Prince Baysunghur, Before & After: Timurid Manuscripts in Context

5-6 November 2021

Persian Manuscripts Association Inaugural Symposium

Convenor: The Persian Manuscripts Association (PMA)
Sponsor: Sabine Schmidtke, Institute for Advanced Study
Online via Zoom (all times are in Eastern Time)

Symposium Program

Friday, 5 November 2021 (EST)

10:00 – 10:15 Opening Remarks: Sabine Schmidtke, IAS, School of Historical Studies
Shiva Mihan, IAS, School of Historical Studies

10:15 – 11:45 Panel 1
Chair: Barbara Brend, independent scholar

Bernard O’Kane, American University of Cairo
‘Baysunghur and Emulation in the Arts of the Book Revisited’

Robert Hillenbrand, University of Edinburgh
‘The Nature of the Chinese Connection in Baysunghuri Painting’

Maria Subtelny, University of Toronto
‘Baysunghur Mirza’s Secretum Secretorum: A Pseudo-Aristotelian Mirror for Princes from a Timurid Atelier’
11:45 – 12:00  Break
12:00 – 13:30  Panel 2
   Chair: Shiva Mihan, Institute for Advanced Study

   Cailah Jackson, OCIS/University of Oxford
   ‘Illumination in Late Medieval Baghdad: A Forerunner of The Baysunghuri Arts of the Book’

   Ilse Sturkenboom, Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich
   ‘Gifted, Ordered or Stolen? Baysunghur’s Shirazi Anthology’

   Ali Shapouran, University of St Andrews
   ‘The Preparation of New Text Editions in Baysunghur’s Library’

Saturday, 6 November 2021 (EST)

10:00 – 11:30  Panel 1
   Chair: Bernard O’Kane, American University of Cairo

   Shiva Mihan, Institute for Advanced Study
   ‘Baysunghur’s Rasayil: A Digital Reconstruction of a Mutilated Manuscript’

   Simon Rettig, Smithsonian’s National Museum of Asian Art
   ‘Made at the Request of Baysunghur? Exploring the Timurid Interventions in the Freer Khusraw-u Shirin’

   Moya Carey, Chester Beatty
   ‘Beatty’s Baysunghur: Cult Status and the Bibliophile Ideal in the Early Twentieth-Century Art Market’

11:30 – 11:45  Break
11:45 – 13:15  Panel 2
   Chair: Beatrice Manz, Tufts University

   Francis Richard, Bibliothèque nationale de France
   ‘Books Bearing the Seal of Shahrukh and the Relationship between Shahrukh’s Library and Baysunghur’s Library’

   Sunil Sharma, Boston University
   ‘The Early Transmission History of Amir Khusraw’s Historical Masnavis’

   Matthew Melvin-Koushki, University of South Carolina
   ‘An Occult Correspondence: Ibn Turka’s Letters to Baysunghur’

13:15 – 13:30  Closing remarks