

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RUMI
SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2007**

This Conference Is Free of Charge and Open to the Public.

There Is No Registration or Registration Fee

Tentative Program

DAY 1 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28

(VAN MUNGHING HALL, HOWARD FRANK AUDITORIUM)

Welcomes and Opening Remarks 8:30 - 9:00 AM

**Dr. Nariman Farvardin, Senior Vice-President and Provost, University of Maryland
Dr. James F. Harris, Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Maryland
Professor Michael H. Long, Director, SLLC, University of Maryland**

Session One 9:00 AM -12:30 PM

9:00 – 9:45 AM

Prophets and Saints in Mawlana's Didactic Writings

Jawid Mojaddedi, Rutgers University

9:45 – 10:30 AM

Speaker, Voice and Audience in the Qur'an and the Masnavi

Ahmet T. Karamustafa, Washington University in St. Louis

10:30 – 11:00 AM Break

11:00 – 11:45 AM

Language and the Communication of Esoteric Secrets in Rumi's *Masnavi*

Mahdi Tourage, Colgate University

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Sexual Difference and Spiritual Knowledge: The Bedouin and His Wife in Rumi's *Masnavi*

Safoura Nourbakhsh, University of Maryland

12:30 – 2:00 PM LUNCH

Session Two 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Living Rumi: A Visual Feast

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Rumi from Balkh to Konya

Baqer Moin, Jadid Media, London

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Rumi in New Media

Nusrat ul-Ghani, Jadid Media, London

3:30 – 4:00 PM Break

4:00-5:00 PM

Part one: The Lost Joseph, A Rumian Motif

Sibohat Qosim, Ahoroun Theater Ensemble, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Part Two: Dajjaal, A Theatrical Presentation in Film

Ahoroun Theater Ensemble, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

DAY 2 SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29

(VAN MUNCHING HALL, TYSER AUDITORIUM)

Session Three – 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

9:00 – 9:45 AM

Periodization of Rumi's Literary Oeuvre: A Prolegomena

Franklin Lewis, University of Chicago

9:45 – 10:30 AM

Shams and Rumi: It Takes Two Wings to Fly

Mohammad Borghei, Strayer University

10:30 – 11:00 AM Break

11:00 – 11:45 AM

Empowering the Self to Converse with God: *Munajat* in Rumi's *Masnavi*

Fatemeh Keshavarz, Washington University in St. Louis

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Similes and Metaphors in Rumi's Poetry: Flowers and Plants

Bahram Grami, Independent Scholar

12:30 – 2:00 PM LUNCH

Session Four – 2:00 - 5:30 PM

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Sufi Discourse and Narrative Appropriation: The Lion and the Hare

Hajnalka Kovacs, University of Chicago

2:45 – 3:30

Harmonizing `Alam and Adam

Munira Shahidi, Tajik State University

3:30 – 4:00 PM Break

4:00 – 5:00 PM

Keynote Address:

Rumi the Reluctant Poet

Amin Banani, Professor Emeritus, UCLA

**7:00 – 10:00 PM Fire of Love: Musical Variations on Rumi’s Poetry
Led by Maestro Hossein Omoumi, University of
California, Irvine**

(THE INN AND CONFERENCE CENTER AUDITORIUM)

*****Note: This is a ticketed event, not a free performance – tickets: \$25*****

DAY 3 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 30

(VAN MUNCHING HALL, HOWARD FRANK AUDITORIUM)

Session Five – 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

9:00 – 9:45 AM

To Revere, Revise, and Renew: Sa’eb of Tabriz Reads the Ghazals of Rumi

Paul Losensky, Indiana University

9:45 – 10:30 AM

Rumi's influence on the Philosophy of Muhammad Iqbal

Ahmad Kazemi-Moussavi, University of Maryland

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00-11:45 AM

Rumi, Best Seller

Michael Beard, University of North Dakota

11:45 AM-12:30 PM

Title: TBA

Nasrollah Pourjavady, Tehran University

12:30 – 2:00 PM LUNCH

Session Six – 2:00 - 3:00 PM

*****Note: This lecture will be in Persian; a synopsis in English will be provided*****

She`riyyat dar *Masnavi-ye Ma`navi* va *Divan-e Shams*

(Poeticity in Rumi’s *Spiritual Couples* and *Divan of Shams*)

Abdolkarim Soroush, Tehran University