M. A. Jazayery, Director of the Center for the past seven years, leaves the post at the end of August, 1987. Jazayery, a professor of Persian language and linguistics, was also Chairman of the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures from 1976–1984. He will return to full-time teaching in spring of 1988, after a semester's research leave.

Jazayery came to the University from Iran on a Fulbright Scholarship in 1951 to obtain a Ph.D. in English. After receiving the degree and teaching at the University of Tehran for a year, he worked on U.S. Office of Education grants on Persian linguistic projects at the University of Michigan and then returned to Texas to teach in the English Department.

His professional career in a sense parallels the history of the Center. He was in the Department of Linguistics from 1965 to 1970 during the formative years of the Center, when the Linguistics Department was offering a limited number of courses in Arabic, Persian, and Hebrew. By 1969, the language and literature courses had expanded to a point that the University approved the establishment of the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures. Jazayery went with the new department, and today, DOALL works closely with the Center to coordinate their degree programs.


Jazayery hopes to complete a number of research projects in Persian linguistics. However, he plans to devote the bulk of his time to research on the life and ideology of Ahmad Kasravi (1890–1946), Iranian social thinker and scholar.

Asked for comments on his years as Center Director, Jazayery said, "I accepted the directorship with some hesitation. However, six years later, I have no regrets. Whatever has been accomplished the Center owes to many individuals. We generally recognize the most obvious among these, i.e. faculty and students. I would like to mention a number of others. At the Center, we have an excellent team of office staff, working under the leadership of our Senior Administrative Associate, Marjorie Payne. It is no mere pleasant to say that I owe much to her competence, efficiency, originality, and good sense. Beyond the Center, a director

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(Jazayery continued)

deals with many people and a number of administrative offices. I'd be remiss not to thank Robert D. King, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts of which the Center is a part. His interest in the Middle East is genuine. I have always found him forthcoming with moral support, but also—well almost always—with money. Both kinds of support have been particularly crucial in recent years because of budgetary problems. I'm certain Bob will continue this support under the new director.”

NEW AND VISITING FACULTY

The Center and the Departments of Government and Sociology are fortunate to have three new members focusing on the Middle East this academic year.

From the Department of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, the University has Hamid Dabashi visiting. Dabashi has Ph.D.'s in Religious Studies and in Sociology, and has written extensively on Islam and Persian culture. During May of this year, he was an invited participant in the Giorgio Levi Della Vita Conference at UCLA, lecturing on “Rumi and the Problems of Theodicy in Islamic Culture.” During the fall semester at the University, Dabashi is teaching an undergraduate course, “Islam and the West,” and a graduate class, “Sociology of Islam.” In the spring, he will teach “Islam: Traditions and Realities” and “Sociology of Shi'ite Islam.” Dabashi has a joint appointment with the Sociology Department and the Center.

Clement Moore Henry, a leading scholar of Middle Eastern politics, comes to the Government Department from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques. Henry has taught previously at the University of California at Berkeley, the American University of Cairo, and the University of Michigan. His areas of specialization are comparative politics of the Middle East and North Africa, political economy, and international business. Henry's many books include Tunisia Since Independence: the Dynamics of One-Party Government; Images of Development: Egyptian Engineers in Search of Industry; and Politics in North Africa: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia.

Robert Vitalis also is joining the Government faculty this fall. A candidate for a Ph.D. in Political Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Vitalis specializes in the Middle East, development, and political economy. During the early part of the 80's, Vitalis spent two years at the American University in Cairo working in Arabic language and Middle Eastern politics. He has been the recipient of the Carroll Wilson Award at MIT, the Center for International Studies MIT Research Fellowship, the American Research Center USIA Dissertation Fellowship, and the American University in Cairo Graduate Fellowship.

ANNUAL MEETING OF TAMES

The Texas Association of Middle East Scholars will meet October 9–10 on the University campus. President Abazar Sepehri will give an opening address at 9:00 A.M. in the Dobie Room of the Peter T. Flawn Academic Center. The Friday panels will consist of “Development of Resources and Use of Space” (9:15), “Art and Material Life in the Middle East” (10:30), and “Nima Yushij (from 1895–1960), Father of Modernist Persian Poetry” (1:00). Saturday's panels, which will meet in the Middle East Collection, Main Building 316, are “Communications in the Arab World” (9:30), “Language and Literature in the Middle East” (10:45), “Nomads and Bedouins in the Middle East” (1:30), and “Politics and the Middle East” (3:00). The Association's Business Meeting will be at 1:00 Saturday.

A special event this year will be a performance of Arabic music by Jihad Racy, accompanied by Souhail Kaspar. The performance, cosponsored by the Departments of Music and Oriental and African Languages and Literatures and the Centers for Middle Eastern and Asian Studies, will take place Friday night at 8:00 in Jessen Auditorium of the Old Music Building. Admission is $5.00. In connection with this event, a special lecture will be given by Bruno Nettl, Professor of Music and Anthropology at the University of Illinois, entitled “Learn Culture Through Music: The Iranian Classical Tradition,” the lecture will take place Friday afternoon at 3:30. It is cosponsored by the Department of Music, Public Lectures, and the Center.

NEW JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM IN BUSINESS AND MES

Students can now earn the Master of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies and the MBA simultaneously in three academic years. The program is designed to provide qualified students with the skills and perspective necessary to work effectively in business, particularly in the Middle East. In order to receive both degrees, a student must complete 69–75 hours including a professional report. The Center and the Graduate School of Business will cooperate to design individual curricula that include 36 hours of MBA core courses, 12 hours of business electives, 18 hours of Middle Eastern Studies required courses, 6 hours of Middle Eastern Studies electives, as well as three hours for completion of the professional report. In addition, students will be required to show proficiency in a Middle Eastern language (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, or Turkish). This requirement may be met either through a minimum of two years of course work in the language or through the passing of an equivalency examination.
Peter Abboud (Arabic) is Project Director for a two-year grant from the Department of Education to write proficiency-based prototype materials for four levels of Arabic language instruction. The grant will go to the School of Arabic at Middlebury College. Aman Attieh (Arabic) will be Project Coordinator responsible for supervising the writing of the materials. The materials created out of this grant will be field tested at a number of institutions throughout the country, starting this spring. At a workshop supported by the Department of Education and held at Tufts University September 2-4, 1987, Attieh and Abboud made a presentation focusing on the principles of proficiency-oriented methodology.

Allen Douglas (French and CMES) chaired a panel at the national meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies. In collaboration with Fedwa Malti-Douglas, he delivered a lecture at Indiana University in April, on “Cinematic Language and National Identity in the Films of Shadi Abdelsalam,” as part of a special Middle East festival. He also coauthored (with Malti-Douglas) a paper, “Le peuple d’Egypte: Iconographie et politique,” delivered at a conference in Cairo in May. Douglas is the recipient of a Fulbright Islamic Civilization Award to Egypt, Tunisia, and France, which he plans to begin using in January, 1988.

Elizabeth Fernea (CMES and English) was elected to the Faculty Senate at the University. During the summer, Fernea was a Visiting Professor at the University of Washington, where she taught “Women and Family in the World, Personal Encounters,” and had her recent book, *The Arab World, Personal Encounters,* come out in paperback. The book won the Texas Institute of Letters Carr P. Collins Award when it was first published in 1985.

Robert Fernea (Anthropology) has had his article, “Arabia Deserta: The Ethnographic Text,” come out in *Explorations in Doughty’s Arabia Deserta* edited by Stephen E. Tabachnick. During the summer Fernea was a Visiting Professor at the University of Washington where he taught “Ethnography of the Middle East.”

Kate Gillespie (Management) had her article, “The Middle East Response to the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act,” published as the lead article in California Management Review, Summer 1987.

Barbara Harlow (English) has had her book *Resistance Literature* published by Methuen. It involves a study of the literature written in the context of organized resistance movements in the contemporary Third World.


Winfred P. Lehmann, the Louann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor Emeritus in the Humanities and Director of the Linguistics Research Center at the University was awarded the Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. The award is one of the highest honors that the German government presents to individuals who have dedicated a lifetime to encouraging the study of German culture and literature.

Fedwa Malti-Douglas (Arabic) was elected Islamic Sectional Chair of the American Oriental Society. She was one of the keynote speakers at a conference in April 1987 on “Literature as History/History as Literature” at the University of Chicago. The title of her communication was “Narrative and Anecdote: al-Mutadid in History and Adab.” She also delivered a public lecture at the University of Michigan in February (“The Caliph as Detective”). Malti-Douglas was invited to participate in a special conference on the abstract, sponsored by the Humanities Institute of the University of Michigan, where she delivered a paper entitled “Sensory Poetics: Blind and Deaf Writing.” Her article “The Hero and the Female Narrator: Literary Innovation in *al-Janubi*” appeared in *Fusul.* She has also been invited to be on the Board of *Genders,* a new journal of feminist writings published by the University of Texas Press. Malti-Douglas has been awarded a Fulbright Islamic Civilization Award to Egypt, Tunisia, and France, which she plans to begin using in January, 1988.

Denise Schmandt-Besserat (Art) has been elected for a second term to the Governing Board of the Archaeological Institute of America. In the spring of 1987, Schmandt-Besserat was a Guest Scholar at the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin. She was invited to complete the official publication of the tokens from the German excavations at the Sumerian city Uruk (1928–present). The manuscript will be published in *Baghdader Mitteilungen,* Vol. 19, 1988. Schmandt-Besserat is teaching for the fall semester in the Near Eastern Studies Department of the University of California at Berkeley.

Robert W. Stookey (CMES Research Associate) reviewed Martin Jones’ *Failure in Palestine* in the *Middle East Journal,* Spring, 1987. On June 23, he delivered a lecture on the Arab-Israeli issue at the Middle East Seminar for public school teachers at the University of Wyoming at Laramie.

Caroline Williams (Architecture) was invited by the National Council of U.S. Arab Relations to participate in one of their programs of international cultural exchange. She escorted nine high school graduates designated as Malcolm Kerr Scholars to Cairo, Egypt, during the month of July. Williams gave lectures and tours to the students on Cairo’s architectural heritage.
STUDENT NEWS

Recent graduates of the Center’s degree programs or of related fields have entered many interesting areas, in terms of further study, internships, or jobs.

Gwenn Okruhlik, candidate for a Ph.D. in Government with a concentration in Middle Eastern Studies, spent her summer as an intern for International Business Associates in Cairo. IBA is a holding company providing American business interests in Egypt with basic business services such as telex, phone, copying, typing, and an English language magazine concerning events and issues of interest in Egypt. The company, which is staffed almost completely by Egyptians, was started in 1975 by University of Texas graduate William Harrison. Gwen, who wanted exposure to Arabic, found IBA to represent a meshing of Western and Arabic cultures that suited her purposes perfectly. She found her language skills enormously helped since she was “forced to produce under constraints,” in the sense that much of her work was done under realistic foreign conditions.

Anne Johnson, a former Middle Eastern Studies graduate student, worked for six months last year with the Galilee Society for Health Research and Services, a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization concerned with public health issues in Arab villages of the Galilee. The Society was founded in 1981 by doctors from throughout the Galilee region who decided to volunteer their time and expertise in an effort to improve health conditions in their communities. With assistance from such organizations as the Ford Foundation, Save the Children and Bread for the World, the Galilee Society has carried out a wide range of projects including public health campaigns, mobile clinics, preschools for mentally handicapped children, and dental clinics.

Anne has recently accepted a position with the Catholic Relief Society in New York City.

Yasuko Tsujioka, 1986 recipient of an M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies, will be working for UNRWA, a United Nations agency concerned with education, health, and relief. Yasuko will start in Vienna, working in public relations, and then move on to a permanent position in Jordan.

Poopak Taati, a candidate for a Ph.D. in Sociology with a concentration in Political Science of the Middle East, has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor in Sociology at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio.

Robert Sweet, the first University student to receive the joint M.A. degrees in Middle Eastern Studies and Business, has received a Fulbright to travel to Syria. He will be studying Arabic in Damascus.

Current graduate students in Middle Eastern Studies and related fields have been active in pursuing their studies this year.

Darrow Zeidenstein, who is working on a Ph.D. in Anthropology with a Middle Eastern concentration, spent last year in Syria. Under a National Science Foundation Fellowship, he studied at the government-run Institution for Arabic Instruction for Foreigners in Damascus, became a student at the University of Damascus, and then spent several months in Aleppo studying the Aleppo dialect by working in the bazaars as a translator.

Keith Walters has returned to the University after two years’ study of linguistic variation and social change in the small town of Korba in Tunisia. Keith, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University, travelled to Tunisia with the help of two Fulbright scholarships. This summer he escorted high school graduates to Tunisia through the Malcolm Kerr Scholars Program.

Shannon Maher, who is working on an M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies, was a regional winner in the National Arab-American Association Essay Contest with her essay, “Costly Freedom: Freedom of Speech in the Debate on the Middle East.” Shannon received a $1,000 award.

Each year the Center, through funding from the U.S. Department of Education, is able to award fellowships to qualified graduate students in language and area studies. Winners for the Summer 1987 semester were Djaleh Hajibashi (Arabic); Shannon Maher (Arabic); and Michael Phillips (Arabic). Winners for the 1987/88 academic year are Michelle Freedenthal (Hebrew); Djaleh Hajibashi (Persian); Mark Juditz (Arabic); Barbara Parmenter (Arabic); Michael Phillips (Arabic); and Keith Walters (Arabic).
SPECIAL EVENTS

The Center was pleased during the spring of 1987 to cosponsor several festivals and celebrations on campus.

Films, exhibits, and performances were featured at a Turkish Festival held March 23–27. Photographer Mary Smothers Bruni exhibited her pictures of Turkey in the Texas Union Art Gallery during the week, and a Turkish Folk Dancers Team from Louisiana State University performed. Visiting Turkish filmmaker Halit Refig lectured after the showing of his film The Forbidden Love. Other films shown were Otubus, directed by Tunc Okan; Garments of Times Past, directed by Metin Erksan; Ahh Bellinda, directed by Atif Yilmaz; and The Wrestler, directed by Zeki Okten.

In connection with a special exhibit of Moroccan textiles and artifacts on display at Texas Memorial Museum during March and April, several visiting and local faculty members spoke on various aspects of Moroccan culture. Elizabeth Fernea (English and CMES, University of Texas) lectured on "Morocco: People and Culture"; David Hicks (University of Manchester), spoke on "The High Atlas: Life, Architecture, Custom and Craft"; Shifra Epstein (Hebrew Studies, University of Texas) presented a talk on "Cultural Context of Moroccan Fabrics"; and John Damis (Political Science, Portland State University) spoke on "Morocco: Problems and Challenges in the 1980's." During March a sultan's ceremonial tent belonging to Alf Taylor, collector of many of the items in the Museum exhibit, was erected on the grounds of the Museum in honor of two hundred years of friendship between the U.S. and the Kingdom of Morocco. A photo exhibit, Images of Morocco by Doud Aoulad-Syad, was displayed at the Peter T. Flawn Academic Center.

A Celebration of Jewish Folklore also took place during the spring. Israel Yakovee, Israeli folkdancer and choreographer of the Yemenite performing group, Finjan, conducted a three-part workshop at Hillel, and a three-day cooking class the next week featured Iraqi food. Visiting Israeli poet T. Carmi read in Hebrew and English at a covered dish dinner in Eastwoods Park, and Harold Liebowitz (Hebrew Studies, University of Texas) conducted a slide show called "The Zodiac in Jewish Art." A highlight of the Celebration was Dov Noy, author of Folktales of Israel and Grundwald Professor of Jewish Folklore at Hebrew University, who lectured on "The Life Cycle of the Jews in Jewish Folklore."

A Workshop on Turkic Societies of the Soviet Union and the Middle East is to be held at the University on September 25–26, 1987, under the joint sponsorship of the Center and the Soviet and East European Program. The Workshop, which is mainly intended for young scholars in the Central Asian and Turkish fields, will be interdisciplinary and comparative in focus, stressing research strategies and opportunities in the two fields, examining the major issues, problems and lacunae in each field, and exploring the future possibilities for comparative and collaborative projects. The Workshop organizers are Sheila Fitzpatrick (History, Co-Chair of Soviet and East European Program), Andree Sjoberg (Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures), and Guliz Kuruoglu (Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures).
The Center is proud to announce publication during the past summer of Number 13 in its Modern Middle East Series. Amal and the Shi'i, Struggle for the Soul of Lebanon, by Richard Norton, explores the reasons that a basically religious group such as the Lebanese Amal, with its founder the Imam Musa Sadr, could develop such increasing power. The book further discusses the Shi'a in relationship to the other major forces in the country and the region, including the Maronites, the Sunnis, the Druze, the Israelis, and the Syrians. Norton analyzes important policy issues that are of relevance to policy makers everywhere. Amal and the Shi'i is published by the University of Texas Press, Post Office Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819. The book is $25.00 in cloth and $10.95 in paperback.

Volume 23 of Literature East & West, called Essays on Nationalism and Asian Literatures, appeared in August. Edited by Michael Hillmann (Persian Studies), the volume is the result of a conference cosponsored by the Department of Oriental and African Languages and Literatures, and the Center.

In October Literature East and West will begin to publish twice a year "Persian Studies Newsletter." The newsletter will cover academic activities of all sorts relating to Persian literature in Europe and North America. The first issue will be mailed gratis to all persons interested. Thereafter, it will be distributed at cost to subscribers.

EXHIBIT AND LECTURE SERIES
FEATURE TREASURES FROM HOLY LAND

Houston's Museum of Fine Arts will show an exhibition of nearly 200 antiquities from the Israel Museum. The showing has been on display at New York's Metropolitan Museum, and will come to Houston from there. In connection with the showing, Harold Liebowitz (Hebrew Studies) will present a lecture series on "Art of the Holy Land" and conduct a tour of the exhibit.

The four Tuesday evening talks will focus on the major periods represented in the exhibition: November 10—"Forerunners: Natufian to Chalcolithic"; November 17—"The Canaanites: The Bronze Age"; November 24—"Philistines and Israelites: The Iron Age"; and December 1—"Jews and Christians: The Persian to the Byzantine Period." The trip on December 8 to the Houston Museum includes chartered transport, lunch, the tour, and refreshments.

The lectures will be given at 7:30 P.M. in Room 2.204 of the Fine Arts Building at the University. The lecture series will cost $28.00, the trip $50.00, the lectures and trip $75.00. The program is cosponsored by the Department of Oriental and African Languages, the Division of Continuing Education, and the Center. For more information, contact Professor Liebowitz at 471-1365 or Fine Arts Continuing Education at 471-8862.