8th ANNUAL MIDDLE EAST STUDIES CONFERENCE
March 25, 2006

THE RESURGENCE OF SHI’ISM

8:00 AM   Registration/Coffee
HSSB McCune Room

8:15 AM   Workshop on Teaching Shi’ite Islam
HSSB McCune Room
Juan Campo, UCSB Dept. of Religious Studies
Amir Hussain, Loyola Marymount, Dept. of Religion
Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, Reed College
Hamid Mavani, Claremont Graduate University, School of Religion

10:00 AM   Welcoming Remarks by CMES Co-Director
HSSB McCune Room  Nancy Gallagher, UCSB Dept. of History

10:15 AM   Secularization and Reformation Trends in Shi’i Iran:
HSSB McCune Room  Changing Beliefs in an Iranian Village
Mary Elaine Hegland, Santa Clara University Dept. of Anthropology
Based on 18 months of research in Iran from 1978-1979 and follow-up research in winter 2006, this presentation explores, through ethnographic field work, declining involvement with Shi’i Islam of people in Aliabad over time, from the late 1970s to the early years of the 21st century.

PANEL SESSION I – 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

HSSB McCune Room   SHI’ISM AND POLITICS

Political Tendencies in Contemporary Iranian Politics
Nikki Keddie, UCLA

Islam, Marxism, and Modernity: Paradigmatic Response As Model for Understanding the Contemporary Islamic Ideological Divisions
Kamran Talatooft, University of Arizona Dept. of Near Eastern Studies
HSSB 3041

SHI'ISM AND POLITICS IN PRACTICE

Leadership and Governance in Contemporary Arab Shi’á Thought
Rola Husseini, Texas A & M School of Government

Imagining Transnational Shiite Networks: Mustafa Chamran and Postrevolutionary Iranian Politics in Lebanon
Roschanack Shaery-Eisenlohr, Washington University, Dept. of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literature

Saddam on Trial, Iraqis in the Dock: The Quest for a New Constitution
Tom Syring, Boston University, Dept. of International Relations

MultiCultural Center

SHI’ISM AND RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

“If You Ask Me: Sabiha Sertel’s Advice Column and Social Engineering in the Early Turkish Republic,” Holly Shissler, University of Chicago, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Shi’í Pilgrimage to Sayyida Zaynab Shrine in Syria
Michelle Zimney, UCSB Dept. of Religious Studies

Contesting Sanctity: The Politicization of Urban Space in Shiite Shrine Cities
Hassan Hussain, UCLA, Islamic Studies

Out of Extreme Love: Patience and Justice in the Lives of American Shi’á Muslim Women
Bridget Blomfield, Claremont Graduate University

Women’s Religious Practices in Bahrain: The Changing Role of the Shiite Ma’tam
Sophia Pandya, Long Beach State University

12:30 PM   LUNCH

MultiCultural Center Lounge
PANAL SESSION II – 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

HSSB McCune Room

SHI’ISM AND POLITICS II

*Imami and Isma’ili Shi’ism in Afghanistan and Their Sociopolitical Implications*
Alam Payind, Director, Middle East Studies Center
Ohio State University

*The Role of Shi’i Islam in the Power Structure of the Islamic Republic of Iran*
Kazem Alamdari, Cal State University, Los Angeles

*The Fudala’ Society and Shi’i Politics in Southern Iraq*
Ahmed Alwishah, UCLA, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

*Religious Exhortation, the Basij-e Enghelab-e Eslami, and Nationalism in Iran during the Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)*
Mateo Farzaneh, UCSB, Dept. of History

MultiCultural Center Theater

SHI’ISM AND HISTORY

*Shi’i Resurgence and the Role of Gnosticism: Rajab Bursi’s Piety*
Todd Lawson, University of Toronto, Dept. of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations

*Motif of Encountering the Occulted Imam*
Omid Ghaemmaghami, University of Toronto, Dept. of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations

*Linking Time and Events: Elucidating Iran’s Abrupt Religious Shift*
Aptin Khanbaghi, UCSB Dept. of Religious Studies

*Shi’ite Rationalism in the Buwayhid Era*
Aun Hasan Ali, McGill University Institute of Islamic Studies

*Decadence and Devotion: Shi’i Cultural Expression in Nawabi Awadh 1720-1856*
Farah S. Rizvi, University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies
PLENARY SESSION 4:00 PM

HSSB McCune Room  Juan Cole, University of Michigan, Dept. of History

DINNER 7:00 PM