

Selected Publications

(a) BOOKS & MONOGRAPHS

1. *A history of Persian earthquakes*, Cambridge, 1982 [with N.N. Ambraseys]; reissued in paperback, 2005; 219 pp. (Persian translation published in Tehran, 1991)
2. *Christians and Moors in Spain, III*, Warminster, 1992 [with Ahmad Ubaydli]; 202 pp.
3. *The seismicity of Egypt, Arabia and the Red Sea: a historical review*, Cambridge, 1994 [with N.N. Ambraseys and R.D. Adams]; reissued as paperback, 2005; 181 pp.
4. The fall of Amir Chupan and the decline of the Ilkhanate, 1327-37: A decade of discord in late Mongol Iran. *Papers on Inner Asia*, no. 30. Bloomington, Indiana, 1999; 90 pp.
5. *The Persian Book of Kings. Ibrahim Sultan's Shahnama*, Oxford: Bodleian Library, 2008 [with F. Abdullaeva]; 142 pp.
6. *Epic of the Persian Kings. The art of Ferdowsi's Shahnameh*, London, 2010 [with Barbara Brend]; 270 pp.

(b) EDITED BOOKS AND JOURNALS

1. *Editor: Persian and Islamic Studies in Honour of P.W. Avery, Pembroke Papers 1*, Cambridge, 1990
2. *Editor: Babi and Baha'i rituals*, by D. MacEoin, *Pembroke Papers 2*, Cambridge & London, 2003
3. *Editor: Safavid Persia, Pembroke Papers 4*, Cambridge, 1996
4. *Editor: Mediaeval and Modern Persian Studies*, Proceedings of the 3rd Conference of Iranian Studies, vol. 2, Wiesbaden, 1999
5. *Joint editor: Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. VII: From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic, Cambridge 1991 [with P.W. Avery and G.R.G. Hambly]
6. *Joint Guest Editor: Persian local histories*, Special Issue of *Iranian Studies* 33/i-ii (2000) [with Jürgen Paul]
7. *Joint editor: Images of Persia. Photographs by Laurence Lockhart 1920s-1950s*, Cambridge, 2002 [with Jim Bamberg]
8. *Editor: Shahnama Studies 1, Pembroke Papers 5*, Cambridge, 2006
9. *Joint Guest Editor: Millennium of the Shahnama. Special Issue of Iranian Studies* 43/i (2010) [with F. Abdullaeva]

10. *Editor: Persian Historiography, vol. X, A History of Persian Literature*, series ed. E. Yarshater, London, 2012 (and contributor of several chapters)
11. *Joint Editor: Shahnama Studies II*, Leiden, 2012 [with Gabrielle van den Berg]
12. *Joint Editor: Every Inch a King: Comparative studies on kings and kingship in the ancient and medieval worlds*, Leiden, 2012 [with Lynette Mitchell]
13. *Joint Editor: The Mongols' Middle East. Continuity and transformation in Ilkhanid Iran*, Leiden, 2016 [with Bruno de Nicola]
14. *Joint Editor: Shahnama Studies III*, Leiden, 2018 [with Gabrielle van den Berg]
15. *Editor, The Timurid century. The Idea of Iran*, volume IX (London: IB Tauris, 2020).

(c) WEBSITE

Shahnama Project website, <http://shahnama.caret.cam.ac.uk/> (launched in 2005)

(d) SELECTED PAPERS

1. "The seismicity of Kuhistan, Iran", *Geographical Journal* 143/ii (1977), pp. 179-99 [with N.N. Ambraseys]
2. "Earthquakes in the history of Nishapur", *Iran* 18 (1980), pp. 103-20 [Persian trans. publ. in *Ayandeh* 19 (1372/1994), pp. 888-913]
3. "Historical monuments and earthquakes in Tabriz", *Iran* 19 (1981), pp. 159-77
4. "Seismicity of Yemen", *Nature* 303 (1983), pp. 321-3 [with N.N. Ambraseys]
5. "The 1934 floods in Tabriz, N.W. Iran", *Disasters* 7/ii (1983), pp. 107-17 [reprinted in *Ekistics* 308 (1984), pp. 406-13]
6. "Meteorological hazards and disasters in Iran: a preliminary survey to 1950", *Iran* 22 (1984), pp. 113-50
7. "Sismicité historique de la Mer Rouge septentrionale", in *Tremblements de terre: histoire et archéologie*, Valbonne (1984), pp. 95-107
8. "An analysis of the eastern Mediterranean earthquake of 20 May 1202", in W.H.K. Lee, H. Meyers and K. Shimazaki (eds), *Historical seismograms and earthquakes of the world*, Academic Press: New York 1988, pp. 181-201 [with N. Ambraseys]
9. "The Persian famine of 1870-1872: prices and politics", *Disasters* 12/iv (1988), pp. 309-25 [revised reprint as "The Persian famine of 1870-72: prices and politics", in C. Geissler and D.J. Oddy (eds), *Food, diet and economic change past and present*, Leicester University Press 1993, pp. 133-50]

10. "Evidence for intraplate earthquakes in northwestern Arabia", *Bull. Seism. Soc. Amer.* 79/iv (1989), pp. 1279-81 [with N.N. Ambraseys]
11. "The itineraries of Sultan Öljeitü, 1304-1316", *Iran* 28 (1990), pp. 55-70
12. "Padshah-i Islam: the conversion of Sultan Mahmud Ghazan Khan", *Pembroke Papers* 1 (1990), pp. 159-77
13. "Saladin's Hattin letter", in B.Z. Kedar (ed.), *The Horns of Hattin*, Jerusalem and London 1992, pp. 208-12 [with M.C. Lyons]
14. "The Year of the Elephant: Mamluk-Mongol rivalry in the Hejaz in the reign of Abu Sa'id (1317-1335)", *Studia Iranica* 21/ii (1992), pp. 197-214
15. "The Chinese-Uighur animal calendar in Persian historiography of the Mongol period", *Iran* 32 (1994), pp. 83-98
16. "From Qars to Qandahar: the itineraries of Shah 'Abbas I (995-1038/1587-1629)", in J. Calmard (ed.), *Etudes Safavides*, Tehran-Paris 1993 [1995], pp. 195-224
17. "The Barbarians civilized? A look at the acculturation of the Mongols in Iran", *Isfahan University Research Bulletin* 6/i-ii (March 1995), pp. 28-39
18. "Historical evidence of faulting in Eastern Anatolia and Northern Syria", *Annali di Geofisica* 38/iii-iv (Sept.-Oct. 1995), pp. 337-43 [with N.N. Ambraseys]
19. "The contribution of Arabic sources to the history of mediaeval Iran", in *Sociétés et cultures musulmanes d'hier et aujourd'hui, Les chantiers de la recherche*, Strasbourg, 30 juin-3 juillet 1994, AFEMAM Lettre d'information no. 10, Paris 1996, pp. 313-17
20. "Sometimes by the sword, sometimes by the dagger': the role of the Isma'ilis in Mamluk-Mongol relations in the 8th/14th century", in F. Daftary (ed.), *Medieval Isma'ili history and thought*, Cambridge 1996, pp. 247-63
21. "Shah 'Abbas and the pilgrimage to Mashhad", in C. Melville (ed.), *Safavid Persia. Pembroke Papers* 4 (1996), pp. 191-229
22. "Wolf or Shepherd? Amir Chupan's attitude to government", in J. Raby and T. Fitzherbert (eds), *The Court of the Il-khans, 1290-1340*, Oxford Studies in Islamic Art 12 (1996), pp. 79-93
23. "Abu Sa'id and the revolt of the amirs in 1319", in D. Aigle (ed.), *L'Iran face à la domination mongole*, Tehran-Paris 1997, pp. 89-120
24. "Hamd Allah Mustawfi's *Zafarnamah* and the historiography of the late Ilkhanid period", in K. Eslami (ed.), *Iran and Iranian Studies: Essays in honor of Iraj Afshar*, Princeton 1998, pp. 1-12.

25. “The Ilkhan Öljeitü’s conquest of Gilan (1307): rumour and reality”, in R. Amitai-Preiss & D.O. Morgan (eds), *The Mongol empire and its legacy*, Leiden 1999, pp. 73-125
26. “A lost source for the reign of Shah ‘Abbas: the *Afzal al-tawarikh* of Fazli Khuzani Isfahani”, *Iranian Studies* 31/ii (1998) [1999], pp. 263-5
27. “History: from the Saljuqs to the Aq Qoyunlu (ca. 1000-1500 C.E.)”, *Iranian Studies* 31/iii-iv (1998) [2000], pp. 473-82 [review article]
28. “From Adam to Abaqa: Qadi Baidawi’s rearrangement of history (part I)”, *Studia Iranica* 30/i (2001), pp. 67-86
29. “Persian local histories: views from the wings”, *Iranian Studies* 33/i-ii (Winter-Spring 2000 [2001]), pp. 7-14
30. “The Caspian provinces: a world apart. Three local histories of Mazandaran”, *Iranian Studies* 33/i-ii (Winter-Spring 2000 [2001]), pp. 45-91
31. “Laurence Lockhart and Persia”, in J. Bamberg & Ch. Melville (eds), *Images of Persia. Photographs by Laurence Lockhart 1920s-1930s*, Cambridge 2002, pp. 5-10 [with J. Bamberg]
32. “Historical seismicity and tectonics: the case of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East”, in William H.K. Lee *et al.* (eds), *International handbook of earthquake & engineering seismology*, Part A, Amsterdam 2002, pp. 747-63 [with N.N. Ambraseys & J.A. Jackson]
33. “The Mongols in Iran”, in Linda Komaroff and Stefano Carboni (eds), *The legacy of Genghis Khan. Courtly art and culture in Western Asia, 1256-1353*, Newhaven and London 2002, pp. 37-61
34. “New light on the reign of Shah ‘Abbas: volume III of the *Afdal al-tavarikh*”, in A. Newman (ed.), *Society and culture in the early modern Middle East: Studies in Iran in the Safavid period*, Leiden 2003, pp. 63-96
35. “History and myth: the Persianisation of Ghazan Khan”, in É. Jeremías (ed.), *Irano-Turkic cultural contacts in the 11th-17th centuries*, Piliscsaba 2003, pp. 133-60
36. “The early Persian historiography of Anatolia”, in Judith Pfeiffer & Sholeh A. Quinn (eds), *History and historiography of post-Mongol Central Asia and the Middle East. Studies in honor of John E. Woods*, Wiesbaden 2006, pp. 135-66
37. “The *Keshig* in Iran: the survival of the royal Mongol Household”, in Linda Komaroff (ed.), *Beyond the Legacy of Genghis Khan*, Leiden 2006, pp. 135-64
38. “Text and image in the story of Bizhan and Manizha, I”, in Ch. Melville (ed.), *Shahnama Studies 1, Pembroke Papers 5*, Cambridge 2006, pp. 71-96

39. “Ibn Husam’s *Hāvarān-nāma* and the *Šāh-nāma* of Firdausī”, in Liber Amicorum. Etudes sur l’Iran medieval et moderne offertes à Jean Calmard, ed. M. Bernardini, M. Haneda and M. Szuppe, *Eurasian Studies* 5/i-ii (2006), pp. 219-34 [2007]
40. “From Adam to Abaqa: Qadi Baidawi’s rearrangement of history (part II)”, *Studia Iranica* 36/i (2007), pp. 7-64 [reprinted with Persian trans. together with part I, by Mohammad Reza Tahmasbi, Tehran 2008]
41. “Qadi Baidawi’s *Nizam al-tawarikh* in the *Safina-yi Tabriz*: an early witness of the text” in A.A. Seyed-Gohrab & S. McGlenn (eds), *A treasury from Tabriz: The great Ilkhanid compendium*, Amsterdam 2007, pp. 92-102
42. “From Tabriz to Herat: Persian historiography in the 15th century”, in M. Ritter, R. Kauz & B. Hoffmann (eds), *Iran und iranisch geprägte Kulturen: Studien zum 65. Geburtstag von Bert G. Fragner [Iran and Iraniate cultures: Studies for Bert G. Fragner on his 65th birthday]*, Wiesbaden: Dr Ludwig Reichert Verlag, 2008, pp. 28-38
43. “Between Firdausi and Rashid al-Din. Persian verse chronicles of the Mongol period”, *Studia Islamica*, 104-105 (2007 [2008]), pp. 45-65
44. “Anatolia under the Mongols”, in K. Fleet (ed.), *Cambridge History of Turkey*, vol. I, Cambridge 2009, pp. 51-101
45. “*Shahnama*: The Millennium of an Epic Masterpiece”, *Iranian Studies* 43/i (2010), pp. 1-11 (with F. Abdullaeva)
46. “Genealogy and exemplary rulership in the *Tarikh-i Chingiz Khan*”, in Y. Suleiman (ed.), *Living Islamic History. Studies in honour of Professor Carole Hillenbrand*, Edinburgh 2010, pp. 129-50
47. “The ‘Shahnameh’ in historical context”, in Barbara Brend and Charles Melville, *Epic of the Persian Kings. The art of Ferdowsi’s Shahnameh*, London 2010, pp. 3-15
48. “Serial killers: the mise-en-page of Firdausi’s ‘Davazdah rukh’”, *Persica* 23 (2009-10), pp. 73-107
49. “Foreword”, in Manfred Milz (ed.), *Painting the Persian Book of Kings today. Ancient text and modern images*, Cambridge 2010, pp. 11-20
50. “The illustration of history in Safavid manuscript painting”, in Colin P. Mitchell (ed.) *New Perspectives on Safavid Iran: Empire and Society*, London 2011, pp. 163-97
51. “Introduction”, pp. xxv-lvi; “The historian at work”, pp. 56-100; “The Mongol and Timurid periods”, pp. 155-208; “Safavid historiography” (with Sholeh A. Quinn), pp. 209-57, in *Persian Historiography*, ed. C. Melville, *A History of Persian Literature*, ed. E. Yarshater, vol. X, London, 2012.
52. “The landscape of Persian art”, in *The Sarikhani collection. An introduction*, London, 2012, pp. 120-26
53. “Introduction”, in C. Melville & G. van den Berg (eds), *The reception of Firdausi’s Shahnama*, *Shahnama Studies* II, Leiden, 2012, pp. 1-8

54. “The Russian Reception of Khayyam: From Text to Image”, in *The Great Umar Khayyam: A global Reception of the Ruba’iyat*, ed. A.A. Seyed-Gohrab, Leiden, 2012, pp. 161-88 (with F. Abdullaeva & N. Chalisova)
55. “The *Shahnama* and the Persian ‘Arts of the Book’”, in *Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyya* 36/no. 1 (Kuwait, 2012), pp. 25-20 (24-27 Arabic)
56. “The ‘Arts of the Book’ and the diffusion of Persian Culture”, in Susan Scollay (ed.), *Persian Cultural Crossroads. The La Trobe Journal* 91 (June 2013), pp. 6-21
57. “‘Every Inch a King’. Kings and kingship in the ancient and medieval worlds”, in Lynette Mitchell & Charles Melville (eds), *Every Inch a King: Comparative studies on kings and kingship in the ancient and medieval worlds*, Leiden, 2013, pp. 1-21 (with L. Mitchell)
58. “The Royal image in Mongol Iran”, in Lynette Mitchell & Charles Melville (eds), *Every Inch a King: Comparative studies on kings and kingship in the ancient and medieval worlds*, Leiden, 2013, pp. 343-69
59. “The itineraries of Shahrukh b. Timur (1405-47)”, in D. Durand-Guédy (ed.), *Turko-Mongol Rulers, Cities and City Life*, Leiden, 2013, pp. 285-315
60. “The story of Furūd in the *Shāhnāma* and elsewhere and the apportionment of blame”, in Olga M. Davidson & Marianna Shreve Simpson (eds), *Ferdowsi’s Shāhnāma: Millennial Perspectives* (ILEX Foundation, Boston, MA & Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington, DC) Distributed by Harvard University Press, 2013, pp. 58-71
61. “Rubrics and chapter headings in the Shahnameh”, *Nameh-ye Baharestan* NS 1 (2013), pp. 236-47
62. “Reflections of Iran’s contacts with the East in Firdausi’s *Shahnama*: Textual and visual evidence”, in *Iranian influences on oecumenic cultural exchanges*, KACAS International Conference, Korean Association for Central Asian Studies, 2013, pp. 35-43
63. “Northern Iraq: Historical and political context”, in Rachel Ward (ed.), *Court and craft. A masterpiece from Northern Iraq*, London: Courtauld, 2014, pp. 16-22
64. “Fantasy and animal fables: the illustration of Persian literature in English”, *Anglistik. International Journal of English Studies* 25/1 (2014), pp. 45-60
65. “‘Ali Yazdi and the *Shāhnāme*”, in Forogh Hashabeiky (ed.), *International Shāhnāme Conference: The second millennium. Conference volume*, Uppsala, 2014, pp. 117-33
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67. “Persian studies in Britain: a brief review”, in *Didgah: New Perspectives on UK-Iran cultural relations*, ed. Nick Wadham-Smith & Danny Whitehead, London: British Council, 2015, pp. 30-46 [with Firuza Melville]

68. “The Shahnama Project: a digital index of illustrated manuscripts”, *Book 2.0* 4/1-2 (2014 [2015]), pp. 31-46
69. “Editors’ Preface”, in *A Chronicle of the reign of Shah ‘Abbas. Fazli Beg Khuzani Isfahani*, ed. Kioumars Ghereghlou (Gibb Memorial Trust, 2015), pp. xi-lxx [with Kioumars Ghereghlou]
70. “The horrors of war and the arts of peace: Images of battle in Persian manuscripts”, in Kurt Franz & Wolfgang Holzwarth (eds), *Nomad military power in Iran and adjacent areas in the Islamic period*. Nomaden und Sesshafte 18, Wiesbaden: Reichert, 2015, pp. 155-91
71. “Rashīd al-Dīn and the Shāhnāmeḥ”, in *The Mongols and post-Mongol Asia. Studies in Honour of David O. Morgan*. *JRAS* 26/1-2 (2016), pp. 201-14
72. “Introduction”, in Bruno de Nicola & Charles Melville (eds), *The Mongols’ Middle East: Continuity and Transformation in Ilkhanid Iran*, Leiden, 2016, pp. 1-8 [with Bruno de Nicola]
73. “The end of the Ilkhanate and after. Observations on the collapse of the Mongol World Empire”, in Bruno de Nicola & Charles Melville (eds), *The Mongols’ Middle East: Continuity and Transformation in Ilkhanid Iran*, Leiden, 2016, pp. 309-35
74. “The *Shāhnāmeḥ* manuscript tradition: The next 1000 years?”, in Sunil Sharma and Burzine Waghmar (eds), *Firdawsii Millennium Indicum: Proceedings of the Shahnama Millenary Seminar, The K R Cama Oriental Institute, Mumbai, 8-9 January, 2011*, Mumbai, 2016, pp. 19-34.
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76. “New light on Shah ‘Abbas and the construction of Isfahan”, *Muqarnas* 33 (2016), pp. 155-76.
77. “Sultans and lovers: Gazurgahi’s tales of royal infatuation”, *Iran* 55.1 (2017), pp. 11-23.
78. “Preface”, in *The Geographical part of the Nuzhat al-Qulūb*, tr. G. Le Strange, repr. EJW Gibb Memorial Trust, 2017, pp. v-viii.
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80. “The demon Barkhiyas at the well of Bizhan. Two versions”, in G. van den Berg & C. Melville (eds), *Shahnama Studies III*, Leiden, 2018, pp. 33-93
81. “Introduction”, in *Shahnama Studies III*, ed. G. van den Berg & C. Melville, Leiden, 2018, pp. 1-5 [with G. van den Berg]

82. “Iraj Afshar and the historiography of Yazd”, in *Research articles and studies in honour of Iraj Afshar*, ed. Ibrahim Chabbouh & François Déroche, Al-Furqan Study Series, 2017 [2018], pp. 71-90.
83. “The illustration of history in Persian manuscripts”, *Iran* 56.1 (2018), pp. 47-63
84. “Preface”, in H.L. Rabino, *Mázandarán and Astarábád*, rep. EJW Gibb Memorial Trust, 2018, pp. vii-x.
85. “The *Shahnameh* in India: *Tarikh-i Dilgusha-yi Shams Shir Khani*”, in *The layered heart: Essays on Persian poetry. A celebration in honor of Dick Davis*, ed. A.A. Seyed-Gohrab, Washington DC: Mage, 2018 [2019], pp. 413-41.
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88. “Notes on some manuscripts of ‘Abd-Allah Hatifi’s *Timurnama* in Cambridge University collections”, *Asiatica* 12, no. 2 (St Petersburg, 2019), pp. 54-68.
89. “The ‘Big Head’ *Shāhnāma* in Istanbul and elsewhere: Some codicological and iconographical observations”, in *The Arts of Iran in Istanbul and Anatolia. Seven Essays*, ed. Olga M. Davidson & Marianna Shreve Simpson, Ilex Foundation Series no. 20 (Washington D.C.: Center for Hellenic Studies, 2019), pp. 113-49.
90. “Ghazan Khan’s political will and testament: Further light on the Mongol household”, *Mongols in the 14th century*, *Ming Qing Yanjiu* 22, no. 2 (2018 [2019]), pp. 164-90.
91. “Concepts of government and state formation in Mongol Iran”, in *The Idea of Iran*, vol. 8, *Iran after the Mongols*, ed. Sussan Babaie (London: I.B. Tauris, 2019), pp. 33-54.
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93. “Introduction”, in *The Timurid century. The Idea of Iran*, vol. 9, ed. C. Melville (London: IB Tauris, 2020), pp. 1-5.
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(e) ENCYCLOPAEDIA ARTICLES

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(f) [BOOK REVIEWS \(ON REQUEST\)](#)