The Afrassiabi Distinguished Lectures in Persian and Iranian Studies

Books from Bombay: Tehran's Print Marketplace and its Transnational Dimensions, 1900-1950

This lectureship was established in honor of Hooshang Afrassiabi, who passed away on February 14, 1998. By that time, Hooshang and his family had lived in Seattle for almost two decades, having moved to the U.S. after the 1979 Iranian Revolution. Mr. Afrassiabi's advanced degrees in Iran had included a focus on administration and government affairs, and he had a distinguished career in government service, including the position of Mayor of the lovely city of Shiraz. But his undergraduate education there had been in Persian literature, a love that he was to cherish for the rest of his life. In 1999 his three sons, all alumni of the UW in various fields, began the establishment of an endowment in their father's name. The endowment supports this lectureship as well as the annual student prize.

Next Lecture

- To be announced

Past Lectures

- **2020:** March 10; “Revolution in Rhyme: Official Poets of the Islamic Republic” by Fatimeh Shams, the University of Pennsylvania (canceled)
- **2019:** March 7; “Iranian Jews in the Twentieth Century: Between Iranian Nationalism, Communism, and Zionism,” by Lior Sternfeld, Pennsylvania State University. 7:00pm in Kane Hall, Walker-Ames Room, 225.
- **2017:** Feb 11; “Books from Bombay: Tehran's Print Marketplace and its Transnational Dimensions, 1900-1950,” presented by Afshin Marashi, University of Oklahoma. 7:00pm in Kane Hall Room 220.
- **2016:** Feb 25; “Culture Iranian Style,” presented by Nasrin Rahimieh, University of California Irvine. Click here to view the lecture.
- **2013:** March 9; “Do the Stars in Heaven Speak? Rumi, a Poet for the 21st Century,” presented by Fatemah Keshavarz, University of Maryland.
- **2012:** Feb 25; “Islamic Revolution in Iran and the Arab Awakening: Ruptures or Continuities?” presented by Abbas Milani, Stanford University.
- **2008:** Feb 23; “Missed Opportunities between Iran and the United States, and the Way Ahead,” presented by Babara Slavin, USA Today Correspondent.
- **2006:** Feb 12; “Justice, Purity, and Sexuality in Modern Iranian History,” presented by Janet Afary, Purdue University.
- **2005:** Feb 20; “Searching for Hassan: A Journey to the Heart of Iran,” presented by the author, Terence Ward.
- **2004:** Feb 21; “Exile and Exilic Writing in Persian Literature,” presented by Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, University of Washington.
- **2003:** “Origins of Iranian Modernism,” presented by Dr. Layla Diba, Brooklyn Museum NY.

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