

# The Near East Reports...

from the Department of  
**Near Eastern Languages  
and Civilization**  
at the University of Washington

Volume 9

Summer, 1996

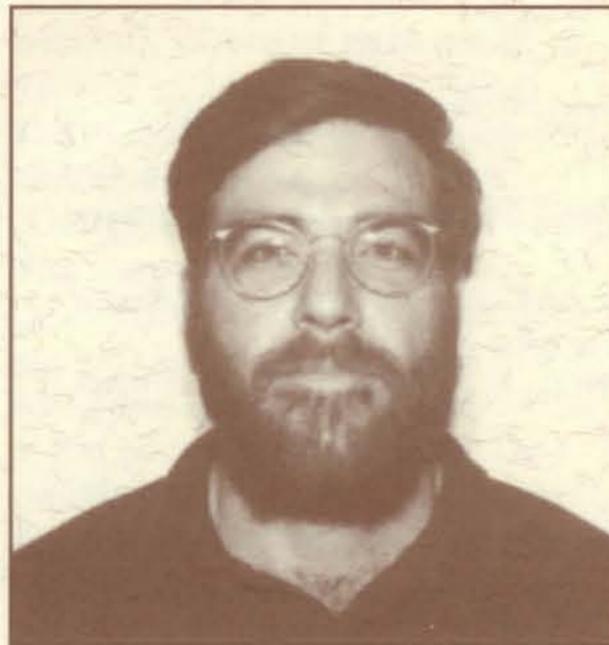


## From the Acting Chair:

By any standards, 1995-96 was an eventful year for our Department. Under the leadership of our Chair, Professor **Naomi Sokoloff**, NELC continued to enjoy enhanced visibility on campus as well as among our peer departments throughout the country, increased student enrollment at both undergraduate and graduate levels, and various new developments that will doubtless move us further along toward the new century and the new millennium. As a result, our faculty and students feel better, more secure, and more optimistic than ever before. For my part, I would like to highlight some of the more noteworthy events of the past academic year and try to place them in the context of our overall long-term plans for the study of the Near and Middle East at the University of Washington.

I took over as Acting Chair in January 1996 because Professor Sokoloff was going on leave for the rest of the year. At that time, the most important task ahead of us was the search for the Islamic position, and it took us the entire winter quarter to come to a decision. The search committee, consisting of Professors **Terri DeYoung** and **Kemal Silay**, aided by Professor **Michael Williams** of the Program in Comparative Religion, went through 46 files to come up with a short list of four highly qualified applicants. The Department decided to invite three of the candidates to the campus, and eventually voted to appoint to the position Professor **Brannon Wheeler**, currently an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Penn State.

Professor Wheeler, a graduate of the University of Chicago, will bring to our Department not only his impressive expertise in Islamic law and jurisprudence, but his deep interest in religious studies in general. His book, *Applying the Canon in Islam: The Authorization and Maintenance of Interpretive Reasoning in Hanafi Scholarship* (SUNY Press, 1996) is a pioneering examination of the Islamic legal tradition from the viewpoint of



*Professor Brannon Wheeler*

scriptural interpretation and canonical authority. More recently, he has been examining aspects of Qur'anic exegesis that shed light on personages such as Moses, Jesus, and Alexander.

Professor Wheeler's appointment has made it possible for us to draw on the similarly-oriented expertise of his wife, Dr. **Deborah Wheeler**, also a Chicago graduate, as might be needed. She will be offering courses for The Jackson School of International Studies (JSIS) as well as NELC for the next

three years. Her fields of specialty (Media and Politics in the Near East, Conflict Resolution, and Popular Culture) will allow us to offer a greater variety of courses in the years to come.

A steady stream of prominent scholars visited NELC in the past academic year, led by Professor **James Young**, whose week-long stay was made possible by a Walker-Ames lectureship (see p. 12). Also in Winter Quarter, Professor **Terri DeYoung** organized a highly successful lecture series entitled "Voices from al-Andalus: On the Literary History of Iberia under Arab Rule" (see p. 12). The three evening lectures in this series shed light on a complicated pattern of cultural production and dissemination in multilingual milieus such as that in medieval Spain.

In June, NELC hosted the Seventh Annual Conference of the Iranian Women's Studies Foundation. The three-day event brought to our campus some 300 scholars and other individuals interested in issues related to "Iranian Women and Human Rights". It also occasioned a visit by Mr. **Maurice Capithorne**, the United Nations special envoy on Human rights in Iran. The NELC colloquium, established three years ago, is now a regular feature of our professional life. Last year a total of seven faculty members and graduate students shared their ongoing research activities with a growing number of interested faculty and students from all over the campus. In the pages of this Newsletter, you may also read about many other activities; they are listed in the Newsletter's "Public Lectures" section (see p. 12) or



*Chairperson*

**Naomi B. Sokoloff**

*Professors*

**Cirtautas, Ilse D.**, Ph.D., 1958, Hamburg; Turkic languages and literatures.  
**Heer, Nicholas L.**, (Emeritus); Ph.D., 1955, Princeton; Arabic language and literature, Islamic theology and philosophy.  
**MacKay, Pierre A.**, (Computer Science), (Classics, Comparative Literature); Ph.D., 1964, California (Berkeley); Topography of the Near East, Ottoman Turkish and Classical Arabic literatures.  
**Ziadeh, Farhat J.**, (Emeritus); LL.B., 1940, London; Arabic language and literature, Islamic law, Islamic institutions.

*Associate Professors*

**Karimi-Hakkak, Ahmad**, Ph.D., 1979, Rutgers; Persian language and literature.  
**Sokoloff, Naomi B.**, Ph.D., 1980, Princeton; Hebrew language and literature.

*Assistant Professors*

**DeYoung, Terri L.**, Ph.D., 1988, California (Berkeley); Arabic language and literature.  
**Silay, Kemal**, Ph.D., 1993, Indiana; Turkish language and literature.  
**Wheeler, Brannon**, Ph.D., 1993, University of Chicago; Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, History of Religions.

*Senior Lecturer*

**Stilo, Donald L.**, Ph.D., 1971, Michigan; Linguistics (Iranian concentration).

*Lecturer*

**Rosenberg, Ilan**, M.A., 1986, Tel Aviv University; Modern Hebrew language.

*Adjunct Professors*

**Bacharach, Jere L.**, (History, International Studies); Ph.D., 1967, Michigan; History of the Near East.  
**Jaffee, Martin S.**, (International Studies); Ph.D., 1980, Brown University; History of Judaism and late antiquity, methods in study of religion.  
**Williams, Michael A.**, (International Studies); Ph.D., 1977, Harvard; Early Christianity and religions of antiquity.

*Adjunct Instructor*

**Albright, Charlotte**, Ph.D., 1976, Washington; Folk and classical music of Iran, cinema and the Middle East.

*Affiliate Professor*

**Andrews, Walter G.**, Ph.D., 1970, Michigan; Turkish language and literature, Ottoman Turkish.

*Affiliate Assistant Professors*

**MacKay, Theodora**, Ph.D., 1968, Bryn Mawr; Publications, ancient Anatolia.  
**Pyne, Nannette**, Ph.D., 1982, Washington; Medieval Near Eastern history, geography and archaeology.

*Affiliate Instructor*

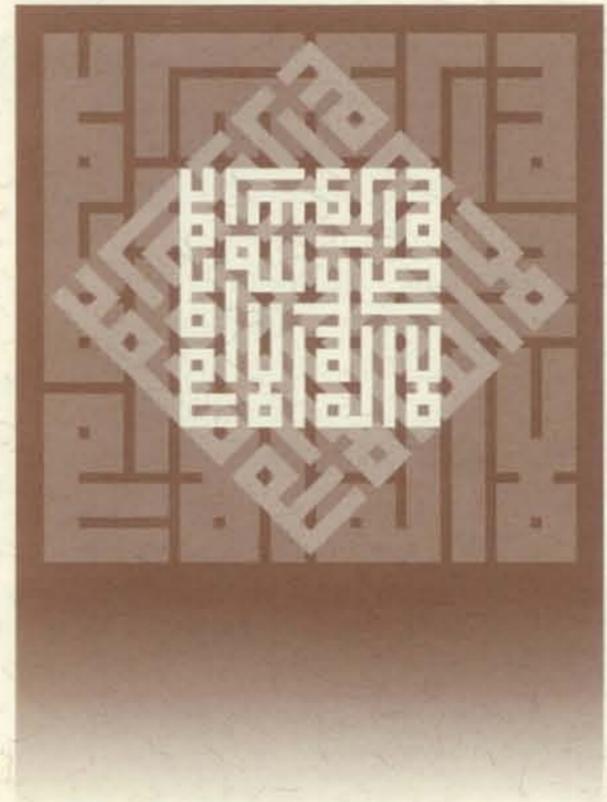
**Sakkal, Mamoun**, M. Arch, 1982, Washington; History of Islamic art and architecture.

*Teaching Assistants 1995-96*

Arabic: Nancy Dietrich, Suha Kudsieh, and Alex Elinson  
 Persian: Hamid Kermanshahi, Hadi Sultan-Quraie  
 Turkish: Kagan Arik and Nilüfer Patterson  
 Uzbek: Hamit Zakir

among the events arranged by our student organizations (see pp. 13-14).

The end of the academic year also brought the end of service to our Department for some of our colleagues. Professor **Pierre MacKay**, who had a part in the evolution of NELC during his 30 years of service to the University, has now retired; he joins the list of our distinguished emeriti colleagues which includes Professors **Farhat Ziadeh** and **Nicholas Heer**. Fortunately, he will be teaching occasionally for at least the next five years. Professor **Aron Zysow** has now left the Near Eastern Department, although not the city of Seattle. We will continue to cherish the possibility of running into



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# NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

him in the library. Acting Assistant Professor **Donald Stilo** will no longer teach Persian at NELC, but will be an affiliate member, as is Professor **Walter Andrews**, our resource scholar in Ottoman literature. Dr. **Ilan Rosenberg**, who has taught elementary and intermediate Hebrew for the last three years, will be leaving our Department to continue his teaching career at the University of Michigan.

This was the year when our Department entered cyberspace. Thanks to the work of **Ken Peterson**, a NELC graduate student, we now have a home page on the internet. The page highlights the courses and languages we teach, and the place we occupy among the academic community of Near and Middle Eastern scholars. At the NELC website, you may also find detailed information on our faculty and their background, publications, and on-going projects. Similarly, you may obtain valuable links to other institutions and internet resources for Near and Middle Eastern studies.

You may read more detailed descriptions of these and other happenings in the pages of this newsletter. It remains for me to thank all of my colleagues, departmentally and campus-wide, without whose insights and advice I would have found my brief tour of duty as Acting Chair impossible. In particular, I want to thank divisional dean **Richard Dunn** and our Chair **Naomi Sokoloff** who made themselves available every time I sought their advice or help, **Jere Bacharach** who has always been a source of expert advice and abundant energy, and **Charlotte Albright** from whom I received many tips and hints. **Corey Heller**, who helped a lot with this Newsletter, left in August. Good luck, Corey! Finally, NELC administrative assistant **Jane Lund** has been a real asset to me as Acting Chair, as I am sure she will be in my capacity as a regular — but proud — member of NELC at the University of Washington.

**Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak**,  
Acting Chair

**Charlotte Albright**, Adjunct Instructor in NELC, has continued her duties as Executive Secretary for the Society for Iranian Studies (SIS). SIS is the largest organization in North America to promote scholarship about Iran and the Persian-speaking world. More than 350 individuals are members of the Society, and over 180 university libraries around the world subscribe to its journal, *Iranian Studies*. In addition to the journal, a newsletter, *SIS News*, is published and the Society sponsors panels at the annual meetings of the Middle East Studies Association.

In the Fall Professor **Walter Andrews** was invited to Turkey to speak at Koc University in Istanbul, where he gave a talk entitled "Metin Nerede, Hangi Metin, Kimin Metin?" which was later published in the Journal "Defer". Professor Andrews' trip was supported by the Turkish Daily News in return for producing two articles entitled "While I was gone. . ." comparing Istanbul in the sixties and today. In December, he presented a paper to the MESA meeting as part of a panel he organized on the Ottoman Kaside (paper title: "Pretty Please With Sugar: Request Strategies in the Ottoman Kaside.") His *Ottoman Lyric Poetry: an Anthology*, written in cooperation with Dr. Mehmet Kalpakli, is in press and will be out in the late Fall or Winter. Several translations from that anthology (and one translation of his own) will also be published in Norton's *A Treasury of World Poetry*. He also produced a number of translations of modern and Ottoman poetry for Professor

Kemal Silay's *Anthology of Turkish Literature* (in which a chapter from *Poetry's Voice* . . . was also republished). A review article entitled "Black Book and Black Boxes: Orhan Pamuk's 'Kara Kitap'" is forthcoming in the journal *Edebiyat*. The two-volume work entitled *Qasida Poetry in Islamic Asia and Africa* has just been released by Brill with two of his articles ("Speaking of Power" and "Across Chasms of Change", the latter with Mehmet Kalpakli) and six translations.

For most of Fall term **Jere L. Bacharach** was the Samir Shamma Visiting Lecturer in Islamic Numismatics and Epigraphy, Oxford University and a visiting fellow of St. Cross College. In addition to lectures in Oxford, Professor Bacharach gave presentations on Islamic archaeology and numismatics at University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies and the Royal Numismatic Society respectively. The former will appear as an article this year in the journal *Muqarnas*. Upon his return to Seattle Professor Bacharach took on the responsibilities of being Director, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, a job he finds far more challenging than he ever imagined. Professor Bacharach's New Year card pictured him holding a koala, a reminder of a fantastic summer trip to Australia and New Zealand.

Professor **Ilse Cirtautas** spent the Autumn quarter 1995 as faculty-in-residence at the Kirghiz-American School of Business, Law and Humanities of the Kirghiz State University Bishkek, Kirghizstan. Her stay

was part of a project funded by the U.S. Information Agency and administered by the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX). One of Professor Cirtautas' tasks was to advise the Kirghiz language faculty on new methods of teaching Kirghiz as they are currently being employed in the Kirghiz language courses of our Department. Professor Cirtautas' Kirghiz teaching materials have been published in Bishkek in a limited edition for use at the Kirghiz-American School. Prior to her departure to Bishkek Professor Cirtautas had been invited to participate in the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Founding of Tashkent State University, September 11-15, 1995. On that occasion Tashkent State University awarded her an Honorary Doctoral Degree.

On April 11-13, 1996 Professor Cirtautas read a paper on "Revival of Traditional Cultures in the Central Asian Republics" at a conference on the "Struggle for Modernization and Democratization: The Case of the Former Soviet Central Asian Republics" held at the University of Minnesota. Although Professor Cirtautas was on leave during Winter and Spring quarters, she continued to serve as academic advisor for our three "Central Asian" student organizations: the Student Association for Inner Asian Studies, the Kazakh and Kirghiz Studies Group, and the Uzbek Circle. She also served as co-editor of the *Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Bulletin*, whose fourth issue (vol. 2:2) appeared in May 1996 and contains several of her contributions. Professor Cirtautas recently signed a contract with Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland, to write the volume *Historical Dictionary of Kirghizstan* for the series: *Asian Historical Dictionaries*.

For the fifth successive year, Professor Cirtautas directed the Department's Summer Program on Central Asian Languages and Culture. The languages offered are Intensive Elementary and Intermediate Uzbek and Kazakh, and Intensive Elementary Tajik and Kirghiz. As in previous summers, thanks to her efforts our department again received substantial fellowship funding from the Social Science Research Council for student participation in the program.

1995-1996 has been an active and productive year for Professor **Terri DeYoung**, both in terms of interactions with colleagues from other institutions as well as in the local community, and in terms of research and publication. Arabic language teaching continues to be an important focus of concern for Professor DeYoung. At the end of April 1995 she attended a three-day workshop for Arabic program directors from the Consortium of Western Universities as a guest of the Near Eastern Department of the University of Texas at Austin, where she and the other directors discussed improvements in instruction and enhanced coordination of standards for the Arabic language programs at the seven major research universities belonging to the Western Consortium.

Professor DeYoung agreed to become the University's representative to the Governing Board of the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA) for the 1995-1996 academic year, and in December 1995 she attended the Board's annual meeting, held in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association conference in Washington D.C. In addition to her responsibilities to the Arabic language program, Professor DeYoung has also had several

opportunities in 1995-96 to pursue new initiatives in teaching and presenting the results of her research in the field of Arabic literature, both modern and classical. In Autumn 1995, thanks to a grant from the Middle East Center, she was able to teach a new course focusing on the role of nationalist and colonialist ideologies in the development of the modern Arabic novel.

In Winter Quarter 1996 she organized the lecture series, "Voices from al-Andalus: On the Literary History of Iberia under Arab Rule," which brought a number of distinguished colleagues in this field to the University for public lectures and informal discussions in a class on the literary traditions of al-Andalus taught in conjunction with the series. Our visitors included James Monroe from the University of California at Berkeley, Raymond P. Scheindlin of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and 'Abdullah al-Maatani, a scholar from King Abdul Azia University in Saudi Arabia whose innovative work on the strophic form of Andalusian Arabic poetry known as the *muwashshaha* should revolutionize attitudes toward its importance as evidence of the multicultural pluralism to be found in the Iberian peninsula between 711 and 1492 C.E. Both the lecture series and the class were widely recognized as an unequivocal success, providing enhanced opportunities for learning about a rich and too-often-neglected literary tradition, not only to students on campus but to the larger local community as well.

In January Professor DeYoung presented a paper on "'Scripture' as Literary Genre: Some Lessons from the Koran" as part of the NELC Department Colloquium series, in which she

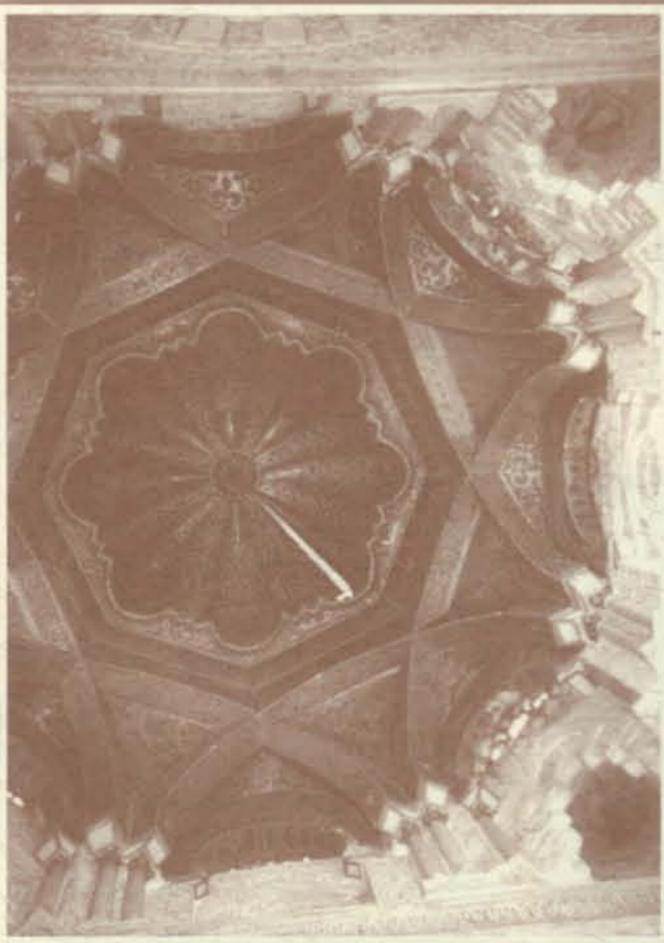
developed some ideas about the Koranic privileging of dialogue and the speaking voice over narrativity and its implications for evaluating the hierarchy of genres in Arabic literature in a broader sense. She is now in the process of revising this paper for possible publication. She gave an ex-

has appeared in the June 1995 volume of the journal *Arabiyya*: "Upon One Double String: The Metaphysical Element in Adunis' Poetry." This article charts the impact that Western Modernists' fascination with the "Metaphysical Style" of John Donne and others had upon the equivalent movement in modern Arabic poetry. She has also contributed several book reviews to *The International Journal of Middle East Studies* (on recent books about Naguib

tance thereto - affected the career and writings of a major modern Arab poet of the 1950s and 60s, Badr Shakir al-Sayyab. The volume, tentatively titled *Badr Shakir al-Sayyab: Postcolonial Poet of Iraq*, is being reviewed by the State University of New York Press for inclusion in its publishing schedule in this next academic year. The second volume, a collection of essays honoring Mounah Khouri, professor emeritus of Arabic literature at the University of California at Berkeley, tentatively titled *Tradition and Modernity in Arabic Literature* (and co-edited by Issa Boullata of McGill University together with Professor DeYoung, who also contributed an article, "Nasser and the Death of Elegy in Modern Arabic Poetry") is being considered by the University of Arkansas Press for publication in November of this year.

Last November, Professor **Nicholas Heer** completed a partial translation of an essay by Ghazali on Qur'anic exegesis for the second volume of Jon Renard's *Seven Doors to Islam*, which is to be published by the University of California Press in Spring 1997. Just recently Professor Heer did a review of al-Ustadh, an Arabic word processor from Sakhr Software, for the magazine *Multilingual Communications and Computing*.

NELC Acting Chair Professor **Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak** experienced his busiest year ever in his eleven years at the University of Washington. In teaching, he offered his "Advanced Persian" and "The Epic Tradition" in the Fall. In Winter, he taught a new version of his "Persian Ghazal" course focused on the lover-beloved dialogue. The course generated much enthusi-



*Dome of the Great Mosque of Cordoba, and La Giralda in Seville. Photos by Mamoun Sakkal*

panded version of the paper, incorporating her colleagues' helpful suggestions, on April 27 as the invited guest of the Middle East Center of the University of California at Berkeley during the conference they are sponsoring on "Highlights of Arabic Literature: Classical, Colloquial and In-Between."

On the publications side, a new article by Professor DeYoung

Mahfouz), *Edebiyat* (on a collection of Israeli writings on modern Arabic literature), and *The Journal of the American Oriental Society* (on Sabri Hafez's new book, *The Genesis of Arabic Narrative Discourse*).

Also, Professor DeYoung has two books currently being considered for publication. The first is her study of how colonial ideological constructs - and the resis-



asm among the students as it explored aspects of the discursive activity in the Persian poetic tradition in light of post-structuralist literary theory, particularly Bakhtin's dialogical principle. Professor Karimi followed this in the Spring quarter, in his course "Sufism: thought and Expression," by offering a new approach to understanding the mystical literature in Persian through an exploration of the relationship between Jalal al-Din Rumi and Shams Tabrizi.

Professor Karimi's *Recasting Persian Poetry: Scenarios of Poetic Modernity in Iran* appeared in March 1996. The book has already drawn praise from comparatists and scholars of Middle Eastern literatures alike. David Bevington, professor of English and comparative literature at the University of Chicago, calls it "a splendid work of scholarship, expertly envisioned and magisterially organized." And Suzanne Stetkevych, associate professor of Arabic literature at Indiana University, judges it "an exciting and innovative work of literary theory and scholarship that is bound to exert a formative influence on the next generation of Middle Eastern literary studies."

The latest Brill publication, a two-volume work titled *Qasida Poetry in Islamic Asia and Africa*, features an article by professor Karimi on the *qasida* in contemporary Iran (Vol. 1, pp. 253-280) as well as his translations of four twentieth-century Persian *qasidas* (Vol. 2, pp. 192-215). In addition, professor Karimi was asked by *The Encyclopedia Britannica* to take over the entry for "Litera-

ture: Persian" from retiring professor William L. Hanaway of the University of Pennsylvania. His contribution appears on page 237 of *Britannica Book of the Year* for 1995. Professor Karimi's ongoing research

had chosen to highlight in its "Author Meets Critics" session; and at an International Seminar held in Paris under the auspices of the UNESCO, the Sorbonne and the CNRS. He further helped organize the Seventh Annual Conference of the Iranian Women's Studies Foundation held on the University of Washington campus June 14-16, 1996. While taking a break from his duties as NELC Acting Chair, he frequently dreams of next Fall when professor Naomi Sokoloff will return to take back the helm as the "real" Chair.

Mamoun Sakkal offered "Calligraphy and Islamic Architecture" course in Spring to students from NELC, Art History, and Architecture, and gave guest lectures on Arabic calligraphy in other courses in NELC. His article "Arabic Calligraphy for the Age of Computers" appeared in *The American Muslim Council Report* in August 1995.

In April of this year he gave a paper titled "Arabic Calligraphy in the Digital Age" at the Inscription as Art in the World of Islam Conference held at the University of Hofstra in New York, and gave a workshop on his use of computers to produce Arabic calligraphy. An art exhibition of calligraphic work, both contemporary and historical, featured Mr. Sakkal's work along with calligraphers from North America, the Middle East, and South East Asia.

Mr. Sakkal's artwork incorporating Arabic calligraphy was exhibited in Seattle's chapter of the American Institute of Architects show "Art by Architects" in June, and one of his art pieces was included in the annual art exhibi-

## Recasting Persian Poetry



Scenarios  
of Poetic  
Modernity  
in Iran

 AHMAD KARIMI-HAKKAK

projects include a monograph on post-revolution literature and literary culture in Iran, tentatively entitled "Service to the Utopia: Censorship, Pedagogy, and Literature in Iran 1977-1997," editing a collection of essays on the Iranian poet Nima Yushij, and guest editing a special issue of *Journal of Iranian Studies* devoted to Iranian literature since the Revolution of 1979.

Professor Karimi took part in four conferences in the academic year 1995-1996. For MESA 95, he had organized a special double panel on the Centennial of Nima Yushij's birth; at the annual CIRA Conference at Coventry, England, he participated in three panels, including one on *Recasting Persian Poetry*, which CIRA



tion titled "Works of Faith." The exhibition took place at First Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon during the month of May. This piece of artwork incorporated the Arabic words *Bismillah* (In the Name of God). Ten pieces of Mr. Sakkal's calligraphic work were also shown at Amandari Gallery in Seattle.

Mr. Sakkal continues to design book and magazine covers including covers for *Iqra*, *Multilingual Computing*, and *Sound Vision*. His work on the design and typesetting of a poetry book featuring Arabic and English text is nearing completion now and will go to press soon.

Professor **Kemal Silay** had a sizable enrollment in his "Elementary Turkish" classes again this year. He also offered "Introduction to Islamic Civilization" in the Fall to 100 students, and taught his popular class "Turkish Literature in Translation" to eighteen undergraduate students. He has also directed a number of independent studies with students on topics of their various interests throughout the year. In April 1996, Professor Silay published his second book, *An Anthology of Turkish Literature*, with the Indiana University Turkish Studies Series. This 700-page anthology presents the English-speaking reader with translations from Turkish literature and scholarly essays by some of the leading translators and critics in the field. It is the first anthology of its kind, providing representative texts from the entire history of Turkish literature. It includes some of the earliest known Old Turkic and Middle Turkic texts, Ottoman

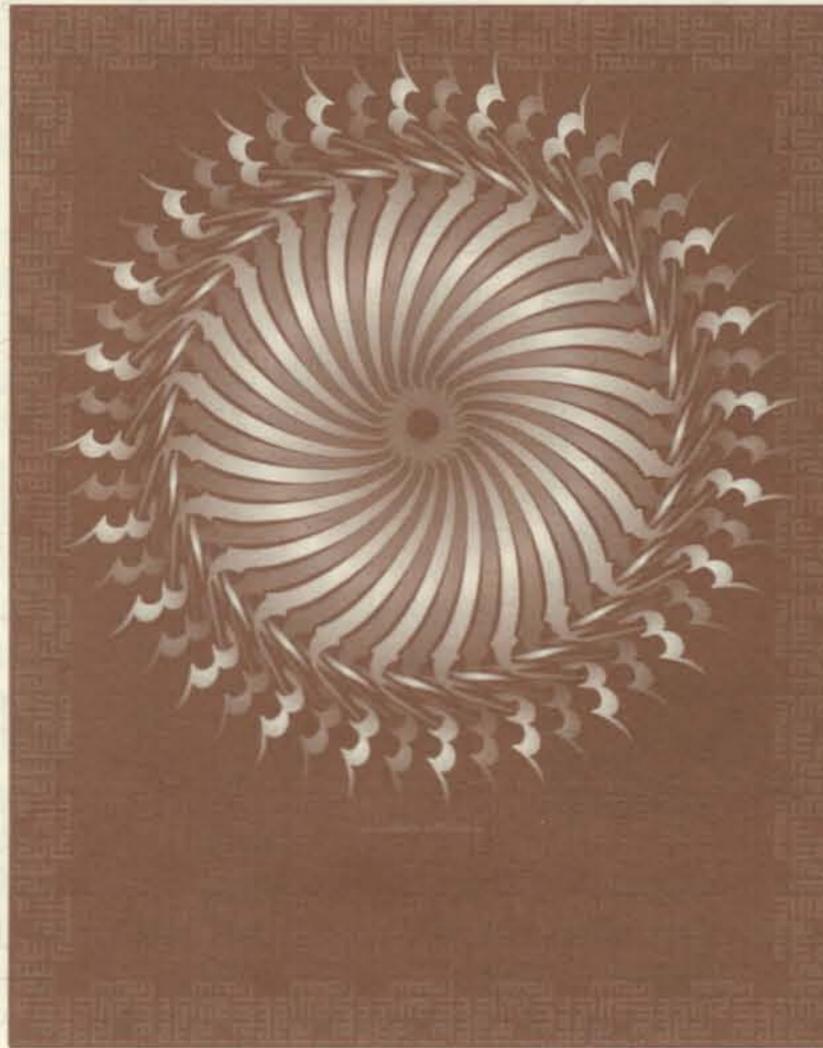
court literature, medieval Turkish popular literature, nineteenth-century Ottoman literature, literature of the Republican period, and even the most contemporary postmodern writings of present-day Turkey. The anthology is also unique in that nearly every genre is represented, from poetry and drama to the novel, short story and essay. Beautiful illustrations and pictures aim to help the reader visualize the many different socio-cultural and political contexts of the various Turkish literary traditions. The book also includes biographies of authors and a selected bibliography. Silay received a grant from the University of Washington

at the University of Washington, such as "Introduction to Islamic Civilization," "Islam," and "Qur'an in English." The book is tentatively entitled *Cultures of Islam: An Introduction*, and will bring together articles on various aspects of Islamic culture(s) throughout the world. The majority of the contributions will be written by some of the experts in the field from the University of Washington, authors from other institutions will also be contributing. Negotiations with the University of Washington Press for the publication of this book are under way. Professor Silay is also in the process of editing another book entitled *Turkish Folklore and Oral Literature: Selected Essays of Ilhan Basgoz*, scheduled to appear in the Fall of 1997.

In September of 1995, Professor Silay gave a talk entitled "Speaking of Tolerance: Recent Criticism of Turkish Modernity and the Politics of Postmodernism" at the "Sixteenth Annual Convention of ATAA" in Washington, DC. He returned to Washington in December to present a paper on "Internal Dynamics of Ottoman Poetry: Structural and Thematic Change in the Eighteenth-Century *Kaside*" at the 1995 MESA conference.

Professor Silay traveled to Turkey in the Summer to conduct research for an article he is writing, entitled "Personal Names and Cultural Signifiers: An Onomastic Approach to Literary Localization in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Empire."

He has been awarded a grant for this project from the Institute of Turkish Studies. He is currently working on a number of other articles on "Ottoman Poetry: Orientalist, Nationalist, Marxist, and Postmodernist Positions," to



*Bismillah (In the Name of God)*  
Ink jet print. © 1995 by Mamoun Sakkal

Graduate School to help with the cost for the publication of this book.

Professor Silay is now editing a new book designed particularly but not exclusively for undergraduate courses on Islam taught



appear in a handbook on Turkic cultures being published by the Tetragon Press in Istanbul. This collection will include articles by some of the most respected authorities from all over the world in the field of Turkish and Turkic studies.

Professor Silay was appointed as Associate Member to the Institute of Turkish Studies

tures that are the common heritage of the Turkic-speaking peoples. Finally, Professor Silay continues work on his book *Behind the Veil of Rhyme: Ottoman Women Poets*. The book will be submitted for publication by the summer of 1997.

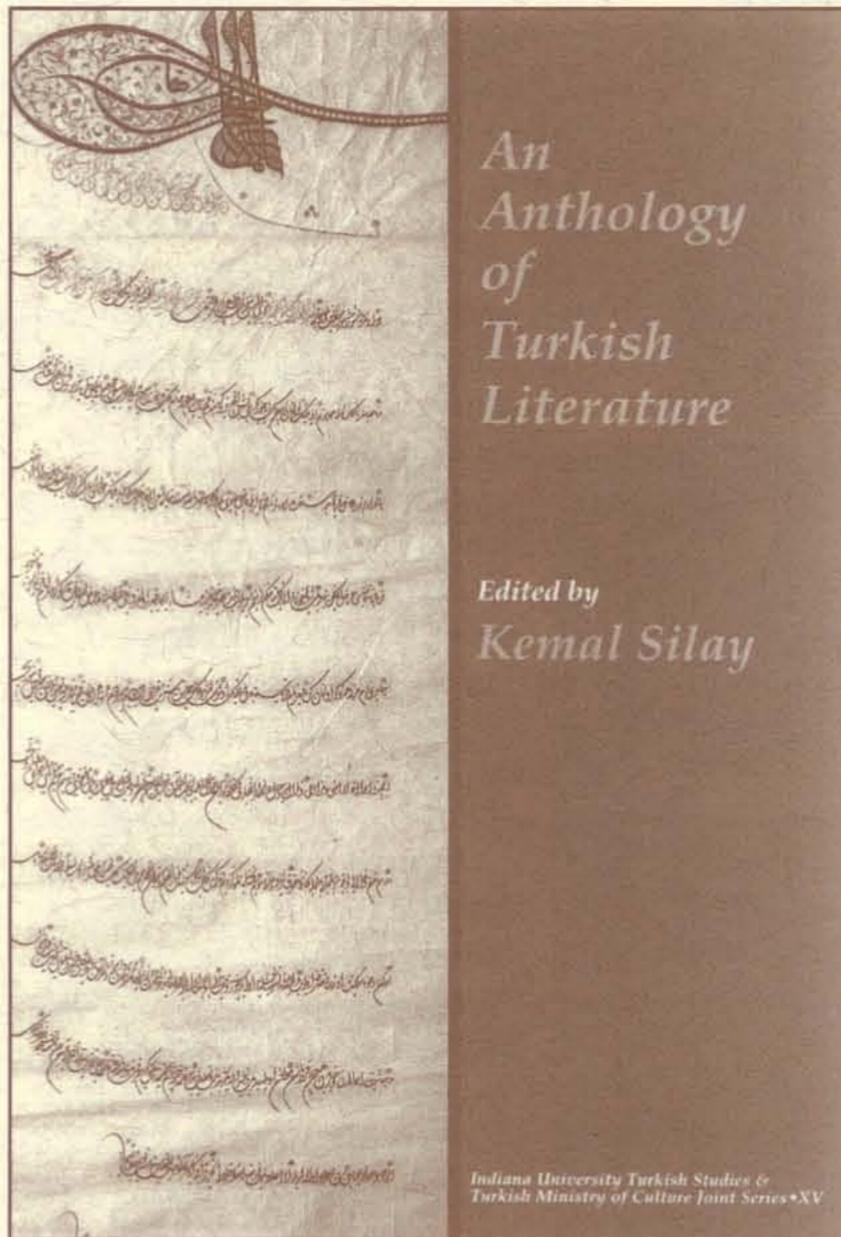
In addition, Professor Silay's first book, *Nedim and the Poetics of the Ottoman Court: Medieval Inheritance and the Need for Change* (1994), has been translated into Turkish by Fatih Ulken of Ege University. The translation will be published in Turkey next year. Also, one of Silay's major articles, "Liminality, Ritual and Social Performance: Yashar Kemal's Legend of the Karachullu Yuruks and the 'Problems' of Nomadic Entity in Anatolia," was recently translated into Turkish by Kudret Emiroglu, and will be published in the journal *Kebikec*.

An essay by Professor **Naomi**

**Sokoloff**, "Silence, Hunger and Sexuality: Dan Benayah Seri's Poetics of Gender," appeared in *Edebiyat 6* (1995): 171-85, and an essay by her entitled "Appelfeld's Poetics of Grief: [*Poetikat hayagon shel Appelfeld*] will appear in *Sefer Appelfeld*, ed. Yizhak Ben-Mordechai and Iris Parush. While on sabbatical in Winter and Spring 1996 Professor Sokoloff has pursued research on popular fiction. This work has resulted in several conference

papers: "Israel in Popular Fiction by American Jewish Women" (NEMLA, Montreal — April 1996); "Jewish Mysteries: Women Authors and Detective Fiction in Israel and the U.S." (The International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization, Jerusalem — July 1996); "The Detective Fiction of Rochelle Majer Krich" (AJS, Boston - Dec. 1996); and a presentation at a U.W. faculty lunch sponsored by the Hillel Jewish Campus Organization: "Sleuths and Sages: Detective Fiction by American Jewish Women." Professor Sokoloff, who has been invited to join the Board of Directors of Hillel, also presented a talk and led discussion on the Book of Ruth for the Hillel celebration of Shavuot. She continues to serve on the Executive Committee of the Hebrew Literature Discussion Group of the MLA.

Professor Emeritus **Farhat J. Ziadeh** lectured several times in his colleagues' classes and to a number of local groups, including the International Law Section of the Washington Bar Association. In the Fall he traveled to Israel/Palestine where he consulted with colleagues at Birzeit and Bethlehem Universities. At the Middle East Studies Association Conference in Washington D.C., he participated in a panel on Islamic law, as a discussant. He evaluated articles and books for possible publication by journals and university presses, and acted as an outside evaluator for the promotion of two colleagues at other universities. His publications included two book reviews for the *Journal Islamic Law and Society*, and one book review for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. His article entitled "Compelling a Defendant's Appearance at Court in Islamic Law" has been accepted for publication by *Islamic Law and Society*.



and attended its 1996 board meeting in Washington, DC in April 1996. He has also been selected as the new editor of the *American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages Newsletter*. Among his other activities is the establishment of a new academic press. He and Professor Uli Schamiloglu are the general editors of this press which is devoted to disseminating knowledge about the diverse histories, languages, literatures, and cul-



**Kagan Arik**, graduate student in the Near and Middle Eastern Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program, is continuing his research on the survival of shamanist healing practices among the Kazakhs of Xinjiang. Another topic of his research concerns the pre-Islamic elements in the Central Asian Turkic epics. He also plans to film a documentary on the Kazakhs in Xinjiang and to publish a series of ethnomusicological recordings of Kazakh and Kirghiz traditional music.

**Stephen Dettman** graduated last Spring with an M.A. from the Department of NELC, specializing in Arabic and Swahili. He won Yale University's "Swahili Group Project Abroad". This is an intensive third-year Swahili summer program, held in Tanzania. The first month will be spent in Arusha, near the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro, the second on Zanzibar island. After completing the program, he will be traveling north to Mombasa, Kenya to pursue some introductory research on the development of Islamic law in the region.

Having completed her MA and after teaching this Summer's Intensive First Year Arabic class at the U.W., **Nancy Dietrich** will be moving to Salt Lake City, Utah to begin working on her doctorate in Arabic Linguistics at the University of Utah. She will be working directly with Dr. Musheira Eid, and will be acting as her teaching assistant for Second Year Arabic. Nancy anticipates research-related (and recreation-related) travel to Egypt, and hopefully other regions of the Middle East as well, in the near future.

After a year of serving as a teaching assistant for Elementary Arabic, Master's candidate **Alexander Elinson** will be taking

his studies on the road. Alexander was awarded a CASA fellowship to study Arabic at the American University in Cairo. There he will engage in language study with continued focus in Medieval Arabic literature, specifically that of al-Andalus.

**Hurriyet Gokdayi** received his MA degree in Spring 1996 in Near Eastern Languages and

University, Kirghizstan in December 1995. He also interviewed elderly Kirghiz, Uzbek, Tatar, Russian, Jewish and Korean citizens of Kirghizstan regarding their memories of the late Stalin and early Khrushchev years. His stay had been arranged through agreements between Portland State University, the University of



## NELC ON-LINE!!

The Near East Department has now got its own Home Page on the Internet. The site, designed by NELC graduate student Ken Petersen, provides detailed information about the people, programs, and promise of our Department. Please be sure to pay us a visit at:

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~nelc/nelc.html>

If you have any suggestions, comments, or compliments contact Ken via e-mail at: [kpeter@u.washington.edu](mailto:kpeter@u.washington.edu)

Civilization from the University of Washington. He has been accepted to the Interdisciplinary Near and Middle East Studies Ph.D. Program. After receiving his MA degree, he will continue his studies focusing on sociolinguistics and the Turkish language.

**Ali Igmen**, Ph.D. student, Department of History, taught a course on ethnicity and nationalism titled "Central Asia through Western Eyes" at Osh State

Washington and Osh State University.

**Cindy Kim**, a Master's Candidate in the Near East Department, completed an exchange program in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, during the spring of 1995. Cindy studied at the National University in Ulaanbaatar with the support of a NSEP fellowship, where she focused on the Kazakh and Mongolian languages. She completed her MA degree in March 1996 and plans

## FROM OUR STUDENTS

to pursue an MBA in connection with her interests in Central Asia and Mongolia.

**Zamyat Kirby** has completed a double Masters degree in June in Comparative Religion (Judaism and Islam) and in NELC (Islamics). She has been accepted to the graduate program at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Religion, with a three year, non-service fellowship. She hopes to do a comparative study of Islamic and Jewish mysticism with faculty from UNC and Duke University for her dissertation.

**Elmira Kochumkulova** participated in a conference on Central Asia, held at the University of Minnesota April 11-13, 1996, where she gave two concerts of Kirghiz songs performed in classical style of the Kirghiz oral poets. Her performance, which also included the singing of a portion of the epic *Manas*, was enthusiastically received by the conference participants among whom was also the world-renowned Kirghiz writer Chingiz Aitmatov.

**Emiko Nakamura**, a MA student of Turkish was sponsored by the members of the Canadian Middle Eastern Dance Association to conduct a two-day seminar in Turkic and Iranian dances and their regional costuming. Her weekend concert resulted in a special interview with a reporter of the Western Canadian Persian newspaper, "Iranian." On September 21, 1995 she gave birth to her long-awaited healthy baby son, Musa N. Guney. In the summer of 1996, she took an intensive choreographic course in Persian Classical Dance (of Sufi theme) with Mahera Harouny Rashidi, the dance mistress of the Eastern Art Association.

**Z. Nilufer Patterson** presented papers at the Chicago

Conference on the History and Theory of the Middle East and the Jusur Conference on the Middle East, at UCLA. Nilufer has been accepted as a post-MA student for the 1996-97 year and during the Summer will be teaching Intermediate Turkish at Portland State University.

**Ken Petersen** received an ACCELS/ACTR to study for nine months in Uzbekistan at Tashkent State University. He will be traveling extensively to participate

**Hadi Sultan-Qurraie** has completed his general exams for a Ph. D. in Comparative Literature, and has begun writing his dissertation, tentatively titled "Modernity in Azeri Poetry: Mo'jez of Shabustar (1874-1934)." As he has done regularly in the past, he presented a paper at the MESA meeting in December 1995, and was interviewed by the Voice of America's Azeri program, where he also read some of Mo'jez's poems. Even though technically



*Visiting scholars from Central Asia.*

*From left to right: Elmira Kochumkulova, Chingiz Aitmatov, and Muhammad Ali Axmedov.*

in national commemorations of the revival of the early twentieth century reformers.

Ken has also been working hard in bringing to life the Near Eastern Languages and Civilization Home Page which can be seen at

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~nelc/nelc.html>

He gave a computer training seminar to faculty, staff and students on June 10th to aid us in understanding the ever-changing world of computers.

Hadi is a member of the Department of Comparative Literature at the UW, he has been active in NELC, particularly in the Persian Circle. Through that student organization, he spearheaded the visit of Saba Ensemble of Iranian folk music and arranged for a visit by Dr. Zia Sadr, an Iranian scholar living in Paris, France.

**Patricia J. Woods**, a second year student in the Middle Eastern Studies Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, was granted a Middle East Center research award for the summer of 1995. This scholar-



ship allowed her to spend a month based in Haifa, Israel doing field research on Arab-Jewish relations and the universalism-difference debate in the Israeli feminist movement, as well as work on Jewish and Muslim women and personal status law in Israel. She attended the 11th annual Israeli Feminist Conference and spent six weeks living in a Birzeit village in the West Bank attending Birzeit University's Palestine and Arabic Studies Summer program. In November 1995 Patricia presented a paper entitled "Rights, Religion and Women: the Israeli Personal Status Laws" to the NELC Colloquium. In December, she presented a revised version of this research to the Middle East

Studies Association in Washington, D.C. entitled "Women in Israel: the Nexus of Religion, Politics and Law in Israel." She was the speaker in December for the American Association of University Women's annual International Dinner, speaking on "Women, and the History and Politics of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict". She completed her tenure as the Secretariat Liaison for the Graduate Student Organization of MESA in December, and continues in her second year as the Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison for the Middle East Center. She is co-representative to the UW-GPSS for NELC and Middle East with Suha Kudsieh. Earlier in 1995, Patricia's book

review on "Homeland: Oral Histories of Palestine and Palestinians" (Lynd, Bahour and Lynd, eds.) was published in *MELA Notes: Middle East Librarians Association* (Spring 1995). In March 1996, she wrote a number of articles on modern Middle Eastern leaders for Microsoft Corporation's Encarta Encyclopedia program.

Kudos to the following graduate students for receiving their degrees in 1996: **Stephen Dettman**, **Nancy Dietrich**, **Ahmed Souaiaia**; and to **Hurriet Gokdayi** for being admitted to the Ph.D. program in Near and Middle Eastern Studies at the UW.



## KAZAKHSTAN/KIRGHIZSTAN PROJECTS

Several research projects focusing on Kazakhstan or Kirghizstan have been developed at UW departments and schools during 1995-1996:

**Peggy Sue Heath**, Professor, School of Business and Director of Research for APEX Business Solutions, Seattle, is heading a project which will investigate the nature of strategic decision-making activities by companies in Kazakhstan in order to determine what factors influence the effectiveness of their approaches to strategy. Among the students assisting her in the project is **Ildar Khalitov**, "Bolashak" student from Kazakhstan.

Professor **Judith Thornton** and Senior Lecturer **Haideh Salehi-Esfahani**, Department of Economics, are involved in a project researching the effects on Kazakhstan's economy of Chevron's cutting down on oil production in the Caspian regions of Kazakhstan.

The School of Business, the Law School, the UW Libraries and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization are assisting the Kirghiz-American Institute of Business, Law and Humanities at the Kirghiz National State University, Bishkek, in developing curriculum, faculty and library resources. The project, funded by the US Information Agency, is being administered by the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX), Washington, DC. In Spring 1995 **Marie St. Germaine**, of the UW Library Systems, assessed the Institute's library needs, and in Summer 1995 one librarian from the Institute was trained at the University of Washington. Professor **Ilse Cirtautas**, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, spent Autumn quarter at the Institute as faculty-in-residence. One of her tasks was to advise the Kirghiz language faculty on new methods of teaching Kirghiz as they are currently being employed at the University of Washington. Professor Cirtautas' teaching materials for Kirghiz are being published in Bishkek in a limited edition for use at the Kirghiz-American Institute. During her stay in Bishkek, Professor **Ilse Cirtautas** also advised non-governmental women's organizations working to minimize the hardships Kirghiz women are facing in Kirghizstan today.

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# DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS

## PUBLIC LECTURES:

On October 23, 1995, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization presented a public lecture by **Reda Mansur**: "Poetry and Multiculturalism in Israel." Mr. Mansur, a Druze, is currently the Israeli Consul in San Francisco. He has published poetry both in Hebrew and in Arabic.

June 20, 1995, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization & Middle East Center presented a lecture by Professor **Mehdi Kazimov** (Department of Oriental Studies Baku State University Baku, Azerbaijan) "Nizami and his Followers."

In January the Near East Department hosted 1996 Walker-Ames Professor **James E. Young**. Professor Young (English and Judaic Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst) is renowned for his work on the Holocaust and his explorations of memory, memorials, public monuments and cultural meaning. He is the author of *Writing and Rewriting the Holocaust* (1988) and *The Texture of Memory* (1993), and his articles and reviews have appeared in a wide range of academic journals and in the general press, including *Critical Inquiry*, *New Literary History*, the *Yale Journal of Criticism*, *Prooftexts*, *Tikkun*, *The New York Times Magazine* and *The New York Times Book Review*. His current work focuses on the literary, iconographic and cultural memorializations of the Holocaust in Europe, Israel and America.

While on campus at the University of Washington Professor Young presented a public lecture, "The Jewish Arts of Memory in a Postmodern Age," a colloquium sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, "Landscapes of Memory: Holocaust Memorials," a talk for a faculty study group, organized by Professor Raimonda Modiano of the English department, and discussions for classes in the Germanics Department and the Program for the Comparative History of Ideas.

Professor Young's visit was made possible by the Walker-Ames Fund, established in 1930 by a bequest from Maude Walker-Ames and her husband, Edwin Garner Ames.

As part of its search for the Islamics position, NELC sponsored three public lectures in February 1996. The first, by Dr. **Mohammad H. Fadel**, a graduate of the University of Chicago, was held on February 16, 1996 and was titled "Two Women, One Man: Marginalization and Inclusion of Women in Medieval Sunni Legal Discourse." The second, held on February 23, was given by Dr. **Brannon Wheeler**, also a graduate of the University of Chicago. It was entitled "'This is the Torah that God Sent Down to Moses': Some Early Islamic Views of the Qur'an and Other Revealed Books." Finally, on February 28, Dr. **Asma Afsaruddin**, a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University, presented a talk titled "An Example of medieval Shi'ite Polemics: The Bina'al-Maqala al-Fatimiyya of Ahmad Ibn Tawus."

During the Winter Quarter, 1996, the department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, supported by UW's Middle East Center, the Center for the Humanities, the Jewish Studies Program, and the Spanish & Portuguese program, presented the lecture series "Voices from al-Andalus: On the Literary History of Iberia under Arab Rule." At the first lecture, held on February 5, Professor **James Monroe** (U. C. Berkeley), spoke on "The Picaresque in al-Andalus: The maqamat of al-Ashtarquwi". Next, Professor **Raymond P. Scheindlin** (Jewish Theological Seminary of America), presented a lecture on February 12 on "The Love Stories of Rabbi Jacob ben Eleazar of Toledo: Between Arabic and Romance". Finally, on March 4 Professor **Abdullah Al-Maatani**, Visiting scholar from King Abdul Aziz University in Saudi Arabia, presented a lecture on "Al-Muwashahat: A Cultural Understanding."





## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

 The **Arabic Circle** convened this year during Winter and Spring Quarters. It included conversation in Arabic, watching movies and listening to Arabic songs. An activity that was carried out most successfully was forming a team to participate in the Western Model for the Arab League. Representing Iraq, NELC students did ample research before traveling to Newberg, Portland, where the Model for 1996 met. They successfully represented Iraq in the cultural, economic, and political committees. Two students, **Brenda Pierce** and **Misty Basket**, received certificates of excellence for their remarkable participation.

 **Chug Ivrit: The Hebrew Circle**, co-sponsored by NELC and by the Hillel Campus Jewish Center, met regularly during the academic year for lunch-time conversation in Hebrew. In April, **Elliot Chodoff**, a military sociologist from Haifa University, made a presentation and led discussion on "Terrorism in Israel: What it Means for the Peace Process." Thanks to **Darren Levine** (1995-96 JCSC Fellow, Hillel) for coordinating these activities.

 The **Persian Circle** had its first meeting of the year even before the academic year got underway. **Farrokh Negahdar**, a veteran political figure of the 1970s guerrilla movement in Iran, was visiting Seattle, and the Circle organized a meeting where he explained the evolution of his political thinking since those days. For the Fall Quarter, the Persian Circle conducted six public events, including a lecture by **Mohammad Mokhtari**, Iranian poet and critic, and a showing of documentary films made by Iranian expatriates at the Seattle Art Museum. Professor Emeritus **Amin Banani** of the UCLA, visiting scholar **Michael Glunz** of Bern University, and **Habib Mirzoev** of Dushanbe Pedagogical Institute, were among other guest speakers of the Circle.

In the Winter Quarter, the Persian Circle conducted eight scheduled events. The first two featured professor **Djavad Salehi-Esfahani** who spoke on population issues in Iran, and **Ashurbanipal Babilla**, Iranian dramatist, actor, and gay activist living in New York, who spoke about the Theater Workshop in Tehran in the 1970s. Tajik visiting scholars **Firouza Amonova** and **Tatyana Abdulshakurova**, both of Tajikistan State University, and **Habib Mirzoev** of Dushanbe Pedagogical

Institute, presented lectures on the recent events in Tajikistan, and Mr. **Payam**, a local Afghan scholar, spoke on the topic of Afghan Literature during and after the War. Last, Professor **Karimi-Hakkak** led the last Circle presentation on Persian poems on Nowruz.

The Persian Circle had no regularly scheduled activities during the Spring Quarter. However, its members met and conducted business regularly. They also assisted Pejvak Cultural Organization in staging an Iranian play at the HUB on May 18, and worked closely with the local organizing committee in organizing the Seventh International Conference of the Iranian Women's Studies Foundation in Kane Hall June 14-16, 1996.

 This year the **Turkish Circle** met several times for Turkish cultural and linguistic exchange. Among the activities were viewing Turkish films; discussions on politics, culture and language; and several Turkish style social gatherings. Next year the members of Turkish Circle hope to increase their numbers and the amount of their activities. They encourage any students or members of the community to participate.

 At the University of Washington, three academic student organizations are concerned with informing themselves and others about past and present developments in Central/Inner Asia. These are the **Student Association for Inner Asian Studies**, founded in 1988; the **Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group**, established in 1991; and the **Uzbek Circle**, formed in 1987. Since their formation, each of these groups has been sponsoring and organizing a weekly program of lectures, discussions, or film and video presentations.

When appropriate, the student groups have organized lecture series coinciding with events or anniversaries celebrated in the Central Asian republics. For example, during Spring and Autumn of 1995, the Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group devoted many of their weekly meetings to the 1000th anniversary of the epic *Manas* and the 150th anniversary of the Kazakh poet and philosopher, Abay (1845-1904). Likewise, in Spring 1996, the Uzbek Circle has been focused on the "Year of Timur (1336-1405)," with a number of lectures.

A regular part of the weekly programs has been reports on "New Literature Published in Central Asian Languages," introduced and examined by faculty members or graduate students. Visiting scholars from the Central Asian republics regularly

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

contribute to the goals of the organizations by participating in the discussions, presenting papers or being participants in panel discussions, as, e.g., the discussion on "How to Create an Open Society in the Newly Independent Republics of Central Asia" (April 24, 1996). Another feature of the meetings has been reports of students and faculty returning from Central Asia. The Annual Nicholas Poppe Symposium on Inner Asian Studies, organized by the Student Association for Inner Asian Studies since 1989, has become a forum for students and faculty to present their research on Central and Inner Asian topics.



During 1995-1996 the Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group continued to meet regularly for their weekly programs. **Talghat Imangaliyev**, a Kazakh student majoring in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization and Business Administration, serves as President of the Studies Group, while Professor **Ilse Cirtautas** facilitates as academic advisor. Talghat is studying at the University of Washington under the "Bolashak Program" of the government of Kazakhstan, initiated by President Nursultan Nazarbayev. During 1994-1995 the UW had admitted seven "Bolashak" students. Six of them returned for the 1995-1996 academic year and five will be graduating with a BA in June or Summer 1996. One student transferred in Winter Quarter 1996 to the University of Rochester, where she will receive her MA in Business Administration.

## VISITORS FROM CENTRAL ASIA

During the 1995-96 academic year the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization has hosted scholars from Kazakhstan and Kirghizstan as well as from Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. We would like to express our gratitude to our visitors for their participation in the weekly meetings of the Student Association for Inner Asian Studies, the Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group, and the Uzbek Circle. The following list gives the names of our visitors and their home affiliation:

Coming to Seattle from Ulugh Beg University in Tashkent, the distinguished Uzbek scholar, historian and writer **Muhammad Ali** shared with us his wealth of knowledge and his personal experiences as a writer in Soviet Central Asia. Much of the material that was presented

was previously unavailable because of Soviet censorship. Muhammad Ali himself has been a pioneer in the Uzbeks' struggle to reclaim their past and reshape their national identity. He has stayed on at the University of Washington this summer to teach a class in Intensive Intermediate Uzbek. (Spring-Summer 1996).

**Dr. Umut Asanova**, Fulbright Scholar from the University of Humanities, Bishkek, Kirghizstan (September 1995-January 1996).

**Baktybek Urmanbekov**, ACCELS scholar from the Kirghiz National State University, Bishkek, Kirghizstan (February - May 1996).

**Saule Saagandykova**, IREX scholar from the Kazakh National Academy of Sciences, Center for Foreign Economics, Almaty, Kazakhstan (February - May 1996).

**Dr. Sadyrbek Jighitekov**, IREX scholar from Dastan University, Bishkek, Kirghizstan (March - September 1996).

**Dr. Murad Begliyev**, Fulbright Scholar from Turkmen State University, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (September 1995 - January 1996).

**Dr. Tatyana Abdushukurova**, Fulbright scholar from Tajik State University, Dushanbe, Tajikistan (January - May 1996).

**Dr. Firouza Amonova**, Fulbright scholar from Tajik State University, Dushanbe, Tajikistan (January - May 1996).

**Dr. Azad Shamatov**, Fulbright scholar from Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Languages, Tashkent, Uzbekistan (January - May 1996).

**Nartach Jepbarova**, ACCELS scholar from Turkmen State University, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (February - September 1996).

## The Near East Reports...

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NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATION

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# NELC COLLOQUIUM:

The NELC Colloquium continued in its fourth year as a forum for faculty and advanced students to present their research. Fall quarter speakers included Professor **Karimi-Hakkak**, "Literature & Ideology: A Survey of the Writings Sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran" and NELC graduate student **Ali F. Igmen**, "Melting Pot or Salad Bowl? Ethnic Relations in the South of Kirghizstan - Osh." In Winter, Professor **De Young** presented "'Scripture' as Literary Genre: Some Lessons from the Koran," and Ph.D. student **Patricia Woods** presented "Rights, Religion and Women: the Israeli Personal Status Laws". In Spring quarter Professor Emeritus **Farhat Ziadeh** presented, "Compelling a Defendant to Appear in Court in Islamic Law"; Dr. **Scott Noegel**, "The Magical Power of Puns in the Ancient Near East"; and graduate student **Stephen Dettman**, "Yamaniyyat: Studies in Sana'a & the Hadramawt."

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