



The Encyclopaedia Iranica (EIr) is launching a crowdsourcing project to improve access to our its free website (<http://www.iranicaonline.org/>). Since the URL update in Spring 2010 there are still many broken EIr links on Wikipedia. For those who would like to assist the Wikipedians and the EIr by repairing these links, here are the instructions:

What is a broken link?

A broken link is a link that no longer works properly, leaving readers stranded as they cannot connect to hyperlinked web pages, servers, or other resources on the internet (see also the definition in the Wikipedia entry "[link rot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Link_rot)" http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Link_rot).

Broken link sample:

http://www.iranicaonline.org/newsite/articles/ot_grp7/ot_kangavar_20050323.html

What can I do to help?

Create a Wiki ID and fix broken EIr links. Here is how:

Create a Wiki ID

Log on to [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Login) (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Login>). If you do not have a Wiki username and password, you must create a Wiki ID, which will track and identify your work in Wikipedia. This audit trail will allow fellow Wikipedians to post questions and comments about your work on the respective pages.

Use Google to find broken EIr links in Wikipedia

Use [Google](http://www.google.com/) (<http://www.google.com/>) to look for EIr links that are broken by copying the terms given below into the search bar:

allinlinks: "iranica.com/newsite" site:wikipedia.org

- Please note that some EIr links with the old **iranica.com** URL are still working fine as they automatically redirect to the new URL, but in order to prevent future malfunction they also need to be updated.
- Please ignore image files (.jpg, .gif, .png) whose Wikipedia URL starts with "File" (e.g., [File:View of Erevan in 1796.png - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)).
- Please do not be confused by links that include the **iranian.com** URL; they should be ignored as the site www.iranian.com has no connection whatsoever to the EIr.

Fix a broken EIr link in a Wikipedia entry

Pick a Wikipedia entry in the search results to edit. It may work best to go in order as they appear so you can keep track of your workflow.

- Proceed slowly, and always begin by saving a backup copy of the editable text in a .txt file.

Activate FIND or a page search (NB – the easiest way is to type the command: Mac = Command+F or PC = Control+F) and type *iranica* into the search bar.

Identify the section of the Wikipedia entry that generates the reference to the EIr and click EDIT to go to the editing screen.

- In long Wikipedia entries, it can be difficult to immediately link the EIr reference at the page's very bottom to its editable section. Tracking footnote numbers can help with this task.

Open the EIr site in a second window and find the referenced EIr entry.

Update the broken link which begins with "href=" by replacing the old **iranica.com** URL with the correct **iranicaonline.org** URL .

Always double-check whether the tag "{{dead link}}" (e.g., {{Dead link | date=September 2010|bot=H3l l Bot}}) has been inserted after the broken EIr link. Delete the tag with all its additional information once you have updated the EIr link. *Please note:* this code is sporadic; some broken links may include the code and some may not.

Correct additional information related to the EIr link

All references to the EIr should read *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, as the EIr does not use the US spelling *encyclopedi*a in its name.

Double-check that the text visible on the screen has not been affected the updating of the EIr link. Correct if necessary to ensure that it will remain the same.

If the link includes code about the publisher, change "publisher=iranica.com" to "publisher=iranicaonline.org".

Save the updated Wikipedia entry

Double-check your work

Refresh the screen of the updated Wikipedia entry, proofread the updated text, and test whether the updated EIr link works properly.

If there are any concerns or questions about this project, please join the discussion on the EIr's [Crowdsourcing Project pages on Facebook](#) :

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/180907358706406/> and <https://www.facebook.com/events/160089400823033/>).