendance, and splendid results. The next gala benefit dinner will take place in Los Angeles at the Beverly Hills Hotel on March 9, 2002 and it promises to be one of the most

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### Shirin Neshat at Iranian-American Forum

On the 22nd of September, the *Encyclopædia Iranica*'s Iranian-American Forum (IAF) organized its inaugural event: a cocktail party and presentation by Shirin Neshat at the Plum Blossoms Gallery in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan. IAF's lecture series are organized to raise awareness and understanding for *Encyclopædia Iranica*, promote dialogue among those interested in Persian culture, particularly young professionals, and explore Persian arts, poetry, literature, and cinema.

Internationally renowned photography and video artist **Shirin Neshat** proved an excellent choice for this event. Neshat's works, which question presumptions about gender roles in Islam, have been exhibited in many countries, and her solo shows have been held at the Whitney Museum of American Art, London's Tate Gallery of Modern Art, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

In his opening remarks Prof. Yarshater extended the appreciation of the staff of *Encyclopædia Iranica* to Shirin Neshat and the Executive Committee of the Iranian-American

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• Gold cup from 8th-7th B.C.E., Iran Bastan Museum, Tehran; from the entry "Gold."



• Mirror Case, from the entry "Gol o Bolbol."

eral Goldsmid," British scholar, negotiator and arbitrator of the Perso-Afghan boundary dispute in 1870s, by **D. Wright**. "Arbab Rostam Giv," Zoroastrian philanthropist and Senator, by **F. Mehr**. "Abbasqoli Golshaian," civil servant, minister in several cabinets, and governor-general of major provinces in the Pahlavi period, by **A. Milani**.

#### ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Art and Architecture is the subject



• Gold bracelet, 11th-12th Century; Smithsonian Institution. From the entry "Gold"

European artists in the Golestan Palace Library; "Golestan-e Honar," a 16th century treatise on the art of calligraphy, both by **K. Eslami**.

#### LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS:

Persian language and literature is the subject of seven entries. An entry on Sadi's "*Golestan*," probably the single most influential work of prose in the Persian tradition, by **F. Lewis**. "Hosayn Golgolab," botanist, musician, poet, scholar, and member of the Persian Academy of Language, by **H. Ettehad-Baboli**. "Gioni," a Persian dialect of the Northern Lori Type, by **C. Mackinnon**. "Francis Gladwin," lexicographer and translator of works of Persian literature into English, by **P. Loloi**. "Golchin Gilani," pen-

name of the 20<sup>th</sup> century poet Majd al-Din Mirfakhra'i, by **A. Karimi-Hakkak**. "A. Ahmad Golchin-e Ma'ani," literary scholar, bibliographer, and poet, by **I. Afshar**. And "Barnama-ye Golha," (lit., Flower Program) a series of radio programs combining classical Persian music and Persian poetry, that was on the air for almost 23 years from 1956-79, by **D. Pirnia** and **E. Nakjavani**.

of six entries, comprising "Andre Godard," French architect, archeologist, and art historian, by **E. Gran-Aymerich** and **M. Marefat**. "Gol o Bolbol," (rose and nightingale), a popular literary and decorative theme, by **L. Diba**. "Gholamreza K h o s h n e v i s Esfahani," calligrapher and epigraphist of late 19th century Persia; and "Ali Akbar Golestana," a calligrapher, scholar, and mystic of late 19th century Persia, both by **M. Ekhtiar**. "Golshan Album," a sumptuous 16th-century album of paintings, drawings, calligraphy, and engravings by Mughal, Persian, Deccani, Turkish, and



"J. A. de Gobineau"

Also related to literature is the entry "Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von" on Hafez's influence on the German poet, by **H. Tafazoli**; and "Goethe Institute in Tehran," German institute for teaching German abroad founded in 1951, by **H. Chehabi**.

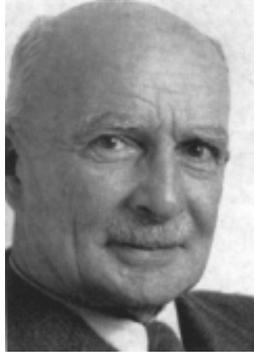
#### PRESS:

A number of Persian newspapers, magazines, and publishers are treated in this fascicle, including "*City*," leftist daily paper published in 1943; "*Gole Zard*," literary, socio-satirical newspaper published from 1918-24; "*Golestan*," several newspapers by that name published in Tehran; and "*Golshan*," cultural magazine published in the early days of 1917 in Tehran, all by **N. Parvin**. "Farid al-Dawla Golgun," Constitutionalist and journalist, publisher and editor of *Golgun* newspaper published in Hamadan, by **P. Azkai**. And "*Golaqa*," a weekly satirical magazine founded by Kayumart Saberi in 1990, by **Eir**.

#### SHI'ISM AND SUFISM

Shi'ism and Sufism are the subject of five entries: "Gholat," Arabic term for "exaggerators" applied to extremist Shi'ites, by **H. Halm**. "Ala'-al-Din

Golestana," prominent religious scholar of the Safavid period from Shiraz, by **H. Algar**. Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Mohammad "Golpayagani," a prominent Shi'ite source of emulation (*marja-e taqlid*) at Qom in the early 1960s-early



• "André Godard"

1990s, by **A. Kazemi Mousavi**. "Gisudaraz," popular title of Sayyed Mohammad b. Yusof Hosayni, Indian transmitter of Sufi traditions, by **R. M. Eaton**. "Golshan-e Raz," (The

Rose Garden of Mysteries), a concise didactic mathnavi explaining over 1,000 terms and concepts of Sufism, by **H. Algar**.

#### MATERIAL CULTURE & GEOGRAPHY

Five entries treat material culture, including "Giva," a traditional footwear in



• Ewer with cut decoration, 10th-12th Century from the entry "Glass"

Persia, by **J. Sadaqat-Khish**. "Golab," rosewater, by **H. A'lam**. "Glass," i.e., production of glass in Persia from pre-Islamic period, by **J. Kroger**. "Gold," i.e., production of gold in Persia in the pre-Islamic period by, J. Ross and in Islamic Period by **J. Allan**.

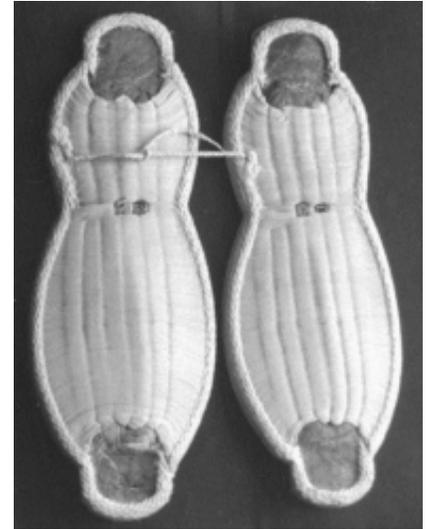
Also presented in this fascicle are three entries on flora of Persia: two of them thorough articles under the title "Gol," one in the sense of "Rose," the other in the sense of "Flower"; and "Golpar," any of several perennial aromatic herbaceous plants of the genus *Heracleum*, both by **H. A'lam**.

Geography of Persia is the subject of two entries: "Glaciers and Ice Fields in Persia", by **E. Ehlers**; and "Golpayagan," sub-province and town located in Isfahan province, by **M. Yousofnezhad**.

#### CENTRAL ASIA, INDIA, AND OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Cultural relations between Persia and neighboring countries of Central Asia, Indian Sub-continent, and Ottoman Empire is the subject of eight entries: "Gojdavan," town and district close to Bukhara, by **H.**

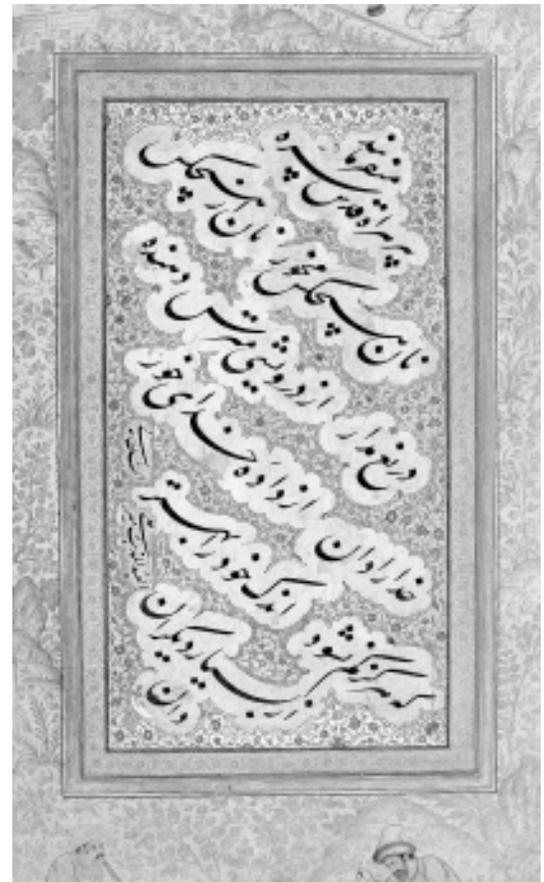
**Borjian**. "Ghobari, Abd-al-Rahman b. Abd-Allah," Ottoman poet, calligrapher, and Sufi who wrote in both Turkish and Persian; "Golpinarli Abdolbaki," Turkish scholar, noted in particular for his studies of the Turkish Sufi orders; "Golshahri Solayman," Ottoman Sufi and poet who wrote in Persian and Turkish, all by **T. Yazici**. "Golshani Ebrahim," Sufi, poet, and the founder of the Golshaniya branch of the Khalwati Sufi Order, by **Elr**. "Gholam-sarvar Lahuri," 19th century historian, hagio-grapher, and poet in Persian and Urdu; and "Gholam Hosayn Khan Tabatabai," both by **A. Naushahi**. "Golbadan Begom," 16th century



• A pair of Giva, from the entry "Giva."

historian and daughter of Zahir-al-Din Babor, the founder of Mughal Dynasty in India, who wrote her historical works in Persian, by **M. Rahman**.

"Golshan Dehlavi," Naqshbandi Sufi and prolific poet in Persian with the pen name Golshan by **M. Aqeel**.



• Calligraphy from the entry "Golshan Album"

## Friends of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*

In the course of the past six months the Editor of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* visited Paris, Lausanne, Geneva, London, Los Angeles, Seattle, Vancouver, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., in order to meet with friends and prospective supporters of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*.

### Paris

The *Association des Amis de l'Encyclopédie Iranica* in Paris organized a gathering at the National Institute for Oriental Languages and Cultures on June 7, 2001 in support of *Iranica*. The meeting was attended by over thirty members of the Association and other friends of *Iranica*. Professor **Iraj Ganjbakhch**, the President of the Association, gave a report of the past activities and future programs of the Association and called on the audience and others to support the *Encyclopædia* so that the project may be completed in years to come. Dr. Yarshater followed by presenting a detailed report on the activities of *Encyclopædia Iranica* and its Foundation and he then extended the gratitude of the staff of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* to Prof. Ganjbakhch, Dr. **Abbas Sassanfar**, *Vice President*, Mr. **Abdolhamid Eshragh**, *Secretary*, and Mrs. **Farideh Ahi**, *Treasurer* of the Association. He pointed out that the Association has been among the most active and successful ever to promote the *Encyclopædia Iranica*. He especially praised the indefatigable Mr. Eshragh for his relentless efforts on behalf of the *Encyclopædia*.

Mr. Eshragh, in his turn, expressed his gratitude to the Friends of *Encyclopædia Iranica* in Paris who had so enthusiastically embraced the cause of the project. As evidence of this, he pointed out a few of the successes achieved in just the past two years. Chief among these was the formation of the "1000 Club" in France, which totaled fifteen members and added two more members before the evening's proceedings came to a close. The evening ended on a happy note when Mr. Eshragh handed over a check in the amount of \$10,000 for the *Encyclopædia Iranica*. The donation came from Mrs. **Houri Moghadam** (Mostowfi), a loyal friend of the

*Encyclopædia* and an active philanthropist and helper of various charitable causes.

### Lausanne & Geneva

In Switzerland the Editor first visited Lausanne on June 9, where he met with Prof. **Hossein Sadeghi**, and Dr. **Houchang Hadji**, two friends and supporters of the *Encyclopædia*. From Lausanne he proceeded to Geneva where he attended a meeting organized by a group of *Encyclopædia Iranica*'s friends, followed by cocktails, all generously sponsored by Mr. **Mansour Afshar**. Mr. **Abolfath Mahvi**, an erstwhile supporter of the *Encyclopædia* and the founder of the Mahvi Foundation (unfortunately no longer in existence), and a number of supporters of the *Encyclopædia* also attended, including Mrs. **Barzandeh Achraf-Arjomand**; the Editor gave a report of the Project's activities. At a subsequent meeting, an "association" of the Friends of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* for fundraising was formed with Dr. **Nasseredin Parvin**, Dr. **Shapur Rassekh**, Dr. **Mohammad-Reza Djalili**, Mr. **Farokh Derakhshani**, and Mrs. **Vakili** as its members. It is hoped that the committee will become active soon.

### London

On June 14 of this year, the Editor, together with Mr. **Abdol Hamid Eshragh** who kindly took time off to accompany him, attended a reception organized in London at the residence of Dr. **Azar Ebtehaj**. Dr. Ebtehaj opened the session by extending her gratitude to Prof. Yarshater, and called for support of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*. Dr. Yarshater discussed the challenges and prospects of the *Iranica* project.

### Los Angeles

At the invitation of Dr. **Ata Montazeri**, the founding President of the Keyan Foundation, the Editor visited Los Angeles in early October where he met with the Executive Committee of the Gala 2002 (March 9). He was briefed about the progress of the venture and the activities planned by the Committee. The first announce-



• Mrs. Ahi, Dr. Sassanfar, Prof. Ganjbakhch and Mr. Eshragh

ment of the Gala is already out, and the hard work and dedicated efforts of the Committee and the various subcommittees promise excellent results.

### Seattle

On 5<sup>th</sup> of October at the invitation of Dr. **Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak**, Prof. of Persian Language and Literature at the University of Washington, Prof. Yarshater attended a gathering at the Henry Art Gallery of the University of Washington to acquaint the Persian community of Seattle with the *Encyclopædia Iranica* and encourage their support. Over 150 community members and a number of prominent officials of the University attended the gathering.

Prof. Karimi opened the meeting with a description of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*, its mission, and its need for support. Prof. **Michael Halleran**, the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Prof. **Michael Williams**, the Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, also pointed out the significance of the project, and expressed their appreciation to Prof. Karimi for organizing the gathering. Prof. **Jere Bachrach**, Director of Jackson School of International Studies who was out of town, had sent a message of support.

Prof. Yarshater briefly spoke about the *Encyclopædia Iranica* project, its history, the support it received over the years from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and its need for the assistance of all those who appreciate a reliable record of the facts of Persian history and culture. A question and answer session followed. After the meeting a delightful dinner

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## SUPPORT FOR *ENCYCLOPÆDIA IRANICA*

*The Encyclopædia Iranica is a project of Columbia University carried out by its Center for Iranian Studies. Partially supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the project is being made possible by donations from institutions and individuals. We acknowledge with thanks the donations by the following for the period of April 21-November 15, 2001.*

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was held at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. **Sohrab Moshiri** sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. **M a h m o u d Khalighi**.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Professor Karimi, and Mr. And Mrs. **Iraj Khademi**, as well as some other members of the Persian community of Seattle, 15 sets of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* were purchased, making Seattle proportionately the richest city in terms of possession of sets of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*.

### Vancouver

On the 6th of October the Editor attended a dinner meeting arranged by Mrs. **Nezhat Khosrowshahi**, a trustee of the Encyclopædia Iranica Foundation, at her residence, where the possibility of a Gala in 2003 or 2004 was discussed. The following day he met with **Mr. Abbasgholi Bakhtiar** and **Mr. Majid Mohseni**, an active and generous supporter of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* to further discuss the prospects



• Mr. Iraj Khademi

of fundraising in Vancouver.

### San Francisco

A meeting was organized by Dr. **Keyvan Tabari**, Esq. on the 8th of October in order to explore the possibility of a gala benefit dinner in the San Francisco Bay area. The meeting was attended by a number of successful and socially active younger Iranian-Americans (in fact the stars of the Persian community in the Bay area).

The Editor was much heartened by the support of those who attended. A committee was formed of the attendees, namely, Ms. **Susan Akbarpour**, Mr. **Mahmood Firoozbakht**, Mr. **Noosheen Hashemi**, Ms. **Gita Kashani**, Ms. **Ziba Marashi**, Ms. **Nazli Monihan**, Ms. **Jaleh Miller**, Ms. **Christina Moghadam**, Ms. **Niloofar Nouri** (Ms. **Ladan Afrasiabi**, Ms. **Azadeh Hariri**, and Mr. **Shahin Tabrizi** who could not attend were also invited to participate). The date for the 2003 Gala was tentatively set for March 1st.

### Washington DC

On the 17th of November, the Editor was present at a meeting attended by Dr. **Abulfath Ardalan**, Mrs. **Gazelle Hashemian**, Mr.

**Behrooz Guerami**, Ms. **Goli Kashani**, and Dr. **Farnoosh Shahrokhi**, in McLean, Virginia to discuss the possibility of further fundraising activities for the *Encyclopædia Iranica* in the Washington, D.C. area. (Mrs. **Iran Davar-Ardalan**, Mrs. **Roya Hakim-zadeh**, Mrs. **Bahareh Sharghi**, and Mr. **Sasan Kimiavi**, who could not attend, will join the group).

It was agreed by all to keep up the good work of the Washington Gala Benefit Committee and plan one or two fundraisers each year.

### Friends of *Encyclopædia Iranica* in Dubai

A group of friends of *Encyclopædia Iranica* in Dubai, including Dr. **Ahmad Ahmadi**, Mr. **Houshang Didehban**, Mr. **Manouchehr Houshmand**, Mr. **Mohammad Sotoudeh**, and Dr. **Hamid Mousavian**, met on November 11 to gather support for the *Encyclopædia*. They organized a gathering on November 26 in which a number of philanthropists in the Persian community of Dubai attended and pledged their support for the *Encyclopædia*.

## Shirin Neshat at Iranian-American Forum

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Forum for their initiative in organizing the event: Ms. **Hasti Azar**, Ms. **Fati Ghahary**, Ms. **Tamila Ghodsi**, Ms. **Marjan Khalili**, Ms. **Emily Moghtaderi**, Mr. **Ali Naraghi**, Mr. **Sharif Nezam Mafi**, Mr. **Sasan Safai**, and Ms. **Maryam Salari**.

Ms. Neshat, who was introduced by Prof. **Hamid Dabashi** of Columbia University, showed slides of her photographs and film stills before screening a portion of *Turbulent*, one of her short films. Ms. Neshat also delved into the motivations and methods behind her work, and ended by graciously answering questions from the audience. The lecture and screening were followed by a lively cocktail reception. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

• Detail of *Fever*, 2000, art by Shirin Neshat, featuring Houshang Touzi & Mitra Ghamsari.

## Seyhoun Receives Rudaki Foundation Award

At a colorful ceremony, with a full house, held in Vancouver's Pacific Center in the Vancouver Museum on October 7, 2001 the fourth Rudaki Foundation's Ehsan Yarshater Award was offered to the noted Iranian architect and artist, **Houshang Seyhoun** who had been chosen by a committee headed by Dr. **Monir Taha**, the founding director of the Foundation.

Houshang Seyhoun, formerly professor of architecture at Tehran University's Faculty of Fine Arts and its Dean from 1962-1968, was born in August 22, 1920 in Tehran. He studied first in Iran and then at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts of Paris, from which he graduated as an architect in 1948. He was one of the pioneers of modern architecture in Iran and has a number of well-known monuments to his name, including the Ebn Sina's (Avicenna) mausoleum in Hamedan, Nader Shah's in Mashhad, Khayyam's in Nishapur, the Sepah Bank in Tehran, and a number of private houses and offices.

In his appreciation speech, before he handed the Award Plaque to Mr. Seyhoun, Prof. Yarshater gave an account of Seyhoun's artistic achievements, emphasizing in particular his painting which has occupied most of his time since the revolution of 1979. He pointed out the exceptional strength of his drawing, his compositional skill and his imaginative creation of a great variety of shapes and figures.

In his response, Seyhoun gave a sin-



• Dr. Monir Taha and Prof. Houshang Seyhoun

cere and engaging account of his life, the challenges he had met, and the principles he had followed. He mentioned his ever critical attitude towards his own work and his constant striving for perfection.

Part of the celebration consisted of a performance by master **Mahmud Zolfonoun** (violin), **Jamshid Zarrin-Qalam** (avaz) and **Faramarz Birjandian** (Persian drum).

As the celebration coincided with the Mehregan Festival and the fiftieth year of the activity of the Rudaki Foundation, the award ceremony was preceded by introductory remarks of Dr. Taha about the Foundation and Dr. **Mehrban Shahrivini** on Mehregan.

The earlier recipients of the award were Prof. **Zabihollah Safa**, the eminent historian of Persian literature; **Nader Naderpour**, the outstanding contemporary poet, and **Ali Tajvidi**, the well-known violinist and composer.

## Gala Benefit Dinner

*Continued from page one*

successful. The program is sponsored by a number of supporters of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* including Mr. **Khosrow Semnani**, Vice-Chairman of our Board of Trustees and Dr. **Akbar Ghahary**, the Trustee and Treasurer of the Foundation.

The evening will honor a number of outstanding individuals from the Persian community and those who have rendered singular service to Persian culture. The

Executive Committee, consisting of Dr. **Shirin Semnani** (*Chair*), Mrs. **Homa Sarshar** (*Co-chair*) and Mr. **Shan Fazeli** (*Co-chair*), are working full speed on the program. They invite participation from the United States as well as abroad to attend, to make donations, and to offer items of value for auction on the night of the gala. We would like to encourage all friends of the *Encyclopædia* to take part. Having a good time is guaranteed!



# Columbia University Seminar on Iranian Studies

## FESTIVALS, AUTHENTIC CULTURE AND THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION



• Dr. Negin Nabavi

On March 28, 2001, Dr. **Negin Nabavi**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, led a discussion on "Festivals, Authentic Culture and the Islamic Revolution." She introduced the subject-matter by posing a few questions: Why was it that in the early months following the revolution, when secular and left-leaning intellectuals were increasingly being subjected to accusations of 'propagating western values', they hesitated to pose a challenge? Why was it that intellectuals who, in their capacity as intellectuals, would have considered contesting authority and taking a political stance as being part and parcel of being an intellectual, decided against taking a stance, and instead engaged in what was publicly called 'revolutionary self-censorship'?

While there may have been an element of exhilaration and awe at having witnessed a mass movement overthrow the shah, Dr. Nabavi contended that their hesitation may have been partly because the views that had been propagated at the time of the revolution by Islamists concerning the need for 'cultural revival' and 'regaining one's past' were not so different from those that the secularists had been preaching for some fifteen years. She then proceeded to discuss what she described as a discourse of 'authentic culture', which had become all-prevalent in intellectual circles in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Dr. Nabavi outlined the background to the emergence of this discourse and explained how it had developed initially in the context of the

restrictions that had been imposed in the mid-1960s by the regime on the one hand, the inspiration that third-worldist movements had provided for intellectuals on the other, as well as the counterculture in the West. In fact, she added, even though the notion of an 'authentic culture' remained vague, the idea of regaining an 'authentic culture' became so popular and widespread that even the establishment could not remain impervious to it for long. So it, too, attempted to reinforce an 'authentic culture' through several means, among them the formulation of a cultural policy, and the organization of different cultural festivals, such as the Festival of Culture and Art, the Shiraz Arts Festival, the Festival of Tus, and the Festival of Popular Culture. They shared the aim of familiarization with and promotion of past traditions, primarily through display, both to unite the nation and to define an identity for the country, as an 'Eastern' nation in the predominantly 'Western' world.

Disenchanted intellectuals, however, found this stance unsatisfactory on two levels; firstly, because it was the proposition put forward by the state, and secondly, because it was far too conservative and elitist. Dr. Nabavi, then, went on to discuss the broad arguments that were put forth by disenchanted intellectuals to distinguish themselves from the cultural policy undertaken by the state. On the one hand, there were those who questioned both the wisdom of a cultural policy, as well as the selectivity involved in the understanding of 'authentic culture' by the state, since it was not clear to what extent the drawing of a cultural policy sanctioned government interference in the task of the 'creators of culture'. (Among them, one could find the names of Daryush Ashuri and Hamid Enayat.) On the other, there were those who argued that real 'authentic culture' could only be found in the strong religious roots of the society, and hence wrote

articles outlining the advantages of reviving some sort of spiritual life in the form of mysticism and religion. However, as Dr. Nabavi pointed out, these were not religious intellectuals, but secularists who had to write articles in order to convince themselves together with their readers that mysticism and religion offered feasible alternatives, and had the potential of bringing about a more equitable society. This did not mean that secularists had suddenly become religious. Rather if mysticism and religion appealed now, it was because it conformed to the third-worldist discourse of authenticity, coincided with the suggestions put forward by anti-technocratic thinkers of the West, and proposed an alternative to the principle of authenticity put forth by the establishment. (Among those advancing such an argument, she mentioned the example of Mehdi Parham.)

In conclusion, Dr. Nabavi reiterated that in an atmosphere where defining the characteristics of an 'Eastern' as opposed to a 'Western' culture was of importance to all the parties involved, the festivals were more than the absurd marginalia that they have often been made out to be.

Even though they may have been an attempt by the establishment to remove the discussion of 'authentic culture' from the exclusivity of disenchanted intellectuals, they may have ironically played a role in making secular intellectuals reach the conclusion that 'authentic culture' had to be other than the appearance of the culture that had been put on show by the establishment, thus encouraging them to look for an alternative. The trend towards mysticism and/or religion was one such alternative. Of course, this did not mean that the secularists ever imagined that a revolution resulting in an Islamic state would take place. But what it did mean was that once the first manifestations of a religious opposition to the regime began, advocating the cause of 'authentic culture', secular progressive intellectuals did not hesitate to embrace it.

## Passing of Three Leading Iranists

The past six months must be considered one of the saddest periods for Iranian Studies as the field lost three of its leading scholars: **Ilya Gershevitch**, **Ronald E. Emmerick**, and **Neil David MacKenzie** passed away. We were indebted to all three in different ways.

In 1956, I had the pleasure of receiving Ilya Gershevitch when he came to Iran in order to study the Bashkerdi dialect in Baluchistan. In 1966 he taught at Columbia University as a visiting professor, when I was on sabbatical leave. I consulted him frequently at the planning stage of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* in the early seventies. He later contributed at my request the chapter on Bactrian language to the Volume III of *Cambridge History of Iran* which I edited. Many students of Iran gravitated to his house which was always open to receive friends and scholars. He had intended to write a number of basic articles for the *Encyclopædia Iranica*, but disliked the limitation of time and space that systematic encyclopedias must of necessity impose. In the end, the *Encyclopædia* did not benefit from his direct contribution, but he continued to give the editor the benefit of his advice from time to time.

Neil D. MacKenzie was a most valued contributor to the *Encyclopædia Iranica*. He also helped Iran Center's publication program in many instances by his meticulous editing and frank counseling. He was always a trusted advisor to me, on whose exacting scholarship I could count.

Ronald Emmerick was first a Consulting Editor of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* for Linguistics and later Philology and, since 1997, a member of its International Advisory Committee. He was also a frequent contributor and a true friend of the *Encyclopædia*. In 1997 he agreed to my proposal to edit a volume on pre-Islamic Iranian literatures as a companion volume to the projected "A History of Persian Literature". As usual he was prompt and efficient, before his illness prevented him from carrying on the task, now taken over by Prof. **Maria Macuch** of the Freie Universität of Berlin.

We are most grateful to Prof. **Nicholas Sims-Williams** of the University of London for having provided us with the obituary that he wrote for Ilya Gershevitch and Neil MacKenzie in *The Independent* which we have adopted, and to Prof. Macuch who wrote the obituary of Ronald Emmerick.

E. Yarshater

### Ronald E. Emmerick (1937-2001)

When Ronald E. Emmerick wrote an obituary on his mentor and co-researcher Sir Harold W. Bailey, published in 1999, he cited a quotation from Shakespeare's Hamlet which also fits perfectly the author himself: "Thou art a scholar." Professor Emmerick, who died on the 31st of August this year in Hamburg, Germany, was indeed one of the foremost and most distinguished scholars in the field of Iranian Studies whose enthusiasm and inspiring interest never ceased, even during the long years of his serious illness. He specialized in Old and Middle Iranian languages and is best known for his outstanding research in the field of Khotanese studies to which he dedicated numerous books and articles.

Ronald E. Emmerick was born on the 9th of March 1937 in Sydney, Australia, as the only son of his parents. His bril-

liance was already acknowledged at an early stage, when he finished his studies in Latin, Greek, French and German at the University of Sydney in 1959, receiving a B.A. with First Class Honors and the University Medal for Classics. He worked as a Teaching Fellow in the Latin Department of the Sydney University only for a short time in 1959, before going to England in the same year, where, eventually, he would find his true calling in the field of Oriental Studies. He specialized in Oriental Studies from 1959 to 1965 at the University of Cambridge, again receiving prizes (the Brotherton Sanskrit Prize; the Bhaonagar Medal for Sanskrit) and the Rapson Scholarship. In 1962 two memorable events took place: he married Margaret Ann Frohnsdorff, beginning a successful and exemplary marriage in the course of which three children were born, and he began his fruitful research work under Harold W. Bailey in the field of Indo-Iranian grammatical studies. He was a



• Ronald E. Emmerick

Research Fellow of St. John's College in Cambridge in 1964 (until 1967), when he received his M.A. and Ph.D. in 1965. At the same time he worked as a Lecturer in Iranian Studies from 1964 to 1971 at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies. From 1967-8 he was a Visiting Associate Professor of Old and Middle Iranian at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago.

In 1971 he accepted a call as "Ordentlicher Professor" for Iranian Philology of the University of Hamburg, Germany, and lived in Quickborn near Hamburg with his family until his "passing this summer."

Due to his broad background in Indo-Iranian studies, Emmerick's scholarly work is by no means restricted to the study of Khotanese. His numerous publications deal with different fields of research, including especially philological work on Sanskrit, Avesta, Sogdian, Pahlavi, and Chorasmian, among others. But he seems to have been especially fascinated by the comparatively new and still badly explored field of Khotanese ever since he became a research student under Harold Bailey in 1962. After having copied three large handwritten volumes of Bailey's - as he called it - "Khotanese Dictionary" (not yet published) in 1963 by hand (a copy extending to 1332 pages!), he began collecting material on Khotanese grammar. In the course of this work it became necessary to make a fresh close study of the largest extant Old Khotanese text. This was published in 1968 under the title *The Book of Zambasta, A Khotanese Poem on Buddhism*. Emmerick's grammatical studies were also published in the same year under the title *Saka Grammatical Studies*. In the following years he published numerous editions of Khotanese and Tumshuqese texts as well as the original Saka documents (for CII), and continued his work on Khotanese grammar and lexicology. As one of the few experts in the field, he was extremely critical of Bailey's *Dictionary of Khotan Saka* when it finally appeared in 1979, even to the point of risking a break-up of their per-

sonal relationship. Since he was - despite his criticism - nevertheless convinced that Bailey's dictionary would remain an indispensable tool for the study of Khotanese, he decided to initiate a series of volumes entitled *Studies in the Vocabulary of Khotanese* (together with P.O. Skjærvø, volumes I-III, published 1982, 1987 and 1997) in order to present the different results of his own work.

Besides his scholarly work Professor Emmerick developed numerous activities during his stay in Hamburg in the course of which he was not only honored as a Professeur au Collège de France in March 1988, but was also elected as Consulting Editor for Linguistics by the *Encyclopædia Iranica* (later for Philology), Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy and Corresponding Member of the Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente in Rome in 1990.

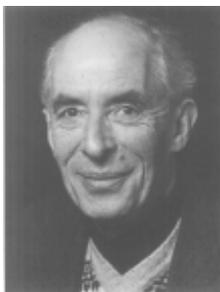
He was "Projektleiter" of the Akademienvorhaben Turfanforschung of the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften since 1994, was elected as Corresponding Member of the Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften in Vienna in 1997 and Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1999. He was the President of the WordPerfect Club since the eighties and developed considerable knowledge in the field of software programming.

Ronald Eric Emmerick was buried September 11, 2001 in Quickborn, near Hamburg, Germany.

Maria Macuch

## Ilya Gershevitch (1914-2001)

Ilya Gershevitch was an exceptionally gifted scholar who devoted his life to the languages of Iran and Central Asia, solving innumerable linguistic and historical riddles by a combination of keen intellect and insatiable curiosity. He was born in Zurich in 1914, the son of Russian parents who had fled to Switzerland on the outbreak of war to escape internment in Germany. The young Ilya displayed an early interest in languages - as was perhaps natural for a Russian-speaking boy in multi-lingual Switzerland - as well as a musical talent inherited from his mother, a professional pianist. During his schooling in Locarno and Lugano it was for a while uncertain whether his career would lie in music or languages, but the ques-



• Ilya Gershevitch

tion was settled when he entered the University of Rome in 1933 to study classics and comparative philology.

After completing his Roman doctorate, he came to England in 1938 with the intention of staying for three months. In fact, he remained for the rest of his life. Though his decision not to return to Rome was no doubt influenced by political events in Italy and the approach of war, an equally important motive was a new-found desire to pursue the study of Iranian languages under the guidance of W.B. Henning at the School of Oriental Studies, London University.

Henning was clearly an inspiring teacher, whom Gershevitch revered and on whom he modelled himself in many ways. He could hardly have chosen better. Although Henning was only six years older than Gershevitch, he had already gained a deserved reputation as a scholar of exceptional authority, one of the world's leading specialists both in the Manichean religion and in the Middle Iranian languages. Henning had recently edited the longest surviving Manichean manuscript written in Sogdian, one of the least-known of these languages.

Gershevitch took on the daunting task of analysing the structure and development of this complex language on the basis of the fragmentary manuscript sources, completing it so successfully that his Grammar of Manichean Sogdian, submitted as a doctoral thesis in 1943 and published in 1954, remains a standard work of reference half a century later.

In 1948 Gershevitch became the first holder of a new Lectureship in Iranian Studies at Cambridge University. Having drawn up an elaborate syllabus covering no less than seven Iranian languages, he devoted his energies to making himself expert in each of them, studying Khotanese with his senior colleague Sir Harold Bailey, Professor of Sanskrit, and Ossetic, archaic Iranian language still spoken in the Caucasus, with a "native informant" employed for the purpose. In preparation for teaching Avestan, the language of the earliest Zoroastrian scriptures, he began his second book, *The Avestan Hymn to Mithra* (1959), a work

which came to be recognised as inaugurating a new era in Avestan scholarship.

Gershevitch customarily used this book to introduce students to Avestan, though it is hard to imagine a textbook which makes fewer concessions to the beginner: almost every page of the commentary contains references to cognates in half a dozen obscure languages, not to mention quotations in French, German or Russian. But the book is characteristic of Gershevitch's attitude to teaching, which was dedicated but wholly uncompromising. As I can vouch from my own experience, if he felt that he had failed to convey a point to a student he was prepared to worry away at the problem for hour after hour, until long after the pangs of hunger had rendered the student incapable of following the subtleties of the argument. Not content with setting new standards in the study of Old and Middle Iranian, Gershevitch felt the urge to investigate Iranian languages in their spoken forms. In 1956 he and his wife, Lisbeth, set off for Iran, where they spent three months in Bashakard, an area of the Western Makran that scarcely any European had penetrated. Gershevitch made good use of his field-notes on the previously unknown dialects of Bashakard in many publications, though sadly he never found time to write a full account of the Bashkardi language.

Another major work that never reached publication in its complete form was his series of Ratanbai Katrak lectures delivered in Oxford in 1968, in which Gershevitch put forward the apparently audacious argument that the Elamite texts issued by the Persian imperial administration in the sixth century BC were not intended to be read as Elamite but as Old Persian. In fact he never published another book, though a volume of collected papers, *Philologia Iranica*, appeared in 1985. He preferred to write articles, all but the shortest of which are full of fascinating digressions and asides on matters which one would never suspect from their title.

After settling in England Gershevitch always wrote in English, a language which he employed with fastidious accuracy though with unexpected touches of colour. (A delightful phrase of his was "a chip off the old shoulder", though the context in which it was uttered now escapes me.) Conversation and congenial company being amongst his chief pleasures, he was in his element as a Fel-

*Continued on page 10*

*Continued from page 9*

low of Jesus College, which he served for many years as Praelector.

Ilya Gershevitch received many honours, including an honorary doctorate from the University of Berne, which gave him the rare opportunity to employ his Schwyzerdutsch in public. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1967 and later a corresponding member of several foreign academies. For four years (1980-84) he served as President of the Philological Society, for which he had great affection. It was as a philologist that he would wish to be remembered; a student of texts for whom their content and context were neither more nor less important than the language in which they were expressed.

**Ilya Gershevitch**, philologist: born Zurich 24 October 1914; Lecturer in Iranian Studies, Cambridge University 1948-65, Reader 1965-82 (Emeritus); Fellow, Jesus College, Cambridge 1962-2001; FBA 1967; married 1951 Lisbeth Syfrig (one daughter); died Cambridge 11 April 2001.

**Nicholas Sims-Williams**

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### **D. N. MacKenzie (1926-2001)**

D.N. MacKenzie was a polyglot whose linguistic knowledge was remarkable in both range and depth. Generally recognized as the world's leading authority on modern Kurdish and mediaeval Khwarezmian, he also made distinguished contributions to the study of many other Iranian languages, including Pashto, Pahlavi and Sogdian, at the same time displaying enviable competence in non-Iranian languages such as Arabic and Chinese.

Neil MacKenzie — he never used his first name — was born in London in 1926 and attended a succession of schools in Slough, Windsor and Cambridge before enlisting as a "boy soldier" in 1943. During the two years preceding the partition of India in 1947 he was stationed in the North-West Frontier Province, where he learned Pashto and thus became interested in the Iranian family of languages. On his return to civilian life he enrolled at London's School of Oriental and African Studies, where he graduated with a B.A. in Persian and an M.A. in Old and Middle Iranian. After fieldwork in Kurdistan, MacKenzie obtained his PhD in 1957 with a thesis later published as *Kurdish Dialect Studies* (1961-2). This work provided for the first time a sound



• D. N. MacKenzie

MacKenzie's reputation both as an Iranist and as a general linguist.

MacKenzie had been appointed Lecturer in Kurdish at SOAS in 1955, but the title did not do justice to the breadth of his interests. In 1961 it was changed to Lecturer in Iranian Languages and in 1965 he was promoted to Reader. During the sixties he wrote and published important books on Pashto literature and on the Gorani dialect of Awroman as well as on Kurdish, his ever-expanding range giving the lie to a former colleague's description of "poor MacKenzie" as "the man who knows all the dialects and none of the languages", a phrase that he enjoyed quoting. At the same time he began to turn his attention to earlier Iranian languages, immersing himself successively in Middle Persian or Pahlavi (together with Judaeo-Persian and other archaic forms of Persian), Sogdian and Khwarezmian.

A particularly important achievement was his elaboration of the first scientific system of transcribing Pahlavi. This system, presented in two modestly titled works, "Notes on the transcription of Pahlavi" (SOAS Bulletin 1967) and *A concise Pahlavi dictionary* (1971), has since been widely adopted. The modesty was typical of a scholar who never took his scholarship too seriously and who once wrote of his work: "At times I think that etymology should be classed as a 'social disease' — perhaps requiring one to ring a little bell to warn the healthy".

In 1975 MacKenzie was appointed to the Chair of Oriental Philology at the University of Göttingen, an appointment which was all the more gratifying because he thus became the successor (at several removes) of F. C. Andreas, the teacher of his own much-revered mentor, W. B. Henning. During his twenty years in Göttingen his productivity continued unabated, and by 1990 he had ten books to his credit as sole or joint author. MacKenzie's scholarly output was sub-

stantial by any standards. It would surely have been even more so if he had not devoted so much of his time to the work of others. He was the de facto editor of many important publications, though seldom credited as such on the title-page. Having acquired a personal computer earlier than most in his field, he came to be known as an expert in the production of camera-ready copy, a chore which he generously undertook for many pupils and colleagues.

As an upholder of the highest standards of scholarship, MacKenzie was fearsome as an examiner or reviewer. His criticism could be caustic, since he detested sloppiness and had no time for tactful circumlocutions; but those who had the courage to submit their work to him in advance of publication knew that it would be worth their while to endure a certain amount of mortification for the sake of his penetrating comments. A friend once wrote that MacKenzie's "spirited directness of speech" was respected by those who knew him well as an indication of his personal integrity. One aspect of this integrity was to apply the same standards to his own work as to others', to accept criticism and admit mistakes, often with self-deprecating humour.

After his retirement in 1994 MacKenzie settled in North Wales. His return to Britain was immediately followed by his election as a Fellow of the British Academy. He had already been honoured in 1991 by a *Festschrift*, *Corolla Iranica*, and in 1999 his collected papers were published in two volumes as *Iranica Diversa*. In retirement he was not content to rest on his laurels but continued to seek new challenges, investigating the little-known Zaza language at the same time as working on a longstanding project, the compilation of a Khwarezmian dictionary. It is a matter of extreme regret that the latter remains unfinished.

**Nicholas Sims-Williams**

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Professor **David Neil MacKenzie**, linguist: born London 8 April 1926; Lecturer in Kurdish, SOAS, London University 1955-61, Lecturer in Iranian Studies 1961-65, Reader 1965-75; Professor, Göttingen University, 1975-94 (Emeritus); FBA 1996; married (1) 1951 Gina (née Schaefer), 3 sons, 1 daughter, marriage dissolved 1981 (2) 1981 Gabriela (née Hoffmann), marriage dissolved 1988; died Bangor 13 October 2001. **NS-W**



• From left: Mrs. Nina Ghavami, Dr. Farhad Hakimi, Mrs. Nahid Ahkami.

## 1000/2000 Club

Celebrating the publication of vol. X of the *Encyclopædia Iranica*, the Membership Committee of 1000/2000 Club, consisting of Mrs. **Nahid Ahkami**, Mrs. **Nina Ghavami**, and Dr. **Farhad Hakimi** organized a splendid cultural dinner party with an excellent evening program on November 2nd at the Chart House restaurant in Weehawken, New Jersey. The event began with cocktails before Mrs. Ghavami proceeded to give a brief account of the purpose of the evening's gathering. Mrs. Ahkami ably organized the program's itinerary. Dr. Hakimi's enthusiasm and persistent effort to make the program a success was reflected in a large number of the people who attended – beyond the expected number.

The event began with a performance of the popular Iranian national anthem, *Sorud-e Ey Iran*, by an ensemble of three young violinists: Ms. **Ida Ahmadi**, Ms. **Kimia Zahedi**, and Ms. **Dina Zarandi**. The musical program consisted of performances by Mr. **Dalia Monasebian** (santur), and **Ron Erikson** (zarb).

This event was organized with the aim to establish a more active club, and to provide opportunities for members and guests to socialize and form closer ties. All who attended had, by all accounts, a wonderful time. A number of participants pledged to join the 1000/2000 Club. We are grateful to the Membership Committee for their relentless efforts to help the cause of *Encyclopædia Iranica*.

## Notes on the *Shahnameh*

Dr. **Djalal Khaleghi's** awaited explanatory notes on the text of the *Sahnameh* has finally been sent to printers and should be out in two months time. The notes which are published in 931 pages and two volumes constitute explanations and comments of the first two volumes of the text, that is, from the beginning to the end of Kay Kavus' reign.

This is the first time that a Persian work has been subjected to so detailed and comprehensive explication. Even Hafez' *Divan*, which has been the subject of numerous clarifications and interpretations, has not received such an extensive and minute treatment as the aim of Hafez' commentators has generally been to explain his difficult or ambiguous verses, or else to offer mystical interpretations of his lyrics. Dr. Khaleghi's explanations go much farther. They consist of: 1) clarifying the form and meaning of words; 2) mentioning the Middle Persian form of words, when it is thought of advantage; 3) commenting on the variations of the words and their historical development; 4) discussing the orthography of the words, particularly compound words; 5) discussing the meaning of lines after analyzing their lexical elements, wherever there is a possibility of ambiguity; 6) justifying the preference given to a form of a word for inclusion in the text, when a different form occurs in

some significant manuscript or edition; 7) citing examples from early Persian works to elucidate the meaning of words or phrases and also in order to justify the choice of one form over others; 8) providing the general sense of a group of closely related lines to facilitate an understanding of the individual lines; 9) referring to the views of other *Shahnameh* scholars in interpreting a word, a phrase or a line and providing a critique of their views, particularly when the authenticity or spuriousness of a line or lines is discussed; 10) citing parallel myths and legends from other literatures, when considered helpful.

The reader will find the notes a treasure-house of useful information, not only about the language of the *Shahnameh*, but also about Persian usages during the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. They are also a useful instrument in understanding and appreciating other Persian epics such as *Garshasp-nameh*, *Borzu-nameh*, *Faramarz-nameh*, *Bahman-nameh*, and *Kush-nameh* as well as romantic epics such as Gorgani's *Vis o Ramin* and Nezami's *Khosrow o Shirin* and *Haft Peykar*, as well as the poetry of the Samanid, Ghaznavid and Saljuq periods in general.

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**Ahmad Ashraf** gave a number of lectures and radio talks in May 2001 on the significance of the *Encyclopædia Iranica* as a research tool for various Humanities disciplines at Stockholm, Uppsala, and Paris. On May 19 he participated in a talk show on "The Contribution of *Encyclopædia Iranica* to the Promotion of Persian Heritage" at Radio Hambastegi in Stockholm. On May 20 he participated in a gathering of faculty and graduate students at the University of Stockholm and discussed with them the new *Iranica* website.

On May 21, Prof. Ashraf visited the Department of Asian and African Lan-

guages at the University of Uppsala at the invitation of Prof. **Bo Utas**, a noted scholar of mysticism and a contributor to *Iranica*, and participated in a discussion group with a number of faculty and graduate students regarding the *Encyclopædia*.

While in Paris, Dr. Ashraf participated in a series of three radio interviews on the development of Iranian Studies in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and the significance of *Iranica* to the promotion of the field worldwide. These interviews were conducted by Prof. **Ehsan Naraghi** of UNESCO, and **Dr. Jean Khakzad** of Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty.

[www.iranica.com](http://www.iranica.com)

### Encyclopædia Iranica Available on line

The Iranica website renovations are completed and the new site is now functional and can be accessed at [www.iranica.com](http://www.iranica.com)

All articles from volumes I-VII can now be downloaded and viewed in pdf format. This requires your computer to have the Adobe Acrobat Reader software program, which can be downloaded free of charge at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

Volumes VIII-X of the Encyclopædia will be available online by Fall 2001.

A comprehensive search engine is now in place that will allow visitors to the site to search for articles by topic, keyword, and author.

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