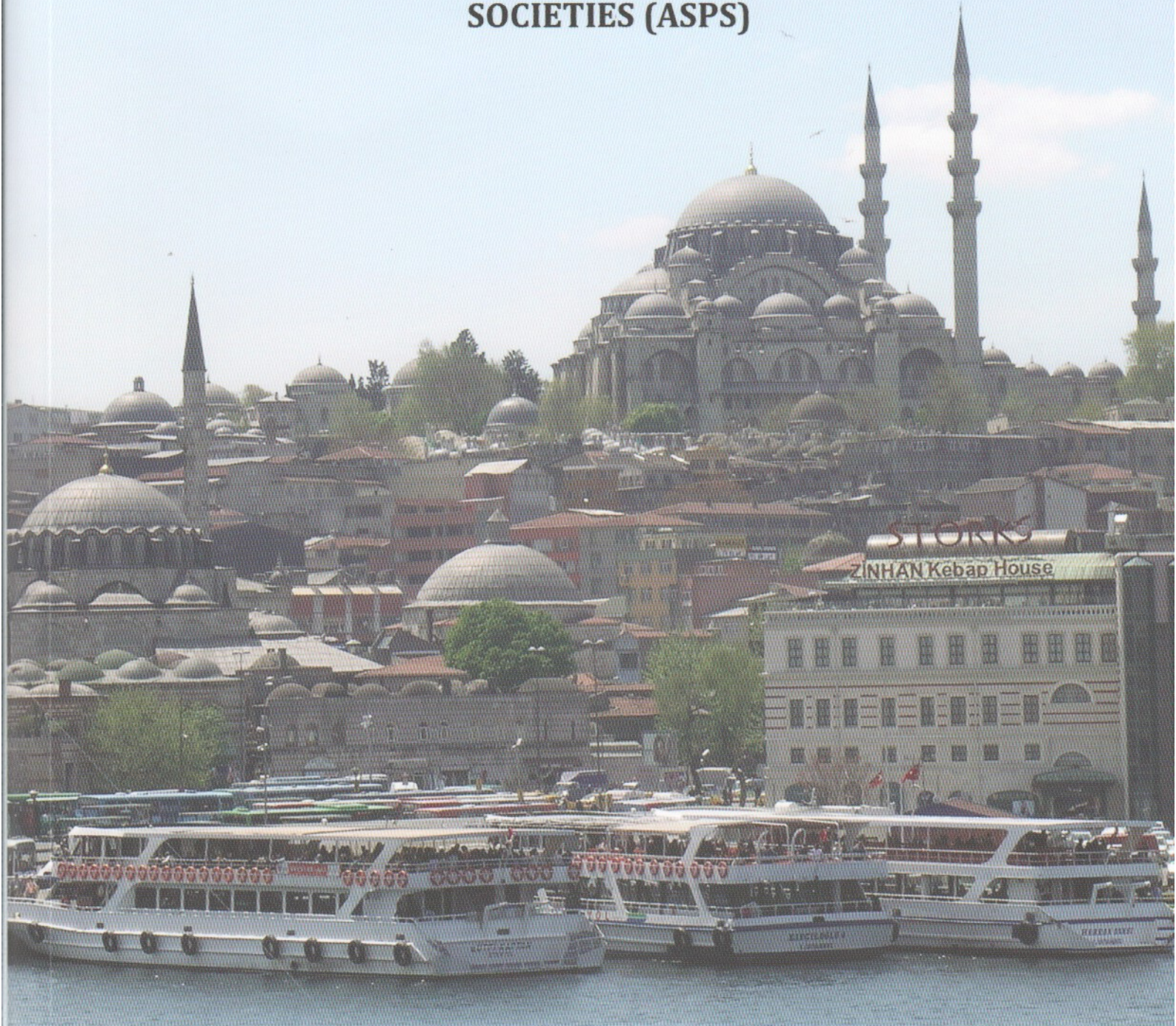


THE SEVENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF PERSIANATE
SOCIETIES (ASPS)



September 8-11, 2015
Istanbul, Turkey

Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University,
Fındıklı Campus



Mimar Sinan
Fine Arts University

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
PERSIANATE SOCIETIES

انجمن مطالعات
جوامع فارسین



ORIENT-INSTITUT
ISTANBUL

**THE SEVENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE
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VENUE

**MIMAR SINAN FINE ARTS UNIVERSITY,
FINDIKLI CAMPUS**

Address: Meclis-i Mebusan Caddesi No: 24 *Findikli* 34427, Beyoğlu, İstanbul

Website: <http://www.msgsu.edu.tr/tr-TR/findikli/606/Page.aspx>

Telephone: 0212 252 16 00

35. Outsider/Insider Views of the Persianate World

Room 203

Panel Chair: Victoria Rowe Holbrook (*Istanbul Bilgi University*)

José Cutillas (*University of Alicante*): Khwaja Seffer, Armenian Ambassador and Factor of Shah Abbas I in Madrid in the 17th century

Başak Kilerci (*University of Oxford*): Naser al-Din Shah's Visit to Istanbul in 1873 within the Context of Ottoman-Qajar Relations

COFFEE BREAK

10:30-10:45

SESSION 2

10:45-12:15

36. Memory and Imagery in Persianate Historiography and Literature

Room 201

Panel Chair: Emrah Safa Gürkan (*29 Mayıs University*)

Maryam Kamali (*Harvard University*): Undeveloped Persian Historiography in the Saljuq Era

Javad Abbasi (*Ferdowsi University of Mashhad*): Turkestan from the Iranian Perspective from the Thirteenth to Fifteenth Century (Reflections in Persian Poetry from Sa'di to Jami)

Sh. Yusufbekov (*Institute of Humanities of the Academy of Sciences, Tajikistan*): The Image of Saint Ali in the Poetical Genre of the Oral Folk Literature of Badakhshan, Tajikistan

Mehmet Ertan (*Boğaziçi University*): The Role of Massacres in Collective Identity: The Alevi Collective Memory on the Basis of Victimhood

Javad Abbasi

TURKISTAN IN IRANIAN PERSPECTIVE: REFLECTIONS IN PERSIAN POETRY FROM SA'DI TO JAMI

Central Asia or "Turkestan" in many medieval Persian sources, witnessed many significant developments during the 13th-15th centuries under the Qarakhataid, Mongol and Timurid empires. These developments affected attitudes and perspectives from China to India and Iran about the region. Iranians reacted to these developments based on their strong historical and cultural connections with Central Asia, and their reaction was reflected in Persian literature and historiography. In this context, Persian poetry is a significant source for understanding how Iranian's views about the region changed in time. In the late 13th century Sa'di, who according to some narratives had traveled to the region, describes Turkistan as an outlying land by saying:

ترسم نرسی به کعبه ای اعرابی این ره که تو می روی به ترکستان است

And in the late 15th century Abd al-Rahman Jami calls the region as his best desirable destination:

جامی از ملک خراسان چه کنی عزم حجاز چون ترا کعبه مقصود به ترکستان است

This presentation considers reflections of historical developments in Central Asia in Iranian perspective focusing on the Persian poetry during the 13-15 centuries.

Pejman Abdolmohammadi

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE FIRST GENERATION OF PERSIAN SECULAR INTELLECTUALS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

From the mid-nineteenth century some Persian intellectuals started to develop their critical perception of political Islam, giving rise to a new current of thought based on Persian nationalism, secularism and constitutionalism. Political thinkers such as; Mirza Fath-'Ali Akhundzade (1812-1878), Mirza Aqa Khan Kirmani (1853-1896), and Mirza Malkam Khan (1831-1908) put forward constitutionalist, nationalist and secular ideas for the first time in Iranian late modern history. They were able to combine the Western enlightenment with the Persian pre-Islamic history and identity, creating, for the first time in the Iranian modern history, a new current of thought based on secularism and nationalism. The Iranian Constitutional Revolution of 1906 was partly the result of the ideas of these thinkers, who had been able to spread a new civil concept of state, which separated religion from politics by introducing the rule of law, civil rights and limiting the absolutism of the monarch.

This paper will analyze the political thought of the first generation of Persian secular intellectuals, highlighting some fundamental elements of their ideas and reflections regarding the role of women and the importance of individual liberties and civil rights. Their views concerning women's rights in the society, criticizing the Islamic perceptions of women, and the main points of their critique concerning the feminine world, such as polygamy, *hijāb* and the right of instruction are discussed.

Sheikh Abdullah

MUNSHI MOOLCHAND DEHLAVI: AN EXPONENT OF ROSTAM AND SOHRAB IN URDU LITERATURE

The *Shahnameh* of Ferdowsi is an important literary text of Iran. Among its fifty-nine stories, the story of Sohrab and Rostam is distinguished from the rest of the stories of *Shahnameh* in terms of