As one component of her educational project "Perspectives on Peace: The Middle East," Elizabeth Fernea (English and CMES) organized a video teleconference last spring. The teleconference on April 15 followed showings of the companion film Struggle for Peace: Israelis and Palestinians on public television stations around the country.

Professor Fernea brought to Austin a group of six experts on peace-making processes to discuss the film and to answer live questions from participants around the country subscribing to the telecast. The program was produced in the KLRU-TV studio and sponsored by the PBS Adult Learning Satellite Service. The conference was broadcast live to satellite affiliates, and calls were solicited from the national viewing audience. The panel of experts in the studio discussed among themselves, and with the telephone and live audience, the participation of individual Israelis and Palestinians who are routinely engaged in peaceful protests. These individuals believe their efforts will focus the attention of their fellow citizens and the world on the need for settlement of the long-standing dispute over territory.

The members of the panel were Judith Blanc, Israeli peace activist; Naomi Chazan, Chair of the Truman Institute for Advancement of Peace at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a member of the Knesset; Herbert Kelman, Cabot Professor of Ethics at Harvard University; Rashid Khalidi, Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago; Richard Norton, Professor of Political Science at the U.S. Military Academy; and Salim Tamari, Professor of Sociology at Bir Zeit University of the West Bank.

Professor Fernea's project includes a companion book and study guide as well as the film and the video teleconference. The book, Struggle for Peace: Israelis and Palestinians, was published by the University of Texas Press.
Faculty and Staff News

Ali Jazayery (Emeritus, Persian Studies) spoke at a Symposium at the University of Arizona in March. The Symposium was called "Formal vs. Informal Styles of Expression in Middle Eastern Languages," and his speech was entitled "Major Features of Informal Spoken Persian in Iran."

Clement Henry (Government) continues his research and writing in connection with his recent Fulbright to Egypt. He will return to Egypt in December and January. He is working on material concerning "The Mediterranean Debt Crescent."


Roger Louis (Kerr Chair in English History and Culture, UT, and Fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford) in May won the Liberal Arts Student Council Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching at UT. In September 1991 he presented a paper on the dissolution of the British Empire in the Middle East and Africa at a meeting of the Editors of the British Documents on the End of Empire. In December he chaired a session on the Suez Crisis of 1956 at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association. In May 1992 he gave the three Distinguished Lectures at the London School of Economics on Anthony Eden and Suez.

Abraham Marcus (History) has been appointed Associate Editor of An Encyclopedia of World History, 6th edition. He is in charge of overseeing the revision of the Middle Eastern and North African materials. He is also co-editor of the forthcoming The Encyclopedia of Social History. His book, The Middle East on the Eve of Modernity, winner of the Albert Hourani Award, has now been published in a paperback edition. Marcus presented papers at several conferences, including the Colloquium on the Ottoman Empire in the 18th Century held in Cambridge, England, April 1, 1992; the Workshop on the Place of Law in Islamic Society held at Washington University in May, 1992; and the International Conference on the Social and Economic History of the Ottoman Empire held in Aix-en-Provence in July, 1992. He is a member of the UT Middle Eastern Ensemble, in which he plays the oud and the saz.

Yair Mazor (Hebrew Studies) has had several articles recently published. They are "Poetics of Poverty: The Poetry of Nathan Zach," in Hadar, Vol. 71, No. 17, 1992; and "Contemporary Israeli Poetry: Yehuda Amichai's 'Correct Poem,' or Portrait of the poet as a Master of Sentiment," Cincinnatí Judaica Review, Vol. III 1992. He delivered a paper on Biblical literature at the NAPH Conference in Toronto (York University, Canada, May 1992) and has been invited to deliver papers at two other conferences this winter: the AJC annual conference (Boston, December 1992) and the International Conference on Hebrew Poetry (Tel Aviv, December 1992).

Gail Minault (History) has been invited to give a paper at an International Round Table: "Systèmes d'Enseignement Religieux Hier et Aujourd'hui dans le Monde Musulman Périphérique," sponsored by the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris in December 1992. She also received an Advanced Research Grant from the Joint Committee on South Asia of the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies, for research in London during the summer of 1993. She has been invited to give the annual Aziz Ahmad Memorial Lecture at the University of Toronto in the spring, 1993.

Anne Rasmussen (CMES and Music) had an article published entitled "'An Evening in the Orient,' the Middle East Nightclub in America," in the Summer, 1992, issue of Asian Music.

Denise Schmandt-Besserat (Art History) traveled to the excavations of Arslantepe-Malatya, Turkey in June for research. During the spring and summer the two volumes of her work Before Writing were published by the University of Texas Press. Schmandt-Besserat delivered several invited papers during the early spring. They were "Before Writing" at Tulane University, "The Origin of Writing in Mesopotamia" at Memphis State University, and "The Origin of Writing" at Vanderbilt University.

Abazar Sepehri (Middle Eastern Studies Librarian) has drafted in cooperation with the Library of Congress a romanization scheme for Azerbaijani language in Perso-Arabic characters. In connection with the project, he visited Baku in March on an invitation by the Veten Society (the Azerbaijani Society of Cultural Relations with the Countrymen Abroad) and consulted with leading Azerbaijani linguists and academics who had worked on the change from their Azerbaijani language in the Cyrillic alphabet into Latin Turkish.

Denise Spellberg (History) received a 1992–93 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers to work on her project, "Gender and Sacred Biography: The Creation of Islamic Female Ideals." She had a chapter recently published: "Political Action and Public Example: Perceptions of Aisha in the Battle of the Camel" in Shifting Boundaries: Women and Gender in Middle Eastern History, edited by Nikki Keddie and Beth Baron (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991). Spellberg is
presenting invited lectures at the Columbia University colloquium "Documenting Cultures: Written and Unwritten in Ancient Societies" in October and for the International Conference on Asceticism, at Union Theological Seminary in New York in April.

Avraham Zilkha attended the meeting of the World Congress of Sephardic Studies in Jerusalem in June. In August he organized a workshop on proficiency-based Hebrew textbooks, attended by scholars from the University of Massachusetts and Emory University. Zilkha wrote a chapter, "History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," for Struggle for Peace: Israelis and Palestinians, published by the University of Texas Press.

Outreach News

This summer work was completed on a pilot version of the exploratory languages curriculum unit the Center is developing for Arabic. During the coming year, the unit will be piloted and revisions made as needed so that a final version can be released for the 1993-94 year.

In June, the Outreach Program assisted with a one-day workshop for teachers in the McAllen, Texas, school district. The Outreach Program sent materials for the teachers to use and keep for further reference, and one of the Center's faculty, Dr. M.R. Ghanoonparvar, spoke at the workshop. The event was a collaborative effort among the four-area-studies centers at the University. With the workshop in Laredo, Texas, in the spring, the Outreach Program has now conducted two workshops in the Rio Grande valley.

The Outreach Program is proud to announce that Austin had two high school students accepted by the Malcolm Kerr Scholar's Program for summer study in the Middle East during July, 1992. The program is sponsored by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. One Austin student went with a group to Egypt and another to Jordan and Syria.

Sephardic Jewish culture, a photography exhibit of illuminated Sephardic manuscripts of the Bible, and a Sephardic dinner at B’nai B’rith Hillel House. Events to be held during the fall include a poetry reading in Hebrew and English by UT Austin faculty members Wolitz and Esther Raizen on October 23 at noon in the Texas Union Eastwood Room; and a lecture by Chana Block, Professor of English at Mills College, on translating Hebrew love and erotic poetry from the "Song of Songs," at the Texas Union Chicano Culture Room on October 19 at 3:00. Singer Ramon Tasat will give a performance: Contemporary Sephardic Art Songs on November 23 at 8:00 p.m. in Jessen Auditorium. The final event in the series will be a lecture by UT faculty member Harold Liebowitz entitled "Maimonides: Rabbi and Thinker" on December 2 in the Texas Union Quadrangle Room.

Co-sponsors of these events are the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts; the Gale Chair and Jewish Studies Program; the Center for Soviet and East European Studies; the Department of Spanish-Portuguese, History and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures (Hebrew Studies); the Jewish Community Council of Austin; the B’nai B’rith Hillel Foundation; and the Hill City Lodge of B’nai B’rith.

Sephardic Legacy Celebrated

The Center and other groups on campus joined together to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Sephardic Jews from Spain, and to celebrate the legacy of Sephardic Jewry. Highlighting the events was the 13th annual Gale Lecture by Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi, a scholar of Sephardic civilization. His lecture, titled "Jewish Reactions to the Expulsion from Spain," was presented September 17. Yerushalmi is the Salo Wittmayer Baron Professor of Jewish History, Culture and Society and director of the Center for Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia University.

Seth Wolitz, who holds the Marie and Edwin Gale Chair of Judaic Studies in the College of Liberal Arts at UT Austin, organized the series of events along with the Center. Speaking of the significance of the commemoration, Wolitz said, "Everyone looks upon 1492 as a date of European discovery, but at the same time it was the end of tolerance for Jews (and later Muslims) in Spain. People who had been living there one thousand years were told they must leave."

Other events that were a part of the celebration included a photography exhibit entitled "The Expulsion of the Jews: Five Hundred Years of Exile," a lecture by UT faculty member Madeline Sutherland-Meier on
TAMES Meeting

The 1993 annual Conference of the Texas Association of Middle East Scholars (TAMES) will be held February 26-27, 1993, on the campus of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. The Conference will have five panels, a business meeting and related activities. The meeting presents an opportunity for those in schools, universities, and community groups who are interested in the Middle East to meet to discuss topics of interest. A workshop for pre-collegiate teachers to be held in conjunction with the Conference is a possibility at this point. For information on the Conference, on proposing a panel or on joining TAMES, please contact Deborah Littrell, Outreach Coordinator, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712, (512)471-3881.

Papers presented at the 1992 annual meeting of TAMES at Laredo State University have been compiled and edited by M.R. Ghanoonparvar, and will be published in one volume by Laredo State University. This is the first time that the proceedings of a TAMES conference have been made available in one volume. University of Texas contributors to the book include Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Farha Ghannam, Akile Gursoy Tezcan, Nuran Hortassu, Persis Karim, Guliz Kuruoglu, Annes McCann-Baker, Roberta Micallef, Anne Rasmussen, and Faegheh Shirazi-Mahajan. TAMES plans to continue with the publication of similar volumes in the future.

Student News

Several students have received Fulbright fellowships this year. Linda Boxberger, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in History will be going to do her research in Yemen. Carl Hershiser, an Anthropology Ph.D. student, has gone to Turkey for research on his dissertation. Farha Ghannam has received a grant from the Ford Foundation to fund her research in Egypt for her Ph.D. in Anthropology. Jim Grehan, Ph.D. student in History, received a fellowship from the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA) to study for a year in Cairo. He was also awarded a special stipend from the Graduate School to support his CASA grant.

Three Ph.D. graduates in Anthropology with Middle Eastern specialties have been hired into tenure-track positions this fall. Jenny White is teaching in the Sociology Department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Kristin Koptiuch is at Arizona State University at Tucson, and Ted Swendenborg is at the American University in Cairo. Shemeem Abbas, who received her Ph.D. in Linguistics, will be teaching at Allama Iqbal Open University in Islamabad. Her area of interest is Indo-Pakistan oral Sufi tradition.

Winners of the Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) awards for the 1992/93 academic year and their languages of study are Hosam Aboul-Ela (Arabic), Lisa Childs (Arabic), Michael Harris (Turkish), Rehana Ikramuddin (Arabic), Persis Karim (Persian), Elizabeth Sikkenga (Turkish), Sharon Silver (Hebrew), and Dylan Oehler-Stricklin (Persian).

Graduate Student Orientation

This year the Center and the Middle Eastern Studies Graduate Students Association developed an information packet and held an orientation session to welcome new graduate students entering the Middle Eastern Studies program in the fall. The packet included general brochures and maps from the University, Austin and Texas. It also provided information on the Center, classes and resources available to students. The aim of the orientation session was to give an overview of the program and the library resources that are available on campus. Speakers included Robert Holz, Center Director; Christine Herrmann, Graduate Representative; Deborah Littrell, Outreach Coordinator; and Abazar Sepheri, head of the Middle East Library Program. More than 30 students attended the program.

Response to the program has been positive, students feeling it aided in their transition to Austin and to the graduate program. Due to its success, the Center plans to make this an annual event. The Students Association did an outstanding job in developing the program. Special thanks go to Christine Herrmann for her contributions at every stage.
Publications

The Center has three books coming out this fall and winter. One is the long-awaited The Performance of Emotion Among Paktun Women, "The Misfortunes Which Have Befallen Me" by Benedicte Grima. This book, which is appearing as No. 17 in the Modern Middle East Series, is a result of fieldwork done by folklorist Grima among the Paktun in Afghanistan and Pakistan during the period of 1978-1986. Grima shows how the performance of gham, stories of grief or sadness, is the female counterpart of more well-known male obligations (such as revenge killing) that maintain family honor. Her research includes both life stories and narrative, as well as the contexts in which these stories are normally recounted.

In October, Please, No Police, a novella translated from Turkish, will be published. Written by Aras Oran and translated by American scholar Teo Sipahigil, Please, No Police is about the large expatriate community of Turks living in Germany. The setting of Berlin is filled with the tension of ethnically diverse individuals—some struggling for employment, others for love and personal recognition. These themes are related in a catching and startling manner, a style that has contributed to the author's rightly earned popularity and reputation as a novelist in Europe. Please, No Police is the eleventh book to appear in the Modern Middle East Literatures in Translation Series, which is published jointly by the Center and the University of Texas Press.

The Center returns to its Middle East Monograph Series for the publication early in 1993 of The Islamic Movement in North Africa. French social scientist François Burgat and Time correspondent William Dowell have collaborated to translate and update Burgat's French publication of 1988, L'islamisme au Maghreb. The book probes the ideological reorientation occurring in the North African countries of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt. In addition to analyses by Burgat and Dowell, the book includes much original source material from politicians, intellectuals, and religious leaders in North Africa. These speeches and other frequent citations are valuable aids to understanding the complexity of this new political Islamic movement. The book will be in paperback.

The Center would like to bring attention again to its 1987 hard and paperback publication of Amal and the Shi'â, Struggle for the Soul of Lebanon by Richard Norton. In the second printing of its paperback, the book continues to offer an astute analysis of the Shi'a population, who have been brought more into the political process by the recent elections in Lebanon.

These and other books can be ordered through the University of Texas Press, (512)471-7233.

The Center was pleased to learn of the publication of a new anthology of translated Arabic literature and a volume of essays prepared under the direction of Salma Jayyusi and her organization, Project for the Translation of Arabic (PROTA). The Anthology of Modern Palestinian Literature was published by Columbia University Press in August, and The Legacy of Muslim Spain was brought out by E.J. Brill in September. Dr. Jayyusi has collaborated with the Center in several of its translations of Arabic fiction, and all of us who know her work are grateful to see these large anthologies and studies come into print.

Translation Series

By the Pen by Jalal Al-e Ahmad
Maze of Justice by Tawfik Al-Hakim
Year of the Elephant by Leila Abouzeid
The Literature of Modern Arabia ed. by Salma Jayyusi
All That's Left to You by Ghassan Kanafani
Egyptian Earth by Abdel Al-Shargawi
An Introduction to Arab Poetics by Adonis
Istanbul Boy, Part III by Aziz Nesin
Stories by Iranian Women Since the Revolution ed. by Soraya Sullivan
The Sheltered Quarter by Yasmeen Qayyum
Please, No Police by Aras Ören
My Grandmother's Cactus ed. by Marilyn Booth

Iranian Authors Visit Campus

A series of Iranian authors visited the campus over the spring and summer, starting with Persian fiction writer and literary critic Hushang Golshiri, who was the leading speaker at the 1992 annual Conference of the Center for Iranian Research and Analysis in April. In connection with the Conference, the Iranian Cultural Community of Austin (ICCA) invited more than 200 Conference participants to a dinner hosted by M.R. Ghanoonparvar (Persian Studies, UT). Prof. Ghanoonparvar also organized a national lecture tour for Mr. Golshiri.

Ghanoonparvar and Golshiri

During the summer, on behalf of the ICCA, Prof. Ghanoonparvar also hosted Mahshid Amirshahi, Jamal Mirsadeqi, and Shahrnush Parsipur, three distinguished Persian novelists and short story writers, to lecture and read stories at Khaneh-ye Iran (Persian House) and at the University.
and George Irani (Franklin College, Indiana).

William Livingston, Acting President of the University, and Robert Holz, Director of the Center, welcomed the participants at the beginning of the meeting. The Conference was organized in eight sessions, including a joint session with the Faculty Seminar on British Studies where Sir Sam Falle spoke to both groups.

Questions that arose out of the Conference included the relative weight of internal and external influences on the events leading up to the Lebanese political crisis of 1958; the matter of who was the enemy in these events; the significance of the crisis and the subsequent U.S. intervention in Lebanese history and in U.S. policy, the matter of whether the events of the 1950s led directly to the internal tragedies of the 1970s; and the extent of socio-economic pressures as a cause of these events. Professor Hudson briefly summed up the findings of the Conference by trying to answer a question in the light of the new research presented: How precarious was the Republic in the 1950s and was it stronger or weaker at the end of the decade? Professor Gendzier justified the Conference's purpose by stating that the U.S. was involved in "messing with another country's history," and that, with the wealth of material available in this country on the intervention, scholars are called upon to study as closely as possible what happened and why and to what effect.

The Conference was co-sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts, the School of Graduate Studies, the Graduate School of Business, and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. Support was also provided by M.K. Hage of Austin and the American University of Beirut. The Conference papers are to be developed into a book to be published by the Centre of Lebanese Study at Oxford.