

## Dr. PEDRAM KHOSRONEJAD

[www.pedramkhosronejad.com](http://www.pedramkhosronejad.com)

Scholarly publications available at: <https://pedramkhosronejad.academia.edu/PedramKhosronejad>

### Personal Details

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#### Farzaneh Family Chair

#### Associate Director for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies

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**Nationality:** Iranian/British

### Research Interests

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**Areas of Regional Expertise:** Iran and Persianate Societies, Middle East, and Central Eurasia.

**Fields of Disciplinary Expertise:** Socio-cultural Anthropology, Anthropology of Religion and Material Culture, Visual Anthropology and Ethnographic Film.

**Supervision:** Particularly interested in supervising undergraduate and postgraduate students on Anthropology of Contemporary Iran/Middle East, Anthropology of Religion and Islam/ Visual Anthropology and Material Culture/ Visual Piety and Sacred Art.

### Education

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Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociale (EHESS), Paris, France (2001–2007)

Ph.D., Social Anthropology-Ethnography (Grade: Très honorable avec félicitations).  
Dissertation title: 'Les Lions en Pierre Sculptés chez les Bakhtiâri : Description et Significations de Sculptures Zoomorphes dans une Société Tribale du Sud-ouest de l'Iran' (*Stone Lion Sculptures among the Bakhtiari: Descriptions and Meanings of Zoomorphic Sculptures in a Tribal Society of South-western Iran*). Supervisor: Prof. T. Zarcone.

Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (EPHE), Sorbonne, France (2000)

D.E.A. (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies), Material Culture and Visual Art. Supervisor: Prof. L. Kalus.

University of Art, Tehran, Iran, M.A. (1997)

Research Methodology in Visual Art. Supervisor: Dr. M. Mirshokrayi.

University of Art, Tehran, Iran (1994)

B.A. in Painting. Supervisor: Dr. M. Hosseyni

### Academic Positions

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Visiting Full Professor, Chair of University of Nantes in Institute of Advanced Study, Institute of Advanced Studies, Nantes, France. (Oct.2014-Aug. 2015)

Visiting Full Professor, National Museum of Ethnology (MINPAKU), Osaka, Japan.  
(Sept.2013-June 2014)

The Goli Rais Larizadeh Chair of the Iran Heritage Foundation for the Anthropology of Iran, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, U.K. (Sept. 2007-April 2015)

Junior Research Fellow, the Middle East Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, U.K. (2005–2007)

Associated Member, Sub-Faculty of Near & Middle Eastern Studies, the Oriental Institute, University of Oxford, U.K. (2004–2005)

### **Current International Collaborative Projects**

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*Religious Iconography, Blasphemy, and Anticlericalism in the Abrahamic Religions* (RIBAAR). The Institut de Pluralisme Religieux et de l'Athéisme (IPRA). Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Ange Guépin (MSHG/USR 3491) and Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités (GSRL)-CNRS, Paris, France. (2015–2019)

*Martyrdom in Modern Iran* (Iran-Iraq war 1980-88): A study of various aspects of visual culture (cinema/media, visual art/material culture) *connected to trauma and warfare* (sacred landscape and urbanism), with the collaboration of the Institute of Martyrdom and Martyrdom Museum, Iran. (2010–2016)

*The Culture of Saints and the Veneration of Shrines in Turko-Persian Regions* (Iran, Turkey and Central Asia) *and the Islamic World*, with the collaboration of Prof. T. Zarccone (GSRL-CNRS, France). (2009-2017)

### **Fellowships and Grants (selected)**

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#### **Grants for the creation and establishment of the Anthropology of Iran in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews**

Iran Heritage Foundation (U.K.) and Centro Incontri Umani (Switzerland) grant for the *creation of a research fellow position for the Anthropology of Iran* in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews. (2007-2010)

Houtan Foundation (U.S.A) grant for the creation of a *Ph.D. scholarship for the Anthropology of Iran* under the supervision of Dr. P. Khosronejad in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews. (2009-2012)

Houtan Foundation (U.S.A) grant for the creation of a *Visiting Professor Fellowship for the Anthropology of Iran* in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews. (2009-2012)

Houtan Foundation (U.S.A) grant for running a research pilot-project regarding the *Visual Anthropology of Iran* in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews. (2009-2012)

#### **Research and Travel Grants**

The British Academy (U.K.), fieldwork grant for a period of 4 weeks in Iran. *Mortuary Landscape and Sacred Material Culture of Bakhtiari Nomads*. (2011)

The British Academy (U.K.), fieldwork grant for a period of 4 weeks in Iran. *Mortuary*

*Landscape and Sacred Material Culture of Bakhtiari Nomads.* (2010)

Centro Incontri Umani (Switzerland), *Senior Post-Doctoral Residential Fellowship* for a period of 9 months. (2007)

### **Dissertation Fellowship**

Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociale, France. (2006)

The Barakat Trust (U.K.), for a period of one year with affiliation to St Antony's College in the University of Oxford. (2004)

Soudavar Memorial Foundation, Switzerland. (2004)

Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute, U.S.A. (2004)

French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for a period of 4 years, France. (2000-2004)

### **Film Project**

Soudavar Memorial Foundation (Switzerland), *Lion Tombstones amongst Nomadic Societies in South-western Iran.* (2013)

CNRS/IMAGE (France), *Lion Tombstones amongst Nomadic Societies in South-western Iran*, fieldwork researches and filming related rituals. (2003)

### **Writing Grants**

Soudavar Memorial Foundation (Switzerland), *Material Religion and Techniques of Production: Lion Tombstone Sculptors in South-western Iran.* (2014)

Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités (France), Soudavar Memorial Foundation (Switzerland), the Barakat Trust (U.K.). *Les Lions en Pierre Sculptée chez les Bakhtiari: Description et Significations de Sculptures Zoomorphes dans une Société Tribale du sud-ouest de l'Iran.* (2013)

Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités, CNRS (France), *Journal of Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia* (Russia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, China). (2013-2015)

### **Holding Conferences and Workshops**

The Wenner-Gren Foundation (U.S.A), Houtan Foundation (U.S.A.), Iran Heritage Foundation (U.K.), Iran Society (U.K.), *Visual Representations of Iran* (conference, film season and photo exhibition), St Andrews, U.K. (2008)

### **Awards, Honours, Prizes**

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*Visiting Full Professor*, Chair of University of Nantes in Institute of Advanced Study, Institute of Advanced Studies, Nantes, France. (2014-2015)

*Visiting Full Professor*, National Museum of Ethnology (MINPAKU), Osaka, Japan. (2013-2014)

### Books

*Les Lions en Pierre Sculptée chez les Bakhtiari: Description et significations de sculptures zoomorphes dans une société tribale du sud-ouest de l'Iran*, The Anthropology of Persianate Societies, Volume 2, Sean Kingston Publishing, U.K. 260 pp. (June 2013)

Reviewed in:

- *The Journal of the Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* (ACME), Winter 2014. Vol. II, pp. 230-231.

- *The International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, 2014 Vol. 3, Issue 2. 1 July 2014, pp. 508-510.

- *L'Homme*, 2015, No: 213, pp. 203-6.

### Program and Exhibition Catalogues

*Visual Representations of Iran: Conference, Film Season and Photo Exhibition*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, U.K., June, 2008.

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/anthropologyiran/index.php>

*Photography and Cinematography in Qajar Era Iran*, conference co- organiser with M. M. Eskandari-Qajar (Santa Barbara City College, USA), Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., August, 2011

[https://www.academia.edu/1621485/Photography and Cinematography in Qajar Era Iran Conf. Catalogue](https://www.academia.edu/1621485/Photography_and_Cinematography_in_Qajar_Era_Iran_Conf_Catalogue)

### Edited Volumes

*Untold Stories: The Socio-cultural Life of Images in Qajar Era Iran* (Berlin-Münster-Wien-Zürich-London: LIT Verlag, 2015), 150 pp., in *Iranian Studies Series*, Vol. II.

*Women's Rituals and Ceremonies in Shiite Iran and Muslim Communities: Methodological and theological challenges* (Berlin-Münster-Wien-Zürich-London: LIT Verlag, 2014), 140 pp., in *Iranian Studies Series*, Vol. I.

*Digital Art, Political Aesthetic and Social Media: Case Study of the Iranian Presidential Election of 2009*, *International Journal of Communication*, 7 (2013), pp. 1298-1315 (guest editor).

*Iranian Sacred Defence Cinema: Religion, Martyrdom and National Identity* (Canon Pyon: Sean Kingston Publishing, 2012), 213 pp.

Reviewed in:

- *The Journal of the Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* (ACME), Winter 2014. Vol. II, pp. 240-241.

- *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 2014, Vol. 46 Issue 03, pp 631-633.

*Unburied Memories: The Politics of Bodies, and the Material Culture of Sacred Defense Martyrs in Iran*, *Journal of Visual Anthropology*, Special Issue (Spring), 25(1-2): 2012, Taylor & Francis, pp.1-166. (guest editor).

*Unburied Memories: The Politics of Bodies, and the Material Culture of Sacred Defense Martyrs in Iran* (London: Routledge, 2012), 172 pp.

Reviewed in:

- *Parcours Anthropologiques*, 2014, Vol. 9:1, pp. 221-223.

- *Iranian Studies*, Spring 2014, Vol. 47:4, pp. 667-670.

- *Journal of Shi'a Islamic Studies*, 2013, Vol. 6 Issue 2, p. 250.

*Saints and their Pilgrims in Iran and Neighbouring Countries* (Canon Pyon: Sean Kingston Publishing, 2012), in *The Anthropology of Persianate Societies Series* Vol. I., 169 pp.

Reviewed in:

- *The Journal of Material Religion*, 2015. Vol. 11: 2, pp. 272-274.

*The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi'ism: Iconography and Religious Devotion in Shi'i Islam* (London: I.B. Tauris and British Institute for Persian Studies, 2011), 284 pp., included in *Tauris Academic Studies: International Library of Iranian Studies*.

Reviewed in:

- *The Journal of Material Religion*, 2015. Vol. 11: 2, pp. 272-274.

- *The Journal of the Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* (ACME), Winter 2014. Vol. II, pp. 234-236.

- *The International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, 2014 Vol. 3, Issue 2. 1 July 2014, pp. 514-516.

- *The Journal of Shia Islamic Studies*, 2013. Vol. 6: 4, pp. 486-491.

- *The Journal of Studia Iranica*, 2013. Vol. 42: pp. 301-303.

*Beyond the Iranian Frame: From Visual Representation to Socio-political Drama*, *Journal of Iranian Studies*, Special Issue, Vol. 44, 3: 2011, Taylor & Francis, pp. 1475-4819 (guest editor).

### Articles in Edited Volumes and Conference Proceedings

"Gageriveh, Bakhtiari women's lamentations: between self-suffering and tribal identity," in *Women's Rituals and Ceremonies in Shiite Iran and Muslim Communities: Methodological and theological challenges* *Women's Rituals and Ceremonies in Shiite Iran and Muslim Communities: Methodological and theological challenges*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (Berlin-Münster-Wien-Zürich-London: LIT Verlag, 2014), 41-63.

"The People of the Air: Healing and Spirit Possession in South of Iran," in *Shamanism and Healing Rituals in Contemporary Islam and Sufism*. eds. Thierry Zarcone and Angela Hobart (London: I.B. Tauris Publishers, 2013), 131-169.

"The Iran-Iraq War and the creation of Sacred Defence Cinema," in *Iranian Sacred Defence Cinema: Religion, Martyrdom and National Identity*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (Canon Pyon: Sean Kingston Publishing, 2012), 1-57.

"Introduction," in *Unburied Memories: The Politics of Bodies, and the Material Culture of Sacred Defence Martyrs in Iran*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (London: Routledge, 2012), 1-34.

"Introduction: Anthropology, Islam and Sainthood", in *Saints and their Pilgrims in Iran and Neighbouring Countries*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (Canon Pyon: Sean Kingston Publishing, 2012), 3-21.

"Introduction: Shiite Material Religion and Sacred Art," in *The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi'ism: Iconography and Religious Devotion in Shi'i Islam*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (London: I.B. Tauris and British Institute for Persian Studies, 2011), 1-22.

"Lion's Representations in Bakhtiari Oral Tradition and Funerary Material Culture," in *The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi'ism: Iconography and Religious Devotion in Shi'i Islam*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (London: I.B. Tauris and British Institute for Persian Studies, 2011), 193-214.

## Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

"A Rare Bakhtiari Sufi Manuscript: Genealogy of Siyid Muhammad Parhizkar," *Journal of Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia*, 2 Issue (winter 2015), 216-245.

"Visual representations of the Persian *Darvish* in Sufi art and material culture: preliminary report from the Bunyad Institute, Tehran, Iran (I)," co-writer with Thierry Zarcone, *Journal of Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia*, 2 Issue (winter 2015), 193-216.

"Reflections on the Diversity and Religious Functions of Holy Places and Sacred Stones among Bakhtiari Nomads," *Journal of Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia*, 2 Issue (winter 2014), 143-169.

"Digital Ethnography, Resistance Art and Communication Media in Iran," *Digital Art, Political Aesthetic and Social Media: Case Study of the Iranian Presidential Election of 2009*, *International Journal of Communication*. (Special Issue) volume 7 (2013), 1298-1315.

"Some Observations on Visual Representations of the 2009 Iranian Presidential Elections' Crisis," in *Beyond the Iranian Frame: From Visual Representation to Socio-political Drama*, special issue of *Journal of Iranian Studies*, Vol. 44, 3: 2011, Taylor & Francis, 1475-4819.

"Remembering the Sacred Defence: Iran-Iraq War Memorials," *Anthropology News, Memorials and Memorialization*, (Special Issue) volume 52, no. 6. 2011, 15.

"Where is the Anthropology of Iran after 70 Years?," *Anthropology News*, 48, no. 2 (2007), 11.

"The *Shahnameh* in Bakhtiari Nomadic Society: Anthropological Aspects of the Hero and Heroism," *Iran* XLIV 2006 (the British Institute of Persian Studies, British Academy), 321-26.

"Learning about the Bakhtiari Nomads in Iran through their Material and Oral Structures of Death and Dying," *Anthropology News* 47, no. 3 (2006): 23.

"Anthropology of Islamic Shi'ite Art and Material Culture," *Anthropology News* 47, no. 6 (2006), 33.

"Being a Martyr in Iran," *Anthropology News* 47, no. 8 (2006), 20.

"The Missing: Material Culture, Spiritual and Personal Loss in Bakhtiari Traditional Lamentation," *BIPS* (British Institute of Persian Studies) *Newsletter*. 2005

"Aspect des cimetières et des pierres tombales sur le plateau Iranien," *Orient Express. Notes et Nouvelles d'Archéologie Orientale* (Institut d'art et d'archéologie, Paris), n° 3 (2002), 79-82.

"La thématique des lions en pierre dans la société et la culture des nomades Bakhtiari et Lors en Iran," *Orient Express. Notes et Nouvelles d'Archéologie Orientale*, n° 2 (2002), 44-47.

"Nomadic Tombstones and Anthropology of Art," *Ketabheh Mah-e Honar*, No. 1 (1998), 23-26.



"Introduction to the Anthropology of Art and Aesthetics," *Ketabheh Mah-e Honar*, No. 1 (1998), 23–26.

### Encyclopaedia Entries

"Lion Tombstones," in *Encyclopedia Iranica*, ed. Ehsan Yarshater (2004) New York: Columbia University. [www.iranica.com](http://www.iranica.com)

### Book Reviews

*International Journal of Middle East Studies*, special issue on Iran, 34, issue 3 (December 2007), 407-430.

"Review of *The Martyrs of Karbala: Shi'ite Symbols and Rituals in Modern Iran* (Washington: University of Washington Press 2005)" by Kamran Scot Aghaie (ed.).

"Review of *The Women of Karbala: Ritual Performance and Symbolic Discourses in Modern Shi'i Islam* (Austin: University of Texas Press 2005)" by Kamran Scot Aghaie (ed.).

"Review of *Mute Dreams, Blind Owls, and Dispersed Knowledges: Persian Poesis in the Transnational Circuitry* (Durham: Duke University Press 2004)" by Michael J. Fischer.

"Review of *The Friends of God Sufi-Saints in Islam: Popular Poster Art from Pakistan* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2006)" by Jürgen W. Frembgen.

"Review of *Guerre et Mémoire: Combattants Iraniens* (conflict Iran-Iraq), *Combattants français* (Tehran : Hozeh Honari 2002)" by Table Ronde Sur La Littérature De Guerre (6-7 Décembre 1999) Téhéran, l'Institut Français de Recherche en Iran (IFRI).

### Film Reviews

"Review of *Standard-bearers of Hussein: Women commemorating Karbala* (directed by Ingvild Flakerud, 2003, 35', Mono, language of film: Persian with English subtitles), *Journal of Visual Anthropology*, 22, issue 1 (January 2009), 71–74.

"Review of *The Procession of the Captives: A Shiite Tragedy*, directed (directed by Sabrina Mervin, 2006, 54', language of film: Arabic with English subtitles), *Journal of Visual Anthropology*, 22, issue 1 (January 2009), 73-74.

### Books in Preparation

*Devotional Portraits in Twelver Shiism: Prophet Muhammad, Imam Ali and Sufi Saints*. eds. Pedram Khosronejad and Thierry Zarcone (Berlin-Münster-Wien-Zürich-London: LIT Verlag, 2016) in *Iranian Studies Series*, Vol. III.

### Work in Progress

*Memory, Materiality of War and Sacred Urban Landscape in Iran.*

*Material Religion and Techniques of Production: lion tombstone sculptors in south-west Iran.*

## Published Translations of my work

"The face of African slavery in Qajar Iran – in pictures," *the Guardian*, 14 January, 2016. Persian translation for **the centre for the great Islamic Encyclopaedia** by Ms. Sh. Ghomashchi: <http://www.cgie.org.ir/popup/fa/system/contentprint/84668>

"Le Coran n'Interdit pas la Représentations du Prophète," *Figaro*, p.18 (hard copy), 21 January, 2015. Persian translation for Radio France Internationale by F. Vahabi: <http://www.english.rfi.fr>

"The *Shahnameh* in Bakhtiari Nomadic Society: Anthropological Aspects of the Hero and Heroism," *Iran* XLIV 2006 (the British Institute of Persian Studies, British Academy), 321–26. Persian translation by and M. Dashad A. Salahshour: <http://anthropology.ir/article/29383>

## Professional Experience

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### Courses Taught

Visiting Full Professor Anthropology, *Islam and Material Culture* (first semester, 32 hours), Department of History, Faculty of Social Science, University of Isfahan, Iran. (2012–2013)

Visiting Full Professor Anthropology, *Shi'ism in the United States* (first semester, 18 hours), Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Science, University of Isfahan, Iran. (2012–2013)

*Visuality and Materiality of War and Memory: the case study of the Iran-Iraq War*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St Andrews, Semester two, SA5010: Research Methods in Social Anthropology. (2011–2012)

*Anthropology of Post-revolutionary Iran*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St Andrews, Honour Modules, Semester two, SA3032: Regional Ethnography I: Anthropology of Iran. (2010–2011)

*Summer School of Ethnographical Filmmaking* (organiser and programmer), with the collaboration of P. I. Crawford, R. Husmann, and B. Engelbrecht Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland. (2010)

*Key Issues in Social Anthropology: Death and Revitalization Rituals* (co-organiser of module with A. Hobart), Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland. (2009)

*Introduction to the Anthropology of Iran*, The Middle East Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, U.K, Hilary Term. (2006)

*Anthropological Visions of Contemporary Iran: Religious Material Culture and Cultural Politics in Post-revolutionary Iran*, The Middle East Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, U.K., Trinity Term. (2006)

*The Material Culture and Mortuary Landscape of Islamic Iran* (co-organiser of module with L. Treadwell), The Khalili Research Centre for the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East, University of Oxford, Trinity Term. (2005)



### Papers

"The Role of Qajar Portraiture Photography in Saint Veneration," *Shiite Saint Veneration in Comparative Studies*, Faculty of Literature and Human Science, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran, April, 2014.

"Identification of Martyrs of the Iran-Iraq War (1980–88): Scientific Knowledge or Religious Devotion," *International Forum for Mass Grave Victim Identification*, The Royal College of Pathologists, London, U.K., March, 2013.

"Photography, Ethical Issues and Coverage of the Iran-Iraq War Martyrs (1980–88)," *Media, War & Conflict Fifth Anniversary Conference*, New Political Communication Unit, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of London, London, U.K., April, 2013.

"Shrines of Un-known Martyrs of the Iran-Iraq War as Vocal Public Spaces in Tehran Universities," *Material Religion as a Voice in Public Space*, *The Socrel Annual Conference: Material Religion*, Durham University, U.K., April, 2013.

"Bones and Souls: Politics of Body and Memorial Architecture of Unknown Martyrs of the Iran-Iraq War," International Conference on *The House of the Prophet: Architecture, Ritual, and the Transmission of Knowledge in the Shrines of Ahl al-Bayt*, New York University – Abu Dhabi Institute, United Arab Emirates, May, 2012.

"Immortal Saints: Shrines and Memorials of Unknown Martyrs of the Iran-Iraq War," International Conference on *The Making of Saints in the Muslim World in 20th Century*, GSRL-CNRS, Paris, France, November, 2011.

"Curtains of Heaven: Celestial and Devotional Mural Paintings of Iranian Pilgrimage," International Conference on *Pilgrimages and Sanctuaries: Art, Music and Rituals*, Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, November, 2011.

"Battlefield Pilgrimage in Iran: Ambiguity of Sacredness," International Conference on *Pilgrimage and Sanctuaries: Ambiguity in Context*, Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, November, 2010.

"Visuality and Materiality of the Post-Presidential Election Crisis of Iran on the Cyberspace," workshop organised by B. Engelbrecht and N. Wanono. 11<sup>th</sup> EASA Biennial Conference, Crisis and Imagination, Maynooth, Ireland, August, 2010.

"The Ethnography of Sacred Defence Literature," International Conference *Iran and Historiography in a Comparative Perspective*, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, September, 2009.

"Along with Illumination (Sacred Tourism): Anthropological Approaches to the Material Culture of Sacred Defence, Martyrdom, and Resistance among New Iranian Warfront Sightseeing?," International Conference *The Passions of Tourism, Travel and Movement*, 11<sup>th</sup> RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Leeds, U.K., July, 2009.

"Tekiyeh Mir: A Qajar Home with a Unique Heritage," International Conference *Architecture in Qajar Persia*, Ninth Annual IQSA Conference, Austrian Academy of Sciences (AAS), Vienna, Austria, June, 2009.

"Zar Ritual in the South of Iran: Some Ceremonial and Visual Aspects," International Conference *Shamanism and Healing Rituals in Contemporary Islam and Sufism*, Organised by Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, November, 2008.

"Narration of Triumph or Narration for Triumph: Morteza Avini's War Documentary Film," in the panel *Audio-visual Representation and Cultural Diversity*, the 10th Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Ljubljana, Slovenia, August, 2008.

"Morteza Avini and War Documentary Film: Interplay between Faith, Image and Martyrdom," International Conference *Memory, Trauma and Identity in Literary and Visual Representations in the Middle East*, British Society of Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES), Edinburgh, Scotland, February, 2008.

"The Missing: Spiritual and Personal Loss in Bakhtiari Female Lamentation," International Conference *Women's Rituals and Ceremonies in Contemporary Islamic World*, Organised by Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, June, 2007.

"Narration of Triumph: War and Martyrdom in the Eyes of Morteza Avini," International Conference on *Narration of Triumph: War in the Documentary Cinema of Post-Revolutionary Iran*, Barbican Centre, London, U.K., February, 2007.

"Research on the Cloth of the Human Motifs on the Tombstones of Nomads in Western Iran," International Conference *Qajar Cloth and Textiles*, Leiden University, Holland, September, 2002.

"Interplay between Text and Image, Relationships Between Lamentations and Images on the Gravestones of Nomads in Southwestern Iran," First International Conference on *Middle Eastern and North African Popular Culture*, Magdalen College, University of Oxford, U.K., December, 2002.

"Motifs and Images of Nomadic Tombstones in Iran and their relation to Popular Culture," International Conference *Religion and Politics in the Qajar Period in Iran*, University of Bristol, U.K., September, 1999.

"Stone Lions as Tombstones," Fourth International Conference on *Iranian Studies*, Cité Universit  , Paris, France, September, 1999.

### **Invited Papers**

"Modern Persian Amulets and Talismans: a century ethnographical survey on Persian Shiite sacred objects and material religion," *Amulets and Talismans in the Muslim World*, University of Leiden, Netherlands, May, 2016.

"Celestial Desires: Figuration and Sensation in Persian Devotional Shiite Mural Paintings," *Contested Desires; Figuration and Sensation in Abrahamic Traditions*. 2nd Workshop, Berlin, Zentrum Moderner Orient, March 2016.

"Banners during Tehran's Muharram Rituals of Nasser   era (1831-1896)" *Muslims, Migration and Sacred Objects*, Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus, Denmark, December, 2015.

"Visual Representations of Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Lands from the Pre-Modern Periods to Contemporary Iran," with collaboration of C. Gruber (Uni. of Michigan, USA), J.

Tolan (Institut du Pluralisme Religieux et de l'Athéisme-IPRA/MSHG-Nantes), Institute of Advance Studies, Nantes, France, March, 2015.

"Image of Prophet and Saints among Muslim Communities: hadith, sonnat, and practice," with collaboration of P.-J. Luizard et T. Zarcone (GSRL-CNRS), Institute of Advance Studies, Nantes, France, February, 2015.

"La Rose de Mahomet : Les représentations du Prophète en Iran, des supports traditionnels aux supports modernes de l'image," University of Nantes, Nantes, France, February, 2015.

"Anthropology, Material Religion and Aesthetics: Religious Mural Paintings of Saints' Shrines in Iran," University of Tokyo 15<sup>th</sup> Feb., National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, 26<sup>th</sup> Feb., University of Osaka 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

"Digital Ethnography and Religious Aesthetics, Case: Representations of Neda Aghasoltan in Cyber Space," *Aesthetics in Contemporary Muslim Worlds*, Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway, October, 2012.

"Can Winds be Settled: Zar (spirit possession ritual) in Iranian Ethnographic Films," National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan, July, 2012.

"The First days of the Iran-Iraq War and the Creation of Sacred Defence Cinema," School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, July, 2012.

"Mountain Shrines of Bakhtiari Pastoral Nomads in South-West Iran," *Basic Research Project on Religious Culture and Politics in Central Asian Mountain Areas in the Last Three Centuries*, Islamic Area Studies Centre at the University of Tokyo, Japan, July, 2012.

"How the Visual can Present Sacredness: Digital Photo Portraits of Iran-Iraq War Martyrs," *Programme de Pos-Graduação em Antropologia Social*, Museu Nacional-Universidade Federal de Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June, 2010.

"Socio-political Lives of Digital Photos: Visualization of Martyrdom in Post-war Iran and the Arab World," Department of Social Anthropology, University of Manchester, U.K., November, 2009.

"To Whom It May Concern: War Material Culture and Constructing the Past," Cambridge Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Network, University of Cambridge, U.K., October, 2009.

"Ethnographical Cinema: An Historical Overview," Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Social Science, University of Tehran, Iran, March, 2009.

"The Cinema of Morteza Avini: Introduction to Illumination Cinema," Department of Sociology, Faculty of Literature and Social Science, University of Isfahan, Iran, March, 2009.

"Mortuary Landscape and Funerary Material Culture among the Bakhtiari Nomads," Department of Sociology, Faculty of Literature and Social Science, University of Isfahan, Iran, March, 2009.

"Mortuary Landscape of the Bakhtiari Nomads and Recent Changes," 10th BIPS workshop (British Institute of Persian Studies, the British Academy), University of Manchester, U.K., January, 2009.

"Diversité et Fonctions Religieuses des Lieux Saints chez les Nomades Bakhtiari du Sud-ouest de l'Iran," GSRL-CNRS, Paris, France, January, 2009.

"Bakhtiari Mortuary Landscape and Religious Material Culture," Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, U.K., February, 2007.

"Shahnameh in Bakhtiari Nomadic Society: Anthropological Aspects of the Hero and Heroism through Mortuary Material Culture," The Iran Society, London, U.K., January, 2006.

"The Missing: Material Culture, Spiritual and Personal Loss in Bakhtiari Traditional Lamentation," 7th BIPS workshop (British Institute of Persian Studies, the British Academy), Cambridge, U.K., September, 2005.

"Lion Tombstones in the Bakhtiari Nomadic Society in the South-west of Iran: l'Objet d'Anthropologie ou d'Archéologie," The Barakat Trust Lecture, Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, U.K., November, 2005.

"A Survey of Lion Tombstones: Tribal Cemeteries and Local Shrines in the Nomadic Bakhtiari Regions of South-western Iran," 6th BIPS workshop (British Institute of Persian Studies, the British Academy), Wadham College, University of Oxford, U.K., September, 2004.

"Death Rituals and Funeral Activities amongst the Nomads of South-western Iran," series of seminars in the Anthropology Department, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, U.S.A., December, 2004.

"Pastoral Nomads and Nomadism in Iran," series of seminars in the Anthropology Department, University of Michigan and University of West Michigan, U.S.A., January, 2003.

## Interviews

"The face of African slavery in Qajar Iran – in pictures," *the Guardian*, 14 January, 2016.  
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/iran-blog/2016/jan/14/african-slavery-in-qajar-iran-in-photos>

"Le Prophète a un Visage," *Thinkovery*, pp : 4-7, Avril/Mai/Juin/ 2015.

"Le Coran n'Interdit pas la Représentations du Prophète," *Figaro*, p.18 (hard copy), 21 January, 2015.

"Anthropology of War and Martyrdom," *Jam-e Jam Journal* (in Persian), April, 2009.  
<http://www.jamejamonline.ir/papertext.aspx?newsnum=100905290322>

"The Camera as an Anthropologic Notebook," *Documentary Cinema* (in Persian), December, 2009.  
<http://www.rybondoc.com/global/index/section/guest/module/discussion/lang/fa/id/43>

"On Anthropology and Ethnographical Film," *Miras-e Farda Institute* (in Persian), January, 2008.  
<http://mirasfarda.org/?p=828>

## Conferences, Panels chaired and Film activities

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*The End of the World, a Universal Imagination?*, **organiser**, Programme ATLANTYS, International Conference, University of Nantes, Nantes, France, June 2016.

*The Third Ethnographic Film and Media Programme of the EASA Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia (AMCE) network, **organiser** and **curator of films**, 14th EASA Biennial Conference, Anthropological Legacies and Human Futures, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, July 2014.*

*The Second Ethnographic Film and Media Programme of the EASA Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia (AMCE) network, **organiser** and **curator of films**, The Department of Sociology, University of Nantes, Nantes, France, November 2015.*

*The First Ethnographic Film and Media Programme of the EASA Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia (AMCE) network, **organiser** and **curator of films**, 13th EASA Biennial Conference, Tallinn University, Estonia, August, 2014.*

*People of the Air: Iran, the Persian Gulf and Neighbouring Countries: Ethnographic Film Day, co-organiser with Prof. W. O. Beeman (University of Minnesota, USA) and **curator** of films, British Museum, London, U.K., November, 2011.*

*Sacredness in Iranian Ethnographical Film: How to Film the Religious, Iranian Ethnographic Film Day, **organiser** and **curator of films**, with the participation of Dr. E. de Maker (Department of Anthropology, University of Leiden), Dr. I. Flakerud (University of Bergen), and Dr. J. C. Penrad (EHESS), GSRL-CNRS, Paris, France, November, 2011.*

*31<sup>st</sup> NAFA Ethnographical Film Festival, with the participation of P. I. Crawford (Aarhus University, Denmark), Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, U.K., September, 2011.*

*People over the Sea: Nordic and Scottish Perspectives, 31<sup>st</sup> NAFA Anthropological Conference, conference co-organiser with T. Ingold (University of Aberdeen), Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., September, 2011.*

*Photography and Cinematography in Qajar Era Iran, conference co-organiser with M. M. Eskandari-Qajar (Santa Barbara City College, USA) and **curator of photo exhibition**, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., August, 2011.*

*Iranian Film Season, **organiser** and **curator of film season**, 29<sup>th</sup> International NAFA Film Festival, Koper, Slovenia, September, 2009.*

*Visual Representations of Iran: Conference, Film Season and Photo Exhibition, conference organiser, **curator of film season and photo exhibition** Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, U.K., June, 2008.*

*Women's Rituals and Ceremonies in the Contemporary Islamic World, Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, June, 2007.*

*Narration of Triumph: War in the Documentary Cinema of Post- Revolutionary Iran, organiser of conference and **curator of film season** with the participation of Iranian filmmaker R. Bani-Etemad, Barbican Centre, London, U.K., February, 2007.*

*The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shiism, co-organiser with J. W. Allen, Maison Française d'Oxford, University of Oxford, Oxford, U.K., July, 2006.*



## **Series of conferences on Sunni-Shi'i Mausoleums and Saint Veneration in the Turko-Persian World:**

*Shiite Saint Veneration in Comparative Studies*, Faculty of Literature and Human Science, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran, April, 2014.

*Bestiaire des Prophètes et des Saints*, conference co-organiser with T. Zarcone and P. J. Luizard (CNRS/France), Collège de France, GROUPE SOCIETES, RELIGIONS, LAÏCITES, Paris, France, December, 2013.

*Dreams and Dreaming in Saint Veneration*, conference co-organiser with I. Edgar (Department of Anthropology, University of Durham), *Uncertainty and disquiet*, 12th EASA Biennial Conference, Nanterre, France, July, 2012.

*Creation of Saints and Sainthood in 21<sup>st</sup> Century of Islamic World*, conference co-organiser with T. Zarcone and P. J. Luizard (CNRS/France), and M. Boivin (CEIAS/CNRS), GROUPE SOCIETES, RELIGIONS, LAÏCITES, Paris, France, December, 2011.

*Pilgrimage: Ritual, Arts and Piety*, conference co-organiser with T. Zarcone (CNRS/France), Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, November, 2011.

*Portraits and Faces of Saints and Holy Figures in Saint Veneration*, workshop co-organiser with T. Zarcone (GSRL/Paris), Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., December, 2010.

*Pilgrimage and Sanctuaries: Ambiguity in Context*, conference co-organiser with T. Zarcone (GSRL/Paris), Centro Incontri Umani, Ascona, Switzerland, November, 2010.

*Sunni-Shi'i Mausoleums and Saint Veneration in Iraq and Neighbouring Countries*, workshop co-organiser with P. J. Luizard (GSRL/Paris), Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., April, 2010.

*Sunni-Shi'i Mausoleums and Saint Veneration in the Turko-Persian World*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, U.K., December, 2009.

## **Panels Organised**

"Anthropologists between the Middle East and Europe: war, crises, refugees, migration and Islamophobia", 14th EASA Biennial Conference, *Anthropological Legacies and Human Futures*, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy (20-23 July 2016).

"The Future of the Anthropology and Anthropologists of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia," *Collaboration, Intimacy & Revolution*, 13th EASA Biennial Conference, Tallinn University, Estonia, August, 2014.

"Cyberpilgrimage: Theory, Practice and Future," *The Future with/of Anthropologies*, co-organiser with Dr. K. Kuroda (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science), The Japanese Society of Cultural Anthropology (JASCA) Conference & IUAES Inter-Congress, Chiba City, Tokyo, May, 2014.

"Representing the Non-representable: Visual Representations of Extraordinary Beings in Ethnographic Films," *Evolving Humanity, Emerging Worlds*, The 17th World Congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, University of Manchester, U.K., August, 2013.



"Material Religion as a Voice in Public Space," *Material Religion*, The British Sociological Association Sociology of Religion Study Group's Conference, Durham University, U.K., April, 2013.

## Filmmaking

*Lion Tombstones amongst Nomadic Societies in South-western Iran*, researched and directed by P. Khosronejad, CNRS/IMAGE-France, France/Iran, 45', DV., 2016. <https://vimeo.com/60553037>

*Tombstone Makers*, researched and directed by P. Khosronejad, CNRS/IMAGE-France, 25', DV., 2016.

*The Last Lions of the Bakhtiari, Bakhtiari Death Rituals*, Dedicated to D. Brooks, researched and directed by P. Khosronejad, CNRS/IMAGE, France, 25', Hi 8., 2004. <https://vimeo.com/44974664>

## Film Festival Participation

"The Last Lions of the Bakhtiari, Bakhtiari Death Rituals," *Regards Comparés: Nomadisme, Rituels*, Musique, Musée de l'Homme', Paris, France, October, 2004.

"The Last Lions of the Bakhtiari, Bakhtiari Death Rituals," *Eighth RAI International Festival of Ethnographical Film: Islamic Worlds*, University of Durham, Durham, U.K., July 2003.

"The Last Lions of the Bakhtiari, Bakhtiari Death Rituals," *Eighth Festival du Film de Chercheur*, Nancy, France, May, 2003.

## Film Jury Membership

*20<sup>th</sup> Ethnographical Film Festival*, Museum of Ethnography, Belgrade, Serbia, 2011.

*31<sup>st</sup> NAFA Ethnographical Film Festival*, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, 2011.

*The Nineteenth International Scientific Audio-Visual Festival and Conference – Image and Science*, held in conjunction with the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and the International Council for Film, Television and Audio-visual Communication (IFTC) at UNESCO, the European Commission and the Council for Europe, Paris, France, 2003.

## Photo Exhibition Experience

*Qajar Ethnographic Photo Exhibition*, **organizer** and **curator**, Department of Social Anthropology, University of St Andrews, Scotland, September, 2011.

*Tourism, Pilgrimage and Transformation*, Ethnographic Photo Exhibition, Department of Anthropology, University of Lisbon, Portugal, July, 2011.

## Administrative and Editorial Activities

Founder and series editor, *Iranian Studies*, Berlin-Münster-Wien-Zürich-London: LIT Verlag, 2014. <http://www.lit-verlag.de/reihe/irastu>

Founder *The Avini Collection*, fully academic and university-based research collection (University of St Andrews, U.K.) which currently includes 516 books and films (both documentary and fiction) on different topics and angles vis-à-vis the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988), 2013.

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/library/resources/collections/namedmoderncollections/avini/>

Founder and curator, *Ethnographic Film and Media Festival of the Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia*, 2012.

<http://www.easaonline.org/conferences/easa2014/amce.shtml>

Founder and chief editor, *Journal of Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* (ACME), Sean Kingston Publishing, U.K, 2012.

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/anthropologyiran/acme/>

Founder and series editor, *The Anthropology of Persianate Societies*, Sean Kingston Publishing, U.K, 2011.

[http://www.easaonline.org/networks/amce/book\\_series.shtml](http://www.easaonline.org/networks/amce/book_series.shtml)

Founder and moderator, *the Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia* (Russia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, China) Network, European Association of Social Anthropologists, 2010.

<http://www.easaonline.org/networks/amce/index.shtml>

### **Manuscript reviewer**

*Material Religion, Visual Anthropology, Shia Islamic Studies, Global Journal of Anthropology Research, Middle East Critic.*

### **Ph.D. Thesis Supervision**

First supervisor to Vaheh Boyadjian, "The Baluches and Islam: Social Organization and Religious Practices in Iranian Baluchistan", Dept. Social Anthropology, Univ. of St Andrews, 2010.

### **Grant Application Reviewer**

The Prince Claus Fund, Holland, 2011.

The Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC), U.K., 2010.

The British Academy, U.K., 2010.

### **Professional Affiliation**

American Anthropological Association (AAA), European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA), Society for Visual Anthropology (SVA), The International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIIRs), International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS).

### **Languages**

Persian: Mother tongue

English: Fluent speaking, reading, writing

French: Fluent speaking, reading, writing

Arabic: Reading