

انجمن پژوهشگران ایران

Association des Chercheurs Iraniens (ACI)

PROPOSAL

33 Years after the Revolution

And

To Mark 20 Years of ACI's Continued Work

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow of Iran

May/June 2012

Why: Anyone with the smallest interest in Iran is aware of the country's precarious situation. Iran is experiencing one of its most dangerous periods in its long history. The present policies have damaged Iran's credibility internationally, brought about the threat of war and on the home front, economic hardship due to sanctions, dissatisfaction with economic policies and State interference in every aspect of citizens' private lives threatens Iran with a destructive social explosion.

Our vision is for a free, democratic Iran where all Iranians live as equals with equal and equitable access to Iran's vast resources. To this aim we have worked to increase awareness of the challenges and issues facing the future of Iran through research and conferences – impartially and free from any bias and prejudice. We have done so without accepting any external funding and purely on the strength of our volunteers and experts who have given their time freely. Now, after twenty years of continuous study, the proposed conference's objective is to bring together experts, scholars, political, civil and human rights activists and the general public with the sole aim of proposing a road map to the future. This bundle includes background information on ACI.

Clear planning for the future of Iran's present young population (%), the inevitable sharp increase in the population (%) and the welfare of the elderly will enable us to use Iran's resources wisely. It will ensure sustainable development and progress while safeguarding Iran's riches for our children and future generations.

A stable Iran benefits Iranians and the global community.

Central Office and Contact:

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Registered Offices: Paris-France, London-England, Berlin-Germany, Zurich-Switzerland, Washington D.C.-USA



How: The conference is divided into three sections leading to the fourth section which is a year long 'planning project'. This is detailed extensively in the conference schedule included in this bundle.

It would not be possible to plan for the future without identifying and acknowledging our failures and achievements in the past thirty three years; recognising where our strengths and weaknesses are today we can capitalise on realistic opportunities for a better tomorrow.

The opportunity to consciously move away from the existing path and create a better future has never been more possible: The young vibrant generation in Iran is clear in its demands;

- The high level of knowledge and expertise among those in Iran coupled with the successes of Iranian diaspora presents a unique opportunity for exchange of ideas through advances in communication technology;
- Second and third generation Iranians either born or brought up outside Iran remain emotionally tied to Iran and engaged with the struggle towards equality and democracy in Iran;
- The international community, while concerned with security threats from a nuclear Iran, is aware of Iran's internal problems and preconditions of improvements to human rights situation in Iran is heard more and more often.

When: May/June 2012

Where: To be announced

Ways You Can Contribute

- Submit a paper and participate as an expert in the conference and / or research project
- Introductions: Introduce individuals, groups or institutions that will be interested in building a better future for Iran. We are particularly interested to engage post graduate students in stage four, the 'planning project'.
- Location: We are in discussions with several universities and academic institutions. We welcome any suggestion for collaboration with an academic or research institute
- Food and refreshments for the duration of the conference
- Dissemination of Information:
 - Website design and development for the conference and the 'planning project'
 - Conference brochure design and printing

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- Writing articles for media
- Introducing journalists Iranian or otherwise
- Publication of findings
- Monetary Contribution:
 - Flights from Europe
 - Accommodation
 - Administrative cost of the conference
 - Hall hire

‘Be the change you want to see’

We shape and create the future

with every thought and decision we make.

For further information and to contribute please contact

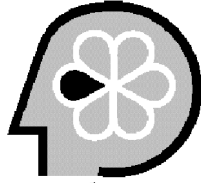
London@aciiran.com quoting YTT in the subject line

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Association des Chercheurs Iraniens (ACI)

Ref: 204/A/507

Date: 24 January 2012

PROPOSED PROGRAM

Thirty Three years after the Revolution

and

To Mark 20 Years of ACI's Continued Work

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow of Iran

May/June 2012

California – USA

Submission of Abstracts: 30 March 2012

Thirty three years after the Revolution and to mark twenty years of ACI's continuous study of issues concerning the future of Iran ACI would like to announce a conference under the above title. The conference will address the increasing problems facing the today and tomorrow of Iran.

Relying on the knowledge and expertise of the scholars and experts participating in this major conference, our main aim is to offer a considered exit strategy from the present day problems and look to a better future for Iran. We hope that the findings of ACI's public opinion surveys can offer a valuable starting point to the discussions.

This conference will be livestreamed through ACI's website and broadcast simultaneously through several satellite television stations.

In view of the particular structure of the conference, each panel and specific topics of discussion will be steered by an expert in the field. They will be introduced in due course.

- **Part One: An Assessment of Efforts, Failures and Successes of Yesterday**

Thirty three years after the Revolution, through the hard work of numerous groups, organisations and parties, the reality of the Islamic Regime has been exposed to the people of Iran, the international communities and decision makers. Key questions to address are:

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- How successful have the efforts been in raising public awareness and knowledge of the realities in Iran?
- What mistakes, if any, have been made towards the establishment of democracy and equality in Iran

▪ **Part Two: An Assessment of Where We Are Today**

For the sake of discussions, in this part, the period of assessment is from the June 2009 Presidential Elections in Iran to present day:

What are our strengths and weaknesses? How can we identify the plus and minuses of the struggle towards democracy in this period – taking note of the fact that failure to correctly identify them could lead to dire consequences.

- An assessment of issues and problems of today
- Transition to democracy: challenges, duties, responsibilities and practical solutions
- Study different options for a way forward
 - Does the popular movement in Iran need leadership?
 - Does the popular movement in Iran need international support? If yes what should the nature of this support be?

▪ **Part Three: Projects, Suggestions and Plans for the Tomorrow of Iran**

One of the complexities and problems facing the future of Iran, despite the high calibre of expertise among Iranians in and out of Iran, is the lack of a cohesive program or plan for the future of Iran. This is in no doubt as a result extensive economic and socio-political problems leading to a detrimental loss of 'trust' among the Iranian people. Yet, without at least a minimum plan the first steps towards change cannot be taken.

It is exactly here that Association des Chercheurs Iraniens has tried to concentrate its efforts in the past by inviting scholars and experts to participate in international gatherings and offering the findings for all to see with the hope that a way forward could be formulated. To this end Part Three of this conference proposes to address the following issues:

▪ **Culture**

- Values and ethics in the today and tomorrow of Iran
- National Identity
- Language – mother tongue, national language, communal language
- Religion in the future of Iran
- The role of the Arts, music, artists, musicians and the needs of the society
- Preservation of Iran's national and cultural heritage – historical sites and buildings

▪ **Society**

- Eradication of Violence. The most fundamental and destructive element in the reality of today's Iran
- Universal Human Rights. Practical ways forward
 - how to compensate the victims of abuse under the Islamic Republic
- International Criminal Court and the fate of the leaders of the Islamic Republic:
- Assessing the legal status of the children and how best to secure their rights
- Planning for the future of Iran's youths – the pillars of tomorrow's Iran;
- Equality and women's rights – the crucial and equal role of Iranian women in sustainable development and progress of tomorrow's Iran;
- Assessing the legal status of the LGBT and how best to secure their rights

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- Social Pathology. Practical solutions
- Assessment of the role and position of Iranian immigrants and refugees in the future of Iran
- Educational and Developmental system in tomorrow's Iran – equal and equitable access for all Iranians
- Sports in the future of Iran
- Healthcare with a look at medical ethics
- The role of the media – duties and responsibilities
- Environmental Issues

- **Economics**
 - A solution and a way out of today's problems
 - Unemployment and job creation
 - Iran's Oil and Gas reserve and the way forward
 - non-oil-dependent economy
 - Mines, natural resources and Industry
 - Tourism Industry
 - Nuclear Energy
 - Sustainable Development

- **Military – Security**
 - Atomic warfare, nuclear proliferation, disarmament
 - Restructuring of Iran's intelligence and armed forces

- **Politics**
 - Our experiences and the best form of government for the future of Iran
 - Detailed attention to the existing problems and needs of Iran's ethnic groups and their role in the political future of Iran
 - Iran's regional and international strategic position
 - 'Parliament of Minds'
 - Overcoming the obstacles in the way of a sitting with each other and planning for the future of Iran

- **Part Four**
 - Findings and Conclusion

ACI maintains an impartial and an unprejudiced approach to all its activities and respects all schools of thought. We work actively with colleagues from all over the world, and hope to contribute towards a better future for Iran. We welcome and invite the participation of all those interested in the future of Iran.

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