



Middle East Newsletter

Vol. 18 No. 1

Autumn, 1992

CITIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST Teachers' Workshop in Conjunction with MESA

Cities of the Middle East will be the theme of this year's K-12 educator's workshop, held in conjunction with the annual MESA (Middle East Studies Association) meetings (see next article). The all-day workshop will be held on Friday, October 30. The workshop will take place at 2 World Trade Center, 25 S.W. Salmon in Portland. The program will combine presentations by experts on Middle Eastern cities with information on teaching strategies and curriculum materials.

The registration fee of only \$15 entitles participants to the workshop, lunch, and a notebook of teaching materials. Moreover, participants can also attend any of the panels and the book exhibit associated with the MESA meetings for the same \$15. You should plan to register ahead of time for this event: space is limited. The Portland committee planning this workshop would like to hear from you on or before October 23. We hope to see you there!

Presenters will include:

Michael Bonine, University of Arizona: CITIES IN TUNISIA AND ALGERIA
Masoud Kheirabadi, Lewis and Clark College: THE STRUCTURE OF A PERSIAN CITY

Selma al-Radi, New York Institute of Art: BAGHDAD IN ANCIENT AND CURRENT PERSPECTIVES

Nohad Toulon, Portland State University: CITY PLANNING IN MECCA

For additional information or to register, contact Jean Campbell, World Affairs Council of Oregon, One World Trade Center, Suite #320, 121 S.W. Salmon, Portland, OR 97204. Tel: 503-274-7488.

For teachers in Washington State, who live more than an hour's drive away from Portland, a limited amount of travel money is available. To apply for this money, please contact Charlotte Albright at the address on the bottom of page 1. DEADLINE for application for these funds is October 23.



MESA IN PORTLAND

The 1992 meeting of the Middle East Studies Association will be held in Portland, Oregon, October 28-31, in the Portland Hilton Hotel. Those registered for the meetings may attend the presentation of a wide array of papers on all aspects of Middle Eastern studies, a large book exhibit, films, art exhibits, and a reception.

Nearly 20 recent Middle Eastern feature films and documentaries will be shown as a part of the MESA meeting. These films, from Egypt, Pakistan, Iran, Lebanon, Saudi Arabic, Morocco, Turkey, and other countries, are all free for those registered for MESA. In addition, the Foundation for Iranian Studies is showing a recent film from Iran called, *Nargess*, at the Fox Theatre, across from the Hilton. The director, Rakhshan Bani-Etemad, will be on hand to discuss it. The film has English subtitles. A \$2 donation is suggested.

Also scheduled to take place with the MESA meeting is a concert by Al-Andalus and Dariush Dolat-shahi. Al-Andalus is a group whose music is a mixture of Flamenco, Arabic, and contemporary jazz. Dariush Dolat-shahi performs music based on Persian music, but which is experimental. His performance will take the form of a multi-media opera drawing on traditional and contemporary inspiration. Tickets range from advance purchase student/senior \$8 to at the door general admission \$15. Advance prices are available through October 16 and tickets are available through TicketMaster at 503-224-4400.

To register for MESA, contact MESA, 1232 N. Cherry Ave., Tucson, AZ 85721, or call 602-621-5851. Preregistration for members is \$52, non-members \$60. Registration at the door for members is \$65, non-members \$75. Preregistering student members pay \$26, non-members \$35. Student members pay \$40 at the door, non-members \$50.

IRANIAN-AMERICAN WRITER TO SPEAK IN SEATTLE

Nahid Rachlin, who has published two novels and now a collection of short stories on the Iranian experience in the U.S. and Iran, will give a reading from *Veils*, the book of short stories, at Elliott Bay Bookstore (in downtown Seattle), on Tuesday, September 22, at 7:30 p.m. Her first two novels were *The Foreigner* and *Married to a Stranger*.

NEWS OF THE MIDDLE EAST CENTER

The Middle East Center and Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization at the UW have just completed co-sponsorship of a program offering intensive classes in Middle Eastern languages. Eighteen classes in Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, Uzbek, Tajik, Kazakh, Georgian, and Islamic art and calligraphy were the course offerings. Students could also attend a weekly series of lectures about Central Asia as well as a film series of feature films from the Middle East. Over 100 students from all over the United States enrolled in the classes, making this our most successful summer language program ever.

On August 14, the UW hosted a workshop for instructors of Persian from universities around the U.S. Twenty-two people attended this event where teaching techniques and establishment of proficiency guidelines were the main items on the agenda.



NEW MATERIALS IN THE MERC

Teaching Materials:

"The Arab World and Europe's Age of Discovery," *Arab World Almanac*, Vol. 3, No. 2, Winter 1992. This item and the following on colonialism are teaching units designed for secondary school student. They may be copied for classroom use.

"Colonialism in the Arab World," *Arab World Almanac*. Vol. #, No. 3, Spring, 1992.

Spotlight on Turkey: Continuity and Change. An interdisciplinary curriculum produced by The American Forum for Global Education which examines Turkey through social studies, literature, and art. High school level. Includes a set of 20 slides.

Books:

The Adventures of Ibn Battuta: A Muslim Traveler of the 14th Century. Ross E. Dunn. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986. Ibn Battuta is celebrated, along with Marco Polo, as being one of the great travelers in pre-modern times.

Badr al-Din Lu'lu': Atabeg of Mosul, 1211-1259. Douglas Patton. Seattle: University of Washington, 1991. Describes the life and times of this 13th century ruler.

Muslim Travellers: Pilgrimage, Migration, and the Religious Imagination. Edited by Dale F. Eickelman and James Piscatori. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990. Explores the significance of travel on establishing a sense of religious identity and economic and political linkages in the Muslim world.

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