

California State University, East Bay
COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (CLASS)

GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE CONFERENCE

Afghan and Iranian Diaspora Cultures and Communities in the Bay Area

Thursday-Saturday, October 22-24, 2009

Conference proceedings will be available as an online book or special journal edition

\$35 per person through Oct. 15; registration \$50 at the door (space permitting)

25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA 94542 northeast side of campus

Culminating a year-long focus on the nations of Afghanistan and Iran – as they mark the 30th anniversary of the Iranian Revolution and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan - through a variety of programs and presentations held in various Bay Area locations in concert with a consortium comprised of the San Francisco Asian Art Museum; the University of California, Berkeley; and California State University, Fresno.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THUR., OCTOBER 22 BIELLA ROOM, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

5-7:30 p.m.

Art Exhibition, Documentary and Discussion, Rubab Performance, Reception

Diedre Badejo, Ph.D., Dean, College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

Moderators: Farzana Nabi, Ph.D.; Parvin Ahmadi, MA

Welcome from Rona Popal, Executive Director of the Afghan Coalition

Sami Nadi, Afghan sculptor

Afghan art, assembled by Jay Joya

“Seven Faces of Civilization” - portion of Iranian Film

Yuko Kurahashi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Theatre History, Theory & Criticism, School of Theatre &

Dance, Kent State University, short film on the making of “Beyond the Mirror,” by Bond Street Theatre, and Emile Theatre, Kabul; Discussion following

Homayun Sakhi performs on the rubab

Reception compliments of Friends of the Arts

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 MUSIC BUILDING 1055, DINNER: 1039

2-3 p.m.

Registration: \$50 at the door (space permitting) – hallway adjacent to MB1055

3-4:15 p.m.

Opening – Plenary I: Framing the Afghan and Iranian Diasporas

Moderator: Diedre Badejo, Ph.D., Dean, College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

Mohammad Qayoumi, Ph.D., President, CSUEB, “Afghanistan and India’s Common Cultural Heritage”

Diane Tober, Ph.D., Executive Director, Unique Zan Foundation, “Iran and the Afghan Diaspora: The Lingering Effects of War, Violence, and Dislocation”

4:15-4:30 p.m.

Break

4:30-5 p.m.

Poetry

Afghan poet Najia Karim & Iranian Poet Nosratollah Nooh

5-6:30 p.m.

Dinner

Buffet of Afghan foods - Chopan Kabob restaurant, Concord

Shahzad Dance Academy performance

6:30-6:35 p.m.

Introduction of President Mohammad Qayoumi

Diedre Badejo, Ph.D. Dean, College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

6:35-7 p.m.

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Mohammad Qayoumi, Ph.D., President, CSUEB

7-8:30 p.m.

Keynote: “Afghanistan Since the Withdrawal of Soviet Union’s Army: An Afghan Perspective”

Alam Payind, Ph.D., Director of the Middle East Studies Center, Ohio State University

8:30 p.m. Close for the day
Diedre Badejo, Ph.D., Dean, CLASS

8:35 p.m. Reception
Baklava prepared by Shahrzad Catering, and coffee - MB 1039

SAT., OCTOBER 24 MUSIC BUILDING, HEADQUARTERS: ROOM 1055, MEALS/BREAKS: ROOM 1039

8:15-8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:50-10:15 a.m. Plenary Session II: 1979 – 30 Years Hence

Moderator: Sahar Haghghat, MA
Farid Younos, Ph.D., Lecturer, Human Development, CSUEB
Maziar Behrooz, Ph.D., San Francisco State University Associate Professor of Middle Eastern History, "1979: The Tormented Year"
Parvin Ahmadi, MA, Assistant Superintendent, Fremont Unified School District, "Immigrants Navigating Through the K-12 Public Education System"
Farima Joya, "The Land of Opportunity"

10:15-10:30 a.m. Break

10:30-11:45 a.m. Session I

<p>Option A (MB 1055) Community Research in the Local Afghan Diaspora I Moderator: Vahid Fozdar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valerie J. Smith, Ph.D., CSUEB "The First Generation Narratives of Female Afghan Refugees: An Analysis of Their Sense-making When Blocked from Action"• Teri Lindgren, Ph.D., University of California at San Francisco "Impact of September 11th on Afghan Women's Community Participation"• Ceri Oeppen, Ph.D., University of Sussex, UK "Going to Afghanistan Made Me Realize the Bay Area is Home:" Afghan Refugees' Interactions Between Return and Assimilation - paper presented by Deborah Bauer	<p>Option B (MB 2605) Social Activism in Iranian Diaspora I Moderator: Thomas Brown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vida Samiian, Ph.D., California State University, Fresno, "Social Activism in Pre- and Post- Revolution Iranian Diaspora: A Comparative Perspective"• Manzar Foroohar, Ph.D., California Polytechnic State University, SLO, "The World is My Home: Global Issues of Justice and Resistance"• Farah Davari, California Nurses Association, "Union Organizing and the Social Justice Agenda within the United States"• Alireza Rezapour, MD, St. Mary's College of California, Director of Health and Wellness Center, Physicians for a National Health Plan, "Universal Health Care: Crossing National Borders"
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11:45 a.m.- 1:15 p.m. Lunch: Iranian buffet
Bijan restaurant, Fremont

1:15-2:30 p.m. Session II

<p>Option A (MB 1055) Social Activism in Iranian Diaspora II</p> <p>Moderator: Vahid Fozdar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fatemeh Keshavarz, Ph.D., author, "The Role of Literature in Global Communication"• Samira Yamin, graduate student, University of California, Irvine, "Transformational Engagement Through the Arts"• Sepideh Khosrowjah, Darvag Theatre Group, Berkeley, "It's not About Pomegranates"• Partow Hooshmandrad, Ph.D., California State University, Fresno, "A Case Study of the Musical and Devotional Practices of the Ahl-i Haqq of Guran"	<p>Option B (MB 2605) Community Research in the Local Afghan Diaspora II</p> <p>Moderator: Thomas Brown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carl Stempel, Ph.D., CSUEB, "Social and Experiential Influences on the Health and Well-Being of First Generation Afghans in Northern California"• Farid Younos, Ph.D., CSUEB, "Migration and High Divorce rate in the Afghan Community in the United States"• Aida Shirazi, Ph.D., Afghan Coalition, Community PI; Mehra Shirazi, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, "Afghan Immigrant Women's Breast Health Knowledge and Behaviors"
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2:30-2:45 p.m.

Break

Khetaai, traditional Afghan cookie - Compliments of Balkh Bakery & Deli, Fremont
Iranian cookies compliments of Parvin Ahmadi

2:45-4:15 p.m.

Personal and Immigration Narratives

Moderator: Diedre Badejo
Fatemeh Keshavarz, Ph.D., author of "Jasmine and the Stars: Reading more than 'Lolita' in Tehran," professor of Persian Language and Comparative Literature and chair of the department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, Washington University, St. Louis, "Balancing Truth with Fiction: The Role of literature in Global Communication."
Abubakr Asadulla, MD, CSUEB Student Health
Sahar Haghighat, MA, CSUEB
Sania Gaemi, R.D., Principle Investigator, Public Health Institute of Berkeley

4:15-5:15 p.m.

Roundtable discussion - New Directions in Afghan and Iranian Scholarship

Moderator: Vida Samiian, Ph.D.
Shafiq Shamel, Ph.D., Lecturer, Comparative Literature and German Studies, Stanford University
Carl Stempel, Ph.D., Associate Professor, CSUEB Sociology and Social Services Department
Valerie Smith, Ph.D., Lecturer, CSUEB Communication Department

4:15-6 p.m.

Film in MB 2605 - alternate activity "The Day I Became a Woman"

5:20-6 p.m.

Closing Plenary III - Present & Emerging Issues within the Diasporas

Moderator: Farzana Nabi, Ph.D., CSUEB
Rona Popal, Executive Director, Afghan Coalition
Mizgon Zahir-Darby, MA, Journalism
Thomas Brown, MS, Educational Consultant

Co-sponsors

The Afghan Coalition, Fremont
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