The Changing Faces of Iran

October 20 - November 2, 2017

Nayan Chanda
Editor, Yale Global Online

Discover the medieval city of Rayen, molded from the red clay.

Journey to the country's center of Zoroastrianism in Yazd and view traditional Persian architecture.

Enjoy excellent cuisine, art and the warmth of the Iranian people throughout the trip.
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A rare and exciting adventure awaits you in Iran - a country with a rich history, welcoming people, and magnificent historical sites. Explore archaeological sites and bazaars; sip tea in traditional tea-houses and listen to young Iranians as they recite the poetry of Hafez at his tomb in Shiraz. Walk through century-old mosques and admire contemporary Iranian art in one of Tehran’s most prominent galleries.

There is a strong sense that visitors today are experiencing this country at a pivotal and critical time. With the recently elected forward-looking leader, President Rouhani, the country is poised for dramatic changes. Yale travelers will be sampling the best of Persian cuisine as this journey travels through this rich landscape.

You’ll be joined on this program by Nayan Chanda. He is the founder and editor-in-chief of YaleGlobal Online, an online magazine that focuses on issues of globalization. Currently residing in India, Nayan looks forward to traveling with Yale travelers and presenting several lectures. This is a wonderful time to visit Iran - you are in for a trip-of-a-lifetime.

If you would like to hold space on this program or if you have any questions, please call Yale Educational Travel at 203-432-1952.

Happy travels,

Kathy Edersheim ‘87
Senior Director,
International Alumni Relations and Travel
Association of Yale Alumni

www.yaleedtravel.org/iran17
Yale Study Leader

Nayan Chanda is founding editor and currently consulting editor of YaleGlobal Online published by the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies.

Chanda is the author of the widely acclaimed history of globalization - *Bound Together: How Traders, Preachers, Adventurers and Warriors Shaped Globalization* (Yale, 2007) which has been translated in nine languages including French, Chinese, and Japanese. He is also author of a seminal book on the Indochina conflict - *Brother Enemy: the War After the War* (Harcourt, 1986), which too has been translated in several languages. Chanda has co-edited and contributed chapters to over a dozen books including *Encyclopedia of Global Studies* (2012).

Recently Chanda has published his first children's book *Around the World With a Chilli*, (Pratham Books, 2016). He has been widely published in international newspapers and he writes regular columns for Times of India, Business World and the Straits Times. He is a member of the editorial board of Global Asia and New Global Studies journal and of the Sage Encyclopedia of Global Studies. Chanda earned his BA (Honours in History) from Presidency College, Kolkata and obtained a First Class Master's degree in History from Jadavpur University, winning the University Gold Medal. Mr. Chanda is the winner of the 2005 Shorenstein Award for Journalism presented for lifetime achievement. Nayan speaks Bengali, Hindi, English and French and is sure to add a great deal to your Iranian experience.

Readers Corner

The Ayatollah Begs to Differ
*by Hooman Majd*

Majd, an American journalist (who translated for Ahmadinejad at the UN), grandson of an eminent ayatollah and the son of an Iranian diplomat, introduces Persian culture and modern Iran with insight and depth.

My Uncle Napolean
*by Iraj Pezeshkzad*

An uproarious novel set in and around the family compound in early 1940’s Tehran. This tale is marvelously rich in personality and incident. A hilarious book which makes fun of just about everything and was was the basis for a popular television series in Iran.

Upcoming Trips

Languedoc: Village Life of the South of France:
October 21-29, 2017
Jeff Brenzel ’75,
Former Yale Admissions Dean
Former Master of T.D.

A Yale Week in Vienna:
October 7-14, 2017
Boris Berman,
Professor of Piano

WW1: Belgium, France and Germany:
September 10-17, 2017
Jay Winter,
Professor of History

Yale Educational Travel • Association of Yale Alumni
Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010
Reservations: 203.432.1952  edtravel@yale.edu
WELCOME PHONE CALL  
Friday, September 8 (tent.)  
Join Nayan Chanda at 9am EST for a pre-trip welcome call in order to learn more about what to expect and get the chance to ask any questions you have.

DEPART  
Friday, October 20  
Depart the US.

TEHRAN  
Saturday, October 21  
Arrive in Tehran in the late afternoon and transfer to the Espinas Hotel. (D)

TEHRAN  
Sunday, October 22  
Enjoy a full day of sightseeing in Tehran. Begin with a morning visit to the Archaeological Museum with its fine collection including a stone capital of a winged lion from Susa and a 6th-century B.C. audience hall relief of Darius the Great from the Treasury at Persepolis. After lunch at a local restaurant, view the Iranian crown jewels and admire the world’s largest uncut diamond as well as the Peacock Throne. End the day at the Golestan Palace (Palace of Flowers) which is located on Khordad Square. Enjoy dinner at a the hotel’s Persian restaurant. (B/L/D)

TEHRAN  
Monday, October 23  
After a meeting with the Persian Wildlife Foundation, travel to northern Tehran to visit the modest home of the Ayatollah Khomeini in Jamaran and the Zahir ol Dowleh Cemetery, the resting spot for many of Iran’s writers and artists. After lunch at a local restaurant enjoy a cup of tea at the garden home of Dr. Hesabi, a prominent Persian scientist. End the day at the Niavaran Palace and Museum, the last home of Mohammad-Reza Shah and his family. Dinner at a local restaurant this evening. (B/L/D)

KERMAN  
Wednesday, October 25  
Morning drive to Rayen, a preserved medieval city. As an oasis town in the Dasht-e Lut Desert, it is surrounded by date palms and citrus orchards. The town was destroyed by the Afghans in 1722 but continued to be inhabited by local villagers. Enjoy lunch at the delightful Bagh-e Tarikh Gardens, which were designed as traditional Persian gardens. Drive to the beautiful town of Mahan well-known as the final home of the Sufi saint and poet Shah Nematollah Vali. Return to Kerman for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

YAZD  
Thursday, October 26  
This morning continue exploring Kerman. Visit the bazaar which is constructed of beautiful and well-preserved brick. After lunch drive to Yazd, passing through many acres of pistachios and the town of Rafsanjani, home of the former President of Iran. Upon arrival in Yazd transfer to the Moshir Garden Hotel for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

YAZD  
Friday, October 27  
This morning visit the home of the former Governor of the city, known as the Dowlat-Abad House, to see how these wind towers work and learn more about residential
Persian architecture in the desert. Visit the Friday Mosque – the tallest mosque in the country – which was constructed on the site of a Sassanid fire temple. End the morning with a walking tour through the bazaar. After lunch spend the afternoon concentrating on the Zoroastrian religion which at one time was the state creed but faded away after the Arab conquest. Visit the Ateshkade. It is said that the sacred flame here has been burning since about 470 A.D. The final stop for the day at sunset will be at two of these ‘towers of silence’. These two impressive towers are the remains of ceremonial buildings that Zoroastrians would use before and after the dead were left at the tops of the towers. Dinner at a local restaurant. (B/L/D)

**SHIRAZ**

*Saturday, October 28*

Morning drive to Shiraz stopping en route at Pasargad which was excavated by Dr. David Stronach. Cyrus the Great defeated Astyages the Mede near Pasargad in 520 B.C. and, according to tradition, decided to build the first Achaemenian capital on the site of his victory. Upon arrival in Shiraz transfer to the Homa Shiraz Hotel. Enjoy dinner this evening at the delightful Shaterabbas Restaurant which serves superb Persian cuisine. (B/L/D)

**SHIRAZ**

*Sunday, October 29*

Spend the day discovering this city of poetry and nightingales. Morning visit to the Eram Gardens, built during the 19th-century in a quadripartite Persian Paradise Garden structure and decorated with tiles featuring poems from Hafez. Drive to the citadel or Arg-e Karim Khan. Continue to the Pink Mosque or Nasir-ol-Molk Mosque which is the oldest mosque in Shiraz and one of the most elegant mosques in southern Iran. End the day at the tombs of two of the country’s most well-known poets, Saadi and Hafez. Dinner this evening at the wonderful Haft Khan Restaurant. (B/L/D)

**ISFAHAN**

*Monday, October 30*

Morning drive to Persepolis, the ceremonial capital of the Achaemenian Empire and perhaps one of the most beautiful and spectacular archaeological sites surviving today. After lunch sitting in the shade of grape vines at the Laneh Tavoos Restaurant visit Naghsh-e Rostam, located near Persepolis and which contains the carved tombs of four Achaemenian tombs. Continue by road to Isfahan and transfer to the Abbasi Hotel, a converted caravanserai, for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

**ISFAHAN**

*Tuesday, October 31*

Spend the day exploring Isfahan, perhaps the most beautiful of Iranian cities. Spend the morning at the immense Maydan-e Shah, or Royal Square. The square is the central focus of this fascinating city. Four jewels of 17th-century architecture adorn each side of the square symbolizing the political, economic and religious spheres of Safavid Persia. After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the Bazaar of Isfahan and learn more about traditional crafts in Iran. Enjoy dinner at a lovey local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel. (B/L/D)
**What is Included:**
- Program of lectures and discussions with Nayan Chanda.
- Accommodations based on double occupancy in hotels as listed.
- Domestic flights within Iran.
- All sightseeing, entrance fees and excursions in a private, air-conditioned bus.
- Services of Iranian escort throughout.
- All meals as listed in the itinerary.
- All gratuities and taxes.
- Assistance and porterage at the airports.

**What is Not Included:**
- International airfare to and from Iran.
- Visa fees, currently $90.
- Excess luggage charges.
- Travel Insurance.
- Items of a purely personal nature such as laundry, phone calls, etc.
- Expenses caused by factors beyond our control like rail and air plane delays, roadblocks, vehicle malfunctions, political disturbances, taxes, lost luggage, etc.
- Any items not listed.

**ISFAHAN**

*Wednesday, November 1*

Spend the morning admiring some of the five bridges crossing the Zayendehrud River. Perhaps the most beautiful is the two-story Khaju Bridge which was constructed by Shah Abbas II in about 1650. After seeing the Bridge of 33 Arches, drive to the Armenian quarter of Isfahan. In the afternoon visit the Friday Mosque which is like a museum with its tiled ivans, vaulted ceilings and lofty domes. Enjoy a farewell dinner at the hotel this evening. (B/L/D)

**DEPART**

*Thursday, November 2*

Transfer to the airport in the very early morning for a flight to Europe to connect with your onward international flight.

*Included meals indicated each day as: B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.*

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**Program Cost**

The base cost this program is: $7,690 (based on double occupancy)

**Single Supplement:**

$1,480 (limited availability)

Note: Itinerary subject to change. Some excursions in this program involve a significant amount of walking.

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**MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL** The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of Yale Educational Travel (“YET”) is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

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**PAYMENT SCHEDULE** A deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to “Yale University”, of which $500
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Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

is nonrefundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, must be received 90 days prior to departure. Mail final payment check to: Distant Horizons, 350 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802.

HEALTH All participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs, some without hand rails, at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible, and climbing in and out of various conveyances. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

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