



*Field Trip
Report of Iran*

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Field Trip Report of Iran

(23/08/2018-18/09/2018)

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Itinerary of the field trip

Dates	Details
Wednesday 22/08/2018	Flight from Delhi, India to Tehran, Iran
Thursday 23/08/2018	AL-Zahra University, Tehran
Friday 24/08/2018	Haram Imam Khomeini, Tehran
Saturday 25/08/2018	AL-Zahra University / Board to Qom
Sunday 26/08/2018	University of Religions and Denomination
Monday 27/08/2018	University of Religions and Denomination
Tuesday 28/08/2018	University of Religions and Denomination
Wednesday 29/08/2018	University of Religions and Denomination
Thursday 30/08/2018	Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masuma-e Qom
Friday 31/08/2018	Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masuma-e Qom
Saturday 01/09/2018	Qom University Library
Sunday 02/09/2018	Mar'ashiNajafi Library/Al-Mustafa Library
Monday 03/09/2018	Office of the Haj and Pilgrims/ Al-Mustafa Library
Tuesday 04/09/2018	University of Religions and Denomination Library
Wednesday 05/09/2018	Haram Masooma/ Board to Mashhad
Thursday 06/09/2018	The Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (a.s), Mashhad
Friday 07/09/2018	The Holy Shrine of Imam Reza(a.s), Mashhad
Saturday 08/09/2018	Astan-e-Quds Library, Mashhad
Sunday 09/09/2018	Astan-e-Quds Library, Mashhad
Monday 10/09/2018	Ferdowsi University central Library, Mashhad
Tuesday 11/09/2018	Ferdowsi University central Library, Mashhad
Wednesday 12/09/2018	Astan-e Quds Razavi Central Museum, Mashhad
Thursday 13/09/2018	The Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (a.s), /Board to Tehran
Friday 14/09/2018	Center for Academic Collaboration Development (Meeting with Ms. Elham Farahani)/ University of Tehran Library
Saturday 15/09/2018	Central Library and Documentation Center of the University of Tehran
Sunday 16/09/2018	Central Library and Documentation Center of the University of Tehran
Monday 17/09/2018	Meeting with Dr. Mohammad Samiei (Faculty of World Studies, University of Tehran)
Tuesday 18/09/2018	Central Library and Documentation Center of the University of Tehran

Objectives of the field trip

The purpose of this trip to Iran is to experience the ethnographic field visit and to collect data from various libraries in Iran.

- To understand the ground scenario of Iranian cultures and traditions;
- To observe different perspective of religious and political canvas in Iran;
- To collect first hand data and books from various libraries in Iran;
- To visit the Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masuma-e Qom, the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza and the Holy Shrine of Imam Khomeini.

Methodologies

- ❖ Direct observations
- ❖ Visits of various libraries for data collection
- ❖ Interview
- ❖ Ethnographic Study

Field trip summary

This trip is divided into following four parts.

1. The 7th Intensive Course on Shia Islamic Studies, URD (23rd – 31st August 2018);
2. Field trip in Qom (1st - 5th September 2018);
3. Field trip in Mashhad (6th – 13th September 2018);
4. Field trip in Tehran (14th – 18th September 2018).

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1. The 7th Intensive Course on Shia Islamic Studies, URD (23rd – 31st August 2018)

On August 23rd 2018, ten days program on 'The 7th Intensive Course on Shia Islamic Studies' course was conducted by University of Religions and Denominations, Qom, Iran. The purpose of this course was to provide a nurtured knowledge about Shi'ism in the contemporary world and the role of Shi'ism in the Islamic Republic of Iran. This trip also provided an opportunity to connect scholars from different disciplines and to understand their cultural stream. On 30th to 31st of August 2018, I was engaging myself for the glimpses of Qom cultural and spiritual visit. Qom is blessed by the Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masuma-e Qom

2. Field trip in Qom (1st - 5th September, 2018)

Qom University Library (01/09/2018): (full day)

On the first September, 2018, I visited the Qom University Library and met with the librarian. He received me very nicely and introduced me the English books of my interest. I have selected few books, which he promised me to send by email.

Mar'ashi Najafi Library (02/09/2018): (first-half):

The second day I went to visit the Ayuatollah Mar'ashi Najafi Library in Qom but unfortunately the librarian has informed me that they don't have rich collections of English books.

Al-Mustafa Library (02/09/2018): (second-half)

After the visit of Ayatollah Mar'ashi Najafi Library, I went to visit Al-Mustafa Library. I found very good collections of English books in the library so I started taking pictures of some important chapters because there was not a shop which xerox the entire books.

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I found Books like “Economic Decision Making in The Islamic Republic of Iran”, by Aliakbar Arabmazar. “Reunion with the Beloved”, Imam Khomaini’s letter to Sayyid Ahmad Khomeini.

Office of the Haj and Pilgrims (03/09/2018): (first-half)

The very next day Office of the Haj and pilgrims has invited me for a lecture on my P.hD research topic. The lecture was chaired by Dr. Ali Akbar Ziaee, the Head of Institute of Hajj and Pilgrimage. I presented my research synopsis in English and they have provided a translator for me. This presentation was followed by a very good discussion and question, answer session on the research area. At last Dr. Ali Akbar Ziaee gifted me an Iranian traditional Sweets.

Al-Mustafa Library (03/09/2018): (second-half)

After the successful session in the office of the Hajj and Pilgrimage I went again to the Al-Mustafa library for some data collection.

University of Religions and Denominations Library (04/09/2018):

On second last day of my visit to Qom, I decided to go to the University of Religions and Denominations in search of some English books. The library has very good collections of English books on Islaam and Shi’ism and many other religions. I collected some relevant books and later I got the same book in pdf. The librarian was very kind and helpful and he sent me the same books in the pdf form.

Haram Masooma/ Board to Mashhad (05/09/2018):

After a successful stay in Qom, I decided to spend my last day at the Holy Shrine of Masuma-e Qom.

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3. Field trip in Mashhad (6th – 13th September 2018) (Self-supported)
4. Field trip in Tehran (14th – 18th September 2018)

Center for academic collaboration development (14 September, 2018): (first-half)

Meeting with Elham Farahani: Ms. Elham Farahani has explained me the schedule of my program in Tehran in detail.

The central Library and documentation center of the University of Tehran (14,15,16 September 2018);

The three days of visit to the central library of Tehran University was very fruitful and I have collected some relevant books related to my research area. The library of Tehran university has very good collection of English books. The staff members of Tehran university library have helped me in finding the English books and Mr. Ali Shabani (the member of the xerox shop), was very kind and he emailed me all the books in pdf files within a day. The following book has been collected;

1. *An Introduction to the Islamic Revolution of Iran and its Slogans*, by Mohammad Hossein Panahi;
2. *No More Lies about Iran: The Inside Story*, by Chief Musamaali Nangoli;
3. *The General Pattern of Islamic Thought in the Qur'an*, by Ayatollah Seyyid Ali Khamenei and
4. *A Glance At Two Years of War*, by IRGC,
5. *World Islam: Critical Concept in Islamic Studies*, by Andrew Rippin (ed.).

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Meeting with Dr. Samiei (17 September 2018):

The very next day, I went to the Faculty of World Studies to meet with Dr. Samiei along with my Ph.D. synopsis. I discuss with him about my area of research and he was very kind and humble in making me understand about some more information regarding my topic. The discussion ends with some valuable suggestions.

Findings

The trip of Iran was very successful to enhance the knowledge about my research area. This trip also provided me an opportunity to learn the different social, cultural and religious aspects of Iran which is directly pertinent for my thesis. Such international experience is inevitable to enhance about the understanding of the region and to collect the first-hand experience about my research area. The opportunity to visit the different library in Qom and Tehran, are an asset to my Ph.D. research. During this one month I also got an opportunity to visit the Holy Shrine of Masumaa-e Qom, The Holy Shrine of Imam Reza in Mashhad and the Holy Shrine of Imam Khomeini in Tehran.

Glimpses of Iran

1

with Dr. Samiei and faculties



2

Shia Intensive Course



3

Shia Intensive Course



4

Shia Intensive Course



5

Member of Hajj and Pilgrims Iran



6

University of Qom Library

