



June 1-2, 2007, Seventh IQSA Conference:

Diplomats and Travellers in the Qajar Era

In co-operation with the Fondation Napoleon
Bibliothèque Paul Marmottan
7, place Denfert-Rochereau 92100 Boulogne-Billancourt

Programme

Friday, June 1, 2007:

- 9.00 Registration, tea, coffee and book tables.
Morning Session. Chair *Bert Fragner*.
- 9.30 Welcome: *Ferydoun Barjesteh van Waalwijk van Doorn*, VP IQSA and Co-Chair of Conference.
- 9.40 Opening of the Conference: *Thierry Lentz*, Fondation Napoleon, Chair of Conference.
- 10.00 *Irine Natchkebia*, Travellers of Napoleon: The Mission of General Gardane in Persia (1807-1809).
- 10.30 Ambassador *Iradj Amini*, Ambassador Asghar Khan Afshar.
- 11.00 Coffee break.
- 11.20 *Jennifer Scarce*, The Travels of Isabella Bird Bishop in Persia during the 1870s.
- 12.00 Lunch.
Afternoon Session. Chair Ambassador *Abbas Nayeri*.
- 14.15 *Ferydoun Barjesteh van Waalwijk van Doorn*, Contacts between Qajars and Oranje-Nassaus.
- 14.45 *Bert Fragner*, The Safarnameh-ye Bokhara (ed. By Hoseyn Zamani, Tehran 1373): Self-awareness and Patriotism in the Case of an Iranian Envoy to Mavara an-nahr".
- 15.15 Tea Break
- 15.45 *Manoutchehr M. Eskandari-Qajar*, Abolhassan Khan, Persian Ambassador to the Court of St. James
- 16.30 *Joachim Waibel*, A Thousand and One Days in Europe. Mozaffar ed-Din's Travels in 1900, 1902 and 1905, part I.
- 17.00 Close of first conference day.
- 19.30 Conference dinner.

Saturday, June 2nd, 2007:

- 9.00 Registration, tea, coffee, book tables.
- 9.30 Opening Conference.
Morning Session. Chair *Amir Ali Farman Farma*.
- 9.45 *Robin Walsh*, An Accidental Emissary: Lt. Colonel Lachlan Macquarie and Anglo-French Rivalry at the Qajar Court in June 1807.
- 10.30 *Bernadette Salesse*, Le séjour en France de Nasser ed-Din Shah en 1889.
- 11.00 Coffee Break.
- 11.30 *Fatema Soudavar*, Fraser's Visit of Khorassan in 1820.
- 12.00 Lunch Break.
Afternoon Session. Chair *Peter Hicks*.
- 13.45 *Nathalie Farman Farma*, Claude Anet's Persian Travels by Car.
- 14.05 *David Motadel*, Intercultural Royal Visits: State Visits of Persian Shahs to Germany, 1873-1905.
- 14.35 *Ellen Glonti*, Ermakov, Travelling Photographer.
- 14.55 *Joachim Waibel*, A Thousand and One days in Europe. Mozaffar ed-Din's travels in 1900, 1902 and 1905, part II.
- 15.25 Close of conference: Vote of thanks by *Manoutchehr M. Eskandari-Qajar*, President of IQSA.
- 15.35 Annual IQSA Business Meeting.

Some abstracts

Abol Hassan Khan, Fath Ali Shah's Ambassador to the Court of St. James

Manoutchehr M. Eskandari-Qajar, Department of Political Science, SBCC

Abol Hassan Khan was the first Persian official to reach England at the time of the Qajars. He famously recorded his impressions of England and Europe in his emblematic Heyrat nameh (The Book of Wonders) which set the tone for travelogues of the Qajar period. Abol Hassan Khan combines in himself the themes of this conference: he was diplomat, traveler and travelogue writer. Though he writes of the wonders of the West, he was as much an object of wonderment as the new world of Europe was to him. This double image of seeing and being seen will be the central focus of my presentation.

Intercultural Royal Visits: State Visits of Persian Shahs to Germany, 1873-1905

David Motadel, PhD student in history at Cambridge University and Visiting Research Fellow at Harvard

This paper was part of a book project about Nasser ed-Din Shah's and Mozaffar ed-Din Shah's visits to Germany (as part of their European tours) in 1873, 1878, 1889, 1900, 1902 and 1905. The visits were analysed from the perspective of cultural history of diplomacy (ceremony of reception etc.). Furthermore, the macro-history of the bilateral relations was reconstructed on the basis of the micro-history of the visits. The visits were major events in Imperial Germany and caused a Shah Mania, articulating in uncountable press reports, novels, theatre and opera pieces etc. On the Persian side, both Shahs wrote detailed travelogues about their impressions and activities. For this presentation I considered documents from all relevant Iranian and German archives.

Le séjour en France de Nasser ed-Din Shah en 1889

Bernadette Salesse

The focus of this presentation was on the third and last journey of Nasser ed-Din Shah Qajar to Europe and in particular to France, for which the Persian Emperor had an especial affinity. In 1873, Nasser ed-Din Shah was the first foreign potentate to visit France after its defeat in the Franco-Prussian war, a symbolic visit much appreciated and famously celebrated by his French hosts.

The Travels of Isabella Bird Bishop in Persia During the 1870s

Jennifer Scarce, Honorary Lecturer in Middle Eastern Cultures, School of Design, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee

Isabella Bird Bishop, the clever daughter of an Anglican clergyman, was one of the travellers who visited Persia in steadily increasing numbers during the 19th century. The two principal Qajar rulers, Fath Ali Shah (1797-1834) and Nasser ed-Din Shah (1848-1896) balanced dual policies of co-operation at home with the religious, administrative and commercial establishment and continual diplomacy abroad with the European powers – especially of Britain, France and Russia – who had entered Persian affairs since the beginning of the 19th century. This foreign policy opened Persia to Europeans – diplomats, soldiers, technical and educational experts and commercial agents while a developing interest in the country's impressive history and culture stimulated visits from archaeologists, scholars and curious travellers.

Officially Isabella was a traveller since she had no formal position as a wife, companion, governess, nurse or missionary, but in reality the scope of her travels and her publications reveal a meticulous professionalism. She was also remarkable as one of the Victorian women who travelled independently in both Persia and neighbouring countries of the Ottoman Empire. This was very much to their advantage as they could be more flexible in their arrangements than men who were restrained by the responsibilities of their position. They could, for example, be received in the private quarters of a household where they could observe family life and customs. Isabella came to Persia as a very experienced and respected traveller and writer. She had already travelled alone and adventurously in America, Canada, Australia, Hawaii, Japan and Malaya and published widely on these countries. She was a widow of fifty nine when she embarked on the hardest jour-

ney of her life. After travelling in Tibet, Kashmir and Lahore she arrived in Baghdad in January 1890 ready to depart for Persia accompanied part of the way by Major Herbert Sawyer of the Indian Army. Her journey took her through the Zagros mountains to Tehran, where she met Nasiruddin Shah, down to Luristan where she spent time among the Bakhtiari tribes, and then up through Kurdistan and across the Turkish border to Trebizond where she arrived in December 1890 to take the boat home.

She recorded her experiences in a book *Journeys in Persia and Kurdistan* published in 1891 in the form of thirty five letters based on her field notes. Her account is remarkable for the objectivity and detail of her observations of the terrain through which she travelled and the daily life, customs, dress and rituals of the varied people whom she met. Nothing escapes Isabella's descriptive talents. In this she was a pioneer ethnographer.

A Thousand and One Days in Europe. Mozaffar ed-Din Shah 's Travels in 1900, 1902 and 1905

Joachim Waibel

This presentation was a world premiere of a documentary film based on original archival material put together for the first time from pictures, some seen here for the first time since their production at the turn of the last century.