

The Centenary Conference on the Iranian Constitutional Revolution 1906-1911 is convened in Oxford

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The Centenary Conference on The Iranian Constitutional Revolution 1906-1911 was convened today in the University of Oxford's Examination School. The object of the Meeting, as articulated by Iran Heritage Foundation and the Persian Cultural Foundation (PCF) is to examine the events leading to the ratification of the 1906 Iranian Constitution and how this era has impacted the nation of Iran ever since.

A distinguished group of Iranian Scholars, comprised of academicians, historians and political scientists from IRAN, the U.S., the U.K., as well as dignitaries from France, Germany, Turkey, India and Armenia among others have been invited to present their latest assessment of this period. Nearly three hundred most enthusiastic participants attended today's sessions, spanning from nine in the morning to seven in a majestic auditorium. Noted were the surprisingly large number of non-Iranian scholars and registrants, who freely conversed in Persian and debated the various topics presented in open panel discussions as well as semi-private alcoves in the vicinity of the lecture hall.

After the welcoming remarks by the Conference convenor, Mr. Farhad Hakimzadeh of the Iran Heritage Foundation, the other co-sponsors of the Conference, Professor Reza Shekholeslami of the University of Oxford, and Professor Davood N. Rahni representing the Persian Cultural Foundation articulated the roles of their respective institutions in support of this conference and many other on going collaborative projects. Specifically, Rahni articulated the numerous community based projects supported worldwide through the foresight and generosity of the PCF founder and President, Dr. Akbar Ghahary. The conference will continue for four days, and is anticipated to generate an ample number of scholarly exchanges and collaborations on not only assessing the 1906 Constitution, but on more specific ways and means of how such experience might influence the current challenges faced by Iran.

The keynote speaker, Professor Emeritus in-Residence of Columbia University, provided a comprehensive overview of Hassan Taghizadeh's legacy, one of the main forces behind the Constitution of 1906.

Persian Cultural Foundation, a non-profit organization registered in the U.S., has provided major financial and scholarly support for this conference as well as past conferences. PCF was founded to initiate, encourage, support and propagate community endeavours and cultural activities, which in turn promote and showcase Persian cultural heritage, and bring about national and international recognition to this unique heritage of the world. For more information about this conference or any other activities and events sponsored by the Persian Cultural Foundation, please log onto www.persiancultural.org.

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