

RICHARD LIONEL TAPPER

CURRICULUM VITAE

Born: 18 May 1942, Dinas Mawddwy, Wales, UK

Nationality: British

Social Anthropologist interested in cultural and historical aspects of pastoral nomadism; tribal & ethnic minorities and the state; the ethnography of the state; Islam and the Middle East, esp. Iran, Afghanistan, Turkey; ethnographic film; Iranian cinema.

Contact:

E-Mail: rt3@soas.ac.uk

Website: www.richardtapper.com

Degrees:

BA Cambridge 1964 (Social Anthropology Part II, Class I); PhD London 1972 (Social Anthropology)

Academic and Administrative Appointments:

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London:

1967 Asst Lecturer in Anthropology with reference to the Middle East; 1969 Lecturer; 1985 Reader; 1997 Professor. Retired 2004.

1988-92 Chair, Centre of Near and Middle Eastern Studies.

1995-98 Head, Department of Anthropology and Sociology.

2000-03 Convenor, Media Research Programme.

2004- Emeritus Professor of Anthropology in the University of London.

Fieldwork visits abroad and research grants

Iran, Shahsevan tribes, 1963, 1964, 1965-6, 1968; grants from British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS), University of London Central Research Fund, Emslie Horniman Fund.

Afghanistan: Afghan Turkestan, Pashtuns et al., 1968, 1970-1, 1972; grant from Nuffield Foundation 1968; SSRC Research Project 1970-2.

Turkey: Isparta province, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982-3, 1984; grants from SOAS Research Fund, SSRC Research Project 1983-4.

Iran (Sept 1992): Tehran, Isfahan (Shahr-e Kord conference on Nomads and Development) (grant from BIPS)

Iran (Aug-Sept 1993): Tehran, Kermanshah, Tabriz and Ardabil, to explore possibilities of new projects (grants from BIPS, Nuffield Foundation)

Iran (Sept-Nov 1995): Tehran, Shiraz, Ardabil, as in 1993 (grant from SOAS Research Fund)

Languages:

Used in field research: Azarbayjani and Anatolian Turkish; Iranian and Afghan Persian; Pashto.

Used in documentary research: with some fluency - French, Persian, Turkish, Azarbaijani, German, Italian, Latin; with difficulty - Russian, Pashto.

Conferences and seminars convened:

- “Behind the Lens, Beyond the Veil: Women in Iranian Cinema” (convened with Laura Mulvey, SOAS 2001, supported by Iran Heritage Foundation)
- Seventh International Royal Anthropological Institute Ethnographic Film Festival (SOAS, 2000)
- “Iranian Cinema: Representation of Culture and Culture of Representation” (convened with Ziba Mir-Hosseini, SOAS 1999, supported by Iran Heritage Foundation, British Institute of Persian Studies); published 2002, see below
- “Material cultures of the Middle East I and II” (convened with Keith McLachlan, SOAS 1993 and 1994, supported by ISESCO, BIPS). Published 2003, see below.
- “Culinary Cultures in the Middle East” (convened with Sami Zubaida, SOAS 1992, supported by Nuffield Foundation). Published 1994, see below.
- Approx. twenty 1-, 2- or 3-day workshops and conferences 1988-92, convened as Chair of CNMES (incl. BRISMES Annual Conference 1991). Many published or in press.
- “Islam in Modern Turkey” (convened with Clement Dodd, SOAS 1988, supported by British Academy and Nuffield Foundation). Published 1991, see below.
- First International RAI Ethnographic Film Festival (local convenor) (1985).
- “Tribe and State in Iran and Afghanistan” (convened with David Brooks, SOAS 1979, supported by SSRC, British Academy, Nuffield Foundation). Published 1983, see below.
- “The Future of Nomadism” (local convenor) (SOAS 1978, sponsored by the Commission on Nomadic Peoples). Published, ed. P C Salzman.
- Thematic seminar series convened in SOAS Anthropology Dept: “Settlement of nomads” (1977); “Facing both ways: culture of provincial towns” (1984); “Anthropology and film” (1990).

Publications: Books

- Afghan Village Voices. Stories from a Tribal Community* (with Nancy Lindisfarne-Tapper), London, I.B. Tauris, 2020.
- Tribe and State in Iran and Afghanistan*, London, Routledge, 2011 (reprint of *The Conflict ...* below, 1983)
- Islam and Democracy in Iran: Eshkevari and the Quest for Reform* (with Ziba Mir-Hosseini), London, I.B. Tauris, 2006.
- Technology, Tradition and Survival: Aspects of Material Culture in the Middle East and Central Asia* (edited with Keith McLachlan), London, Frank Cass, 2003.
- The Nomadic Peoples of Iran* (edited with Jon Thompson), London, Azimuth/Thames and Hudson, 2002.
- The New Iranian Cinema: Politics, Representation and Identity* (edited), London, I.B. Tauris, 2002 (Turkish translation: *Yeni İran Sineması: Siyaset, Temsil ve Kimlik*, Istanbul, Kapı Yayınları, 2007).
- Elhamdülillah Laikiz. Cinsiyet, İslâm ve Türk Cumhuriyetçiliği (Thank God We're Secular. Gender, Islam and Turkish Republicanism)* (Nancy Lindisfarne), tr. Selda Somuncuoğlu, Istanbul, İletişim Yayınları, 2002.
- A Taste of Thyme* (edited with Sami Zubaida), London, I.B. Tauris, 2001 (new edition of *Culinary Cultures ...* below, 1994).
- Ayatollah Khomeini and the Modernization of Islamic Thought* (edited), London, SOAS CNMES Occasional paper No. 19, 2000.
- Frontier Nomads of Iran: a Political and Social History of the Shahsevan*, Cambridge University Press, 1997 [Awarded prize as best anthropological study of Iran by Ministry of Culture And Islamic Guidance, Iran, 1380/2001] (Turkish translation: *İran'ın Sınır Bölgelerinde Göçebeler: Şahsevenlerin Toplumsal ve Politik Tarihi*, Istanbul, Imge

- Kitabevi, 2004; Persian translation: *Tarikh-e Siasi-ye Ejtema 'i-ye Shahsevan-ha-ye Moghan*, Tehran, Akhtaran, 2005).
- Culinary Cultures of the Middle East* (edited, with Sami Zubaida), London, I.B. Tauris, 1994 (Paperback, 1996) (Turkish translation: *Orta Doğu Mutfak Kültürleri*, Istanbul, Tarih Vakfı Yurt Yayınları, 2002).
- Some Minorities in the Middle East* (edited), London, SOAS CNMES Occasional paper No. 9, 1992.
- Islam in Modern Turkey: Religion, Politics and Literature in a Secular State* (edited), London, I.B. Tauris, 1991 (Paperback, 1994) (Turkish translation: *Çagdas Türkiye 'de Islam: Din, Siyaset, Edebiyat ve Laik Devlet*, Istanbul, Sarmal Yayınevi, 1993.)
- The Conflict of Tribe and State in Iran and Afghanistan* (edited), London, Croom Helm, 1983.
- Pasture and Politics: Economics, Conflict and Ritual among Shahsevan Nomads of Northwestern Iran*, London, Academic Press, 1979.

Journal and Encyclopedia articles

- “Maryam’s story: an ethnographic memoir” (with Nancy Lindisfarne-Tapper). *Afghanistan* 3/1, 2020, pp. 27-47.
- “Shahsevan” and “Mughan ii”. *Encyclopedia Iranica online*, 2010.
<http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/shahsevan>
- “Who are the Kuchis? Nomad self-identities in Afghanistan.” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (N.S.)* 14, March 2008, 97-116.
- “Correspondence” on pastoralism and transhumance, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (N.S.)* 11 December 2005, 841-2.
- “The New Iranian Cinema: New Cinema? New Iranians?” *ISIM Newsletter* 10, 2002, p. 38.
- “Anthropology and (the) crisis: Responding to crisis in Afghanistan.” *Anthropology Today*, December 2001, pp. 13-16.
- “Screening Iran: the Cinema as National Forum” *Global Dialogue*, 3 (2-3), spring-summer 2001, pp. 120-31
- “What is this thing called ‘Ethnography’?” (Review of entries on Ethnography and Tribes in *Encyclopedia Iranica*), *Iranian Studies* 31 (3-4), 1998 (1999), pp. 389-98.
- “Revisiting the Shahsavans” (Summary by Jeff Spurr of lecture by me), *HALI The International Magazine of Antique Carpet and Textile Art* 104, May-June 1999, pp. 49, 51, 53, 55.
- “Shahsevan.” *Encyclopedia of Islam* (new edn) 9, 1996, pp. 221-5.
- “Shahsevan.” *Encyclopedia of World Cultures, Volume IX, Africa and the Middle East*, New York, G.K.Hall, 1995, pp. 307-310.
- “Confederations, tribal.” *Encyclopedia Iranica* 6, 1993, pp. 125-128.
- “A future for the nomads of Iran? report on a conference in Bakhtiari country, September 1992.” *Middle East Events in London* (SOAS CNMES), November 1992, pp. 12-13.
- “Understanding the Kurds.” *Times Lit. Supp.* (24 January 1992), pp. 9-10.
- “History and identity among the Shahsevan.” *Iranian Studies* 21 (3-4), 1988, pp. 84-108.
- “Azerbaijan: population, its occupations and culture.” *Encyclopedia Iranica* 3, 1988, pp. 234-238.
- “Minorities and the problem of the state.” *Third World Quarterly* 10 (2), April 1988, pp. 1027-1041.
- “The birth of the prophet: ritual and gender in Turkish Islam” (with Nancy Tapper). *Man (NS)* 22, 1987, pp. 69-92. Turkish translation in Nancy Lindisfarne, *Elhamdülillah Laikiz. Cinsiyet, Islam ve Türk Cumhuriyetçiliği*, Istanbul, İletişim, 2001.

- “Peasant’s pilgrimage: a religious ballad from Afghan Turkistan.” *Asian Music* 18 (1), 1986, pp. 20-34.
- “Raiding, reaction and rivalry: the Shahsevan in the Constitutional period.” *BSOAS* 49, 1986, pp. 508-531.
- “‘Eat this, it’ll do you a power of good’: food and commensality among Durrani Pashtuns” (with Nancy Tapper). *American Ethnologist* 13, 1986, pp. 62-79.
- “One hump or two? Hybrid camels and pastoral cultures.” *Production Pastorale et Société* 16, 1985, pp.55-69.
- “Farmash-weaving among the Shahsevan” (with Nancy Tapper and Peter Andrews). In R. Pinner and W. B. Denny (eds) *Oriental Carpet and Textile Studies I*, London, OCTS / Hali, 1985, pp. 124-130.
- “Marriage preferences and ethnic relations among Durrani Pashtuns of Afghan Turkestan” (with Nancy Tapper). *Folk* 24, 1982, pp. 157-177.
- “Tribe and state in Iran and Afghanistan.” *SSRC Newsletter* 42 (November), 1980, pp. 13-15.
- “Tribal society and its enemies: the latest round in the ‘Great Game’ of Asia.” *RAIN* 34 (October), 1979, pp. 6-7.
- “Durrani”, “Pathan”, “Shahsevan”, and “Nomads and nomadism”, *Family of Man*, London, Marshall Cavendish, 1975-6.
- “Shahsevan in Safavid Persia.” *BSOAS* 37, 1974, pp. 321-354.
- “Black sheep, white sheep and red-heads: a historical sketch of the Shahsavans of Azarbaijan.” *Iran* 4, 1966, pp. 61-84. (Translated into Persian as “Shahsavans (Qaraqoyunlu-ha, Aqqoyunlu-ha)”, *Bar-rasi-ha-ye Tarikhi* 3, 1347/1968.)

Chapters in books or journal special issues:

- “An Afghan shepherd’s life.” In George Joffé and Richard Schofield (eds) *Geographic Realities in the Middle East and North Africa. State, Oil and Agriculture*, London, Routledge, 2021, pp. 194-210.
- “Tribalismus – anachronismus 21. století?” In Karel Černý, Břetislav Tureček (eds) *Význam kmenové společnosti v 21. století (Importance of Tribal Society in the 21st Century)*, Prague, Metropolitan University Prague + Nakladatelství Lidové noviny, 2015; pp. 14-30. (Arabic translation, *Omran* (Doha), 15, Winter 2016)
- “Pastoralism and patriliney: nomads and their animals.” In Christian Bromberger and Azadeh Kian (eds) *De l’Iran au Jazz, à cheval. Mélanges en hommage à Jean-Pierre Digard*, Paris, CNRS Editions, 2015, pp. 115-28.
- “One hump or two? Hybrid camels and pastoral cultures, an update.” In Ed Emery (ed.) *Camel Cultures: Historical Traditions, Present Threats, and Future Prospects. Selected Papers from the Camel Conference @ SOAS*, London, SOAS, RN Books, 2013, pp. 149-62. (<https://www.soas.ac.uk/camelconference2011/file74604.pdf>)
- “Studying Pashtuns in Barth’s Shadow.” In Benjamin D Hopkins and Magnus Marsden (eds), *Beyond Swat: History, Society and Economy along the Afghanistan-Pakistan Frontier*, London, Hurst, 2012, pp. 221-37.
- “‘Islamic anthropology’ and ‘Anthropology of Islam’.” In Jens Kreinath (ed.), *The Anthropology of Islam Reader*, London, Routledge, 2012, pp. 294-306.
- “Personal reflections on anthropology of and in Iran.” In Shahnaz Nadjmabadi (ed.), *Conceptualizing Iranian Anthropology: Past and Present Perspectives*, Oxford and New York, Berghahn, 2010, pp. 225-241.
- “Tribe and state in Iran and Afghanistan: an update.” In Pierre Bonte et Yazid Ben Hounet (eds), *La tribu à l’heure de la globalization*, special issue of *Études rurales* 184, July-Dec 2009, pp. 33-46.

- “Islamism: *ism* or *wasm*?” (with Ziba Mir-Hosseini), in Richard Martin and Abbas Barzegar (eds), *Islamism: Contested Perspectives on Political Islam*, Stanford University Press, 2009, pp 81-86.
- “Local-level constructions of ‘Turk’ and ‘Persian’.” In Mohammad-Reza Djalili, Alessandro Monsutti, Anna Neubauer (eds), *Le monde turco-iranien en question*, Paris, Karthala, 2008, pp. 69-81.
- “Introduction” (with Keith McLachlan). In Richard Tapper and Keith McLachlan (eds) *Technology, Tradition and Survival: Aspects of Material Culture in the Middle East and Central Asia*, London, Frank Cass, 2003.
- “The case of the Shahsevan.” In Stephanie Cronin (ed.), *The Making of Modern Iran: State and Society under Riza Shah, 1921-1941*, Curzon/BIPS, 2003, pp. 220-40.
- “Social Issues: Introduction.” In Caroline Singer (ed.) *The Middle East in London* London, Stacey International, 2002, pp. 104-7.
- “Introduction: The Nomads of Iran,” pp. 10-39, and “The Shahsevan Nomads of Moghan,” pp. 260-83. In Richard Tapper and Jon Thompson (eds) *The Nomadic Peoples of Iran*, London, Azimuth, 2002.
- “Introduction.” In Richard Tapper (ed.) *The New Iranian Cinema: Politics, Representation and Identity*, London, I. B. Tauris, 2002; pp. 1-25.
- “Water and tradition in three Middle Eastern communities: a study in cultural hydrology.” In Daniel Balland (ed.), *Hommes et Terres d’Islam. Mélanges offerts à Xavier de Planhol*, Paris/Tehran, IFRI, 2000, 1, pp.161-74.
- “Afghan articulations of identity: text and context.” In Jacques Hainard and Roland Kaehr (eds), *Dire les Autres: Réflexions et pratiques ethnologiques: Textes offerts à Pierre Centlivres*, Lausanne, Editions Payot, 1997, pp. 89-103.
- “Felt huts, haired tents, scene changes, thought structures: Tents, identity and society among Shahsevan and Durrani nomads.” In Peter A. Andrews (ed.), *Nomad Tent Types in the Middle East*, Tübinger Atlas des Vorderen Orients, Beiheft B74, Part I, Vol. I; Wiesbaden, Dr Ludwig Reichert, 1997, pp. 534-44.
- “‘Islamic anthropology’ and the ‘anthropology of Islam’.” In Daniel Martin Varisco (ed.), *Anthropological Analysis and Islamic Texts*, special issue of *Anthropological Quarterly* 68 (3), 1995, pp. 185-93.
- “Change, cognition and control: the reconstruction of nomadism in Iran.” In C. M. Hann (ed.) *When History Accelerates*. London, Athlone Press, 1994, pp. 188-211.
- “Introduction” (with Sami Zubaida), pp. 1-17, and “Blood, wine and water: social and symbolic aspects of drinking in the Middle East”, pp. 215-231, in R. Tapper and S. Zubaida (eds) *Culinary Cultures of the Middle East*, London, I B Tauris, 1994.
- “Nomads and Commissars on the frontiers of Eastern Azarbayjan.” In Keith McLachlan (ed) *The Boundaries of Modern Iran*. London, UCL Press, 1994, pp. 21-36.
- “Introduction”, pp. 1-5, in R. Tapper (ed.) *Some Minorities in the Middle East*, London, SOAS CNMES, 1992.
- “Marriage, honour and responsibility: Islamic and local models in the Mediterranean and the Middle East” (with Nancy Tapper). In Ziba Mir-Hosseini (ed), *Islamic Family Law: Ideals and Realities*, special issue of *Cambridge Anthropology*, 16 (2), 1992, pp. 3-21.
- “The tribes in eighteenth and nineteenth century Iran.” In Peter Avery, Gavin Hambly, Charles Melville (eds) *From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic*. Vol. 7 of *The Cambridge History of Iran*. Cambridge University Press, 1991, pp. 506-541.
- “Golden tent-pegs: settlement and change among nomads in Afghan Turkistan.” In Shirin Akiner (ed.) *Cultural Change and Continuity in Central Asia*. London, Kegan Paul International, 1991, pp. 198-217.

- “Introduction”, pp. 1-27, and “Religion, education and continuity in a provincial town”, pp. 56-83 (with Nancy Tapper), in R. Tapper (ed.) *Islam in Modern Turkey: Religion, Politics and Literature in a Secular State*, London, I B Tauris, 1991.
- “Historians, anthropologists and tribespeople on tribe and state formation in the Middle East.” In Philip Khoury and Joseph Kostiner (eds) *Tribes and State Formation in the Middle East*. Berkeley, Univ. of California Press, 1990, pp. 48-73. (Arabic translation, in *Al-Ijtihad* (Beyrouth), 17/4, 1996, pp. 105-41)
- “Resettlement: Rural-urban interaction and regional issues”, with discussion and response. *International Seminar on Social and Cultural Prospects for Afghanistan, in Tribute to the Memory of Louis Dupree*. WUFA (Writers Union of Free Afghanistan) *Journal of Afghan Affairs* (Peshawar, Pakistan) 5 (4), December 1990, pp. 11-34.
- “A marriage with fieldwork” (with Nancy Tapper). In Ilva Ariëns and Ruud Strijp (eds) *Anthropological Couples*, special issue of *Focaal, Tijdschrift voor Antropologie* (Nijmegen) 10, 1989, pp. 54-60.
- “Ethnic identities and social categories in Iran and Afghanistan.” In Elizabeth Tonkin, Maryon Macdonald and Malcolm Chapman (eds) *History and Ethnicity* (ASA Monographs 27). London, Routledge, 1989, pp. 232-246.
- “Animality, humanity, morality, society.” In Tim Ingold (ed.) *What is an Animal?* London, Unwin Hyman, 1988, pp. 47-62. (new edition 1993).
- “Concepts of disorder and responsibility among Durrani Pashtuns in northern Afghanistan” (with Nancy Tapper). In Bo Huldts and Erland Jansson (eds) *The Tragedy of Afghanistan*. London, Croom Helm, 1988, pp.38-54.
- “Ethnicity, order and meaning in the anthropology of Iran and Afghanistan.” In Jean-Pierre Digard (ed.) *Le Fait Ethnique en Iran et en Afghanistan*. Paris, Editions du CNRS (Colloques Internationaux), 1987, pp. 21-34.
- “‘Thank God we’re secular!’ Aspects of fundamentalism in a Turkish town” (with Nancy Tapper). In Lionel Caplan (ed.) *Studies in Religious Fundamentalism*. London, Macmillan, 1987, pp. 51-78. (Transl. into Turkish as “‘Allah’a şükür laik’iz!’”, *Türkiye Günlüğü* 31, 1994, pp. 127-46; also in Nancy Lindisfarne, *Elhamdülillah Laikiz. Cinsiyet, İslam ve Türk Cumhuriyetçiliği*, Istanbul, İletişim, 2001)
- “Ethnicity and class: dimensions of inter-group conflict in north-central Afghanistan.” In Nazif Shahrani and Robert Canfield (eds), *Revolutions and Rebellions in Afghanistan: Anthropological Perspectives*. Berkeley, Inst. for International Studies, 1984, pp. 230-246.
- “Holier than thou: Islam in three tribal societies.” In Akbar S. Ahmed and David M. Hart (eds) *Islam in Tribal Societies*. London, Routledge, 1984, pp. 244-265.
- “Introduction”, pp. 1-82, and “Nomads and commissars in the Mughan steppe: the Shahsevan tribes in the Great Game”, pp. 401-435, in R. Tapper (ed.) *The Conflict of Tribe and State in Iran and Afghanistan*, London, Croom Helm, 1983.
- Contribution to “Social Sciences” section of L. P. Elwell-Sutton (ed.) *Bibliographic Guide to Iran*, Brighton, Harvester, 1983.
- “Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan.” *Atlas of Mankind*, Mitchell Beazley, 1982, pp. 110-113.
- “The organization of nomadic communities in pastoral societies of the Middle East.” In Equipe écologie et anthropologie des sociétés pastorales (eds), *Pastoral Production and Society*. Cambridge University Press/Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, 1979, pp. 43-65. (Transl. into Persian as “Sazman-e ejtema‘-ha-ye kuch-ro dar khavar-e mianeh”, in Majmu‘eh-ye Ketab-e Agah, *Ilal va ‘Ashayer*. Tehran, Agah, 1362/1983, pp. 269-302.)
- “Individuated grazing rights and social organization among the Shahsevan nomads of Azarbaijan.” In Equipe, etc. (above), pp. 95-114.

“Shahsevan.” In Richard Weekes (ed.), *Muslim Peoples*, Greenwood, 1978, pp. 357-362. (2nd edn, 1984, pp. 670-674).

“Pakhtun nomads.” In Andre Singer (ed.), *Western and Central Asia*, Vol. 15 of *Peoples of the Earth*, Mondadori, 1975.

“Nomadism in modern Afghanistan: asset or anachronism?” In Louis Dupree and Lynette Albert (eds), *Afghanistan in the 1970s*. New York, Praeger, 1974, pp. 126-143.

Consultancy Reports:

(With Ziba Mir-Hosseini) *Muslim Women at the Start of the 21st Century: A Background Paper*; commissioned by Atlantic Philanthropies, April 2002.

(With Ziba Mir-Hosseini) *Pastoral Nomadism, Settlement and the Problem of Land. Report on a visit to Ardabil, Meshkinshahr, Dasht-e Moghan, and the Shahsevan (31 Oct to 9 Nov 1995)*; presented to Bonyad-e Maskan, Iran, November 1995.

Book Reviews for *JRAI/Man*, *BSOAS*, *IJMES*, *BJMES*, *THES*, *The Spectator*, *Asian Affairs*, *JRAS*, *Middle East Studies*, *Iranian Studies*, *Pastoralism*, *TASG News*, *Third World Quarterly*, *British Book News*, etc.

Book MSS reviewed for: CUP, OUP, Princeton, Syracuse, California, Cass, Routledge, Indiana, Curzon, Tauris, Hurst, Sage, Callman and King ...

Article MSS reviewed for *JRAI/Man*, *American Ethnologist*, *Anthropology Today*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Pastoralism*, *Millennium*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies* ...

Professional memberships:

Active

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Association for Iranian Studies (AIS) (formerly International Society for Iranian Studies) (former member, ethics committee)

Association of Social Anthropologists (ASA)

British Association for Turkish Area Studies (BATAS/TASG; former Council member)

British Institute of Persian Studies (BIPS: Fellow 1965-66; former Advisory Board member; Annual Lecturer, November 1996)

British Society for Middle East Studies (BRISMES; former Council member)

Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) (Judging panel, Albert Hourani Book Prize, 1993)

Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) (Former Council member; former chair, Ethnographic Film Committee; former chair, Committee on Urgent Anthropology)

Past or Dormant

Cyberorient online journal (AAA, MESection), Editorial Board

European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA)

European Journal of Turkish Studies, Scientific Advisory Board

IUAES Commission on Nomadic Peoples

Middle East Studies, Editorial Advisory Board

New Cinemas, Editorial Advisory Board

Nomadic Peoples, Editorial Adviser

ODTÜ Gelisme Dergisi/METU Studies in Development, International Advisory Board

Society for Visual Anthropology

Standing Committee of University Teachers of Turkish Studies (SCOUTT)

Third World Quarterly, Editorial Board

Significant Invitation Lectures (since 1985)

Anthony Hyman Memorial Lecture, SOAS, 2008.

Lambton Lecture, Institute for Middle East and Islamic Studies, Durham, 2002.

Annual Lecture, British Institute of Persian Studies, November 1996.

Invited for a week as guest of Centre of Middle Eastern Studies and Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, 1986: public lecture and seminars.

Invited for a week as guest of Department of Political Studies, Università degli Studi di Trieste, 1986: public lecture and seminars, paper at conference on 'Basi Morali dello Sviluppo'.

Other invited/keynote lectures and seminars abroad:

- Prague Metropolitan University, Czech Republic (2015)
- Dartmouth College, USA (2005)
- Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany (2005)
- Helsinki University (2004)
- New York University (Hagop Kevorkian Near East Centre) (2002)
- Indiana University (Depts of Anthropology and ME Studies) (1999)
- McGill University (Department of Anthropology) (1999)
- Columbia University (Iranian Studies seminar) (1999)
- University of Pennsylvania (Middle East Center) (1999)
- Yale University (Middle East Center) (1999)
- New York University (Hagop Kevorkian Near East Centre) (1998)
- Tehran (Farzan group) (1995)
- New York University (Hagop Kevorkian Near East Centre) (1988)
- UCLA (Gustav von Grünebaum Near East Centre/Dept of Anthropology) (1987)
- University of Pennsylvania (Middle East Center) (1987)
- Washington University, St Louis (Dept of Anthropology) (1986)
- Univ. of Pittsburg (Dept of Anthropology) (1986)

Invited seminars in UK at: LSE, UCL, Oxford (Inst of SA, OCIS), Cambridge, Manchester, Durham, St. Andrews, Edinburgh, Belfast, Swansea, Kent, UEA, Sussex.

Lectures for Iran Society, BIPS, Society for Afghan Studies, Anglo-Turkish Society

Papers at conferences (since 1985):

Prague 2015 (Tribes)

SOAS 2011 (Camel conference)

SOAS 2010 (Rethinking Swat Pathans)

Geneva 2005 (Turco-Persian world)

Frankfurt 2004 (Iran anthropology)

SOAS 2004 (BRISMES)

Washington 2004 (SIS)

Washington 2002 (SIS, panel on Afghanistan)

Washington 2001 (AAA)

Florence 2001 (EUI conference on Iran)

Washington 2000 (SIS)

Chicago 1999 (AAA, panel on public sphere)

Paris 1996 (Nomads and nomadism in Iran)

Aix 1996 (AFEMAM/EURAMES, panel on contemporary Iran).

N. Carolina 1993 (MESA, panel on nomads)

Washington 1993 (AAA, panel on anthropology of Islam)

Isfahan 1992 (Nomadism and development)

Tours 1991 (AFEMAM/EURAMES, panel on tribes)
Washington 1991 (MESA, panel on anthropology and Islamic texts)
Peshawar 1990 (Louis Dupree memorial conference)
San Antonio 1990 (MESA, panels on gender and Afghanistan)
Washington U., St Louis 1989 (Anthropology, history and Islam)
Toronto 1989 (MESA, panel on Turkey)
Cambridge 1988 (Islamic family laws: ideals and practices)
Los Angeles 1988 (MESA, panel on anthropological perspectives)
UEA 1987 (ASA, ethnicity and history)
Oxford 1987 (Future of Afghanistan)
Baltimore 1987 (MESA, panel on Iranian history)
Harvard 1987 (Tribes and state formation in the Middle East)
Paris 1985 (Ethnicity in Iran and Afghanistan)