

Persepolis: 40 Years On

An International Conference on the Archaeology, History, and Reception of Persepolis.

The School of History, Classics and Archaeology,
The University of Edinburgh, 14th-16th October 2011.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Between October 12th and 16th 1971, Muhammad Reza Shah, the last Pahlavi monarch of Iran, held an international gathering of heads of state to celebrate what he regarded as 2,500 years of Persian monarchy. Criticised at the time, and by generations since, for its extravagant hubris, it is important not to overlook that the Persepolis Celebrations also championed a scholarly programme of events and conferences which were organized at the same time for historians and archaeologists working on ancient Persian themes. Forty years on, a new international academic gathering is planned to focus on the scholarship that has been produced on Persepolis over the last half-century. The conference, which will be made up of distinguished key-note speakers and younger professionals, will assess the history, archaeology, and reception of the palace of Persepolis. Particular attention will be focused on:

- New archaeological evidence and interpretations
- Related Achaemenid and other Near Eastern sites
- Symbolism and ceremony of Achaemenid monarchy
- Nomadic monarchy and itinerant courts
- Persepolis in western reception and imagination
- Persepolis in the modern Iranian consciousness
- The Pahlavi use of the Achaemenid era
- The Persepolis Celebrations of 1971

We invite papers (30 mins duration).

For further information, or for the offer of conference papers, please contact the organizers:

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**The Conference is grateful to the financial support of
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