

**RUSSIAN ORIENTALISM TO SOVIET IRANOLOGY:
THE PERSIAN-SPEAKING WORLD AND ITS HISTORY
THROUGH RUSSIAN EYES**

**St Antony's College, University of Oxford
30 November – 1 December 2012**

**With the support of:
The Roshan Cultural Heritage Foundation
The Iran Heritage Foundation
The Soudavar Memorial Foundation**

Programme

Friday 30 November

2.30 – 3.00 Registration, tea/coffee and welcome

3.00 – 5.40 Session One

Russian Orientalists in and on Central Asia

Chair: Stephanie Cronin (Oxford)

Reflections on an Orientalist: Aleksandr Kun, the man and his legacy.

Arezou Azad (Oxford), Olga Yastrebova (St Petersburg)

Soviet Orientalism and nationalism in Central Asia: Aleksandr Semenov's vision of a Tajik national identity

Matthias Battis (Oxford)

A Soviet "Orientalist" in private: a study of the correspondence of Olga Chekhovich

Ulfatbek Abdurasulov (Tashkent)

The Representation of Pamir and its people in Russian and Soviet ethnography

Sultonbek Aksakolov (London)

Saturday 1 December

8.45 – 9.00: Registration

9.00 – 11.00 Session Two

From Russian Orientalism to Soviet Iranology: Shaping the Field

Chair: Paolo Sartori (Vienna)

The Origins of Iranian studies in Russia

Alexei A. Khismatulin (St Petersburg)

Shifting Terrain: The Geographies of Soviet Iranian Studies

Lana Ravandi-Fadai (Moscow)

Rupture or Continuity? The organisational set-up of Russian/Soviet Oriental Studies before and after 1917.

Denis Volkov (Manchester)

11.00 – 11.30 tea/coffee

11.30 – 12.50 Session Three

Soviet Iranology: Later Developments and International Impact

Chair: Homa Katouzian (Oxford)

The History of Soviet Iranology (1917-1979)

Irina Fedorova (Moscow)

Soviet traditions and their impact on the development of international research concerning Persian diplomatic studies (documents, *fermans*, and chancellery affairs)

Bert Fragner (Vienna)

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch

2.00 – 3.20 Session Four

Soviet Iranian Studies and Identity Politics

Chair: Alexander Morrison (Liverpool)

The Soviet Union as a Persianate Successor State: The Perso-Soviet Cultural Relations Society, the Iranian Left, and Soviet Modernity 1941-1953

James Pickett (Princeton)

Soviet Orientalism and subaltern linguistics: the case of Kurdish

Michiel Leezenberg (Amsterdam)

3.20 – 4.00 tea/coffee

4.00 – 5.30 Round Table discussion on sources and archives

Chair: Edmund Herzig (Oxford)

Natalie May (Berlin)

Ali Mir-Ansari (Tehran)

Tom Welsford (Vienna)

Lana Ravandi-Fadai (Moscow)

5.30 Conference ends

Attendance is free but registration in advance is required as places are limited. Please write to Stephanie Cronin, stephanie.cronin@orinst.ox.ac.uk to reserve a place.