Ferdowsi’s *Shahnama* (Book of Kings), completed in eastern Iran in around A.D. 1010, is a work of mythology, history, literature and propaganda: a living epic poem that pervades and expresses many aspects of Persian culture. A series of joint workshops on the cultural and historical reception of Ferdowsi's *Shahnama* in the Persianate world, India, Ottoman Turkey and the Caucasus is organised by the *Shahnama* Project, University of Cambridge and the NWO Project ‘The Persian Epic Cycle and the *Shahnama* of Ferdowsi’, University of Leiden. This second workshop in the series will take place in Leiden and is supported by the Scaliger Institute, LIAS/CNWS, LUF and Stichting Oosters Instituut.

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Programme ‘The Reception of the *Shahnama* II’

**Venue: Grote Vergaderzaal, University Library**

**8-10 January 2009**

**Thursday 8 January**

10.00 Registration, coffee
10.30 – 10.45 Opening remarks: Harm Beuker (Director of the Scaliger Institute), Charles Melville, Gabrielle van den Berg

10.45 – 1.00 **Session one: Chair Charles Melville**

10.45 – 11.30 Michele Bernardini: *Shahnama* personnages in Timurid Historiography

11.30 – 12.15 Bilha Moor: *Shahnama* Heroes in ‘*Aja’ib al-Makhluqat* Illustrated Manuscripts

12.15 – 1.00 Christine van Ruijmbke: Amir Khosrow's second generation avatars of *Shahnama* characters. The techniques of rewriting
1.00 – 2.15  Lunch

2.15 – 3.45  Session two: Chair Asghar Seyed-Gohrab
2.15 – 3.00  Ab de Jong: Regionalism in the Persian "national" epic
3.00 – 3.45  Bas den Uijl: Akvan Div: The Trickster Archetype in the Shahnama

3.45 – 4.00  Tea break

4.00 – 5.30  Session three: Chair Francois de Blois
4.00 – 4.45  Maria Szuppe: Copying the Shahnama and Shahnama-cycle stories in post-Timurid times: three uncatalogued manuscripts from European collections
4.45 – 5.30  Ludwig Paul and Nafiseh Sajjadi: Persian Manuscript Culture in the Qajar Period: The Shahname, Aspects of Manuscript production, and text variation(s)

5.45 – 6.30  Drinks
7.00  Dinner

Friday 9 January

9.15 – 10.45  Session four: Chair Christine van Ruijmeke
9.15 – 10.00  Laura Weinstein: The Shahnama in the Deccan
10.00 – 10.45  Alyssa Gabbay: A Ruler Transformed: Bahram Gur and Indian Ideals of Kingship

10.45 – 11.00  Coffee break

11.00 – 1.15  Session five: Chair Gabrielle van den Berg
11.00 – 11.45  Asghar Seyed-Gohrab: Naqqali and the story of Rustam and Suhrab
11.45 – 12.30  Evangelos Venetis: Storytelling and modernisation: Women storytellers in nowadays Iran
12.30 – 1.15  Kumiko Yamamoto: Storytellers’ Barzunama
1.15 – 2.15 Lunch

2.15 – 3.45 Session six: Chair Jan Schmidt
2.15 – 3.00 Sinem Eryilmaz: An Ottoman Shahnama for Sultan Süleyman: *Osmannname*
3.00 – 3.45 Tulun Degirmencı: An Old Text for the New Context: A Case Study on Meddah Medhi's Shahnama

3.45 – 4.00 Tea break

4.00 – 5.30 Session seven: Chair Ludwig Paul
4.00 – 4.45 Farhad Mehran: Mapping the Illustrated Folios of the Shahnama: The Concept and its Uses
4.45 – 5.30 Informal introduction to the Shahnama Project website: Charles Melville

6.00 – 7.00 Drinks
7.00 Dinner at ‘Het Prentenkabinet’, Kloksteeg 25, Leiden

Saturday 10 January

9.30 – 11.30 Session eight: Chair Firuza Abdullaeva
9.30 – 10.15 Theo van Lint: The Shahnama and Armenia: Parallels and Reception
10.15 – 11.00 Francois de Blois: The compilation of the Ossetic national epic and some parallels with the Shahnama
11.00 – 11.30 Irina Koshoridze: The Shahnama in Georgian Life: its translations, versions and variations

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

11.45 – 1.30 Session nine: Chair Michele Bernardini
11.45 – 12.30 Marjolijn van Zutphen: Faramarz’s expedition to Qannuj and Khargah in the Shahnama and the longer *Faramarznama*
12.30 – 12.15 Gabrielle van den Berg: The Book of the Black Demon and the black demon in oral tradition
12.15 – 1.30 Closing remarks (Charles Melville & Gabrielle van den Berg)

1.30 – 2.30 Lunch in the National Museum of Antiquities (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden), Rapenburg 28, Leiden

2.30-3.30 Guided tour National Museum of Antiquities (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden):
Iran: A bird’s eye view