Kimiya Academy

Syllabus

Course	Lecture course
Category	Linguistics / Literature
Class name	**The Indian Heritage in Classical Persian Literature:** *The Kalīla wa Dimna* **Narrative Tradition**
Class code	LEEA003-1
Group/Private	Group (Starting from 5 participants)
Number of classes	5 times
Schedule (Start to end)	From: 8 April 2023 to 10 June 2023 (4/8, 4/22, 5/13, 5/27, 6/10) — Spring term
Day of week	Sarurdays
Time of class	20:00 - 21:00 (60 min., Online from Tokyo) 7:00-8:00 (60 min., Online from Toronto)
Class form	Online lecture (Zoom)
Language	In English
Class fee	¥17,500
Application deadline	1 April 2023

Class summary and objectives

Learning Objectives:

Students can expect the following through successful completion of this course:
- Learn about the literary relations of Indians and Iranians and their earliest evidence in Persian literature.
- Indo-Persian Cultural exchange through literature.
- The transmission of Indian stories into Persian literary corpus.
- Persian and Islamic Intertextual narrative corpus: adoption, evolution and exchange of literary styles, forms and content.
- Different versions of *Kalīla* fables and tales: the Pahlavi hypotext, the Arabic versions, Rūdakī's Persian *Kalīla*, Bal'amī's *Kalīla* hypotext, Naṣr Allāh Munšī's *Tarjuma-yi Kalīla wa Dimna*, Qāni'ī Ṭūsī's versification, Wā'iẓ Kāšifī's *Anwār-i Suhailī*, Abū al-Fażl 'Allāmī's *'Ayār-i Dāniš*, the *Nigār-i Dāniš*, and other nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century versifications and rewritings of tales.
- English and French translations of the Persian *Kalīla wa Dimna.*
- Persian *'ilm al-bayān* (science of elucidation)
- Persian ornate and epistolary prose
- Persian art of the book in *Kalīla wa Dimna* Manuscripts.

Class contents

Course description:

This course is designed for graduate students who wish to enhance their knowledge of a millennial narrative tradition and its history of translation through Persian language and literature. We will focus on the *Kalīla wa Dimna* series of fables and tales, a multi-faceted textual and narrative tradition which served as a *mirror for princes* at courts and as popular didactic literature for the masses in the Islamicate World for over a millennium. Through the course, the students will learn about the Indian and non-Indian sources of the book, the evolution of the text through its continuous reproductions, the translators of the text and their approaches towards structure, themes and the narrative language. We will study framing narrative structures, dominant narrative themes, and the linguistic aesthetic features in Persian renderings and rewritings of this book. Students will practice narratological theories and comparative methods for the classification and literary analysis of the texts, and learn about intertextuality and acculturation factors in text and context.

Taking into account primary and secondary sources in Persian and European languages about the history of the book, the students will trace the transmission and adaptation of the work in English and French literatures and see how the *Kalīla wa Dimna* played a key role in the perception of Orientalists about Persian and Arabic literatures and cultures from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries.

Through this course students will get acquainted with the history of the evolution of Persian prose, Persian rhetoric and art of elucidation, and stylistics. Students will acquire fundamental skills to identify Persian rhyming and ornate prose as well as the Khurāsānī school of poetry. Students will also be exposed to Persian manuscript culture, basics of codicology and manuscript art of the book and illustrations.

Text book(s)

Class material will be provided by the lecturer in PDF format before each class if needed.

Reference(s)

Persian Texts (Some Documents in Pdf format will be shared with students):

‘Abbāsī, Ḫāliqdād 1973, *Pancākhyāna*. Tara Chand and Siyyid Ḥasan ‘Abidī, eds., Delhi, Aligarh Muslim University.

‘Allāmī, Abū al-Fażl, 1988, *‘Ayār-i Dāniš*, Amīr Yazdān ‘Alīmardānuf, ed., Dushanbe, Dāniš.

Balḫī, Jalāl al-Dīn, 1398 š./2019, *Maṭnawī-i Ma‘nawī*, Quqnūs, Tehran.

Buḫārī, Muḥammad ibn ‘Abd Allāh, 1369 š./1990, *Dāstān-hā-yi Bīdpāy*, Ḫānlarī and Muḥammad Rowšan, eds., Tehran, Ḫwārazmī.

Kāshifī, Ḥusayn ibn ‘Alī Wā‘iẓ 1880, The *Anwār-i Suhaylī*, Kanpur, Maṭba‘-i Niẓāmī.

*There are more references. Please ask the lecturer in this class.

Lecturer profiles

Pegah Shahbaz, PhD

Resume: Pegah Shahbaz is a specialist of Persian literature of Iran, Central and South Asia. She completed her Ph.D. in Persianate Studies at the University of Strasbourg. While she was in France, she had been teaching English and running an English school .

She has been teaching and working various research projects at several universities in the world, like Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, McGill University, Leiden University, Sorbonne Nouvelle Université – Paris 3, and etc.

She is currently a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy.

Link: https://iranianstudies.utoronto.ca/people/shahbaz-pegah/

***Kimia is only responsible for the organization of the courses with qualified experts and lecturers. The lecturer has the responsibility of the scientific and cultural value of his/her course.